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THE CONSTITUTION
of the
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

ANNOTATIONS OF CASES DECIDED BY THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
TO JUNE 29, 1992



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AUTHORIZATION

PUBLIC LAW 91-589, 84 STAT. 1585, 2 U.S.C. § 168

JOINT RESOLUTION Authorizing the preparation and printing of a revised edition of the Constitution of the United States of America—Analysis and Interpretation, of decennial revised editions thereof, and of biennial cumulative supplements to such revised editions.

Whereas the Constitution of the United States of America—Analysis and Interpretation, published in 1964 as Senate Document Numbered 39, Eighty-eighth Congress, serves a very useful purpose by supplying essential information, not only to the Members of Congress but also to the public at large;

Whereas such document contains annotations of cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States to June 22, 1964;

Whereas many cases bearing significantly upon the analysis and interpretation of the Constitution have been decided by the Supreme Court since June 22, 1964;

Whereas the Congress, in recognition of the usefulness of this type of document, has in the last half century since 1913, ordered the preparation and printing of revised editions of such a document on six occasions at intervals of from ten to fourteen years; and

Whereas the continuing usefulness and importance of such a document will be greatly enhanced by revision at shorter intervals on a regular schedule and thus made more readily available to Members and Committees by means of pocket-part supplements: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Librarian of Congress shall have prepared—

(1) a hardbound revised edition of the Constitution of the United States of America—Analysis and Interpretation, published as Senate Document Numbered 39, Eighty-eighth Congress (referred to hereinafter as the “Constitution Annotated”), which shall contain annotations of decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States through the end of the October 1971

term of the Supreme Court, construing provisions of the Constitution;

(2) upon the completion of each of the October 1973, October 1975, October 1977, and October 1979 terms of the Supreme Court, a cumulative pocket-part supplement to the hardbound revised edition of the Constitution Annotated prepared pursuant to clause (1), which shall contain cumulative annotations of all such decisions rendered by the Supreme Court after the end of the October 1971 term;

(3) upon the completion of the October 1981 term of the Supreme Court, and upon the completion of each tenth October term of the Supreme Court thereafter, a hardbound decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated, which shall contain annotations of all decisions theretofore rendered by the Supreme Court construing provisions of the Constitution; and

(4) upon the completion of the October 1983 term of the Supreme Court, and upon the completion of each subsequent October term of the Supreme Court beginning in an odd-numbered year (the final digit of which is not a 1), a cumulative pocket-part supplement to the most recent hardbound decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated, which shall contain cumulative annotations of all such decisions rendered by the Supreme Court which were not included in that hardbound decennial revised edition of the Constitution Annotated.

SEC. 2. All hardbound revised editions and all cumulative pocket-part supplements shall be printed as Senate documents.

SEC. 3. There shall be printed four thousand eight hundred and seventy additional copies of the hardbound revised editions prepared pursuant to clause (1) of the first section and of all cumulative pocket-part supplements thereto, of which two thousands six hundred and thirty-four copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, one thousand two hundred and thirty-six copies shall be for the use of the Senate, and one thousand copies shall be for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing. All Members of the Congress, Vice Presidents of the United States, and Delegates and Resident Commissioners, newly elected subsequent to the issuance of the hardbound revised edition prepared pursuant to such clause and prior to the first hardbound decennial revised edition, who did not receive a copy of the edition prepared pursuant to such clause, shall,

upon timely request, receive one copy of such edition and the then current cumulative pocket-part supplement and any further supplements thereto. All Members of the Congress, Vice Presidents of the United States, and Delegates and Resident Commissioners, no longer serving after the issuance of the hardbound revised edition prepared pursuant to such clause and who received such edition, may receive one copy of each cumulative pocket-part supplement thereto upon timely request.

SEC. 4. Additional copies of each hardbound decennial revised edition and of the cumulative pocket-part supplements thereto shall be printed and distributed in accordance with the provisions of any concurrent resolution hereafter adopted with respect thereto.

SEC. 5. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums, to remain available until expended, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this joint resolution.

Approved December 24, 1970.

INTRODUCTION TO THE 1992 EDITION

In the 1952 edition, Professor Corwin wrote an introduction that broadly explored the trends of constitutional adjudication then evident while other trends had become dormant. In some respects, the law of federalism, the withdrawal of judicial supervision of economic regulation, the continuing expansion of presidential power and the consequent overshadowing of Congress, among others, he has been confirmed in his evaluations. But, in other respects, entire new vistas of fundamental law of which he was largely unaware have opened up. *Brown v. Board of Education* was but two Terms of the Court away, and the revolution in race relations, by all three branches, could have been only dimly perceived. The Supreme Court's application of many provisions of the Bill of Rights to the States, then nascent, and its expansion of the meaning of those rights would prove revolutionary. The apportionment-districting decisions were still blanketed in time; abortion as a constitutionally protected liberty was unheralded. And with respect to the range of decisions which he did not anticipate, we have seen a Supreme Court move from the activism of the 1960s and 1970s to a posture of more judicial restraint, although in many areas, speech and press notably, little change has occurred as a result of a shifting of the Justices of the High Court.

This brief survey will primarily be a suggestive review of the Court's treatment of the doctrines of constitutional law. In previous editions, we have noted the rise of the equal protection clause as a central concept of constitutional jurisprudence in the period 1953-1982. That rise has somewhat abated in the period covered by this volume, but the clause remains one of the predominant sources of constitutional constraints upon the Federal Government and the States. The due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments similarly have experienced an expansion, both in terms of procedural protections for civil and criminal litigants and in terms of the application of substantive due process to personal liberties and in some economic cases.

I

National federalism as a doctrine was proved to be far more pervasive and encompassing than it was possible to notice in 1953. In some respects, of course, later cases only confirmed what those decisions already on the books told. Foremost example of this confirmation has been the enlargement of national powers, of congressional powers, under the commerce clause. The expansive reading of that clause's authorization to Congress to reach many local incidents of business and production already apparent by 1953 was scarcely enlarged by those decisions of the period through the 1960s - 1980s, under which Congress asserted jurisdiction on the basis of an antecedent or subsequent movement over a state boundary of some element touching upon the transaction or solely upon the premise that certain transactions by their nature alone or as part of a class sufficiently *affect* interstate commerce as to warrant national regulation. Civil rights laws touching public accommodations and housing, environmental laws affecting land use regulation, criminal law coverage, and employment regulations touching health and safety as well as benefits are only the leading examples of enhanced federal activity. Conversely, state power to regulate commerce has been further restricted through the application of a doctrine of preemption which is increasingly aimed at one national standard, although under Chief Justice Burger and Chief Justice Rehnquist, the Court has not so readily as before seemed to favor preemption, especially in the area of labor-management relations. Only with respect to the State's own employees did the Court inhibit federal regulation and then with a decision which failed to secure a stable place in the doctrine of federalism, being overruled in less than a decade. Some immunity for States from federal laws aimed directly at them was implied from the Constitution, but its potency remains to be seen.

Noteworthy has been a rather strict application of the negative aspect of the commerce clause to restrain state actions that either discriminate against or too much inhibit interstate commerce.

Of much the same import has been the application of the Bill of Rights to the States through the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, a matter dealt with in greater detail below. The Court has again and again held that when a provision is applied, it means the same whether a State or the Federal Government is the challenged party, although a small but consistent minority has argued otherwise. Some flexibility, however, has been afforded the States by the judicial loosening of the standards of some of these provisions, as in the characteristics of the jury trial requirement. Adoption of the exclusionary rule in Fourth Amendment and other cases also looked to a national standard, but the more recent disparagement of the rule by majorities of the Court has relaxed its application to both States and Nation.

The Court of the last ten years has reinvigorated, to be sure, certain aspects of the old federalism. The Eleventh Amendment has been infused with new potency. The equity powers of the federal courts to interfere in on-going state court proceedings and to review state court criminal convictions under *habeas corpus* have been curtailed. A doctrine of comity and rules of prudential restraint in the exercise of federal judicial power have been invoked.

The overriding view is that the present Court where it has discretion will apply federalism concerns to limit federal powers. But the critical fact, the scope of congressional power, remains: the limits on congressional power under the commerce clause and other Article I powers, as well as under the power to enforce the Reconstruction Amendments, remain those of self-restraint.

II

For much of this period, aggregation of national power in the presidency continued unabated and not much resisted by congressional majorities, which, indeed, continued to delegate power to the Executive Branch and to the independent agencies at least to the same degree if not to a greater extent than before. The President himself, most notably in the field of foreign affairs and national defense, assumed the existence of a substantial reservoir of inherent power to effectuate his policies as well. Only in the wake of the Watergate affair did Congress move to assert itself and to attempt to claim some form of partnership with the President, most notably with respect to war powers and the declaration of national emergencies, but including as well the regulation of some domestic presidential concerns, as in the impoundment controversy.

Perhaps coincidentally, the Supreme Court effected a strong judicial interest in the adjudication of separation-of-powers controversies. Previously, even as it utilized separation of language, the Court little involved itself in actual controversies, save for the *Myers-Humphrey* litigations over the President's power to remove executive branch officials. But that restraint evaporated in 1976.

There were several Court decisions in this area, although in evincing a renewed interest in separation of powers, as in *Buckley v. Valeo*, and subsequent cases, the Court appeared to cast the judicial perspective favorably upon presidential prerogative and in a few cases statutory construction was utilized to preserve unto the President certain discretion that was in dispute. Only very recently has the Court evolved an arguably consistent standard in this area, a two-pronged standard of aggrandizement and impairment, but the results still are cast in terms of executive preeminence.

The larger conflict has been political, and the Court resisted many efforts to involve it in litigation over the use of troops abroad in Vietnam, coming close as well to declaring, in a treaty termination context, the resurgence of the political question doctrine to all such executive-congressional disputes. Nevertheless, there does appear to have survived cessation of the Vietnam conflict a significant congressional interest in achieving a new and different balance between the political branches, an interest the assertion of which may well involve the judiciary to a much greater extent, and, in any event, one which the congressional branch is not without weapons to effectuate.

III

The demise of substantive due process, apparent in the 1950s, is a fact today insofar as the validity of economic legislation is concerned, although in a few isolated cases, involving the

obligation of contracts, and perhaps expanding in the regulatory takings area, the Court has demonstrated that some life is left in the old doctrines. Yet, the word “liberty” in the due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments was seized upon by the Court in harnessing substantive due process to the protection of certain rights having to do with personal and familial privacy, most controversially in the abortion cases.

Whereas much of the Bill of Rights is directed to prescribing how government may permissibly deprive one of life, liberty, or property—by judgment of a jury of one’s peers or with evidence seized only through reasonable searches, for example—the First Amendment is in terms absolute and while its application has never presumed to be so absolute the effect has often been indistinguishable. Thus, the trend over the years has been to withdraw more and more speech and “speech-plus” from the regulatory and prohibitive hand of government and to free not only speech directed to political ends but that totally unrelated to any political purpose.

Thus, the constitutionalization of the law of defamation with the narrowing possibilities of recovery for libelous and slanderous criticism of public officials, political candidates, and public figures epitomizes the trend. Government’s right to proscribe the advocacy of violence or unlawful activity has become more restricted. Obscenity abstractly remains outside the protective confines of the First Amendment, but the Court’s changing definitional approach to what may be constitutionally denominated pornography has closely confined most governmental action taken against the verbal and pictorial representation of matters dealing with sex. The encompassing of the right to spend for political purposes and to associate together for political activity has meant that much governmental regulation of campaign finance and of limitations upon the political activities of citizens and public employees had become suspect if not impermissible. Commercial speech, long the outcast of the First Amendment, now enjoys a protected if subordinate place in free speech jurisprudence. Freedom to picket, to broadcast leaflets, to engage in physical activity representative of one’s political, social, economic, or other views enjoy wide though not unlimited protection.

It may be that a differently constituted Court will view matters differently, will narrow the scope of the Amendment’s protection and enlarge the permissible range of governmental action. But, in contrast to other areas in which the present Court has varied from its predecessor, the record with respect to the First Amendment has been one of substantial though uneven expansion of precedent.

IV

Unremarked by scholars of some forty years ago was the place of the equal protection clause in constitutional jurisprudence—simply because at that time Holmes’ pithy characterization of it as a “last resort” argument was generally true. Today, equal protection litigation occupies a position of almost predominant character in each Term’s output. Then, the rational basis standard of review of different treatments of individuals, businesses, or subjects little concerned the Justices. The clause blossomed in the Court’s confrontation after *Brown v. Board of Education* with state and local laws and ordinances drawn on the basis of race and this aspect of the doctrinal use of the clause is still very evident on the Court’s docket, though in ever new and interesting form.

Of worthy attention has been the application of the doctrine, now in a three-tier or multi-tier set of standards of review, to legislation and other governmental action classifying on the basis of sex, illegitimacy, and alienage. Of equal importance was the elaboration in adjudication under the clause of a concept of “fundamental” rights as to which a government must if it acts so as to restrict the exercise of one of these rights show not merely a reasonable basis for its actions but a justification based upon necessity, compelling necessity. The right to vote, nowhere expressly guaranteed in the Constitution (but protected against abridgment on certain grounds in the Fifteenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-sixth Amendments) received under the clause a special dispensation that required the invalidation of all but the most simple qualifications, most barriers to ballot access by individuals and parties, and the practice of apportionment of state legislatures on any basis other than population. Wealth distinctions in the criminal process were viewed with hostility and generally invalidated.

XII

INTRODUCTION

Again, a reconstituted court made some tentative rearrangements with respect to these doctrinal developments. The suspicion of wealth classifications was largely though not entirely limited to the criminal process. Governmental discretion in the political process was enlarged a small degree. But the record generally is one of consolidation and maintenance of the doctrines, a refusal to go forward much but also a disinclination to retreat much. Only very recently has the Court, in decisional law largely cast in remedial terms, begun to dismantle some of the structure of equal protection constraints on institutions, such as schools, prisons, state hospitals, and the like. Now, we see the beginnings of a sea change in the Court's perspective on legislative and executive remedial action, affecting affirmative action and race conscious steps in the electoral process, with the equal protection clause being used to cabin political discretion.

V

Finally, criminal law and criminal procedure during the 1960s and 1970s has been doctrinally unstable. The story of the 1960s was largely one of the imposition of constitutional constraint upon federal and state criminal justice systems. Application of the Bill of Rights to the States was but one aspect of this story. At the same time, the Court constructed new teeth for the guarantees. For example, the privilege against self-incrimination was given new and effective meaning by requiring that at the police interrogation stage it be observed and furthermore that criminal suspects be informed of their rights under it. It was also expanded, as was the Sixth Amendment guarantee of counsel, by requiring the furnishing of counsel or at least the opportunity to consult counsel at "critical" stages of the criminal process—interrogation, preliminary hearing, and the like, rather than only at and proximate to trial. An expanded exclusionary rule was applied to keep out of evidence material obtained in violation of the suspect's search and seizure, self-incrimination, and other rights.

During the last two decades, the Court has drawn the line differently here. The exclusionary rule has been cabined and redefined in several limiting ways. Search and seizure doctrine has been revised to enlarge police powers. The self-incrimination and counsel doctrines have been eroded in part although in no respect has the Court returned to the constitutional jurisprudence prevailing before the 1960s.

Moreover, substantive as well as procedural guarantees were developed. The law of capital punishment has been a course of meandering development, with the present Court almost doing away with it and then approving its revival by the States.

Undergirding the 1960s procedural and substantive development was a series of expansion of the *habeas corpus* powers of the federal courts, with the sweeping away of many jurisdictional restrictions previously imposed upon the exercise of review of state criminal convictions. Concomitantly with the narrowing of the precedents of the 1950s and 1960s Court came a retraction of federal *habeas* powers since the 1970s.

VI

The last four decades were among the most significant in the Court's history. They were as well the scene of some of the most sustained efforts to change the Court or its decisions or both with respect to a substantial number of issues. On only a few past occasions was the Court so centrally a subject of political debate and controversy in national life or an object of contention in presidential elections. One can doubt that the public any longer perceives the Court as an institution above political dispute, any longer believes that the answers to difficult issues in litigation before the Justices may be found solely in the text of the document entrusted to their keeping. But one cannot doubt either that the Court still enjoys the respect and reverence of the bar and the public generally, that its decisions generally are accorded uncoerced acquiescence, and that its pronouncements are accepted as authoritative, binding constructions of the constitutional instrument. Indeed, it can be argued that the disappearance of the myth of the absence of judicial discretion and choice strengthens the Court as an institution to the degree that it explains and justifies the exercise of discretion and choice in those areas of controversy in which the Constitution does not speak clearly or in which different sections lead to different answers. The public attitude thus established is then better enabled to

understand division within the Court and within the legal profession generally, and all sides are therefore seen to be entitled to the respect accorded the good faith search for answers. As the Court's workload continues to increase, a greater and greater proportion of its cases taken are "hard" cases and while hard cases need not make bad law they do in fact lead to division among the Justices and public controversy. Increased sophistication, then, about the Court's role and its methods can only redound to its benefit.

HISTORICAL NOTE
HISTORICAL NOTE ON FORMATION OF THE
CONSTITUTION

In June 1774, the Virginia and Massachusetts assemblies independently proposed an intercolonial meeting of delegates from the several colonies to restore union and harmony between Great Britain and her American Colonies. Pursuant to these calls there met in Philadelphia in September of that year the first Continental Congress, composed of delegates from 12 colonies. On October 14, 1774, the assembly adopted what has become to be known as the Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress. In that instrument, addressed to his Majesty and to the people of Great Britain, there was embodied a statement of rights and principles, many of which were later to be incorporated in the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution.¹

This Congress adjourned in October with a recommendation that another Congress be held in Philadelphia the following May. Before its successor met, the battle of Lexington had been fought. In Massachusetts the colonists had organized their own government in defiance of the royal governor and the Crown. Hence, by general necessity and by common consent, the second Continental Congress assumed control of the "Twelve United Colonies", soon to become the "Thirteen United Colonies" by the cooperation of Georgia. It became a de facto government; it called upon the other colonies to assist in the defense of Massachusetts; it issued bills of credit; it took steps to organize a military force, and appointed George Washington commander in chief of the Army.

While the declaration of the causes and necessities of taking up arms of July 6, 1775,² expressed a "wish" to see the union between Great Britain and the colonies "restored", sentiment for independence was growing. Finally, on May 15, 1776, Virginia instructed her delegates to the Continental Congress to have that body "declare the united colonies free and independ-

¹ The colonists, for example, claimed the right "to life, liberty, and property", "the rights, liberties, and immunities of free and natural-born subjects within the realm of England"; the right to participate in legislative councils; "the great and inestimable privilege of being tried by their peers of the vicinage, according to the course of [the common law of England]"; "the immunities and privileges granted and confirmed to them by royal charters, or secured by their several codes of provincial laws"; "a right peaceably to assemble, consider of their grievances, and petition the king." They further declared that the keeping of a standing army in the colonies in time of peace without the consent of the colony in which the army was kept was "against law"; that it was "indispensably necessary to good government, and rendered essential by the English constitution, that the constituent branches of the legislature be independent of each other"; that certain acts of Parliament in contravention of the foregoing principles were "infringement and violations of the rights of the colonists." Text in C. Tansill (ed.), Documents Illustrative of the Formation of the Union of the American States, H. Doc. No. 358, 69th Congress, 1st sess. (1927), 1. See also H. Commager (ed.), Documents of American History (New York; 8th ed. 1964), 82.

² Text in Tansill, *op. cit.*, 10.

ent States.”³ Accordingly on June 7 a resolution was introduced in Congress declaring the union with Great Britain dissolved, proposing the formation of foreign alliances, and suggesting the drafting of a plan of confederation to be submitted to the respective colonies.⁴ Some delegates argued for confederation first and declaration afterwards. This counsel did not prevail. Independence was declared on July 4, 1776; the preparation of a plan of confederation was postponed. It was not until November 17, 1777, that the Congress was able to agree on a form of government which stood some chance of being approved by the separate States. The Articles of Confederation were then submitted to the several States, and on July 9, 1778, were finally approved by a sufficient number to become operative.

Weaknesses inherent in the Articles of Confederation became apparent before the Revolution out of which that instrument was born had been concluded. Even before the thirteenth State (Maryland) conditionally joined the “firm league of friendship” on March 1, 1781, the need for a revenue amendment was widely conceded. Congress under the Articles lacked authority to levy taxes. She could only request the States to contribute their fair share to the common treasury, but the requested amounts were not forthcoming. To remedy this defect, Congress applied to the States for power to lay duties and secure the public debts. Twelve States agreed to such an amendment, but Rhode Island refused her consent, thereby defeating the proposal.

Thus was emphasized a second weakness in the Articles of Confederation, namely, the liberum veto which each State possessed whenever amendments to that instrument were proposed. Not only did all amendments have to be ratified by each of the 13 States, but all important legislation needed the approval of 9 States. With several delegations often absent, one or two States were able to defeat legislative proposals of major importance.

Other imperfections in the Articles of Confederation also proved embarrassing. Congress could, for example, negotiate treaties with foreign powers, but all treaties had to be ratified by the several States. Even when a treaty was approved, Congress lacked authority to secure obedience to its stipulations. Congress could not act directly upon the States or upon individuals. Under such circumstances foreign nations doubted the value of a treaty with the new Republic.

Furthermore, Congress had no authority to regulate foreign or interstate commerce. Legislation in this field, subject to unimportant exceptions, was left to the individual States. Disputes between States with common interests in the navigation of certain rivers and bays were inevitable. Discriminatory regulations were followed by reprisals.

Virginia, recognizing the need for an agreement with Maryland respecting the navigation and jurisdiction of the Potomac River, appointed in June

³ *Id.*, 19.

⁴ *Id.*, 21.

1784, four commissioners to “frame such liberal and equitable regulations concerning the said river as may be mutually advantageous to the two States.” Maryland in January 1785 responded to the Virginia resolution by appointing a like number of commissioners⁵ “for the purpose of settling the navigation and jurisdiction over that part of the bay of Chesapeake which lies within the limits of Virginia, and over the rivers Potomac and Pocomoke” with full power on behalf of Maryland “to adjudge and settle the jurisdiction to be exercised by the said State, respectively, over the waters and navigations of the same.”

At the invitation of Washington the commissioners met at Mount Vernon, in March 1785, and drafted a compact which, in many of its details relative to the navigation and jurisdiction of the Potomac, is still in force.⁶ What is more important, the commissioners submitted to their respective States a report in favor of a convention of all the States “to take into consideration the trade and commerce” of the Confederation. Virginia, in January 1786, advocated such a convention, authorizing its commissioners to meet with those of other States, at a time and place to be agreed on, “to take into consideration the trade of the United States; to examine the relative situations and trade of the said State; to consider how far a uniform system in their commercial regulations may be necessary to their common interest and their permanent harmony; and to report to the several State, such an act relative to this great object, as when unanimously ratified by them, will enable the United States in Congress, effectually to provide for the same.”⁷

This proposal for a general trade convention seemingly met with general approval; nine States appointed commissioners. Under the leadership of the Virginia delegation, which included Randolph and Madison, Annapolis was accepted as the place and the first Monday in September 1786 as the time for the convention. The attendance at Annapolis proved disappointing. Only five States—Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York—were represented; delegates from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and Rhode Island failed to attend. Because of the small representation, the Annapolis convention did not deem “it advisable to proceed on the business of their mission.” After an exchange of views, the Annapolis delegates unanimously submitted to their respective States a report in which they suggested that a convention of representatives from all the States meet at Philadelphia on the second Monday in May 1787 to examine the defects in the existing system of government and formulate “a plan for supplying such defects as may be discovered.”⁸The Virginia legislature acted promptly upon this recommendation and appointed a delegation to go

⁵ George Mason, Edmund Randolph, James Madison, and Alexander Henderson were appointed commissioners for Virginia; Thomas Johnson, Thomas Stone, Samuel Chase, and Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer for Maryland.

⁶Text of the resolution and details of the compact may be found in *Wheaton v. Wise*, 153 U.S. 155 (1894).

⁷Transill, *op. cit.*, 38.

⁸*Id.*, 39.

to Philadelphia. Within a few weeks New Jersey, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Delaware, and Georgia also made appointments. New York and several other States hesitated on the ground that, without the consent of the Continental Congress, the work of the convention would be extra-legal; that Congress alone could propose amendments to the Articles of Confederation. Washington was quite unwilling to attend an irregular convention. Congressional approval of the proposed convention became, therefore, highly important. After some hesitancy Congress approved the suggestion for a convention at Philadelphia "for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation and reporting to Congress and the several legislatures such alterations and provisions therein as shall when agreed to in Congress and confirmed by the States render the Federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of Government and the preservation of the Union."

Thereupon, the remaining States, Rhode Island alone excepted, appointed in due course delegates to the Convention, and Washington accepted membership on the Virginia delegation.

Although scheduled to convene on May 14, 1787, it was not until May 25 that enough delegates were present to proceed with the organization of the Convention. Washington was elected as presiding officer. It was agreed that the sessions were to be strictly secret.

On May 29 Randolph, on behalf of the Virginia delegation, submitted to the convention 15 propositions as a plan of government. Despite the fact that the delegates were limited by their instructions to a revision of the Articles, Virginia had really recommended a new instrument of government. For example, provision was made in the Virginia plan for the separation of the three branches of government; under the Articles executive, legislative, and judicial powers were vested in the Congress. Furthermore the legislature was to consist of two houses rather than one.

On May 30 the Convention went into a committee of the whole to consider the 15 propositions of the Virginia plan seriatim. These discussions continued until June 13, when the Virginia resolutions in amended form were reported out of committee. They provided for proportional representation in both houses. The small States were dissatisfied. Therefore, on June 14 when the Convention was ready to consider the report on the Virginia plan, Paterson of New Jersey requested an adjournment to allow certain delegations more time to prepare a substitute plan. The request was granted, and on the next day Paterson submitted nine resolutions embodying important changes in the Articles of Confederation, but strictly amendatory in nature. Vigorous debate followed. On June 19 the States rejected the New Jersey plan and voted to proceed with a discussion of the Virginia plan. The small States became more and more discontented; there were threats of withdrawal. On July 2, the Convention was deadlocked over giving each

State an equal vote in the upper house—five States in the affirmative, five in the negative, one divided.⁹

The problem was referred to a committee of 11, there being 1 delegate from each State, to effect a compromise. On July 5 the committee submitted its report, which became the basis for the “great compromise” of the Convention. It was recommended that in the upper house each State should have an equal vote, that in the lower branch each State should have one representative for every 40,000 inhabitants, counting three-fifths of the slaves, that money bills should originate in the lower house (not subject to amendment by the upper chamber). When on July 12 the motion of Gouverneur Morris of Pennsylvania that direct taxation should also be in proportion to representation was adopted, a crisis had been successfully surmounted. A compromise spirit began to prevail. The small States were not willing to support a strong national government.

Debates on the Virginia resolutions continued. The 15 original resolutions had been expanded into 23. Since these resolutions were largely declarations of principles, on July 24 a committee of five¹⁰ was elected to draft a detailed constitution embodying the fundamental principles which had thus far been approved. The Convention adjourned from July 26 to August 6 to await the report of its committee of detail. This committee, in preparing its draft of a Constitution, turned for assistance to the State constitutions, to the Articles of Confederation, to the various plans which had been submitted to the Convention and other available material. On the whole the report of the committee conformed to the resolutions adopted by the Convention, though on many clauses the members of the committee left the imprint of their individual and collective judgments. In a few instances the committee avowedly exercised considerable discretion.

From August 6 to September 10 the report of the committee of detail was discussed, section by section, clause by clause. Details were attended to, further compromises were effected. Toward the close of these discussions, on September 8, another committee of five¹¹ was appointed “to revise the style of and arrange the articles which had been agreed to by the house.”

On Wednesday, September 12, the report of the committee of style was ordered printed for the convenience of the delegates. The Convention for 3 days compared this report with the proceedings of the Convention. The Constitution was ordered engrossed on Saturday, September 15.

The Convention met on Monday, September 17, for its final session. Several of the delegates were disappointed in the result. A few deemed the new Constitution a mere makeshift, a series of unfortunate compromises. The advocates of the Constitution, realizing the impending difficulty of

⁹The New Hampshire delegation did not arrive until July 23, 1787.

¹⁰Rutledge of South Carolina, Randolph of Virginia, Gorham of Massachusetts, Ellsworth of Connecticut, and Wilson of Pennsylvania.

¹¹William Samuel Johnson of Connecticut, Alexander Hamilton of New York, Gouverneur Morris of Pennsylvania, James Madison of Virginia, and Rufus King of Massachusetts.

obtaining the consent of the States to the new instrument of Government, were anxious to obtain the unanimous support of the delegations from each State. It was feared that many of the delegates would refuse to give their individual assent to the Constitution. Therefore, in order that the action of the Convention would appear to be unanimous, Gouverneur Morris devised the formula "Done in Convention, by the unanimous consent of the States present the 17th of September...In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names." Thirty-nine of the forty-two delegates present thereupon "subscribed" to the document.¹²

The convention had been called to revise the Articles of Confederation. Instead, it reported to the Continental Congress a new Constitution. Furthermore, while the Articles specified that no amendments should be effective until approved by the legislatures of all the States, the Philadelphia Convention suggested that the new Constitution should supplant the Articles of Confederation when ratified by conventions in nine States. For these reasons, it was feared that the new Constitution might arouse opposition in Congress.

Three members of the Convention—Madison, Gorham, and King—were also Members of Congress. They proceeded at once to New York, where Congress was in session, to placate the expected opposition. Aware of their vanishing authority, Congress on September 28, after some debate, decided to submit the Constitution to the States for action. It made no recommendation for or against adoption.

Two parties soon developed, one in opposition and one in support of the Constitution, and the Constitution was debated, criticized, and expounded clause by clause. Hamilton, Madison, and Jay wrote a series of commentaries, now known as the Federalist Papers, in support of the new instrument of government.¹³ The closeness and bitterness of the struggle over ratification and the conferring of additional powers on the central government can scarcely be exaggerated. In some States ratification was effected only after a bitter struggle in the State convention itself.

Delaware, on December 7, 1787, became the first State to ratify the new Constitution, the vote being unanimous. Pennsylvania ratified on December 12, 1787, by a vote of 46 to 23, a vote scarcely indicative of the struggle which had taken place in that State. New Jersey ratified on December 19, 1787, and Georgia on January 2, 1788, the vote in both States being unanimous. Connecticut ratified on January 9, 1788; yeas 128, nays 40. On February 6, 1788, Massachusetts, by a narrow margin of 19 votes in a convention with a membership of 355, endorsed the new Constitution, but rec-

¹²At least 65 persons had received appointments as delegates to the Convention; 55 actually attended at different times during the course of the proceedings; 39 signed the document. It has been estimated that generally fewer than 30 delegates attended the daily sessions.

¹³These commentaries on the Constitution, written during the struggle for ratification, have been frequently cited by the Supreme Court as an authoritative contemporary interpretation of the meaning of its provisions.

ommended that a bill of rights be added to protect the States from federal encroachment on individual liberties. Maryland ratified on April 28, 1788; yeas 63, nays 11. South Carolina ratified on May 23, 1788; yeas 149, nays 73. On June 21, 1788, by a vote of 57 to 46, New Hampshire became the ninth State to ratify, but like Massachusetts she suggested a bill of rights.

By the terms of the Constitution nine States were sufficient for its establishment among the States so ratifying. The advocates of the new Constitution realized, however, that the new Government could not succeed without the addition of New York and Virginia, neither of which had ratified. Madison, Marshall, and Randolph led the struggle for ratification in Virginia. On June 25, 1788, by a narrow margin of 10 votes in a convention of 168 members, that State ratified over the objection of such delegates as George Mason and Patrick Henry. In New York an attempt to attach conditions to ratification almost succeeded. But on July 26, 1788, New York ratified, with a recommendation that a bill of rights be appended. The vote was close—yeas 30, nays 27.

Eleven States having thus ratified the Constitution,¹⁴ the Continental Congress—which still functioned at irregular intervals—passed a resolution on September 13, 1788, to put the new Constitution into operation. The first Wednesday of January 1789 was fixed as the day for choosing presidential electors, the first Wednesday of February for the meeting of electors, and the first Wednesday of March (i.e. March 4, 1789) for the opening session of the new Congress. Owing to various delays, Congress was late in assembling, and it was not until April 30, 1789, that George Washington was inaugurated as the first President of the United States.

¹⁴North Carolina added her ratification on November 21, 1789; yeas 184, nays 77. Rhode Island did not ratify until May 29, 1790; yeas 34, nays 32.

**THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**

LITERAL PRINT

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

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

Article. I.

Section. 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section. 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

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

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within

every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

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

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

Section. 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

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

porary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

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

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

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

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

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

Section. 4. The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at

any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

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

Section. 5. Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

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

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

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

Section. 6. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning

from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

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

Section. 7. All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other Bills.

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

by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law

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

Section. 8. The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

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

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

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

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

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

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

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

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

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

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

To provide and maintain a Navy;

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

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

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

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

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

Section. 9. The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Section. 10. No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

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

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

Article. II.

Section. 1. The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows:

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

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representatives from each State having one Vote; a quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

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

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

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

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

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

Section. 2. The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the

principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and he shall have Power to Grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

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

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

Section. 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information on the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

Section. 4. The President, Vice President and all Civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

Article. III.

Section. 1. The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

Section. 2. The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;—to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public ministers and Consuls;—to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction;—to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;—to Controversies between two or more States;—between a State and Citizens of another State;—between Citizens of different States;—between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appel-

late Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

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

Section. 3. Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

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

Article. IV.

Section. 1. Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

Section. 2. The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

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

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

Section. 3. New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

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

Section. 4. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

Article. V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intent and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by

Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

Article. VI.

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

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

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

Article. VII.

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

The Word, "the," being interlined between the seventh and eighth Lines of the first Page, The Word "Thirty" being partly written on an Erasure in the fifteenth Line of the first Page, The Words "is tried" being interlined between the thirty second and thirty third Lines of the first Page and the Word "the" being interlined between the forty third and forty fourth Lines of the second Page.

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

Attest WILLIAM JACKSON
Secretary

G^o. WASHINGTON—Presid^t.
and deputy from Virginia

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| New Hampshire | JOHN LANGDON
NICHOLAS GILMAN |
| Massachusetts | NATHANIEL GORHAM
RUFUS KING |
| Connecticut | W ^M SAM ^L JOHNSON
ROGER SHERMAN |
| New York | ALEXANDER HAMILTON |
| New Jersey | WIL: LIVINGSTON
DAVID BREARLEY.
W ^M PATTERSON.
JONA: DAYTON |
| Pennsylvania | B FRANKLIN
THOMAS MIFFLIN
ROB ^T MORRIS
GEO. CLYMER
THO ^S FITZSIMONS
JARED INGERSOL
JAMES WILSON
GOUV MORRIS |

Delaware	GEO: READ GUNNING BEDFORD JUN JOHN DICKINSON RICHARD BASSETT JACO: BROOM
Maryland	JAMES MCHENRY DAN OF ST THOS JENIFER DAN ^L CARROLL
Virginia	JOHN BLAIR— JAMES MADISON JR.
North Carolina	W ^M BLOUNT RICH ^D DOBBS SPAIGHT HU WILLIAMSON J. RUTLEDGE
South Carolina	CHARLES COTESWORTH PINCKNEY CHARLES PINCKNEY PIERCE BUTLER
Georgia	WILLIAM FEW ABR BALDWIN

In Convention Monday, September 17th 1787.

Present

The States of

New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, M^R Hamilton from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Resolved,

That the preceeding Constitution be laid before the United States in Congress assembled, and that it is the Opinion of this Convention, that it should afterwards be submitted to a Convention of Delegates, chosen in each State by the People thereof, under the Recommendation of its Legislature, for their Assent and Ratification; and that each Convention assenting to, and ratifying the Same, should give Notice thereof to the United States in Congress assembled. Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Convention, that as soon as the Conventions of nine States shall have ratified this Constitution, the United States in Congress assembled should fix a Day on which Electors should be appointed by the States which shall have ratified the same, and a Day on which the Electors should assemble to vote for the President, and the Time and Place for commencing Proceedings under this Constitution. That after such Publication the Electors should be appointed, and the Senators and Representatives elected: That the Electors should meet on the Day fixed for the Election of the President, and should transmit their Votes certified, signed, sealed and directed, as the Constitution requires, to the Secretary of the United States in Congress assembled, that the Senators and Representatives should convene at the Time and Place assigned; that the Senators

should appoint a President of the Senate, for the sole Purpose of receiving, opening and counting the Votes for President; and, that after he shall be chosen, the Congress, together with the President, should, without Delay, proceed to execute this Constitution.

By the Unanimous Order of the Convention

G^o: WASHINGTON—Presid^t.

W. JACKSON Secretary.

AMENDMENTS
TO THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

**ARTICLES IN ADDITION TO, AND AMENDMENT OF,
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, PROPOSED BY CONGRESS, AND RATI-
FIED BY THE SEVERAL STATES, PURSUANT TO THE
FIFTH ARTICLE OF THE ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION¹**

AMENDMENT [I.]²

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people

¹In *Dillon v. Gloss*, 256 U.S. 368 (1921), the Supreme Court stated that it would take judicial notice of the date on which a State ratified a proposed constitutional amendment. Accordingly the Court consulted the State journals to determine the dates on which each house of the legislature of certain States ratified the Eighteenth Amendment. It, therefore, follows that the date on which the governor approved the ratification, or the date on which the secretary of state of a given State certified the ratification, or the date on which the Secretary of State of the United States received a copy of said certificate, or the date on which he proclaimed that the amendment had been ratified are not controlling. Hence, the ratification date given in the following notes is the date on which the legislature of a given State approved the particular amendment (signature by the speaker or presiding officers of both houses being considered a part of the ratification of the "legislature"). When that date is not available, the date given is that on which it was approved by the governor or certified by the secretary of state of the particular State. In each case such fact has been noted. Except as otherwise indicated information as to ratification is based on data supplied by the Department of State.

²Brackets enclosing an amendment number indicate that the number was not specifically assigned in the resolution proposing the amendment. It will be seen, accordingly, that only the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Amendments were thus technically ratified by number. The first ten amendments along with two others that were not ratified were proposed by Congress on September 25, 1789, when they passed the Senate, having previously passed the House on September 24 (1 *Annals of Congress* 88, 913). They appear officially in 1 Stat. 97. Ratification was completed on December 15, 1791, when the eleventh State (Virginia) approved these amendments, there being then 14 States in the Union.

The several state legislatures ratified the first ten amendments to the Constitution on the following dates: New Jersey, November 20, 1789; Maryland, December 19, 1789; North Carolina, December 22, 1789; South Carolina, January 19, 1790; New Hampshire, January 25, 1790; Delaware, January 28, 1790; New York, February 27, 1790; Pennsylvania, March 10, 1790; Rhode Island, June 7, 1790; Vermont, November 3, 1791; Virginia, December 15, 1791. The two amendments that then failed of ratification prescribed the ratio of representation to population in the House, and specified that no law varying the compensation of members of Congress should be effective until after an intervening election of Representatives. The first was ratified by ten States (one short of the requisite number) and the second, by six States; subsequently, this second proposal was taken up by the States in the period 1980–1992 and was proclaimed as ratified as of May 7, 1992. Connecticut, Georgia, and Massachusetts ratified the first ten amendments in 1939.

peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

AMENDMENT [II.]

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

AMENDMENT [III.]

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

AMENDMENT [IV.]

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

AMENDMENT [V.]

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

AMENDMENT [VI.]

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

AMENDMENT [VII.]

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

AMENDMENT [VIII.]

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

AMENDMENT [IX.]

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

AMENDMENT [X.]

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

AMENDMENT [XI.]³

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

AMENDMENT [XII.]⁴

The Electors shall meet in their respective states and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as

³The Eleventh Amendment was proposed by Congress on March 4, 1794, when it passed the House, 4 *Annals of Congress* 477, 478, having previously passed the Senate on January 14, Id., 30, 31. It appears officially in 1 Stat. 402. Ratification was completed on February 7, 1795, when the twelfth State (North Carolina) approved the amendment, there being then 15 States in the Union. Official announcement of ratification was not made until January 8, 1798, when President John Adams in a message to Congress stated that the Eleventh Amendment had been adopted by three-fourths of the States and that it "may now be deemed to be a part of the Constitution." In the interim South Carolina had ratified, and Tennessee had been admitted into the Union as the sixteenth State.

The several state legislatures ratified the Eleventh Amendment on the following dates: New York, March 27, 1794; Rhode Island, March 31, 1794; Connecticut, May 8, 1794; New Hampshire, June 16, 1794; Massachusetts, June 26, 1794; Vermont, between October 9 and November 9, 1794; Virginia, November 18, 1794; Georgia, November 29, 1794; Kentucky, December 7, 1794; Maryland, December 26, 1794; Delaware, January 23, 1795; North Carolina, February 7, 1795; South Carolina, December 4, 1797.

⁴The Twelfth Amendment was proposed by Congress on December 9, 1803, when it passed the House, 13 *Annals of Congress* 775, 776, having previously passed the Senate on December 2, Id., 209. It was not signed by the presiding officers of the House and Senate until December 12. It appears officially in 2 Stat. 306. Ratification was probably completed on June 15, 1804, when the legislature of the thirteenth State (New Hampshire) approved the amendment, there being then 17 States in the Union. The Governor of New Hampshire, however, vetoed this act of the legislature on June 20, and the act failed to pass again by two-thirds vote then required by the state constitution. Inasmuch as Article V of the Federal Constitution specifies that amendments shall become effective "when ratified by legislatures of three-fourths of the several States or by conventions in three-fourths thereof," it has been generally believed that an approval or veto by a governor is without significance. If the ratification by New Hampshire be deemed ineffective, then the amendment became operative by Tennessee's ratification on July 27, 1804. On September 25, 1804, in a circular letter to the Governors of the several States, Secretary of State Madison declared the amendment ratified by three-fourths of the States.

The several state legislatures ratified the Twelfth Amendment on the following dates: North Carolina, December 22, 1803; Maryland, December 24, 1803; Kentucky, December 27, 1803; Ohio, between December 5 and December 30, 1803; Virginia, between December 20, 1803 and February 3, 1804; Pennsylvania, January 5, 1804; Vermont, January 30, 1804; New York, February 10, 1804; New Jersey, February 22, 1804; Rhode Island, between February 27 and March 12, 1804; South Carolina, May 15, 1804; Georgia, May 19, 1804; New Hampshire, June 15, 1804; and Tennessee, July 27, 1804. The amendment was rejected by Delaware on January 18, 1804, and by Connecticut at its session begun May 10, 1804. Massachusetts ratified this amendment in 1961.

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

quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

AMENDMENT XIII.⁵

SECTION 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

SECTION 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

AMENDMENT XIV.⁶

SECTION. 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the

⁵The Thirteenth Amendment was proposed by Congress on January 31, 1865, when it passed the House, Cong. Globe (38th Cong., 2d Sess.) 531, having previously passed the Senate on April 8, 1864. Id. (38th cong., 1st Sess.), 1940. It appears officially in 13 Stat. 567 under the date of February 1, 1865. Ratification was completed on December 6, 1865, when the legislature of the twenty-seventh State (Georgia) approved the amendment, there being then 36 States in the Union. On December 18, 1865, Secretary of State Seward certified that the Thirteenth Amendment had become a part of the Constitution, 13 Stat. 774.

The several state legislatures ratified the Thirteenth Amendment on the following dates: Illinois, February 1, 1865; Rhode Island, February 2, 1865; Michigan, February 2, 1865; Maryland, February 3, 1865; New York, February 3, 1865; West Virginia, February 3, 1865; Missouri, February 6, 1865; Maine, February 7, 1865; Kansas, February 7, 1865; Massachusetts, February 7, 1865; Pennsylvania, February 8, 1865; Virginia, February 9, 1865; Ohio, February 10, 1865; Louisiana, February 15 or 16, 1865; Indiana, February 16, 1865; Nevada, February 16, 1865; Minnesota, February 23, 1865; Wisconsin, February 24, 1865; Vermont, March 9, 1865 (date on which it was "approved" by Governor); Tennessee, April 7, 1865; Arkansas, April 14, 1865; Connecticut, May 4, 1865; New Hampshire, June 30, 1865; South Carolina, November 13, 1865; Alabama, December 2, 1865 (date on which it was "approved" by Provisional Governor); North Carolina, December 4, 1865; Georgia, December 6, 1865; Oregon, December 11, 1865; California, December 15, 1865; Florida, December 28, 1865 (Florida again ratified this amendment on June 9, 1868, upon its adoption of a new constitution); Iowa, January 17, 1866; New Jersey, January 23, 1866 (after having rejected the amendment on March 16, 1865); Texas, February 17, 1870; Delaware, February 12, 1901 (after having rejected the amendment on February 8, 1865). The amendment was rejected by Kentucky on February 24, 1865, and by Mississippi on December 2, 1865.

⁶The Fourteenth Amendment was proposed by Congress on June 13, 1866, when it passed the House, Cong. Globe (39th Cong., 1st Sess.) 3148, 3149, having previously passed the Senate on June 8. Id., 3042. It appears officially in 14 Stat. 358 under date of June 16, 1866. Ratification was probably completed on July 9, 1868, when the legislature of the twenty-eighth State

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

SECTION. 2. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and

(South Carolina or Louisiana) approved the amendment, there being then 37 States in the Union. However, Ohio and New Jersey had prior to that date “withdrawn” their earlier assent to this amendment. Accordingly, Secretary of State Seward on July 20, 1868, certified that the amendment had become a part of the Constitution if the said withdrawals were ineffective. 15 Stat. 706–707. Congress on July 21, 1868, passed a joint resolution declaring the amendment a part of the Constitution and directing the Secretary to promulgate it as such. On July 28, 1868, Secretary Seward certified without reservation that the amendment was a part of the Constitution. In the interim, two other States, Alabama on July 13 and Georgia on July 21, 1868, had added their ratifications.

The several state legislatures ratified the Fourteenth Amendment on the following dates: Connecticut, June 30, 1866; New Hampshire, July 7, 1866; Tennessee, July 19, 1866; New Jersey, September 11, 1866 (the New Jersey Legislature on February 20, 1868 “withdrew” its consent to the ratification; the Governor vetoed that bill on March 5, 1868; and it was repassed over his veto on March 24, 1868); Oregon, September 19, 1866 (Oregon “withdrew” its consent on October 15, 1868); Vermont, October 30, 1866; New York, January 10, 1867; Ohio, January 11, 1867 (Ohio “withdrew” its consent on January 15, 1868); Illinois, January 15, 1867; West Virginia, January 16, 1867; Michigan, January 16, 1867; Kansas, January 17, 1867; Minnesota, January 17, 1867; Maine, January 19, 1867; Nevada, January 22, 1867; Indiana, January 23, 1867; Missouri, January 26, 1867 (date on which it was certified by the Missouri secretary of state); Rhode Island, February 7, 1867; Pennsylvania, February 12, 1867; Wisconsin, February 13, 1867 (actually passed February 7, but not signed by legislative officers until February 13); Massachusetts, March 20, 1867; Nebraska, June 15, 1867; Iowa, March 9, 1868; Arkansas, April 6, 1868; Florida, June 9, 1868; North Carolina, July 2, 1868 (after having rejected the amendment on December 13, 1866); Louisiana, July 9, 1868 (after having rejected the amendment on February 6, 1867); South Carolina, July 8, 1868 (after having rejected the amendment on December 20, 1866); Alabama, July 13, 1868 (date on which it was “approved” by the Governor); Georgia, July 21, 1868 (after having rejected the amendment on November 9, 1866—Georgia ratified again on February 2, 1870); Virginia, October 8, 1869 (after having rejected the amendment on January 9, 1867); Mississippi, January 17, 1870; Texas, February 18, 1870 (after having rejected the amendment on October 27, 1866); Delaware, February 12, 1901 (after having rejected the amendment on February 7, 1867). The amendment was rejected (and not subsequently ratified) by Kentucky on January 8, 1867. Maryland and California ratified this amendment in 1959.

Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

SECTION. 3. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

SECTION. 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

SECTION. 5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

AMENDMENT XV.⁷

SECTION. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SECTION. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

AMENDMENT XVI.⁸

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment

⁷The Fifteenth Amendment was proposed by Congress on February 26, 1869, when it passed the Senate, Cong. Globe (40th Cong., 3rd Sess.) 1641, having previously passed the House on February 25. *Id.*, 1563, 1564. It appears officially in 15 Stat. 346 under the date of February 27, 1869. Ratification was probably completed on February 3, 1870, when the legislature of the twenty-eighth State (Iowa) approved the amendment, there being then 37 States in the Union. However, New York had prior to that date “withdrawn” its earlier assent to this amendment. Even if this withdrawal were effective, Nebraska’s ratification on February 17, 1870, authorized Secretary of State Fish’s certification of March 30, 1870, that the Fifteenth Amendment had become a part of the Constitution. 16 Stat. 1131.

The several state legislatures ratified the Fifteenth Amendment on the following dates: Nevada, March 1, 1869; West Virginia, March 3, 1869; North Carolina, March 5, 1869; Louisiana, March 5, 1869 (date on which it was “approved” by the Governor); Illinois, March 5, 1869; Michigan, March 5, 1869; Wisconsin, March 5, 1869; Maine, March 11, 1869; Massachusetts, March 12, 1869; South Carolina, March 15, 1869; Arkansas, March 15, 1869; Pennsylvania, March 25, 1869; New York, April 14, 1869 (New York “withdrew” its consent to the ratification on January 5, 1870); Indiana, May 14, 1869; Connecticut, May 19, 1869; Florida, June 14, 1869; New Hampshire, July 1, 1869; Virginia, October 8, 1869; Vermont, October 20, 1869; Alabama, November 16, 1869; Missouri, January 7, 1870 (Missouri had ratified the first section of the 15th Amendment on March 1, 1869; it failed to include in its ratification the second section of the amendment); Minnesota, January 13, 1870; Mississippi, January 17, 1870; Rhode Island, January 18, 1870; Kansas, January 19, 1870 (Kansas had by a defectively worded resolution previously ratified this amendment on February 27, 1869); Ohio, January 27, 1870 (after having rejected the amendment on May 4, 1869); Georgia, February 2, 1870; Iowa, February 3, 1870; Nebraska, February 17, 1870; Texas, February 18, 1870; New Jersey, February 15, 1871 (after having rejected the amendment on February 7, 1870); Delaware, February 12, 1901 (date on which approved by Governor; Delaware had previously rejected the amendment on March 18, 1869). The amendment was rejected (and not subsequently ratified) by Kentucky, Maryland, and Tennessee. California ratified this amendment in 1962 and Oregon in 1959.

⁸The Sixteenth Amendment was proposed by Congress on July 12, 1909, when it passed the House, 44 Cong. Rec. (61st Cong., 1st Sess.) 4390, 4440, 4441, having previously passed the Senate on July 5. *Id.*, 4121. It appears officially in 36 Stat. 184. Ratification was completed on February 3, 1913, when the legislature of the thirty-sixth State (Delaware, Wyoming, or New Mexico) approved the amendment, there being then 48 States in the Union. On February

among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

AMENDMENT [XVII.]⁹

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

When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue

25, 1913, Secretary of State Knox certified that this amendment had become a part of the Constitution. 37 Stat. 1785.

The several state legislatures ratified the Sixteenth Amendment on the following dates: Alabama, August 10, 1909; Kentucky, February 8, 1910; South Carolina, February 19, 1910; Illinois, March 1, 1910; Mississippi, March 7, 1910; Oklahoma, March 10, 1910; Maryland, April 8, 1910; Georgia, August 3, 1910; Texas, August 16, 1910; Ohio, January 19, 1911; Idaho, January 20, 1911; Oregon, January 23, 1911; Washington, January 26, 1911; Montana, January 27, 1911; Indiana, January 30, 1911; California, January 31, 1911; Nevada, January 31, 1911; South Dakota, February 1, 1911; Nebraska, February 9, 1911; North Carolina, February 11, 1911; Colorado, February 15, 1911; North Dakota, February 17, 1911; Michigan, February 23, 1911; Iowa, February 24, 1911; Kansas, March 2, 1911; Missouri, March 16, 1911; Maine, March 31, 1911; Tennessee, April 7, 1911; Arkansas, April 22, 1911 (after having rejected the amendment at the session begun January 9, 1911); Wisconsin, May 16, 1911; New York, July 12, 1911; Arizona, April 3, 1912; Minnesota, June 11, 1912; Louisiana, June 28, 1912; West Virginia, January 31, 1913; Delaware, February 3, 1913; Wyoming, February 3, 1913; New Mexico, February 3, 1913; New Jersey, February 4, 1913; Vermont, February 19, 1913; Massachusetts, March 4, 1913; New Hampshire, March 7, 1913 (after having rejected the amendment on March 2, 1911). The amendment was rejected (and not subsequently ratified) by Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Utah.

⁹The Seventeenth Amendment was proposed by Congress on May 13, 1912, when it passed the House, 48 Cong. Rec. (62d Cong., 2d Sess.) 6367, having previously passed the Senate on June 12, 1911. 47 Cong. Rec. (62d Cong., 1st Sess.) 1925. It appears officially in 37 Stat. 646. Ratification was completed on April 8, 1913, when the thirty-sixth State (Connecticut) approved the amendment, there being then 48 States in the Union. On May 31, 1913, Secretary of State Bryan certified that it had become a part of the Constitution. 38 Stat 2049.

The several state legislatures ratified the Seventeenth Amendment on the following dates: Massachusetts, May 22, 1912; Arizona, June 3, 1912; Minnesota, June 10, 1912; New York, January 15, 1913; Kansas, January 17, 1913; Oregon, January 23, 1913; North Carolina, January 25, 1913; California, January 28, 1913; Michigan, January 28, 1913; Iowa, January 30, 1913; Montana, January 30, 1913; Idaho, January 31, 1913; West Virginia, February 4, 1913; Colorado, February 5, 1913; Nevada, February 6, 1913; Texas, February 7, 1913; Washington, February 7, 1913; Wyoming, February 8, 1913; Arkansas, February 11, 1913; Illinois, February 13, 1913; North Dakota, February 14, 1913; Wisconsin, February 18, 1913; Indiana, February 19, 1913; New Hampshire, February 19, 1913; Vermont, February 19, 1913; South Dakota, February 19, 1913; Maine, February 20, 1913; Oklahoma, February 24, 1913; Ohio, February 25, 1913; Missouri, March 7, 1913; New Mexico, March 13, 1913; Nebraska, March 14, 1913; New Jersey, March 17, 1913; Tennessee, April 1, 1913; Pennsylvania, April 2, 1913; Connecticut, April 8, 1913; Louisiana, June 5, 1914. The amendment was rejected by Utah on February 26, 1913.

writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

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

AMENDMENT [XVIII.]¹⁰

SECTION. 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

SEC. 2. The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

¹⁰The Eighteenth Amendment was proposed by Congress on December 18, 1917, when it passed the Senate, Cong. Rec. (65th Cong. 2d Sess.) 478, having previously passed the House on December 17. *Id.*, 470. It appears officially in 40 Stat. 1059. Ratification was completed on January 16, 1919, when the thirty-sixth State approved the amendment, there being then 48 States in the Union. On January 29, 1919, Acting Secretary of State Polk certified that this amendment had been adopted by the requisite number of States. 40 Stat. 1941. By its terms this amendment did not become effective until 1 year after ratification.

The several state legislatures ratified the Eighteenth Amendment on the following dates: Mississippi, January 8, 1918; Virginia, January 11, 1918; Kentucky, January 14, 1918; North Dakota, January 28, 1918 (date on which approved by Governor); South Carolina, January 29, 1918; Maryland, February 13, 1918; Montana, February 19, 1918; Texas, March 4, 1918; Delaware, March 18, 1918; South Dakota, March 20, 1918; Massachusetts, April 2, 1918; Arizona, May 24, 1918; Georgia, June 26, 1918; Louisiana, August 9, 1918 (date on which approved by Governor); Florida, November 27, 1918; Michigan, January 2, 1919; Ohio, January 7, 1919; Oklahoma, January 7, 1919; Idaho, January 8, 1919; Maine, January 8, 1919; West Virginia, January 9, 1919; California, January 13, 1919; Tennessee, January 13, 1919; Washington, January 13, 1919; Arkansas, January 14, 1919; Kansas, January 14, 1919; Illinois, January 14, 1919; Indiana, January 14, 1919; Alabama, January 15, 1919; Colorado, January 15, 1919; Iowa, January 15, 1919; New Hampshire, January 15, 1919; Oregon, January 15, 1919; Nebraska, January 16, 1919; North Carolina, January 16, 1919; Utah, January 16, 1919; Missouri, January 16, 1919; Wyoming, January 16, 1919; Minnesota, January 17, 1919; Wisconsin, January 17, 1919; New Mexico, January 20, 1919; Nevada, January 21, 1919; Pennsylvania, February 25, 1919; Connecticut, May 6, 1919; New Jersey, March 9, 1922; New York, January 29, 1919; Vermont, January 29, 1919.

SEC. 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

AMENDMENT [XIX.]¹¹

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

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

AMENDMENT [XX.]¹²

SECTION. 1. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms

¹¹The Nineteenth Amendment was proposed by Congress on June 4, 1919, when it passed the Senate, Cong. Rec. (66th Cong., 1st Sess.) 635, having previously passed the house on May 21. Id., 94. It appears officially in 41 Stat. 362. Ratification was completed on August 18, 1920, when the thirty-sixth State (Tennessee) approved the amendment, there being then 48 States in the Union. On August 26, 1920, Secretary of Colby certified that it had become a part of the Constitution. 41 Stat. 1823.

The several state legislatures ratified the Nineteenth Amendment on the following dates: Illinois, June 10, 1919 (readopted June 17, 1919); Michigan, June 10, 1919; Wisconsin, June 10, 1919; Kansas, June 16, 1919; New York, June 16, 1919; Ohio, June 16, 1919; Pennsylvania, June 24, 1919; Massachusetts, June 25, 1919; Texas, June 28, 1919; Iowa, July 2, 1919 (date on which approved by Governor); Missouri, July 3, 1919; Arkansas, July 28, 1919; Montana, August 2, 1919 (date on which approved by governor); Nebraska, August 2, 1919; Minnesota, September 8, 1919; New Hampshire, September 10, 1919 (date on which approved by Governor); Utah, October 2, 1919; California, November 1, 1919; Maine, November 5, 1919; North Dakota, December 1, 1919; South Dakota, December 4, 1919 (date on which certified); Colorado, December 15, 1919 (date on which approved by Governor); Kentucky, January 6, 1920; Rhode Island, January 6, 1920; Oregon, January 13, 1920; Indiana, January 16, 1920; Wyoming, January 27, 1920; Nevada, February 7, 1920; New Jersey, February 9, 1920; Idaho, February 11, 1920; Arizona, February 12, 1920; New Mexico, February 21, 1920 (date on which approved by governor); Oklahoma, February 28, 1920; West Virginia, March 10, 1920 (confirmed September 21, 1920); Vermont, February 8, 1921. The amendment was rejected by Georgia on July 24, 1919; by Alabama on September 22, 1919; by South Carolina on January 29, 1920; by Virginia on February 12, 1920; by Maryland on February 24, 1920; by Mississippi on March 29, 1920; by Louisiana on July 1, 1920. This amendment was subsequently ratified by Virginia in 1952, Alabama in 1953, Florida in 1969, and Georgia and Louisiana in 1970.

¹²The Twentieth Amendment was proposed by Congress on March 2, 1932, when it passed the Senate, Cong. Rec. (72d Cong., 1st Sess.) 5086, having previously passed the House on March 1. Id., 5027. It appears officially in 47 Stat. 745. Ratification was completed on January 23, 1933, when the thirty-sixth State approved the amendment, there being then 48 States in the Union. On February 6, 1933, Secretary of State Stimson certified that it had become a part of the Constitution. 47 Stat. 2569.

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

SEC. 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

SEC. 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

The several state legislatures ratified the Twentieth Amendment on the following dates: Virginia, March 4, 1932; New York, March 11, 1932; Mississippi, March 16, 1932; Arkansas March 17, 1932; Kentucky, March 17, 1932; New Jersey, March 21, 1932; South Carolina, March 25, 1932; Michigan, March 31, 1932; Maine, April 1, 1932; Rhode Island, April 14, 1932; Illinois, April 21, 1932; Louisiana, June 22, 1932; West Virginia, July 30, 1932; Pennsylvania, August 11, 1932; Indiana, August 15, 1932; Texas, September 7, 1932; Alabama, September 13, 1932; California, January 4, 1933; North Carolina, January 5, 1933; North Dakota, January 9, 1933; Minnesota, January 12, 1933; Arizona, January 13, 1933; Montana, January 13, 1933; Nebraska, January 13, 1933; Oklahoma, January 13, 1933; Kansas, January 16, 1933; Oregon, January 16, 1933; Delaware, January 19, 1933; Washington, January 19, 1933; Wyoming, January 19, 1933; Iowa, January 20, 1933; South Dakota, January 20, 1933; Tennessee, January 20, 1933; Idaho, January 21, 1933; New Mexico, January 21, 1933; Georgia, January 23, 1933; Missouri, January 23, 1933; Ohio, January 23, 1933; Utah, January 23, 1933; Colorado, January 24, 1933; Massachusetts, January 24, 1933; Wisconsin, January 24, 1933; Nevada, January 26, 1933; Connecticut, January 27, 1933; New Hampshire, January 31, 1933; Vermont, February 2, 1933; Maryland, March 24, 1933; Florida, April 26, 1933.

SEC. 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

SEC. 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

SEC. 6. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

AMENDMENT [XXI.]¹³

SECTION. 1. The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

SEC. 2. The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use

¹³The Twenty-first Amendment was proposed by Congress on February 20, 1933, when it passed the House, Cong. Rec. (72d Cong., 2d Sess.) 4516, having previously passed the Senate on February 16. *Id.*, 4231. It appears officially in 47 Stat. 1625. Ratification was completed on December 5, 1933, when the thirty-sixth State (Utah) approved the amendment, there being then 48 States in the Union. On December 5, 1933, Acting Secretary of State Phillips certified that it had been adopted by the requisite number of States. 48 Stat. 1749.

The several state conventions ratified the Twenty-first Amendment on the following dates: Michigan, April 10, 1933; Wisconsin, April 25, 1933; Rhode Island, May 8, 1933; Wyoming, May 25, 1933; New Jersey, June 1, 1933; Delaware, June 24, 1933; Indiana, June 26, 1933; Massachusetts, June 26, 1933; New York, June 27, 1933; Illinois, July 10, 1933; Iowa, July 10, 1933; Connecticut, July 11, 1933; New Hampshire, July 11, 1933; California, July 24, 1933; West Virginia, July 25, 1933; Arkansas, August 1, 1933; Oregon, August 7, 1933; Alabama, August 8, 1933; Tennessee, August 11, 1933; Missouri, August 29, 1933; Arizona, September 5, 1933; Nevada, September 5, 1933; Vermont, September 23, 1933; Colorado, September 26, 1933; Washington, October 3, 1933; Minnesota, October 10, 1933; Idaho, October 17, 1933; Maryland, October 18, 1933; Virginia, October 25, 1933; New Mexico, November 2, 1933; Florida, November 14, 1933; Texas, November 24, 1933; Kentucky, November 27, 1933; Ohio, December 5, 1933; Pennsylvania, December 5, 1933; Utah, December 5, 1933; Maine, December 6, 1933; Montana, August 6, 1934. The amendment was rejected by a convention in the State of South Carolina, on December 4, 1933. The electorate of the State of North Carolina voted against holding a convention at a general election held on November 7, 1933.

therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

SEC. 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

AMENDMENT [XXII.]¹⁴

SECTION. 1. No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President, when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of

¹⁴The Twenty-second Amendment was proposed by Congress on March 24, 1947, having passed the House on March 21, 1947, Cong. Rec. (80th Cong., 1st Sess.) 2392, and having previously passed the Senate on March 12, 1947. *Id.*, 1978. It appears officially in 61 Stat. 959. Ratification was completed on February 27, 1951, when the thirty-sixth State (Minnesota) approved the amendment, there being then 48 States in the Union. On March 1, 1951, Jess Larson, Administrator of General Services, certified that it had been adopted by the requisite number of States. 16 Fed. Reg. 2019.

A total of 41 state legislatures ratified the Twenty-second Amendment on the following dates: Maine, March 31, 1947; Michigan, March 31, 1947; Iowa, April 1, 1947; Kansas, April 1, 1947; New Hampshire, April 1, 1947; Delaware, April 2, 1947; Illinois, April 3, 1947; Oregon, April 3, 1947; Colorado, April 12, 1947; California, April 15, 1947; New Jersey, April 15, 1947; Vermont, April 15, 1947; Ohio, April 16, 1947; Wisconsin, April 16, 1947; Pennsylvania, April 29, 1947; Connecticut, May 21, 1947; Missouri, May 22, 1947; Nebraska, May 23, 1947; Virginia, January 28, 1948; Mississippi, February 12, 1948; New York, March 9, 1948; South Dakota, January 21, 1949; North Dakota, February 25, 1949; Louisiana, May 17, 1950; Montana, January 25, 1951; Indiana, January 29, 1951; Idaho, January 30, 1951; New Mexico, February 12, 1951; Wyoming, February 12, 1951; Arkansas, February 15, 1951; Georgia, February 17, 1951; Tennessee, February 20, 1951; Texas, February 22, 1951; Utah, February 26, 1951; Nevada, February 26, 1951; Minnesota, February 27, 1951; North Carolina, February 28, 1951; South Carolina, March 13, 1951; Maryland, March 14, 1951; Florida, April 16, 1951; and Alabama, May 4, 1951.

President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

SEC. 2. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

AMENDMENT [XXIII.]¹⁵

SECTION. 1. The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

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

¹⁵The Twenty-third Amendment was proposed by Congress on June 16, 1960, when it passed the Senate, Cong. Rec. (86th Cong., 2d Sess.) 12858, having previously passed the House on June 14. Id., 12571. It appears officially in 74 Stat. 1057. Ratification was completed on March 29, 1961, when the thirty-eighth State (Ohio) approved the amendment, there being then 50 States in the Union. On April 3, 1961, John L. Moore, Administrator of General Services, certified that it had been adopted by the requisite number of States. 26 Fed. Reg. 2808.

The several state legislatures ratified the Twenty-third Amendment on the following dates: Hawaii, June 23, 1960; Massachusetts, August 22, 1960; New Jersey, December 19, 1960; New York, January 17, 1961; California, January 19, 1961; Oregon, January 27, 1961; Maryland, January 30, 1961; Idaho, January 31, 1961; Maine, January 31, 1961; Minnesota, January 31, 1961; New Mexico, February 1, 1961; Nevada, February 2, 1961; Montana, February 6, 1961; Colorado, February 8, 1961; Washington, February 9, 1961; West Virginia, February 9, 1961; Alaska, February 10, 1961; Wyoming, February 13, 1961; South Dakota, February 14, 1961; Delaware, February 20, 1961; Utah, February 21, 1961; Wisconsin, February 21, 1961; Pennsylvania, February 28, 1961; Indiana, March 3, 1961; North Dakota, March 3, 1961; Tennessee, March 6, 1961; Michigan, March 8, 1961; Connecticut, March 9, 1961; Arizona, March 10, 1961; Illinois, March 14, 1961; Nebraska, March 15, 1961; Vermont, March 15, 1961; Iowa, March 16, 1961; Missouri, March 20, 1961; Oklahoma, March 21, 1961; Rhode Island, March 22, 1961; Kansas, March 29, 1961; Ohio, March 29, 1961, and New Hampshire, March 30, 1961.

SEC. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

AMENDMENT [XXIV.]¹⁶

SECTION. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

SECTION. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

AMENDMENT [XXV.]¹⁷

SECTION. 1. In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

¹⁶The Twenty-fourth Amendment was proposed by Congress on September 14, 1962, having passed the House on August 27, 1962. Cong. Rec. (87th Cong., 2d Sess.) 17670 and having previously passed the Senate on March 27, 1962. Id., 5105. It appears officially in 76 Stat. 1259. Ratification was completed on January 23, 1964, when the thirty-eighth State (South Dakota) approved the Amendment, there being then 50 States in the Union. On February 4, 1964, Bernard L. Boutin, Administrator of General Services, certified that it had been adopted by the requisite number of States. 25 Fed. Reg. 1717. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed this certificate.

Thirty-eight state legislatures ratified the Twenty-fourth Amendment on the following dates: Illinois, November 14, 1962; New Jersey, December 3, 1962; Oregon, January 25, 1963; Montana, January 28, 1963; West Virginia, February 1, 1963; New York, February 4, 1963; Maryland, February 6, 1963; California, February 7, 1963; Alaska, February 11, 1963; Rhode Island, February 14, 1963; Indiana, February 19, 1963; Michigan, February 20, 1963; Utah, February 20, 1963; Colorado, February 21, 1963; Minnesota, February 27, 1963; Ohio, February 27, 1963; New Mexico, March 5, 1963; Hawaii, March 6, 1963; North Dakota, March 7, 1963; Idaho, March 8, 1963; Washington, March 14, 1963; Vermont, March 15, 1963; Nevada, March 19, 1963; Connecticut, March 20, 1963; Tennessee, March 21, 1963; Pennsylvania, March 25, 1963; Wisconsin, March 26, 1963; Kansas, March 28, 1963; Massachusetts, March 28, 1963; Nebraska, April 4, 1963; Florida, April 18, 1963; Iowa, April 24, 1963; Delaware, May 1, 1963; Missouri, May 13, 1963; New Hampshire, June 16, 1963; Kentucky, June 27, 1963; Maine, January 16, 1964; South Dakota, January 23, 1964.

¹⁷This Amendment was proposed by the Eighty-ninth Congress by Senate Joint Resolution No. 1, which was approved by the Senate on February 19, 1965, and by the House of Representatives, in amended form, on April 13, 1965. The House of Representatives agreed to a Conference Report on June 30, 1965, and the Senate agreed to the Conference Report on July 6, 1965. It was declared by the Administrator of General Services, on February 23, 1967, to have been ratified.

SECTION. 2. Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

SECTION. 3. Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives has written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

SECTION. 4. Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

This Amendment was ratified by the following States:

Nebraska, July 12, 1965; Wisconsin, July 13, 1965; Oklahoma, July 16, 1965; Massachusetts, August 9, 1965; Pennsylvania, August 18, 1965; Kentucky, September 15, 1965; Arizona, September 22, 1965; Michigan, October 5, 1965; Indiana, October 20, 1965; California, October 21, 1965; Arkansas, November 4, 1965; New Jersey, November 29, 1965; Delaware, December 7, 1965; Utah, January 17, 1966; West Virginia, January 20, 1966; Maine, January 24, 1966; Rhode Island, January 28, 1966; Colorado, February 3, 1966; New Mexico, February 3, 1966; Kansas, February 8, 1966; Vermont, February 10, 1966; Alaska, February 18, 1966; Idaho, March 2, 1966; Hawaii, March 3, 1966; Virginia, March 8, 1966; Mississippi, March 10, 1966; New York, March 14, 1966; Maryland, March 23, 1966; Missouri, March 30, 1966; New Hampshire, June 13, 1966; Louisiana, July 5, 1966; Tennessee, January 12, 1967; Wyoming, January 25, 1967; Washington, January 26, 1967; Iowa, January 26, 1967; Oregon, February 2, 1967; Minnesota, February 10, 1967; Nevada, February 10, 1967; Connecticut, February 14, 1967; Montana, February 15, 1967; South Dakota, March 6, 1967; Ohio, March 7, 1967; Alabama, March 14, 1967; North Carolina, March 22, 1967; Illinois, March 22, 1967; Texas, April 25, 1967; Florida, May 25, 1967.

Publication of the certifying statement of the Administrator of General Services that the Amendment had become valid was made on February 25, 1967, F.R. Doc. 67-2208, 32 Fed. Reg. 3287.

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

AMENDMENT [XXVI]¹⁸

SECTION. 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied

¹⁸The Twenty-sixth Amendment was proposed by Congress on March 23, 1971, upon passage by the House of Representatives, the Senate having previously passed an identical resolution on March 10, 1971. It appears officially in 85 Stat. 825. Ratification was completed on July 1, 1971, when action by the legislature of the 38th State, North Carolina, was concluded, and the Administrator of the General Services Administration officially certified it to have been duly ratified on July 5, 1971. 36 Fed. Reg. 12725.

As of the publication of this volume, 42 States had ratified this Amendment:

Connecticut, March 23, 1971; Delaware, March 23, 1971; Minnesota, March 23, 1971; Tennessee, March 23, 1971; Washington, March 23, 1971; Hawaii, March 24, 1971; Massachusetts, March 24, 1971; Montana, March 29, 1971; Arkansas, March 30, 1971; Idaho, March 30, 1971; Iowa, March 30, 1971; Nebraska, April 2, 1971; New Jersey, April 3, 1971; Kansas, April 7, 1971; Michigan, April 7, 1971; Alaska, April 8, 1971; Maryland, April 8, 1971; Indiana, April

or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

SECTION. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

AMENDMENT [XXVII]¹⁹

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

8, 1971; Maine, April 9, 1971; Vermont, April 16, 1971; Louisiana, April 17, 1971; California, April 19, 1971; Colorado, April 27, 1971; Pennsylvania, April 27, 1971; Texas, April 27, 1971; South Carolina, April 28, 1971; West Virginia, April 28, 1971; New Hampshire, May 13, 1971; Arizona, May 14, 1971; Rhode Island, May 27, 1971; New York, June 2, 1971; Oregon, June 4, 1971; Missouri, June 14, 1971; Wisconsin, June 22, 1971; Illinois, June 29, 1971; Alabama, June 30, 1971; Ohio, June 30, 1971; North Carolina, July 1, 1971; Oklahoma, July 1, 1971; Virginia, July 8, 1971; Wyoming, July 8, 1971; Georgia, October 4, 1971.

¹⁹This purported amendment was proposed by Congress on September 25, 1789, when it passed the Senate, having previously passed the House on September 24. (1 *Annals of Congress* 88, 913). It appears officially in 1 Stat. 97. Having received in 1789–1791 only six state ratifications, the proposal then failed of ratification while ten of the 12 sent to the States by Congress were ratified and proclaimed and became the Bill of Rights. The provision was proclaimed as having been ratified and having become the 27th Amendment, when Michigan ratified on May 7, 1992, there being 50 States in the Union. Proclamation was by the Archivist of the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. §106b, on May 19, 1992. F.R.Doc. 92–11951, 57 FED. REG. 21187. It was also proclaimed by votes of the Senate and House of Representatives. 138 CONG. REC. (daily ed) S 6948–49, H 3505–06.

The several state legislatures ratified the proposal on the following dates: Maryland, December 19, 1789; North Carolina, December 22, 1789; South Carolina, January 19, 1790; Delaware, January 28, 1790; Vermont, November 3, 1791; Virginia, December 15, 1791; Ohio, May 6, 1873; Wyoming, March 6, 1978; Maine, April 27, 1983; Colorado, April 22, 1984; South Dakota, February 1985; New Hampshire, March 7, 1985; Arizona, April 3, 1985; Tennessee, May 28, 1985; Oklahoma, July 10, 1985; New Mexico, February 14, 1986; Indiana, February 24, 1986; Utah, February 25, 1986; Arkansas, March 13, 1987; Montana, March 17, 1987; Connecticut, May 13, 1987; Wisconsin, July 15, 1987; Georgia, February 2, 1988; West Virginia, March 10, 1988; Louisiana, July 7, 1988; Iowa, February 9, 1989; Idaho, March 23, 1989; Nevada, April 26, 1989; Alaska, May 6, 1989; Oregon, May 19, 1989; Minnesota, May 22, 1989; Texas, May 25, 1989; Kansas, April 5, 1990; Florida, May 31, 1990; North Dakota, May 25, 1991; Alabama, May 5, 1992; Missouri, May 5, 1992; Michigan, May 7, 1992. New Jersey subsequently ratified on May 7, 1992.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS NOT RATIFIED
BY THE STATES**

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS NOT RATIFIED BY THE STATES

During the course of our history, in addition to the 27 amendments which have been ratified by the required three-fourths of the States, six other amendments have been submitted to the States but have not been ratified by them.

Beginning with the proposed Eighteenth Amendment, Congress has customarily included a provision requiring ratification within seven years from the time of the submission to the States. The Supreme Court in *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433 (1939), declared that the question of the reasonableness of the time within which a sufficient number of States must act is a political question to be determined by the Congress.

In 1789, at the time of the submission of the Bill of Rights, twelve proposed amendments were submitted to the States. Of these, Articles III-XII were ratified and became the first ten amendments to the Constitution. Proposed Articles I and II were not ratified with these ten, but, in 1992, Article II was proclaimed as ratified, 203 years later. The following is the text of proposed Article I:

ARTICLE I. After the first enumeration required by the first article of the Constitution, there shall be one Representative for every thirty thousand, until the number shall amount to one hundred, after which the proportion shall be so regulated by Congress, that there shall be not less than one hundred Representatives, nor less than one Representative for every forty thousand persons, until the number of Representatives shall amount to two hundred; after which the proportion shall be so regulated by Congress, that there shall not be less than two hundred Representatives, nor more than one Representative for every fifty thousand persons.

Thereafter, in the 2d session of the 11th Congress, the Congress proposed the following amendment to the Constitution relating to acceptance by citizens of the United States of titles of nobility from any foreign government.

The proposed amendment which was not ratified by three-fourths of the States reads as follows:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of both Houses concurring), That the following section be submitted to the legislatures of the several states, which, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the states, shall be valid and binding, as a part of the constitution of the United States.

If any citizen of the United States shall accept, claim, receive or retain any title of nobility or honour, or shall, without the consent of Congress, accept and retain any present, pension, office or emolument of any kind whatever, from any emperor, king, prince or foreign power, such person shall cease to be a citizen of the United States, and shall be incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under them, or either of them.

During the second session of the 36th Congress on March 2, 1861, the following proposed amendment to the Constitution relating to slavery was signed by the President. It is interesting to note in this connection that this is the only proposed amendment to the Constitution ever signed by the President. The President's signature is considered unnecessary because of the constitutional provision that upon the concurrence of two-thirds of both Houses of Congress the proposal shall be submitted to the States and shall be ratified by three-fourths of the States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution, viz:

“ARTICLE THIRTEEN

“No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State.”

In more recent times, only three proposed amendments have not been ratified by three-fourths of the States. The first is the proposed child-labor amendment, which was submitted to the States during the 1st session of the 68th Congress in June 1924, as follows:

JOINT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution:

ARTICLE———

SECTION 1. The Congress shall have power to limit, regulate, and prohibit the labor of persons under 18 years of age.

SECTION 2. The power of the several States is unimpaired by this article except that the operation of State laws shall be suspended to the extent necessary to give effect to legislation enacted by the Congress.

The second proposed amendment to have failed of ratification is the equal rights amendment, which formally died on June 30, 1982, after a disputed congressional extension of the original seven-year period for ratification.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 208

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That

The following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

“SECTION 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

“SECTION 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

“SECTION 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.”

The third proposed amendment relating to representation in Congress for the District of Columbia failed of ratification, 16 States having ratified as of the 1985 expiration date for the ratification period.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 554

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

“ARTICLE

“SECTION 1. For purposes of representation in the Congress, election of the President and Vice President, and article V of this Constitution, the District constituting the seat of government of the United States shall be treated as though it were a State.

“SEC. 2. The exercise of the rights and powers conferred under this article shall be by the people of the District constituting the seat of government, and as shall be provided by the Congress.

“SEC. 3. The twenty-third article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

“SEC. 4. This article shall be inoperative, unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.”

**THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**

WITH ANNOTATIONS

THE PREAMBLE

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

PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE PREAMBLE

Although the preamble is not a source of power for any department of the Federal Government,¹ the Supreme Court has often referred to it as evidence of the origin, scope, and purpose of the Constitution.² “Its true office,” wrote Joseph Story in his COMMENTARIES, “is to expound the nature and extent and application of the powers actually conferred by the Constitution, and not substantively to create them. For example, the preamble declares one object to be, ‘to provide for the common defense.’ No one can doubt that this does not enlarge the powers of Congress to pass any measures which they deem useful for the common defence. But suppose the terms of a given power admit of two constructions, the one more restrictive, the other more liberal, and each of them is consistent with the words, but is, and ought to be, governed by the intent of the power; if one could promote and the other defeat the common defence, ought not the former, upon the soundest principles of interpretation, to be adopted?”³

¹ *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11, 22 (1905).

² E.g., the Court has read the preamble as bearing witness to the fact that the Constitution emanated from the people and was not the act of sovereign and independent States, *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 403 (1819) *Chisholm v. Georgia*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 419, 471 (1793); *Martin v. Hunter’s Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304, 324 (1816), and that it was made for, and is binding only in, the United States of America. *Downes v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 244, 251 (1901); *In re Ross*, 140 U.S. 453, 464 (1891).

³ 1 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 462. For a lengthy exegesis of the preamble phrase by phrase, see M. ADLER & W. GORMAN, THE AMERICAN TESTAMENT (New York: 1975), 63–118.

ARTICLE I

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

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LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

SEPARATION OF POWERS AND CHECKS AND BALANCES

The Constitution nowhere contains an express injunction to preserve the boundaries of the three broad powers it grants, nor does it expressly enjoin maintenance of a system of checks and balances. Yet, it does grant to three separate branches the powers to legislate, to execute, and to adjudicate, and it provides throughout the document the means by which each of the branches could resist the blandishments and incursions of the others. The Framers drew up our basic charter against a background rich in the theorizing of scholars and statesmen regarding the proper ordering in a system of government of conferring sufficient power to govern while withholding the ability to abridge the liberties of the governed.¹

The Theory Elaborated and Implemented

When the colonies separated from Great Britain following the Revolution, the framers of their constitutions were imbued with the profound tradition of separation of powers, and they freely and expressly embodied in their charters the principle.² But the theory of checks and balances was not favored because it was drawn from Great Britain, and, as a consequence, violations of the separation-of-powers doctrine by the legislatures of the States were common-

¹ Among the best historical treatments are M. VILE, *CONSTITUTIONALISM AND THE SEPARATION OF POWERS* (1967), and W. GWYN, *THE MEANING OF THE SEPARATION OF POWERS* (1965).

² Thus the Constitution of Virginia of 1776 provided: "The legislative, executive, and judiciary department shall be separate and distinct, so that neither exercise the powers properly belonging to the other; nor shall any person exercise the powers of more than one of them, at the same time[.]" Reprinted in 10 W. SWINDLER (ed.), *SOURCES AND DOCUMENTS OF UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS* (1979), 52. See also 5 *id.*, 96, Art. XXX of Part First, Massachusetts Constitution of 1780: "In the government of this commonwealth, the legislative department shall never exercise the executive and judicial powers, or either of them; the executive shall never exercise the legislative and judicial powers, or either of them; the judicial shall never exercise the legislative and executive powers, or either of them; to the end it may be a government of laws, and not of men."

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place events prior to the convening of the Convention.³ As much as theory did the experience of the States furnish guidance to the Framers in the summer of 1787.⁴

The doctrine of separation of powers, as implemented in drafting the Constitution, was based on several principles generally held: the separation of government into three branches, legislative, executive, and judicial; the conception that each branch performs unique and identifiable functions that are appropriate to each; and the limitation of the personnel of each branch to that branch, so that no one person or group should be able to serve in more than one branch simultaneously. To a great extent, the Constitution effectuated these principles, but critics objected to what they regarded as a curious intermixture of functions, to, for example, the veto power of the President over legislation and to the role of the Senate in the appointment of executive officers and judges and in the treaty-making process. It was to these objections that Madison turned in a powerful series of essays.⁵

Madison recurred to “the celebrated” Montesquieu, the “oracle who is always consulted,” to disprove the contentions of the critics. “[T]his essential precaution in favor of liberty,” that is, the separation of the three great functions of government had been achieved, but the doctrine did not demand rigid separation. Montesquieu and other theorists “did not mean that these departments ought to have no *partial agency* in, or *controul* over, the acts of each other,” but rather liberty was endangered “where the *whole* power of one department is exercised by the same hands which possess the *whole* power of another department.”⁶ That the doctrine did not demand absolute separation provided the basis for preservation of separation of powers in action. Neither sharply drawn demarcations of institutional boundaries nor appeals to the electorate were sufficient.⁷ Instead, the security against concentration of powers “consists in giving to those who administer each department the necessary constitutional means and personal motives to resist encroachments of the others.” Thus, “[a]mbition must be made to

³“In republican government the legislative authority, necessarily, predominates.” THE FEDERALIST No. 51 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 350 (Madison). See also *id.*, No. 48, 332–334. This theme continues today to influence the Court’s evaluation of congressional initiatives. E.g., Metropolitan Washington Airports Auth. v. Citizens for the Abatement of Aircraft Noise, 501 S.Ct. 252, 273–2274, 277 (1991). But compare *id.*, 286 n. 3 (Justice White dissenting).

⁴The intellectual history through the state period and the Convention proceedings is detailed in G. WOOD, THE CREATION OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC, 1776–1787 (1969) (see index entries under “separation of powers”).

⁵THE FEDERALIST Nos. 47–51 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 323–353 (Madison).

⁶*Id.*, No. 47, 325–326(emphasis in original).

⁷*Id.*, Nos. 47–49, 325–343.

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counteract ambition. The interest of the man must be connected with the constitutional rights of the place.”⁸

Institutional devices to achieve these principles pervade the Constitution. Bicameralism reduces legislative predominance, while the presidential veto gives to the Chief Magistrate a means of defending himself and of preventing congressional overreaching. The Senate’s role in appointments and treaties checks the President. The courts are assured independence through good behavior tenure and security of compensation, and the judges through judicial review will check the other two branches. The impeachment power gives to Congress the authority to root out corruption and abuse of power in the other two branches. And so on.

Judicial Enforcement

Throughout much of our history, the “political branches” have contended between themselves in application of the separation-of-powers doctrine. Many notable political disputes turned on questions involving the doctrine. Inasmuch as the doctrines of separation of powers and of checks and balances require both separation and intermixture,⁹ the role of the Supreme Court in policing the maintenance of the two doctrines is problematic at best. And, indeed, it is only in the last two decades that cases involving the doctrines have regularly been decided by the Court. Previously, informed understandings of the principles have underlain judicial construction of particular clauses or guided formulation of constitutional common law. That is, the nondelegation doctrine was from the beginning suffused with a separation-of-powers premise,¹⁰ and the effective demise of the doctrine as a judicially-enforceable construct reflects the Court’s inability to give any meaningful content to it.¹¹ On the other hand, periodically, the Court has essayed a strong separation position on behalf of the President, sometimes with lack of success,¹² sometimes successfully.

⁸Id., No. 51, 349.

⁹“While the Constitution diffuses power the better to secure liberty, it also contemplates that practice will integrate the dispersed powers into a workable government. It enjoins upon its branches separateness but interdependence, autonomy but reciprocity.” *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579, 635 (1952) (Justice Jackson concurring).

¹⁰E.g., *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649, 692 (1892); *Wayman v. Southard*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 1, 42 (1825).

¹¹See *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 415–416 (1989) (Justice Scalia dissenting).

¹²The principal example is *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52 (1926), written by Chief Justice Taft, himself a former President. The breadth of the holding was modified in considerable degree in *Humphrey’s Executor v. United States*, 295 U.S. 602 (1935), and the premise of the decision itself was recast and largely softened in *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654 (1988).

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Following a lengthy period of relative inattention to separation of powers issues, the Court since 1976¹³ has recurred to the doctrine in numerous cases, and the result has been a substantial curtailing of congressional discretion to structure the National Government. Thus, the Court has interposed constitutional barriers to a congressional scheme to provide for a relatively automatic deficit-reduction process because of the critical involvement of an officer with significant legislative ties,¹⁴ to the practice set out in more than 200 congressional enactments establishing a veto of executive actions,¹⁵ and to the vesting of broad judicial powers to handle bankruptcy cases in officers not possessing security of tenure and salary.¹⁶ Contrarily, the highly-debated establishment by Congress of a process by which independent special prosecutors could be established to investigate and prosecute cases of alleged corruption in the Executive Branch was sustained by the Court in an opinion that may presage a judicial approach in separation of powers cases more accepting of some blending of functions at the federal level.¹⁷

Important as were the results in this series of cases, the development in the cases of two separate and inconsistent doctrinal approaches to separation of powers issues occasioned the greatest amount of commentary. The existence of the two approaches, which could apparently be employed in the discretion of the Justices, made difficult the prediction of the outcomes of differences over proposals and alternatives in governmental policy. Significantly, however, it appeared that the Court most often used a more strict analysis in cases in which infringements of executive powers were alleged and a less strict analysis when the powers of the other two Branches were concerned. The special prosecutor decision, followed by the decision sustaining the Sentencing Commission, may signal the adoption of a single analysis, the less strict analysis, for all separation of power cases or it may turn out to be but an exception to the Court's dual doctrinal approach.¹⁸

¹³ Beginning with *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 109–143 (1976), a relatively easy case, in which Congress had attempted to reserve to itself the power to appoint certain officers charged with enforcement of a law.

¹⁴ *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714 (1986).

¹⁵ *INS v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919 (1983).

¹⁶ *Northern Pipeline Construction Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50 (1982).

¹⁷ *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654 (1988). See also *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361 (1989).

¹⁸ The tenor of a later case, *Metropolitan Washington Airports Auth. v. Citizens for the Abatement of Airport Noise*, 501 U.S. 252 (1991), was decidedly formalistic, but it involved a factual situation and a doctrinal predicate easily rationalized by the principles of *Morrison* and *Mistretta*, aggrandizement of its powers by Congress. *Granfinanciera, S.A. v. Nordberg*, 492 U.S. 33 (1989), reasserted the fundamentality of *Marathon*, again in a bankruptcy courts context, although the issue was the right

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While the two doctrines have been variously characterized, the names generally attached to them have been “formalist,” applied to the more strict line, and “functional,” applied to the less strict. The formalist approach emphasizes the necessity to maintain three distinct branches of government through the drawing of bright lines demarcating the three branches from each other determined by the differences among legislating, executing, and adjudicating.¹⁹ The functional approach emphasizes the core functions of each branch and asks whether the challenged action threatens the essential attributes of the legislative, executive, or judicial function or functions. Under this approach, there is considerable flexibility in the moving branch, usually Congress acting to make structural or institutional change, if there is little significant risk of impairment of a core function or in the case of such a risk if there is a compelling reason for the action.²⁰

Chadha used the formalist approach to invalidate the legislative veto device by which Congress could set aside a determination by the Attorney General, pursuant to a delegation from Congress, to suspend deportation of an alien. Central to the decision were two conceptual premises. First, the action Congress had taken was leg-

to a jury trial under the Seventh Amendment rather than strictly speaking a separation-of-powers question. *Freytag v. CIR*, 501 U.S. 868 (1991), pursued a straight-forward appointments-clause analysis, informed by a separation-of-powers analysis but not governed by it. Finally, in *Public Citizen v. U. S. Department of Justice*, 491 U.S. 440, 467 (1989) (concurring), Justice Kennedy would have followed the formalist approach, but he explicitly grounded it on the distinction between an express constitutional vesting of power as against implicit vestings. Separately, the Court has for some time viewed the standing requirement for access to judicial review as reflecting a separation-of-powers component—confining the courts to their proper sphere—*Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 752 (1984), but that view seemed largely superfluous to the conceptualization of standing rules. However, in *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2144–2146 (1992), the Court imported the take-care clause, obligating the President to see to the faithful execution of the laws, into standing analysis, creating a substantial barrier to congressional decisions to provide for judicial review of executive actions. It is not at all clear, however, that the effort, by Justice Scalia, enjoys the support of a majority of the Court. *Id.*, 2146–2147 (Justices Kennedy and Souter concurring). The cited cases do seem to demonstrate that a strongly formalistic wing of the Court does continue to exist.

¹⁹“The hydraulic pressure inherent within each of the separate Branches to exceed the outer limits of its power . . . must be resisted. Although not ‘hermetically’ sealed from one another, the powers delegated to the three Branches are functionally identifiable.” *INS v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919, 951 (1983). See *id.*, 944–51; *Northern Pipeline Construction Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 64–66 (1982) (plurality opinion); *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714, 721–727 (1986).

²⁰*CFTC v. Schor*, 478 U.S. 833, 850–51, 856–57 (1986); *Thomas v. Union Carbide Agric. Products Co.*, 473 U.S. 568, 587, 589–93 (1985). The Court had first formulated this analysis in cases challenging alleged infringements on presidential powers, *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683, 713 (1974); *Nixon v. Administrator of General Services*, 433 U.S. 425, 442–43 (1977), but it had subsequently turned to the more strict test. *Schor* and *Thomas* both involved provisions challenged as infringing judicial powers.

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islative, because it had the purpose and effect of altering the legal rights, duties, and relations of persons outside the Legislative Branch, and thus Congress had to comply with the bicameralism and presentment requirements of the Constitution.²¹ Second, the Attorney General was performing an executive function in implementing the delegation from Congress, and the legislative veto was an impermissible interference in the execution of the laws. Congress could act only by legislating, by changing the terms of its delegation.²² In *Bowsher*, the Court held that Congress could not vest even part of the execution of the laws in an officer, the Comptroller General, who was subject to removal by Congress because this would enable Congress to play a role in the execution of the laws. Congress could act only by passing other laws.²³

On the same day *Bowsher* was decided through a formalist analysis, the Court in *Schor* utilized the less strict, functional approach in resolving a challenge to the power of a regulatory agency to adjudicate as part of a larger canvas a state common-law issue, the very kind of issue that *Northern Pipeline*, in a formalist plurality opinion with a more limited concurrence, had denied to a non-Article III bankruptcy court.²⁴ Sustaining the agency's power, the Court emphasized "the principle that 'practical attention to substance rather than doctrinaire reliance on formal categories should inform application of Article III.'"²⁵ It held that in evaluating such a separation of powers challenge, the Court had to consider the extent to which the "essential attributes of judicial power" were reserved to Article III courts and conversely the extent to which the non-Article III entity exercised the jurisdiction and powers normally vested only in Article III courts, the origin and importance of the rights to be adjudicated, and the concerns that drove Congress to depart from the requirements of Article III.²⁶ *Bowsher*, the Court said, was not contrary, because "[u]nlike *Bowsher*, this case raises no question of the aggrandizement of congressional power at the expense of a coordinate branch."²⁷ The test was a balancing

²¹ *INS v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919, 952 (1983).

²² *Id.*, 954–955.

²³ *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714, 726–727, 733–734 (1986).

²⁴ While the agency in *Schor* was an independent regulatory commission and the bankruptcy court in *Northern Pipeline* was either an Article I court or an adjunct to an Article III court, the characterization of the entity is irrelevant and, in fact, the Court made nothing of the difference. The issue in either case was whether the judicial power of the United States could be conferred on an entity not an Article III court.

²⁵ *CFTC v. Schor*, 478 U.S. 833, 848 (1986) (quoting *Thomas v. Union Carbide Agric. Products Co.*, 473 U.S. 568, 587 (1985)).

²⁶ *Id.*, 851.

²⁷ *Id.*, 856.

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one, whether Congress had impermissibly undermined the role of another branch without appreciable expansion of its own power.

While the Court, in applying one or the other analysis in separation of powers cases, had never indicated its standards for choosing one analysis over the other, beyond inferences that the formalist approach was proper when the Constitution fairly clearly committed a function or duty to a particular branch and the functional approach was proper when the constitutional text was indeterminate and a determination must be made on the basis of the likelihood of impairment of the essential powers of a branch, the overall results had been a strenuous protection of executive powers and a concomitant relaxed view of the possible incursions into the powers of the other branches. It was thus a surprise, then, when in the independent counsel case, the Court, again without stating why it chose that analysis, utilized the functional standard to sustain the creation of the independent counsel.²⁸ The independent-counsel statute, the Court emphasized, was not an attempt by Congress to increase its own power at the expense of the executive nor did it constitute a judicial usurpation of executive power. Moreover, the Court stated, the law did not “impermissibly undermine” the powers of the Executive Branch nor did it “disrupt the proper balance between the coordinate branches [by] prevent[ing] the Executive Branch from accomplishing its constitutionally assigned functions.”²⁹ Acknowledging that the statute undeniably reduced executive control over what it had previously identified as a core executive function, the execution of the laws through criminal prosecution, through its appointment provisions and its assurance of independence by limitation of removal to a “good cause” standard, the Court nonetheless noticed the circumscribed nature of the reduction, the discretion of the Attorney General to initiate appointment, the limited jurisdiction of the counsel, and the power of the Attorney General to ensure that the laws are faithfully executed by the counsel. This balancing, the Court thought, left the President with sufficient control to ensure that he is able to perform his constitutionally assigned functions.

²⁸To be sure, the appointments clause did specifically provide that Congress could vest in the courts the power to appoint inferior officers, *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 670–677 (1988), making possible the contention that, unlike *Chadha* and *Bowsher*, *Morrison* is a textual commitment case. But the Court’s separate evaluation of the separation of powers issue does not appear to turn on that distinction. *Id.*, 685–696. Nevertheless, the existence of this possible distinction should make one wary about lightly reading *Morrison* as a rejection of formalism when executive powers are litigated.

²⁹*Id.*, 695 (quoting, respectively, *Schor*, *supra*, 478 U.S., 856, and *Nixon v. Administrator of General Services*, *supra*, 433 U.S., 443).

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A notably more pragmatic, functional analysis suffused the opinion of the Court when it upheld the constitutionality of the Sentencing Commission.³⁰ Charged with promulgating guidelines binding on federal judges in sentencing convicted offenders, the seven-member Commission, three members of which had to be Article III judges, was made an independent entity in the judicial branch. The President appointed all seven members, the judges from a list compiled by the Judicial Conference, and he could remove from the Commission any member for cause. According to the Court, its separation-of-powers jurisprudence is always animated by the concerns of encroachment and aggrandizement. “Accordingly, we have not hesitated to strike down provisions of law that either accrete to a single Branch powers more appropriately diffused among separate Branches or that undermine the authority and independence of one or another coordinate Branch.”³¹ Thus, to each of the discrete questions, the placement of the Commission, the appointment of the members, especially the service of federal judges, and the removal power, the Court carefully analyzed whether one branch had been given power it could not exercise or had enlarged its powers impermissibly and whether any branch would have its institutional integrity threatened by the structural arrangement.

Although it is possible, even likely, that *Morrison* and *Mistretta* represent a decision by the Court to adopt for all separation-of-powers cases the functional analysis, the history of adjudication since 1976 and the shift of approach between *Myers* and *Humphrey's Executor* suggest caution. Recurrences of the formalist approach have been noted. Additional decisions must be forthcoming before it can be decided that the Court has finally settled on the functional approach.

BICAMERALISM

By providing for a National Legislature of two Houses, the Framers, deliberately or adventitiously, served several functions. Examples of both unicameralism and bicameralism abounded. Some of the ancient republics, to which the Framers often repaired for the learning of experience, had two-house legislatures, and the Parliament of Great Britain was based in two social orders, the hereditary aristocracy represented in the House of Lords and the

³⁰ *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361 (1989). Significantly, the Court did acknowledge reservations with respect to the placement of the Commission as an independent entity in the judicial branch. *Id.*, 384, 397, 407–08. As in *Morrison*, Justice Scalia was the lone dissenter, arguing for a fairly rigorous application of separation-of-powers principles. *Id.*, 413, 422–427.

³¹ *Id.*, 382.

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freeholders of the land represented in the House of Commons. A number of state legislatures, following the Revolution, were created unicameral, and the Continental Congress, limited in power as it was, consisted of one house.

From the beginning in the Convention, in the Virginia Plan, a two-house Congress was called for. The Great Compromise, one of the critical decisions leading to a successful completion of the Convention, resolved the dispute about the national legislature by providing for a House of Representatives apportioned on population and a Senate in which the States were equally represented. The first function served, thusly, was federalism.³² Coextensively important, however, was the separation-of-powers principle served. The legislative power, the Framers both knew and feared, was predominant in a society dependent upon the suffrage of the people, and it was important to have a precaution against the triumph of transient majorities. Hence, the Constitution's requirement that before lawmaking could be carried out bills must be deliberated in two Houses, their Members beholden to different constituencies, was in pursuit of this observation from experience.³³

Events since 1787, of course, have altered both the separation-of-powers and the federalism bases of bicameralism, in particular the adoption of the Seventeenth Amendment resulting in the popular election of Senators, so that the differences between the two Chambers are today less pronounced.

ENUMERATED, IMPLIED, RESULTING, AND INHERENT POWERS

Two important doctrines of constitutional law—that the Federal Government is one of enumerated powers and that legislative powers may not be delegated—are derived in part from this section. The classical statement of the former is that by Chief Justice Marshall in *McCulloch v. Maryland*: “This government is acknowledged by all, to be one of enumerated powers. The principle, that it can exercise only the powers granted to it, would seem too apparent, to have required to be enforced by all those arguments, which its enlightened friends, while it was depending before the people, found it necessary to urge; that principle is now universally admitted.”³⁴

³² THE FEDERALIST, No. 39 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 250–257 (Madison).

³³ Id., No. 51, 347–353 (Madison). The assurance of the safeguard is built into the presentment clause. Article I, § 7, cl. 2; and see id., cl. 3. The structure is not often the subject of case law, but it was a foundational matter in *INS v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919, 944–951 (1983).

³⁴ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 405 (1819).

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That, however, “the executive power” is not confined to those items expressly enumerated in Article II was asserted early in the history of the Constitution by Madison and Hamilton alike and is found in decisions of the Court;³⁵ a similar latitudinarian conception of “the judicial power of the United States” was voiced in Justice Brewer’s opinion for the Court in *Kansas v. Colorado*.³⁶ But even when confined to “the legislative powers herein granted,” the doctrine is severely strained by Marshall’s conception of some of these as set forth in his *McCulloch v. Maryland* opinion. He asserts that “the sword and the purse, all the external relations and no inconsiderable portion of the industry of the nation, are intrusted to its government;”³⁷ he characterizes “the power of making war,” of “levying taxes,” and of “regulating commerce” as “great, substantive and independent powers;”³⁸ and the power conferred by the “necessary and proper” clause embraces, he declares, all legislative “means which are appropriate” to carry out the legitimate ends of the Constitution, unless forbidden by “the letter and spirit of the Constitution.”³⁹

Nine years later, Marshall introduced what Story in his COMMENTARIES labels the concept of “resulting powers,” those which “rather be a result from the whole mass of the powers of the National Government, and from the nature of political society, than a consequence or incident of the powers specially enumerated.”⁴⁰ Story’s reference is to Marshall’s opinion in *American Insurance Co. v. Canter*,⁴¹ where the latter said, that “the Constitution confers absolutely on the government of the Union, the powers of making war, and of making treaties; consequently, that government possesses the power of acquiring territory, either by conquest or by treaty.”⁴² And from the power to acquire territory, he continues arises as “the inevitable consequence,” the right to govern it.⁴³

Subsequently, powers have been repeatedly ascribed to the National Government by the Court on grounds that ill accord with the doctrine of enumerated powers: the power to legislate in effectuation of the “rights expressly given, and duties expressly enjoined” by the Constitution;⁴⁴ the power to impart to the paper cur-

³⁵ *Infra*, pp. 445–452.

³⁶ 206 U.S. 46, 82 (1907).

³⁷ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.), 407.

³⁸ *Id.*, 411.

³⁹ *Id.*, 421.

⁴⁰ 2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1256. See also *id.*, 1286 and 1330.

⁴¹ 1 Pet. (26 U.S.) 511 (1828).

⁴² *Id.*, 542.

⁴³ *Id.*, 543.

⁴⁴ *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539, 616, 618–619 (1842).

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rency of the Government the quality of legal tender in the payment of debts;⁴⁵ the power to acquire territory by discovery;⁴⁶ the power to legislate for the Indian tribes wherever situated in the United States;⁴⁷ the power to exclude and deport aliens;⁴⁸ and to require that those who are admitted be registered and fingerprinted;⁴⁹ and finally the complete powers of sovereignty, both those of war and peace, in the conduct of foreign relations. Thus, in *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Corp.*,⁵⁰ decided in 1936, Justice Sutherland asserted the dichotomy of domestic and foreign powers, with the former limited under the enumerated powers doctrine and the latter virtually free of any such restraint. That doctrine has been the source of much scholarly and judicial controversy, but, although limited, it has not been repudiated.

Yet, for the most part, these holdings do not, as Justice Sutherland suggested, directly affect “the internal affairs” of the nation; they touch principally its peripheral relations, as it were. The most serious inroads on the doctrine of enumerated powers are, in fact, those which have taken place under cover of the doctrine—the vast expansion in recent years of national legislative power in the regulation of commerce among the States and in the expenditure of the national revenues. Verbally, at least, Marshall laid the ground for these developments in some of the phraseology above quoted from his opinion in *McCulloch v. Maryland*.

DELEGATION OF LEGISLATIVE POWER**Origin of the Doctrine of Nondelegability**

“That the legislative power of Congress cannot be delegated is, of course, clear.”⁵¹ This 1932 statement has never been literally true, the delegation at issue in the very case in which the statement was made was upheld, and the Court in recent years has felt little constrained to much more than bow in the direction of the doctrine. Yet the doctrine of nondelegation of legislative powers and the permissible exception of delegation accompanied by standards

⁴⁵ *Juilliard v. Greenman*, 110 U.S. 421, 449–450 (1884). See also Justice Bradley’s concurring opinion in *Knox v. Lee*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457, 565 (1871).

⁴⁶ *United States v. Jones*, 109 U.S. 513 (1883).

⁴⁷ *United States v. Kagama*, 118 U.S. 375 (1886).

⁴⁸ *Fong Yue Ting v. United States*, 149 U.S. 698 (1893).

⁴⁹ *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52 (1941).

⁵⁰ 299 U.S. 304 (1936).

⁵¹ *United States v. Shreveport Grain & Elevator Co.*, 287 U.S. 77, 85 (1932). See also *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649, 692 (1892); *Wayman v. Southard*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 1, 42 (1825).

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have so settled a place in constitutional jurisprudence that notice must be given at some length.⁵²

At least three distinct ideas contributed to the development of the doctrine that legislative power cannot be delegated. The first idea is the doctrine of separation of powers, the idea that the law-making power is vested in the legislative branch, the law-executing power in the executive branch, and the law-interpreting power in the judicial branch.⁵³ Is it not a violation of the doctrine to permit the law-making branch to divest itself of some of its power and confer it on one or the other of the other branches or to particular offices in the other branch?

The second idea is a due process conception precluding the transfer of regulatory functions to private persons, a distinct specie of the delegation doctrine not relevant usually in the field of administration, of delegation to another public agency.⁵⁴

The third idea concerns the maxim "*delegata potestas non potest delegari*," which John Locke borrowed from agency and offered as a principle of political science.⁵⁵ In *J. W. Hampton, Jr., & Co. v. United States*,⁵⁶ Chief Justice Taft explained the origin and limitations of this phrase as a postulate of constitutional law. "The well-known maxim '*delegata potestas non potest delegari*,' applicable to the law of agency in the general and common law, is well understood and has had wider application in the construction of our Federal and State Constitutions than it has in private law. The Federal Constitution and State Constitutions of this country divide the governmental power into three branches. . . . [I]n carrying out that constitutional division . . . it is a breach of the National fundamental law if Congress gives up its legislative power and transfers it to the President, or to the Judicial branch, or if by law it attempts to invest itself or its members with either executive power or judicial power."

⁵² For particularly useful discussions of delegations, see 1 K. DAVIS, *ADMINISTRATIVE LAW TREATISE* (St. Paul: 2d ed., 1978), Ch. 3; L. JAFFE, *JUDICIAL CONTROL OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION* (Boston: 1965), ch. 2.

⁵³ *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649, 692 (1892); *Wayman v. Southard*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 1, 42 (1825).

⁵⁴ *Carter v. Carter Coal Co.*, 298 U.S. 238, 310–312 (1936). Since the separation-of-powers doctrine is inapplicable to the States as a requirement of federal constitutional law, *Dreyer v. Illinois*, 187 U.S. 71, 83–84 (1902), it is the due process clause to which federal courts must look for authority to review the delegation by state legislatures of power to others which the legislature might have exercised directly. E.g., *Eubank v. City of Richmond*, 226 U.S. 137 (1912); *Embree v. Kansas City Road District*, 240 U.S. 242 (1916).

⁵⁵ J. LOCKE, *SECOND TREATISE ON GOVERNMENT* (London: 1691), Ch. 11, 141.

⁵⁶ 276 U.S. 394, 405–406 (1928).

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But whatever the source or combination of sources of the doctrine, decisions of the Court accepting without comment delegations of vast powers to administrative or executive agencies constitute a *de facto* recognition that Congress in the exercise of its granted powers, in conjunction with its necessary and proper power, often cannot either foresee or resolve problems of application of general laws to specific situations. Thus, “[d]elegation by Congress has long been recognized as necessary in order that the exertion of legislative power does not become a futility.”⁵⁷

Delegation Which Is Permissible

“It will not be contended,” wrote Chief Justice Marshall in 1825, “that congress can delegate to the courts, or to any other tribunals, powers which are strictly and exclusively legislative. But congress may certainly delegate to others, powers which the legislature may rightfully exercise itself.”⁵⁸ “This is not to say,” said Chief Justice Taft, “that the three branches are not co-ordinate parts of one government and that each in the field of its duties may not invoke the action of the two other branches in so far as the action invoked shall not be an assumption of the constitutional field of action of another branch. In determining what it may do in seeking assistance from another branch, the extent and character of that assistance must be fixed according to common sense and the inherent necessities of the governmental co-ordination.”⁵⁹ Chief Justice Marshall frankly noted “that there is some difficulty in discerning the exact limits” on the legislative power to delegate. Thus, “the precise boundary of this power is a subject of delicate and difficult inquiry, into which a court will not enter unnecessarily.”⁶⁰

Two theories suggested themselves to the early Court to justify the results of sustaining delegations. The Chief Justice alluded to the first in *Wayman v. Southard*.⁶¹ He distinguished between “important” subjects, “which must be entirely regulated by the legislature itself,” and subjects “of less interest, in which a general provision may be made, and power given to those who are to act under such general provisions, to fill up the details.” While his distinction may be lost, the theory of the power “to fill up the details” is impressively modern law.

⁵⁷ *Sunshine Anthracite Coal Co. v. Adkins*, 310 U.S. 381, 398 (1940).

⁵⁸ *Wayman v. Southard*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 1, 41 (1825).

⁵⁹ *J. W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United States*, 276 U.S. 394, 406 (1928).

⁶⁰ *Id.*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.), 42.

⁶¹ *Id.*, 41.

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A second theory, formulated even earlier, is that Congress may legislate contingently, leaving to others the task of ascertaining the facts that bring its declared policy into operation.⁶²

Filling Up the Details.—At issue in *Wayman v. Southard*⁶³ was the contention that Congress had unconstitutionally delegated power to the federal courts to establish rules of practice, provided such rules were not repugnant to the laws of the United States.⁶⁴ Chief Justice Marshall agreed that the rule-making power was a legislative function and that Congress could have formulated the rules itself, but he denied that the delegation was impermissible. Since then, of course, Congress has authorized the Supreme Court to prescribe rules of procedure for the lower federal courts.⁶⁵ Filling up the details of statutes was long a popular version of the nature of permissible delegations.

Thus, when Congress required the manufacturers of oleo-margarine to have their packages “marked, stamped and branded as the Commissioner of Internal Revenue . . . shall prescribe,” the Court sustained the conviction of one selling his goods without the markings against his objection that he was prosecuted not for violation of law but for violation of a regulation.⁶⁶ “The criminal offence,” said Chief Justice Fuller, “is fully and completely defined by the act and the designation by the Commissioner of the particular marks and brands to be used was a mere matter of detail.”⁶⁷ *Kollock* was not the first such case,⁶⁸ but it was to be followed by a multitude of delegations and the sustaining of them. Soon thereafter the Court on the same theory upheld an act directing the Secretary of the Treasury to promulgate minimum standards of quality and purity for tea imported into the United States.⁶⁹

Contingent Legislation.—An entirely different problem arises when, instead of directing another department of govern-

⁶² *The Brig Aurora*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 382 (1813).

⁶³ *10 Wheat.* (23 U.S.) 1 (1825).

⁶⁴ Act of May 8, 1792, § 2, 1 Stat. 275, 276.

⁶⁵ The power to promulgate rules of civil procedure was conferred by the Act of June 19, 1934, 48 Stat. 1064, now 28 U.S.C. § 2072; the power to promulgate rules of criminal procedure was conferred by the Act of June 29, 1940, 54 Stat. 688, now 18 U.S.C. § 3771. In both instances Congress provided for submission of the rules to it with the power presumably to change or to veto the rules. Additionally, Congress has occasionally legislated rules itself. E.g., 82 Stat. 197 (1968), 18 U.S.C. §§ 3501–02 (admissibility of confessions in federal courts).

⁶⁶ *In re Kollock*, 165 U.S. 526 (1897).

⁶⁷ *Id.*, 533.

⁶⁸ *United States v. Bailey*, 9 Pet. (34 U.S.) 238 (1835); *Caha v. United States*, 152 U.S. 211 (1894).

⁶⁹ *Buttfield v. Stranahan*, 192 U.S. 470 (1904). See also *United States v. Grimaud*, 220 U.S. 506 (1911) (executive officials to make rules governing use of forest reservations); *ICC v. Goodrich Transit Co.*, 224 U.S. 194 (1912) (prescribing methods of accounting for carriers in interstate commerce).

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ment to apply a general statute to individual cases, or to supplement it by detailed regulation, Congress commands that a previously enacted statute be revived, suspended, or modified, or that a new rule be put into operation, upon the finding of certain facts by an executive or administrative officer. Since the delegated function in such cases is not that of “filling up the details” of a statute, authority for it must be sought elsewhere than in the first theory. It is to be found in an even earlier case, *The Brig Aurora*,⁷⁰ where the revival of a law upon the issuance of a presidential proclamation was upheld. After previous restraints on British shipping had lapsed, Congress passed a new law stating that those restrictions should be renewed in the event the President found and proclaimed that France had abandoned certain practices which violated the neutral commerce of the United States. To the objection that this was an invalid delegation of legislative power, the Court answered briefly that “we can see no sufficient reason, why the legislature should not exercise its discretion in reviving the act of March 1st, 1809, either expressly or conditionally, as their judgment should direct.”⁷¹

The theory was utilized again in *Field v. Clark*,⁷² where the Tariff Act of 1890 was assailed as unconstitutional because it directed the President to suspend the free importation of enumerated commodities “for such time as he shall deem just” if he found that other countries imposed upon agricultural or other products of the United States duties or other exactions, which “he may deem to be reciprocally unequal and unjust.” In sustaining this statute the Court relied heavily upon two factors: (1) legislative precedents, which demonstrated that “in the judgment of the legislative branch of the government, it is often desirable, if not essential, . . . to invest the President with large discretion in matters arising out of the execution of statutes relating to trade and commerce with other nations;”⁷³ (2) that the act did “not, in any real sense, invest the President with the power of legislation. . . . Congress itself prescribed, in advance, the duties to be levied, . . . while the suspension lasted. Nothing involving the expediency or the just operation of such legislation was left to the determination of the President. . . . He had no discretion in the premises except in respect to the duration of the suspension so ordered.”⁷⁴ By similar reasoning, the Court sustained the flexible provisions of the Tariff Act of 1922

⁷⁰ 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 382 (1813).

⁷¹ *Id.*, 388.

⁷² 143 U.S. 649 (1892).

⁷³ *Id.*, 691.

⁷⁴ *Id.*, 692, 693.

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whereby duties were increased or decreased to reflect differences in cost of production at home and abroad, as such differences were ascertained and proclaimed by the President.⁷⁵

The Effective Demise of the Nondelegation Doctrine

“[O]ur jurisprudence has been driven by a practical understanding that in our increasingly complex society, replete with ever changing and more technical problems, Congress simply cannot do its job absent an ability to delegate power under broad general directives.”⁷⁶ The modern doctrine may be traced in its inception to the 1928 case in which the Court, speaking through Chief Justice Taft, upheld congressional delegation to the President of the authority to set tariff rates that would equalize production costs in the United States and competing countries.⁷⁷ Although formally looking to the contingency theory, the Court’s opinion also looked forward, emphasizing that in seeking the cooperation of another branch Congress was restrained only according to “common sense and the inherent necessities” of the situation.⁷⁸ This vague statement was elaborated somewhat in the statement that the Court would sustain delegations whenever Congress provided an “intelligible principle” to which the President or an agency must conform.⁷⁹

The Regulatory State.—Except for two Depression-era cases in which standards were found to be absent, the Court has never voided as impermissible a congressional delegation.⁸⁰ The now familiar pattern of regulation of important segments of the economy by boards or commissions, which combine in varying proportions the functions of all three departments of government, was first established by the States in the field of railroad rate regulation. Discovering that direct action was impracticable, the state legislatures created commissions to deal with the problem. One of the pioneers in this development was Minnesota, whose supreme court justified

⁷⁵ *J. W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United States*, 276 U.S. 394 (1928).

⁷⁶ *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 372 (1989). “Delegation by Congress has long been recognized as necessary in order that the exertion of legislative power does not become a futility.” *Sunshine Anthracite Coal Co. v. Adkins*, 310 U.S. 381, 398 (1940).

⁷⁷ *J. W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United States*, 276 U.S. 394 (1928).

⁷⁸ *Id.*, 406.

⁷⁹ *Id.*, 409. The “intelligible principle” test of *Hampton* is the same as the “legislative standards” test of *A. L. A. Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*, 295 U.S. 495, 530 (1935), and *Panama Refining Co. v. Ryan*, 293 U.S. 388, 421 (1935).

⁸⁰ See *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 371–379 (1989) (extensively reviewing doctrinal foundation and case law). See also *Skinner v. Mid-America Pipeline Co.*, 490 U.S. 212, 218–224 (1989); *Touby v. United States*, 500 U.S. 160, 164–168 (1991).

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the practice in an opinion, which, with the implied⁸¹ and later the explicit,⁸² endorsement of the United States Supreme Court, practically settled the law on this point: "If such a power is to be exercised at all, it can only be satisfactorily done by a board or commission, constantly in session, whose time is exclusively given to the subject, and who, after investigation of the facts, can fix rates with reference to the peculiar circumstances of each road, and each particular kind of business, and who can change or modify these rates to suit the ever-varying conditions of traffic."⁸³ Contemporaneously, Congress created the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate the rates and practices of railroads with respect to interstate commerce. Although the Supreme Court has never had occasion to render a direct decision on the delegation of rate-making power to the Commission, it has repeatedly affirmed rate orders issued by that agency.⁸⁴

Breathtaking has been the breadth of delegations sustained. Congress has given the Interstate Commerce Commission the responsibility to approve railroad consolidations found to be in the "public interest,"⁸⁵ and conferred powers on the Federal Radio Commission⁸⁶ and the Federal Communications Commission⁸⁷ to license broadcasting stations as the "public convenience, interest and necessity" may require. In the field of communications still, the exercise of power by the FCC, pursuant to statute, to exert jurisdiction and authority over an industry that did not exist at the time Congress enacted the statute and that was unforeseen by Congress has been found to be valid.⁸⁸ The Supreme Court directed a regulatory agency acting under delegated powers to exercise its own judgment about whether competition or restraint would be in the

⁸¹The Court reversed the decision of the state supreme court on the grounds that the rates fixed by the commission were not subject to judicial review, a due process violation, but the opinion implicitly sanctioned the exercise of ratemaking powers by such bodies. *Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry. Co. v. Minnesota*, 134 U.S. 418 (1890).

⁸²*J. W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United States*, 276 U.S. 394, 409 (1928).

⁸³*State v. Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry. Co.*, 38 Minn. 288, 301, 37 N.W. 782, 788 (1888), *revd. on other grounds*, 134 U.S. 418 (1890).

⁸⁴*ICC v. Louisville & Nashville R.R.*, 227 U.S. 88 (1913); *New York v. United States*, 331 U.S. 284, 340–350 (1947), and cases cited. See also *New York v. United States*, 342 U.S. 882 (1951); *American Trucking Assns. v. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry.*, 387 U.S. 397 (1967).

⁸⁵*New York Central Securities Co. v. United States*, 287 U.S. 12, 25 (1932).

⁸⁶*Federal Radio Comm. v. Nelson Bros. Bond & Mortgage Co.*, 289 U.S. 266 (1933).

⁸⁷*National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190 (1943).

⁸⁸*United States v. Southwestern Cable Co.*, 392 U.S. 157 (1968) (regulation of cable television under the 1934 Communications Act). See also *Red Lion Broadcasting Co. v. FCC*, 395 U.S. 367 (1969) (approving promulgation of rules on the "fairness doctrine" and "right to reply" privilege in the absence of congressional enactment).

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public interest in the communications field rather than to attempt to extrapolate a principle favoring one or the other from the body of congressional law.⁸⁹

The Court has upheld the delegation to the Federal Power Commission of authority to determine “just and reasonable” rates.⁹⁰ Agencies have been held properly to have received power to determine whether rates and charges were too high or excessive.⁹¹ Regulation of corporate conduct has been extended to close supervision of activity.⁹²

In *Mistretta v. United States*,⁹³ the Court approved congressional delegations to the Sentencing Commission, an independent agency in the judicial branch, to develop and promulgate guidelines binding federal judges and cabinining their discretion in sentencing criminal defendants. Although the Court enumerated the standards Congress had provided, it admitted that significant discretion existed with respect to making policy judgments about the relative severity of different crimes and the relative weight of the characteristics of offenders that are to be considered, but it was forthright in stating that delegations may carry with them “the need to exercise judgment on matters of policy.”⁹⁴

That this latter observation is indubitably true is revealed in many case results. Thus, the Court has upheld complex economic regulations of industries in instances in which the agencies had first denied possession of such power, had unsuccessfully sought authorization from Congress, and had finally acted without congressional guidance.⁹⁵ It has also recognized that when Administrations changes, new officials may have been conferred enough discretion so that they can change agency policies, often to a considerable degree, so that both previous and present agency policies may be consistent with congressional delegations.⁹⁶

⁸⁹ *FCC v. RCA Communications*, 346 U.S. 86 (1953).

⁹⁰ *FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591 (1944).

⁹¹ *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S. 414 (1944) (wartime delegation to administrator to fix commodity prices that would be fair and equitable); *Lichter v. United States*, 334 U.S. 742 (1948) (wartime delegation to determine excessive profits by defense industries). See also *Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen v. Connally*, 337 F.Supp. 737 (D.D.C. 1971) (three-judge court) (upholding imposition of nationwide price and wage controls by President upon general delegation).

⁹² *American Light & Power Co. v. SEC*, 329 U.S. 90 (1946) (upholding delegation of authority to Securities and Exchange Commission to prevent unfair or inequitable distribution of voting power among security holders).

⁹³ 488 U.S. 361 (1989).

⁹⁴ *Id.*, 378.

⁹⁵ E.g., *Permian Basin Area Rate Cases*, 390 U.S. 747 (1968); *American Trucking Assns. v. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry.*, 387 U.S. 397 (1967).

⁹⁶ *Chevron, U.S.A. v. NRDC*, 467 U.S. 837, 842–845, 865–866 (1984) (“[A]n agency to which Congress has delegated policymaking responsibilities may, within

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Despite some dicta to the contrary, it appears that there is no power Congress cannot delegate. “[A] constitutional power implies a power of delegation of authority under it sufficient to effect its purposes.”⁹⁷ Denying that it had ever suggested that the taxing power was nondelegable, the Court has placed that congressional authority on the same plane of permissible delegation.⁹⁸ Nor is there a problem with the fact that in exercising a delegated power the President or another officer may effectively suspend or rescind a law passed by Congress. A rule or regulation properly promulgated under authority received from Congress is *law* and under the supremacy clause of the Constitution can preempt state law,⁹⁹ and likewise it can supersede a federal statute. Early cases sustained giving the President upon the finding of certain facts to revive or suspend a law,¹⁰⁰ and the President’s power to raise or lower tariff rates equipped him to alter statutory law.¹⁰¹ Similarly, in *Opp Cotton Mills v. Administrator*,¹⁰² Congress’ decision to delegate to the Wage and Hour Administrator of the Labor Department the authority, after hearings and findings by an industry committee appointed by him, to establish a minimum wage in particular industries greater than the statutory minimum but no higher than a prescribed figure was sustained. Congress has not often expressly addressed the issue of repeals or supersessions, but in authorizing the Supreme Court to promulgate rules of civil and criminal proce-

the limits of that delegation, properly rely upon the incumbent administration’s views of wise policy to inform its judgments.” *Id.*, 865). See also *Motor Vehicle Mfgs. Assn. v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Ins. Co.*, 463 U.S. 29, 42–44, 46–48, 51–57 (1983) (recognizing agency could have reversed its policy but finding reasons not supported on record).

⁹⁷ *Lichter v. United States*, 334 U.S. 742, 778–779 (1948).

⁹⁸ *Skinner v. Mid-America Pipeline Co.*, 490 U.S. 212 (1989). In *National Cable Television Ass. v. United States*, 415 U.S. 336, 342 (1974), and *FPC v. New England Power Co.*, 415 U.S. 345 (1974), the Court had appeared to suggest that delegation of the taxing power would be fraught with constitutional difficulties. How this conclusion could have been thought viable after the many cases sustaining delegations to fix tariff rates, which are in fact and law taxes, *J. W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United States*, 276 U.S. 394 (1928); *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649 (1892); and see *FEA v. Algonquin SNG, Inc.*, 426 U.S. 548 (1976) (delegation to President to raise license “fees” on imports when necessary to protect national security), is difficult to discern. Nor should doubt exist respecting the appropriations power. See *Synar v. United States*, 626 F.Supp. 1374, 1385–1386 (D.D.C.) (three-judge court), *affd. on other grounds sub nom. Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714 (1986).

⁹⁹ *City of New York v. FCC*, 486 U.S. 57, 63–64 (1988); *Louisiana PSC v. FCC*, 476 U.S. 355, 368–369 (1986); *Fidelity Federal Savings & Loan Assn. v. de la Cuesta*, 458 U.S. 141, 153–154 (1982).

¹⁰⁰ E.g., *The Brig Aurora*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 382 (1813).

¹⁰¹ E.g., *J. W. Hampton, Jr. & Co. v. United States*, 276 U.S. 394 (1928); *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649 (1892).

¹⁰² 312 U.S. 126 (1941).

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dure and of evidence it directed that such rules supersede previously enacted statutes with which they conflicted.¹⁰³

Recent concerns in the scholarly literature with respect to the scope of the delegation doctrine,¹⁰⁴ have been reflected within the judicial writings of some of the Justices.¹⁰⁵ Nonetheless, the Court's most recent decisions evidence no doubt of the constitutional propriety of very broad delegations,¹⁰⁶ and the practice will doubtlessly remain settled.

Standards.—Critical to the Court's explanations of the permissibility of legislative delegations has been the necessity of "intelligible principles" or "standards" to guide the agency or official in the performance of the task Congress has set. And indeed the only two instances in which the Court has found an unconstitutional delegation to another governmental agency have involved grants of discretion to administrators that the Court found to be unbounded. Thus, in *Panama Refining Co. v. Ryan*,¹⁰⁷ the President was authorized to prohibit the shipment in interstate commerce of "hot oil"—oil produced in excess of state quotas. The statute was silent with regard to when and under what circumstances he should exercise the power and the Court, only Justice Cardozo dissenting, found that the stated policy of the legislation contained

¹⁰³ See 18 U.S.C. §§ 3771, 3772 (criminal procedure); 28 U.S.C. § 2072 (civil procedure); id., § 2076 (evidence). In *Davis v. United States*, 411 U.S. 233, 241 (1973), the Court referred in passing to the supersession of statutes without evincing any doubts about the validity of the results. When Congress amended the Rules Enabling Acts in the 100th Congress, P.L. 100-702, 102 Stat. 4642, 4648, amending 28 U.S.C. § 2072, the House would have altered supersession, the Senate disagreed, the House acquiesced, and the old provision remained. See H.R. 4807, H.Rept.No. 100-889, 100th Cong., 2d sess. (1988), 27-29; 134 CONG. REC. 23573-23584 (1988); Id., 31051-31052 (Sen. Heflin); Id., 31872 (Rep. Kastenmeier).

¹⁰⁴ E.g., *A Symposium on Administrative Law: Part I - Delegation of Powers to Administrative Agencies*, 36 Amer. U. L. Rev. 295 (1987); Schoenbrod, *The Delegation Doctrine: Could the Court Give It Substance?*, 83 Mich. L. Rev. 1223 (1985); Aranson, Gellhorn & Robinson, *A Theory of Legislative Delegation*, 68 Corn. L. Rev. 1 (1982).

¹⁰⁵ *American Textile Mfgs. Inst. v. Donovan*, 452 U.S. 490, 543 (1981) (Chief Justice Burger dissenting); *Industrial Union Dept. v. American Petroleum Inst.*, 448 U.S. 607, 671 (1980) (then-Justice Rehnquist concurring). See also *United States v. Midwest Video Corp.*, 406 U.S. 649, 675, 677 (1972) (Chief Justice Burger concurring, Justice Douglas dissenting); *Arizona v. California*, 373 U.S. 546, 625-626 (1963) (Justice Harlan dissenting in part). Occasionally, statutes are narrowly construed, purportedly to avoid constitutional problems with delegations. E.g., *Industrial Union Dept.*, *supra*, 645-646 (plurality opinion); *National Cable Television Assn. v. United States*, 415 U.S. 336, 342 (1974).

¹⁰⁶ E.g., *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 371-379 (1989). See also *Skinner v. Mid-America Pipeline Co.*, 490 U.S. 212, 220-224 (1989); *Touby v. United States*, 500 U.S. 160, 164-168 (1991). While expressing considerable reservations about the scope of delegations, Justice Scalia, in *Mistretta*, *supra*, 415-416, conceded both the inevitability of delegations and the inability of the courts to police them.

¹⁰⁷ 293 U.S. 388 (1935).

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contrary directives.¹⁰⁸ While the grant of power in *Panama Refining* was narrow, the grant, in *A.L.A. Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*,¹⁰⁹ was sweeping. The National Industrial Recovery Act devolved on the executive branch the power to formulate codes of “fair competition” for all industry in order to promote “the policy of this title.” The policy was “to eliminate unfair competitive practices, to promote the fullest possible utilization of the present productive capacity of industries, . . . and otherwise to rehabilitate industry. . . .”¹¹⁰ Though much of the opinion is written in terms of the failure of these policy statements to provide meaningful standards, it seems more likely the Court was in fact concerned with the “virtually unfettered” discretion conferred on the President of “enacting laws for the government of trade and industry throughout the country.”¹¹¹

This conclusion is bolstered by the Court’s reversal of a lower federal court, which had literally applied the *Schechter* language to void a delegation to the Federal Home Loan Bank Commissioner of power to issue regulations for the appointment of conservators or receivers to take charge of banking associations.¹¹² The Act contained no standards, no declarations of policy, no guidance to the Commissioner. Nevertheless, the Court unanimously sustained the delegation. “It may be,” said Justice Jackson, “that explicit standards . . . would have been a desirable assurance of responsible administration.”¹¹³ But while desirable, standards were not a constitutional necessity, since “[t]he provisions are regulatory” and deal with but one enterprise, banking, the problems of which are well known and the remedies authorized are as equally well known. “A discretion to make regulations to guide supervisory action in such matters may be constitutionally permissible while it might not be allowable to authorize creation of new crimes in uncharted fields.”¹¹⁴

¹⁰⁸It is not without note that the Court, in the view of many observers, was influenced heavily by the fact that the President’s orders were nowhere published and notice of regulations bearing criminal penalties for their violations was spotty at best. Cf. E. CORWIN, *THE PRESIDENT—OFFICE AND POWERS 1787–1957* (New York: 4th ed. 1958), 394–395. The result of the Government’s discomfiture in Court was enactment of the Federal Register Act, 49 Stat. 500 (1935), 44 U.S.C. § 301, providing for publication of Executive Orders and agency regulations in the daily FEDERAL REGISTER.

¹⁰⁹295 U.S. 495 (1935).

¹¹⁰48 Stat. 195 (1933), Tit. I, § 1.

¹¹¹295 U.S., 541–542.

¹¹²*Fahey v. Mallonee*, 332 U.S. 245 (1947).

¹¹³*Id.*, 250.

¹¹⁴*Ibid.* Indeed, the Court has frequently deprecated the broader holdings of the two cases by pointing out that *Panama Refining* criminalized acts not previously punishable offenses and that *Schechter* involved delegations to private individuals. *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 373 n. 7 (1989).

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Where the Court has determined that standards are necessary, it has been notably successful in finding them. Standards have been ascertained to exist in such formulations as “just and reasonable,”¹¹⁵ “public interest,”¹¹⁶ “public convenience, interest, or necessity,”¹¹⁷ and “unfair methods of competition.”¹¹⁸ Thus, in *National Broadcasting Co. v. United States*,¹¹⁹ the Court found that the discretion conferred on the Federal Communications Commission to license broadcasting stations to promote the “public interest, convenience, or necessity” conveyed a standard “as complete as the complicated factors for judgment in such a field of delegated authority permit.”¹²⁰ Yet the regulations upheld were directed to the contractual relations between networks and stations and were designed to reduce the effect of monopoly in the industry, a policy on which the statute was silent.¹²¹

On the other hand, the standards may be set out in greater detail and with greater relevancy to the action taken but may in fact limit discretion not at all. In *United States v. Rock Royal Cooperatives*,¹²² the Court sustained the delegation to the Secretary of Agriculture of the power to fix the prices of six commodities if and when he chose to exercise the power with regard to all or some of the commodities. The Act provided that the price to be fixed should afford farmers purchasing power equivalent to that they had enjoyed in a base period, but the Secretary was also to protect the interest of the consumer by a gradual increase in prices in accordance with the public interest and current consumption. The majority of the Court thought that the Act stated the purposes which Congress had hoped to achieve and set out standards by which it hoped the purposes could be realized.

Numerous delegations have been sustained by the Court in both war and peacetime which have vested in administrative agencies and executive officers vast powers over the economic life of the country.¹²³ By and large, however, the Court has paid scant atten-

¹¹⁵ *Tagg Bros. & Moorhead v. United States*, 280 U.S. 420 (1930).

¹¹⁶ *New York Central Securities Corp. v. United States*, 287 U.S. 12 (1932).

¹¹⁷ *Federal Radio Comm. v. Nelson Bros. Bond & Mortgage Co.*, 289 U.S. 266 (1933).

¹¹⁸ *FTC v. Gratz*, 253 U.S. 421 (1920).

¹¹⁹ 319 U.S. 190 (1943).

¹²⁰ *Id.*, 216.

¹²¹ Similarly, the promulgation by the FCC of rules creating a “fairness doctrine” and a “right to reply” rule has been sustained, *Red Lion Broadcasting Co. v. FCC*, 395 U.S. 367 (1969), as well as a rule requiring the carrying of anti-smoking commercials. *Banzhaf v. FCC*, 405 F.2d 1082 (D.C.Cir. 1968), *cert. den. sub nom.*, *Tobacco Institute v. FCC*, 396 U.S. 842 (1969).

¹²² 307 U.S. 533 (1939).

¹²³ *Intermountain Rate Cases*, 234 U.S. 476 (1914); *American Trucking Assns. v. United States*, 344 U.S. 298 (1953); *FCC v. RCA Communications*, 346 U.S. 86

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tion to delegation as a constitutional issue in these circumstances. An exception is *Arizona v. California*,¹²⁴ in which a divided Court sustained the delegation of total discretion to the Secretary of the Interior to apportion water among the southwestern States in times of shortage. The statute prescribed no formula or standards, and the majority agreed that he was entirely free “to choose among the recognized methods of apportionment or to devise reasonable methods of his own,”¹²⁵ the Secretary being required to reach “an informed judgment in harmony with the Act, the best interests of the Basin States, and the welfare of the Nation.”¹²⁶ Three dissenters noted they had “the gravest constitutional doubts” about the delegation.¹²⁷

Administrative implementation of the congressional enactment may well provide the intelligible standard. Thus, in *Lichter v. United States*,¹²⁸ the Court sustained the delegation of power to the War Department to recover “excessive profits” earned on war contracts. The first Act contained no definition, but the second defined “excessive profits” as meaning “any amount of a contract or sub-contract price which is found as a result of renegotiation to represent excessive profits.”¹²⁹ The definition was essayed in the light of standards for determining “excessiveness” worked out by the War Department and in 1944¹³⁰ Congress specifically adopted these standards. Yet, the Court upheld the validity of the delegation as to proceeds earned prior to this 1944 adoption. “The statutory term ‘excessive profits,’ in its context, was a sufficient expression of legislative policy and standards to render it constitutional.”¹³¹

It seems therefore reasonably clear that the Court does not really require much in the way of standards from Congress. The minimum which the Court seems, but only sometimes, to insist on is that Congress employ a delegation which “sufficiently marks the

(1953): *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S. 414 (1944). When in the Economic Stabilization Act of 1970, Congress authorized the President “to issue such orders and regulations as he may deem appropriate to stabilize prices, rents, wages, and salaries,” and the President complied with broad national controls, the lower court decision sustaining the action was not even appealed to the Supreme Court. *Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen v. Connally*, 337 F. Supp. 737 (D.D.C. 1971) (three-judge court).

¹²⁴ 373 U. S. 546 (1963).

¹²⁵ *Id.*, 593.

¹²⁶ *Id.*, 594.

¹²⁷ *Id.*, 625.

¹²⁸ 334 U.S. 742 (1948).

¹²⁹ § 403(a)(4) of the Act, as added by Tit. 8 of the Act of October 21, 1942, 56 Stat. 798, 982.

¹³⁰ § 403(a)(4) of the Act, as amended by Tit. 7 of the Act of February 25, 1944, 58 Stat. 21, 78.

¹³¹ 334 U.S., 783.

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field within which the Administrator is to act so that it may be known whether he has kept within it in compliance with the legislative will.”¹³² Where the congressional standards are combined with requirements of notice and hearing and statements of findings and considerations by the administrators, so that judicial review under due process standards is possible, the constitutional requirements of delegation have been fulfilled.¹³³ This requirement may be met through the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act,¹³⁴ but where the Act is inapplicable or where the Court sees the necessity for exceeding the provisions, due process can supply the safeguards of required hearing, notice, supporting statements, and the like.¹³⁵

Foreign Affairs.—That the delegation of discretion in dealing with foreign relations stands upon a different footing than the transfer of authority to regulate domestic concerns was indicated in *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Corp.*¹³⁶ There the Court upheld a joint resolution of Congress making it unlawful to sell arms to certain warring countries upon certain findings by the President, a typically contingent type of delegation. But Justice Sutherland for the Court proclaimed that the President was largely free of the constitutional constraints imposed by the nondelegation doctrine when he acted in foreign affairs.¹³⁷ The *Curtiss-Wright* doctrine has waxed and waned over the years, and the viability of this distinction is doubtful.

Delegations to the States.—From the beginning, Congress enacted hundreds of statutes that contained provisions authorizing

¹³² *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S. 414, 425 (1944).

¹³³ *Id.*, 426; *Skinner v. Mid-America Pipeline Co.*, 490 U.S. 212, 218 (1989); *American Power Co. v. SEC*, 329 U.S. 90, 107, 108 (1946); *Opp Cotton Mills v. Administrator*, 312 U.S. 126, 144 (1941). It should be remembered that the Court has renounced strict review of economic regulation wholly through legislative enactment, forsaking substantive due process, so that review of the exercise of delegated power by the same relaxed standard forwards a consistent policy. E.g., *Ferguson v. Skrupa*, 372 U.S. 726 (1963); *Williamson v. Lee Optical Co.*, 348 U.S. 483 (1955).

¹³⁴ Act of June 11, 1946, 60 Stat. 237, 5 U.S.C. §§ 551–559. In *NLRB v. Wyman-Gordon Co.*, 394 U.S. 759 (1969), six Justices agreed that a Board proceeding had been in fact rule-making and not adjudication and that the APA should have been complied with. The Board won the particular case, however, because of a coalescence of divergent views of the Justices, but the Board has since reversed a policy of not resorting to formal rule-making.

¹³⁵ E.g., *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254 (1970); *Wisconsin v. Constantineau*, 400 U.S. 433 (1971).

¹³⁶ 299 U.S. 304, 312 (1936).

¹³⁷ *Id.*, 319–322. For a particularly strong, recent assertion of the point, see *Haig v. Agee*, 453 U.S. 280, 291–292 (1981). This view also informs the Court’s analysis in *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654 (1981). See also *United States v. Chemical Foundation*, 272 U.S. 1 (1926).

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state officers to enforce and execute federal laws.¹³⁸ Challenges to the practice were uniformly rejected. While the Court early expressed its doubt that Congress could compel state officers to act, it entertained no such thoughts about the propriety of authorizing them to act if they chose.¹³⁹ When, in the *Selective Draft Law Cases*,¹⁴⁰ the contention was made that the act was invalid because of its delegations of duties to state officers, the argument was rejected as “too wanting in merit to require further notice.” Congress continues to empower state officers to act,¹⁴¹ and Presidents now object on grounds that the state officers, not having been appointed pursuant to the appointments clause, may not execute federal laws, rather than offer delegation arguments.¹⁴²

Delegation to Private Persons.—Statutory delegations to private persons in the nature of contingency legislation have passed Court tests. Thus, statutes providing that restrictions upon the production or marketing of agricultural commodities are to become operative only upon a favorable vote by a prescribed majority of those persons affected have been upheld.¹⁴³ The rationale of the Court is that such a provision does not involve any delegation of legislative authority, since Congress has merely placed a restriction upon its own regulation by withholding its operation unless it is approved in a referendum.¹⁴⁴

Less consistency has been displayed with regard to the more modern delegations. The *Schechter* case condemned the involvement of private trade groups in the drawing up of binding codes of competition in conjunction with governmental agencies.¹⁴⁵ In

¹³⁸See Warren, *Federal Criminal Laws and the State Courts*, 38 Harv. L. Rev. 545 (1925); Holcomb, *The States as Agents of the Nation*, 3 SELECTED ESSAYS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (1938), 1187.

¹³⁹*Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539 (1842); *Kentucky v. Dennison*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66 (1861). The last doubt as to compulsion was not definitively removed until *Puerto Rico v. Branstad*, 483 U.S. 219 (1987).

¹⁴⁰245 U.S. 366, 389 (1918).

¹⁴¹E.g., P.L. 94-435, title III, 90 Stat. 1394, 15 U.S.C. §15c (state attorneys general may bring antitrust *parens patriae* actions); Medical Waste Tracking Act, P.L. 100-582, 102 Stat. 2955, 42 U.S.C. §6992f (States may impose civil and possibly criminal penalties against violators of the law).

¹⁴²See 24 *Weekly Comp. of Pres. Docs.* 1418 (1988) (President Reagan). The only judicial challenge to such a practice resulted in a rebuff to the presidential argument. *Seattle Master Builders Assn. v. Pacific Northwest Electric Power & Conservation Planning Council*, 786 F.2d 1359 (9th Cir. 1986), *cert. den.*, 479 U.S. 1059 (1987).

¹⁴³*Currin v. Wallace*, 306 U.S. 1 (1939); *United States v. Rock Royal Co-operative*, 307 U.S. 533, 577 (1939); *Wickard v. Filburn*, 317 U.S. 111, 115-116 (1942); *United States v. Frame*, 885 F.2d 1119 (3d Cir. 1989), *cert. den.*, 493 U.S. 1094 (1990).

¹⁴⁴*Currin v. Wallace*, 306 U.S. 1, 15, 16 (1939).

¹⁴⁵*A. L. A. Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*, 295 U.S. 495 (1935). *Schechter* was predominantly a lack-of-standards case, but the Court more recently

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Carter v. Carter Coal Co.,¹⁴⁶ the Court struck down the Bituminous Coal Conservation Act in part because the statute penalized persons who failed to observe minimum wage and maximum hour regulations drawn up by prescribed majorities of coal producers and coal employees. But earlier the Court had upheld a statute which delegated to the American Railway Association, a trade group, the authority to determine the standard height of draw bars for freight cars and to certify the figure to the Interstate Commerce Commission, which was required to accept it.¹⁴⁷ The Court simply cited *Buttfield v. Stranahan*,¹⁴⁸ in which it had sustained a delegation to the Secretary of the Treasury to promulgate minimum standards of quality and purity for imported tea, as a case “completely in point” and resolving the issue without need of further consideration.¹⁴⁹ Similarly, the Court had earlier still enforced statutes that gave legal effect to local customs of miners with respect to claims on public lands.¹⁵⁰

The issue has remained muddled since *Carter Coal*, the Court having had no opportunity to attempt to reconcile the two lines of cases.¹⁵¹

Delegation and Individual Liberties.—It has been argued in separate opinions by some Justices that delegations by Congress of power to affect the exercise of “fundamental freedoms” by citizens must particularly be scrutinized to require the exercise of a congressional judgment about meaningful standards.¹⁵² The only pronouncement in a majority opinion, however, is that even with regard to the regulation of liberty the standards of the delegation “must be adequate to pass scrutiny by the accepted tests.”¹⁵³ The

has recurred to the private delegation issue. *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 373 n. 7 (1989).

¹⁴⁶ 298 U.S. 238 (1936). But compare *Sunshine Anthracite Coal Co. v. Adkins*, 310 U.S. 381 (1940).

¹⁴⁷ *St. Louis, Iron Mt. & Southern Ry. Co. v. Taylor*, 210 U.S. 281 (1908).

¹⁴⁸ 192 U.S. 470 (1904).

¹⁴⁹ 210 U.S., 287.

¹⁵⁰ *Jackson v. Roby*, 109 U.S. 440 (1883); *Erhardt v. Boaro*, 113 U.S. 527 (1885); *Butte City Water Co. v. Baker*, 196 U.S. 119 (1905).

¹⁵¹ But see *Schweiker v. McClure*, 456 U.S. 188 (1982) (hearing officer appointed by private insurance carrier adjudicating Medicare claims); *Association of Amer. Physicians & Surgeons v. Weinberger*, 395 F.Supp. 125 (N.D.Ill.) (three-judge court) (delegation to Professional Standards Review Organization), *affd. per curiam*, 423 U.S. 975 (1975); *Noblecraft Industries v. Secretary of Labor*, 614 F.2d 199 (9th Cir. 1980) (Secretary required to adopt interim OSHA standards produced by private organization). Again, the Executive Branch objections to these kinds of delegations have involved appointments clause arguments, see *supra*, n. 142, rather than delegation issues *per se*.

¹⁵² *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258, 269 (1967) (Justice Brennan concurring). The view was specifically rejected by Justices White and Harlan in dissent, *id.*, 288–289, and ignored by the majority.

¹⁵³ *Kent v. Dulles*, 357 U.S. 116, 129 (1958).

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standard practice, indeed, of the majority has been to interpret narrowly the delegation so as to avoid constitutional problems.¹⁵⁴

Perhaps refining the delegation doctrine, at least in cases where Fifth Amendment due process interests are implicated, the Court held that a government agency charged with the efficient administration of the executive branch could not assert the broader interests that Congress or the President might have in barring lawfully resident aliens from government employment. The agency could assert only its own interests, and if the action could be justified by other interests the office with responsibility for promoting those interests must take the action.¹⁵⁵

Punishment of Violations

If Congress so provides, violations of valid administrative regulations may be punished as crimes.¹⁵⁶ But the penalties must be provided in the statute itself; additional punishment cannot be imposed by administrative action.¹⁵⁷ In an early case, the Court held that a section prescribing penalties for any violation of a statute did not warrant a prosecution for wilful disobedience of regulations authorized by, and lawfully issued pursuant to, the act.¹⁵⁸ Without disavowing this general proposition, the Court, in 1944, upheld a suspension order issued by the OPA whereby a dealer in fuel oil who had violated rationing regulations was forbidden to receive or deal in that commodity.¹⁵⁹ Although such an order was not explicitly authorized by statute, it was sustained as being a reasonable measure for effecting a fair allocation of fuel oil, rather than as a means of punishment of an offender. In another OPA case, the Court ruled that in a criminal prosecution, a price regulation was subject to the same rule of strict construction as a statute, and that omissions from, or indefiniteness in, such a regulation, could not be cured by the Administrator's interpretation thereof.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁴Kent v. Dulles, 357 U.S. 116 (1958); Schneider v. Smith, 390 U.S. 17 (1968). More recently, the Court has eschewed even this limited mode of construction. Haig v. Agee, 453 U. S. 280 (1981).

¹⁵⁵Hampton v. Mow Sun Wong, 426 U.S. 88 (1976) (5-to-4 decision). The regulation was reissued by the President, E. O. 11935, 3 C.F.R. 146 (1976), reprinted in 5 U.S.C. § 3301 (app.), sustained in Vergara v. Hampton, 581 F. 2d 1281 (C. A. 7, 1978).

¹⁵⁶United States v. Grimaud, 220 U.S. 506 (1911). See also Touby v. United States, 500 U.S. 160 (1991).

¹⁵⁷L. P. Steuart & Bro. v. Bowles, 322 U.S. 398, 404 (1944).

¹⁵⁸United States v. Eaton, 144 U.S. 677 (1892).

¹⁵⁹L.P. Steuart & Bro. v. Bowles, 322 U.S. 398 (1944).

¹⁶⁰M. Kraus & Bros. v. United States, 327 U.S. 614 (1946).

CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATIONS

Source of the Power to Investigate

No provision of the Constitution expressly authorizes either House of Congress to make investigations and exact testimony to the end that it may exercise its legislative functions effectively and advisedly. But such a power had been frequently exercised by the British Parliament and by the Assemblies of the American Colonies prior to the adoption of the Constitution.¹⁶¹ It was asserted by the House of Representatives as early as 1792 when it appointed a committee to investigate the defeat of General St. Clair and his army by the Indians in the Northwest and empowered it to “call for such persons, papers, and records, as may be necessary to assist their inquiries.”¹⁶²

The Court has long since accorded its agreement with Congress that the investigatory power is so essential to the legislative function as to be implied from the general vesting of legislative power in Congress. “We are of the opinion,” wrote Justice Van Devanter, for a unanimous Court, “that the power of inquiry—with process to enforce it—is an essential and appropriate auxiliary to the legislative function. . . . A legislative body cannot legislate wisely or effectively in the absence of information respecting the conditions which the legislation is intended to affect or change; and where the legislative body does not itself possess the requisite information—which not infrequently is true—recourse must be had to others who possess it. Experience has taught that mere requests for such information often are unavailing, and also that information which is volunteered is not always accurate or complete; so some means of compulsion are essential to obtain what is needed. All this was true before and when the Constitution was framed and adopted. In that period the power of inquiry—with enforcing process—was regarded and employed as a necessary and appropriate attribute of the power to legislate—indeed, was treated as inhering in it. Thus there is ample warrant for thinking, as we do, that the constitutional provisions which commit the legislative function to the two houses are intended to include this attribute to the end that the function may be effectively exercised.”¹⁶³

And in a 1957 opinion generally hostile to the exercise of the investigatory power in the post-War years, Chief Justice Warren

¹⁶¹ Landis, *Constitutional Limitations on the Congressional Power of Investigation*, 40 Harv. L. Rev. 153, 159–166 (1926); M. DIMOCK, CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES (Baltimore: 1929), ch. 2.

¹⁶² 3 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 490–494 (1792); 3 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), 1725.

¹⁶³ *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273 U.S. 135, 174–175 (1927).

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did not question the basic power. “The power of the Congress to conduct investigations is inherent in the legislative process. That power is broad. It encompasses inquiries concerning the administration of existing laws as well as proposed or possibly needed statutes. It includes surveys of defects in our social, economic or political system for the purpose of enabling the Congress to remedy them. It comprehends probes into departments of the Federal Government to expose corruption, inefficiency or waste.”¹⁶⁴ Justice Harlan summarized the matter in 1959. “The power of inquiry has been employed by Congress throughout our history, over the whole range of the national interests concerning which Congress might legislate or decide upon due investigation not to legislate; it has similarly been utilized in determining what to appropriate from the national purse, or whether to appropriate. The scope of the power of inquiry, in short, is as penetrating and far-reaching as the potential power to enact and appropriate under the Constitution.”¹⁶⁵

Broad as the power of inquiry is, it is not unlimited. The power of investigation may properly be employed only “in aid of the legislative function.”¹⁶⁶ Its outermost boundaries are marked, then, by the outermost boundaries of the power to legislate. In principle, the Court is clear on the limitations, clear “that neither house of Congress possesses a ‘general power of making inquiry into the private affairs of the citizen’; that the power actually possessed is limited to inquiries relating to matters of which the particular house ‘has jurisdiction’ and in respect of which it rightfully may take other action; that if the inquiry relates to ‘a matter wherein relief or redress could be had only by a judicial proceeding’ it is not within the range of this power, but must be left to the courts, conformably to the constitutional separation of governmental powers; and that for the purpose of determining the essential character of the inquiry recourse must be had to the resolution or order under which it is made.”¹⁶⁷

In practice, much of the litigated dispute has been about the reach of the power to inquire into the activities of private citizens; inquiry into the administration of laws and departmental corruption, while of substantial political consequence, has given rise to fewer judicial precedents.

¹⁶⁴ *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 187 (1957).

¹⁶⁵ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 111 (1959). See also *Eastland v. United States Servicemen’s Fund*, 421 U.S. 491, 503–507 (1975).

¹⁶⁶ *Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168, 189 (1881).

¹⁶⁷ *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273 U.S. 135, 170 (1927). The internal quotations are from *Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168, 190, 193 (1881).

Investigations of Conduct of Executive Department

For many years the investigating function of Congress was limited to inquiries into the administration of the Executive Department or of instrumentalities of the Government. Until the administration of Andrew Jackson, this power was not seriously challenged.¹⁶⁸ During the controversy over renewal of the charter of the Bank of the United States, John Quincy Adams contended that an unlimited inquiry into the operations of the bank would be beyond the power of the House.¹⁶⁹ Four years later, the legislative power of investigation was challenged by the President. A committee appointed by the House of Representatives “with power to send for persons and papers, and with instructions to inquire into the condition of the various executive departments, the ability and integrity with which they have been conducted, . . .”¹⁷⁰ called upon the President and the heads of departments for lists of persons appointed without the consent of the Senate and the amounts paid to them. Resentful of this attempt “to invade the just rights of the Executive Departments,” the President refused to comply and the majority of the committee acquiesced.¹⁷¹ Nevertheless, congressional investigations of Executive Departments have continued to the present day. Shortly before the Civil War, contempt proceedings against a witness who refused to testify in an investigation of John Brown’s raid upon the arsenal at Harper’s Ferry occasioned a thorough consideration by the Senate of the basis of this power. After a protracted debate, which cut sharply across sectional and party lines, the Senate voted overwhelmingly to imprison the contumacious witness.¹⁷² Notwithstanding this firmly established legislative practice, the Supreme Court took a narrow view of the power in the case of *Kilbourn v. Thompson*.¹⁷³ It held that the House of Representatives had overstepped its jurisdiction when it instituted an investigation of losses suffered by the United States as a creditor of Jay Cooke and Company, whose estate was being administered in bankruptcy by a federal court.¹⁷⁴ But nearly half

¹⁶⁸ In 1800, Secretary of the Treasury, Oliver Wolcott, Jr., addressed a letter to the House of Representatives advising them of his resignation from office and inviting an investigation of his office. Such an inquiry was made. 10 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 786–788 (1800).

¹⁶⁹ 8 CONG. DEB. 2160 (1832).

¹⁷⁰ 13 CONG. DEB. 1057–1067 (1836).

¹⁷¹ H.R. Rep. No. 194, 24th Congress, 2d sess., 1, 12, 31 (1837).

¹⁷² CONG. GLOBE, 36th Congress, 1st sess., 1100–1109 (1860).

¹⁷³ 103 U.S. 168 (1881).

¹⁷⁴ The Court held that inasmuch as the entire proceedings arising out of the bankruptcy were pending in court, as the authorizing resolution contained no suggestion of contemplated legislation, as in fact no valid legislation could be enacted on the subject, and as the only relief which the United States could seek was judi-

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a century later, in *McGrain v. Daugherty*,¹⁷⁵ it ratified in sweeping terms, the power of Congress to inquire into the administration of an executive department and to sift charges of malfeasance in such administration.¹⁷⁶

Investigations of Members of Congress

When either House exercises a judicial function, as in judging of elections or determining whether a member should be expelled, it is clearly entitled to compel the attendance of witnesses to disclose the facts upon which its action must be based. Thus, the Court held that since a House had a right to expel a member for any offense which it deemed incompatible with his trust and duty as a member, it was entitled to investigate such conduct and to summon private individuals to give testimony concerning it.¹⁷⁷ The decision in *Barry v. United States ex rel. Cunningham*¹⁷⁸ sanctioned the exercise of a similar power in investigating a senatorial election.

Investigations in Aid of Legislation

Purpose.—Beginning with the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives in 1827, which vested its Committee on Manufactures “with the power to send for persons and papers with a view to ascertain and report to this House in relation to a revision of the tariff duties on imported goods,”¹⁷⁹ the two Houses have asserted the right to collect information from private persons as well as from governmental agencies when necessary to enlighten their judgment on proposed legislation. The first case to review the assertion saw a narrow view of the power taken and the Court held that the purpose of the inquiry was to pry improperly into private affairs without any possibility of legislating on the basis of what might be learned and further that the inquiry overstepped the bounds of legislative jurisdiction and invaded the provinces of the judiciary.¹⁸⁰

cial relief in the bankruptcy proceeding, the House had exceeded its powers in authorizing the inquiry. But see *Hutcheson v. United States*, 369 U.S. 599 (1962).

¹⁷⁵ 273 U.S. 135, 177, 178 (1927).

¹⁷⁶ We consider elsewhere the topic of executive privilege, the claimed right of the President and at least some of his executive branch officers to withhold from Congress information desired by it or by one of its committees. Although the issue has been one of contention between the two branches of Government since Washington's refusal in 1796 to submit certain correspondence to the House of Representatives relating to treaty negotiations, it has only recently become a judicial issue.

¹⁷⁷ *In re Chapman*, 166 U.S. 661 (1897).

¹⁷⁸ 279 U.S. 597 (1929).

¹⁷⁹ 4 CONG. DEB. 862, 868, 888, 889 (1827).

¹⁸⁰ *Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168 (1881).

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Subsequent cases, however, have given the Congress the benefit of a presumption that its object is legitimate and related to the possible enactment of legislation. Shortly after *Kilbourn*, the Court declared that “it was certainly not necessary that the resolution should declare in advance what the Senate meditated doing when the investigation was concluded” in order that the inquiry be under a lawful exercise of power.¹⁸¹ Similarly, in *McGrain v. Daugherty*,¹⁸² the investigation was presumed to have been undertaken in good faith to aid the Senate in legislating. Then, in *Sinclair v. United States*,¹⁸³ on its facts presenting a close parallel to *Kilbourn*, the Court affirmed the right of the Senate to carry out investigations of fraudulent leases of government property after suit for recovery had been instituted. The president of the lessee corporation had refused to testify on the ground that the questions related to his private affairs and to matters cognizable only in the courts wherein they were pending, asserting that the inquiry was not actually in aid of legislation. The Senate had prudently directed the investigating committee to ascertain what, if any, legislation might be advisable. Conceding “that Congress is without authority to compel disclosures for the purpose of aiding the prosecution of pending suits,” the Court declared that the authority “to require pertinent disclosures in aid of its own constitutional power is not abridged because the information sought to be elicited may also be of use in such suits.”¹⁸⁴

While *Sinclair* and *McGrain* involved inquiries into the activities and dealings of private persons, these activities and dealings were in connection with property belonging to the United States Government, so that it could hardly be said that the inquiries concerned the merely personal or private affairs of any individual.¹⁸⁵ But where the business, the activities and conduct, the behavior of individuals are subject to congressional regulation, there exists the power of inquiry,¹⁸⁶ and in practice the areas of any individual’s life immune from inquiry are probably fairly limited. “In the decade following World War II, there appeared a new kind of congressional inquiry unknown in prior periods of American history. Principally this was the result of the various investigations into the threat of subversion of the United States Government, but other

¹⁸¹ *In re Chapman*, 166 U.S. 661, 670 (1897).

¹⁸² 273 U.S. 135, 178 (1927).

¹⁸³ 279 U.S. 263 (1929).

¹⁸⁴ *Id.*, 295.

¹⁸⁵ *Id.*, 294.

¹⁸⁶ The first case so holding is *ICC v. Brimson*, 154 U.S. 447 (1894), which asserts that inasmuch as Congress could itself have made the inquiry to appraise its regulatory activities it could delegate the power of inquiry to the agency to which it had delegated the regulatory function.

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subjects of congressional interest also contributed to the changed scene. This new phase of legislative inquiry involved a broad-scale intrusion into the lives and affairs of private citizens.”¹⁸⁷ Inasmuch as Congress clearly has power to legislate to protect the Nation and its citizens from subversion, espionage, and sedition,¹⁸⁸ it has power to inquire into the existence of the dangers of domestic or foreign-based subversive activities in many areas of American life—in education,¹⁸⁹ in labor and industry,¹⁹⁰ and other areas.¹⁹¹ Because its powers to regulate interstate commerce afford Congress the power to regulate corruption in labor-management relations, congressional committees may inquire into the extent of corruption in labor unions.¹⁹² Because of its powers to legislate to protect the civil rights of its citizens, Congress may investigate organizations which allegedly act to deny those civil rights.¹⁹³ It is difficult in fact to conceive of areas into which congressional inquiry might not be carried, which is not the same, of course, as saying that the exercise of the power is unlimited.

One limitation on the power of inquiry which has been much discussed in the cases concerns the contention that congressional investigations often have no legislative purpose but rather are aimed at achieving results through “exposure” of disapproved persons and activities: “We have no doubt,” wrote Chief Justice Warren, “that there is no congressional power to expose for the sake of exposure.”¹⁹⁴ Although some Justices, always in dissent, have

¹⁸⁷ *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 195 (1957).

¹⁸⁸ See *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494 (1951); *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 127 (1959); *American Communications Assn. v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382 (1950).

¹⁸⁹ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 129–132 (1959); *Deuch v. United States*, 367 U.S. 456 (1961); cf. *Sweezy v. New Hampshire*, 354 U.S. 234 (1957) (state inquiry).

¹⁹⁰ *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178 (1957); *Flaxer v. United States*, 358 U.S. 147 (1958); *Wilkinson v. United States*, 365 U.S. 399 (1961).

¹⁹¹ *McPhaul v. United States*, 364 U.S. 372 (1960).

¹⁹² *Hutcheson v. United States*, 369 U.S. 599 (1962).

¹⁹³ *Shelton v. United States*, 404 F. 2d 1292 (D.C. Cir. 1968), *cert. den.*, 393 U.S. 1024 (1969).

¹⁹⁴ *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 200 (1957). The Chief Justice, however, noted: “We are not concerned with the power of the Congress to inquire into and publicize corruption, maladministration or inefficiency in agencies of the Government. That was the only kind of activity described by Woodrow Wilson in CONGRESSIONAL GOVERNMENT when he wrote: ‘The informing function of Congress should be preferred even to its legislative function.’ *Id.*, at 303. From the earliest times in its history, the Congress has assiduously performed an ‘informing function’ of this nature.” *Id.*, 200 n. 33.

In his book, Wilson continued, following the sentence quoted by the Chief Justice: “The argument is not only that discussed and interrogated administration is the only pure and efficient administration, but, more than that, that the only really self-governing people is that people which discusses and interrogates its administration. . . . It would be hard to conceive of there being too much talk about the prac-

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attempted to assert limitations in practice based upon this concept, the majority of Justices has adhered to the traditional precept that courts will not inquire into legislators' motives but will look¹⁹⁵ only to the question of power.¹⁹⁶ "So long as Congress acts in pursuance of its constitutional power, the Judiciary lacks authority to intervene on the basis of the motives which spurred the exercise of that power."¹⁹⁷

Protection of Witnesses: Pertinency and Related Matters.—A witness appearing before a congressional committee is entitled to require of the committee a demonstration of its authority to inquire with regard to his activities and a showing that the questions asked of him are pertinent to the committee's area of inquiry. A congressional committee possesses only those powers delegated to it by its parent body. The enabling resolution that has given it life also contains the grant and limitations of the committee's power.¹⁹⁸ In *Watkins v. United States*,¹⁹⁹ Chief Justice Warren cautioned that "[b]roadly drafted and loosely worded . . . resolutions can leave tremendous latitude to the discretion of the investigators. The more vague the committee's charter is, the greater becomes the possibility that the committee's specific actions are not in conformity with the will of the parent House of Congress." Speaking directly of the authorizing resolution, which created the House Un-American Activities Committee,²⁰⁰ the Chief Justice thought it "difficult to imagine a less explicit authorizing resolution."²⁰¹ But the far-reaching implications of these remarks were circumscribed by *Barenblatt v. United States*,²⁰² in which the

tical concerns . . . of government." CONGRESSIONAL GOVERNMENT (Boston: 1885), 303-304. For contrasting views of the reach of this statement, compare *United States v. Rumely*, 345 U.S. 41, 43 (1953), with *Russell v. United States*, 369 U.S. 749, 777-778 (1962) (Justice Douglas dissenting).

¹⁹⁵ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 153-162, 166 (1959); *Wilkinson v. United States*, 365 U.S. 399, 415, 423 (1961); *Braden v. United States*, 365 U.S. 431, 446 (1961); but see *DeGregory v. Attorney General*, 383 U.S. 825 (1966) (a state investigative case).

¹⁹⁶ "Legislative committees have been charged with losing sight of their duty of disinterestedness. In times of political passion, dishonest or vindictive motives are readily attributable to legislative conduct and as readily believed. Courts are not the place for such controversies." *Tenney v. Brandhove*, 341 U.S. 367, 377-378 (1951). For a statement of the traditional unwillingness to inquire into congressional motives in the judging of legislation, see *United States v. O'Brien*, 391 U.S. 367, 382-386 (1968). But note that in *Jenkins v. McKeithen*, 395 U.S. 411 (1969), in which the legislation establishing a state crime investigating commission clearly authorized the commission to designate individuals as law violators, due process was violated by denying witnesses the rights existing in adversary criminal proceedings.

¹⁹⁷ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 132 (1959).

¹⁹⁸ *United States v. Rumely*, 345 U.S. 41, 44 (1953).

¹⁹⁹ 354 U.S. 178, 201 (1957).

²⁰⁰ The Committee has since been abolished.

²⁰¹ *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 202 (1957).

²⁰² 360 U.S. 109 (1959).

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Court, “[g]ranted the vagueness of the Rule,” noted that Congress had long since put upon it a persuasive gloss of legislative history through practice and interpretation, which, read with the enabling resolution, showed that “the House has clothed the Un-American Activities Committee with pervasive authority to investigate Communist activities in this country.”²⁰³ “[W]e must conclude that [the Committee’s] authority to conduct the inquiry presently under consideration is unassailable, and that . . . the Rule cannot be said to be constitutionally infirm on the score of vagueness.”²⁰⁴

Because of the usual precision with which authorizing resolutions have generally been drafted, few controversies have arisen about whether a committee has projected its inquiry into an area not sanctioned by the parent body.²⁰⁵ But in *United States v. Rumely*,²⁰⁶ the Court held that the House of Representatives, in authorizing a select committee to investigate lobbying activities devoted to the promotion or defeat of legislation, did not thereby intend to empower the committee to probe activities of a lobbyist that were unconnected with his representations directly to Congress but rather designed to influence public opinion by distribution of literature. Consequently the committee was without authority to compel the representative of a private organization to disclose the names of all who had purchased such literature in quantity.²⁰⁷

Still another example of lack of proper authority is *Gojack v. United States*,²⁰⁸ in which the Court reversed a contempt citation because there was no showing that the parent committee had delegated to the subcommittee before whom the witness had appeared the authority to make the inquiry and neither had the full committee specified the area of inquiry.

Watkins v. United States,²⁰⁹ remains the leading case on pertinency, although it has not the influence on congressional investigations that some hoped and some feared in the wake of its

²⁰³ *Id.*, 117–118.

²⁰⁴ *Id.*, 122–123. But note that in *Stamler v. Willis*, 415 F. 2d 1365 (7th Cir., 1969), *cert. den.*, 399 U.S. 929 (1970), the court ordered to trial a civil suit contesting the constitutionality of the Rule establishing the Committee on allegations of overbreadth and overbroad application, holding that *Barenblatt* did not foreclose the contention.

²⁰⁵ But see *Tobin v. United States*, 306 F. 2d 270 (D.C.Cir.), *cert. den.*, 371 U.S. 902 (1962).

²⁰⁶ 345 U.S. 41 (1953).

²⁰⁷ The Court intimated that if the authorizing resolution did confer such power upon the committee, the validity of the resolution would be subject to doubt on First Amendment principles. Justices Black and Douglas would have construed the resolution as granting the authority and would have voided it under the First Amendment. *Id.*, 48 (concurring opinion).

²⁰⁸ 384 U.S. 702 (1966).

²⁰⁹ 354 U.S. 178 (1957).

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announcement. When questioned by a Subcommittee of the House Un-American Activities Committee, Watkins refused to supply the names of past associates, who, to his knowledge, had terminated their membership in the Communist Party and supported his non-compliance by, *inter alia*, contending that the questions were unrelated to the work of the Committee. Sustaining the witness, the Court emphasized that inasmuch as a witness by his refusal exposes himself to a criminal prosecution for contempt, he is entitled to be informed of the relation of the question to the subject of the investigation with the same precision as the due process clause requires of statutes defining crimes.²¹⁰

For ascertainment of the subject matter of an investigation, the witness might look, noted the Court, to several sources, including (1) the authorizing resolution, (2) the resolution by which the full committee authorized the subcommittee to proceed, (3) the introductory remarks of the chairman or other members, (4) the nature of the proceedings, (5) the chairman's response to the witness when the witness objects to the line of question on grounds of pertinency.²¹¹ Whether a precise delineation of the subject matter of the investigation in but one of these sources would satisfy the requirements of due process was left unresolved, since the Court ruled that in this case all of them were deficient in providing Watkins with the guidance to which he was entitled. The sources had informed Watkins that the questions were asked in a course of investigation of something that ranged from a narrow inquiry into Communist infiltration into the labor movement to a vague and unlimited inquiry into "subversion and subversive propaganda."²¹²

By and large, the subsequent cases demonstrated that *Watkins* did not represent a determination by the Justices to restrain broadly the course of congressional investigations, though several contempt citations were reversed on narrow holdings. But with regard to pertinency, the implications of *Watkins* were held in check and, without amending its rules or its authorizing resolution, the Un-American Activities Committee was successful in convincing a ma-

²¹⁰ *Id.*, 208–209.

²¹¹ *Id.*, 209–215.

²¹² *Ibid.* See also *Sacher v. United States*, 356 U.S. 576 (1958), a *per curiam* reversal of a contempt conviction on the ground that the questions did not relate to a subject "within the subcommittee's scope of inquiry," arising out of a hearing pertaining to a recantation of testimony by a witness in which the inquiry drifted into a discussion of legislation barring Communists from practice at the federal bar, the unanswered questions being asked then; and *Flaxer v. United States*, 358 U.S. 147 (1958), a reversal for refusal to produce membership lists because of an ambiguity in the committee's ruling on the time of performance; and *Scull v. Virginia ex rel. Committee*, 359 U.S. 344 (1959), a reversal on a contempt citation before a state legislative investigating committee on pertinency grounds.

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jority of the Court that its subsequent investigations were authorized and that the questions asked of recalcitrant witnesses were pertinent to the inquiries.²¹³

Thus, in *Barenblatt v. United States*,²¹⁴ the Court concluded that the history of the Un-American Activities Committee's activities, viewed in conjunction with the Rule establishing it, evinced clear investigatory authority to inquire into Communist infiltration in the field of education, an authority with which the witness had shown familiarity. Additionally, the opening statement of the chairman had pinpointed that subject as the nature of the inquiry that day and the opening witness had testified on the subject and had named Barenblatt as a member of the Communist Party at the University of Michigan. Thus, pertinency and the witness' knowledge of the pertinency of the questions asked him was shown. Similarly, in *Wilkinson v. United States*,²¹⁵ the Court held that when the witness was apprised at the hearing that the Committee was empowered to investigate Communist infiltration of the textile industry in the South, that it was gathering information with a view to ascertaining the manner of administration and need to amend various laws directed at subversive activities, that Congress hitherto had enacted many of its recommendations in this field, and

²¹³Notice should be taken, however, of two cases which, though decided four and five years after *Watkins*, involved persons who were witnesses before the Un-American Activities Committee either shortly prior to or shortly following *Watkins*' appearance and who were cited for contempt before the Supreme Court decided *Watkins*' case.

In *Deutch v. United States*, 367 U.S. 456 (1961), involving an otherwise cooperative witness who had refused to identify certain persons with whom he had been associated at Cornell in Communist Party activities, the Court agreed that Deutch had refused on grounds of moral scruples to answer the questions and had not challenged them as not pertinent to the inquiry, but the majority ruled that the Government had failed to establish at trial the pertinency of the questions, thus vitiating the conviction. Justices Frankfurter, Clark, Harlan, and Whittaker dissented, arguing that any argument on pertinency had been waived but in any event thinking it had been established. *Id.*, 472, 475.

In *Russell v. United States*, 369 U.S. 749 (1962), the Court struck down contempt convictions for insufficiency of the indictments. Indictments, which merely set forth the offense in the words of the contempt statute, the Court asserted, in alleging that the unanswered questions were pertinent to the subject under inquiry but not identifying the subject in detail, are defective because they do not inform defendants what they must be prepared to meet and do not enable courts to decide whether the facts alleged are sufficient to support convictions. Justice Stewart for the Court noted that the indicia of subject matter under inquiry were varied and contradictory, thus necessitating a precise governmental statement of particulars. Justices Harlan and Clark in dissent contended that it was sufficient for the Government to establish pertinency at trial and noted that no objections relating to pertinency had been made at the hearings. *Id.*, 781, 789-793. *Russell* was cited in the *per curiam* reversals in *Grumman v. United States*, 370 U.S. 288 (1962), and *Silber v. United States*, 370 U.S. 717 (1962).

²¹⁴360 U.S. 109 (1959).

²¹⁵365 U.S. 399 (1961).

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that it was possessed of information about his Party membership, he was notified effectively that a question about that affiliation was relevant to a valid inquiry. A companion case was held to be controlled by *Wilkinson*,²¹⁶ and in both cases the majority rejected the contention that the Committee inquiry was invalid because both Wilkinson and Braden, when they were called, were engaged in organizing activities against the Committee.²¹⁷

Related to the cases discussed in this section are those cases requiring that congressional committees observe strictly their own rules. Thus, in *Yellin v. United States*,²¹⁸ a contempt conviction was reversed because the Committee had failed to observe its rule providing for a closed session if a majority of the Committee believed that a witness' appearance in public session might unjustly injure his reputation. The Court ruled that the Committee had ignored the rule when it subpoenaed the witness for a public hearing and then in failing to consider as a Committee his request for a closed session.²¹⁹

Finally, it should be noted that the Court has blown hot and cold on the issue of a quorum as a prerequisite to a valid contempt citation and that no firm statement of a rule is possible, although it seems probable that ordinarily no quorum is necessary.²²⁰

Protection of Witnesses; Constitutional Guarantees.— “[T]he Congress, in common with all branches of the Government, must exercise its powers subject to the limitations placed by the

²¹⁶ *Braden v. United States*, 365 U.S. 431 (1961).

²¹⁷ The majority denied that the witness' participation in a lawful and protected course of action, such as petitioning Congress to abolish the Committee, limited the Committee's right of inquiry. “[W]e cannot say that, simply because the petitioner at the moment may have been engaged in lawful conduct, his Communist activities in connection therewith could not be investigated. The subcommittee had reasonable ground to suppose that the petitioner was an active Communist Party member, and that as such he possessed information that would substantially aid it in its legislative investigation. As the *Barenblatt* opinion makes clear, it is the nature of the Communist activity involved, whether the momentary conduct is legitimate or illegitimate politically, that establishes the Government's overbalancing interest.” *Wilkinson v. United States*, 365 U.S. 399, 414 (1961). In both cases, the dissenters, Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, and Brennan argued that the Committee action was invalid because it was intended to harass persons who had publicly criticized committee activities. *Id.*, 415, 423, 429.

²¹⁸ 374 U.S. 109 (1963).

²¹⁹ Failure to follow its own rules was again an issue in *Gojack v. United States*, 384 U.S. 702 (1966), in which the Court noted that while a committee rule required the approval of a majority of the Committee before a “major” investigation was initiated, such approval had not been sought before a Subcommittee proceeded.

²²⁰ In *Christoffel v. United States*, 338 U.S. 84 (1949), the Court held that a witness can be found guilty of perjury only where a quorum of the committee is present at the time the perjury is committed; it is not enough to prove that a quorum was present when the hearing began. But in *United States v. Bryan*, 339 U.S. 323 (1950), the Court ruled that a quorum was not required under the statute punishing refusal to honor a valid subpoena issued by an authorized committee.

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Constitution on governmental action, more particularly in the context of this case, the relevant limitations of the Bill of Rights.”²²¹ Just as the Constitution places limitations on Congress’ power to legislate, so it limits the power to investigate. In this section, we are concerned with the limitations the Bill of Rights places on the scope and nature of the congressional power to inquire.

The most extensive amount of litigation in this area has involved the privilege against self-incrimination guaranteed against governmental abridgment by the Fifth Amendment. Observance of the privilege by congressional committees has been so uniform that no Court holding has ever held that it must be observed, though the dicta is plentiful.²²² Thus, the cases have explored not the issue of the right to rely on the privilege but rather the manner and extent of its application.

There is no prescribed form in which one must plead the privilege. When a witness refused to answer a question about Communist Party affiliations and based his refusal upon the assertion by a prior witness of “the first amendment supplemented by the fifth,” the Court held that he had sufficiently invoked the privilege, at least in the absence of committee inquiry seeking to force him to adopt a more precise stand.²²³ If the committee suspected that the witness was being purposely vague, in order perhaps to avoid the stigma attached to a forthright claim of the privilege, it should have requested him to state specifically the ground of his refusal to testify. Another witness, who was threatened with prosecution for his Communist activities, could claim the privilege even to some questions the answers to which he might have been able to explain away as unrelated to criminal conduct; if an answer might tend to be incriminatory, the witness is not deprived of the privilege merely because he might have been able to refute inferences of guilt.²²⁴ In still another case, the Court held that the Committee had not clearly overruled the claim of privilege and directed an answer.²²⁵

The privilege against self-incrimination is not available as a defense to an organizational officer who refuses to turn over organization documents and records to an investigating committee.²²⁶

In *Hutcheson v. United States*,²²⁷ the Court rejected a challenge to a Senate Committee inquiry into union corruption on the

²²¹ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 112 (1959).

²²² *Id.*, 126; *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 196 (1957); *Quinn v. United States*, 349 U.S. 155, 161 (1955).

²²³ *Quinn v. United States*, 349 U.S. 155 (1955).

²²⁴ *Emspak v. United States*, 349 U.S. 190 (1955).

²²⁵ *Bart v. United States*, 349 U.S. 219 (1955).

²²⁶ *McPhaul v. United States*, 364 U.S. 372 (1960).

²²⁷ 369 U.S. 599 (1962).

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part of a witness who was under indictment in state court on charges relating to the same matters about which the Committee sought to interrogate him. The witness did not plead his privilege against self-incrimination but contended that by questioning him about matters which would aid the state prosecutor the Committee had denied him due process. The plurality opinion of the Court rejected his ground for refusing to answer, noting that if the Committee's public hearings rendered the witness' state trial unfair, then he could properly raise that issue on review of his state conviction.²²⁸ Following behind the privilege against self-incrimination, claims relating to the First Amendment have been frequently asserted and as frequently denied. It is not that the First Amendment is inapplicable to congressional investigations, it is that under the prevailing Court interpretation the First Amendment does not bar all legislative restrictions of the rights guaranteed by it.²²⁹ "[T]he protections of the First Amendment, unlike a proper claim of the privilege against self-incrimination under the Fifth Amendment, do not afford a witness the right to resist inquiry in all circumstances. Where First Amendment rights are asserted to bar governmental interrogation resolution of the issue always involves a balancing by the courts of the competing private and public interests at stake in the particular circumstances shown."²³⁰

Thus, the Court has declined to rule that under the circumstances of the cases investigating committees are precluded from making inquiries simply because the subject area was education²³¹ or because the witnesses at the time they were called were engaged in protected activities such as petitioning Congress

²²⁸ Justice Harlan wrote the opinion of the Court which Justices Clark and Stewart joined. Justice Brennan concurred solely because the witness had not claimed the privilege against self-incrimination but he would have voted to reverse the conviction had there been a claim. Chief Justice Warren and Justice Douglas dissented on due process grounds. Justices Black, Frankfurter, and White did not participate. At the time of the decision, the self-incrimination clause did not restrain the States through the Fourteenth Amendment so that it was no violation of the clause for either the Federal Government or the States to compel testimony which would incriminate the witness in the other jurisdiction. Cf. *United States v. Murdock*, 284 U.S. 141 (1931); *Knapp v. Schweitzer*, 357 U.S. 371 (1958). The Court has since reversed itself, *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1 (1964); *Murphy v. Waterfront Commission*, 378 U.S. 52 (1964), thus leaving the vitality of *Hutcheson* doubtful.

²²⁹ The matter is discussed fully in the section on the First Amendment but a good statement of the balancing rule may be found in *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37, 51 (1971), by Justice Black, supposedly an absolutist on the subject: "Where a statute does not directly abridge free speech, but—while regulating a subject within the State's power—tends to have the incidental effect of inhibiting First Amendment rights, it is well settled that the statute can be upheld if the effect on speech is minor in relation to the need for control of the conduct and the lack of alternative means for doing so."

²³⁰ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 126 (1959).

²³¹ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109 (1959).

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to abolish the inquiring committee.²³² However, in an earlier case, the Court intimated that it was taking a narrow view of the committee's authority because a determination that authority existed would raise a serious First Amendment issue.²³³ And in a state legislative investigating committee case, the majority of the Court held that an inquiry seeking the membership lists of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was so lacking in a "nexus" between the organization and the Communist Party that the inquiry infringed the First Amendment.²³⁴

Dicta in the Court's opinions acknowledge that the Fourth Amendment guarantees against unreasonable searches and seizures are applicable to congressional committees.²³⁵ The issue would most often arise in the context of subpoenas, inasmuch as that procedure is the usual way by which committees obtain documentary material and inasmuch as Fourth Amendment standards apply as well to subpoenas as to search warrants.²³⁶ But there are no cases in which a holding turns on this issue.²³⁷

Other issues of the constitutional rights of witnesses have been raised at various times, but none has been successfully asserted or have even gained substantial minority strength.

Sanctions of the Investigatory Power: Contempt

Explicit judicial recognition of the right of either House of Congress to commit for contempt a witness who ignores its summons or refuses to answer its inquiries dates from *McGrain v. Daugherty*.²³⁸ But the principle there applied had its roots in an early case, *Anderson v. Dunn*,²³⁹ which stated in broad terms the right of either branch of the legislature to attach and punish a person other than a member for contempt of its authority.²⁴⁰ The

²³² *Wilkinson v. United States*, 365 U.S. 399 (1961); *Braden v. United States*, 365 U.S. 431 (1961).

²³³ *United States v. Rumely*, 345 U.S. 41 (1953).

²³⁴ *Gibson v. Florida Legislative Investigation Committee*, 372 U.S. 539 (1963). See also *DeGregory v. Attorney General*, 383 U.S. 825 (1966).

²³⁵ *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 188 (1957).

²³⁶ See *Oklahoma Press Publishing Co. v. Walling*, 327 U.S. 186 (1946), and cases cited.

²³⁷ Cf. *McPhaul v. United States*, 364 U.S. 372 (1960).

²³⁸ 273 U.S. 135 (1927).

²³⁹ 6 Wheat (19 U.S.) 204 (1821).

²⁴⁰ The contempt consisted of an alleged attempt to bribe a Member of the House for his assistance in passing a claims bill. The case was a civil suit brought by Anderson against the Sergeant at Arms of the House for assault and battery and false imprisonment. Cf. *Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168 (1881). The power of a legislative body to punish for contempt one who disrupts legislative business was reaffirmed in *Groppi v. Leslie*, 404 U.S. 496 (1972), but a unanimous Court there held that due process required a legislative body to give a contemnor notice and an

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right to punish a contumacious witness was conceded in *Marshall v. Gordon*,²⁴¹ although the Court there held that the implied power to deal with contempt did not extend to the arrest of a person who published matter defamatory of the House.

The cases emphasize that the power to punish for contempt rests upon the right of self-preservation. That is, in the words of Chief Justice White, “the right to prevent acts which in and of themselves inherently obstruct or prevent the discharge of legislative duty or the refusal to do that which there is inherent legislative power to compel in order that legislative functions may be performed” necessitates the contempt power.²⁴² Thus, in *Jurney v. MacCracken*,²⁴³ the Court turned aside an argument that the Senate had no power to punish a witness who, having been commanded to produce papers, destroyed them after service of the subpoena. The punishment would not be efficacious in obtaining the papers in this particular case, but the power to punish for a past contempt is an appropriate means of vindicating “the established and essential privilege of requiring the production of evidence.”²⁴⁴

Under the rule laid down by *Anderson v. Dunn*,²⁴⁵ imprisonment by one of the Houses of Congress could not extend beyond the adjournment of the body which ordered it. Because of this limitation and because contempt trials before the bar of the House charging were time consuming, in 1857 Congress enacted a statute providing for criminal process in the federal courts with prescribed penalties for contempt of Congress.²⁴⁶

The Supreme Court has held that the purpose of this statute is merely supplementary of the power retained by Congress and all constitutional objections to it were overruled. “We grant that Congress could not divest itself, or either of its Houses, of the essential and inherent power to punish for contempt, in cases to which the power of either House properly extended; but because Congress, by the Act of 1857, sought to aid each of the Houses in the discharge of its constitutional functions, it does not follow that any delegation of the power in each to punish for contempt was involved.”²⁴⁷

opportunity to be heard prior to conviction and sentencing. Although this case dealt with a state legislature, there is no question it would apply to Congress as well.

²⁴¹ 243 U.S. 521 (1917).

²⁴² *Id.*, 542.

²⁴³ 294 U.S. 125 (1935).

²⁴⁴ *Id.*, 150.

²⁴⁵ 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 204 (1821).

²⁴⁶ Act of January 24, 1857, 11 Stat. 155. With only minor modification, this statute is now 2 U.S.C. § 192.

²⁴⁷ *In re Chapman*, 166 U.S. 661, 671–672 (1897).

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Because Congress has invoked the aid of the federal judicial system in protecting itself against contumacious conduct, the consequence, the Court has asserted numerous times, is that the duty has been conferred upon the federal courts to accord a person prosecuted for his statutory offense every safeguard which the law accords in all other federal criminal cases²⁴⁸ and the discussion in previous sections of many reversals of contempt convictions bears witness to the assertion in practice. What constitutional protections ordinarily necessitated by due process requirements, such as notice, right to counsel, confrontation, and the like, prevail in a contempt trial before the bar of one House or the other is an open question.²⁴⁹

It has long been settled that the courts may not intervene directly to restrain the carrying out of an investigation or the manner of an investigation and that a witness who believes the inquiry to be illegal or otherwise invalid in order to raise the issue must place himself in contempt and raise his beliefs as affirmative defenses on his criminal prosecution. This understanding was sharply reinforced when the Court held that the speech-or-debate clause utterly foreclosed judicial interference with the conduct of a congressional investigation, through review of the propriety of subpoenas or otherwise.²⁵⁰ It is only with regard to the trial of contempts that the courts may review the carrying out of congressional investigations and may impose constitutional and other constraints.

SECTION 2. Clause 1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

²⁴⁸ *Sinclair v. United States*, 279 U.S. 263, 296–297 (1929); *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 207 (1957); *Sacher v. United States*, 356 U.S. 576, 577 (1958); *Flaxer v. United States*, 358 U.S. 147, 151 (1958); *Deutch v. United States*, 367 U.S. 456, 471 (1961); *Russell v. United States*, 369 U.S. 749, 755 (1962). Protesting the Court's reversal of several contempt convictions over a period of years, Justice Clark was moved to suggest that "[t]his continued frustration of the Congress in the use of the judicial process to punish those who are contemptuous of its committees indicates to me that the time may have come for Congress to revert to 'its original practice of utilizing the coercive sanction of contempt proceedings at the bar of the House [affected].'" *Id.*, 781; *Watkins, supra*, 225.

²⁴⁹ Cf. *Groppi v. Leslie*, 404 U.S. 496 (1972).

²⁵⁰ *Eastland v. United States Servicemen's Fund*, 421 U.S. 491 (1975).

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTING

A major innovation in constitutional law in recent years has been the development of a requirement that election districts in each State be so structured that each elected representative should represent substantially equal populations.²⁵¹ While this requirement has generally been gleaned from the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment,²⁵² in *Wesberry v. Sanders*,²⁵³ the Court held that “construed in its historical context, the command of Art. 1, §2, that Representatives be chosen ‘by the People of the several States’ means that as nearly as is practicable one man’s vote in a congressional election is to be worth as much as another’s.”²⁵⁴

Court involvement in this issue developed slowly. In our early history, state congressional delegations were generally elected at-large instead of by districts and even when Congress required single-member districting²⁵⁵ and later added a provision for equally populated districts²⁵⁶ the relief sought by voters was action by the House refusing to seat Members-elect selected under systems not in compliance with the federal laws.²⁵⁷ The first series of cases did not reach the Supreme Court, in fact, until the States began redistricting through the 1930 Census, and these were resolved without reaching constitutional issues and indeed without resolving the issue whether such voter complaints were justiciable at all.²⁵⁸ In the late 1940s and the early 1950s, the Court utilized the “political

²⁵¹ The phrase “one person, one vote” which came out of this litigation might well seem to refer to election districts drawn to contain equal numbers of voters rather than equal numbers of persons. But it seems clear from a consideration of all the Court’s opinions and the results of its rulings that the statement in the text accurately reflects the constitutional requirement. The case expressly holding that total population, or the exclusion only of transients, is the standard is *Burns v. Richardson*, 384 U.S. 73 (1966), a legislative apportionment case. Notice that considerable population disparities exist from State to State, as a result of the requirement that each State receive at least one Member and the fact that state lines cannot be crossed in districting. At least under present circumstances, these disparities do not violate the Constitution. *U.S. Department of Commerce v. Montana*, 112 S.Ct. 1415 (1992).

²⁵² *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533 (1964) (legislative apportionment and districting); *Hadley v. Junior College District*, 397 U.S. 50 (1970) (local governmental units).

²⁵³ 376 U.S. 1 (1964). See also *Martin v. Bush*, 376 U.S. 222 (1964).

²⁵⁴ 376 U.S., 7.

²⁵⁵ Act of June 25, 1842, 5 Stat. 491.

²⁵⁶ Act of February 2, 1872, 17 Stat. 28.

²⁵⁷ The House uniformly refused to grant any such relief. 1 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), 310. See L. SCHMECKEBIER, CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT (Washington: 1941), 135–138.

²⁵⁸ *Smiley v. Holm*, 285 U.S. 355 (1932); *Koenig v. Flynn*, 285 U.S. 375 (1932); *Carroll v. Becker*, 285 U.S. 380 (1932); *Wood v. Broom*, 287 U.S. 1 (1932); *Mahan v. Hume*, 287 U.S. 575 (1932).

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question” doctrine to decline to adjudicate districting and apportionment suits, a position changed in *Baker v. Carr*.²⁵⁹

For the Court in *Wesberry*,²⁶⁰ Justice Black argued that a reading of the debates of the Constitutional Convention conclusively demonstrated that the Framers had meant, in using the phrase “by the People,” to guarantee equality of representation in the election of Members of the House of Representatives.²⁶¹ Justice Harlan in dissent argued contrarily that the statements relied on by the majority had uniformly been in the context of the Great Compromise—Senate representation of the States with Members elected by the state legislatures, House representation according to the population of the States, qualified by the guarantee of at least one Member per State and the counting of slaves as three-fifths of persons—and not at all in the context of intrastate districting. Further, he thought the Convention debates clear to the effect that Article I, § 4, had vested exclusive control over state districting practices in Congress and that the Court action overrode a congressional decision not to require equally-populated districts.²⁶²

The most important issue, of course, was how strict a standard of equality the Court would adhere to. At first, the Justices seemed inclined to some form of *de minimis* rule with a requirement that the State present a principled justification for the deviations from equality which any districting plan presented.²⁶³ But in *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*,²⁶⁴ a sharply divided Court announced the rule that a State must make a “good-faith effort to achieve precise mathematical equality.”²⁶⁵ Therefore, “[u]nless population variances among congressional districts are shown to have resulted despite such [good-faith] effort [to achieve precise mathematical equality], the State must justify each variance, no matter how small.”²⁶⁶ The strictness of the test was revealed not only by the phrasing of the test but by the fact that the majority rejected every proffer of a justification which the State had made and which could likely be made. Thus, it was not an adequate justification that deviations resulted from (1) an effort to draw districts to maintain in-

²⁵⁹ 369 U.S. 186 (1962).

²⁶⁰ *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1 (1964).

²⁶¹ *Id.*, 7–18.

²⁶² *Id.*, 20–49.

²⁶³ *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*, 385 U.S. 450 (1967), and *Duddleston v. Grills*, 385 U.S. 455 (1967), relying on the rule set out in *Swann v. Adams*, 385 U.S. 440 (1967), a state legislative case.

²⁶⁴ 394 U.S. 526 (1969). See also *Wells v. Rockefeller*, 394 U.S. 542 (1969).

²⁶⁵ *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*, 394 U.S. 526, 530 (1969).

²⁶⁶ *Id.*, 531.

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tact areas with distinct economic and social interests,²⁶⁷ (2) the requirements of legislative compromise,²⁶⁸ (3) a desire to maintain the integrity of political subdivision lines,²⁶⁹ (4) the exclusion from total population figures of certain military personnel and students not residents of the areas in which they were found,²⁷⁰ (5) an attempt to compensate for population shifts since the last census,²⁷¹ or (6) an effort to achieve geographical compactness.²⁷²

Illustrating the strictness of the standard, the Court upheld a lower court voiding of a Texas congressional districting plan in which the population difference between the most and least populous districts was 19,275 persons and the average deviation from the ideally populated district was 3,421 persons.²⁷³ Adhering to the principle of strict population equality in a subsequent case, the Court refused to find valid a plan simply because the variations were smaller than the estimated census undercount. Rejecting the plan, the difference in population between the most and least populous districts being 3,674 people, in a State in which the average district population was 526,059 people, the Court opined that, given rapid advances in computer technology, it is now “relatively simple to draw contiguous districts of equal population and at the same time . . . further whatever secondary goals the State has.”²⁷⁴

Attacks on partisan gerrymandering have proceeded under equal-protection analysis, and, while the Court has held justiciable claims based on claims of denial of effective representation, the standards are so high neither voters nor minority parties have yet benefitted from the development.²⁷⁵

²⁶⁷ *Id.*, 533. People vote as individuals, Justice Brennan said for the Court, and it is the equality of individual voters that is protected.

²⁶⁸ *Ibid.* Political “practicality” may not interfere with a rule of “practicable” equality.

²⁶⁹ *Id.*, 533–534. The argument is not “legally acceptable.”

²⁷⁰ *Id.*, 534–535. Justice Brennan questioned whether anything less than a total population basis was permissible but noted that the legislature in any event had made no consistent application of the rationale.

²⁷¹ *Id.*, 535. This justification would be acceptable if an attempt to establish shifts with reasonable accuracy had been made.

²⁷² *Id.*, 536. Justifications based upon “the unaesthetic appearance” of the map will not be accepted.

²⁷³ *White v. Weiser*, 412 U.S. 783 (1973). The Court did set aside the district court’s own plan for districting, instructing that court to adhere more closely to the legislature’s own plan insofar as it reflected permissible goals of the legislators, reflecting an ongoing deference in legislatures in this area to the extent possible.

²⁷⁴ *Karcher v. Daggett*, 462 U.S. 725 (1983). Illustrating the point about computer-generated plans containing absolute population equality is *Hastert v. State Board of Elections*, 777 F.Supp. 634 (N.D.Ill. 1991) (three-judge court), in which the court adopted a congressional-districting plan in which 18 of the 20 districts had 571,530 people each and each of the other two had 571,531 people.

²⁷⁵ The principal case was *Davis v. Bandemer*, 478 U.S. 109 (1986), a legislative apportionment case, but no doubt should exist that congressional districting is cov-

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ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

It was the original constitutional scheme to vest the determination of qualifications for electors in congressional elections²⁷⁶ solely in the discretion of the States, save only for the express requirement that the States could prescribe no qualifications other than those provided for voters for the more numerous branch of the legislature.²⁷⁷ This language has never been expressly changed, but the discretion of the States, and not only with regard to the qualifications of congressional electors, has long been circumscribed by express constitutional limitations²⁷⁸ and by judicial decisions.²⁷⁹ Further, beyond the limitation of discretion on the part of the States, Congress has assumed the power, with judicial acquiescence, to legislate itself to provide qualifications at least with regard to some elections.²⁸⁰ Thus, in the Voting Rights Act of 1965,²⁸¹ Congress legislated changes of a limited nature in the literacy laws of some of the States,²⁸² and in the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1970,²⁸³ Congress successfully lowered the minimum voting age in federal elections²⁸⁴ and prescribed residency qualifications for presidential elections,²⁸⁵ the Court striking down an attempt to lower the minimum voting age for all elections.²⁸⁶ These developments greatly limited the discretion granted in Arti-

ered. See *Badham v. Eu*, 694 F.Supp. 664 (N.D.Calif.) (three-judge court) (adjudicating partisan gerrymandering claim as to congressional districts but deciding against plaintiffs on merits), *affd.*, 488 U.S. 1024 (1988); *Pope v. Blue*, 809 F.Supp. 392 (W.D.N.C.) (three-judge court) (same), *affd.*, 113 S.Ct. 650 (1992).

²⁷⁶ The clause refers only to elections to the House of Representatives, of course, and, inasmuch as Senators were originally chosen by state legislatures and presidential electors as the States would provide, it was only with the qualifications for these voters with which the Constitution was originally concerned.

²⁷⁷ *Minor v. Happersett*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 162, 171 (1875); *Breedlove v. Suttles*, 302 U.S. 277, 283 (1937). See 2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 576–585.

²⁷⁸ The Fifteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-sixth Amendments limited the States in the setting of qualifications in terms of race, sex, payment of poll taxes, and age.

²⁷⁹ The Supreme Court's interpretation of the equal protection clause has excluded certain qualifications. E.g., *Carrington v. Rash*, 380 U.S. 89 (1965); *Kramer v. Union Free School District*, 395 U.S. 621 (1969); *City of Phoenix v. Kolodziejski*, 399 U.S. 204 (1970). The excluded qualifications were in regard to all elections.

²⁸⁰ The power has been held to exist under § 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment. *Katzenbach v. Morgan*, 384 U.S. 641 (1966); *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112 (1970); *City of Rome v. United States*, 446 U.S. 156 (1980).

²⁸¹ § 4(e), 79 Stat. 437, 439, 42 U.S.C. § 1973b(e), as amended.

²⁸² Upheld in *Katzenbach v. Morgan*, 384 U.S. 641 (1966).

²⁸³ Titles 2 and 3, 84 Stat. 314, 42 U.S.C. § 1973bb.

²⁸⁴ *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 119–131, 135–144, 239–281 (1970).

²⁸⁵ *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 134, 147–150, 236–239, 285–292 (1970).

²⁸⁶ *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 119–131, 152–213, 293–296 (1970).

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cle I, § 2, cl. 1, and are more fully dealt with subsequently in the treatment of § 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Notwithstanding the vesting of discretion to prescribe voting qualifications in the States, conceptually the right to vote for United States Representatives is derived from the Federal Constitution,²⁸⁷ and Congress has had the power under Article I, § 4, to legislate to protect that right against both official²⁸⁸ and private denial.²⁸⁹

Clause 2. No person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty-five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of the State in which he shall be chosen.

QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS**When the Qualifications Must Be Possessed**

A question much disputed but now seemingly settled is whether a condition of eligibility must exist at the time of the election or whether it is sufficient that eligibility exist when the Member-elect presents himself to take the oath of office. While the language of the clause expressly makes residency in the State a condition at the time of election, it now appears established in congressional practice that the age and citizenship qualifications need only be met when the Member-elect is to be sworn.²⁹⁰ Thus, persons elected to either the House of Representatives or the Senate before attaining the required age or term of citizenship have been admitted as soon as they became qualified.²⁹¹

Exclusivity of Constitutional Qualifications

Congressional Additions.—Writing in THE FEDERALIST with reference to the election of Members of Congress, Hamilton firmly

²⁸⁷“The right to vote for members of the Congress of the United States is not derived merely from the constitution and laws of the state in which they are chosen, but has its foundation in the Constitution of the United States.” Ex parte Yarbrough, 110 U.S. 651, 663 (1884). See also Wiley v. Sinkler, 179 U.S. 58, 62 (1900); Swafford v. Templeton, 185 U.S. 487, 492 (1902); United States v. Classic, 313 U.S. 299, 315, 321 (1941).

²⁸⁸United States v. Mosley, 238 U.S. 383 (1915).

²⁸⁹United States v. Classic, 313 U.S. 299, 315 (1941).

²⁹⁰See S. Rept. No. 904, 74th Congress, 1st sess. (1935), reprinted in 79 CONG. REC. 9651–9653 (1935).

²⁹¹1 A. HINDS' PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), § 418; 79 CONG. REC. 9841–9842 (1935); cf. HINDS' PRECEDENTS, *supra*, § 429.

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stated that “[t]he qualifications of the persons who may . . . be chosen . . . are defined and fixed in the constitution; and are unalterable by the legislature.”²⁹² Until the Civil War, the issue was not raised, the only actions taken by either House conforming to the idea that the qualifications for membership could not be enlarged by statute or practice.²⁹³ But in the passions aroused by the fratricidal conflict, Congress enacted a law requiring its members to take an oath that they had never been disloyal to the National Government.²⁹⁴ Several persons were refused seats by both Houses because of charges of disloyalty,²⁹⁵ and thereafter House practice, and Senate practice as well, was erratic.²⁹⁶ But in *Powell v. McCormack*,²⁹⁷ it was conclusively established that the qualifications listed in cl. 2 are exclusive²⁹⁸ and that Congress could not add to them by excluding Members-elect not meeting the additional qualifications.²⁹⁹

Powell was excluded from the 90th Congress on grounds that he had asserted an unwarranted privilege and immunity from the process of a state court, that he had wrongfully diverted House funds for his own uses, and that he had made false reports on the expenditures of foreign currency.³⁰⁰ The Court determination that

²⁹² No. 60 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 409. See also 2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), §§623–627 (relating to the power of the States to add qualifications).

²⁹³ All the instances appear to be, however, cases in which the contest arose out of a claimed additional state qualification.

²⁹⁴ Act of July 2, 1862, 12 Stat. 502. Note also the disqualification written into §3 of the Fourteenth Amendment.

²⁹⁵ 1 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), §§451, 449, 457.

²⁹⁶ In 1870, the House excluded a Member-elect who had been re-elected after resigning earlier in the same Congress when expulsion proceedings were instituted against him for selling appointments to the Military Academy. *Id.*, §464. A Member-elect was excluded in 1899 because of his practice of polygamy, *id.*, 474–480, but the Senate refused, after adopting a rule requiring a two-thirds vote, to exclude a Member-elect on those grounds. *Id.*, §§481–483. The House twice excluded a socialist Member-elect in the wake of World War I on allegations of disloyalty. 6 C. CANNON’S PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1935), §§56–58. See also S. Rept. No. 1010, 77th Congress 2d sess. (1942), and R. Hupman, *Senate Election, Expulsion and Censure Cases From 1789 to 1960*, S. Doc. No. 71, 87th Congress, 2d sess. (1962), 140 (dealing with the effort to exclude Senator Langer of North Dakota).

²⁹⁷ 395 U.S. 486 (1969). The Court divided eight to one, Justice Stewart dissenting on the ground the case was moot.

²⁹⁸ The Court declined to reach the question whether the Constitution in fact does impose other qualifications. 395 U.S., 520 n. 41 (possibly Article I, §3, cl. 7, disqualifying persons impeached, Article I, §6, cl. 2, incompatible offices, and §3 of the Fourteenth Amendment). It is also possible that the oath provision of Article VI, cl. 3, could be considered a qualification. See *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116, 129–131 (1966).

²⁹⁹ *Id.*, 395 U.S., 550.

³⁰⁰ H. Rept. No. 27, 90th Congress, 1st sess. (1967); *Id.*, 395 U.S., 489–493.

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he had been wrongfully excluded proceeded in the main from the Court's analysis of historical developments, the Convention debates, and textual considerations. This process led the Court to conclude that Congress' power under Article I, § 5 to judge the qualifications of its Members was limited to ascertaining the presence or absence of the standing qualifications prescribed in Article I, § 2, cl. 2, and perhaps in other express provisions of the Constitution.³⁰¹ The conclusion followed because the English parliamentary practice and the colonial legislative practice at the time of the drafting of the Constitution, after some earlier deviations, had settled into a policy that exclusion was a power exercisable only when the Member-elect failed to meet a standing qualifications,³⁰² because in the Constitutional Convention the Framers had defeated provisions allowing Congress by statute either to create property qualifications or to create additional qualifications without limitation,³⁰³ and because both Hamilton and Madison in the *Federalist Papers* and Hamilton in the New York ratifying convention had strongly urged that the Constitution prescribed exclusive qualifications for Members of Congress.³⁰⁴

Further, the Court observed that the early practice of Congress, with many of the Framers serving, was consistently limited to the view that exclusion could be exercised only with regard to a Member-elect failing to meet a qualification expressly prescribed in the Constitution. Not until the Civil War did contrary precedents appear and later practice was mixed.³⁰⁵ Finally, even were the intent of the Framers less clear, said the Court, it would still be compelled to interpret the power to exclude narrowly. "A fundamental principle of our representative democracy is, in Hamilton's words, 'that the people should choose whom they please to govern them' 2 *Elliot's Debates* 257. As Madison pointed out at the Convention, this principle is undermined as much by limiting whom the people can select as by limiting the franchise itself. In apparent agreement with this basic philosophy, the Convention adopted his suggestion limiting the power to expel. To allow essentially that same power to be exercised under the guise of judging qualifications, would be to ignore Madison's warning, borne out in the Wilkes case and some of Congress' own post-Civil War exclusion cases, against 'vesting an improper and dangerous power in the Legislature.' 2 Farrand 249."³⁰⁶ Thus, the Court appears to

³⁰¹ Powell v. McCormack, 395 U.S. 486, 518–547 (1969).

³⁰² Id., 522–531.

³⁰³ Id., 532–539.

³⁰⁴ Id., 539–541.

³⁰⁵ Id., 541–547.

³⁰⁶ Id., 547–548.

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say, to allow the House to exclude Powell on this basis of qualifications of its own choosing would impinge on the interests of his constituents in effective participation in the electoral process, an interest which could be protected by a narrow interpretation of Congressional power.³⁰⁷

The result in the *Powell* case had been foreshadowed earlier when the Court held that the exclusion of a Member-elect by a state legislature because of objections he had uttered to certain national policies constituted a violation of the First Amendment and was void.³⁰⁸ In the course of that decision, the Court denied state legislators the power to look behind the willingness of any legislator to take the oath to support the Constitution of the United States, prescribed by Article VI, cl. 3, to test his sincerity in taking it.³⁰⁹ The unanimous Court noted the views of Madison and Hamilton on the exclusivity of the qualifications set out in the Constitution and alluded to Madison's view that the unfettered discretion of the legislative branch to exclude members could be abused in behalf of political, religious or other orthodoxies.³¹⁰ The First Amendment holding and the holding with regard to testing the sincerity with which the oath of office is taken is no doubt as applicable to the United States Congress as to state legislatures.

State Additions.—However much Congress may have deviated from the principle that the qualifications listed in the Constitution are exclusive when the issue has been congressional enlargement of those qualifications, it has been uniform in rejecting efforts by the States to enlarge the qualifications. Thus, the House in 1807 seated a Member-elect who was challenged as not being in compliance with a state law imposing a twelve-month durational residency requirement in the district, rather than the federal requirement of being an inhabitant of the State at the time of election; the state requirement, the House resolved, was unconstitutional.³¹¹ Similarly, both the House and Senate have seated other Members-elect who did not meet additional state qualifications or

³⁰⁷ The protection of the voters' interest in being represented by the person of their choice is thus analogized to their constitutionally secured right to cast a ballot and have it counted in general elections, *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884), and in primary elections, *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299 (1941), to cast a ballot undiluted in strength because of unequally populated districts, *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1 (1964), and to cast a vote for candidates of their choice unfettered by onerous restrictions on candidate qualification for the ballot. *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23 (1968).

³⁰⁸ *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116 (1966).

³⁰⁹ *Id.*, 129–131, 132, 135.

³¹⁰ *Id.*, 135 n. 13.

³¹¹ 1 A. HINDS' PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), §414.

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who suffered particular state disqualifications on eligibility, such as running for Congress while holding particular state offices.³¹²

Clause 3. [Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons].³¹³ The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut, five, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

APPORTIONMENT OF SEATS IN THE HOUSE**The Census Requirement**

While §2 expressly provides for an enumeration of persons, Congress has repeatedly directed an enumeration not only of the

³¹² *Id.*, §§415–417. The court holdings, predominantly state courts, appear almost uniformly to be that the States may not add to the qualifications. E.g., *Shub v. Simpson*, 196 Md. 177, 76 A. 2d 332, *appeal dismd.* 340 U.S. 881 (1950); *Odegard v. Olson*, 264 Minn. 439, 119 N.W. 2d 717 (1963); *State ex rel. Johnson v. Crane*, 65 Wyo. 189, 197 P. 2d 864 (1948); *Florida ex rel. Davis v. Adams*, 238 So. 2d 415 (Fla. 1970), *stay granted*, 400 U.S. 1203 (1970) (Justice Black in Chambers); *Stack v. Adams*, 315 F. Supp. 1295 (D.C. N.D. Fla. 1970), *interim relief granted*, 400 U.S. 1203 (1970) (Justice Black in Chambers).

³¹³ The part of this clause relating to the mode of apportionment of representatives among the several States, was changed by the Fourteenth Amendment, §2 and as to taxes on incomes without apportionment, by the Sixteenth Amendment.

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free persons in the States, but also of those in the territories, and has required all persons over eighteen years of age to answer an ever-lengthening list of inquiries concerning their personal and economic affairs. This extended scope of the census has received the implied approval of the Supreme Court;³¹⁴ it is one of the methods whereby the national legislature exercises its inherent power to obtain the information necessary for intelligent legislative action. Although taking an enlarged view of its power in making the enumeration of persons called for by this section, Congress has not always complied with its positive mandate to reapportion representatives among the States after the census is taken.³¹⁵ It failed to make such a reapportionment after the census of 1920, being unable to reach agreement for allotting representation without further increasing the size of the House. Ultimately, by the act of June 18, 1929,³¹⁶ it provided that the membership of the House of Representatives should henceforth be restricted to 435 members, to be distributed among the States by the so-called “method of major fractions,” which had been earlier employed in the apportionment of 1911 and which has now been replaced with the “method of equal proportions.” Following the 1990 census, a State that had lost a House seat as a result of the use of this formula sued, alleging a violation of the “one person, one vote” rule. Exhibiting considerable deference to Congress and a stated appreciation of the difficulties in achieving interstate equalities, the Supreme Court upheld the formula and the resultant apportionment.³¹⁷

While requiring the election of Representatives by districts, Congress has left it to the States to define the areas from which members should be chosen. This has occasioned a number of disputes concerning the validity of action taken by the States. In *Ohio ex rel. Davis v. Hildebrant*,³¹⁸ a requirement that a redistricting law be submitted to a popular referendum was challenged and sustained. After the reapportionment made pursuant to the 1930 census, deadlocks between the Governor and legislature in several States produced a series of cases in which the right of the Governor

³¹⁴ *Knox v. Lee* (Legal Tender Cases), 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457, 536 (1871).

³¹⁵ For an extensive history of the subject, see L. SCHMECKEBIER, *CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT* (Washington: 1941).

³¹⁶ 46 Stat. 26, 22, as amended by 55 Stat. 761 (1941), 2 U.S.C. § 2a.

³¹⁷ *U.S. Department of Commerce v. Montana*, 112 S.Ct. 1415 (1992). The practice of the Secretary of Commerce in allocating overseas federal employees and military personnel to the States of last residence was attacked but upheld in *Franklin v. Massachusetts*, 112 S.Ct. 2767 (1992). The mandate of the clause of an enumeration of “their respective numbers” was complied with, it having been the practice since the first enumeration to allocate persons to the place of their “usual residence,” and to construe both this term and the word “inhabitant” broadly to include people temporarily absent.

³¹⁸ 241 U.S. 565 (1916).

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to veto a reapportionment bill was questioned. Contrasting this function with other duties committed to state legislatures by the Constitution, the Court decided that it was legislative in character and subject to gubernatorial veto to the same extent as ordinary legislation under the terms of the state constitution.³¹⁹

Clause 4. When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

Clause 5. The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

SECTION 3. Clause 1. [The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one vote].³²⁰

Clause 2. Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year,³²¹ [and if Vacancies happen by Resignation or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies].³²²

³¹⁹Smiley v. Holm, 285 U.S. 355 (1932); Koenig v. Flynn, 285 U.S. 375 (1932); Carroll v. Becker, 285 U.S. 380 (1932).

³²⁰See Seventeenth Amendment.

³²¹See Seventeenth Amendment.

³²²See Seventeenth Amendment.

Sec. 4—Elections**Cl. 1—Times, Places, and Manner**

Clause 3. No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

Clause 4. The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

Clause 5. The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of the President of the United States.

Clause 6. The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Clause 7. Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States; but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

SECTION 4. Clause 1. The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but Congress may at any time make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Place of chusing Senators.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION PROTECTING ELECTORAL PROCESS

Not until 1842 did Congress undertake to exercise the power to regulate the “times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives.” In that year, it passed a law requiring the election of Representatives by districts.³²³ In subsequent years, Congress expanded on the requirements, successively adding contiguity, compactness, and substantial equality of population to the districting requirements.³²⁴ However, no challenge to the seating of Members-elect selected in violation of these requirements was ever successful,³²⁵ and Congress deleted the standards from the 1929 apportionment act.³²⁶ More success attended a congressional resolution in 1866 of deadlocks in state legislatures over the election of Senators, often resulting in vacancies for months. The act required the two houses of each legislature to meet in joint session on a specified day and to meet every day thereafter until a Senator was selected.³²⁷

The first comprehensive federal statute dealing with elections was adopted in 1870 as a means of enforcing the Fifteenth Amendment’s guarantee against racial discrimination in granting suffrage rights.³²⁸ Under the Enforcement Act of 1870, and subsequent

³²³ 5 Stat. 491 (1842). The requirement was omitted in 1850, 9 Stat. 428, but was adopted again in 1862, 12 Stat. 572.

³²⁴ The 1872 Act, 17 Stat. 28, provided that districts should contain “as nearly as practicable” equal numbers of inhabitants, a provision thereafter retained. In 1901, 31 Stat. 733, a requirement that districts be composed of “compact territory” was added. These provisions were repeated in the next Act, 37 Stat. 13 (1911), there was no apportionment following the 1920 Census, and the permanent 1929 Act omitted the requirements. 46 Stat. 13. Cf. *Wood v. Broom*, 287 U.S. 1 (1932).

³²⁵ The first challenge was made in 1843. The committee appointed to inquire into the matter divided, the majority resolving that Congress had no power to bind the States in regard to their manner of districting, the minority contending to the contrary. H. Rept. No. 60, 28th Congress, 1st sess. (1843). The basis of the majority view was that while Article I, § 4 might give Congress the power to lay off the districts itself, the clause did not authorize Congress to tell the state legislatures how to do it if the legislatures were left the task of drawing the lines. L. SCHMECKEBIER, *CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT* (Washington: 1941), 135–138. This argument would not appear to be maintainable in light of the language in *Ex parte Siebold*, 100 U.S. 371, 383–386 (1880).

³²⁶ 46 Stat. 13 (1929). In 1967, Congress restored the single-member district requirement. 81 Stat. 581, 2 U.S.C. § 2c.

³²⁷ 14 Stat. 243 (1866). Still another such regulation was the congressional specification of a common day for the election of Representatives in all the States. 17 Stat. 28 (1872), 2 U.S.C. § 7.

³²⁸ Article I, § 4, and the Fifteenth Amendment have had quite different applications. The Court insisted that under the latter, while Congress could legislate to protect the suffrage in all elections, it could do so only against state interference based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude, *James v. Bowman*, 190 U.S. 127 (1903); *United States v. Reese*, 92 U.S. 214 (1876), whereas under the former it could legislate against private interference as well for whatever motive but only

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laws, false registration, bribery, voting without legal right, making false returns of votes cast, interference in any manner with officers of election, and the neglect by any such officer of any duty required of him by state or federal law were made federal offenses.³²⁹ Provision was made for the appointment by federal judges of persons to attend at places of registration and at elections with authority to challenge any person proposing to register or vote unlawfully, to witness the counting of votes, and to identify by their signatures the registration of voters and election tally sheets.³³⁰ When the Democratic Party regained control of Congress, these pieces of Reconstruction legislation dealing specifically with elections were repealed,³³¹ but other statutes prohibiting interference with civil rights generally were retained and these were utilized in later years. More recently, Congress has enacted, in 1957, 1960, 1964, 1965, 1968, 1970, 1975, 1980, and 1982, legislation to protect the right to vote in all elections, federal, state, and local, through the assignment of federal registrars and poll watchers, suspension of literacy and other tests, and the broad proscription of intimidation and reprisal, whether with or without state action.³³²

Another chapter was begun in 1907 when Congress passed the Tillman Act, prohibiting national banks and corporations from making contributions in federal elections.³³³ The Corrupt Practices Act, first enacted in 1910 and replaced by another law in 1925, extended federal regulation of campaign contributions and expendi-

in federal elections. *Ex parte Siebold*, 100 U.S. 371 (1880); *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884).

³²⁹ The Enforcement Act of May 31, 1870, 16 Stat. 140; The Force Act of February 28, 1871, 16 Stat. 433; The Ku Klux Klan Act of April 20, 1871, 17 Stat. 13. The text of these and other laws and the history of the enactments and subsequent developments are set out in R. CARR, *FEDERAL PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS: QUEST FOR A SWORD* (Ithaca: 1947).

³³⁰ The constitutionality of sections pertaining to federal elections was sustained in *Ex parte Siebold*, 100 U.S. 371 (1880), and *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884). The legislation pertaining to all elections was struck down as going beyond Congress' power to enforce the Fifteenth Amendment. *United States v. Reese*, 92 U.S. 214 (1876).

³³¹ 28 Stat. 144 (1894).

³³² P.L. 85-315, Part IV, § 131, 71 Stat. 634, 637 (1957); P.L. 86-449, Title III, § 301, Title VI, 601, 74 Stat. 86, 88, 90 (1960); P.L. 88-352, Title I, § 101, 78 Stat. 241 (1964); P.L. 89-110, 79 Stat. 437 (1965); P.L. 90-284, Title I, § 101, 82 Stat. 73 (1968); P.L. 91-285, 84 Stat. 314 (1970); P.L. 94-73, 89 Stat. 400 (1975); P.L. 97-205, 96 Stat. 131 (1982). Most of these statutes are codified in 42 U.S.C. § 1971 *et seq.* The penal statutes are in 18 U.S.C. §§ 241-245.

³³³ Act of January 26, 1907, 34 Stat. 864, now a part of 18 U.S.C. § 610.

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tures in federal elections³³⁴ and other acts have similarly provided other regulations.³³⁵

As we have noted above, although § 2, cl. 1, of this Article vests in the States the responsibility, now limited, to establish voter qualifications for congressional elections, the Court has held that the right to vote for Members of Congress is derived from the Federal Constitution,³³⁶ and that Congress therefore may legislate under this section of the Article to protect the integrity of this right. Congress may protect the right of suffrage against both official and private abridgment.³³⁷ Where a primary election is an integral part of the procedure of choice, the right to vote in that primary election is subject to congressional protection.³³⁸ The right embraces, of course, the opportunity to cast a ballot and to have it counted honestly.³³⁹ Freedom from personal violence and intimidation may be secured.³⁴⁰ The integrity of the process may be safeguarded against a failure to count ballots lawfully cast³⁴¹ or the dilution of their value by the stuffing of the ballot box with fraudulent ballots.³⁴² But the bribery of voters, although within reach of congressional power under other clauses of the Constitution, has been held not to be an interference with the rights guaranteed by this section to other qualified voters.³⁴³

To accomplish the ends under this clause, Congress may adopt the statutes of the States and enforce them by its own sanctions.³⁴⁴ It may punish a state election officer for violating his duty under a state law governing congressional elections.³⁴⁵ It may, in short, utilize its power under this clause, combined with the nec-

³³⁴ Act of February 28, 1925, 43 Stat. 1070, 2 U.S.C. §§ 241–256. Comprehensive regulation is now provided by the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, 86 Stat. 3, and the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1974, 88 Stat. 1263, as amended, 90 Stat. 475, found in titles 2, 5, 18, and 26 of the U.S. Code. See *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1 (1976).

³³⁵ E.g., the Hatch Act, relating principally to federal employees and state and local governmental employees engaged in programs at least partially financed with federal funds, 5 U.S.C. §§ 7324–7327.

³³⁶ *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299, 314–315 (1941), and cases cited.

³³⁷ *Id.*, 315; *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 13 n. 16 (1976).

³³⁸ *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299, 315–321 (1941). The authority of *Newberry v. United States*, 256 U.S. 232 (1921), to the contrary has been vitiated. Cf. *United States v. Wurzbach*, 280 U.S. 396 (1930).

³³⁹ *United States v. Mosley*, 238 U.S. 383 (1915); *United States v. Saylor*, 322 U.S. 385, 387 (1944).

³⁴⁰ *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884).

³⁴¹ *United States v. Mosley*, 238 U.S. 383 (1915).

³⁴² *United States v. Saylor*, 322 U.S. 385 (1944).

³⁴³ *United States v. Bathgate*, 246 U.S. 220 (1918); *United States v. Gradwell*, 243 U.S. 476 (1917).

³⁴⁴ *Ex parte Siebold*, 100 U.S. 371 (1880); *Ex parte Clarke*, 100 U.S. 399 (1880); *United States v. Gale*, 109 U.S. 65 (1883); *In re Coy*, 127 U.S. 731 (1888).

³⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

Sec. 5—Powers and Duties of the House**Judge Elections**

essary-and-proper clause, to regulate the times, places, and manner of electing Members of Congress so as to fully safeguard the integrity of the process; it may not, however, under this clause, provide different qualifications for electors than those provided by the States.³⁴⁶

Clause 2. [The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different Day].

SECTION 5. Clause 1. Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Clause 2. Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Clause 3. Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Clause 4. Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than

³⁴⁶But in *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112 (1970), Justice Black grounded his vote to uphold the age reduction in federal elections and the presidential voting residency provision sections of the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1970 on this clause. *Id.*, 119–135. Four Justices specifically rejected this construction, *id.*, 209–212, 288–292, and the other four implicitly rejected it by relying on totally different sections of the Constitution in coming to the same conclusions as did Justice Black.

Sec. 5—Powers and Duties of the House

Quorum

three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE HOUSES

Power To Judge Elections

Each House, in judging of elections under this clause, acts as a judicial tribunal, with like power to compel attendance of witnesses. In the exercise of its discretion, it may issue a warrant for the arrest of a witness to procure his testimony, without previous subpoena, if there is good reason to believe that otherwise such witness would not be forthcoming.³⁴⁷ It may punish perjury committed in testifying before a notary public upon a contested election.³⁴⁸ The power to judge elections extends to an investigation of expenditures made to influence nominations at a primary election.³⁴⁹ Refusal to permit a person presenting credentials in due form to take the oath of office does not oust the jurisdiction of the Senate to inquire into the legality of the election.³⁵⁰ Nor does such refusal unlawfully deprive the State which elected such person of its equal suffrage in the Senate.³⁵¹

“A Quorum To Do Business”

For many years the view prevailed in the House of Representatives that it was necessary for a majority of the members to vote on any proposition submitted to the House in order to satisfy the constitutional requirement for a quorum. It was a common practice for the opposition to break a quorum by refusing to vote. This was changed in 1890, by a ruling made by Speaker Reed, and later embodied in Rule XV of the House, that members present in the chamber but not voting would be counted in determining the presence of a quorum.³⁵² The Supreme Court upheld this rule in *United States v. Ballin*,³⁵³ saying that the capacity of the House to transact business is “created by the mere presence of a majority,” and that since the Constitution does not prescribe any method for de-

³⁴⁷ *Barry v. United States ex rel. Cunningham*, 279 U.S. 597, 616 (1929).

³⁴⁸ *In re Loney*, 134 U.S. 372 (1890).

³⁴⁹ 6 C. CANNON'S PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1936), §§ 72–74, 180. Cf. *Newberry v. United States*, 256 U.S. 232, 258 (1921).

³⁵⁰ *Barry v. United States ex rel. Cunningham*, 279 U.S. 597, 614 (1929).

³⁵¹ *Id.*, 615. The existence of this power in both houses of Congress does not prevent a State from conducting a recount of ballots cast in such an election any more than it prevents the initial counting by a State. *Roudebush v. Hartke*, 405 U.S. 15 (1972).

³⁵² A. HINDS' PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), §§ 2895–2905.

³⁵³ 144 U.S. 1 (1892).

Sec. 5—Powers and Duties of the House

Rules of Proceedings

termining the presence of such majority “it is therefore within the competency of the House to prescribe any method which shall be reasonably certain to ascertain the fact.”³⁵⁴The rules of the Senate provide for the ascertainment of a quorum only by a roll call,³⁵⁵ but in a few cases it has held that if a quorum is present, a proposition can be determined by the vote of a lesser number of members.³⁵⁶

Rules of Proceedings

In the exercise of their constitutional power to determine their rules of proceedings, the Houses of Congress may not “ignore constitutional restraints or violate fundamental rights, and there should be a reasonable relation between the mode or method of proceeding established by the rule and the result which is sought to be attained. But within these limitations all matters of method are open to the determination of the House . . . The power to make rules is not one which once exercised is exhausted. It is a continuous power, always subject to be exercised by the House, and within the limitations suggested, absolute and beyond the challenge of any other body or tribunal.”³⁵⁷Where a rule affects private rights, the construction thereof becomes a judicial question. In *United States v. Smith*,³⁵⁸ the Court held that the Senate’s attempt to reconsider its confirmation of a person nominated by the President as Chairman of the Federal Power Commission was not warranted by its rules and did not deprive the appointee of his title to the office. In *Christoffel v. United States*,³⁵⁹ a sharply divided Court upset a conviction for perjury in the district courts of one who had denied under oath before a House committee any affiliation with Communism. The reversal was based on the ground that inasmuch as a quorum of the committee, while present at the outset, was not present at the time of the alleged perjury, testimony before it was not before a “competent tribunal” within the sense of the District of Columbia Code.³⁶⁰ Four Justices, speaking by Justice Jackson, dissented, arguing that under the rules and practices of the House, “a quorum once established is presumed to continue unless and

³⁵⁴ *Id.*, 5–6.

³⁵⁵ Rule V.

³⁵⁶ 4 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), §§ 2910–2915; 6 C. CANNON’S PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1936), §§ 645, 646.

³⁵⁷ *United States v. Ballin*, 144 U.S. 1, 5 (1892). The Senate is “a continuing body.” *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273 U.S. 135, 181–182 (1927). Hence its rules remain in force from Congress to Congress except as they are changed from time to time, whereas those of the House are readopted at the outset of each new Congress.

³⁵⁸ 286 U.S. 6 (1932).

³⁵⁹ 338 U.S. 84 (1949).

³⁶⁰ *Id.*, 87–90.

Sec. 5—Powers and Duties of the House**Power Over Members**

until a point of no quorum is raised” and that the Court, was in effect, invalidating this rule, thereby invalidating at the same time the rule of self-limitation observed by courts “where such an issue is tendered.”³⁶¹

Powers of the Houses Over Members

Congress has authority to make it an offense against the United States for a Member, during his continuance in office, to receive compensation for services before a government department in relation to proceedings in which the United States is interested. Such a statute does not interfere with the legitimate authority of the Senate or House over its own Members.³⁶²In upholding the power of the Senate to investigate charges that some Senators had been speculating in sugar stocks during the consideration of a tariff bill, the Supreme Court asserted that “the right to expel extends to all cases where the offence is such as in the judgment of the Senate is inconsistent with the trust and duty of a Member.”³⁶³It cited with apparent approval the action of the Senate in expelling William Blount in 1797 for attempting to seduce from his duty an American agent among the Indians and for negotiating for services in behalf of the British Government among the Indians—conduct which was not a “statutable offense” and which was not committed in his official character, nor during the session of Congress nor at the seat of government.³⁶⁴

In *Powell v. McCormack*,³⁶⁵ a suit challenging the exclusion of a Member-elect from the House of Representatives, it was argued that inasmuch as the vote to exclude was actually in excess of two-thirds of the Members it should be treated simply as an expulsion. The Court rejected the argument, noting that the House precedents were to the effect that it had no power to expel for misconduct occurring prior to the Congress in which the expulsion is proposed, as was the case of Mr. Powell’s alleged misconduct, but basing its rejection on its inability to conclude that if the Members of the House had been voting to expel they would still have cast an affirmative vote in excess of two-thirds.³⁶⁶

³⁶¹ *Id.*, 92–95.

³⁶² *Burton v. United States*, 202 U.S. 344 (1906).

³⁶³ *In re Chapman*, 166 U.S. 661 (1897).

³⁶⁴ *Id.*, 669–670. See 2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), §836.

³⁶⁵ 395 U.S. 486 (1969).

³⁶⁶ *Id.*, 506–512.

Cl. 2—Disabilities

Journal

Duty To Keep a Journal

The object of the clause requiring the keeping of a Journal is “to insure publicity to the proceedings of the legislature, and a correspondent responsibility of the members to their respective constituents.”³⁶⁷When the Journal of either House is put in evidence for the purpose of determining whether the yeas and nays were ordered, and what the vote was on any particular question, the Journal must be presumed to show the truth, and a statement therein that a quorum was present, though not disclosed by the yeas and nays, is final.³⁶⁸But when an enrolled bill, which has been signed by the Speaker of the House and by the President of the Senate, in open session receives the approval of the President and is deposited in the Department of State, its authentication as a bill that has passed Congress is complete and unimpeachable, and it is not competent to show from the Journals of either House that an act so authenticated, approved, and deposited, in fact omitted one section actually passed by both Houses of Congress.³⁶⁹

SECTION 6. Clause 1. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

Clause 2. No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office

³⁶⁷2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), § 840, quoted with approval in *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649, 670 (1892).

³⁶⁸*United States v. Ballin*, 144 U.S. 1, 4 (1892).

³⁶⁹*Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649 (1892); *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*, 220 U.S. 107, 143 (1911). See the dispute in the Court with regard to the application of *Field* in an origination clause dispute. *United States v. Munoz-Flores*, 495 U.S. 385, 391 n. 4 (1990), and *id.*, 408 (Justice Scalia concurring in the judgment). A parallel rule holds in the case of a duly authenticated official notice to the Secretary of State that a state legislature has ratified a proposed amendment to the Constitution. *Leser v. Garnett*, 258 U.S. 130, 137 (1922); see also *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433 (1939).

Cl. 2—Disabilities

Compensation, Privileges

under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

COMPENSATION, IMMUNITIES AND DISABILITIES OF MEMBERS

Congressional Pay

With the surprise ratification of the Twenty-Seventh Amendment,³⁷⁰ it is now the rule that congressional legislation “varying”—note that the Amendment applies to decreases as well as increases—the level of legislators’ pay may not take effect until an intervening election has occurred. The only real controversy likely to arise in the interpretation of the new rule is whether pay increases that result from automatic alterations in pay are subject to the same requirement or whether it is only the initial enactment of the automatic device that is covered.

That is, from the founding to 1967, congressional pay was determined directly by Congress in specific legislation setting specific rates of pay. In 1967, a law was passed that created a quadrennial commission with the responsibility to propose to the President salary levels for top officials of the Government, including Members of Congress.³⁷¹ In 1975, Congress legislated to bring Members of Congress within a separate commission system authorizing the President to recommend annual increases for civil servants to maintain pay comparability with private-sector employees.³⁷² These devices were attacked by dissenting Members of Congress as violating the mandate of clause 1 that compensation be “ascertained by Law[.]” However, these challenges were rejected.³⁷³ Thereafter, prior to ratification of the Amendment, Congress in the Ethics Reform Act of 1989,³⁷⁴ altered both the pay-increase and the cost-of-living-increase provisions of law, making quadrennial pay increases effective only after an intervening con-

³⁷⁰ See *infra*.

³⁷¹ P. L. 90–206, § 225, 81 Stat. 642 (1967), as amended, P. L. 95–19, § 401, 91 Stat. 45 (1977), as amended, P. L. 99–190, § 135(e), 99 Stat. 1322 (1985).

³⁷² P. L. 94–82, § 204(a), 89 Stat. 421.

³⁷³ *Pressler v. Simon*, 428 F.Supp. 302 (D.D.C. 1976) (three-judge court), *affd. summarily*, 434 U.S. 1028 (1978); *Humphrey v. Baker*, 848 F.2d 211 (D.C.Cir.), *cert. den.* 488 U.S. 966 (1988).

³⁷⁴ P.L. 101–194, 103 Stat. 1716, 2 U.S.C. § 31(2), 5 U.S.C. § 5318 note, and 2 U.S.C. §§ 351–363.

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gressional election and making cost-of-living increases dependent upon a specific congressional vote. Litigation of the effect of the Amendment is on-going.³⁷⁵

Privilege From Arrest

This clause is practically obsolete. It applies only to arrests in civil suits, which were still common in this country at the time the Constitution was adopted.³⁷⁶ It does not apply to service of process in either civil³⁷⁷ or criminal cases.³⁷⁸ Nor does it apply to arrest in any criminal case. The phrase “treason, felony or breach of the peace” is interpreted to withdraw all criminal offenses from the operation of the privilege.³⁷⁹

Privilege of Speech or Debate

Members.—This clause represents “the culmination of a long struggle for parliamentary supremacy. Behind these simple phrases lies a history of conflict between the Commons and the Tudor and Stuart monarchs during which successive monarchs utilized the criminal and civil law to suppress and intimidate critical legislators. Since the Glorious Revolution in Britain, and throughout United States history, the privilege has been recognized as an important protection of the independence and integrity of the legislature.”³⁸⁰ So Justice Harlan explained the significance of the speech-and-debate clause, the ancestry of which traces back to a clause in the English Bill of Rights of 1689³⁸¹ and the history of which traces back almost to the beginning of the development of Parliament as an independent force.³⁸² “In the American governmental structure the clause serves the additional function of reinforcing the separation of powers so deliberately established by the Founders.”³⁸³ “The immunities of the Speech or Debate Clause were not written into the Constitution simply for the personal or private benefit of Members of Congress, but to protect the integrity

³⁷⁵ *Boehner v. Anderson*, 809 F.Supp. 138 (D.D.C. 1992) (holding Amendment has no effect on present statutory mechanism).

³⁷⁶ *Long v. Ansell*, 293 U.S. 76 (1934).

³⁷⁷ *Id.*, 83.

³⁷⁸ *United States v. Cooper*, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 341 (C.C. Pa. 1800).

³⁷⁹ *Williamson v. United States*, 207 U.S. 425, 446 (1908).

³⁸⁰ *United States v. Johnson*, 383 U.S. 169, 178 (1966).

³⁸¹ “That the Freedom of Speech, and Debates or Proceedings in Parliament, ought not to be impeached or questioned in any Court or Place out of Parliament.” 1 W. & M., Sess. 2, c. 2.

³⁸² *United States v. Johnson*, 383 U.S. 169, 177–179, 180–183 (1966); *Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486, 502 (1969).

³⁸³ *United States v. Johnson*, 383 U.S. 169, 178 (1966).

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of the legislative process by insuring the independence of individual legislators.”³⁸⁴

The protection of this clause is not limited to words spoken in debate. “Committee reports, resolutions, and the act of voting are equally covered, as are ‘things generally done in a session of the House by one of its members in relation to the business before it.’”³⁸⁵ Thus, so long as legislators are “acting in the sphere of legitimate legislative activity,” they are “protected not only from the consequence of litigation’s results but also from the burden of defending themselves.”³⁸⁶ But the scope of the meaning of “legislative activity” has its limits. “The heart of the clause is speech or debate in either House, and insofar as the clause is construed to reach other matters, they must be an integral part of the deliberative and communicative processes by which Members participate in committee and House proceedings with respect to the consideration and passage or rejection of proposed legislation or with respect to other matters which the Constitution places within the jurisdiction of either House.”³⁸⁷ Immunity from civil suit, both in law and equity, and from criminal action based on the performance of legislative duties flows from a determination that a challenged act is within the definition of legislative activity, but the Court in the more recent cases appears to have narrowed the concept somewhat.

In *Kilbourn v. Thompson*,³⁸⁸ Members of the House of Representatives were held immune in a suit for false imprisonment brought about by a vote of the Members on a resolution charging contempt of one of its committees and under which the plaintiff was arrested and detained, even though the Court found that the contempt was wrongly voted. *Kilbourn* was relied on in *Powell v. McCormack*,³⁸⁹ in which the plaintiff was not allowed to maintain

³⁸⁴ *United States v. Brewster*, 408 U.S. 501, 507 (1972). This rationale was approvingly quoted from *Coffin v. Coffin*, 4 Mass. 1, 28 (1808), in *Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168, 203 (1881).

³⁸⁵ *Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486, 502 (1969), quoting *Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168, 204 (1881).

³⁸⁶ *Tenney v. Brandhove*, 341 U.S. 367, 376–377 (1972); *Dombrowski v. Eastland*, 387 U.S. 82, 85 (1967); *Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486, 505 (1969); *Eastland v. United States Servicemen’s Fund*, 421 U.S. 491, 503 (1975).

³⁸⁷ *Gravel v. United States*, 408 U.S. 606, 625 (1972). The critical nature of the clause is shown by the holding in *Davis v. Passman*, 442 U.S. 228, 235 n. 11 (1979), that when a Member is sued under the Fifth Amendment for employment discrimination on the basis of gender, only the clause could shield such an employment decision, and not the separation of powers doctrine or emanations from it. Whether the clause would be a shield the Court had no occasion to decide and the case was settled on remand without a decision being reached.

³⁸⁸ 103 U.S. 168 (1881). But see *Gravel v. United States*, 408 U.S. 606, 618–619 (1972).

³⁸⁹ 395 U.S. 486 (1969). The Court found sufficient the presence of other defendants to enable it to review *Powell’s* exclusion but reserved the question whether in

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an action for declaratory judgment against certain Members of the House of Representatives to challenge his exclusion by a vote of the entire House. Because the power of inquiry is so vital to performance of the legislative function, the Court held that the clause precluded suit against the Chairman and Members of a Senate subcommittee and staff personnel, to enjoin enforcement of a subpoena directed to a third party, a bank, to obtain the financial records of the suing organization. The investigation was a proper exercise of Congress' power of inquiry, the subpoena was a legitimate part of the inquiry, and the clause therefore was an absolute bar to judicial review of the subcommittee's actions prior to the possible institution of contempt actions in the courts.³⁹⁰ And in *Dombrowski v. Eastland*,³⁹¹ the Court affirmed the dismissal of an action against the chairman of a Senate committee brought on allegations that he wrongfully conspired with state officials to violate the civil rights of plaintiff.

Through an inquiry into the nature of the "legislative acts" performed by Members and staff, the Court held that the clause did not defeat a suit to enjoin the public dissemination of legislative materials outside the halls of Congress.³⁹² A committee had conducted an authorized investigation into conditions in the schools of the District of Columbia and had issued a report that the House of Representatives routinely ordered printed. In the report, named students were dealt with in an allegedly defamatory manner, and their parents sued various committee Members and staff and other personnel, including the Superintendent of Documents and the Public Printer, seeking to restrain further publication, dissemination, and distribution of the report until the objectionable material was deleted and also seeking damages. The Court held that the Members of Congress and the staff employees had been properly dismissed from the suit, inasmuch as their actions—conducting the hearings, preparing the report, and authorizing its publication—were protected by the clause. The Superintendent of Documents and the Public Printer were held, however, to have been properly named, because, as congressional employees, they had no broader immunity than Members of Congress would have. At this point, the Court distinguished between those legislative acts, such as voting,

the absence of someone the clause would still preclude suit. *Id.*, 506 n. 26. See also *Kilbourn v. Thompson*, 103 U.S. 168, 204 (1881).

³⁹⁰ *Eastland v. United States Servicemen's Fund*, 421 U.S. 491 (1975).

³⁹¹ 387 U.S. 82 (1967). But see the reinterpretation of this case in *Gravel v. United States*, 408 U.S. 606, 619–620 (1972). And see *McSurely v. McClellan*, 553 F. 2d 1277 (D.C.Cir. 1976) (*en banc*), *cert. dismd. as improvidently granted, sub nom. McAdams v. McSurely*, 438 U.S. 189 (1978).

³⁹² *Doe v. McMillan*, 412 U.S. 306 (1973).

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speaking on the floor or in committee, issuing reports, which are within the protection of the clause, and those acts which enjoy no such protection. Public dissemination of materials outside the halls of Congress is not protected, the Court held, because it is unnecessary to the performance of official legislative actions. Dissemination of the report within the body was protected, whereas dissemination in normal channels outside it was not.³⁹³

Bifurcation of the legislative process in this way resulted in holding unprotected the republication by a Member of allegedly defamatory remarks outside the legislative body, here through newsletters and press releases.³⁹⁴ The clause protects more than speech or debate in either House, the Court affirmed, but in order for the other matters to be covered “they must be an integral part of the deliberative and communicative processes by which Members participate in committee and House proceedings with respect to the consideration and passage or rejection of proposed legislation or with respect to other matters which the Constitution places within the jurisdiction of either House.”³⁹⁵ Press releases and newsletters are “[v]aluable and desirable” in “inform[ing] the public and other Members” but neither are essential to the deliberations of the legislative body nor part of the deliberative process.³⁹⁶

Parallel developments may be discerned with respect to the application of a general criminal statute to call into question the legislative conduct and motivation of a Member. Thus, in *United States v. Johnson*,³⁹⁷ the Court voided the conviction of a Member for conspiracy to impair lawful governmental functions, in the course of seeking to divert a governmental inquiry into alleged wrongdoing, by accepting a bribe to make a speech on the floor of the House

³⁹³ Difficulty attends an assessment of the effect of the decision, inasmuch as the Justices in the majority adopted mutually inconsistent stands, *id.*, 325 (concurring opinion), and four Justices dissented. *Id.*, 331, 332, 338. The case leaves unresolved as well the propriety of injunctive relief. Compare *id.*, 330 (Justice Douglas concurring), with *id.*, 343–345 (three dissenters arguing that separation of powers doctrine forbade injunctive relief). Also compare *Davis v. Passman*, 442 U.S. 228, 245, 246 n. 24 (1979), with *id.*, 250–251 (Chief Justice Burger dissenting).

³⁹⁴ *Hutchinson v. Proxmire*, 441 U.S. 111 (1979).

³⁹⁵ *Id.*, 126, quoting *Gravel v. United States*, 408 U.S. 606, 625 (1972).

³⁹⁶ *Hutchinson v. Proxmire*, 443 U.S. 111, 130, 132–133 (1979). The Court distinguished between the more important “informing” function of Congress, *i.e.*, its efforts to inform itself in order to exercise its legislative powers, and the less important “informing” function of acquainting the public about its activities. The latter function the Court did not find an integral part of the legislative process. See also *Doe v. McMillan*, 412 U.S. 306, 314–317 (1973). But compare *id.*, 325 (concurring). For consideration of the “informing” function in its different guises in the context of legislative investigations, see *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 200 (1957); *United States v. Rumely*, 345 U.S. 41, 43 (1953); *Russell v. United States*, 369 U.S. 749, 777–778 (1962) (Justice Douglas dissenting).

³⁹⁷ 383 U.S. 169 (1966).

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of Representatives. The speech was charged as part of the conspiracy and extensive evidence concerning it was introduced at a trial. It was this examination into the context of the speech—its authorship, motivation, and content—which the Court found foreclosed by the speech-or-debate clause.³⁹⁸

However, in *United States v. Brewster*,³⁹⁹ while continuing to assert that the clause “must be read broadly to effectuate its purpose of protecting the independence of the Legislative branch,”⁴⁰⁰ the Court substantially reduced the scope of the coverage of the clause. In upholding the validity of an indictment of a Member, which charged that he accepted a bribe to be “influenced in his performance of official acts in respect to his action, vote, and decision” on legislation, the Court drew a distinction between a prosecution that caused an inquiry into legislative acts or the motivation for performance of such acts and a prosecution for taking or agreeing to take money for a promise to act in a certain way. The former is proscribed, the latter is not. “Taking a bribe is, obviously, no part of the legislative process or function; it is not a legislative act. It is not, by any conceivable interpretation, an act performed as a part of or even incidental to the role of a legislator . . . Nor is inquiry into a legislative act or the motivation for a legislative act necessary to a prosecution under this statute or this indictment. When a bribe is taken, it does not matter whether the promise for which the bribe was given was for the performance of a legislative act as here or, as in *Johnson*, for use of a Congressman’s influence with the Executive Branch.”⁴⁰¹ In other words, it is the fact of having taken a bribe, not the act the bribe is intended to influence, which is the subject of the prosecution and the speech-or-debate clause interposes no obstacle to this type of prosecution.⁴⁰²

³⁹⁸ Reserved was the question whether a prosecution that entailed inquiry into legislative acts or motivation could be founded upon “a narrowly drawn statute passed by Congress in the exercise of its legislative power to regulate the conduct of its members.” *Id.*, 185. The question was similarly reserved in *United States v. Brewster*, 408 U.S. 501, 529 n. 18 (1972), although Justices Brennan and Douglas would have answered negatively. *Id.*, 529, 540.

³⁹⁹ 408 U.S. 501 (1972).

⁴⁰⁰ *Id.*, 516.

⁴⁰¹ *Id.*, 526.

⁴⁰² The holding was reaffirmed in *United States v. Helstoski*, 442 U.S. 477 (1979). On the other hand, the Court did hold that the protection of the clause is so fundamental that, assuming a Member may waive it, a waiver could be found only after explicit and unequivocal renunciation, rather than by failure to assert it at any particular point. Similarly, *Helstoski v. Meanor*, 442 U.S. 500 (1979), held that since the clause properly applied is intended to protect a Member from even having to defend himself he may appeal immediately from a judicial ruling of nonapplicability rather than wait to appeal after conviction.

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Applying in the criminal context the distinction developed in the civil cases between protected “legislative activity” and unprotected conduct prior to or subsequent to engaging in “legislative activity,” the Court in *Gravel v. United States*,⁴⁰³ held that a grand jury could validly inquire into the processes by which the Member obtained classified government documents and into the arrangements for subsequent private republication of these documents, since neither action involved protected conduct. “While the Speech or Debate Clause recognizes speech, voting and other legislative acts as exempt from liability that might otherwise attach, it does not privilege either Senator or aide to violate an otherwise valid criminal law in preparing for or implementing legislative acts.”⁴⁰⁴

Congressional Employees.—Until the most recent decision, it was seemingly the basis of the decisions that while Members of Congress may be immune from suit arising out of their legislative activities, legislative employees who participate in the same activities under the direction of the Member or otherwise are responsible for their acts if those acts be wrongful.⁴⁰⁵ Thus, in *Kilbourn v. Thompson*,⁴⁰⁶ the sergeant at arms of the House was held liable for false imprisonment because he executed the resolution ordering Kilbourn arrested and imprisoned. *Dombrowski v. Eastland*⁴⁰⁷ held that a subcommittee counsel might be liable in damages for actions as to which the chairman of the committee was immune from suit. And in *Powell v. McCormack*,⁴⁰⁸ the Court held that the presence of House of Representative employees as defendants in a suit for declaratory judgment gave the federal courts jurisdiction to review the propriety of the plaintiff’s exclusion from office by vote of the House. Upon full consideration of the question, however, the Court, in *Gravel v. United States*,⁴⁰⁹ accepted a series of contentions urged upon it not only by the individual Senator but by the Senate itself appearing by counsel *as amicus*: “that it is literally impossible, in view of the complexities of the modern legislative process, with

⁴⁰³ 408 U.S. 606 (1972).

⁴⁰⁴ *Id.*, 626.

⁴⁰⁵ Language in some of the Court’s earlier opinions had indicated that the privilege “is less absolute, although applicable,” when a legislative aide is sued, without elaboration of what was meant. *Dombrowski v. Eastland*, 387 U.S. 82, 85 (1967); *Tenney v. Brandhove*, 341 U.S. 367, 378 (1951). In *Wheeldin v. Wheeler*, 373 U.S. 647 (1963), the Court had imposed substantial obstacles to the possibility of recovery in appropriate situations by holding that a federal cause of action was lacking and remitting litigants to state courts and state law grounds. The case is probably no longer viable, however, after *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of the Bureau of Narcotics*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).

⁴⁰⁶ 103 U.S. 168 (1881).

⁴⁰⁷ 387 U.S. 82 (1967).

⁴⁰⁸ 395 U.S. 486 (1969).

⁴⁰⁹ 408 U.S. 606 (1972).

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Congress almost constantly in session and matters of legislative concern constantly proliferating, for Members of Congress to perform their legislative tasks without the help of aides and assistants; that the day-to-day work of such aides is so critical to the Members' performance that they must be treated as the latter's alter ego; and that if they are not so recognized, the central role of the Speech or Debate clause . . . will inevitably be diminished and frustrated."⁴¹⁰ Therefore, the Court held "that the Speech or Debate Clause applies not only to a Member but also to his aides insofar as the conduct of the latter would be a protected legislative act if performed by the Member himself."⁴¹¹

The *Gravel* holding, however, does not so much extend congressional immunity to employees as it narrows the actual immunity available to both aides and Members in some important respects. Thus, the Court says, the legislators in *Kilbourn* were immune because adoption of the resolution was clearly a legislative act but the execution of the resolution—the arrest and detention—was not a legislative act immune from liability, so that the House officer was in fact liable as would have been any Member who had executed it.⁴¹² *Dombrowski* was interpreted as having held that no evidence implicated the Senator involved, whereas the committee counsel had been accused of "conspiring to violate the constitutional rights of private parties. Unlawful conduct of this kind the Speech or Debate Clause simply did not immunize."⁴¹³ And *Powell* was interpreted as simply holding that voting to exclude plaintiff, which was all the House defendants had done, was a legislative act immune from Member liability but not from judicial inquiry. "None of these three cases adopted the simple proposition that immunity was unavailable to House or committee employees because they were not Representatives; rather, immunity was unavailable because they engaged in illegal conduct which was not entitled to Speech or Debate Clause protection. . . . [N]o prior case has held that Members of Congress would be immune if they execute an invalid resolution by themselves carrying out an illegal arrest, or if, in order to secure information for a hearing, themselves seize the property or invade the privacy of a citizen. Neither they nor their aides should be immune from liability or questioning in such circumstances."⁴¹⁴

⁴¹⁰ Id., 616–617.

⁴¹¹ Id., 618.

⁴¹² Id., 618–619.

⁴¹³ Id., 619–620.

⁴¹⁴ Id., 620–621.

Appointment to Executive Office

“The reasons for excluding persons from offices, who have been concerned in creating them, or increasing their emoluments, are to take away, as far as possible, any improper bias in the vote of the representative, and to secure to the constituents some solemn pledge of his disinterestedness. The actual provision, however, does not go to the extent of the principle; for his appointment is restricted only ‘during the time, for which he was elected’; thus leaving in full force every influence upon his mind, if the period of his election is short, or the duration of it is approaching its natural termination.”⁴¹⁵As might be expected, there is no judicial interpretation of the language of the clause and indeed it has seldom surfaced as an issue.

In 1909, after having increased the salary of the Secretary of State,⁴¹⁶ Congress reduced it to the former figure so that a Member of the Senate at the time the increase was voted would be eligible for that office.⁴¹⁷The clause became a subject of discussion in 1937, when Justice Black was appointed to the Court, because Congress had recently increased the amount of pension available to Justices retiring at seventy and Mr. Black’s Senate term had still some time to run. The appointment was defended, however, with the argument that inasmuch as Mr. Black was only fifty-one years of age at the time, he would be ineligible for the “increased emolument” for nineteen years and it was not as to him an increased emolument.⁴¹⁸In 1969, it was briefly questioned whether a Member of the House of Representatives could be appointed Secretary of Defense because, under a salary bill enacted in the previous Congress, the President would propose a salary increase, including that of cabinet officers, early in the new Congress which would take effect if Congress did not disapprove it. The Attorney General ruled that inasmuch as the clause would not apply if the increase were proposed and approved subsequent to the appointment, it

⁴¹⁵2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), §864.

⁴¹⁶34 Stat. 948 (1907).

⁴¹⁷35 Stat. 626 (1909). Congress followed this precedent when the President wished to appoint a Senator as Attorney General and the salary had been increased pursuant to a process under which Congress did not need to vote to approve but could vote to disapprove. The salary was temporarily reduced to its previous level. 87 Stat. 697 (1975). See also 89 Stat. 1108 (1975) (reducing the salary of a member of the Federal Maritime Commission in order to qualify a Representative).

⁴¹⁸The matter gave rise to a case, *Ex parte Albert Levitt*, 302 U.S. 633 (1937), in which the Court declined to pass upon the validity of Justice Black’s appointment. The Court denied the complainant standing, but strangely it did not advert to the fact that it was being asked to assume original jurisdiction contrary to *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803).

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similarly would not apply in a situation in which it was uncertain whether the increase would be approved.⁴¹⁹

Incompatible Offices

This second part of the second clause elicited little discussion at the Convention and was universally understood to be a safeguard against executive influence on Members of Congress and the prevention of the corruption of the separation of powers.⁴²⁰ Congress has at various times confronted the issue in regard to seating or expelling persons who have or obtain office in another branch. Thus, it has determined that visitors to academies, regents, directors, and trustees of public institutions, and members of temporary commissions who receive no compensation as members are not officers within the constitutional inhibition.⁴²¹ Government contractors and federal officers who resign before presenting their credentials may be seated as Members of Congress.⁴²²

One of the more recurrent problems which Congress has had with this clause is the compatibility of congressional office with service as an officer of some military organization—militia, reserves, and the like.⁴²³ Members have been unseated for accepting appointment to military office during their terms of congressional office,⁴²⁴ but there are apparently no instances in which a Member-elect has been excluded for this reason. Because of the difficulty of successfully claiming standing, the issue has never been a litigatable matter.⁴²⁵

SECTION 7. Clause 1. All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Clause 2. Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law,

⁴¹⁹ 42 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 36 (January 3, 1969).

⁴²⁰ THE FEDERALIST, No. 76 (Hamilton) (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 514; 2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), §§ 866–869.

⁴²¹ 1 A. HINDS' PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), § 493; 6 C. CANNON'S PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1936), §§ 63–64.

⁴²² HINDS', *supra*, §§ 496–499.

⁴²³ Cf. *Right of a Representative in Congress To Hold Commission in National Guard*, H. Rept. No. 885, 64th Congress, 1st sess. (1916).

⁴²⁴ HINDS', *supra*, §§ 486–492, 494; CANNON'S, *supra*, §§ 60–62.

⁴²⁵ An effort to sustain standing was rebuffed in *Schlesinger v. Reservists Committee to Stop the War*, 418 U.S. 208 (1974).

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

Clause 3. Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitation prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**Revenue Bills**

Insertion of this clause was another of the devices sanctioned by the Framers to preserve and enforce the separation of pow-

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ers.⁴²⁶ It applies, in the context of the permissibility of Senate amendments to a House-passed bill, to all bills for collecting revenue—revenue decreasing as well as revenue increasing—rather than simply to just those bills that increase revenue.⁴²⁷

Only bills to levy taxes in the strict sense of the word are comprehended by the phrase “all bills for raising revenue;” bills for other purposes, which incidentally create revenue, are not included.⁴²⁸ Thus, a Senate-initiated bill that provided for a monetary “special assessment” to pay into a crime victims fund did not violate the clause, because it was a statute that created and raised revenue to support a particular governmental program and was not a law raising revenue to support Government generally.⁴²⁹ An act providing a national currency secured by a pledge of bonds of the United States, which, “in the furtherance of that object, and also to meet the expenses attending the execution of the act,” imposed a tax on the circulating notes of national banks was held not to be a revenue measure which must originate in the House of Representatives.⁴³⁰ Neither was a bill that provided that the District of Columbia should raise by taxation and pay to designated railroad companies a specified sum for the elimination of grade crossings and the construction of a railway station.⁴³¹ The substitution of a corporation tax for an inheritance tax,⁴³² and the addition of a section imposing an excise tax upon the use of foreign-built pleasure yachts,⁴³³ have been held to be within the Senate’s constitutional power to propose amendments.

Approval by the President

The President is not restricted to signing a bill on a day when Congress is in session.⁴³⁴ He may sign within ten days (Sundays excepted) after the bill is presented to him, even if that period ex-

⁴²⁶ THE FEDERALIST, No. 58 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 392–395 (Madison). See *United States v. Munoz-Flores*, 495 U.S. 385, 393–395 (1990).

⁴²⁷ The issue of coverage is sometimes important, as in the case of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, 96 Stat. 324, in which the House passed a bill that provided for a net loss in revenue and the Senate amended the bill to provide a revenue increase of more than \$98 billion over three years. Attacks on the law as a violation of the origination clause failed before assertions of political question, standing, and other doctrines. E.g., *Texas Assn. of Concerned Taxpayers v. United States*, 772 F.2d 163 (5th Cir. 1985); *Moore v. U.S. House of Representatives*, 733 F.2d 946 (D.C.Cir. 1984), *cert.den.*, 469 U.S. 1106 (1985).

⁴²⁸ 2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), § 880.

⁴²⁹ *United States v. Munoz-Flores*, 495 U.S. 385 (1990).

⁴³⁰ *Twin City National Bank v. Nebeker*, 167 U.S. 196 (1897).

⁴³¹ *Millard v. Roberts*, 202 U.S. 429 (1906).

⁴³² *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*, 220 U.S. 107, 143 (1911).

⁴³³ *Rainey v. United States*, 232 U.S. 310 (1914).

⁴³⁴ *La Abra Silver Mining Co. v. United States*, 175 U.S. 423, 453 (1899).

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tends beyond the date of the final adjournment of Congress.⁴³⁵ His duty in case of approval of a measure is merely to sign it. He need not write on the bill the word “approved” nor the date. If no date appears on the face of the roll, the Court may ascertain the fact by resort to any source of information capable of furnishing a satisfactory answer.⁴³⁶ A bill becomes a law on the date of its approval by the President.⁴³⁷ When no time is fixed by the act it is effective from the date of its approval,⁴³⁸ which usually is taken to be the first moment of the day, fractions of a day being disregarded.⁴³⁹

The Veto Power

The veto provisions, the Supreme Court has told us, serve two functions. On the one hand, they ensure that “the President shall have suitable opportunity to consider the bills presented to him. . . . It is to safeguard the President’s opportunity that Paragraph 2 of § 7 of Article I provides that bills which he does not approve shall not become law if the adjournment of the Congress prevents their return.”⁴⁴⁰ At the same time, the sections ensure “that the Congress shall have suitable opportunity to consider his objections to bills and on such consideration to pass them over his veto provided there are the requisite votes.”⁴⁴¹ The Court asserted that “[w]e should not adopt a construction which would frustrate either of these purposes.”⁴⁴²

In one major respect, however, the President’s actual desires may be frustrated by the presentation to him of omnibus bills or of bills containing extraneous riders. During the 1980s, on several occasions, Congress lumped all the appropriations for the operation of the Government into one gargantuan bill. But the President must sign or veto the entire bill; doing the former may mean he has to accept provisions he would not sign standing alone, and doing the latter may have other adverse consequences. Numerous Presidents from Grant on have unsuccessfully sought by constitutional amendment a “line-item veto” by which individual items in an appropriations bill or a substantive bill could be extracted and vetoed. More recently, beginning in the FDR Administration, it has

⁴³⁵ *Edwards v. United States*, 286 U.S. 482 (1932). On one occasion in 1936, delay in presentation of a bill enabled the President to sign it 23 days after the adjournment of Congress. Schmeckebier, *Approval of Bills After Adjournment of Congress*, 33 Am. Pol. Sci. Rev. 52–53 (1939).

⁴³⁶ *Gardner v. Collector*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 499 (1868).

⁴³⁷ *Id.*, 504. See also *Burgess v. Salmon*, 97 U.S. 381, 383 (1878).

⁴³⁸ *Matthews v. Zane*, 7 Wheat. (20 U.S.) 164, 211 (1822).

⁴³⁹ *Lapeyre v. United States*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 191, 198 (1873).

⁴⁴⁰ *Wright v. United States*, 302 U.S. 583, 596 (1938).

⁴⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴² *Ibid.*

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been debated whether Congress could by statute authorize a form of the line-item veto, but, again, nothing passed.⁴⁴³

That the interpretation of the provisions has not been entirely consistent is evident from a review of the only two Supreme Court decisions construing them. In *The Pocket Veto Case*,⁴⁴⁴ the Court held that the return of a bill to the Senate, where it originated, had been prevented when the Congress adjourned its first session *sine die* fewer than ten days after presenting the bill to the President. The word “adjournment” was seen to have been used in the Constitution not in the sense of final adjournments but to any occasion on which a House of Congress is not in session. “We think that under the constitutional provision the determinative question in reference to an ‘adjournment’ is not whether it is a final adjournment of Congress or an interim adjournment, such as an adjournment of the first session, but whether it is one that ‘prevents’ the President from returning the bill to the House in which it originated within the time allowed.”⁴⁴⁵ Because neither House was in session to receive the bill, the President was prevented from returning it. It had been argued to the Court that the return may be validly accomplished to a proper agent of the house of origin for consideration when that body convenes. After first noting that Congress had never authorized an agent to receive bills during adjournment, the Court opined that “delivery of the bill to such officer or agent, even if authorized by Congress itself, would not comply with the constitutional mandate.”⁴⁴⁶

However, in *Wright v. United States*,⁴⁴⁷ the Court held that the President’s return of a bill on the tenth day after presentment, during a three-day adjournment by the originating House only, to the Secretary of the Senate was an effective return. In the first place, the Court thought, the pocket veto clause referred only to an adjournment of “the Congress,” and here only the Senate, the originating body, had adjourned. The President can return the bill to the originating House if that body be in an intrasession adjournment, because there is no “practical difficulty” in effectuating the

⁴⁴³ See *Line Item Veto*, Hearing before the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, 99th Cong., 1st sess. (1985), esp. 10–20 (CRS memoranda detailing the issues). Some publicists have even contended, through a strained interpretation of clause 3, actually from its intended purpose to prevent Congress from subverting the veto power by calling a bill by some other name, that the President already possesses the line-item veto, but no President could be brought to test the thesis. See *Pork Barrels and Principles - The Politics of the Presidential Veto*, (Natl. Legal Center for the Public Interest, 1988) (collecting essays).

⁴⁴⁴ 279 U.S. 655 (1929).

⁴⁴⁵ *Id.*, 680.

⁴⁴⁶ *Id.*, 684.

⁴⁴⁷ 302 U.S. 583 (1938).

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return. “The organization of the Senate continued and was intact. The Secretary of the Senate was functioning and was able to receive, and did receive the bill.”⁴⁴⁸Such a procedure complied with the constitutional provisions. “The Constitution does not define what shall constitute a return of a bill or deny the use of appropriate agencies in effecting the return.”⁴⁴⁹The concerns activating the Court in *The Pocket Veto Case* were not present. There was no indefinite period in which a bill was in a state of suspended animation with public uncertainty over the outcome. “When there is nothing but such a temporary recess the organization of the House and its appropriate officers continue to function without interruption, the bill is properly safeguarded for a very limited time and is promptly reported and may be reconsidered immediately after the short recess is over.”⁴⁵⁰

The tension between the two cases, even though at a certain level of generality they are consistent because of factual differences, has existed without the Supreme Court yet having occasion to review the issue again. But in *Kennedy v. Sampson*,⁴⁵¹ an appellate court held that a return is not prevented by an intrasession adjournment of any length by one or both Houses of Congress, so long as the originating House arranged for receipt of veto messages. The court stressed that the absence of the evils deemed to bottom the Court’s premises in *The Pocket Veto Case*—long delay and public uncertainty—made possible the result.

The two-thirds vote of each House required to pass a bill over a veto means two-thirds of a quorum.⁴⁵²After a bill becomes law, of course, the President has no authority to repeal it. Asserting this truism, the Court in *The Confiscation Cases*⁴⁵³ held that the immu-

⁴⁴⁸ Id., 589–590.

⁴⁴⁹ Id., 589.

⁴⁵⁰ Id., 595.

⁴⁵¹ 511 F. 2d 430 (D.C.Cir. 1974). The Administration declined to appeal the case to the Supreme Court. The adjournment here was for five days. Subsequently, the President attempted to pocket veto two other bills, one during a 32 day recess and one during the period which Congress had adjourned sine die from the first to the second session of the 93d Congress. After renewed litigation, the Administration entered its consent to a judgment that both bills had become law, *Kennedy v. Jones*, Civil Action No. 74–194 (D.D.C., decree entered April 13, 1976), and it was announced that President Ford “will use the return veto rather than the pocket veto during intra-session and intersession recesses and adjournments of the Congress”, provided that the House to which the bill must be returned has authorized an officer to receive vetoes during the period it is not in session. President Reagan repudiated this agreement and vetoed a bill during an intersession adjournment. Although the lower court applied *Kennedy v. Sampson* to strike down the exercise of the power, but the case was mooted prior to Supreme Court review. *Barnes v. Kline*, 759 F.2d 51 (D.C.Cir. 1985), *vacated and remanded to dismiss sub nom. Burke v. Barnes*, 479 U.S. 361 (1987).

⁴⁵² *Missouri Pacific Ry. Co. v. Kansas*, 248 U.S. 276 (1919).

⁴⁵³ 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 92 (1874).

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nity proclamation issued by the President in 1868 did not require reversal of a decree condemning property seized under the Confiscation Act of 1862.⁴⁵⁴

Presentation of Resolutions

Concerned that Congress might endeavor to evade the veto clause by designating a measure having legislative import as something other than a bill, the Framers inserted cl. 3.⁴⁵⁵ Obviously, if construed literally, the clause could have bogged down the intermediate stages of the legislative process, and Congress made practical adjustments regarding it. On the request of the Senate, the Judiciary Committee in 1897 published a comprehensive report detailing how the clause had been interpreted over the years, and in the same manner it is treated today. Briefly, it was shown that the word “necessary” in the clause had come to refer to the necessity required by the Constitution of law-making; that is, any “order, resolution, or vote” if it is to have the force of law must be submitted. But “votes” taken in either House preliminary to the final passage of legislation need not be submitted to the other House or to the President nor must resolutions passed by the Houses concurrently expressing merely the views of Congress.⁴⁵⁶ Also, it was settled as early as 1789 that resolutions of Congress proposing amendments to the Constitution need not be submitted to the President, the Bill of Rights having been referred to the States without being laid before President Washington for his approval—a procedure the Court ratified in due course.⁴⁵⁷

The Legislative Veto.—Beginning in the 1930s, the concurrent resolution (as well as the simple resolution) was put to a new use—serving as the instrument to terminate powers delegated to the Chief Executive or to disapprove particular exercises of power by him or his agents. The “legislative veto” or “congressional veto” was first developed in context of the delegation to the Executive of power to reorganize governmental agencies,⁴⁵⁸ and was really furthered by the necessities of providing for national security and foreign affairs immediately prior to and during World War II.⁴⁵⁹

⁴⁵⁴ 12 Stat. 589 (1862).

⁴⁵⁵ See 2 M. FARRAND, THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (rev. ed. 1937), 301–302, 304–305.

⁴⁵⁶ S. Rept. No. 1335, 54th Congress, 2d Sess.; 4 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Washington: 1907), § 3483.

⁴⁵⁷ Hollingsworth v. Virginia, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 378 (1798).

⁴⁵⁸ Act of June 30, 1932, § 407, 47 Stat. 414.

⁴⁵⁹ See, e.g., Lend Lease Act of March 11, 1941, 55 Stat. 31; First War Powers Act of December 18, 1941, 55 Stat. 838; Emergency Price Control Act of January 30, 1942, 56 Stat. 23; Stabilization Act of October 2, 1942, 56 Stat. 765; War Labor Disputes Act of June 25, 1943, 57 Stat. 163, all providing that the powers granted

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The proliferation of “congressional veto” provisions in legislation over the years raised a series of interrelated constitutional questions.⁴⁶⁰ Congress until relatively recently had applied the veto provisions to some action taken by the President or another executive officer—such as a reorganization of an agency, the lowering or raising of tariff rates, the disposal of federal property—then began expanding the device to give itself a negative over regulations issued by executive branch agencies, and proposals were made to give Congress a negative over all regulations issued by executive branch independent agencies.⁴⁶¹

In *INS v. Chadha*,⁴⁶² the Court held a one-House congressional veto to be unconstitutional as violating both the bicameralism principles reflected in Art. I, §§ 1 and 7, and the presentment provisions of § 7, cl. 2 and 3. The provision in question was § 244(c)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which authorized either House of Congress by resolution to veto the decision of the Attorney General to allow a particular deportable alien to remain in the country. The Court’s analysis of the presentment issue made clear, however, that two-House veto provisions, despite their compliance with bicameralism, and committee veto provisions suffer the same constitutional infirmity.⁴⁶³ In the words of dissenting

to the President should come to an end upon adoption of concurrent resolutions to that effect.

⁴⁶⁰ From 1932 to 1983, by one count, nearly 300 separate provisions giving Congress power to halt or overturn executive action had been passed in nearly 200 acts; substantially more than half of these had been enacted since 1970. A partial listing was included in *The Constitution, Jefferson’s Manual and Rules of the House of Representatives*, H. Doc. No. 96–398, 96th Congress, 2d Sess. (1981), 731–922. A more up-to-date listing, in light of the Supreme Court’s ruling, is contained in *id.*, H. Doc. No. 101–256, 101st Cong., 2d sess. (1991), 907–1054. Justice White’s dissent in *INS v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919, 968–974, 1003–1013 (1983), describes and lists many kinds of such vetoes. The types of provisions varied widely. Many required congressional approval before an executive action took effect, but more commonly they provided for a negative upon executive action, by concurrent resolution of both Houses, by resolution of only one House, or even by a committee of one House.

⁴⁶¹ A bill providing for this failed to receive the two-thirds vote required to pass under suspension of the rules by only three votes in the 94th Congress. H.R. 12048, 94th Congress, 2d sess. See H. Rept. No. 94–1014, 94th Congress, 2d sess. (1976), and 122 CONG. REC. 31615–641, 31668. Considered extensively in the 95th and 96th Congresses, similar bills were not adopted. See *Regulatory Reform and Congressional Review of Agency Rules*, Hearings before the Subcommittee on Rules of the House of the House Rules Committee, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979); *Regulatory Reform Legislation*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979).

⁴⁶² 462 U.S. 919 (1983).

⁴⁶³ Shortly after deciding *Chadha*, the Court removed any doubts on this score with summary affirmance of an appeals court’s invalidation of a two-House veto in *Consumers Union v. FTC*, 691 F.2d 575 (D.C.Cir. 1982), *affd. sub nom. Process Gas Consumers Group v. Consumer Energy Council*, 463 U.S. 1216 (1983). Prior to *Chadha*, an appellate court in *AFGE v. Pierce*, 697 F.2d 303 (D.C.Cir. 1982), had voided a form of committee veto, a provision prohibiting the availability of certain

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Justice White, the Court in *Chadha* “sound[ed] the death knell for nearly 200 other statutory provisions in which Congress has reserved a ‘legislative veto.’”⁴⁶⁴

In determining that veto of the Attorney General’s decision on suspension of deportation was a legislative action requiring presentment to the President for approval or veto, the Court set forth the general standard. “Whether actions taken by either House are, in law and in fact, an exercise of legislative power depends not on their form but upon ‘whether they contain matter which is properly to be regarded as legislative in its character and effect.’ [T]he action taken here . . . was essentially legislative,” the Court concluded, because “it had the purpose and effect of altering the legal rights, duties and relations of persons, including the Attorney General, Executive Branch officials and Chadha, all outside the legislative branch.”⁴⁶⁵

The other major component of the Court’s reasoning in *Chadha* stemmed from its reading of the Constitution as making only “explicit and unambiguous” exceptions to the bicameralism and presentment requirements. Thus the House alone was given power of impeachment, and the Senate alone was given power to convict upon impeachment, to advise and consent to executive appointments, and to advise and consent to treaties; similarly, the Congress may propose a constitutional amendment without the President’s approval, and each House is given autonomy over certain “internal matters,” e.g., judging the qualifications of its members. By implication then, exercises of legislative power not falling within any of these “narrow, explicit, and separately justified” exceptions must conform to the prescribed procedures: “passage by a majority of both Houses and presentment to the President.”⁴⁶⁶

The breadth of the Court’s ruling in *Chadha* was evidenced in its 1986 decision in *Bowsher v. Synar*.⁴⁶⁷ Among the rationales for holding the Deficit Control Act unconstitutional was the Court’s assertion that Congress had, in effect, retained control over executive action in a manner resembling a congressional veto. “[A]s *Chadha* makes clear, once Congress makes its choice in enacting legislation,

funds for a particular purpose without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

⁴⁶⁴ *Chadha*, *supra*, 967. Justice Powell concurred separately, asserting that Congress had violated separation of powers principles by assuming a judicial function in determining that a particular individual should be deported. Justice Powell therefore found it unnecessary to express his view on “the broader question of whether legislative vetoes are invalid under the Presentment Clauses.” *Id.*, 959.

⁴⁶⁵ *Id.*, 952 (citation omitted).

⁴⁶⁶ *Id.*, 955–56.

⁴⁶⁷ 478 U.S. 714 (1986). See also *Metropolitan Washington Airports Auth. v. Citizens for the Abatement of Aircraft Noise*, 501 U.S. 252 (1991).

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its participation ends. Congress can thereafter control the execution of its enactment only indirectly—by passing new legislation.”⁴⁶⁸ Congress had offended this principle by retaining removal authority over the Comptroller General, charged with executing important aspects of the Budget Act.

That *Chadha* does not spell the end of some forms of the legislative veto is evident from events since 1983, which have seen the enactment of various devices, such as “report and wait” provisions and requirements for various consultative steps before action may be undertaken. But the decision has stymied the efforts in Congress to confine the discretion it confers through delegation by giving it a method of reviewing and if necessary voiding actions and rules promulgated after delegations.

SECTION 8. Clause 1. The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

POWER TO TAX AND SPEND

Kinds of Taxes Permitted

By the terms of the Constitution, the power of Congress to levy taxes is subject to but one exception and two qualifications. Articles exported from any State may not be taxed at all. Direct taxes must be levied by the rule of apportionment and indirect taxes by the rule of uniformity. The Court has emphasized the sweeping character of this power by saying from time to time that it “reaches every subject,”⁴⁶⁹ that it is “exhaustive”⁴⁷⁰ or that it “embraces every conceivable power of taxation.”⁴⁷¹ Despite these generalizations, the power has been at times substantially curtailed by judicial decision with respect to the subject matter of taxation, the manner in which taxes are imposed, and the objects for which they may be levied.

Decline of the Forbidden Subject Matter Test.—In recent years the Supreme Court has restored to Congress the power to tax most of the subject matter which had previously been withdrawn

⁴⁶⁸ *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714, 733 (1986). This position was developed at greater length in the concurring opinion of Justice Stevens. *Id.*, 736.

⁴⁶⁹ *License Tax Cases*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 462, 471 (1867).

⁴⁷⁰ *Brushaber v. Union Pacific R. Co.*, 240 U.S. 1 (1916).

⁴⁷¹ *Id.*, 12.

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from its reach by judicial decision. The holding of *Evans v. Gore*⁴⁷² and *Miles v. Graham*⁴⁷³ that the inclusion of the salaries received by federal judges in measuring the liability for a nondiscriminatory income tax violated the constitutional mandate that the compensation of such judges should not be diminished during their continuance in office was repudiated in *O'Malley v. Woodrough*.⁴⁷⁴ The specific ruling of *Collector v. Day*⁴⁷⁵ that the salary of a state officer is immune to federal income taxation also has been overruled.⁴⁷⁶ But the principle underlying that decision—that Congress may not lay a tax which would impair the sovereignty of the States—is still recognized as retaining some vitality.⁴⁷⁷

Federal Taxation of State Interests.—In 1903 a succession tax upon a bequest to a municipality for public purposes was upheld on the ground that the tax was payable out of the estate before distribution to the legatee. Looking to form and not to substance, in disregard of the mandate of *Brown v. Maryland*,⁴⁷⁸ a closely divided Court declined to “regard it as a tax upon the municipality, though it might operate incidentally to reduce the be-

⁴⁷² 253 U.S. 245 (1920).

⁴⁷³ 268 U.S. 501 (1925).

⁴⁷⁴ 307 U.S. 277 (1939).

⁴⁷⁵ 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 113 (1871).

⁴⁷⁶ *Graves v. New York ex rel. O'Keefe*, 306 U.S. 466 (1939). *Collector v. Day* was decided in 1871 while the country was still in the throes of Reconstruction. As noted by Chief Justice Stone in a footnote to his opinion in *Helvering v. Gerhardt*, 304 U.S. 405, 414 n. 4 (1938), the Court had not determined how far the Civil War Amendments had broadened the federal power at the expense of the States, but the fact that the taxing power had recently been used with destructive effect upon notes issued by the state banks, *Veazie Bank v. Fenno*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 533 (1869), suggested the possibility of similar attacks upon the existence of the States themselves. Two years later, the Court took the logical step of holding that the federal income tax could not be imposed on income received by a municipal corporation from its investments. *United States v. Railroad Company*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 322 (1873). A far-reaching extension of private immunity was granted in *Pollock v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.*, 157 U.S. 429 (1895), where interest received by a private investor on state or municipal bonds was held to be exempt from federal taxation. (Though relegated to virtual desuetude, *Pollock* was not expressly overruled until *South Carolina v. Baker*, 485 U.S. 505 (1988)). As the apprehension of this era subsided, the doctrine of these cases was pushed into the background. It never received the same wide application as did *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316 (1819), in curbing the power of the States to tax operations or instrumentalities of the Federal Government. Only once since the turn of the century has the national taxing power been further narrowed in the name of dual federalism. In 1931 the Court held that a federal excise tax was inapplicable to the manufacture and sale to a municipal corporation of equipment for its police force. *Indian Motorcycle v. United States*, 283 U.S. 570 (1931). Justice Stone and Brandeis dissented from this decision, and it is doubtful whether it would be followed today. Cf. *Massachusetts v. United States*, 435 U.S. 444 (1978).

⁴⁷⁷ At least, if the various opinions in *New York v. United States*, 326 U.S. 572 (1946), retain force, and they may in view of (a later) *New York v. United States*, 112 S.Ct. 2408 (1992), a commerce clause case rather than a tax case.

⁴⁷⁸ 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419, 444 (1827).

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quest by the amount of the tax.”⁴⁷⁹ When South Carolina embarked upon the business of dispensing alcoholic beverages, its agents were held to be subject to the national internal revenue tax, the ground of the holding being that in 1787 such a business was not regarded as one of the ordinary functions of government.⁴⁸⁰

Another decision marking a clear departure from the logic of *Collector v. Day* was *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*,⁴⁸¹ where the Court sustained an act of Congress taxing the privilege of doing business as a corporation, the tax being measured by the income. The argument that the tax imposed an unconstitutional burden on the exercise by a State of its reserved power to create corporate franchises was rejected, partly in consideration of the principle of national supremacy, and partly on the ground that the corporate franchises were private property. This case also qualified *Pollock v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Company* to the extent of allowing interest on state bonds to be included in measuring the tax on the corporation.

Subsequent cases have sustained an estate tax on the net estate of a decedent, including state bonds,⁴⁸² excise taxes on the transportation of merchandise in performance of a contract to sell and deliver it to a county,⁴⁸³ on the importation of scientific apparatus by a state university,⁴⁸⁴ on admissions to athletic contests sponsored by a state institution, the net proceeds of which were used to further its educational program,⁴⁸⁵ and on admissions to recreational facilities operated on a nonprofit basis by a municipal corporation.⁴⁸⁶ Income derived by independent engineering contractors from the performance of state functions,⁴⁸⁷ the compensation of trustees appointed to manage a street railway taken over and operated by a State,⁴⁸⁸ profits derived from the sale of state bonds,⁴⁸⁹ or from oil produced by lessees of state lands,⁴⁹⁰ have all been held to be subject to federal taxation despite a possible economic burden on the State.

In finally overruling *Pollock*, the Court stated that *Pollock* had “merely represented one application of the more general rule that

⁴⁷⁹ *Snyder v. Bettman*, 190 U.S. 249, 254 (1903).

⁴⁸⁰ *South Carolina v. United States*, 199 U.S. 437 (1905). See also *Ohio v. Helvering*, 292 U.S. 360 (1934).

⁴⁸¹ 220 U.S. 107 (1911).

⁴⁸² *Greiner v. Lewellyn*, 258 U.S. 384 (1922).

⁴⁸³ *Wheeler Lumber Co. v. United States*, 281 U.S. 572 (1930).

⁴⁸⁴ *Board of Trustees v. United States*, 289 U.S. 48 (1933).

⁴⁸⁵ *Allen v. Regents*, 304 U.S. 439 (1938).

⁴⁸⁶ *Wilmette Park Dist. v. Campbell*, 338 U.S. 411 (1949).

⁴⁸⁷ *Metcalf & Eddy v. Mitchell*, 269 U.S. 514 (1926).

⁴⁸⁸ *Helvering v. Powers*, 293 U.S. 214 (1934).

⁴⁸⁹ *Willcuts v. Bunn*, 282 U.S. 216 (1931).

⁴⁹⁰ *Helvering v. Producers Corp.*, 303 U.S. 376 (1938), overruling *Burnet v. Coronado Oil & Gas Co.*, 285 U.S. 393 (1932).

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neither the federal nor the state governments could tax income an individual directly derived from *any* contract with another government.”⁴⁹¹ That rule, the Court observed, had already been rejected in numerous decisions involving intergovernmental immunity. “We see no constitutional reason for treating persons who receive interest on governmental bonds differently than persons who receive income from other types of contracts with the government, and no tenable rationale for distinguishing the costs imposed on States by a tax on state bond interest from the costs imposed by a tax on the income from any other state contract.”⁴⁹²

Scope of State Immunity From Federal Taxation.—Although there have been sharp differences of opinion among members of the Supreme Court in cases dealing with the tax immunity of state functions and instrumentalities, it has been stated that “all agree that not all of the former immunity is gone.”⁴⁹³ Twice, the Court has made an effort to express its new point of view in a statement of general principles by which the right to such immunity shall be determined. However, the failure to muster a majority in concurrence with any single opinion in the latter case leaves the question very much in doubt. In *Helvering v. Gerhardt*,⁴⁹⁴ where, without overruling *Collector v. Day*, it narrowed the immunity of salaries of state officers from federal income taxation, the Court announced “two guiding principles of limitation for holding the tax immunity of State instrumentalities to its proper function. The one, dependent upon the nature of the function being performed by the State or in its behalf, excludes from the immunity activities thought not to be essential to the preservation of State governments even though the tax be collected from the State treasury. . . . The other principle, exemplified by those cases where the tax laid upon individuals affects the State only as the burden is passed on to it by the taxpayer, forbids recognition of the immunity when the burden on the State is so speculative and uncertain that if allowed it would restrict the federal taxing power without affording any corresponding tangible protection to the State government; even though the function be thought important enough to demand immunity from a tax upon the State itself, it is not necessarily protected from a tax which well may be substantially or entirely absorbed by private persons.”⁴⁹⁵

⁴⁹¹ *South Carolina v. Baker*, 485 U.S. 505, 517 (1988).

⁴⁹² *Id.*, 524.

⁴⁹³ *New York v. United States*, 326 U.S. 572, 584 (1946) (concurring opinion of Justice Rutledge).

⁴⁹⁴ 304 U.S. 405 (1938).

⁴⁹⁵ *Id.*, 419–420.

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The second attempt to formulate a general doctrine was made in *New York v. United States*,⁴⁹⁶ where, on review of a judgment affirming the right of the United States to tax the sale of mineral waters taken from property owned and operated by the State of New York, the Court reconsidered the right of Congress to tax business enterprises carried on by the States. Justice Frankfurter, speaking for himself and Justice Rutledge, made the question of discrimination *vel non* against state activities the test of the validity of such a tax. They found “no restriction upon Congress to include the States in levying a tax exacted equally from private persons upon the same subject matter.”⁴⁹⁷ In a concurring opinion in which Justices Reed, Murphy, and Burton joined, Chief Justice Stone rejected the criterion of discrimination. He repeated what he had said in an earlier case to the effect that “the limitation upon the taxing power of each, so far as it affects the other, must receive a practical construction which permits both to function with the minimum of interference each with the other; and that limitation cannot be so varied or extended as seriously to impair either the taxing power of the government imposing the tax . . . or the appropriate exercise of the functions of the government affected by it.”⁴⁹⁸ Justices Douglas and Black dissented in an opinion written by the former on the ground that the decision disregarded the Tenth Amendment, placed “the sovereign States on the same plane as private citizens,” and made them “pay the Federal Government for the privilege of exercising powers of sovereignty guaranteed them by the Constitution.”⁴⁹⁹ In a later case dealing with state immunity the Court sustained the tax on the second ground mentioned in *Helvering v. Gerhardt*—that the burden of the tax was borne by private persons—and did not consider whether the function was one which the Federal Government might have taxed if the municipality had borne the burden of the exaction.⁵⁰⁰

Articulation of the current approach may be found in *South Carolina v. Baker*.⁵⁰¹ The rules are “essentially the same” for federal immunity from state taxation and for state immunity from federal taxation, except that some state activities may be subject to direct federal taxation, while States may “never” tax the United States directly. Either government may tax private parties doing business with the other government, “even though the financial

⁴⁹⁶ 326 U.S. 572 (1946).

⁴⁹⁷ *Id.*, 584.

⁴⁹⁸ *Id.*, 589–590.

⁴⁹⁹ *Id.*, 596.

⁵⁰⁰ *Wilmette Park Dist. v. Campbell*, 338 U.S. 411 (1949). Cf. *Massachusetts v. United States*, 435 U.S. 444 (1978).

⁵⁰¹ 485 U.S. 505 (1988).

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burden falls on the [other government], as long as the tax does not discriminate against the [other government] or those with which it deals.”⁵⁰² Thus, “the issue whether a nondiscriminatory federal tax might nonetheless violate state tax immunity does not even arise unless the Federal Government seeks to collect the tax directly from a State.”⁵⁰³

Uniformity Requirement.—Whether a tax is to be apportioned among the States according to the census taken pursuant to Article I, §2, or imposed uniformly throughout the United States depends upon its classification as direct or indirect.⁵⁰⁴ The rule of uniformity for indirect taxes is easy to obey. It exacts only that the subject matter of a levy be taxed at the same rate wherever found in the United States; or, as it is sometimes phrased, the uniformity required is “geographical,” not “intrinsic.”⁵⁰⁵ Even the geographical limitation is a loose one, at least if *United States v. Ptasynski*⁵⁰⁶ is followed. There, the Court upheld an exemption from a crude-oil windfall-profits tax of “Alaskan oil,” defined geographically to include oil produced in Alaska (or elsewhere) north of the Arctic Circle. What is prohibited, the Court said, is favoritism to particular States in the absence of valid bases of classification. Because Congress could have achieved the same result, allowing for severe climactic difficulties, through a classification tailored to the “disproportionate costs and difficulties . . . associated with extracting oil from this region,”⁵⁰⁷ the fact that Congress described the exemption in geographic terms did not condemn the provision.

The clause accordingly places no obstacle in the way of legislative classification for the purpose of taxation, nor in the way of what is called progressive taxation.⁵⁰⁸ A taxing statute does not fail of the prescribed uniformity because its operation and incidence may be affected by differences in state laws.⁵⁰⁹ A federal estate tax law which permitted deduction for a like tax paid to a State was not rendered invalid by the fact that one State levied no such tax.⁵¹⁰ The term “United States” in this clause refers only to the States of the Union, the District of Columbia, and incorporated

⁵⁰² *Id.*, 523.

⁵⁰³ *Id.*, 524 n. 14.

⁵⁰⁴ See also Article I, §9, cl. 4.

⁵⁰⁵ *LaBelle Iron Works v. United States*, 256 U.S. 377 (1921); *Brushaber v. Union Pacific R. Co.*, 240 U.S. 1 (1916); *Head Money Cases*, 112 U.S. 580 (1884).

⁵⁰⁶ 462 U.S. 74 (1983).

⁵⁰⁷ *Id.*, 85.

⁵⁰⁸ *Knowlton v. Moore*, 178 U.S. 41 (1900).

⁵⁰⁹ *Fernandez v. Wiener*, 326 U.S. 340 (1945); *Riggs v. Del Drago*, 317 U.S. 95 (1942); *Phillips v. Commissioner*, 283 U.S. 589 (1931); *Poe v. Seaborn*, 282 U.S. 101, 117 (1930).

⁵¹⁰ *Florida v. Mellon*, 273 U.S. 12 (1927).

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territories. Congress is not bound by the rule of uniformity in framing tax measures for unincorporated territories.⁵¹¹ Indeed, in *Binns v. United States*,⁵¹² the Court sustained license taxes imposed by Congress but applicable only in Alaska, where the proceeds, although paid into the general fund of the Treasury, did not in fact equal the total cost of maintaining the territorial government.

PURPOSES OF TAXATION

Regulation by Taxation

The discretion of Congress in selecting the objectives of taxation has also been held at times to be subject to limitations implied from the nature of the Federal System. Apart from matters that Congress is authorized to regulate, the national taxing power, it has been said, “reaches only existing subjects.”⁵¹³ Congress may tax any activity actually carried on, such as the business of accepting wagers,⁵¹⁴ regardless of whether it is permitted or prohibited by the laws of the United States⁵¹⁵ or by those of a State.⁵¹⁶ But so-called federal “licenses,” so far as they relate to trade within state limits, merely express, “the purpose of the government not to interfere . . . with the trade nominally licensed, if the required taxes are paid.” Whether the “licensed” trade shall be permitted at all is a question for decision by the State.⁵¹⁷ This, nevertheless, does not signify that Congress may not often regulate to some extent a business within a State in order to tax it more effectively. Under the necessary-and-proper clause, Congress may do this very thing. Not only has the Court sustained regulations concerning the packaging of taxed articles such as tobacco⁵¹⁸ and oleomargarine,⁵¹⁹ ostensibly designed to prevent fraud in the collection of the tax, it has also upheld measures taxing drugs⁵²⁰ and fire-

⁵¹¹ *Downes v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 244 (1901).

⁵¹² 194 U.S. 486 (1904). The Court recognized that Alaska was an incorporated territory but took the position that the situation in substance was the same as if the taxes had been directly imposed by a territorial legislature for the support of the local government.

⁵¹³ *License Tax Cases*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 462, 471 (1867).

⁵¹⁴ *United States v. Kahriger*, 345 U.S. 22 (1953). Dissenting, Justice Frankfurter maintained that this was not a bona fide tax, but was essentially an effort to check, if not stamp out, professional gambling, an activity left to the responsibility of the States. Justices Jackson and Douglas noted partial agreement with this conclusion. See also *Lewis v. United States*, 348 U.S. 419 (1955).

⁵¹⁵ *United States v. Yuginovich*, 256 U.S. 450 (1921).

⁵¹⁶ *United States v. Constantine*, 296 U.S. 287, 293 (1935).

⁵¹⁷ *License Tax Cases*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 462, 471 (1867).

⁵¹⁸ *Felsenheld v. United States*, 186 U.S. 126 (1902).

⁵¹⁹ *In re Kollock*, 165 U.S. 526 (1897).

⁵²⁰ *United States v. Doremus*, 249 U.S. 86 (1919). Cf. *Nigro v. United States*, 276 U.S. 332 (1928).

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arms,⁵²¹ which prescribed rigorous restrictions under which such articles could be sold or transferred, and imposed heavy penalties upon persons dealing with them in any other way. These regulations were sustained as conducive to the efficient collection of the tax though they clearly transcended in some respects this ground of justification.⁵²²

Extermination by Taxation

A problem of a different order is presented where the tax itself has the effect of suppressing an activity or where it is coupled with regulations that clearly have no possible relation to the collection of the tax. Where a tax is imposed unconditionally, so that no other purpose appears on the face of the statute, the Court has refused to inquire into the motives of the lawmakers and has sustained the tax despite its prohibitive proportions.⁵²³ “It is beyond serious question that a tax does not cease to be valid merely because it regulates, discourages, or even definitely deters the activities taxed. . . . The principle applies even though the revenue obtained is obviously negligible . . . or the revenue purpose of the tax may be secondary. . . . Nor does a tax statute necessarily fall because it touches on activities which Congress might not otherwise regulate. As was pointed out in *Magnano Co. v. Hamilton*, 292 U.S. 40, 47 (1934): ‘From the beginning of our government, the courts have sustained taxes although imposed with the collateral intent of effecting ulterior ends which, considered apart, were beyond the constitutional power of the lawmakers to realize by legislation directly addressed to their accomplishments.’”⁵²⁴

But where the tax is conditional, and may be avoided by compliance with regulations set out in the statute, the validity of the measure is determined by the power of Congress to regulate the subject matter. If the regulations are within the competence of Congress, apart from its power to tax, the exaction is sustained as an appropriate sanction for making them effective;⁵²⁵ otherwise it

⁵²¹ *Sonzinsky v. United States*, 300 U.S. 506 (1937).

⁵²² Without casting doubt on the ability of Congress to regulate or punish through its taxing power, the Court has overruled *Kahriger*, *Lewis*, *Doremus*, *Sonzinsky*, and similar cases on the ground that the statutory scheme compelled self-incrimination through registration. *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39 (1968); *Grosso v. United States*, 390 U.S. 62 (1968); *Haynes v. United States*, 390 U.S. 85 (1968); *Leary v. United States*, 395 U.S. 6 (1969).

⁵²³ *McCray v. United States*, 195 U.S. 27 (1904).

⁵²⁴ *United States v. Sanchez*, 340 U.S. 42, 44 (1950). See also *Sonzinsky v. United States*, 300 U.S. 506, 513–514 (1937).

⁵²⁵ *Sunshine Coal Co. v. Adkins*, 310 U.S. 381, 383 (1940). See also *Head Money Cases*, 112 U.S. 580, 596 (1884).

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is invalid.⁵²⁶ During the Prohibition Era, Congress levied a heavy tax upon liquor dealers who operated in violation of state law. In *United States v. Constantine*,⁵²⁷ the Court held that this tax was unenforceable after the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, since the National Government had no power to impose an additional penalty for infractions of state law.

Promotion of Business: Protective Tariff

The earliest examples of taxes levied with a view to promoting desired economic objectives in addition to raising revenue were, of course, import duties. The second statute adopted by the first Congress was a tariff act reciting that “it is necessary for the support of government, for the discharge of the debts of the United States, and the encouragement and protection of manufactures, that duties be laid on goods, wares and merchandise imported.”⁵²⁸ After being debated for nearly a century and a half, the constitutionality of protective tariffs was finally settled by the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court in *J. W. Hampton & Co. v. United States*,⁵²⁹ where Chief Justice Taft wrote: “The second objection to §315 is that the declared plan of Congress, either expressly or by clear implication, formulates its rule to guide the President and his advisory Tariff Commission as one directed to a tariff system of protection that will avoid damaging competition to the country’s industries by the importation of goods from other countries at too low a rate to equalize foreign and domestic competition in the markets of the United States. It is contended that the only power of Congress in the levying of customs duties is to create revenue, and that it is unconstitutional to frame the customs duties with any other view than that of revenue raising.”

The Chief Justice then observed that the first Congress in 1789 had enacted a protective tariff. “In this first Congress sat many members of the Constitutional Convention of 1787. This Court has repeatedly laid down the principle that a contemporaneous legislative exposition of the Constitution when the founders of our Government and framers of our Constitution were actively participating in public affairs, long acquiesced in, fixes the construction to be given its provisions. . . . The enactment and enforcement of a number of customs revenue laws drawn with a motive of maintaining a system of protection, since the revenue law of 1789, are mat-

⁵²⁶ *Child Labor Tax Case* (Bailey v. Drexel Furniture Co.), 259 U.S. 20 (1922); *Hill v. Wallace*, 259 U.S. 44 (1922); *Helwig v. United States*, 188 U.S. 605 (1903).

⁵²⁷ 296 U.S. 287 (1935).

⁵²⁸ 1 Stat. 24 (1789).

⁵²⁹ 276 U.S. 394 (1928).

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ters of history. . . . Whatever we may think of the wisdom of a protection policy, we cannot hold it unconstitutional. So long as the motive of Congress and the effect of its legislative action are to secure revenue for the benefit of the general government, the existence of other motives in the selection of the subject of taxes cannot invalidate Congressional action.”⁵³⁰

SPENDING FOR THE GENERAL WELFARE**Scope of the Power**

The grant of power to “provide . . . for the general welfare” raises a two-fold question: How may Congress provide for “the general welfare” and what is “the general welfare” that it is authorized to promote? The first half of this question was answered by Thomas Jefferson in his opinion on the Bank as follows: “[T]he laying of taxes is the power, and the general welfare the purpose for which the power is to be exercised. They [Congress] are not to lay taxes *ad libitum* for any purpose they please; but only to pay the debts or provide for the welfare of the Union. In like manner, they are not to do anything they please to provide for the general welfare, but only to lay taxes for that purpose.”⁵³¹ The clause, in short, is not an independent grant of power, but a qualification of the taxing power. Although a broader view has been occasionally asserted,⁵³² Congress has not acted upon it and the Court has had no occasion to adjudicate the point.

With respect to the meaning of “the general welfare” the pages of THE FEDERALIST itself disclose a sharp divergence of views between its two principal authors. Hamilton adopted the literal, broad meaning of the clause;⁵³³ Madison contended that the powers of taxation and appropriation of the proposed government should be regarded as merely instrumental to its remaining powers, in other words, as little more than a power of self-support.⁵³⁴ From an early date Congress has acted upon the interpretation espoused by Hamilton. Appropriations for subsidies⁵³⁵ and for an ever increasing variety of “internal improvements”⁵³⁶ constructed by the Federal Government, had their beginnings in the adminis-

⁵³⁰ *Id.*, 411–412.

⁵³¹ 3 WRITINGS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON (Library Edition, 1904), 147–149.

⁵³² See W. CROSSKEY, POLITICS AND THE CONSTITUTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES (Chicago: 1953).

⁵³³ THE FEDERALIST, Nos. 30 and 34 (J. Cooke ed. 1961) 187–193, 209–215.

⁵³⁴ *Id.*, No. 41, 268–278.

⁵³⁵ 1 Stat. 229 (1792).

⁵³⁶ 2 Stat. 357 (1806).

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trations of Washington and Jefferson.⁵³⁷ Since 1914, federal grants-in-aid, sums of money apportioned among the States for particular uses, often conditioned upon the duplication of the sums by the recipient State, and upon observance of stipulated restrictions as to its use, have become commonplace.

The scope of the national spending power was brought before the Supreme Court at least five times prior to 1936, but the Court disposed of four of the suits without construing the “general welfare” clause. In the *Pacific Railway Cases (California v. Pacific Railroad Co.)*⁵³⁸ and *Smith v. Kansas City Title Co.*,⁵³⁹ it affirmed the power of Congress to construct internal improvements, and to charter and purchase the capital stock of federal land banks, by reference to the powers of the National Government over commerce, and post roads and fiscal operations, and to its war powers. Decisions on the merits were withheld in two other cases, *Massachusetts v. Mellon* and *Frothingham v. Mellon*,⁵⁴⁰ on the ground that neither a State nor an individual citizen is entitled to a remedy in the courts against an alleged unconstitutional appropriation of national funds. In *United States v. Gettysburg Electric Ry.*,⁵⁴¹ however, the Court had invoked “the great power of taxation to be exercised for the common defence and general welfare”⁵⁴² to sustain the right of the Federal Government to acquire land within a State for use as a national park.

Finally, in *United States v. Butler*,⁵⁴³ the Court gave its unqualified endorsement to Hamilton’s views on the taxing power. Wrote Justice Roberts for the Court: “Since the foundation of the Nation sharp differences of opinion have persisted as to the true interpretation of the phrase. Madison asserted it amounted to no more than a reference to the other powers enumerated in the subsequent clauses of the same section; that, as the United States is a government of limited and enumerated powers, the grant of

⁵³⁷In an advisory opinion, which it rendered for President Monroe at his request on the power of Congress to appropriate funds for public improvements, the Court answered that such appropriations might be properly made under the war and postal powers. See Albertsworth, *Advisory Functions in the Supreme Court*, 23 *Geo. L. J.* 643, 644–647 (1935). Monroe himself ultimately adopted the broadest view of the spending power, from which, however, he carefully excluded any element of regulatory or police power. See his *Views of the President of the United States on the Subject of Internal Improvements*, of May 4, 1822, 2 *MESSAGES AND PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS* (Richardson ed. 1906), 713–752.

⁵³⁸127 U.S. 1 (188).

⁵³⁹255 U.S. 180 (1921).

⁵⁴⁰262 U.S. 447 (1923). See also *Alabama Power Co. v. Ickes*, 302 U.S. 464 (1938). These cases were limited by *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83 (1968).

⁵⁴¹160 U.S. 668 (1896).

⁵⁴²*Id.*, 681.

⁵⁴³297 U.S. 1 (1936). See also *Cleveland v. United States*, 323 U.S. 329 (1945).

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power to tax and spend for the general national welfare must be confined to the numerated legislative fields committed to the Congress. In this view the phrase is mere tautology, for taxation and appropriation are or may be necessary incidents of the exercise of any of the enumerated legislative powers. Hamilton, on the other hand, maintained the clause confers a power separate and distinct from those later enumerated, is not restricted in meaning by the grant of them, and Congress consequently has a substantive power to tax and to appropriate, limited only by the requirement that it shall be exercised to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Each contention has had the support of those whose views are entitled to weight. This court had noticed the question, but has never found it necessary to decide which is the true construction. Justice Story, in his Commentaries, espouses the Hamiltonian position. We shall not review the writings of public men and commentators or discuss the legislative practice. Study of all these leads us to conclude that the reading advocated by Justice Story is the correct one. While, therefore, the power to tax is not unlimited, its confines are set in the clause which confers it, and not in those of § 8 which bestow and define the legislative powers of the Congress. It results that the power of Congress to authorize expenditure of public moneys for public purposes is not limited by the direct grants of legislative power found in the Constitution.”⁵⁴⁴

Social Security Act Cases.—Although holding that the spending power is not limited by the specific grants of power contained in Article I, § 8, the Court found, nevertheless, that it was qualified by the Tenth Amendment, and on this ground ruled in the *Butler* case that Congress could not use moneys raised by taxation to “purchase compliance” with regulations “of matters of State concern with respect to which Congress has no authority to interfere.”⁵⁴⁵ Within little more than a year this decision was reduced to narrow proportions by *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis*,⁵⁴⁶ which sustained the tax imposed on employers to provide unemployment benefits, and the credit allowed for similar taxes paid to a State. To the argument that the tax and credit in combination were “weapons of coercion, destroying or impairing the autonomy

⁵⁴⁴ *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1, 65, 66 (1936). So settled is the issue that recent attacks on federal grants-in-aid omit any challenge on the broad level and rely on specific prohibitions, i.e., the religion clauses of the First Amendment. *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83 (1968); *Tilton v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 672 (1971).

⁵⁴⁵ Justice Stone, speaking for himself and two other Justices, dissented on the ground that Congress was entitled when spending the national revenues for the “general welfare” to see to it that the country got its money’s worth thereof, and that the condemned provisions were “necessary and proper” to that end. *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1, 84–86 (1936).

⁵⁴⁶ 301 U.S. 548 (1937).

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of the States,” the Court replied that relief of unemployment was a legitimate object of federal expenditure under the “general welfare” clause, that the Social Security Act represented a legitimate attempt to solve the problem by the cooperation of State and Federal Governments, that the credit allowed for state taxes bore a reasonable relation “to the fiscal need subserved by the tax in its normal operation,”⁵⁴⁷ since state unemployment compensation payments would relieve the burden for direct relief borne by the national treasury. The Court reserved judgment as to the validity of a tax “if it is laid upon the condition that a State may escape its operation through the adoption of a statute unrelated in subject matter to activities fairly within the scope of national policy and power.”⁵⁴⁸

An Unrestrained Federal Spending Power.—Little if any constitutional controversy marks the debate over the modern exercise of the spending power. There are, of course, “general restrictions,” the first of which is that the power must be used in pursuit of the general welfare.⁵⁴⁹ However, great deference is judicially accorded Congress’ decision that a spending program advances the general welfare,⁵⁵⁰ and the Court has suggested that the question whether a spending program provides for the general welfare may not even be judicially noticeable.⁵⁵¹ Dispute, such as it is, turns on the conditioning of funds.

Conditional Grants-in-Aid.—In the *Steward Machine Company* case, it was a taxpayer who complained of the invasion of the state sovereignty, and the Court put great emphasis on the fact that the State was a willing partner in the plan of cooperation embodied in the Social Security Act.⁵⁵² A decade later the right of Congress to impose conditions upon grants-in-aid over the objection of a State was squarely presented in *Oklahoma v. CSC*.⁵⁵³ The State objected to the enforcement of a provision of the Hatch Act, whereby its right to receive federal highway funds would be diminished in consequence of its failure to remove from office a member of the State Highway Commission found to have taken an active part in party politics while in office. Although it found that the State had asserted a legal right which entitled it to an adjudication

⁵⁴⁷ *Id.*, 591.

⁵⁴⁸ *Id.*, 590. See also *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 90–92 (1976); *Fullilove v. Klutznick*, 448 U.S. 448, 473–475 (1980); *Pennhurst State School & Hospital v. Halderman*, 451 U.S. 1 (1981).

⁵⁴⁹ *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 207 (1987).

⁵⁵⁰ *Id.*, 207 (citing *Helvering v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 619, 640, 645 (1937)).

⁵⁵¹ *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 90–91 (1976).

⁵⁵² 301 U.S. 548, 589, 590 (1937).

⁵⁵³ 330 U.S. 127 (1947).

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of its objection, the Court denied the relief sought on the ground that “[w]hile the United States is not concerned with, and has no power to regulate local political activities as such of State officials, it does have power to fix the terms upon which its money allotments to State shall be disbursed. . . . The end sought by Congress through the Hatch Act is better public service by requiring those who administer funds for national needs to abstain from active political partisanship. So even though the action taken by Congress does have effect upon certain activities within the State, it has never been thought that such effect made the federal act invalid.”⁵⁵⁴

“Congress has frequently employed the Spending Power to further broad policy objectives by conditioning receipt of federal moneys upon compliance by the recipient with federal statutory and administrative directives. This Court has repeatedly upheld against constitutional challenge the use of this technique to induce governments and private parties to cooperate voluntarily with federal policy.”⁵⁵⁵ Standards purporting to channel Congress’ discretion have been announced by the Court, but they amount to little more than hortatory admonitions.⁵⁵⁶ First, the conditions, like the spending itself, must advance the general welfare, but the decision of that rests largely if not wholly with Congress.⁵⁵⁷ Second, since the States may choose to receive or not receive the proffered funds, Congress must set out the conditions unambiguously, so that the States may rationally decide.⁵⁵⁸ Third, it is suggested in the cases that the conditions must be related to the federal interest for which the funds are expended,⁵⁵⁹ but, though it continues to repeat this standard, it has never found a spending condition that did not survive scrutiny under this part of the test.⁵⁶⁰ Fourth, the power to condition funds may not be used to induce the States to engage in

⁵⁵⁴ *Id.*, 143.

⁵⁵⁵ *Fullilove v. Klutznick*, 448 U.S. 448, 474 (1980) (Chief Justice Burger announcing judgment of the Court).

⁵⁵⁶ See *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 207–212 (1987).

⁵⁵⁷ *Id.*, 207. See *supra*, nn. 549–551.

⁵⁵⁸ *Ibid.* The requirement appeared in *Pennhurst State School & Hosp. v. Halderman*, 451 U.S. 1, 17 (1981). See also *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234 (1985).

⁵⁵⁹ *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 207–208 (1987). See *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 548, 590 (1937); *Ivanhoe Irrigation Dist. v. McCracken*, 357 U.S. 275, 295 (1958).

⁵⁶⁰ The relationship in *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 208–209 (1987), in which Congress conditioned access to certain highway funds on establishing a 21-years-of-age drinking qualification was that the purpose of both funds and condition was safe interstate travel. The federal interest in *Oklahoma v. CSC*, 330 U.S. 127, 143 (1947), as we have noted, was assuring proper administration of federal highway funds.

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activities that would themselves be unconstitutional.⁵⁶¹ Fifth, the Court has suggested that in some circumstances the financial inducement offered by Congress might be so coercive as to pass the point at which “pressure turns into compulsion,”⁵⁶² but again the Court has never found a congressional condition to be coercive in this sense.⁵⁶³ Certain federalism restraints on other federal powers seem not to be relevant to spending conditions.⁵⁶⁴

If a State accepts federal funds on conditions and then fails to follow the requirements, the usual remedy is federal administrative action to terminate the funding and to recoup funds the State has already received.⁵⁶⁵ But it is also clear that recipients and potential recipients in a particular program may ordinarily sue to compel the States to observe the standards.⁵⁶⁶ Finally, it should be noted that Congress has enacted a range of laws forbidding discrimination in federal assistance programs, that has considerable effect.⁵⁶⁷

Earmarked Funds.—The appropriation of the proceeds of a tax to a specific use does not affect the validity of the exaction, if the general welfare is advanced and no other constitutional provision is violated. Thus a processing tax on coconut oil was sustained despite the fact that the tax collected upon oil of Philippine production was segregated and paid into the Philippine Treasury.⁵⁶⁸ In *Helvering v. Davis*,⁵⁶⁹ the excise tax on employers, the proceeds of which were not earmarked in any way, although intended to provide funds for payments to retired workers, was upheld under the “general welfare” clause, the Tenth Amendment being found to be inapplicable.

Debts of the United States.—The power to pay the debts of the United States is broad enough to include claims of citizens aris-

⁵⁶¹ *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 210–211 (1987).

⁵⁶² *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 548, 589–590 (1937); *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 211–212 (1987).

⁵⁶³ See *North Carolina ex rel. Morrow v. Califano*, 445 F.Supp. 532 (E.D.N.C. 1977) (three-judge court), *affid.* 435 U.S. 962 (1978).

⁵⁶⁴ *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 210 (1987).

⁵⁶⁵ *Bell v. New Jersey*, 461 U.S. 773 (1983); *Bennett v. New Jersey*, 470 U.S. 632 (1985); *Bennett v. Kentucky Dept. of Education*, 470 U.S. 656 (1985).

⁵⁶⁶ E.g., *King v. Smith*, 392 U.S. 309 (1968); *Rosado v. Wyman*, 397 U.S. 397 (1970); *Lau v. Nichols*, 414 U.S. 563 (1974); *Miller v. Youakim*, 440 U.S. 125 (1979). Suits may be brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, see *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980), although in some instances the statutory conferral of rights may be too imprecise or vague for judicial enforcement. Compare *Suter v. Artist M.*, 112 S.Ct. 1360 (1992), with *Wright v. Roanoke Redevelopment & Housing Auth.*, 479 U.S. 418 (1987).

⁵⁶⁷ E.g., Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681; Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794.

⁵⁶⁸ *Cincinnati Soap Co. v. United States*, 301 U.S. 308 (1937).

⁵⁶⁹ 301 U.S. 619 (1937).

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Cl. 2—Borrowing Power

ing on obligations of right and justice.⁵⁷⁰ The Court sustained an act of Congress which set apart for the use of the Philippine Islands, the revenue from a processing tax on coconut oil of Philippine production, as being in pursuance of a moral obligation to protect and promote the welfare of the people of the Islands.⁵⁷¹ Curiously enough, this power was first invoked to assist the United States to collect a debt due to it. In *United States v. Fisher*,⁵⁷² the Supreme Court sustained a statute which gave the Federal Government priority in the distribution of the estates of its insolvent debtors. The debtor in that case was the endorser of a foreign bill of exchange that apparently had been purchased by the United States. Invoking the “necessary and proper” clause, Chief Justice Marshall deduced the power to collect a debt from the power to pay its obligations by the following reasoning: “The government is to pay the debt of the Union, and must be authorized to use the means which appear to itself most eligible to effect that object. It has, consequently, a right to make remittances by bills or otherwise, and to take those precautions which will render the transaction safe.”⁵⁷³

Clause 2. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To borrow Money on the credit of the United States.*

BORROWING POWER

The original draft of the Constitution reported to the convention by its Committee of Detail empowered Congress “To borrow money and emit bills on the credit of the United States.”⁵⁷⁴ When this section was reached in the debates, Gouverneur Morris moved to strike out the clause “and emit bills on the credit of the United States.” Madison suggested that it might be sufficient “to prohibit the making them a tender.” After a spirited exchange of views on the subject of paper money, the convention voted, nine States to two, to delete the words “and emit bills.”⁵⁷⁵ Nevertheless, in 1870, the Court relied in part upon this clause in holding that Congress had authority to issue treasury notes and to make them legal tender in satisfaction of antecedent debts.⁵⁷⁶

⁵⁷⁰ *United States v. Realty Company*, 163 U.S. 427 (1896); *Pope v. United States*, 323 U.S. 1, 9 (1944).

⁵⁷¹ *Cincinnati Soap Co. v. United States*, 301 U.S. 308 (1937).

⁵⁷² 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 358 (1805).

⁵⁷³ *Id.*, 396.

⁵⁷⁴ M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 144, 308–309.

⁵⁷⁵ *Id.*, 310.

⁵⁷⁶ *Knox v. Lee* (Legal Tender Cases), 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457 (1871), overruling *Hepburn v. Griswold*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 603 (1870).

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When it borrows money “on the credit of the United States,” Congress creates a binding obligation to pay the debt as stipulated and cannot thereafter vary the terms of its agreement. A law purporting to abrogate a clause in government bonds calling for payment in gold coin was held to contravene this clause, although the creditor was denied a remedy in the absence of a showing of actual damage.⁵⁷⁷

Clause 3. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.*

POWER TO REGULATE COMMERCE**Purposes Served by the Grant**

This clause serves a two-fold purpose: it is the direct source of the most important powers that the Federal Government exercises in peacetime, and, except for the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment, it is the most important limitation imposed by the Constitution on the exercise of state power. The latter, restrictive operation of the clause was long the more important one from the point of view of the constitutional lawyer. Of the approximately 1400 cases which reached the Supreme Court under the clause prior to 1900, the overwhelming proportion stemmed from state legislation.⁵⁷⁸ The result was that, generally, the guiding lines in construction of the clause were initially laid down in the context of curbing state power rather than in that of its operation as a source of national power. The consequence of this historical progression was that the word “commerce” came to dominate the clause while the word “regulate” remained in the background. The so-called “constitutional revolution” of the 1930s, however, brought the latter word to its present prominence.

Definition of Terms

Commerce.—The etymology of the word “commerce”⁵⁷⁹ carries the primary meaning of traffic, of transporting goods across state lines for sale. This possibly narrow constitutional conception was

⁵⁷⁷ *Perry v. United States*, 294 U.S. 330, 351 (1935). See also *Lynch v. United States*, 292 U.S. 571 (1934).

⁵⁷⁸ E. PRENTICE & J. EGAN, *THE COMMERCE CLAUSE OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION* (Chicago: 1898), 14.

⁵⁷⁹ That is, “cum merce (with merchandise).”

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rejected by Chief Justice Marshall in *Gibbons v. Ogden*,⁵⁸⁰ which remains one of the seminal cases dealing with the Constitution. The case arose because of a monopoly granted by the New York legislature on the operation of steam-propelled vessels on its waters, a monopoly challenged by Gibbons who transported passengers from New Jersey to New York pursuant to privileges granted by an act of Congress.⁵⁸¹ The New York monopoly was not in conflict with the congressional regulation of commerce, argued the monopolists, because the vessels carried only passengers between the two States and were thus not engaged in traffic, in “commerce” in the constitutional sense.

“The subject to be regulated is commerce,” the Chief Justice wrote. “The counsel for the appellee would limit it to traffic, to buying and selling, or the interchange of commodities, and do not admit that it comprehends navigation. This would restrict a general term, applicable to many objects, to one of its significations. Commerce, undoubtedly, is traffic, but it is something more—it is intercourse.”⁵⁸² The term, therefore, included navigation, a conclusion that Marshall also supported by appeal to general understanding, to the prohibition in Article I, § 9, against any preference being given “by any regulation of commerce or revenue, to the ports of one State over those of another,” and to the admitted and demonstrated power of Congress to impose embargoes.⁵⁸³

Marshall qualified the word “intercourse” with the word “commercial,” thus retaining the element of monetary transactions.⁵⁸⁴ But, today, “commerce” in the constitutional sense, and hence “interstate commerce,” covers every species of movement of persons and things, whether for profit or not, across state lines,⁵⁸⁵ every species of communication, every species of transmission of intelligence, whether for commercial purposes or otherwise,⁵⁸⁶ every species of commercial negotiation which will involve sooner or later an act of transportation of persons or things, or the flow of services or power, across state lines.⁵⁸⁷

⁵⁸⁰ 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1 (1824).

⁵⁸¹ Act of February 18, 1793, 1 Stat. 305, entitled “An Act for enrolling and licensing ships or vessels to be employed in the coasting trade and fisheries, and for regulating the same.”

⁵⁸² *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 189 (1824).

⁵⁸³ *Id.*, 190–194.

⁵⁸⁴ *Id.*, 193.

⁵⁸⁵ As we will see, however, the crossing of state lines gives way in many later formulations, or, rather, is supplemented with, a requirement of effect on interstate commerce which may result from a wholly intrastate transaction.

⁵⁸⁶ E.g., *United States v. Simpson*, 252 U.S. 465 (1920); *Caminetti v. United States*, 242 U.S. 470 (1917).

⁵⁸⁷ “Not only, then, may transactions be commerce though non-commercial; they may be commerce though illegal and sporadic, and though they do not utilize com-

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There was a long period in the Court's history when a majority of the Justices, seeking to curb the regulatory powers of the Federal Government by various means, held that certain things were not encompassed by the commerce clause because they were either not interstate commerce or bore no sufficient nexus to interstate commerce. Thus, at one time, the Court held that mining or manufacturing, even when the product would move in interstate commerce, was not reachable under the commerce clause;⁵⁸⁸ it held insurance transactions carried on across state lines not commerce,⁵⁸⁹ and that exhibitions of baseball between professional teams that travel from State to State were not in commerce,⁵⁹⁰ and that similarly the commerce clause was not applicable to the making of contracts for the insertion of advertisements in periodicals in another State⁵⁹¹ or to the making of contracts for personal services to be rendered in another State.⁵⁹² Later decisions either have overturned or have undermined all of these holdings. The gathering of news by a press association and its transmission to client newspapers are interstate commerce.⁵⁹³ The activities of a Group Health Association, which serves only its own members, are "trade" and capable of becoming interstate commerce;⁵⁹⁴ the business of

mon carriers or concern the flow of anything more tangible than electrons and information." *United States v. South-Eastern Underwriters Assn.*, 322 U.S. 533, 549–550 (1944).

⁵⁸⁸ *Kidd v. Pearson*, 128 U.S. 1 (1888); *Oliver Iron Co. v. Lord*, 262 U.S. 172 (1923); *United States v. E. C. Knight Co.*, 156 U.S. 1 (1895); and see *Carter v. Carter Coal Co.*, 298 U.S. 238 (1936).

⁵⁸⁹ *Paul v. Virginia*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 168 (1869); and see the cases to this effect cited in *United States v. South-Eastern Underwriters Assn.*, 322 U.S. 533, 543–545, 567–568, 578 (1944).

⁵⁹⁰ *Federal Baseball League v. National League of Professional Baseball Clubs*, 259 U.S. 200 (1922). When called on to reconsider its decision, the Court declined, noting that Congress had not seen fit to bring the business under the antitrust laws by legislation having prospective effect and that the business had developed under the understanding that it was not subject to these laws, a reversal of which would have retroactive effect. *Toolson v. New York Yankees*, 346 U.S. 356 (1953). In *Flood v. Kuhn*, 407 U.S. 258 (1972), the Court recognized these decisions as aberrations, but it thought the doctrine entitled to the benefits of *stare decisis* inasmuch as Congress was free to change it at any time. The same considerations not being present, the Court has held that businesses, conducted on a multistate basis but built around local exhibitions, are in commerce and subject to, *inter alia*, the antitrust laws, in the instance of professional football, *Radovich v. National Football League*, 352 U.S. 445 (1957), professional boxing, *United States v. International Boxing Club*, 348 U.S. 236 (1955), and legitimate theatrical productions. *United States v. Shubert*, 348 U.S. 222 (1955).

⁵⁹¹ *Blumenstock Bros. v. Curtis Publishing Co.*, 252 U.S. 436 (1920).

⁵⁹² *Williams v. Fears*, 179 U.S. 270 (1900). See also *Diamond Glue Co. v. United States Glue Co.*, 187 U.S. 611 (1903); *Browning v. City of Waycross*, 233 U.S. 16 (1914); *General Railway Signal Co. v. Virginia*, 246 U.S. 500 (1918). But see *York Manufacturing Co. v. Colley*, 247 U.S. 21 (1918).

⁵⁹³ *Associated Press v. United States*, 326 U.S. 1 (1945).

⁵⁹⁴ *American Medical Association v. United States*, 317 U.S. 519 (1943). Cf. *United States v. Oregon Medical Society*, 343 U.S. 326 (1952).

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insurance when transacted between an insurer and an insured in different States is interstate commerce.⁵⁹⁵ But most important of all there was the development of, or more accurately the return to,⁵⁹⁶ the rationales by which manufacturing,⁵⁹⁷ mining,⁵⁹⁸ business transactions,⁵⁹⁹ and the like, which are antecedent to or subsequent to a move across state lines, are conceived to be part of an integrated commercial whole and therefore subject to the reach of the commerce power.

Among the Several States.—Continuing in *Gibbons v. Ogden*, Chief Justice Marshall observed that the phrase “among the several States” was “not one which would probably have been selected to indicate the completely interior traffic of a state.” It must therefore have been selected to demark “the exclusively internal commerce of a state.” While, of course, the phrase “may very properly be restricted to that commerce which concerns more states than one,” it is obvious that “[c]ommerce among the states, cannot stop at the exterior boundary line of each state, but may be introduced into the interior.” The Chief Justice then succinctly stated the rule, which, though restricted in some periods, continues to govern the interpretation of the clause. “The genius and character of the whole government seem to be, that its action is to be applied to all the external concerns of the nation, and to those internal concerns which affect the states generally; but not to those which are completely within a particular state, which do not affect other states, and with which it is not necessary to interfere, for the purpose of executing some of the general powers of the government.”⁶⁰⁰

Recognition of an “exclusively internal” commerce of a State, or “intrastate commerce” in today’s terms, was at times regarded as setting out an area of state concern that Congress was precluded from reaching.⁶⁰¹ While these cases seemingly visualized Congress’ power arising only when there was an actual crossing of state

⁵⁹⁵ *United States v. South-Eastern Underwriters Assn.*, 322 U.S. 533 (1944).

⁵⁹⁶ “It has been truly said, that commerce, as the word is used in the constitution, is a unit, every part of which is indicated by the term.” *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 194 (1824). And see *id.*, 195–196.

⁵⁹⁷ *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*, 301 U.S. 1 (1937).

⁵⁹⁸ *Sunshine Anthracite Coal Co. v. Adkins*, 310 U.S. 381 (1940). And see *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Reclamation Assn.*, 452 U.S. 264, 275–283 (1981). See also *Mulford v. Smith*, 307 U.S. 38 (1939) (agricultural production).

⁵⁹⁹ *Swift & Co. v. United States*, 196 U.S. 375 (1905); *Stafford v. Wallace*, 258 U.S. 495 (1922); *Chicago Board of Trade v. Olsen*, 262 U.S. 1 (1923).

⁶⁰⁰ 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 194, 195 (1824).

⁶⁰¹ *New York v. Miln*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 102 (1837); *License Cases*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 504 (1847); *Passenger Cases*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 283 (1849); *Patterson v. Kentucky*, 97 U.S. 501 (1879); *Trade-Mark Cases*, 100 U.S. 82 (1879); *Kidd v. Pearson*, 128 U.S. 1 (1888); *Illinois Central Railroad v. McKendree*, 203 U.S. 514 (1906); *Keller v. United States*, 213 U.S. 138 (1909); *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, 247 U.S. 251 (1918); *Oliver Iron Co. v. Lord*, 262 U.S. 172 (1923).

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boundaries, this view ignored the Marshall's equation of "intrastate commerce," which "affect[s] other states" or "with which it is necessary to interfere" in order to effectuate congressional power, with those actions that are "purely" interstate. This equation came back into its own, both with the Court's stress on the "current of commerce" bringing each element in the current within Congress' regulatory power,⁶⁰² with the emphasis on the interrelationships of industrial production to interstate commerce⁶⁰³ but especially with the emphasis that even minor transactions have an effect on interstate commerce⁶⁰⁴ and that the cumulative effect of many minor transactions with no separate effect on interstate commerce, when they are viewed as a class, may be sufficient to merit congressional regulation.⁶⁰⁵ "Commerce among the states must, of necessity, be commerce with[in] the states. . . . The power of congress, then, whatever it may be, must be exercised within the territorial jurisdiction of the several states."⁶⁰⁶

Regulate.—"We are now arrived at the inquiry—" continued the Chief Justice, "What is this power? It is the power to regulate; that is, to prescribe the rule by which commerce is to be governed. This power, like all others vested in congress, is complete in itself, may be exercised to its utmost extent, and acknowledges no limitations, other than are prescribed in the constitution . . . If, as has always been understood, the sovereignty of congress, though lim-

⁶⁰² *Swift & Co. v. United States*, 196 U.S. 375 (1905); *Stafford v. Wallace*, 258 U.S. 495 (1922); *Chicago Board of Trade v. Olsen*, 262 U.S. 1 (1923).

⁶⁰³ *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*, 301 U.S. 1 (1937).

⁶⁰⁴ *NLRB v. Fainblatt*, 306 U.S. 601 (1939); *Kirschbaum v. Walling*, 316 U.S. 517 (1942); *United States v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*, 315 U.S. 110 (1942); *Wickard v. Filburn*, 317 U.S. 111 (1942); *NLRB v. Reliance Fuel Oil Co.*, 371 U.S. 224 (1963); *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294 (1964); *Maryland v. Wirtz*, 392 U.S. 183 (1968); *McLain v. Real Estate Bd.*, 444 U.S. 232, 241–243 (1980); *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Reclamation Assn.*, 452 U.S. 264 (1981).

⁶⁰⁵ *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100 (1941); *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, 379 U.S. 241 (1964); *Maryland v. Wirtz*, 392 U.S. 183 (1968); *Perez v. United States*, 402 U.S. 146 (1971); *Russell v. United States*, 471 U.S. 858 (1985); *Summit Health, Ltd. v. Pinhas*, 500 U.S. 322 (1991).

⁶⁰⁶ *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 196 (1824). Commerce "among the several States" does not comprise commerce of the District of Columbia nor of the territories of the United States. Congress' power over their commerce is an incident of its general power over them. *Stoutenburgh v. Hennick*, 129 U.S. 141 (1889); *Atlantic Cleaners & Dyers v. United States*, 286 U.S. 427 (1932); *In re Bryant*, 4 Fed. Cas. 514 (No. 2067) (D. Oreg. 1865). Transportation between two points in the same State, when a part of the route is a loop outside the State, is interstate commerce. *Hanley v. Kansas City Southern Ry. Co.*, 187 U.S. 617 (1903); *Western Union Telegraph Co. v. Speight*, 254 U.S. 17 (1920). But such a deviation cannot be solely for the purpose of evading a tax or regulation in order to be exempt from the State's reach. *Greyhound Lines v. Mealey*, 334 U.S. 653, 660 (1948); *Eichholz v. Public Service Comm.*, 306 U.S. 268, 274 (1939). Red cap services performed at a transfer point within the State of departure but in conjunction with an interstate trip are reachable. *New York, N.H. & N.R. Co. v. Nothnagle*, 346 U.S. 128 (1953).

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ited to specified objects, is plenary as to those objects, the power over commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, is vested in congress as absolutely as it would be in a single government, having in its constitution the same restrictions on the exercise of the power as are found in the constitution of the United States.”⁶⁰⁷

Of course, the power to regulate commerce is the power to prescribe conditions and rules for the carrying-on of commercial transactions, the keeping-free of channels of commerce, the regulating of prices and terms of sale. Even if the clause granted only this power, the scope would be wide, but it extends to include many more purposes than these. “Congress can certainly regulate interstate commerce to the extent of forbidding and punishing the use of such commerce as an agency to promote immorality, dishonesty, or the spread of any evil or harm to the people of other states from the state of origin. In doing this, it is merely exercising the police power, for the benefit of the public, within the field of interstate commerce.”⁶⁰⁸ Thus, in upholding a federal statute prohibiting the shipment in interstate commerce of goods made with child labor, not because the goods were intrinsically harmful but in order to extirpate child labor, the Court said: “It is no objection to the assertion of the power to regulate commerce that its exercise is attended by the same incidents which attend the exercise of the police power of the states.”⁶⁰⁹

The power has been exercised to enforce majority conceptions of morality,⁶¹⁰ to ban racial discrimination in public accommodations,⁶¹¹ and to protect the public against evils both natural and contrived by people.⁶¹² The power to regulate interstate commerce is, therefore, rightly regarded as the most potent grant of authority in §8.

Necessary and Proper Clause.—All grants of power to Congress in §8, as elsewhere, must be read in conjunction with the final clause, cl. 18, of §8, which authorizes Congress “[t]o make all

⁶⁰⁷ Gibbons v. Ogden, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 196–197 (1824).

⁶⁰⁸ Brooks v. United States, 267 U.S. 432, 436–437 (1925).

⁶⁰⁹ United States v. Darby, 312 U.S. 100, 114 (1941).

⁶¹⁰ E.g., Caminetti v. United States, 242 U.S. 470 (1917) (transportation of female across state line for noncommercial sexual purposes); Cleveland v. United States, 329 U.S. 14 (1946) (transportation of plural wives across state lines by Mormons); United States v. Simpson, 252 U.S. 465 (1920) (transportation of five quarts of whiskey across state line for personal consumption).

⁶¹¹ Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States, 379 U.S. 241 (1964); Katzenbach v. McClung, 379 U.S. 294 (1964); Daniel v. Paul, 395 U.S. 298 (1969).

⁶¹² E.g., Reid v. Colorado, 187 U.S. 137 (1902) (transportation of diseased livestock across state line); Perez v. United States, 402 U.S. 146 (1971) (prohibition of all loansharking).

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Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers.”⁶¹³ It will be recalled that Chief Justice Marshall alluded to the power thus enhanced by this clause when he said that the regulatory power did not extend “to those internal concerns [of a state] . . . with which it is not necessary to interfere, for the purpose of executing some of the general powers of the government.”⁶¹⁴ There are numerous cases permitting Congress to reach “purely” intrastate activities on the theory, combined with the previously mentioned emphasis on the cumulative effect of minor transactions, that it is necessary to regulate them in order that the regulation of interstate activities might be fully effectuated.⁶¹⁵

Federalism Limits on Exercise of Commerce Power.—As is recounted below, prior to reconsideration of the federal commerce power in the 1930s, the Court in effect followed a doctrine of “dual federalism,” under which Congress’ power to regulate much activity depended on whether it had a “direct” rather than an “indirect” effect on interstate commerce.⁶¹⁶ When the restrictive interpretation was swept away during and after the New Deal, the question of federalism limits respecting congressional regulation of private activities became moot. However, the States did in a number of instances engage in commercial activities that would be regulated by federal legislation if the enterprise were privately owned; the Court easily sustained application of federal law to these state proprietary activities.⁶¹⁷ However, as Congress began to extend regulation to state governmental activities, the judicial response was inconsistent and wavering.⁶¹⁸ While the Court may shift again to constrain federal power on federalism grounds, at the present time

⁶¹³ See *infra*.

⁶¹⁴ *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 195 (1824).

⁶¹⁵ E.g., *Houston & Texas Ry. v. United States*, 234 U.S. 342 (1914) (necessary for ICC to regulate rates of an intrastate train in order to effectuate its rate setting for a competing interstate train); *Wisconsin Railroad Commission v. Chicago, B. & Q. R. Co.*, 257 U.S. 563 (1922) (same); *Southern Railway Co. v. United States*, 222 U.S. 20 (1911) (upholding requirement of same safety equipment on intrastate as interstate trains). See also *Wickard v. Filburn*, 317 U.S. 111 (1942); *United States v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*, 315 U.S. 110 (1942).

⁶¹⁶ E.g., *United States v. E. G. Knight Co.*, 156 U.S. 1 (1895); *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, 247 U.S. 251 (1918). Of course, there existed much of this time a parallel doctrine under which federal power was not so limited. E.g., *Houston & Texas Ry. v. United States (The Shreveport Rate Case)*, 234 U.S. 342 (1914).

⁶¹⁷ E.g., *California v. United States*, 320 U.S. 577 (1944); *California v. Taylor*, 353 U.S. 553 (1957).

⁶¹⁸ For example, federal regulation of the wages and hours of certain state and local governmental employees has alternatively been upheld and invalidated. See *Maryland v. Wirtz*, 392 U.S. 183 (1968), *overruled in National League of Cities v. Usery*, 426 U.S. 833 (1976), *overruled in Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Auth.*, 469 U.S. 528 (1985).

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the rule is that Congress lacks authority under the commerce clause to regulate the States as States in some circumstances, when the federal statutory provisions reach only the States and do not bring the States under laws of general applicability.⁶¹⁹

Illegal Commerce

That Congress' protective power over interstate commerce reaches all kinds of obstructions and impediments was made clear in *United States v. Ferger*.⁶²⁰ The defendants had been indicted for issuing a false bill of lading to cover a fictitious shipment in interstate commerce. Before the Court they argued that inasmuch as there could be no commerce in a fraudulent bill of lading, Congress had no power to exercise criminal jurisdiction over them. Said Chief Justice White: "But this mistakenly assumes that the power of Congress is to be necessarily tested by the intrinsic existence of commerce in the particular subject dealt with, instead of by the relation of that subject to commerce and its effect upon it. We say mistakenly assumes, because we think it clear that if the proposition were sustained it would destroy the power of Congress to regulate, as obviously that power, if it is to exist, must include the authority to deal with obstructions to interstate commerce . . . and with a host of other acts which, because of their relation to and influence upon interstate commerce, come within the power of Congress to regulate, although they are not interstate commerce in and of themselves."⁶²¹ Much of Congress' criminal legislation is based simply on the crossing of a state line as creating federal jurisdiction.⁶²²

Interstate Versus Foreign Commerce

There are certain dicta urging or suggesting that Congress' power to regulate interstate commerce restrictively is less than its analogous power over foreign commerce, the argument being that whereas the latter is a branch of the Nation's unlimited power over

⁶¹⁹ *New York v. United States*, 112 S.Ct. 2408 (1992). For elaboration, see the discussions under the supremacy clause and under the Tenth Amendment.

⁶²⁰ 250 U.S. 199 (1919).

⁶²¹ *Id.*, 203.

⁶²² E.g., *Hoke v. United States*, 227 U.S. 308 (1913) (transportation of women for purposes of prostitution); *Gooch v. United States*, 297 U.S. 124 (1936) (kidnapping); *Brooks v. United States*, 267 U.S. 432 (1925) (stolen autos). For example, in *Scarborough v. United States*, 431 U.S. 563 (1977), the Court upheld a conviction for possession of a firearm by a felon upon a mere showing that the gun had some-time previously traveled in interstate commerce, and *Barrett v. United States*, 423 U.S. 212 (1976), upheld a conviction for receipt of a firearm on the same showing. The Court does require Congress in these cases to speak plainly, in order to reach such activity, inasmuch as historic state police powers are involved. *United States v. Bass*, 404 U.S. 336 (1971).

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foreign relations, the former was conferred upon the National Government primarily in order to protect freedom of commerce from state interference. The four dissenting Justices in the *Lottery Case* endorsed this view in the following words: “The power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and the power to regulate interstate commerce, are to be taken *diverso intuitu*, for the latter was intended to secure equality and freedom in commercial intercourse as between the States, not to permit the creation of impediments to such intercourse; while the former clothed Congress with that power over international commerce, pertaining to a sovereign nation in its intercourse with foreign nations, and subject, generally speaking, to no implied or reserved power in the States. The laws which would be necessary and proper in the one case would not be necessary or proper in the other.”⁶²³

And twelve years later Chief Justice White, speaking for the Court, expressed the same view, as follows: “In the argument reference is made to decisions of this court dealing with the subject of the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce, but the very postulate upon which the authority of Congress to absolutely prohibit foreign importations as expounded by the decisions of this court rests is the broad distinction which exists between the two powers and therefore the cases cited and many more which might be cited announcing the principles which they uphold have obviously no relation to the question in hand.”⁶²⁴

But dicta to the contrary are much more numerous and span a far longer period of time. Thus Chief Justice Taney wrote in 1847: “The power to regulate commerce among the several States is granted to Congress in the same clause, and by the same words, as the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and is co-extensive with it.”⁶²⁵ And nearly fifty years later, Justice Field, speaking for the Court, said: “The power to regulate commerce among the several States was granted to Congress in terms as absolute as is the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations.”⁶²⁶ Today it is firmly established doctrine that the power to regulate commerce, whether with foreign nations or among the several States, comprises the power to restrain or prohibit it at all times for the welfare of the public, provided only the specific limita-

⁶²³ *Lottery Case* (*Champion v. Ames*), 188 U.S. 321, 373–374 (1903).

⁶²⁴ *Brolan v. United States*, 236 U.S. 216, 222 (1915). The most recent dicta to this effect appears in *Japan Line v. County of Los Angeles*, 441 U.S. 434, 448–451 (1979), a “dormant” commerce clause case involving state taxation with an impact on foreign commerce. In context, the distinction seems unexceptionable, but the language extends beyond context.

⁶²⁵ *License Cases*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 504, 578 (1847).

⁶²⁶ *Pittsburgh & Southern Coal Co. v. Bates*, 156 U.S. 577, 587 (1895).

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tions imposed upon Congress' powers, as by the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, are not transgressed.⁶²⁷

Instruments of Commerce

The applicability of Congress' power to the agents and instruments of commerce is implied in Marshall's opinion in *Gibbons v. Ogden*,⁶²⁸ where the waters of the State of New York in their quality as highways of interstate and foreign transportation were held to be governed by the overriding power of Congress. Likewise, the same opinion recognizes that in "the progress of things," new and other instruments of commerce will make their appearance. When the Licensing Act of 1793 was passed, the only craft to which it could apply were sailing vessels, but it and the power by which it was enacted were, Marshall asserted, indifferent to the "principle" by which vessels were moved. Its provisions therefore reached steam vessels as well. A little over half a century later the principle embodied in this holding was given its classic expression in the opinion of Chief Justice Waite in the case of the *Pensacola Telegraph Co. v. Western Union Telegraph Co.*,⁶²⁹ a case closely paralleling *Gibbons v. Ogden* in other respects also. "The powers thus granted are not confined to the instrumentalities of commerce, or the postal service known or in use when the Constitution was adopted, but they keep pace with the progress of the country, and adapt themselves to the new developments of times and circumstances. They extend from the horse with its rider to the stage-coach, from the sailing-vessel to the steamboat, from the coach and the steamboat to the railroad, and from the railroad to the telegraph, as these new agencies are successively brought into use to meet the demands of increasing population and wealth. They were intended for the government of the business to which they relate, at all times and under all circumstances. As they were intrusted to the general government for the good of the nation, it is not only the right, but the duty, of Congress to see to it that intercourse among the States and the transmission of intelligence are not obstructed or unnecessarily encumbered by State legislation."⁶³⁰

The Radio Act of 1927⁶³¹ whereby "all forms of interstate and foreign radio transmissions within the United States, its Terri-

⁶²⁷ *United States v. Carolene Products Co.*, 304 U.S. 144, 147-148 (1938).

⁶²⁸ 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 217, 221 (1824).

⁶²⁹ 96 U.S. 1 (1878). See also *Western Union Telegraph Co. v. Texas*, 105 U.S. 460 (1882).

⁶³⁰ *Id.*, 9. "Commerce embraces appliances necessarily employed in carrying on transportation by land and water." *Railroad Company v. Fuller*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 560, 568 (1873).

⁶³¹ Act of March 28, 1927, 45 Stat. 373, superseded by the Communications Act of 1934, 48 Stat. 1064, 47 U.S.C. § 151 et seq.

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tories and possessions” were brought under national control, affords another illustration. Because of the doctrine thus stated, the measure met no serious constitutional challenge either on the floors of Congress or in the Courts.⁶³²

Congressional Regulation of Waterways

Navigation.—In *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*,⁶³³ the Court granted an injunction requiring that a bridge, erected over the Ohio River under a charter from the State of Virginia, either be altered so as to admit of free navigation of the river or else be entirely abated. The decision was justified on the basis both of the commerce clause and of a compact between Virginia and Kentucky, whereby both these States had agreed to keep the Ohio River “free and common to the citizens of the United States.” The injunction was promptly rendered inoperative by an act of Congress declaring the bridge to be “a lawful structure” and requiring all vessels navigating the Ohio to be so regulated as not to interfere with it.⁶³⁴ This act the Court sustained as within Congress’ power under the commerce clause, saying: “So far . . . as this bridge created an obstruction to the free navigation of the river, in view of the previous acts of Congress, they are to be regarded as modified by this subsequent legislation; and, although it still may be an obstruction in fact, [it] is not so in the contemplation of law. . . . [Congress] having in the exercise of this power, regulated the navigation consistent with its preservation and continuation, the authority to maintain it would seem to be complete. That authority combines the concurrent powers of both governments, State and federal, which, if not sufficient, certainly none can be found in our system of government.”⁶³⁵ In short, it is Congress, and not the Court, which is authorized by the Constitution to regulate commerce.⁶³⁶

⁶³² “No question is presented as to the power of the Congress, in its regulation of interstate commerce, to regulate radio communication.” Chief Justice Hughes speaking for the Court in *Federal Radio Comm. v. Nelson Bros. Bond & Mortgage Co.*, 289 U.S. 266, 279 (1933). See also *Fisher’s Blend Station v. Tax Comm.*, 297 U.S. 650, 654–655 (1936).

⁶³³ 13 How. (54 U.S.) 518 (1852).

⁶³⁴ 10 Stat 112, 6 (1852).

⁶³⁵ *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 421, 430 (1856). “It is Congress, and not the Judicial Department, to which the Constitution has given the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States. The courts can never take the initiative on this subject.” *Transportation Co. v. Parkersburg*, 107 U.S. 691, 701 (1883). See also *Prudential Ins. Co. v. Benjamin*, 328 U.S. 408 (1946); *Robertson v. California*, 328 U.S. 440 (1946).

⁶³⁶ But see *In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564 (1895), in which the Court held that in the absence of legislative authorization the Executive had power to seek and federal courts to grant injunctive relief to remove obstructions to interstate commerce and the free flow of the mail.

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The law and doctrine of the earlier cases with respect to the fostering and protection of navigation are well summed up in a frequently cited passage from the Court's opinion in *Gilman v. Philadelphia*.⁶³⁷ "Commerce includes navigation. The power to regulate commerce comprehends the control for that purpose, and to the extent necessary, of all the navigable waters of the United States which are accessible from a State other than those in which they lie. For this purpose they are the public property of the nation, and subject to all requisite legislation by Congress. This necessarily includes the power to keep them open and free from any obstruction to their navigation, interposed by the States or otherwise; to remove such obstructions when they exist; and to provide, by such sanctions as they may deem proper, against the occurrence of the evil and for the punishment of offenders. For these purposes, Congress possesses all the powers which existed in the States before the adoption of the national Constitution, and which have always existed in the Parliament in England."⁶³⁸

Thus, Congress was within its powers in vesting the Secretary of War with power to determine whether a structure of any nature in or over a navigable stream is an obstruction to navigation and to order its abatement if he so finds.⁶³⁹ Nor is the United States required to compensate the owners of such structures for their loss, since they were always subject to the servitude represented by Congress' powers over commerce, and the same is true of the property of riparian owners that is damaged.⁶⁴⁰ And while it was formerly held that lands adjoining nonnavigable streams were not

⁶³⁷ 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 713 (1866).

⁶³⁸ *Id.*, 724–725.

⁶³⁹ *Union Bridge Co. v. United States*, 204 U.S. 364 (1907). See also *Monongahela Bridge Co. v. United States*, 216 U.S. 177 (1910); *Wisconsin v. Illinois*, 278 U.S. 367 (1929). The United States may seek injunctive or declaratory relief requiring the removal of obstructions to commerce by those negligently responsible for them or it may itself remove the obstructions and proceed against the responsible party for costs. *United States v. Republic Steel Corp.*, 362 U.S. 482 (1960); *Wyandotte Transportation Co. v. United States*, 389 U.S. 191 (1967). Congress' power in this area is newly demonstrated by legislation aimed at pollution and environmental degradation. In confirming the title of the States to certain waters under the Submerged Lands Act, 67 Stat. 29 (1953), 43 U.S.C. § 1301 *et seq.*, Congress was careful to retain authority over the waters for purposes of commerce, navigation, and the like. *United States v. Rands*, 389 U.S. 121, 127 (1967).

⁶⁴⁰ *Gibson v. United States*, 166 U.S. 269 (1897). See also *Bridge Co. v. United States*, 105 U.S. 470 (1882); *United States v. Rio Grande Irrigation Co.*, 174 U.S. 690 (1899); *United States v. Chandler-Dunbar Co.*, 229 U.S. 53 (1913); *Seattle v. Oregon & W.R.R.*, 255 U.S. 56, 63 (1921); *Economy Light Co. v. United States*, 256 U.S. 113 (1921); *United States v. River Rouge Co.*, 269 U.S. 411, 419 (1926); *Ford & Son v. Little Falls Co.*, 280 U.S. 369 (1930); *United States v. Commodore Park*, 324 U.S. 386 (1945); *United States v. Twin City Power Co.*, 350 U.S. 222 (1956); *United States v. Rands*, 389 U.S. 121 (1967).

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subject to the above mentioned servitude,⁶⁴¹ this rule has been impaired by recent decisions;⁶⁴² and at any rate it would not apply as to a stream rendered navigable by improvements.⁶⁴³

In exercising its power to foster and protect navigation, Congress legislates primarily on things external to the act of navigation. But that act itself and the instruments by which it is accomplished are also subject to Congress' power if and when they enter into or form a part of "commerce among the several States." When does this happen? Words quoted above from the Court's opinion in the *Gilman* case answered this question to some extent; but the decisive answer to it was returned five years later in the case of *The Daniel Ball*.⁶⁴⁴ Here the question at issue was whether an act of Congress, passed in 1838 and amended in 1852, which required that steam vessels engaged in transporting passengers or merchandise upon the "bays, lakes, rivers, or other navigable waters of the United States," applied to the case of a vessel that navigated only the waters of the Grand River, a stream lying entirely in the State of Michigan. The Court ruled: "In this case it is admitted that the steamer was engaged in shipping and transporting down Grand River, goods destined and marked for other States than Michigan, and in receiving and transporting up the river goods brought within the State from without its limits; . . . So far as she was employed in transporting goods destined for other States, or goods brought from without the limits of Michigan and destined to places within that State, she was engaged in commerce between the States, and however limited that commerce may have been, she was, so far as it went, subject to the legislation of Congress. She was employed as an instrument of that commerce; for whenever a commodity has begun to move as an article of trade from one State to another, commerce in that commodity between the States has commenced."⁶⁴⁵

Counsel had suggested that if the vessel was in commerce because it was part of a stream of commerce then all transportation within a State was commerce. Turning to this point, the Court added: "We answer that the present case relates to transportation on the navigable waters of the United States, and we are not called upon to express an opinion upon the power of Congress over interstate commerce when carried on by land transportation. And we answer further, that we are unable to draw any clear and distinct

⁶⁴¹ *United States v. Cress*, 243 U.S. 316 (1917).

⁶⁴² *United States v. Chicago, M., St. P. & P.R. Co.*, 312 U.S. 592, 597 (1941); *United States v. Willow River Co.*, 324 U.S. 499 (1945).

⁶⁴³ *United States v. Rio Grande Irrigation Co.*, 174 U.S. 690 (1899).

⁶⁴⁴ 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 557 (1871).

⁶⁴⁵ *Id.*, 565.

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line between the authority of Congress to regulate an agency employed in commerce between the States, when the agency extends through two or more States, and when it is confined in its action entirely within the limits of a single State. If its authority does not extend to an agency in such commerce, when that agency is confined within the limits of a State, its entire authority over interstate commerce may be defeated. Several agencies combining, each taking up the commodity transported at the boundary line at one end of a State, and leaving it at the boundary line at the other end, the federal jurisdiction would be entirely ousted, and the constitutional provision would become a dead letter.”⁶⁴⁶ In short, it was admitted, inferentially, that the principle of the decision would apply to land transportation, but the actual demonstration of the fact still awaited some years.⁶⁴⁷

Hydroelectric Power; Flood Control.—As a consequence, in part, of its power to forbid or remove obstructions to navigation in the navigable waters of the United States, Congress has acquired the right to develop hydroelectric power and the ancillary right to sell it to all takers. By a long-standing doctrine of constitutional law, the States possess dominion over the beds of all navigable streams within their borders,⁶⁴⁸ but because of the servitude that Congress’ power to regulate commerce imposes upon such streams, the States, without the assent of Congress, practically are unable to utilize their prerogative for power development purposes. Sensing no doubt that controlling power to this end must be attributed to some government in the United States and that “in such matters

⁶⁴⁶ *Id.*, 566. “The regulation of commerce implies as much control, as far-reaching power, over an artificial as over a natural highway.” Justice Brewer for the Court in *Monongahela Navigation Co. v. United States*, 148 U.S. 312, 342 (1893).

⁶⁴⁷ Congress had the right to confer upon the Interstate Commerce Commission the power to regulate interstate ferry rates, *N.Y. Central R.R. v. Hudson County*, 227 U.S. 248 (1913), and to authorize the Commission to govern the towing of vessels between points in the same State but partly through waters of an adjoining State. *Cornell Steamboat Co. v. United States*, 321 U.S. 634 (1944). Congress’ power over navigation extends to persons furnishing wharfage, dock, warehouse, and other terminal facilities to a common carrier by water. Hence an order of the United States Maritime Commission banning certain allegedly “unreasonable practices” by terminals in the Port of San Francisco, and prescribing schedules of maximum free time periods and of minimum charges was constitutional. *California v. United States*, 320 U.S. 577 (1944). The same power also comprises regulation of the registry enrollment, license, and nationality of ships and vessels, the method of recording bills of sale and mortgages thereon, the rights and duties of seamen, the limitations of the responsibility of shipowners for the negligence and misconduct of their captains and crews, and many other things of a character truly maritime. See *The Lottawanna*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 558, 577 (1875); *Providence & N.Y. SS. Co. v. Hill Mfg. Co.*, 109 U.S. 578, 589 (1883); *The Hamilton*, 207 U.S. 398 (1907); *O’Donnell v. Great Lakes Co.*, 318 U.S. 36 (1943).

⁶⁴⁸ *Pollard v. Hagan*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 212 (1845); *Shively v. Bowlby*, 152 U.S. 1 (1894).

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there can be no divided empire,"⁶⁴⁹ the Court held in *United States v. Chandler-Dunbar Co.*,⁶⁵⁰ that in constructing works for the improvement of the navigability of a stream, Congress was entitled, as part of a general plan, to authorize the lease or sale of such excess water power as might result from the conservation of the flow of the stream. "If the primary purpose is legitimate," it said, "we can see no sound objection to leasing any excess of power over the needs of the Government. The practice is not unusual in respect to similar public works constructed by State governments."⁶⁵¹

Since the *Chandler-Dunbar* case, the Court has come, in effect, to hold that it will sustain any act of Congress, which purports to be for the improvement of navigation, whatever other purposes it may also embody, nor does the stream involved have to be one "navigable in its natural state." Such, at least, seems to be the sum of its holdings in *Arizona v. California*,⁶⁵² and *United States v. Appalachian Power Co.*⁶⁵³ In the former, the Court, speaking through Justice Brandeis, said that it was not free to inquire into the motives "which induced members of Congress to enact the Boulder Canyon Project Act," adding: "As the river is navigable and the means which the Act provides are not unrelated to the control of navigation . . . the erection and maintenance of such dam and reservoir are clearly within the powers conferred upon Congress. Whether the particular structures proposed are reasonably necessary, is not for this Court to determine. . . . And the fact that purposes other than navigation will also be served could not invalidate the exercise of the authority conferred, even if those other purposes would not alone have justified an exercise of congressional power."⁶⁵⁴

And in the *Appalachian Power* case, the Court, abandoning previous holdings laying down the doctrine that to be subject to Congress' power to regulate commerce a stream must be "navigable in fact," said: "A waterway, otherwise suitable for navigation, is not barred from that classification merely because artificial aids must make the highway suitable for use before commercial navigation may be undertaken," provided there must be a "balance between cost and need at a time when the improvement would be useful. . . . Nor is it necessary that the improvements should be actually

⁶⁴⁹ *Green Bay & Miss. Canal Co. v. Patten Paper Co.*, 172 U.S. 58, 80 (1898).
⁶⁵⁰ 229 U.S. 53 (1913).

⁶⁵¹ *Id.*, 73, citing *Kaukauna Water Power Co. v. Green Bay & Miss. Canal Co.*, 142 U.S. 254 (1891).

⁶⁵² 283 U.S. 423 (1931).

⁶⁵³ 311 U.S. 377 (1940).

⁶⁵⁴ 283 U.S., 455–456. See also *United States v. Twin City Power Co.*, 350 U.S. 222, 224 (1956).

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completed or even authorized. The power of Congress over commerce is not to be hampered because of the necessity for reasonable improvements to make an interstate waterway available for traffic. . . . Nor is it necessary for navigability that the use should be continuous. . . . Even absence of use over long periods of years, because of changed conditions, . . . does not affect the navigability of rivers in the constitutional sense.”⁶⁵⁵

Furthermore, the Court defined the purposes for which Congress may regulate navigation in the broadest terms. “It cannot properly be said that the constitutional power of the United States over its waters is limited to control for navigation. . . . That authority is as broad as the needs of commerce. . . . Flood protection, watershed development, recovery of the cost of improvements through utilization of power are likewise parts of commerce control.”⁶⁵⁶ These views the Court has since reiterated.⁶⁵⁷ Nor is it by virtue of Congress’ power over navigation alone that the National Government may develop water power. Its war powers and powers of expenditure in furtherance of the common defense and the general welfare supplement its powers over commerce in this respect.⁶⁵⁸

Congressional Regulation of Land Transportation

Federal Stimulation of Land Transportation.—The settlement of the interior of the country led Congress to seek to facilitate access by first encouraging the construction of highways. In successive acts, it authorized construction of the Cumberland and the National Road from the Potomac across the Alleghenies to the Ohio, reserving certain public lands and revenues from land sales for construction of public roads to new States granted statehood.⁶⁵⁹ Acquisition and settlement of California stimulated interest in railway lines to the west, but it was not until the Civil War that Congress voted aid in the construction of a line from the Missouri River to the Pacific; four years later, it chartered the Union Pacific Company.⁶⁶⁰

The litigation growing out of these and subsequent activities settled several propositions. First, Congress may provide highways and railways for interstate transportation;⁶⁶¹ second, it may char-

⁶⁵⁵ 311 U.S., 407, 409–410.

⁶⁵⁶ *Id.*, 426.

⁶⁵⁷ *Oklahoma v. Atkinson Co.*, 313 U.S. 508, 523–533 *passim* (1941).

⁶⁵⁸ *Ashwander v. Tennessee Valley Authority*, 297 U.S. 288 (1936).

⁶⁵⁹ *Cf. Indiana v. United States*, 148 U.S. 148 (1893).

⁶⁶⁰ 12 Stat. 489 (1862); 13 Stat. 356 (1864); 14 Stat. 79 (1866).

⁶⁶¹ The result then as well as now might have followed from Congress’ power of spending, independently of the commerce clause, as well as from its war and postal powers, which were also invoked by the Court in this connection.

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ter private corporations for that purpose; third, it may vest such corporations with the power of eminent domain in the States; and fourth, it may exempt their franchises from state taxation.⁶⁶²

Federal Regulation of Land Transportation.—Congressional regulation of railroads may be said to have begun in 1866. By the Garfield Act, Congress authorized all railroad companies operating by steam to interconnect with each other “so as to form continuous lines for the transportation of passengers, freight, troops, governmental supplies, and mails, to their destination.”⁶⁶³ An act of the same year provided federal chartering and protection from conflicting state regulations to companies formed to construct and operate telegraph lines.⁶⁶⁴ Another act regulated the transportation by railroad of livestock so as to preserve the health and safety of the animals.⁶⁶⁵

Congress’ entry into the rate regulation field was preceded by state attempts to curb the abuses of the rail lines in the Middle West, which culminated in the “Granger Movement.” Because the businesses were locally owned, the Court at first upheld state laws as not constituting a burden on interstate commerce;⁶⁶⁶ but after the various business panics of the 1870s and 1880s drove numerous small companies into bankruptcy and led to consolidation, there emerged great interstate systems. Thus in 1886, the Court held that a State may not set charges for carriage even within its own boundaries of goods brought from without the State or destined to points outside it; that power was exclusively with Congress.⁶⁶⁷ In the following year, Congress passed the original Interstate Commerce Act.⁶⁶⁸ A Commission was authorized to pass upon the “reasonableness” of all rates by railroads for the transportation of goods or persons in interstate commerce and to order the discontinuance of all charges found to be “unreasonable.” The Commission’s basic

⁶⁶² Thomson v. Union Pacific Railroad, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 579 (1870); California v. Pacific Railroad Co. (Pacific Ry. Cases), 127 U.S. 1 (1888); Cherokee Nation v. Southern Kansas Railway Co., 135 U.S. 641 (1890); Luxton v. North River Bridge Co., 153 U.S. 525 (1894).

⁶⁶³ 14 Stat. 66 (1866).

⁶⁶⁴ 14 Stat. 221 (1866).

⁶⁶⁵ 17 Stat. 353 (1873).

⁶⁶⁶ Munn v. Illinois, 94 U.S. 113 (1877); Chicago B. & Q. R. Co. v. Iowa, 94 U.S. 155 (1877); Peik v. Chicago & Nw. Ry. Co., 94 U.S. 164 (1877); Pickard v. Pullman Southern Car Co., 117 U.S. 34 (1886).

⁶⁶⁷ Wabash, St. L. & P. Ry. Co. v. Illinois, 118 U.S. 557 (1886). A variety of state regulations have been struck down on the burdening-of-commerce rationale. E.g., Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona ex rel. Sullivan, 325 U.S. 761 (1945) (train length); Napier v. Atlantic Coast Line R., 272 U.S. 605 (1926) (locomotive accessories); Pennsylvania R. v. Public Service Comm., 250 U.S. 566 (1919). But the Court has largely exempted regulations with a safety purpose, even a questionable one. Brotherhood of Firemen v. Chicago, R. I. & P. R. Co., 393 U.S. 129 (1968).

⁶⁶⁸ 24 Stat. 379 (1887).

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authority was upheld in *ICC v. Brimson*,⁶⁶⁹ in which the Court upheld the validity of the Act as a means “necessary and proper” for the enforcement of the regulatory commerce power and in which it also sustained the Commission’s power to go to court to secure compliance with its orders. Later decisions circumscribed somewhat the ICC’s power.⁶⁷⁰

Expansion of the Commission’s authority came in the Hepburn Act of 1906⁶⁷¹ and the Mann-Elkins Act of 1910.⁶⁷² By the former, the Commission was explicitly empowered, after a full hearing on a complaint, “to determine and prescribe just and reasonable” maximum rates; by the latter, it was authorized to set rates on its own initiative and empowered to suspend any increase in rates by a carrier until it reviewed the change. At the same time, the Commission’s jurisdiction was extended to telegraphs, telephones, and cables.⁶⁷³ By the Motor Carrier Act of 1935,⁶⁷⁴ the ICC was authorized to regulate the transportation of persons and property by motor vehicle common carriers.

The powers of the Commission today are largely defined by the Transportation Acts of 1920⁶⁷⁵ and 1940.⁶⁷⁶ The jurisdiction of the Commission covers not only the characteristics of the rail, motor, and water carriers in commerce among the States but also the issuance of securities by them and all consolidations of existing companies or lines.⁶⁷⁷ Further, the Commission was charged with regulating so as to foster and promote the meeting of the transportation needs of the country. Thus, from a regulatory exercise originally

⁶⁶⁹ 154 U.S. 447 (1894).

⁶⁷⁰ *ICC v. Alabama Midland Ry.*, 168 U.S. 144 (1897); *Cincinnati, N.O. & Texas Pacific Ry. v. ICC*, 162 U.S. 184 (1896).

⁶⁷¹ 34 Stat. 584 (1906).

⁶⁷² 36 Stat. 539 (1910).

⁶⁷³ These regulatory powers are now vested, of course, in the Federal Communications Commission.

⁶⁷⁴ 49 Stat. 543 (1935).

⁶⁷⁵ 41 Stat. 474 (1920).

⁶⁷⁶ 54 Stat. 898 (1940), U.S.C. §1 et seq. The two acts were “intended . . . to provide a completely integrated interstate regulatory system over motor, railroad, and water carriers.” *United States v. Pennsylvania Railroad Co.*, 323 U.S. 612, 618–619 (1945). The ICC’s powers include authority to determine the reasonableness of a joint through international rate covering transportation in the United States and abroad and to order the domestic carriers to pay reparations in the amount by which the rate is unreasonable. *Canada Packers v. Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. Co.*, 385 U.S. 182 (1966), and cases cited.

⁶⁷⁷ Disputes between the ICC and other Government agencies over mergers have occupied a good deal of the Court’s time. Cf. *United States v. ICC*, 396 U.S. 491 (1970). See also *County of Marin v. United States*, 356 U.S. 412 (1958); *McLean Trucking Co. v. United States*, 321 U.S. 67 (1944); *Penn-Central Merger & N & W Inclusion Cases*, 389 U.S. 486 (1968).

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begun as a method of restraint there has emerged a policy of encouraging a consistent national transportation policy.⁶⁷⁸

Federal Regulation of Intrastate Rates (The Shreveport Doctrine).—Although its statutory jurisdiction did not apply to intrastate rate systems, the Commission early asserted the right to pass on rates, which, though in effect on intrastate lines, gave these lines competitive advantages over interstate lines the rates of which the Commission had set. This power the Supreme Court upheld in a case involving a line operating wholly intrastate in Texas but which paralleled within Texas an interstate line operating between Louisiana and Texas; the Texas rate body had fixed the rates of the intrastate line substantially lower than the rate fixed by the ICC on the interstate line. “Wherever the interstate and intrastate transactions of carriers are so related that the government of the one involves the control of the other, it is Congress, and not the State, that is entitled to prescribe the final and dominant rule, for otherwise Congress would be denied the exercise of its constitutional authority and the States and not the Nation, would be supreme in the national field.”⁶⁷⁹

The same holding was applied in a subsequent case in which the Court upheld the Commission’s action in annulling intrastate passenger rates it found to be unduly low in comparison with the rates the Commission had established for interstate travel, thus tending to thwart, in deference to a local interest, the general purpose of the act to maintain an efficient transportation service for the benefit of the country at large.⁶⁸⁰

⁶⁷⁸ Among the various provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act which have been upheld are: a section penalizing shippers for obtaining transportation at less than published rates, *Armour Packing Co. v. United States*, 209 U.S. 56 (1908); a section construed as prohibiting the hauling of commodities in which the carrier had at the time of haul a proprietary interest, *United States v. Delaware & Hudson Co.*, 213 U.S. 366 (1909); a section abrogating life passes, *Louisville & Nashville R. Co. v. Mottley*, 219 U.S. 467 (1911); a section authorizing the ICC to regulate the entire bookkeeping system of interstate carriers, including intrastate accounts, *ICC v. Goodrich Transit Co.*, 224 U.S. 194 (1912); a clause affecting the charging of rates different for long and short hauls. *Intermountain Rate Cases*, 234 U.S. 476 (1914).

⁶⁷⁹ *Houston & Texas Railway v. United States*, 234 U.S. 342, 351–352 (1914). See also, *American Express Co. v. Caldwell*, 244 U.S. 617 (1917); *Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co. v. Tax Comm.*, 297 U.S. 403 (1936); *Weiss v. United States*, 308 U.S. 321 (1939); *Bethlehem Steel Co. v. State Board*, 330 U.S. 767 (1947); *United States v. Walsh*, 331 U.S. 432 (1947).

⁶⁸⁰ *Wisconsin Railroad Comm. v. Chicago, B. & Q. R. Co.*, 257 U.S. 563 (1922). Cf. *Colorado v. United States*, 271 U.S. 153 (1926), upholding an ICC order directing abandonment of an intrastate branch of an interstate railroad. But see *North Carolina v. United States*, 325 U.S. 507 (1945), setting aside an ICC disallowance of intrastate rates set by a state commission as unsupported by the evidence and findings.

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Federal Protection of Labor in Interstate Rail Transportation.—Federal entry into the field of protective labor legislation and the protection of organization efforts of workers began in connection with the railroads. The Safety Appliance Act of 1893,⁶⁸¹ applying only to cars and locomotives engaged in moving interstate traffic, was amended in 1903 so as to embrace much of the intrastate rail systems on which there was any connection with interstate commerce.⁶⁸² The Court sustained this extension in language much like that it would use in the *Shreveport* case three years later.⁶⁸³ These laws were followed by the Hours of Service Act of 1907,⁶⁸⁴ which prescribed maximum hours of employment for rail workers in interstate or foreign commerce. The Court sustained the regulation as a reasonable means of protecting workers and the public from the hazards which could develop from long, tiring hours of labor.⁶⁸⁵

Most far-reaching of these regulatory measures were the Federal Employers Liability Acts of 1906⁶⁸⁶ and 1908.⁶⁸⁷ These laws were intended to modify the common-law rules with regard to the liability of employers for injuries suffered by their employees in the course of their employment and under which employers were generally not liable. Rejecting the argument that regulation of such relationships between employers and employees was a reserved state power, the Court adopted the argument of the United States that Congress was empowered to do anything it might deem appropriate to save interstate commerce from interruption or burdening and that inasmuch as the labor of employees was necessary for the function of commerce Congress could certainly act to ameliorate conditions that made labor less efficient, less economical, and less reliable. Assurance of compensation for injuries growing out of negligence in the course of employment was such a permissible regulation.⁶⁸⁸

⁶⁸¹ 27 Stat. 531, 45 U.S.C. §§1–7.

⁶⁸² 32 Stat. 943, 45 U.S.C. §§8–10.

⁶⁸³ *Southern Railway Co. v. United States*, 222 U.S. 20 (1911). See also *Texas & Pacific Ry. Co. v. Rigsby*, 241 U.S. 33 (1916); *United States v. California*, 297 U.S. 175 (1936); *United States v. Seaboard Air Line R.*, 361 U.S. 78 (1959).

⁶⁸⁴ 34 Stat. 1415, 45 U.S.C. §§61–64.

⁶⁸⁵ *Baltimore & Ohio Railroad v. ICC*, 221 U.S. 612 (1911).

⁶⁸⁶ 34 Stat. 232, held unconstitutional in part in the *Employers' Liability Cases*, 207 U.S. 463 (1908).

⁶⁸⁷ 35 Stat. 65, 45 U.S.C. §§51–60.

⁶⁸⁸ The *Second Employers Liability Cases*, 223 U.S. 1 (1912). For a longer period, a Court majority reviewed a surprising large number of FELA cases, almost uniformly expanding the scope of recovery under the statute. Cf. *Rogers v. Missouri Pacific R.*, 352 U.S. 500 (1957). This practice was criticized both within and without the Court, cf. *Ferguson v. Moore-McCormack Lines*, 352 U.S. 521, 524 (1957) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting); Hart, "Foreword: The Time Chart of the Justices," 73 *Harv. L. Rev.* 84, 96–98 (1959), and has been discontinued.

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Legislation and litigation dealing with the organizational rights of rail employees are dealt with elsewhere.⁶⁸⁹

Regulation of Other Agents of Carriage and Communications.—In 1914, the Court affirmed the power of Congress to regulate the transportation of oil and gas in pipe lines from one State to another and held that this power applied to the transportation even though the oil or gas was the property of the lines.⁶⁹⁰ Subsequently, the Court struck down state regulation of rates of electric current generated within that State and sold to a distributor in another State as a burden on interstate commerce.⁶⁹¹ Proceeding on the assumption that the ruling meant the Federal Government had the power, Congress in the Federal Power Act of 1935 conferred on the Federal Power Commission authority to regulate the wholesale distribution of electricity in interstate commerce⁶⁹² and three years later vested the FPC with like authority over natural gas moving in interstate commerce.⁶⁹³ Thereafter, the Court sustained the power of the Commission to set the prices at which gas originating in one State and transported into another should be sold to distributors wholesale in the latter State.⁶⁹⁴ “The sale of natural gas originating in the State and its transportation and delivery to distributors in any other State constitutes interstate commerce, which is subject to regulation by Congress. . . . The authority of Congress to regulate the prices of commodities in interstate commerce is at least as great under the Fifth Amendment as is that of the States under the Fourteenth to regulate the prices of commodities in intrastate commerce.”⁶⁹⁵

Other acts regulating commerce and communication originating in this period have evoked no basic constitutional challenge.

⁶⁸⁹ *Infra*, pp. 189–190, 191 n. 739.

⁶⁹⁰ *The Pipe Line Cases*, 234 U.S. 548 (1914). See also *State Comm. v. Wichita Gas Co.*, 290 U.S. 561 (1934); *Eureka Pipe Line Co. v. Hallanan*, 257 U.S. 265 (1921); *United Fuel Gas Co. v. Hallanan*, 257 U.S. 277 (1921); *Pennsylvania v. West Virginia*, 262 U.S. 553 (1923); *Missouri ex rel. Barrett v. Kansas Gas Co.*, 265 U.S. 298 (1924).

⁶⁹¹ *Public Utilities Comm. v. Attleboro Co.*, 273 U.S. 83 (1927). See also *Utah Power & Light Co. v. Pfof*, 286 U.S. 165 (1932); *Pennsylvania Power Co. v. FPC*, 343 U.S. 414 (1952).

⁶⁹² 49 Stat. 863, 16 U.S.C. §§791a–825u.

⁶⁹³ 52 Stat. 821, 15 U.S.C. §§717–717w.

⁶⁹⁴ *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575 (1942).

⁶⁹⁵ *Id.*, 582. Sales to distributors by a wholesaler of natural gas delivered to it from out-of-state sources are subject to FPC jurisdiction. *Colorado-Wyoming Co. v. FPC*, 324 U.S. 626 (1945). See also *Illinois Gas Co. v. Public Service Co.*, 314 U.S. 498 (1942); *FPC v. East Ohio Gas Co.*, 338 U.S. 464 (1950). In *Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Wisconsin*, 347 U.S. 672 (1954), the Court ruled that an independent company engaged in one State in production, gathering, and processing of natural gas, which it thereafter sells in the same State to pipelines that transport and sell the gas in other States is subject to FPC jurisdiction. See also *California v. Lo-Vaca Gathering Co.*, 379 U.S. 366 (1965).

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These include the Federal Communications Act of 1934, providing for the regulation of interstate and foreign communication by wire and radio,⁶⁹⁶ and the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, providing for the regulation of all phases of airborne commerce, foreign and interstate.⁶⁹⁷

Congressional Regulation of Commerce as Traffic

The Sherman Act: Sugar Trust Case.—Congress' chief effort to regulate commerce in the primary sense of "traffic" is embodied in the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890, the opening section of which declares "every contract, combination in the form of trust or otherwise," or "conspiracy in restraint of trade and commerce among the several States, or with foreign nations" to be "illegal," while the second section makes it a misdemeanor for anybody to "monopolize or attempt to monopolize any part of such commerce."⁶⁹⁸ The act was passed to curb the growing tendency to form industrial combinations and the first case to reach the Court under it was the famous *Sugar Trust Case, United States v. E. C. Knight Co.*⁶⁹⁹ Here the Government asked for the cancellation of certain agreements, whereby the American Sugar Refining Company, had "acquired," it was conceded, "nearly complete control of the manufacture of refined sugar in the United States."

The question of the validity of the Act was not expressly discussed by the Court but was subordinated to that of its proper construction. The Court, in pursuance of doctrines of constitutional law then dominant with it, turned the Act from its intended purpose and destroyed its effectiveness for several years, as that of the Interstate Commerce Act was being contemporaneously impaired. The following passage early in Chief Justice Fuller's opinion for the Court, sets forth the conception of the federal system that controlled the decision: "It is vital that the independence of the commercial power and of the police power, and the delimitation between them, however sometimes perplexing, should always be recognized and observed, for while the one furnishes the strongest bond of union, the other is essential to the preservation of the autonomy of the States as required by our dual form of government; and acknowledged evils, however grave and urgent they may ap-

⁶⁹⁶ 48 Stat. 1064, 47 U.S.C. §151 et seq. Cf. *United States v. Southwestern Cable Co.*, 392 U.S. 157 (1968), on the regulation of community antenna television systems (CATV).

⁶⁹⁷ 52 Stat. 973, as amended. The CAB has now been abolished and its functions are exercised by the Federal Aviation Commission, 49 U.S.C. §106, as part of the Department of Transportation.

⁶⁹⁸ 26 Stat. 209 (1890); 15 U.S.C. §§1-7.

⁶⁹⁹ 156 U.S. 1 (1895).

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pear to be, had better be borne, than the risk be run, in the effort to suppress them, of more serious consequences by resort to expedients of even doubtful constitutionality.”⁷⁰⁰

In short, what was needed, the Court felt, was a hard and fast line between the two spheres of power, and in a series of propositions it endeavored to lay down such a line: (1) production is always local, and under the exclusive domain of the States; (2) commerce among the States does not begin until goods “commence their final movement from their State of origin to that of their destination;” (3) the sale of a product is merely an incident of its production and, while capable of “bringing the operation of commerce into play,” affects it only incidentally; (4) such restraint as would reach commerce, as above defined, in consequence of combinations to control production “in all its forms,” would be “indirect, however inevitable and whatever its extent,” and as such beyond the purview of the Act.⁷⁰¹ Applying the above reasoning to the case before it, the Court proceeded: “The object [of the combination] was manifestly private gain in the manufacture of the commodity, but not through the control of interstate or foreign commerce. It is true that the bill alleged that the products of these refineries were sold and distributed among the several States, and that all the companies were engaged in trade or commerce with the several States and with foreign nations; but this was no more than to say that trade and commerce served manufacture to fulfill its function.

“Sugar was refined for sale, and sales were probably made at Philadelphia for consumption, and undoubtedly for resale by the first purchasers throughout Pennsylvania and other States, and refined sugar was also forwarded by the companies to other States for sale. Nevertheless it does not follow that an attempt to monopolize, or the actual monopoly of, the manufacture was an attempt, whether executory or consummated, to monopolize commerce, even though, in order to dispose of the product, the instrumentality of commerce was necessarily invoked. There was nothing in the proofs to indicate any intention to put a restraint upon trade or commerce, and the fact, as we have seen that trade or commerce might be indirectly affected was not enough to entitle complainants to a decree.”⁷⁰²

⁷⁰⁰ *Id.*, 13.

⁷⁰¹ *Id.*, 13–16.

⁷⁰² *Id.*, 17. The doctrine of the case boiled down to the proposition that commerce was transportation only, a doctrine that Justice Harlan undertook to refute in his notable dissenting opinion. “Interstate commerce does not, therefore, consist in transportation simply. It includes the purchase and sale of articles that are intended to be transported from one State to another—every species of commercial intercourse among the States and with foreign nations” *Id.*, 22. “Any combination,

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Sherman Act Revived.—Four years later came the case of *Addyston Pipe and Steel Co. v. United States*,⁷⁰³ in which the Anti-trust Act was successfully applied as against an industrial combination for the first time. The agreements in the case, the parties to which were manufacturing concerns, effected a division of territory among them, and so involved, it was held, a “direct” restraint on the distribution and hence of the transportation of the products of the contracting firms. The holding, however, did not question the doctrine of the earlier case, which in fact continued substantially undisturbed until 1905, when *Swift and Co. v. United States*,⁷⁰⁴ was decided.

The “Current of Commerce” Concept: The Swift Case.—Defendants in *Swift* were some thirty firms engaged in Chicago and other cities in the business of buying livestock in their stockyards, in converting it at their packing houses into fresh meat, and in the sale and shipment of such fresh meat to purchasers in other States. The charge against them was that they had entered into a combination to refrain from bidding against each other in the local markets, to fix the prices at which they would sell, to restrict shipments of meat, and to do other forbidden acts. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court on defendants’ contention that certain of the acts complained of were not acts of interstate commerce and so did not fall within a valid reading of the Sherman Act. The Court, however, sustained the Government on the ground that the

therefore, that disturbs or unreasonably obstructs freedom in buying and selling articles manufactured to be sold to persons in other States or to be carried to other States—a freedom that cannot exist if the right to buy and sell is fettered by unlawful restraints that crush out competition—affects, not incidentally, but directly, the people of all the States; and the remedy for such an evil is found only in the exercise of powers confided to a government which, this court has said, was the government of all, exercising powers delegated by all, representing all, acting for all. *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. 316, 405,” *Id.*, 33.

⁷⁰³ 175 U.S. 211 (1899).

⁷⁰⁴ 196 U.S. 375 (1905). The Sherman Act was applied to break up combinations of interstate carriers in *United States v. Trans-Missouri Freight Assn.*, 166 U.S. 290 (1897); *United States v. Joint-Traffic Association*, 171 U.S. 505 (1898); and *Northern Securities Co. v. United States*, 193 U.S. 197 (1904).

In *Mandeville Island Farms v. American Crystal Sugar Co.*, 334 U.S. 219, 229–239 (1948), Justice Rutledge, for the Court, critically reviewed the jurisprudence of the limitations on the Act and the deconstruction of the judicial constraints. In recent years, the Court’s decisions have permitted the reach of the Sherman Act to expand along with the expanding notions of congressional power. *Gulf Oil Corp. v. Copp Paving Co.*, 419 U.S. 186 (1974); *Hospital Building Co. v. Rex Hospital Trustees*, 425 U.S. 738 (1976); *McLain v. Real Estate Board of New Orleans*, 444 U.S. 232 (1980); *Summit Health, Ltd. v. Pinhas*, 500 U.S. 322 (1991). The Court, however, does insist that plaintiffs alleging that an intrastate activity violates the Act prove the relationship to interstate commerce set forth in the Act. *Gulf Oil Corp.*, *supra*, 194–199.

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“scheme as a whole” came within the act, and that the local activities alleged were simply part and parcel of this general scheme.⁷⁰⁵

Referring to the purchase of livestock at the stockyards, the Court, speaking by Justice Holmes, said: “Commerce among the States is not a technical legal conception, but a practical one, drawn from the course of business. When cattle are sent for sale from a place in one State, with the expectation that they will end their transit, after purchase, in another, and when in effect they do so, with only the interruption necessary to find a purchaser at the stockyards, and when this is a typical, constantly recurring course, the current thus existing is a current of commerce among the States, and the purchase of the cattle is a part and incident of such commerce.”⁷⁰⁶ Likewise the sales alleged of fresh meat at the slaughtering places fell within the general design. Even if they imported a technical passing of title at the slaughtering places, they also imported that the sales were to persons in other States, and that shipments to such States were part of the transaction.⁷⁰⁷ Thus, sales of the type that in the *Sugar Trust* case were thrust to one side as immaterial from the point of view of the law, because they enabled the manufacturer “to fulfill its function,” were here treated as merged in an interstate commerce stream.

Thus, the concept of commerce as *trade*, that is, as *traffic*, again entered the constitutional law picture, with the result that conditions directly affecting interstate trade could not be dismissed on the ground that they affected interstate commerce, in the sense of interstate *transportation*, only “indirectly.” Lastly, the Court added these significant words: “But we do not mean to imply that the rule which marks the point at which State taxation or regulation becomes permissible necessarily is beyond the scope of interference by Congress in cases where such interference is deemed necessary for the protection of commerce among the States.”⁷⁰⁸ That is to say, the line that confines state power from one side does not always confine national power from the other. Even though the line accurately divides the subject matter of the complementary spheres, national power is always entitled to take on the additional extension that is requisite to guarantee its effective exercise and is furthermore supreme.

The Danbury Hatters Case.—In this respect, the *Swift* case only states what the *Shreveport* case was later to declare more explicitly, and the same may be said of an ensuing series of cases in

⁷⁰⁵ *Swift and Co. v. United States*, 196 U.S. 375, 396 (1905).

⁷⁰⁶ *Id.*, 398–399.

⁷⁰⁷ *Id.*, 399–401.

⁷⁰⁸ *Id.*, 400.

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which combinations of employees engaged in such intrastate activities as manufacturing, mining, building, construction, and the distribution of poultry were subjected to the penalties of the Sherman Act because of the effect or intended effect of their activities on interstate commerce.⁷⁰⁹

Stockyards and Grain Futures Acts.—In 1921, Congress passed the Packers and Stockyards Act⁷¹⁰ whereby the business of commission men and livestock dealers in the chief stockyards of the country was brought under national supervision, and in the year following it passed the Grain Futures Act⁷¹¹ whereby exchanges dealing in grain futures were subjected to control. The decisions of the Court sustaining these measures both built directly upon the *Swift* case.

In *Stafford v. Wallace*,⁷¹² which involved the former act, Chief Justice Taft, speaking for the Court, said: “The object to be secured by the act is the free and unburdened flow of livestock from the ranges and farms of the West and Southwest through the great stockyards and slaughtering centers on the borders of that region, and thence in the form of meat products to the consuming cities of the country in the Middle West and East, or, still as livestock, to the feeding places and fattening farms in the Middle West or East for further preparation for the market.”⁷¹³ The stockyards, therefore, were “not a place of rest or final destination.” They were “but a throat through which the current flows,” and the sales there were not merely local transactions. “They do not stop the flow;—but, on the contrary” are “indispensable to its continuity.”⁷¹⁴

In *Chicago Board of Trade v. Olsen*,⁷¹⁵ involving the Grain Futures Act, the same course of reasoning was repeated. Speaking of the *Swift* case, Chief Justice Taft remarked: “That case was a milestone in the interpretation of the commerce clause of the Constitution. It recognized the great changes and development in the business of this vast country and drew again the dividing line between interstate and intrastate commerce where the Constitution in-

⁷⁰⁹ *Loewe v. Lawlor* (The Danbury Hatters Case), 208 U.S. 274 (1908); *Duplex Printing Press Co. v. Deering*, 254 U.S. 443 (1921); *Coronado Co. v. United Mine Workers*, 268 U.S. 295 (1925); *United States v. Bruins*, 272 U.S. 549 (1926); *Bedford Co. v. Stone Cutters Assn.*, 274 U.S. 37 (1927); *Local 167 v. United States*, 291 U.S. 293 (1934); *Allen Bradley Co. v. Union*, 325 U.S. 797 (1945); *United States v. Employing Plasterers Assn.*, 347 U.S. 186 (1954); *United States v. Green*, 350 U.S. 415 (1956); *Callanan v. United States*, 364 U.S. 587 (1961).

⁷¹⁰ 42 Stat. 159, 7 U.S.C. §§171–183, 191–195, 201–203.

⁷¹¹ 42 Stat. 998 (1922), 7 U.S.C. §§1–9, 10a–17.

⁷¹² 258 U.S. 495 (1922).

⁷¹³ *Id.*, 514.

⁷¹⁴ *Id.*, 515–516. See also *Lemke v. Farmers' Grain Co.*, 258 U.S. 50 (1922); *Minnesota v. Blasius*, 290 U.S. 1 (1933).

⁷¹⁵ 262 U.S. 1 (1923).

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tended it to be. It refused to permit local incidents of a great interstate movement, which taken alone are intrastate, to characterize the movement as such.”⁷¹⁶

Of special significance, however, is the part of the opinion devoted to showing the relation between future sales and cash sales, and hence the effect of the former upon the interstate grain trade. The test, said the Chief Justice, was furnished by the question of price. “The question of price dominates trade between the States. Sales of an article which affect the country-wide price of the article directly affect the country-wide commerce in it.”⁷¹⁷ Thus a practice which demonstrably affects prices would also affect interstate trade “directly,” and so, even though local in itself, would fall within the regulatory power of Congress. In the following passage, indeed, Chief Justice Taft whittled down, in both cases, the “direct-indirect” formula to the vanishing point: “Whatever amounts to more or less constant practice, and threatens to obstruct or unduly to burden the freedom of interstate commerce is within the regulatory power of Congress under the commerce clause, and it is primarily for Congress to consider and decide the fact of the danger to meet it. This court will certainly not substitute its judgment for that of Congress in such a matter unless the relation of the subject to interstate commerce and its effect upon it are clearly nonexistent.”⁷¹⁸

It was in reliance on the doctrine of these cases that Congress first set to work to combat the Depression in 1933 and the years immediately following. But in fact, much of its legislation at this time marked a wide advance upon the measures just passed in review. They did not stop with regulating traffic among the States and the instrumentalities thereof; they also essayed to govern production and industrial relations in the field of production. Confronted with this expansive exercise of Congress’ power, the Court again deemed itself called upon to define a limit to the commerce power that would save to the States their historical sphere, and especially their customary monopoly of legislative power in relation to industry and labor management.

Securities and Exchange Commission.—Not all antidepression legislation, however, was of this new approach. The Securities Exchange Act of 1934⁷¹⁹ and the Public Utility Company Act (“Wheeler-Rayburn Act”) of 1935⁷²⁰ were not. The former cre-

⁷¹⁶ Id., 35.

⁷¹⁷ Id., 40.

⁷¹⁸ Id., 37, quoting *Stafford v. Wallace*, 258 U.S. 495, 521 (1922).

⁷¹⁹ 48 Stat. 881, 15 U.S.C. § 77b et seq.

⁷²⁰ 49 Stat. 803, 15 U.S.C. §§ 79–79z–6.

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ated the Securities and Exchange Commission and authorized it to lay down regulations designed to keep dealing in securities honest and aboveboard and closed the channels of interstate commerce and the mails to dealers refusing to register under the act. The latter required the companies governed by it to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission and to inform it concerning their business, organization and financial structure, all on pain of being prohibited use of the facilities of interstate commerce and the mails; while by §11, the so-called “death sentence” clause, the same act closed after a certain date the channels of interstate communication to certain types of public utility companies whose operations, Congress found, were calculated chiefly to exploit the investing and consuming public. All these provisions have been sustained,⁷²¹ *Gibbons v. Ogden* furnishing the Court its principle reliance.

Congressional Regulation of Production and Industrial Relations: Antidepression Legislation

In the words of Chief Justice Hughes, spoken in a case decided a few days after President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s first inauguration, the problem then confronting the new Administration was clearly set forth. “When industry is grievously hurt, when producing concerns fail, when unemployment mounts and communities dependent upon profitable production are prostrated, the wells of commerce go dry.”⁷²²

National Industrial Recovery Act.—The initial effort of Congress to deal with this situation was embodied in the National Industrial Recovery Act of June 16, 1933.⁷²³ The opening section of the Act asserted the existence of “a national emergency productive of widespread unemployment and disorganization of industry which” burdened “interstate and foreign commerce,” affected “the public welfare,” and undermined “the standards of living of the American people.” To affect the removal of these conditions the President was authorized, upon the application of industrial or trade groups, to approve “codes of fair competition,” or to prescribe the same in cases where such applications were not duly forthcoming. Among other things such codes, of which eventually more than 700 were promulgated, were required to lay down rules of fair dealing with customers and to furnish labor certain guarantees respect-

⁷²¹ *Electric Bond Co. v. SEC*, 303 U.S. 419 (1938); *North American Co. v. SEC*, 327 U.S. 686 (1946); *American Power Co., v. SEC*, 329 U.S. 90 (1946).

⁷²² *Appalachian Coals v. United States*, 288 U.S. 344, 372 (1933).

⁷²³ 48 Stat. 195.

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ing hours, wages and collective bargaining. For the time being, business and industry were to be cartelized on a national scale.

In *A.L.A. Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*,⁷²⁴ one of these codes, the Live Poultry Code, was pronounced unconstitutional. Although it was conceded that practically all poultry handled by the Schechters came from outside the State, and hence via interstate commerce, the Court held, nevertheless, that once the chickens came to rest in the Schechter's wholesale market, interstate commerce in them ceased. The act, however, also purported to govern business activities which "affected" interstate commerce. This, Chief Justice Hughes held, must be taken to mean "directly" affect such commerce: "the distinction between direct and indirect effects of intrastate transactions upon interstate commerce must be recognized as a fundamental one, essential to the maintenance of our constitutional system. Otherwise, . . . there would be virtually no limit to the federal power and for all practical purposes we should have a completely centralized government."⁷²⁵ In short, the case was governed by the ideology of the *Sugar Trust* case, which was not mentioned in the Court's opinion.⁷²⁶

Agricultural Adjustment Act.—Congress' second attempt to combat the Depression comprised the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933.⁷²⁷ As is pointed out elsewhere, the measure was set aside as an attempt to regulate production, a subject held to be "prohibited" to the United States by the Tenth Amendment.⁷²⁸

Bituminous Coal Conservation Act.—The third measure to be disallowed was the Guffey-Snyder Bituminous Coal Conserva-

⁷²⁴ 295 U.S. 495 (1935).

⁷²⁵ *Id.*, 548. See also *id.*, 546.

⁷²⁶ In *United States v. Sullivan*, 332 U.S. 689 (1948), the Court interpreted the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act of 1938 as applying to the sale by a retailer of drugs purchased from his wholesaler within the State nine months after their interstate shipment had been completed. The Court, speaking by Justice Black, cited *United States v. Walsh*, 331 U.S. 432 (1947); *Wickard v. Filburn*, 317 U.S. 111 (1942); *United States v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*, 315 U.S. 110 (1942); *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100 (1941). Justice Frankfurter dissented on the basis of *FTC v. Bunte Bros.*, 312 U.S. 349 (1941). It is apparent that the *Schechter* case has been thoroughly repudiated so far as the distinction between "direct" and "indirect" effects is concerned. Cf. *Perez v. United States*, 402 U.S. 146 (1971). See also *McDermott v. Wisconsin*, 228 U.S. 115 (1913), which preceded the *Schechter* decision by more than two decades.

The NIRA, however, was found to have several other constitutional infirmities besides its disregard, as illustrated by the Live Poultry Code, of the "fundamental" distinction between "direct" and "indirect" effects, namely, the delegation of uncanalized legislative power, the absence of any administrative procedural safeguards, the absence of judicial review, and the dominant role played by private groups in the general scheme of regulation.

⁷²⁷ 48 Stat. 31 (1933).

⁷²⁸ *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1, 63–64, 68 (1936).

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tion Act of 1935.⁷²⁹ The statute created machinery for the regulation of the price of soft coal, both that sold in interstate commerce and that sold “locally,” and other machinery for the regulation of hours of labor and wages in the mines. The clauses of the act dealing with these two different matters were declared by the act itself to be separable so that the invalidity of the one set would not affect the validity of the other, but this strategy was ineffectual. A majority of the Court, speaking by Justice Sutherland, held that the act constituted one connected scheme of regulation, which, inasmuch as it invaded the reserved powers of the States over conditions of employment in productive industry, was violative of the Constitution.⁷³⁰ Justice Sutherland’s opinion set out from Chief Justice Hughes’ assertion in the *Schechter* case of the “fundamental” character of the distinction between “direct” and “indirect” effects, that is to say, from the doctrine of the *Sugar Trust* case. It then proceeded: “Much stress is put upon the evils which come from the struggle between employers and employees over the matter of wages, working conditions, the right of collective bargaining, etc., and the resulting strikes, curtailment and irregularity of production and effect on prices; and it is insisted that interstate commerce is greatly affected thereby. But . . . the conclusive answer is that the evils are all local evils over which the Federal Government has no legislative control. The relation of employer and employee is a local relation. At common law, it is one of the domestic relations. The wages are paid for the doing of local work. Working conditions are obviously local conditions. The employees are not engaged in or about commerce, but exclusively in producing a commodity. And the controversies and evils, which it is the object of the act to regulate and minimize, are local controversies and evils affecting local work undertaken to accomplish that local result. Such effect as they may have upon commerce, however extensive it may be, is secondary and indirect. An increase in the greatness of the effect adds to its importance. It does not alter its character.”⁷³¹

Railroad Retirement Act.—Still pursuing the idea of protecting commerce and the labor engaged in it concurrently, Congress, by the Railroad Retirement Act of June 27, 1934,⁷³² ordered the compulsory retirement of superannuated employees of interstate carriers, and provided that they be paid pensions out of a fund comprising compulsory contributions from the carriers and their present and future employees. In *Railroad Retirement Board v.*

⁷²⁹ 49 Stat. 991 (1935).

⁷³⁰ *Carter v. Carter Coal Co.*, 298 U.S. 238 (1936).

⁷³¹ *Id.*, 308–309.

⁷³² 48 Stat. 1283 (1934).

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Alton R. Co.,⁷³³ however, a closely divided Court held this legislation to be in excess of Congress' power to regulate commerce and contrary to the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. Said Justice Roberts for the majority: "We feel bound to hold that a pension plan thus imposed is in no proper sense a regulation of the activity of interstate transportation. It is an attempt for social ends to impose by sheer fiat noncontractual incidents upon the relation of employer and employee, not as a rule or regulation of commerce and transportation between the States, but as a means of assuring a particular class of employees against old age dependency. This is neither a necessary nor an appropriate rule or regulation affecting the due fulfillment of the railroads' duty to serve the public in interstate transportation."⁷³⁴

Chief Justice Hughes, speaking for the dissenters, contended, on the contrary, that "the morale of the employees [had] an important bearing upon the efficiency of the transportation service." He added: "The fundamental consideration which supports this type of legislation is that industry should take care of its human wastage, whether that is due to accident or age. That view cannot be dismissed as arbitrary or capricious. It is a reasoned conviction based upon abundant experience. The expression of that conviction in law is regulation. When expressed in the government of interstate carriers, with respect to their employees likewise engaged in interstate commerce, it is a regulation of that commerce. As such, so far as the subject matter is concerned, the commerce clause should be held applicable."⁷³⁵ Under subsequent legislation, an excise is levied on interstate carriers and their employees, while by separate but parallel legislation a fund is created in the Treasury out of which pensions are paid along the lines of the original plan. The constitutionality of this scheme appears to be taken for granted in *Railroad Retirement Board v. Duquesne Warehouse Co.*⁷³⁶

National Labor Relations Act.—The case in which the Court reduced the distinction between "direct" and "indirect" effects to the vanishing point and thereby placed Congress in the position to regulate productive industry and labor relations in these industries was *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*⁷³⁷ Here the

⁷³³ 295 U.S. 330 (1935).

⁷³⁴ *Id.*, 374.

⁷³⁵ *Id.*, 379, 384.

⁷³⁶ 326 U.S. 446 (1946). Indeed, in a case decided in June, 1948, Justice Rutledge, speaking for a majority of the Court, listed the *Alton* case as one "foredoomed to reversal," though the formal reversal has never taken place. See *Mandeville Island Farms v. American Crystal Sugar Co.*, 334 U.S. 219, 230 (1948). Cf. *Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co.*, 428 U.S. 1, 19 (1976).

⁷³⁷ 301 U.S. 1 (1937). A major political event had intervened between this decision and those described in the preceding pages. President Roosevelt, angered at the

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statute involved was the National Labor Relations Act of 1935,⁷³⁸ which declared the right of workers to organize, forbade unlawful employer interference with this right, established procedures by which workers could choose exclusive bargaining representatives with which employers were required to bargain, and created a board to oversee all these processes.⁷³⁹

The Court, speaking through Chief Justice Hughes, upheld the Act and found the corporation to be subject to the Act. “The close and intimate effect,” he said, “which brings the subject within the reach of federal power may be due to activities in relation to productive industry although the industry when separately viewed is local.” Nor will it do to say that such effect is “indirect.” Considering defendant’s “far-flung activities,” the effect of strife between it and its employees “would be immediate and [it] might be catastrophic. We are asked to shut our eyes to the plainest facts of our national life and to deal with the question of direct and indirect ef-

Court’s invalidation of much of his depression program, proposed a “reorganization” of the Court by which he would have been enabled to name one new Justice for each Justice on the Court who was more than 70 years old, in the name of “judicial efficiency.” The plan was defeated in the Senate, in part, perhaps, because in such cases as *Jones & Laughlin* a Court majority began to demonstrate sufficient “judicial efficiency.” See Leuchtenberg, *The Origins of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “Court-Packing” Plan*, 1966 SUP. CT. REV. 347 (P. Kurland ed.); Mason, *Harlan Fiske Stone and FDR’s Court Plan*, 61 Yale L. J. 791 (1952); 2 M. PUSEY, CHARLES EVANS HUGHES (Cambridge: 1951), 759–765.

⁷³⁸ 49 Stat. 449, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 151 et seq.

⁷³⁹ The NLRA was enacted not only against the backdrop of depression, although obviously it went far beyond being a mere antidepression measure, but Congress could as well look to its experience in railway labor legislation. In 1898, Congress passed the Erdman Act, 30 Stat. 424, which attempted to influence the unionization of railroad workers and facilitate negotiations with employers through mediation. The statute fell largely into disuse because the railroads refused to mediate. Additionally, in *Adair v. United States*, 208 U.S. 161 (1908), the Court struck down a section of the law outlawing “yellow-dog contracts,” by which employers exacted promises of workers to quit or not to join unions as a condition of employment. The Court held the section not to be a regulation of commerce, there being no connection between an employee’s membership in a union and the carrying on of interstate commerce. Cf. *Coppage v. Kansas*, 236 U.S. 1 (1915).

The Court did uphold in *Wilson v. New*, 243 U.S. 332 (1917), a congressional settlement of a threatened rail strike through the enactment of an eight-hour day and a time-and-a-half for overtime for all interstate railway employees. The national emergency confronting the Nation was cited by the Court but with the implication that the power existed in more normal times, suggesting that Congress’ powers were not as limited as some judicial decisions had indicated.

Congress’ enactment of the Railway Labor Act in 1926, 44 Stat. 577, as amended, 45 U.S.C. § 151 et seq., was sustained by a Court decision admitting the connection between interstate commerce and union membership as a substantial one. *Texas & N.L.R. Co. v. Brotherhood of Railway Clerks*, 281 U.S. 548 (1930). A subsequent decision sustained the application of the Act to “back shop” employees of an interstate carrier who engaged in making heavy repairs on locomotives and cars withdrawn from service for long periods, the Court finding that the activities of these employees were related to interstate commerce. *Virginian Ry. Co. v. System Federation No. 40*, 300 U.S. 515 (1937).

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fects in an intellectual vacuum. . . . When industries organize themselves on a national scale, making their relation to interstate commerce the dominant factor in their activities, how can it be maintained that their industrial labor relations constitute a forbidden field into which Congress may not enter when it is necessary to protect interstate commerce from the paralyzing consequences of industrial war? We have often said that interstate commerce itself is a practical conception. It is equally true that interferences with that commerce must be appraised by a judgment that does not ignore actual experience.”⁷⁴⁰

While the Act was thus held to be within the constitutional powers of Congress in relation to a productive concern because the interruption of its business by strike “might be catastrophic,” the decision was forthwith held to apply also to two minor concerns,⁷⁴¹ and in a later case the Court stated specifically that the smallness of the volume of commerce affected in any particular case is not a material consideration.⁷⁴² Subsequently, the act was declared to be applicable to a local retail auto dealer on the ground that he was an integral part of the manufacturer’s national distribution system,⁷⁴³ to a labor dispute arising during alteration of a county courthouse because one-half of the cost—\$225,000—was attributable to materials shipped from out-of-State,⁷⁴⁴ and to a dispute involving a retail distributor of fuel oil, all of whose sales were local, but who obtained the oil from a wholesaler who imported it from another State.⁷⁴⁵

Indeed, “[t]his Court has consistently declared that in passing the National Labor Relations Act, Congress intended to and did vest in the Board the fullest jurisdictional breadth constitutionally permissible under the Commerce Clause.”⁷⁴⁶ Thus, the Board has formulated jurisdictional standards which assume the requisite effect on interstate commerce from a prescribed dollar volume of business and these standards have been implicitly approved by the Court.⁷⁴⁷

Fair Labor Standards Act.—In 1938, Congress enacted the Fair Labor Standards Act. The measure prohibited not only the

⁷⁴⁰ NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp., 301 U.S. 1, 38, 41–42 (1937).

⁷⁴¹ NLRB v. Fruehauf Trailer Co., 301 U.S. 49 (1937); NLRB v. Friedman-Harry Marks Clothing Co., 301 U.S. 58 (1937).

⁷⁴² NLRB v. Fainblatt, 306 U.S. 601, 606 (1939).

⁷⁴³ Howell Chevrolet Co. v. NLRB, 346 U.S. 482 (1953).

⁷⁴⁴ Journeymen Plumbers’ Union v. County of Door, 359 U.S. 354 (1959).

⁷⁴⁵ NLRB v. Reliance Fuel Oil Co., 371 U.S. 224 (1963).

⁷⁴⁶ *Id.*, 226. See also Guss v. Utah Labor Board, 353 U.S. 1, 3 (1957); NLRB v. Fainblatt, 306 U.S. 601, 607 (1939).

⁷⁴⁷ NLRB v. Reliance Fuel Oil Co., 371 U.S. 224, 225 n. 2 (1963); *Liner v. Jafco*, 375 U.S. 301, 303 n. 2 (1964).

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shipment in interstate commerce of goods manufactured by employees whose wages are less than the prescribed maximum but also the employment of workmen in the production of goods for such commerce at other than the prescribed wages and hours. Interstate commerce was defined by the act to mean “trade, commerce, transportation, transmission, or communication among the several States or from any State to any place outside thereof.”

It was further provided that “for the purposes of this act an employee shall be deemed to have been engaged in the production of goods [that is, for interstate commerce] if such employee was employed . . . in any process or occupation directly essential to the production thereof in any State.”⁷⁴⁸ Sustaining an indictment under the act, a unanimous Court, speaking through Chief Justice Stone, said: “The motive and purpose of the present regulation are plainly to make effective the congressional conception of public policy that interstate commerce should not be made the instrument of competition in the distribution of goods produced under substandard labor conditions, which competition is injurious to the commerce and to the States from and to which the commerce flows.”⁷⁴⁹ In support of the decision the Court invoked Chief Justice Marshall’s reading of the necessary-and-proper clause in *McCulloch v. Maryland* and his reading of the commerce clause in *Gibbons v. Ogden*.⁷⁵⁰ Objections purporting to be based on the Tenth Amendment were met from the same point of view: “Our conclusion is unaffected by the Tenth Amendment which provides: ‘The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.’ The amendment states but a truism that all is retained which has not been surrendered. There is nothing in the history of its adoption to suggest that it was more than declaratory of the relationship between the national and State governments as it had been established by the Constitution before the amendment or that its purpose was other than to allay fears that

⁷⁴⁸ 52 Stat. 1060, as amended, 63 Stat. 910 (1949). The 1949 amendment substituted the phrase “in any process or occupation directly essential to the production thereof in any State” for the original phrase “in any process or occupation necessary to the production thereof in any State.” In *Mitchell v. H. B. Zachry Co.*, 362 U.S. 310, 317 (1960), the Court noted that the change “manifests the view of Congress that on occasion courts . . . had found activities to be covered, which . . . [Congress now] deemed too remote from commerce or too incidental to it.” The 1961 amendments to the Act, 75 Stat. 65, departed from previous practices of extending coverage to employees individually connected to interstate commerce to cover all employees of any “enterprise” engaged in commerce or production of commerce; thus, there was an expansion of employees covered but not, of course, of employers, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. See 29 U.S.C. §§ 203(r), 203(s), 206(a), 207(a).

⁷⁴⁹ *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100, 115 (1941).

⁷⁵⁰ *Id.*, 113, 114, 118.

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the new National Government might seek to exercise powers not granted, and that the States might not be able to exercise fully their reserved powers.”⁷⁵¹

Subsequent decisions of the Court took a very broad view of which employees should be covered by the Act,⁷⁵² and in 1949 Congress to some degree narrowed the permissible range of coverage and disapproved some of the Court’s decisions.⁷⁵³ But in 1961,⁷⁵⁴ with extensions in 1966,⁷⁵⁵ Congress itself expanded by several million persons the coverage of the Act, introducing the “enterprise” concept by which all employees in a business producing anything in commerce or affecting commerce were brought within the protection of the minimum wage-maximum hours standards.⁷⁵⁶ The “enterprise concept” was sustained by the Court in *Maryland v. Wirtz*.⁷⁵⁷ Justice Harlan, for a unanimous Court on this issue, found the extension entirely proper on the basis of two theories: one, a business’ competitive position in commerce is determined in part by all its significant labor costs, and not just those costs attributable to its employees engaged in production in interstate commerce, and, two, labor peace and thus smooth functioning of interstate commerce was facilitated by the termination of substandard labor conditions affecting all employees and not just those actually engaged in interstate commerce.⁷⁵⁸

Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act.—After its initial frustrations, Congress returned to the task of bolstering agriculture by passing the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of June 3,

⁷⁵¹ *Id.*, 123–124.

⁷⁵² E.g., *Kirschbaum v. Walling*, 316 U.S. 517 (1942) (operating and maintenance employees of building, part of which was rented to business producing goods for interstate commerce); *Walton v. Southern Package Corp.*, 320 U.S. 540 (1944) (night watchman in a plant the substantial portion of the production of which was shipped in interstate commerce); *Armour & Co. v. Wantock*, 323 U.S. 126 (1944) (employees on stand-by auxiliary fire-fighting service of an employer engaged in interstate commerce); *Borden Co. v. Borella*, 325 U.S. 679 (1945) (maintenance employees in building housing company’s central offices where management was located though the production of interstate commerce was elsewhere); *Martino v. Michigan Window Cleaning Co.*, 327 U.S. 173 (1946) (employees of a window-cleaning company the principal business of which was performed on windows of industrial plants producing goods for interstate commerce); *Mitchell v. Lublin, McGaughy & Associates*, 358 U.S. 207 (1959) (nonprofessional employees of architectural firm working on plans for construction of air bases, bus terminals, and radio facilities).

⁷⁵³ Cf. *Mitchell v. H. B. Zachry Co.*, 362 U.S. 310, 316–318 (1960).

⁷⁵⁴ 75 Stat. 65.

⁷⁵⁵ 80 Stat. 830.

⁷⁵⁶ 29 U.S.C. §§ 203(r), 203(s).

⁷⁵⁷ 392 U.S. 183 (1968).

⁷⁵⁸ Another aspect of this case was overruled in *National League of Cities v. Usery*, 426 U.S. 833 (1976), which itself was overruled in *Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Auth.*, 469 U.S. 528 (1985).

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1937,⁷⁵⁹ authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to fix the minimum prices of certain agricultural products, when the handling of such products occurs “in the current of interstate or foreign commerce or . . . directly burdens, obstructs or affects interstate or foreign commerce in such commodity or product thereof.” In *United States v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*,⁷⁶⁰ the Court sustained an order of the Secretary of Agriculture fixing the minimum prices to be paid to producers of milk in the Chicago “marketing area.” The dairy company demurred to the regulation on the ground it applied to milk produced and sold intrastate. Sustaining the order, the Court said: “Congress plainly has power to regulate the price of milk distributed through the medium of interstate commerce . . . and it possesses every power needed to make that regulation effective. The commerce power is not confined in its exercise to the regulation of commerce among the States. It extends to those activities intrastate which so affect interstate commerce, or the exertion of the power of Congress over it, as to make regulation of them appropriate means to the attainment of a legitimate end, the effective execution of the granted power to regulate interstate commerce. The power of Congress over interstate commerce is plenary and complete in itself, may be exercised to its utmost extent, and acknowledges no limitations other than are prescribed in the Constitution. . . . It follows that no form of State activity can constitutionally thwart the regulatory power granted by the commerce clause to Congress. Hence the reach of that power extends to those intrastate activities which in a substantial way interfere with or obstruct the exercise of the granted power.”⁷⁶¹

In *Wickard v. Filburn*,⁷⁶² a still deeper penetration by Congress into the field of production was sustained. As amended by the act of 1941, the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938,⁷⁶³ regulated production even when not intended for commerce but wholly for consumption on the producer’s farm. Sustaining this extension of the act, the Court pointed out that the effect of the statute was to support the market. “It can hardly be denied that a factor of such volume and variability as home-consumed wheat would have a substantial influence on price and market conditions. This may arise because being in marketable condition such wheat overhangs the

⁷⁵⁹ 50 Stat. 246, 7 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.

⁷⁶⁰ 315 U.S. 110 (1942). The Court had previously upheld other legislation that regulated agricultural production through limitations on sales in or affecting interstate commerce. *Currin v. Wallace*, 306 U.S. 1 (1939); *Mulford v. Smith*, 307 U.S. 38 (1939).

⁷⁶¹ *Id.*, 315 U.S., 118–119.

⁷⁶² 317 U.S. 111 (1942).

⁷⁶³ 52 Stat. 31, 7 U.S.C. §§ 612c, 1281–1282 et seq.

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market and, if induced by rising prices, tends to flow into the market and check price increases. But if we assume that it is never marketed, it supplies a need of the man who grew it which would otherwise be reflected by purchases in the open market. Home-grown wheat in this sense competes with wheat in commerce. The stimulation of commerce is a use of the regulatory function quite as definitely as prohibitions or restrictions thereon. This record leaves us in no doubt that Congress may properly have considered that wheat consumed on the farm grown, if wholly outside the scheme of regulation, would have a substantial effect in defeating and obstructing its purpose to stimulate trade therein at increased prices.”⁷⁶⁴ And it elsewhere stated: “Questions of the power of Congress are not to be decided by reference to any formula which would give controlling force to nomenclature such as ‘production’ and ‘indirect’ and foreclose consideration of the actual effects of the activity in question upon interstate commerce. . . . The Court’s recognition of the relevance of the economic effects in the application of the Commerce Clause . . . has made the mechanical application of legal formulas no longer feasible.”⁷⁶⁵

Acts of Congress Prohibiting Commerce

Foreign Commerce: Jefferson’s Embargo.—“Jefferson’s Embargo” of 1807–1808, which cut all trade with Europe, was attacked on the ground that the power to regulate commerce was the power to preserve it, not the power to destroy it. This argument was rejected by Judge Davis of the United States District Court for Massachusetts in the following words: “A national sovereignty is created [by the Constitution]. Not an unlimited sovereignty, but a sov-

⁷⁶⁴ *Id.*, 317 U.S., 128–129.

⁷⁶⁵ *Id.*, 120–124. In *United States v. Rock Royal Co-operative*, 307 U.S. 533 (1939), the Court sustained an order under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, 50 Stat. 246, regulating the price of milk in certain instances. Said Justice Reed for the majority of the Court: “The challenge is to the regulation ‘of the price to be paid upon the sale by a dairy farmer who delivers his milk to some country plant.’ It is urged that the sale, a local transaction, is fully completed before any interstate commerce begins and that the attempt to fix the price or other elements of that incident violates the Tenth Amendment. But where commodities are bought for use beyond State lines, the sale is a part of interstate commerce. We have likewise held that where sales for interstate transportation were commingled with intrastate transactions, the existence of the local activity did not interfere with the federal power to regulate inspection of the whole. Activities conducted within State lines do not by this fact alone escape the sweep of the Commerce Clause. Interstate commerce may be dependent upon them. Power to establish quotas for interstate marketing gives power to name quotas for that which is to be left within the State of production. Where local and foreign milk alike are drawn into a general plan for protecting the interstate commerce in the commodity from the interferences, burdens and obstructions, arising from excessive surplus and the social and sanitary evils of low values, the power of the Congress extends also to the local sales.” *Id.*, 568–569.

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ereignty, as to the objects surrendered and specified, limited only by the qualification and restrictions, expressed in the Constitution. Commerce is one of those objects. The care, protection, management and control, of this great national concern, is, in my opinion, vested by the Constitution, in the Congress of the United States; and their power is sovereign, relative to commercial intercourse, qualified by the limitations and restrictions, expressed in that instrument, and by the treaty making power of the President and Senate. . . . Power to regulate, it is said, cannot be understood to give a power to annihilate. To this it may be replied, that the acts under consideration, though of very ample extent, do not operate as a prohibition of all foreign commerce. It will be admitted that partial prohibitions are authorized by the expression; and how shall the degree, or extent, of the prohibition be adjusted, but by the discretion of the National Government, to whom the subject appears to be committed? . . . The term does not necessarily include shipping or navigation; much less does it include the fisheries. Yet it never has contended, that they are not the proper objects of national regulation; and several acts of Congress have been made respecting them. . . . [Furthermore] if it be admitted that national regulations relative to commerce, may apply it as an instrument, and are not necessarily confined to its direct aid and advancement, the sphere of legislative discretion is, of course, more widely extended; and, in time of war, or of great impending peril, it must take a still more expanded range.

“Congress has power to declare war. It, of course, has power to prepare for war; and the time, the manner, and the measure, in the application of constitutional means, seem to be left to its wisdom and discretion. . . . Under the Confederation, . . . we find an express reservation to the State legislatures of the power to pass prohibitory commercial laws, and, as respects exportations, without any limitations. Some of them exercised this power. . . . Unless Congress, by the Constitution, possess the power in question, it still exists in the State legislatures—but this has never been claimed or pretended, since the adoption of the Federal Constitution; and the exercise of such a power by the States, would be manifestly inconsistent with the power, vested by the people in Congress, ‘to regulate commerce.’ Hence I infer, that the power, reserved to the States by the articles of Confederation, is surrendered to Congress, by the Constitution; unless we suppose, that, by some

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strange process, it has been merged or extinguished, and now exists no where.”⁷⁶⁶

Foreign Commerce: Protective Tariffs.—Tariff laws have customarily contained prohibitory provisions, and such provisions have been sustained by the Court under Congress’ revenue powers and under its power to regulate foreign commerce. For the Court in *Board of Trustees v. United States*,⁷⁶⁷ in 1933, Chief Justice Hughes said: “The Congress may determine what articles may be imported into this country and the terms upon which importation is permitted. No one can be said to have a vested right to carry on foreign commerce with the United States. . . . It is true that the taxing power is a distinct power; that it is distinct from the power to regulate commerce. . . . It is also true that the taxing power embraces the power to lay duties. Art. I, §8, cl. 1. But because the taxing power is a distinct power and embraces the power to lay duties, it does not follow that duties may not be imposed in the exercise of the power to regulate commerce. The contrary is well established. *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. 1, 202. ‘Under the power to regulate foreign commerce Congress imposes duties on importations, give drawbacks, pass embargo and nonintercourse laws, and make all other regulations necessary to navigation, to the safety of passengers, and the protection of property.’ *Groves v. Slaughter*, 15 Pet. 449, 505. The laying of duties is ‘a common means of executing the power.’ 2 *Story on the Constitution*, 1088.”⁷⁶⁸

Foreign Commerce: Banned Articles.—The forerunners of more recent acts excluding objectionable commodities from interstate commerce are the laws forbidding the importation of like commodities from abroad. This power Congress has exercised since 1842. In that year it forbade the importation of obscene literature or pictures from abroad.⁷⁶⁹ Six years later, it passed an act “to prevent the importation of spurious and adulterated drugs” and to provide a system of inspection to make the prohibition effective.⁷⁷⁰ Such legislation guarding against the importation of noxiously adulterated foods, drugs, or liquor has been on the statute books ever since. In 1887, the importation by Chinese nationals of smoking opium was prohibited,⁷⁷¹ and subsequent statutes passed in

⁷⁶⁶ *United States v. The William*, 28 Fed. Cas. 614, 620–623 (No. 16,700) (D. Mass. 1808). See also *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 191 (1824); *United States v. Marigold*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 560 (1850).

⁷⁶⁷ 289 U.S. 48 (1933).

⁷⁶⁸ *Id.*, 57, 58.

⁷⁶⁹ 5 Stat. 566, 28.

⁷⁷⁰ 9 Stat. 237 (1848).

⁷⁷¹ 24 Stat. 409.

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1909 and 1914 made it unlawful for anyone to import it.⁷⁷² In 1897, Congress forbade the importation of any tea “inferior in purity, quality, and fitness for consumption” as compared with a legal standard.⁷⁷³ The Act was sustained in 1904, in the leading case of *Buttfield v. Stranahan*.⁷⁷⁴ In “*The Abby Dodge*” an act excluding sponges taken by means of diving or diving apparatus from the waters of the Gulf of Mexico or Straits of Florida was sustained but construed as not applying to sponges taken from the territorial water of a State.⁷⁷⁵

In *Weber v. Freed*,⁷⁷⁶ an act prohibiting the importation and interstate transportation of prize-fight films or of pictorial representation of prize fights was upheld. Chief Justice White grounded his opinion for a unanimous Court on the complete and total control over foreign commerce possessed by Congress, in contrast implicitly to the lesser power over interstate commerce.⁷⁷⁷ And in *Brolan v. United States*,⁷⁷⁸ the Court rejected as wholly inappropriate citation of cases dealing with interstate commerce on the question of Congress’ power to prohibit foreign commerce. It has been earlier noted, however, that the purported distinction is one that the Court both previously to and subsequent to these opinions has rejected.

Interstate Commerce: Power to Prohibit Questioned.—The question whether Congress’ power to regulate commerce “among the several States” embraced the power to prohibit it furnished the topic of one of the most protracted debates in the entire history of the Constitution’s interpretation, a debate the final resolution of which in favor of congressional power is an event of first importance for the future of American federalism. The issue was as early as 1841 brought forward by Henry Clay, in an argument before the Court in which he raised the specter of an act of Congress forbidding the interstate slave trade.⁷⁷⁹ The debate was concluded ninety-nine years later by the decision in *United States v. Darby*,⁷⁸⁰ in which the Fair Labor Standards Act was sustained.⁷⁸¹

⁷⁷² 35 Stat. 614; 38 Stat. 275.

⁷⁷³ 29 Stat. 605.

⁷⁷⁴ 192 U.S. 470 (1904).

⁷⁷⁵ 223 U.S. 166 (1912); cf. *United States v. California*, 332 U.S. 19 (1947).

⁷⁷⁶ 239 U.S. 325 (1915).

⁷⁷⁷ *Id.*, 329.

⁷⁷⁸ 236 U.S. 216 (1915).

⁷⁷⁹ *Groves v. Slaughter*, 15 Pet. (40 U.S.) 449, 488–489 (1841).

⁷⁸⁰ 312 U.S. 100 (1941).

⁷⁸¹ The judicial history of the argument may be examined in the majority and dissenting opinions in *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, 247 U.S. 251 (1918), a five-to-four decision, in which the majority held Congress not to be empowered to ban from the channels of interstate commerce goods made with child labor, since Congress’ power was to prescribe the rule by which commerce was to be carried on and not to pro-

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Interstate Commerce: National Prohibitions and State Police Power.—The earliest such acts were in the nature of quarantine regulations and usually dealt solely with interstate transportation. In 1884, the exportation or shipment in interstate commerce of livestock having any infectious disease was forbidden.⁷⁸² In 1903, power was conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture to establish regulations to prevent the spread of such diseases through foreign or interstate commerce.⁷⁸³ In 1905, the same official was authorized to lay an absolute embargo or quarantine upon all shipments of cattle from one State to another when the public necessity might demand it.⁷⁸⁴ A statute passed in 1905 forbade the transportation in foreign and interstate commerce and the mails of certain varieties of moths, plant lice, and other insect pests injurious to plant crops, trees, and other vegetation.⁷⁸⁵ In 1912, a similar exclusion of diseased nursery stock was decreed,⁷⁸⁶ while by the same act and again by an act of 1917,⁷⁸⁷ the Secretary of Agriculture was invested with powers of quarantine on interstate commerce for the protection of plant life from disease similar to those above described for the prevention of the spread of animal disease. While the Supreme Court originally held federal quarantine regulations of this sort to be constitutionally inapplicable to intrastate shipments of livestock, on the ground that federal authority extends only to foreign and interstate commerce,⁷⁸⁸ this view has today been abandoned.

The Lottery Case.—The first case to come before the Court in which the issues discussed above were canvassed at all thoroughly was *Champion v. Ames*,⁷⁸⁹ involving the act of 1895 “for the suppression of lotteries.”⁷⁹⁰ An earlier act excluding lottery tickets from the mails had been upheld in the case of *In re Rapier*,⁷⁹¹ on the proposition that Congress clearly had the power to see that the very facilities furnished by it were not put to bad use. But in the case of commerce, the facilities are not ordinarily furnished by the

hibit it, except with regard to those things the character of which—diseased cattle, lottery tickets—was inherently evil. With the majority opinion, compare Justice Stone’s unanimous opinion in *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100, 112–124 (1941), overruling *Hammer v. Dagenhart*. See also Corwin, *The Power of Congress to Prohibit Commerce*, 3 SELECTED ESSAYS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (Chicago: 1938), 103.

⁷⁸² 23 Stat. 31.

⁷⁸³ 32 Stat. 791.

⁷⁸⁴ 33 Stat. 1264.

⁷⁸⁵ 33 Stat. 1269.

⁷⁸⁶ 37 Stat. 315.

⁷⁸⁷ 39 Stat. 1165.

⁷⁸⁸ *Illinois Central Railroad v. McKendree*, 203 U.S. 514 (1906). See also *United States v. DeWitt*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 41 (1870).

⁷⁸⁹ *Lottery Case (Champion v. Ames)*, 188 U.S. 321 (1903).

⁷⁹⁰ 28 Stat. 963.

⁷⁹¹ 143 U.S. 110 (1892).

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National Government, and the right to engage in foreign and interstate commerce comes from the Constitution itself or is anterior to it.

How difficult the Court found the question produced by the act of 1895, forbidding any person to bring within the United States or to cause to be “carried from one State to another” any lottery ticket, or an equivalent thereof, “for the purpose of disposing of the same,” was shown by the fact that the case was argued three times before the Court and the fact that the Court’s decision finally sustaining the act was a five-to-four decision. The opinion of the Court, on the other hand, prepared by Justice Harlan, marked an almost unqualified triumph at the time for the view that Congress’ power to regulate commerce among the States included the power to prohibit it, especially to supplement and support state legislation enacted under the police power. Early in the opinion, extensive quotation is made from Chief Justice Marshall’s opinion in *Gibbons v. Ogden*,⁷⁹² with special stress upon the definition there given of the phrase “to regulate.” Justice Johnson’s assertion on the same occasion is also given: “The power of a sovereign State over commerce, . . . amounts to nothing more than a power to limit and restrain it at pleasure.” Further along is quoted with evident approval Justice Bradley’s statement in *Brown v. Houston*,⁷⁹³ that “[t]he power to regulate commerce among the several States is granted to Congress in terms as absolute as is the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations.”

Following the wake of the *Lottery Case*, Congress repeatedly brought its prohibitory powers over interstate commerce and communications to the support of certain local policies of the States in the exercise of their reserved powers, thereby aiding them in the repression of a variety of acts and deeds objectionable to public morality. The conception of the Federal System on which the Court based its validation of this legislation was stated by it in 1913 in sustaining the Mann “White Slave” Act in the following words: “Our dual form of government has its perplexities, State and Nation having different spheres of jurisdiction . . . but it must be kept in mind that we are one people; and the powers reserved to the States and those conferred on the Nation are adapted to be exercised, whether independently or concurrently, to promote the general welfare, material, and moral.”⁷⁹⁴ At the same time, the Court made it plain that in prohibiting commerce among the States, Congress was equally free to support state legislative policy or to de-

⁷⁹² 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 227 (1824).

⁷⁹³ 114 U.S. 622, 630 (1885).

⁷⁹⁴ *Hoke v. United States*, 227 U.S. 308, 322 (1913).

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vise a policy of its own. “Congress,” it said, “may exercise this authority in aid of the policy of the State, if it sees fit to do so. It is equally clear that the policy of Congress acting independently of the States may induce legislation without reference to the particular policy or law of any given State. Acting within the authority conferred by the Constitution it is for Congress to determine what legislation will attain its purpose. The control of Congress over interstate commerce is not to be limited by State laws.”⁷⁹⁵

In *Brooks v. United States*,⁷⁹⁶ the Court sustained the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act⁷⁹⁷ as a measure protective of owners of automobiles; that is, of interests in “the State of origin.” The statute was designed to repress automobile motor thefts, notwithstanding that such thefts antedate the interstate transportation of the article stolen. Speaking for the Court, Chief Justice Taft, at the outset, stated the general proposition that “Congress can certainly regulate interstate commerce to the extent of forbidding and punishing the use of such commerce as an agency to promote immorality, dishonesty, or the spread of any evil or harm to the people of other States from the State of origin.” Noting “the radical change in transportation” brought about by the automobile, and the rise of “[e]laborately organized conspiracies for the theft of automobiles . . . and their sale or other disposition” in another jurisdiction from the owner’s, the Court concluded that such activity “is a gross misuse of interstate commerce. Congress may properly punish such interstate transportation by anyone with knowledge of the theft, because of its harmful result and its defeat of the property rights of those whose machines against their will are taken into other jurisdictions.” The fact that stolen vehicles were “harmless” and did not spread harm to persons in other States on this occasion was not deemed to present any obstacle to the exercise of the regulatory power of Congress.⁷⁹⁸

The Darby Case.—In sustaining the Fair Labor Standards Act⁷⁹⁹ in 1941,⁸⁰⁰ the Court expressly overruled *Hammer v. Dagenhart*.⁸⁰¹ “The distinction on which the [latter case] . . . was rested that Congressional power to prohibit interstate commerce is limited to articles which in themselves have some harmful or deleterious property—a distinction which was novel when made and

⁷⁹⁵ *United States v. Hill*, 248 U.S. 420, 425 (1919).

⁷⁹⁶ 267 U.S. 432 (1925).

⁷⁹⁷ 41 Stat. 324 (1919), 18 U.S.C., §§ 2311–2313.

⁷⁹⁸ *Id.*, 436–439. See also *Kentucky Whip & Collar Co. v. I.C.R. Co.*, 299 U.S. 334 (1937).

⁷⁹⁹ 29 U.S.C. §§ 201–219.

⁸⁰⁰ *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100 (1941).

⁸⁰¹ 247 U.S. 251 (1918).

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unsupported by any provision of the Constitution—has long since been abandoned. . . . The thesis of the opinion that the motive of the prohibition or its effect to control in some measure the use or production within the States of the article thus excluded from the commerce can operate to deprive the regulation of its constitutional authority has long since ceased to have force. . . . The conclusion is inescapable that *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, was a departure from the principles which have prevailed in the interpretation of the Commerce Clause both before and since the decision and that such vitality, was a precedent, as it then had has long since been exhausted. It should be and now is overruled.”⁸⁰²

The Commerce Clause as a Source of National Police Power

The Court has several times expressly noted that Congress’ exercise of power under the commerce clause is akin to the police power exercised by the States.⁸⁰³ It should follow, therefore, that Congress may achieve results unrelated to purely commercial aspects of commerce, and this result in fact has often been accomplished. Paralleling and contributing to this movement is the virtual disappearance of the distinction between interstate and intrastate commerce.

Is There an Intrastate Barrier to Congress’ Commerce Power?—Not only has there been legislative advancement and judicial acquiescence in commerce clause jurisprudence, but the melding of the Nation into one economic union has been more than a little responsible for the reach of Congress’ power. “The volume of interstate commerce and the range of commonly accepted objects of government regulation have . . . expanded considerably in the last 200 years, and the regulatory authority of Congress has expanded along with them. As interstate commerce has become ubiquitous, activities once considered purely local have come to have effects on the national economy, and have accordingly come within the scope of Congress’ commerce power.”⁸⁰⁴

Reviewing the doctrinal developments laid out in the prior pages, it is evident that Congress’ commerce power is fueled by four very interrelated principles of decision, some old, some of recent vintage.

⁸⁰² *Id.*, 312 U.S., 116–117.

⁸⁰³ E.g., *Brooks v. United States*, 267 U.S. 432, 436–437 (1925); *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100, 114 (1941). See Cushman, *The National Police Power Under the Commerce Clause*, 3 SELECTED ESSAYS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (Chicago: 1938), 62.

⁸⁰⁴ *New York v. United States*, 112 S.Ct. 2408, 2418–2419 (1992).

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First, the commerce power attaches to the crossing of state lines, and Congress has validly legislated to protect interstate travelers from harm, to prevent such travelers from being deterred in the exercise of interstate traveling, and to prevent them from being burdened. Many of the 1964 public accommodations law applications have been premised on the point that larger establishments do serve interstate travelers and that even small stores, restaurants, and the like may serve interstate travelers, and, therefore, it is permissible to regulate them to prevent or deter discrimination.⁸⁰⁵

Second, it may not be persons who cross state lines but some object that will or has crossed state lines, and the regulation of a purely intrastate activity may be premised on the presence of the object. Thus, the public accommodations law reached small establishments that served food and other items that had been purchased from interstate channels.⁸⁰⁶ Congress has validly penalized convicted felons, who had no other connection to interstate commerce, for possession or receipt of firearms, which had been previously transported in interstate commerce independently of any activity by the two felons.⁸⁰⁷ This reach is not of newly-minted origin. In *United States v. Sullivan*,⁸⁰⁸ the Court sustained a conviction of misbranding, under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Sullivan, a Columbus, Georgia, druggist had bought a properly labeled 1000-tablet bottle of sulfathiazole from an Atlanta wholesaler. The bottle had been shipped to the Atlanta wholesaler by a Chicago supplier six months earlier. Three months after Sullivan received the bottle, he made two retail sales of 12 tablets each, placing the tablets in boxes not labeled in strict accordance with the law. Upholding the conviction, the Court concluded that there was no question of “the constitutional power of Congress under the commerce clause to regulate the branding of articles that have

⁸⁰⁵ *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, 379 U.S. 241 (1964); *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294 (1964); *Daniel v. Paul*, 395 U.S. 298 (1969).

⁸⁰⁶ *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294, 298, 300–302 (1964); *Daniel v. Paul*, 395 U.S. 298, 305 (1969).

⁸⁰⁷ *Scarborough v. United States*, 431 U.S. 563 (1977); *Barrett v. United States*, 423 U.S. 212 (1976). However, because such laws reach far into the traditional police powers of the States, the Court insists Congress clearly speak to its intent to cover such local activities. *United States v. Bass*, 404 U.S. 336 (1971). See also *Rewis v. United States*, 401 U.S. 808 (1971); *United States v. Enmons*, 410 U.S. 396 (1973). A similar tenet of construction has appeared in the Court’s recent treatment of federal prosecutions of state officers for official corruption under criminal laws of general applicability. E.g., *McCormick v. United States*, 500 U.S. 257 (1991); *McNally v. United States*, 483 U.S. 350 (1987). Congress has overturned the latter case. 102 Stat. 4508, § 7603, 18 U.S.C. § 1346.

⁸⁰⁸ 332 U.S. 689 (1948).

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completed an interstate shipment and are being held for future sales in purely local or intrastate commerce.”⁸⁰⁹

Third, Congress’ power reaches not only transactions or actions that occasion the crossing of state or national boundaries but extends as well to activities that, though local, “affect” commerce, a combination of the commerce power enhanced by the necessary and proper clause. The seminal case, of course, is *Wickard v. Filburn*,⁸¹⁰ sustaining federal regulation of a crop of wheat grown on a farm and intended solely for home consumption. The premise was that if it were never marketed, it supplied a need otherwise to be satisfied only in the market, and that if prices rose it might be induced onto the market. “Even activity that is purely intrastate in character may be regulated by Congress, where the activity, combined with like conduct by others similarly situated, affects commerce among the States or with foreign nations.”⁸¹¹ Coverage under federal labor and wage-and-hour laws after the 1930s showed the reality of this doctrine.⁸¹²

In upholding federal regulation of strip mining, the Court demonstrated the breadth of the “affects” standard. One case dealt with statutory provisions designed to preserve “prime farmland.” The trial court had determined that the amount of such land disturbed annually amounted to 0.006% of the total prime farmland acreage in the Nation and, thus, that the impact on commerce was “infinitesimal” or “trivial.” Disagreeing, the Court said: “A court may invalidate legislation enacted under the Commerce Clause only if it is clear that there is no rational basis for a congressional finding that the regulated activity affects interstate commerce, or that there is no reasonable connection between the regulatory means selected and the asserted ends.”⁸¹³ Moreover, “[t]he pertinent inquiry therefore is not how much commerce is involved but whether Congress could rationally conclude that the regulated activity affects interstate commerce.”⁸¹⁴ In a companion case, the Court reiterated that “[t]he denomination of an activity as a ‘local’ or ‘intrastate’ activity does not resolve the question whether Congress may regulate it under the Commerce Clause. As previously noted, the commerce power ‘ extends to those activities intrastate which so affect interstate commerce, or the exertion of the power of Congress over it, as to make regulation of them appropriate means to the attainment of a legitimate end, the effective execution of the granted power to

⁸⁰⁹ *Id.*, 698–699.

⁸¹⁰ 317 U.S. 111 (1942).

⁸¹¹ *Fry v. United States*, 421 U.S. 542, 547 (1975).

⁸¹² See *Maryland v. Wirtz*, 392 U.S. 183, 188–193 (1968).

⁸¹³ *Hodel v. Indiana*, 452 U.S. 314, 323–324 (1981).

⁸¹⁴ *Id.*, 324.

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regulate interstate commerce.”⁸¹⁵ Judicial review is narrow. Congress’ determination of an “effect” must be deferred to if it is rational, and Congress must have acted reasonably in choosing the means.⁸¹⁶

Fourth, a still more potent engine of regulation has been the expansion of the class-of-activities standard, which began in the “affecting” cases. In *Perez v. United States*,⁸¹⁷ the Court sustained the application of a federal “loan-sharking” law to a local culprit. The Court held that, although individual loan-sharking activities might be intrastate in nature, still it was within Congress’ power to determine that the activity was within a class the activities of which did affect interstate commerce, thus affording Congress the opportunity to regulate the entire class. While the *Perez* Court and the congressional findings emphasized that loan-sharking was generally part of organized crime operating on a national scale and that loan-sharking was commonly used to finance organized crime’s national operations, subsequent cases do not depend upon a defensible assumption of relatedness in the class.

Thus, the Court applied the federal arson statute to the attempted “torching” of a defendant’s two-unit apartment building. The Court merely pointed to the fact that the rental of real estate “unquestionably” affects interstate commerce and that “the local rental of an apartment unit is merely an element of a much broader commercial market in real estate.”⁸¹⁸ The apparent test of whether aggregation of local activity can be said to affect commerce was made clear next in an antitrust context.⁸¹⁹ Allowing the continuation of an antitrust suit challenging a hospital’s exclusion of a surgeon from practice in the hospital, the Court observed that in order to establish the required jurisdictional nexus with commerce, the appropriate focus is not on the actual effects of the conspiracy but instead is on the possible consequences for the affected market if the conspiracy is successful. The required nexus in this case was sufficient because competitive significance is to be measured by a general evaluation of the impact of the restraint on other partici-

⁸¹⁵ *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Reclamation Assn.*, 452 U.S. 264, 281 (1981) (quoting *United States v. Wrightwood Dairy Co.*, 315 U.S. 110, 119 (1942)).

⁸¹⁶ *Id.*, 276, 277. The scope of review is restated in *Preseault v. ICC*, 494 U.S. 1, 17 (1990). Then-Justice Rehnquist, concurring in the two *Hodel* cases, objected that the Court was making it appear that no constitutional limits existed under the commerce clause, whereas in fact it was necessary that a regulated activity must have a *substantial* effect on interstate commerce, not just *some* effect. He thought it a close case that the statutory provisions here met those tests. *Supra*, 452 U.S., 307–313.

⁸¹⁷ 402 U.S. 146 (1971).

⁸¹⁸ *Russell v. United States*, 471 U.S. 858, 862 (1985).

⁸¹⁹ *Summit Health, Ltd. v. Pinhas*, 500 U.S. 322 (1991).

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pants and potential participants in the market from which the surgeon was being excluded.⁸²⁰

Civil Rights.—It had been generally established some time ago that Congress had power under the commerce clause to prohibit racial discrimination in the use of the channels of commerce.⁸²¹ The power under the clause to forbid discrimination within the States was firmly and unanimously sustained by the Court when Congress in 1964 enacted a comprehensive measure outlawing discrimination because of race or color in access to public accommodations with a requisite connection to interstate commerce.⁸²² Hotels and motels were declared covered, that is, declared to “affect commerce,” if they provided lodging to transient guests; restaurants, cafeterias, and the like, were covered only if they served or offered to serve interstate travelers or if a substantial portion of the food which they served had moved in commerce.⁸²³ The Court sustained the Act as applied to a downtown Atlanta motel which did serve interstate travelers,⁸²⁴ to an out-of-the-way restaurant in Birmingham that catered to a local clientele but which had spent 46 percent of its previous year’s out-go on meat from a local supplier who had procured it from out-of-state,⁸²⁵ and to a rurally-located amusement area operating a snack bar and other facilities, which advertised in a manner likely to attract an interstate clientele and that served food a substantial portion of which came from outside the State.⁸²⁶

Writing for the Court in *Heart of Atlanta Motel* and *McClung*, Justice Clark denied that Congress was disabled from regulating the operations of motels or restaurants because those operations may be, or may appear to be, “local” in character. “[T]he power of Congress to promote interstate commerce also includes the power to regulate the local incidents thereof, including local activities in both the States of origin and destination, which might have a substantial and harmful effect upon that commerce.”⁸²⁷

⁸²⁰ *Id.*, 330–332. The decision was 5-to-4, with the dissenters, however, of the view that Congress could reach the activity, only that they thought Congress had not.

⁸²¹ *Boynton v. Virginia*, 364 U.S. 454 (1960); *Henderson v. United States*, 339 U.S. 816 (1950); *Mitchell v. United States*, 313 U.S. 80 (1941); *Morgan v. Virginia*, 328 U.S. 373 (1946).

⁸²² Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title II, 78 Stat. 241, 243, 42 U.S.C. § 2000a et seq.

⁸²³ 42 U.S.C. § 2000a (b).

⁸²⁴ *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, 379 U.S. 241 (1964).

⁸²⁵ *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294 (1964).

⁸²⁶ *Daniel v. Paul*, 395 U.S. 298 (1969).

⁸²⁷ *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, 379 U.S. 241, 258 (1964); *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294, 301–304 (1964).

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But, it was objected, Congress is regulating on the basis of moral judgments and not to facilitate commercial intercourse. “That Congress [may legislate] . . . against moral wrongs . . . rendered its enactments no less valid. In framing Title II of this Act Congress was also dealing with what it considered a moral problem. But that fact does not detract from the overwhelming evidence of the disruptive effect that racial discrimination has had on commercial intercourse. It was this burden which empowered Congress to enact appropriate legislation, and, given this basis for the exercise of its power, Congress was not restricted by the fact that the particular obstruction to interstate commerce with which it was dealing was also deemed a moral and social wrong.”⁸²⁸ The evidence did, in fact, noted the Justice, support Congress’ conclusion that racial discrimination impeded interstate travel by more than 20 million black citizens, which was an impairment Congress could legislate to remove.⁸²⁹

The commerce clause basis for civil rights legislation in respect to private discrimination was important because of the understanding that Congress’ power to act under the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments was limited to official discrimination.⁸³⁰ The Court’s subsequent determination that Congress is not necessarily so limited in its power reduces greatly the importance of the commerce clause in this area.⁸³¹

Criminal Law.—Federal criminal jurisdiction based on the commerce power, and frequently combined with the postal power, has historically been an auxiliary criminal jurisdiction. That is, Congress has made federal crimes of acts that constitutes state crimes on the basis of some contact, however tangential, with a matter subject to congressional regulation even though the federal interest in the acts may be minimal.⁸³² Examples of this type of federal criminal statute abound, including the Mann Act designed

⁸²⁸ *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, 379 U.S. 241, 257 (1964).

⁸²⁹ *Id.*, 252–253; *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294, 299–301 (1964).

⁸³⁰ *Civil Rights Cases*, 109 U.S. 3 (1883); *United States v. Reese*, 92 U.S. 214 (1876); *Collins v. Hardyman*, 341 U.S. 651 (1951).

⁸³¹ The “open housing” provision of the 1968 Civil Rights Act, Title VIII, 82 Stat. 73, 81, 42 U.S.C. §3601, was based on the commerce clause, but in *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409 (1968), the Court held that antidiscrimination-in-housing legislation could be based on the Thirteenth Amendment and made operative against private parties. Similarly, the Court has concluded that although §1 of the Fourteenth Amendment is judicially enforceable only against “state action,” Congress is not so limited under its enforcement authorization of §5. *United States v. Guest*, 383 U.S. 745, 761, 774 (1966) (concurring opinions); *Griffin v. Breckenridge*, 403 U.S. 88 (1971).

⁸³² E.g., *Barrett v. United States*, 423 U.S. 212 (1976); *Scarborough v. United States*, 431 U.S. 563 (1977); *Lewis v. United States*, 445 U.S. 55 (1980); *McElroy v. United States*, 455 U.S. 642 (1982).

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to outlaw interstate white slavery,⁸³³ the Dyer Act punishing interstate transportation of stolen automobiles,⁸³⁴ and the Lindbergh Law punishing interstate transportation of kidnapped persons.⁸³⁵ But, just as in other areas, Congress has passed beyond a proscription of the use of interstate facilities in the commission of a crime, it has in the criminal law area expanded the scope of its jurisdiction. Typical of this expansion is a statute making it a federal offense to “in any way or degree obstruct . . . delay . . . or affect . . . commerce . . . by robbery or extortion. . . .”⁸³⁶ With the expansion of the scope of the reach of “commerce” the statute potentially could reach crimes involving practically all business concerns, although it appears to be used principally against organized crime.

To date, the most far-reaching measure to be sustained by the Court has been the “loan-sharking” prohibition of the Consumer Credit Protection Act.⁸³⁷ The title affirmatively finds that extortionate credit transactions affect interstate commerce because loan sharks are in a class largely controlled by organized crime with a substantially adverse effect on interstate commerce. Upholding the statute, the Court found that though individual loan-sharking activities may be intrastate in nature, still it is within Congress’ power to determine that it was within a class the activities of which did affect interstate commerce, thus affording Congress power to regulate the entire class.⁸³⁸

Expansion of federal criminal jurisdiction proceeds apace with the outflow from each Congress.⁸³⁹

THE COMMERCE CLAUSE AS A RESTRAINT ON STATE POWERS**Doctrinal Background**

The grant of power to Congress over commerce, unlike that of power to levy customs duties, the power to raise armies, and some others, is unaccompanied by correlative restrictions on state power.⁸⁴⁰ This circumstance does not, however, of itself signify

⁸³³ 18 U.S.C. §2421.

⁸³⁴ 18 U.S.C. §2312.

⁸³⁵ 18 U.S.C. §1201.

⁸³⁶ 18 U.S.C. §1951. And see, 18 U.S.C. §1952.

⁸³⁷ Title II, 82 Stat. 159 (1968), 18 U.S.C. §891 et seq.

⁸³⁸ *Perez v. United States*, 402 U.S. 146 (1971). See also *Russell v. United States*, 471 U.S. 858 (1985).

⁸³⁹ E.g., laws that bar firearms within a 1000 feet of a school, 104 Stat. 4844 (1990), 18 U.S.C. §922(q), and that punish carjacking when a firearm is used, 106 Stat. 3384 (1992), 18 U.S.C. §2119.

⁸⁴⁰ Thus, by Article I, §10, cl. 2, States are denied the power to “lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports” except by the consent of Congress. The clause applies only to goods imported from or exported to another country, not from

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that the States were expected to participate in the power thus granted Congress, subject only to the operation of the supremacy clause. As Hamilton pointed out in *THE FEDERALIST*,⁸⁴¹ while some of the powers which are vested in the National Government admit of their “concurrent” exercise by the States, others are of their very nature “exclusive,” and hence render the notion of a like power in the States “contradictory and repugnant.” As an example of the latter kind of power, Hamilton mentioned the power of Congress to pass a uniform naturalization law. Was the same principle expected to apply to the power over foreign and interstate commerce?

Unquestionably one of the great advantages anticipated from the grant to Congress of power over commerce was that state interferences with trade, which had become a source of sharp discontent under the Articles of Confederation, would be thereby brought to an end. As Webster stated in his argument for appellant in *Gibbons v. Ogden*: “The prevailing motive was to regulate commerce; to rescue it from the embarrassing and destructive consequences, resulting from the legislation of so many different States, and to place it under the protection of a uniform law.”⁸⁴² In other words, the constitutional grant was itself a regulation of commerce in the interest of uniformity.⁸⁴³

That, however, the commerce clause, unimplemented by congressional legislation, took from the States any and all power over foreign and interstate commerce was by no means conceded and

or to another State, *Woodruff v. Parham*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 123 (1869), which prevents its application to interstate commerce, although Chief Justice Marshall thought to the contrary, *Brown v. Maryland*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419, 449 (1827), and the contrary has been strongly argued. W. CROSSKEY, *POLITICS AND THE CONSTITUTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES* 295–323 (1953).

⁸⁴¹ *THE FEDERALIST* No. 32 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 199–203. Note that in connection with the discussion that follows, Hamilton avowed that the taxing power of the States, save for imposts or duties on imports or exports, “remains undiminished.” *Id.*, 201. The States “retain [the taxing] authority in the most absolute and unqualified sense[.]” *Id.*, 199.

⁸⁴² 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 11 (1824). Justice Johnson’s assertion, concurring, was to the same effect. *Id.*, 226. Late in life, James Madison stated that the power had been granted Congress mainly as “a negative and preventive provision against injustice among the States.” 4 *LETTERS AND OTHER WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON* (Philadelphia: 1865), 14–15.

⁸⁴³ It was evident from *THE FEDERALIST* that the principal aim of the commerce clause was the protection of the national market from the oppressive power of individual States acting to stifle or curb commerce. *Id.*, No. 7, 39–41 (Hamilton); No. 11, 65–73 (Hamilton); No. 22, 135–137 (Hamilton); No. 42, 283–284 (Madison); No. 53, 362–364 (Madison). See *H. P. Hood & Sons, Inc. v. Du Mond*, 336 U.S. 525, 533 (1949). For a comprehensive history of the adoption of the commerce clause, which does not indicate a definitive answer to the question posed, see Abel, *The Commerce Clause in the Constitutional Convention and in Contemporary Comment*, 25 *Minn. L. Rev.* 432 (1941). Professor Abel discovered only nine references in the Convention records to the commerce clause, all directed to the dangers of interstate rivalry and retaliation. *Id.*, 470–471 & nn. 169–175.

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was, indeed, counterintuitive, considering the extent of state regulation that previously existed before the Constitution.⁸⁴⁴ Moreover, legislation by Congress regulative of any particular phase of commerce would raise the question whether the States were entitled to fill the remaining gaps, if not by virtue of a “concurrent” power over interstate and foreign commerce, then by virtue of “that immense mass of legislation” as Marshall termed it, “which embraces everything within the territory of a State, not surrendered to the general government,”⁸⁴⁵ in a word, the “police power.”

The text and drafting record of the commerce clause fails, therefore, without more ado, to settle the question of what power is left to the States to adopt legislation regulating foreign or interstate commerce in greater or lesser measure. To be sure, in cases of flat conflict between an act or acts of Congress regulative of such commerce and a state legislative act or acts, from whatever state power ensuing, the act of Congress is today recognized, and was recognized by Marshall, as enjoying an unquestionable supremacy.⁸⁴⁶ But suppose, first, that Congress has passed no act, or second, that its legislation does not clearly cover the ground traversed by previously enacted state legislation. What rules then apply? Since *Gibbons v. Ogden*, both of these situations have confronted the Court, especially as regards interstate commerce, hundreds of times, and in meeting them the Court has, first, determined that it has power to decide when state power is validly exercised, and, second, it has coined or given currency to numerous formulas, some of which still guide, even when they do not govern, its judgment.⁸⁴⁷

⁸⁴⁴The strongest suggestion of exclusivity found in the Convention debates is a remark by Madison. “Whether the States are now restrained from laying tonnage duties depends on the extent of the power ‘to regulate commerce.’ These terms are vague but seem to exclude this power of the States.” 2 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 625. However, the statement is recorded during debate on the clause, Art. I, § 10, cl. 3, prohibiting States from laying tonnage duties. That the Convention adopted this clause, when tonnage duties would certainly be one facet of regulating interstate and foreign commerce, casts doubt on the assumption that the commerce power itself was intended to be exclusive.

⁸⁴⁵*Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 203 (1824).

⁸⁴⁶*Id.*, 210–211.

⁸⁴⁷The writings detailing the history are voluminous. See, e.g., F. FRANKFURTER, *THE COMMERCE CLAUSE UNDER MARSHALL, TANEY AND WHITE* (1937); B. GAVIT, *THE COMMERCE CLAUSE OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION* (1932) (usefully containing appendices cataloguing every commerce clause decision of the Supreme Court to that time); Sholleys, *The Negative Implications of the Commerce Clause*, 3 U. Chi. L. Rev. 556 (1936). Among the recent writings, see Sedler, *The Negative Commerce Clause as a Restriction on State Regulation and Taxation: An Analysis in Terms of Constitutional Structure*, 31 Wayne L. Rev. 885 (1985) (a disputed conceptualization arguing the Court followed a consistent line over the years), and articles cited, *id.*, 887 n. 4.

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Thus, it has been judicially established that the commerce clause is not only a “positive” grant of power to Congress, but it is also a “negative” constraint upon the States; that is, the doctrine of the “dormant” commerce clause, though what is dormant is the congressional exercise of the power, not the clause itself, under which the Court may police state taxation and regulation of interstate commerce, became well established.

Webster, in *Gibbons*, argued that a state grant of a monopoly to operate steamships between New York and New Jersey not only contravened federal navigation laws but violated the commerce clause as well, because that clause conferred an *exclusive* power upon Congress to make the rules for national commerce, although he conceded that, the grant to regulate interstate commerce was so broad as to reach much that the States had formerly had jurisdiction over, the courts must be reasonable in interpretation.⁸⁴⁸ But because he thought the state law was in conflict with the federal legislation, Chief Justice Marshall was not compelled to pass on Webster’s arguments, although in dicta he indicated his considerable sympathy with them and suggested that the power to regulate commerce between the States might be an exclusively federal power.⁸⁴⁹

Chief Justice Marshall originated the concept of the “dormant commerce clause” in *Willson v. Black Bird Creek Marsh Co.*,⁸⁵⁰ although in dicta. Attacked before the Court was a state law authorizing the building of a dam across a navigable creek, and it was claimed the law was in conflict with the federal power to regulate interstate commerce. Rejecting the challenge, Marshall said that the state act could not be “considered as repugnant to the [federal] power to regulate commerce in its dormant state[.]”

Returning to the subject in *Cooley v. Board of Wardens of Port of Philadelphia*,⁸⁵¹ the Court, upholding a state law that required ships to engage a local pilot when entering or leaving the port of

⁸⁴⁸ *Id.*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.), 13–14, 16.

⁸⁴⁹ *Id.*, 17–18, 209. In *Sturges v. Crowninshield*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 122, 193–196 (1819), Chief Justice Marshall denied that the grant of the bankruptcy power to Congress was exclusive. See also *Houston v. Moore*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 1 (1820) (militia).

⁸⁵⁰ 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 245, 252 (1829).

⁸⁵¹ 12 How. (53 U.S.) 299 (1851). The issue of exclusive federal power and the separate issue of the dormant commerce clause was present in the License Cases, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 504 (1847), and the Passenger Cases, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 283 (1849), but, despite the fact that much ink was shed in multiple opinions discussing the questions, nothing definitive emerged. Chief Justice Taney, in contrast to Marshall, viewed the clause only as a grant of power to Congress, containing no constraint upon the States, and the Court’s role was to void state laws in contravention of federal legislation. *Id.*, 5 How. (46 U.S.), 573; *Id.*, 7 How. (48 U.S.), 464.

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Philadelphia, enunciated a doctrine of *partial* federal exclusivity. According to Justice Curtis' opinion, the state act was valid on the basis of a distinction between those subjects of commerce which "imperatively demand a single uniform rule" operating throughout the country and those which "as imperatively" demand "that diversity which alone can meet the local necessities of navigation," that is to say, of commerce. As to the former, the Court held Congress' power to be "exclusive," as to the latter, it held that the States enjoyed a power of "concurrent legislation."⁸⁵² The Philadelphia pilotage requirement was of the latter kind.

Thus, the contention that the federal power to regulate interstate commerce was exclusive of state power yielded to a rule of partial exclusivity. Among the welter of such cases, the first actually to strike down a state law solely on commerce clause grounds was the *State Freight Tax Case*.⁸⁵³ The question before the Court was the validity of a nondiscriminatory⁸⁵⁴ statute that required every company transporting freight within the State, with certain exceptions, to pay a tax at specified rates on each ton of freight carried by it. Opining that a tax upon freight, or any other article of commerce, transported from State to State is a regulation of commerce among the States and, further, that the transportation of merchandise or passengers through a State or from State to State was a subject that required uniform regulation, the Court held the tax in issue to be repugnant to the commerce clause.

⁸⁵² *Id.*, 317–320. Chief Justice Taney had formerly taken the strong position that Congress' power over commerce was not exclusive, *supra*, n. 10, but he acquiesced silently in the *Cooley* opinion. A modern echo of *Cooley* is *Ray v. Atlantic Richfield Co.*, 435 U.S. 151, 179–180 (1978), in which the Court, *inter alia*, sustained a state requirement that vessels not satisfying certain design requirements be escorted by tugboats in Puget Sound. Noting the requirement's similarity "to a local pilotage requirement," the Court, following *Cooley*, pronounced it "not the type of regulation that demands a uniform, national rule." But, in an apparent departure from *Cooley*, the Court also observed that it did not appear that "the requirement impedes the free and efficient flow of interstate and foreign commerce. . . ." See also *Goldstein v. California*, 412 U.S. 546, 552–560 (1973), in which, in the context of the copyright clause, the Court, approving *Cooley* for commerce clause purposes, refused to find the copyright clause either fully or partially exclusive.

⁸⁵³ *Reading Railroad v. Pennsylvania*, 15 Wall. (82 U.S.) 232 (1873). For cases in which the commerce clause basis was intermixed with other express or implied powers, see *Crandall v. Nevada*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 35 (1868); *Steamship Co. v. Portwardens*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 31 (1867); *Woodruff v. Parham*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 123 (1868). Chief Justice Marshall, in *Brown v. Maryland*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419, 488–489 (1827), indicated, in dicta, that a state tax might violate the commerce clause.

⁸⁵⁴ Just a few years earlier, the Court, in an opinion that merged commerce clause and import-export clause analyses, had seemed to suggest that it was a discriminatory tax or law that violates the commerce clause and not simply a tax on interstate commerce. *Woodruff v. Parham*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 123 (1869).

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Whether exclusive or partially exclusive, however, the commerce clause as a restraint upon state exercises of power, absent congressional action, received no sustained justification or explanation; the clause, of course, empowers Congress to regulate commerce among the States, not the courts. Often, as in *Cooley*, and later cases, the Court stated or implied that the rule was imposed by the commerce clause.⁸⁵⁵ In *Welton v. Missouri*,⁸⁵⁶ the Court attempted to suggest a somewhat different justification. Challenged was a state statute that required a “peddler’s” license for merchants selling goods that came from other states but that required no license if the goods were produced in the State. Declaring that uniformity of commercial regulation is necessary to protect articles of commerce from hostile legislation and thus the power asserted by the State belonged exclusively to Congress, the Court observed that “[t]he fact that Congress has not seen fit to prescribe any specific rules to govern inter-State commerce does not affect the question. Its inaction on this subject . . . is equivalent to a declaration that inter-State commerce shall be free and untrammelled.”⁸⁵⁷

It has been evidently of little importance to the Court to explain. “Whether or not this long recognized distribution of power between the national and state governments is predicated upon the implications of the commerce clause itself . . . or upon the presumed intention of Congress, where Congress has not spoken . . . the result is the same.”⁸⁵⁸ Thus, “[f]or a hundred years it has been accepted constitutional doctrine . . . that . . . where Congress has

⁸⁵⁵ “Where the subject matter requires a uniform system as between the States, the power controlling it is vested exclusively in Congress, and cannot be encroached upon by the State.” *Leisy v. Hardin*, 135 U.S. 100, 108–109 (1890). The commerce clause “remains in the Constitution as a grant of power to Congress . . . and as a diminution *pro tanto* of absolute state sovereignty over the same subject matter.” *Carter v. Virginia*, 321 U.S. 131, 137 (1944). The commerce clause, the Court has celebrated, “does not say what the states may or may not do in the absence of congressional action, nor how to draw the line between what is and what is not commerce among the states. Perhaps even more than by interpretation of its written word, this Court has advanced the solidarity and prosperity of this Nation by the meaning it has given these great silences of the Constitution.” *H. P. Hood & Sons, Inc. v. Du Mond*, 336 U.S. 525, 534–535 (1949). More recently, the Court has taken to stating that “[t]he Commerce Clause ‘has long been recognized as a *self-executing limitation* on the power of the States to enact laws imposing substantial burdens on such commerce.’” *Dennis v. Higgins*, 498 U.S. 439, 447 (1991) (quoting *South-Central Timber Dev., Inc. v. Wunnicke*, 467 U.S. 82, 87 (1984) (emphasis supplied)).

⁸⁵⁶ 91 U.S. 275 (1875).

⁸⁵⁷ *Id.*, 282. In *Steamship Co. v. Portwardens*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 31, 33 (1867), the Court stated that congressional silence with regard to matters of “local” concern, imported willingness that the States regulate. Cf. *Graves v. New York ex rel. O’Keefe*, 306 U.S. 466, 479 n. 1 (1939); *Justice Stone*. The fullest development of the “silence” rationale was not by the Court but by a renowned academic, Professor Dowling. *Interstate Commerce and State Power*, 29 Va. L. Rev. 1 (1940); *Interstate Commerce and State Power—Revisited Version*, 47 Colum. L. Rev. 546 (1947).

⁸⁵⁸ *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*, 325 U.S. 761, 768 (1945).

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not acted, this Court, and not the state legislature, is under the commerce clause the final arbiter of the competing demands of state and national interests.”⁸⁵⁹

Two other justifications can be found throughout the Court’s decisions, but they do not explain why the Court is empowered under a grant of power to Congress to police state regulatory and taxing decisions. For example, in *Welton v. Missouri*,⁸⁶⁰ the statute under review, as observed several times by the Court, was clearly discriminatory as between instate and interstate commerce, but that point was not sharply drawn as the constitutional fault of the law. That the commerce clause had been motivated by the Framers’ apprehensions about state protectionism has been frequently noted.⁸⁶¹ A relatively recent theme is that the Framers desired to create a national area of free trade, so that unreasonable burdens on interstate commerce violate the clause in and of themselves.⁸⁶²

Nonetheless, the power of the Court is established and is freely exercised. No reservations can be discerned in the opinions for the Court.⁸⁶³ Individual Justices, to be sure, have urged renunciation of the power and remission to Congress for relief sought by litigants.⁸⁶⁴ That has not been the course followed.

⁸⁵⁹ *Id.*, 769. See also *California v. Zook*, 336 U.S. 725, 728 (1949).

⁸⁶⁰ 91 U.S. 275, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282 (1876).

⁸⁶¹ *Id.*, 280–281; *Brown v. Maryland*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419, 446 (1827) (Chief Justice Marshall); *Guy v. City of Baltimore*, 100 U.S. 434, 440 (1879); *Baldwin v. G.A.F. Seelig, Inc.*, 294 U.S. 550, 552 (1935); *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725, 754 (1981).

⁸⁶² E.g., *Gwin, White & Prince, Inc. v. Henneford*, 305 U.S. 434, 440 (1939); *McLeod v. J. E. Dilworth Co.*, 322 U.S. 327, 330–331 (1944); *Freeman v. Hewitt*, 329 U.S. 249, 252, 256 (1946); *H. P. Hood & Sons v. Du Mond*, 336 U.S. 525, 538, 539 (1949); *Dennis v. Higgins*, 498 U.S. 439, 447–450 (1991). “[W]e have steadfastly adhered to the central tenet that the Commerce Clause ‘by its own force created an area of trade free from interference by the States.’” *American Trucking Assns., Inc. v. Scheiner*, 483 U.S. 266, 280 (1987) (quoting *Boston Stock Exchange v. State Tax Comm.*, 429 U.S. 318, 328 (1977)).

⁸⁶³ E.g., *Fort Gratiot Sanitary Landfill, Inc. v. Michigan Natural Resources Dept.*, 112 S.Ct. 2019, 2023–2024 (1992); *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota ex rel. Heitkamp*, 112 S.Ct. 1904, 1911 (1992); *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 112 S.Ct. 789, 800–801 (1992). Indeed, the Court, in *Dennis v. Higgins*, 498 U.S. 439, 447–450 (1991), broadened its construction of the clause, holding that it confers a “right” upon individuals and companies to engage in interstate trade. With respect to the *exercise* of the power, the Court has recognized Congress’ greater expertise to act and noted its hesitancy to impose uniformity on state taxation. *Moorman Mfg. Co. v. Bair*, 437 U.S. 267, 280 (1978). Cf. *Quill Corp. supra*, 1916.

⁸⁶⁴ In *McCarroll v. Dixie Lines*, 309 U.S. 176, 183 (1940), Justice Black, for himself and Justices Frankfurter and Douglas, dissented, taking precisely this view. See also *Adams Mfg. Co. v. Storen*, 304 U.S. 307, 316 (1938) (Justice Black dissenting in part); *Gwin, White & Prince, Inc. v. Henneford*, 305 U.S. 434, 442 (1939) (Justice Black dissenting); *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*, 325 U.S. 761, 784 (1945) (Justice Black dissenting); *id.*, 795 (Justice Douglas dissenting). Justices Douglas and Frankfurter subsequently wrote and joined opinions applying the dormant commerce clause. In *Michigan-Wisconsin Pipe Line Co. v. Calvert*, 347 U.S. 157, 166 (1954),

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The State Proprietary Activity Exception.—In a case of first impression, the Court held unaffected by the commerce clause—“the kind of action with which the Commerce Clause is not concerned”—a Maryland bounty scheme by which the State paid scrap processors for each “hulk” automobile destroyed. As first enacted, the bounty plan did not distinguish between in-state and out-of-state processors, but it was subsequently amended to operate in such a manner that out-of-state processors were substantially disadvantaged. The Court held that where a State enters into the market itself as a purchaser, in effect, of a potential article of interstate commerce, it does not, in creating a burden upon that commerce by restricting its trade to its own citizens or businesses within the State, violate the commerce clause.⁸⁶⁵

Affirming and extending somewhat this precedent, the Court held that a State operating a cement plant could in times of shortage (as well presumably at any time) confine the sale of cement by the state plant to residents of the State.⁸⁶⁶ “The Commerce Clause responds principally to state taxes and regulatory measures impeding free private trade in the national marketplace. . . . There is no indication of a constitutional plan to limit the ability of the States themselves to operate freely in the free market.”⁸⁶⁷ It is yet unclear how far this concept of the State as market participant rather than market regulator will be extended.⁸⁶⁸

Congressional Authorization of Impermissible State Action.—The Supreme Court has never forgotten the lesson that was administered to it by the Act of Congress of August 31, 1852,⁸⁶⁹ which pronounced the Wheeling Bridge “a lawful structure,” thereby setting aside the Court’s determination to the contrary earlier

the Court rejected the urging that it uphold all not-patently discriminatory taxes and let Congress deal with conflicts. More recently, Justice Scalia has taken the view that, as a matter of original intent, a “dormant” or “negative” commerce power cannot be justified in either taxation or regulation cases, but, yielding to the force of precedent, he will vote to strike down state actions that discriminate against interstate commerce or that are governed by the Court’s precedents, without extending any of those precedents. *CTS Corp. v. Dynamics Corp. of America*, 481 U.S. 69, 94 (1987) (concurring); *Tyler Pipe Industries, Inc. v. Washington State Dept. of Revenue*, 483 U.S. 232, 259 (1987) (concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Bendix Autolite Corp. v. Midwesco Enterprises, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 888, 895 (1988) (concurring in judgment); *American Trucking Assn., inc. v. Smith*, 496 U.S. 167, 200 (1990) (concurring).

⁸⁶⁵ *Hughes v. Alexandria Scrap Corp.*, 426 U. S. 794 (1976).

⁸⁶⁶ *Reeves, Inc. v. Stake*, 447 U.S. 429 (1980).

⁸⁶⁷ *Id.*, 436–437.

⁸⁶⁸ See also *White v. Massachusetts Council of Construction Employers*, 460 U.S. 204 (1983) (city may favor its own residents in construction projects paid for with city funds); *South-Central Timber Dev., Inc. v. Wunnicke*, 467 U.S. 82 (1984) (illustrating the deep divisions in the Court respecting the scope of the exception).

⁸⁶⁹ 10 Stat. 112, §6.

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the same year.⁸⁷⁰ The lesson, subsequently observed the Court, is that “[i]t is Congress, and not the Judicial Department, to which the Constitution has given the power to regulate commerce.”⁸⁷¹ Similarly, when in the late eighties and the early nineties statewide prohibition laws began making their appearance, Congress again approved state laws the Court had found to violate the dormant commerce clause.

The Court seized upon a previously rejected dictum of Chief Justice Marshall⁸⁷² and began applying it as a brake on the operation of such laws with respect to interstate commerce in intoxicants, which the Court denominated “legitimate articles of commerce.” While holding that a State was entitled to prohibit the manufacture and sale within its limits of intoxicants,⁸⁷³ even for an outside market, manufacture being no part of commerce,⁸⁷⁴ it contemporaneously laid down the rule, in *Bowman v. Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co.*,⁸⁷⁵ that, so long as Congress remained silent in the matter, a State lacked the power, even as part and parcel of a program of statewide prohibition of the traffic in intoxicants, to prevent the shipment into it of intoxicants from a sister State, and this holding was soon followed by another to the effect that, so long as Congress remained silent, a State had no power to prevent the sale in the original package of liquors introduced from another State.⁸⁷⁶ The effect of the latter decision was soon overcome by an act of Congress, the so-called Wilson Act, repealing its alleged silence,⁸⁷⁷ but the *Bowman* decision still stood, the act in question being interpreted by the Court not to subject liquors from sister States to local authority until their arrival in the hands of the person to whom consigned.⁸⁷⁸ Not until 1913 was the effect of

⁸⁷⁰ *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 518 (1856), statute sustained in *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 421 (1856). The latter decision seemed facially contrary to a dictum of Justice Curtis in *Cooley v. Board of Wardens of Port of Philadelphia*, 12 How. (53 U.S.) 299, 318 (1851), and cf. *Tyler Pipe Industries, Inc. v. Washington State Dept. of Revenue*, 483 U.S. 232, 263 n. 4 (1987) (Justice Scalia concurring in part and dissenting in part), but if indeed the Court is interpreting the silence of Congress as a bar to action under the dormant commerce clause, then when Congress speaks it is enacting a regulatory authorization for the States to act.

⁸⁷¹ *Transportation Co. v. Parkersburg*, 107 U.S. 691, 701 (1883).

⁸⁷² In *Brown v. Maryland*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419, 449 (1827), in which the “original package” doctrine originated in the context of state taxing powers exercised on imports from a foreign country, Marshall in dictum indicated the same rule would apply to imports from sister States. The Court refused to follow the dictum in *Woodruff v. Parham*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 123 (1869).

⁸⁷³ *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623 (1887).

⁸⁷⁴ *Kidd v. Pearson*, 128 U.S. 1 (1888).

⁸⁷⁵ 125 U.S. 465 (1888).

⁸⁷⁶ *Leisy v. Hardin*, 135 U.S. 100 (1890).

⁸⁷⁷ 26 Stat. 313 (1890), sustained in, *In re Rahrer*, 140 U.S. 545 (1891).

⁸⁷⁸ *Rhodes v. Iowa*, 170 U.S. 412 (1898).

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the decision in the *Bowman* case fully nullified by the Webb-Kenyon Act,⁸⁷⁹ which placed intoxicants entering a State from another State under the control of the former for all purposes whatsoever.⁸⁸⁰

Less than a year after the ruling in *United States v. South-Eastern Underwriters Assn.*,⁸⁸¹ that insurance transactions across state lines constituted interstate commerce, thereby logically establishing their immunity from discriminatory state taxation, Congress passed the McCarran Act⁸⁸² authorizing state regulation and taxation of the insurance business. In *Prudential Ins. Co. v. Benjamin*,⁸⁸³ a statute of South Carolina that imposed on foreign insurance companies, as a condition of their doing business in the State, an annual tax of three percent of premiums from business done in South Carolina, while imposing no similar tax on local corporations, was sustained. “Obviously,” said Justice Rutledge for the Court, “Congress’ purpose was broadly to give support to the existing and future State systems for regulating and taxing the business of insurance. This was done in two ways:

“One was by removing obstructions which might be thought to flow from its own power, whether dormant or exercised, except as otherwise expressly provided in the Act itself or in future legislation. The other was by declaring expressly and affirmatively that continued State regulation and taxation of this business is in the public interest and that the business and all who engage in it ‘shall be subject to’ the laws of the several States in these respects. . . . The power of Congress over commerce exercised entirely without reference to coordinated action of the States is not restricted, except as the Constitution expressly provides, by any limitation which forbids it to discriminate against interstate commerce and in favor of local trade. Its plenary scope enables Congress not only to promote but also to prohibit interstate commerce, as it has done frequently and for a great variety of reasons. . . . This broad authority Congress may exercise alone, subject to those limitations, or

⁸⁷⁹ 37 Stat. 699 (1913), sustained in *Clark-Distilling Co. v. Western Md. Ry. Co.*, 242 U.S. 311 (1917). See also *Dept. of Revenue v. Beam Distillers*, 377 U.S. 341 (1964).

⁸⁸⁰ National Prohibition, under the Eighteenth Amendment, first cast these conflicts into the shadows, and §2 of the Twenty-first Amendment significantly altered the terms of the dispute. But that section is no authorization for the States to engage in mere economic protectionism separate from concerns about the effect of the traffic in liquor. *Bacchus Imports Ltd. v. Dias*, 468 U.S. 263 (1984); *Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573 (1986); *Healy v. Beer Institute*, 491 U.S. 324 (1989).

⁸⁸¹ 322 U.S. 533 (1944).

⁸⁸² 59 Stat. 33, 15 U.S.C. §§1011–15.

⁸⁸³ 328 U.S. 408 (1946).

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in conjunction with coordinated action by the States, in which case limitations imposed for the preservation of their powers become inoperative and only those designed to forbid action altogether by any power or combination of powers in our governmental system remain effective.”⁸⁸⁴

Thus, it is now well established that “[w]hen Congress so chooses, state actions which it plainly authorizes are invulnerable to constitutional attack under the Commerce Clause.”⁸⁸⁵ But the Court requires congressional intent to permit otherwise impermissible state actions to “be unmistakably clear.”⁸⁸⁶ The fact that federal statutes and regulations had restricted commerce in timber harvested from national forest lands in Alaska was, therefore, “insufficient indicium” that Congress intended to authorize the State to apply a similar policy for timber harvested from state lands. The rule requiring clear congressional approval for state burdens on commerce was said to be necessary in order to strengthen the likelihood that decisions favoring one section of the country over another are in fact “collective decisions” made by Congress rather than unilateral choices imposed on unrepresented out-of-state interests by individual States.⁸⁸⁷ And Congress must be plain as well when the issue is not whether it has exempted a state action from

⁸⁸⁴ *Id.*, 429–430, 434–435. The Act restored state taxing and regulatory powers over the insurance business to their scope prior to *South-Eastern Underwriters*. Discriminatory state taxation otherwise cognizable under the commerce clause must, therefore, be challenged under other provisions of the Constitution. See *Western, & Southern Life Ins. Co. v. State Bd. of Equalization*, 451 U.S. 648 (1981). An equal protection challenge was successful in *Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. v. Ward*, 470 U.S. 869 (1985), invalidating a discriminatory tax and stating that a favoring of local industries “constitutes the very sort of parochial discrimination that the Equal Protection Clause was intended to prevent.” *Id.*, 878. Controversial when rendered, *Ward* may be a sport in the law. See *Northeast Bancorp v. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System*, 472 U.S. 159, 176–178 (1985).

⁸⁸⁵ *Northeast Bancorp v. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System*, 472 U.S. 159, 174 (1985) (interpreting a provision of the Bank Holding Company Act, 12 U.S.C. §1842(d), permitting regional interstate bank acquisitions expressly approved by the State in which the acquired bank is located, as authorizing state laws that allow only banks within the particular region to acquire an in-state bank, on a reciprocal basis, since what the States could do entirely they can do in part).

⁸⁸⁶ *South-Central Timber Dev., Inc. v. Wunnicke*, 467 U.S. 82, 90 (1984).

⁸⁸⁷ *Id.*, 92. Earlier cases had required express statutory sanction of state burdens on commerce but under circumstances arguably less suggestive of congressional approval. E.g., *Sporhase v. Nebraska ex rel. Douglas*, 458 U.S. 941, 958–960 (1982) (congressional deference to state water law in 37 statutes and numerous interstate compacts did not indicate congressional sanction for *invalid* state laws imposing a burden on commerce); *New England Power Co. v. New Hampshire*, 455 U.S. 331, 341 (1982) (disclaimer in Federal Power Act of intent to deprive a State of “lawful authority” over interstate transmissions held not to evince a congressional intent “to alter the limits of state power otherwise imposed by the Commerce Clause”). But see *White v. Massachusetts Council of Construction Employers*, 460 U.S. 204 (1983) (Congress held to have sanctioned municipality’s favoritism of city residents through funding statute under which construction funds were received).

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the commerce clause but whether it has taken the less direct form of reduction in the level of scrutiny.⁸⁸⁸

State Taxation and Regulation: The Old Law

Although in previous editions of this volume considerable attention was paid to the development and circuitous paths of the law of the negative commerce clause, the value of this exegesis was doubtlessly quite limited. The Court itself has admitted that its “some three hundred full-dress opinions” as of 1959 have not resulted in “consistent or reconcilable” doctrine but rather in something more resembling a “quagmire.”⁸⁸⁹ Although many of the principles still applicable in constitutional law may be found in the older cases, in fact the Court has worked a revolution in constitutional law in this area, though at different times for taxation and for regulation. Thus, in this section we summarize the “old” law and then deal more fully with the “modern” law of the negative commerce clause.

General Considerations.—The task of drawing the line between state power and the commercial interest has proved a comparatively simple one in the field of foreign commerce, the two things being in great part territorially distinct.⁸⁹⁰ With “commerce among the States” affairs are very different. Interstate commerce is conducted in the interior of the country, by persons and corporations that are ordinarily engaged also in local business; its usual incidents are acts that, if unconnected with commerce among the States, would fall within the State’s powers of police and taxation, while the things it deals in and the instruments by which it is carried on comprise the most ordinary subject matter of state power. In this field, the Court consequently has been unable to rely upon sweeping solutions. To the contrary, its judgments have often been fluctuating and tentative, even contradictory, and this is particu-

⁸⁸⁸ *Maine v. Taylor*, 477 U.S. 131 (1986) (holding that Lacey Act’s reinforcement of state bans on importation of fish and wildlife neither authorizes state law otherwise invalid under the Clause nor shifts analysis from the presumption of invalidity for discriminatory laws to the balancing test for state laws that burden commerce only incidentally).

⁸⁸⁹ *Northwestern States Portland Cement Co. v. Minnesota*, 358 U.S. 450, 457–458 (1959) (in part quoting *Miller Bros. Co. v. Maryland*, 347 U.S. 340, 344 (1954)). Justice Frankfurter was similarly skeptical of definitive statements. “To attempt to harmonize all that has been said in the past would neither clarify what has gone before nor guide the future. Suffice it to say that especially in this field opinions must be read in the setting of the particular cases and as the product of preoccupation with their special facts.” *Freeman v. Hewit*, 329 U.S. 249, 251–252 (1946). The comments in all three cases dealt with taxation, but they could just as well have included regulation.

⁸⁹⁰ *Infra*, pp. 240–242.

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larly the case with respect to the infringement on interstate commerce by the state taxing power.⁸⁹¹

Taxation.—The leading case dealing with the relation of the States' taxing power to interstate commerce, the case in which the Court first struck down a state tax as violative of the commerce clause, was the *State Freight Tax Case*.⁸⁹² Before the Court was the validity of a Pennsylvania statute that required every company transporting freight within the State, with certain exceptions, to pay a tax at specified rates on each ton of freight carried by it. The Court's reasoning was forthright. Transportation of freight constitutes commerce.⁸⁹³ A tax upon freight transported from one State to another effects a regulation of interstate commerce.⁸⁹⁴ Under the *Cooley* doctrine, whenever the subject of a regulation of commerce is in its nature of national interest or admits of one uniform system or plan of regulation, that subject is within the exclusive regulating control of Congress.⁸⁹⁵ Transportation of passengers or merchandise through a State, or from one State to another, is of this nature.⁸⁹⁶ Hence, a state law imposing a tax upon freight, taken up within the State and transported out of it or taken up outside the State and transported into it, violates the commerce clause.⁸⁹⁷

The principle thus asserted, that a State may not tax interstate commerce, confronted the principle that a State may tax all purely domestic business within its borders and all property "within its jurisdiction." Inasmuch as most large concerns prosecute both an interstate and a domestic business, while the instrumentalities of interstate commerce and the pecuniary returns from such commerce are ordinarily property within the jurisdiction of some State or other, the task before the Court was to determine where to draw the line between the immunity claimed by interstate business, on the one hand, and the prerogatives claimed by local power on the other. In the *State Tax on Railway Gross Receipts Case*,⁸⁹⁸ decided the same day as the *State Freight Tax Case*, the issue was a tax upon gross receipts of all railroads chartered by the State, part of

⁸⁹¹ In addition to the sources previously cited, see J. HELLERSTEIN & W. HELLERSTEIN, *STATE AND LOCAL TAXATION—CASES AND MATERIALS* (5th ed. 1988), ch. 6, 241 *passim*. For a succinct description of the history, see Hellerstein, *State Taxation of Interstate Business: Perspectives on Two Centuries of Constitutional Adjudication*, 41 *Tax Law.* 37 (1987).

⁸⁹² *Reading Railroad v. Pennsylvania*, 15 Wall. (82 U.S.) 232 (1873).

⁸⁹³ *Id.*, 275.

⁸⁹⁴ *Id.*, 275–276, 279.

⁸⁹⁵ *Id.*, 279–280.

⁸⁹⁶ *Id.*, 280.

⁸⁹⁷ *Id.*, 281–282.

⁸⁹⁸ *Reading Railway Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 15 Wall. (82 U.S.) 284 (1872).

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the receipts having been derived from interstate transportation of the same freight that had been held immune from tax in the first case. If the latter tax were regarded as a tax on interstate commerce, it too would fall. But to the Court, the tax on gross receipts of an interstate transportation company was not a tax on commerce. “[I]t is not everything that affects commerce that amounts to a regulation of it, within the meaning of the Constitution.”⁸⁹⁹ A gross receipts tax upon a railroad company, which concededly affected commerce, was not a regulation “directly. Very manifestly it is a tax upon the railroad company. . . . That its ultimate effect may be to increase the cost of transportation must be admitted. . . . Still it is not a tax upon transportation, or upon commerce. . . .”⁹⁰⁰

Insofar as there is a distinction between these two cases, the Court drew it in part on the basis of *Cooley*, that some subjects embraced within the meaning of commerce demand uniform, national regulation, while other similar subjects permit of diversity of treatment, until Congress acts, and in part on the basis of a concept of a “direct” tax on interstate commerce, which was impermissible, and an “indirect” tax, which was permissible until Congress acted.⁹⁰¹ Confusingly, the two concepts were sometimes conflated, sometimes treated separately. In any event, the Court itself was clear that interstate commerce could not be taxed at all, even if the tax was a nondiscriminatory levy applied alike to local commerce.⁹⁰² “Thus, the States cannot tax interstate commerce, either by laying the tax upon the business which constitutes such commerce or the privilege of engaging in it, or upon the receipts, as such, derived from it . . . ; or upon persons or property in transit in interstate commerce.”⁹⁰³ However, some taxes imposed only an “indirect” burden and were sustained; property taxes and taxes in lieu of property taxes applied to all businesses, including instrumentalities of interstate commerce, were sustained.⁹⁰⁴ A good rule

⁸⁹⁹ *Id.*, 293.

⁹⁰⁰ *Id.*, 294. This case was overruled 14 years later, when the Court voided substantially the same tax in *Philadelphia Steamship Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 122 U.S. 326 (1887).

⁹⁰¹ See *The Minnesota Rate Cases (Simpson v. Shepard)*, 230 U.S. 352, 398–412 (1913) (reviewing and summarizing at length both taxation and regulation cases). See also *Missouri ex rel. Barrett v. Kansas Natural Gas Co.*, 265 U.S. 298, 307 (1924).

⁹⁰² *Robbins v. Shelby County Taxing District*, 120 U.S. 489, 497 (1887); *Leloup v. Port of Mobile*, 127 U.S. 640, 648 (1888).

⁹⁰³ *The Minnesota Rate Cases (Simpson v. Shepard)*, 230 U.S. 352, 400–401 (1913).

⁹⁰⁴ *The Delaware Railroad Tax*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 206, 232 (1873). See *Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Ry. Co. v. Backus*, 154 U.S. 439 (1894); *Postal*

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of thumb in these cases is that taxation was sustained if the tax was imposed on some local, rather than an interstate, activity or if the tax was exacted before interstate movement had begun or after it had ended.

An independent basis for invalidation was that the tax was discriminatory, that its impact was intentionally or unintentionally felt by interstate commerce and not by local, perhaps in pursuit of parochial interests. Many of the early cases actually involving discriminatory taxation were decided on the basis of the impermissibility of taxing interstate commerce at all, but the category was soon clearly delineated as a separate ground (and one of the most important today).⁹⁰⁵

Following the Great Depression and under the leadership of Justice, and later Chief Justice, Stone, the Court attempted to move away from the principle that interstate commerce may not be taxed and reliance on the direct-indirect distinction. Instead, a state or local levy would be voided only if in the opinion of the Court it created a risk of multiple taxation for interstate commerce not felt by local commerce.⁹⁰⁶ It became much more important to the validity of a tax that it be apportioned to an interstate company's activities within the taxing State, so as to reduce the risk of multiple taxation.⁹⁰⁷ But, just as the Court had achieved constancy in the area of regulation, it reverted to the older doctrines in the taxation area and reiterated that interstate commerce may not be taxed at all, even by a properly apportioned levy, and reasserted the direct-indirect distinction.⁹⁰⁸ The stage was set, following a series of cases in which through formalistic reasoning the States were permitted to evade the Court's precedents,⁹⁰⁹ for the formulation of a more realistic doctrine.

Telegraph Cable Co. v. Adams, 155 U.S. 688 (1895). See cases cited in J. HELLERSTEIN & W. HELLERSTEIN, *supra*, n. 891, 215–219.

⁹⁰⁵ E.g., *Welton v. Missouri*, 91 U.S. 275 (1875); *Robbins v. Shelby County Taxing District*, 120 U.S. 489 (1887); *Darnell & Son Co. v. City of Memphis*, 208 U.S. 113 (1908); *Bethlehem Motors Corp. v. Flynt*, 256 U.S. 421 (1921).

⁹⁰⁶ *Western Live Stock v. Bureau of Revenue*, 303 U.S. 250 (1938); *McGoldrick v. Berwind-White Coal Mining Co.*, 309 U.S. 33 (1940); *International Harvester Co. v. Dept. of Treasury*, 322 U.S. 340 (1944); *International Harvester Co. v. Evatt*, 329 U.S. 416 (1947).

⁹⁰⁷ E.g., *Gwin, White & Prince, Inc. v. Henneford*, 305 U.S. 434 (1939); *Joseph v. Carter & Weekes Stevedoring Co.*, 330 U.S. 422 (1947); *Central Greyhound Lines, Inc. v. Mealey*, 334 U.S. 653 (1948).

⁹⁰⁸ *Freeman v. Hewit*, 329 U.S. 249 (1946); *Spector Motor Service, Inc. v. O'Connor*, 340 U.S. 602 (1951).

⁹⁰⁹ Thus, the States carefully phrased tax laws so as to impose on interstate companies not a license tax for doing business in the State, which was not permitted, *Railway Express Agency v. Virginia*, 347 U.S. 359 (1954), but a franchise tax on intangible property on the privilege of doing business in a corporate form, which was permissible. *Railway Express Agency v. Virginia*, 358 U.S. 434 (1959);

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Regulation.—Much more diverse were the cases dealing with regulation by the state and local governments. Taxation was one thing, the myriad approaches and purposes of regulations another. Generally speaking, if the state action was perceived by the Court to be a regulation of interstate commerce itself, it was deemed to impose a “direct” burden on interstate commerce and impermissible. If the Court saw it as something other than a regulation of interstate commerce, it was considered only to “affect” interstate commerce or to impose only an “indirect” burden on it in the proper exercise of the police powers of the States.⁹¹⁰ But the distinction between “direct” and “indirect” burdens was often perceptible only to the Court.⁹¹¹

A corporation’s status as a foreign entity did not immunize it from state requirements, conditioning its admission to do a local business, to obtain a local license, and to furnish relevant information as well as to pay a reasonable fee.⁹¹² But no registration was permitted of an out-of-state corporation, the business of which in the host State was purely interstate in character.⁹¹³ Neither did the Court permit a State to exclude from the its courts a corporation engaging solely in interstate commerce because of a failure to register and to qualify to do business in that State.⁹¹⁴

Interstate transportation brought forth hundreds of cases. State regulation of trains operating across state lines resulted in divergent rulings. It was early held improper for States to prescribe charges for transportation of persons and freight on the basis that

Colonial Pipeline Co. v. Traigle, 421 U.S. 100 (1975). Also, the Court increasingly found the tax to be imposed on a local activity in instances it would previously have seen to be an interstate activity. E.g., Memphis Natural Gas Co. v. Stone, 335 U.S. 80 (1948); General Motors Corp. v. Washington, 377 U.S. 436 (1964); Standard Pressed Steel Co. v. Dept. of Revenue, 419 U.S. 560 (1975).

⁹¹⁰Sedler, *The Negative Commerce Clause as a Restriction on State Regulation and Taxation: An Analysis in Terms of Constitutional Structure*, 31 Wayne L. Rev. 885, 924–925 (1985). In addition to the sources already cited, see the Court’s summaries in *The Minnesota Rate Cases* (Simpson v. Shepard), 230 U.S. 352, 398–412 (1913), and *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*, 325 U.S. 761, 766–770 (1945). In the latter case, Chief Justice Stone was reconceptualizing the standards under the clause, but the summary represents a faithful recitation of the law.

⁹¹¹See *DiSanto v. Pennsylvania*, 273 U.S. 34, 44 (1927) (Justice Stone dissenting). The dissent was the precursor to Chief Justice Stone’s reformulation of the standard in 1945. *DiSanto* was overruled in *California v. Thompson*, 313 U.S. 109 (1941).

⁹¹²*Bank of Augusta v. Earle*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 519 (1839); *Hanover Fire Ins. Co. v. Harding*, 272 U.S. 494 (1926); *Union Brokerage Co. v. Jensen*, 322 U.S. 202 (1944).

⁹¹³*Crutcher v. Kentucky*, 141 U.S. 47 (1891); *International Textbook Co. v. Pigg*, 217 U.S. 91 (1910).

⁹¹⁴*Dahnke-Walker Co. v. Bondurant*, 257 U.S. 282 (1921); *Allenberg Cotton Co. v. Pittman*, 419 U.S. 20 (1974). But see *Eli Lilly & Co. v. Sav-on Drugs*, 366 U.S. 276 (1961).

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the regulation must be uniform and thus could not be left to the States.⁹¹⁵ The Court deemed “reasonable” and therefore constitutional many state regulations requiring a fair and adequate service for its inhabitants by railway companies conducting interstate service within its borders, as long as there was no unnecessary burden on commerce.⁹¹⁶ A marked tolerance for a class of regulations that arguably furthered public safety was long exhibited by the Court,⁹¹⁷ even in instances in which the safety connection was tenuous.⁹¹⁸ Of particular controversy were “full-crew” laws, represented as safety measures, that were attacked by the companies as “feather-bedding” rules.⁹¹⁹

Similarly, motor vehicle regulations have met mixed fates. Basically, it has always been recognized that States, in the interest of public safety and conservation of public highways, may enact and enforce comprehensive licensing and regulation of motor vehicles using its facilities.⁹²⁰ Indeed, States were permitted to regulate many of the local activities of interstate firms and thus the

⁹¹⁵ *Wabash, S. L. & P. Ry. Co. v. Illinois*, 118 U.S. 557 (1886). The power of the States generally to set rates had been approved in *Chicago, B. & Q. R. Co. v. Iowa*, 94 U.S. 155 (1877), and *Peik v. Chicago & N. W. R. Co.*, 94 U.S. 164 (1877). After the *Wabash* decision, States retained power to set rates for passengers and freight taken up and put down within their borders. *Wisconsin R. R. Comm. v. Chicago, B. & Q. R. Co.*, 257 U.S. 563 (1922).

⁹¹⁶ Generally, the Court drew the line at regulations that provided for adequate service, not any and all service. Thus, one class of cases dealt with requirements that trains stop at designated cities and towns. The regulations were upheld in such cases as *Gladson v. Minnesota*, 166 U.S. 142 (1897), and *Lake Shore & Mich. South. Ry. v. Ohio*, 173 U.S. 285 (1899), and invalidated in *Illinois Central R. R. v. Illinois*, 142 (1896). See *Chicago, B. & Q. Ry. v. Wisconsin R. R. Comm.*, 237 U.S. 220, 226 (1915); *St. Louis & S. F. Ry. v. Public Service Comm.*, 254 U.S. 535, 536–537 (1921). The cases were extremely fact particularistic.

⁹¹⁷ E.g., *Smith v. Alabama*, 124 U.S. 465 (1888) (required locomotive engineers to be examined and licensed by the State, until Congress should deem otherwise); *New York, N. H. & H. Co. v. New York*, 165 U.S. 628 (1897) (forbidding heating of passenger cars by stoves); *Chicago, R. I. & Pac. Ry. Co. v. Arkansas*, 219 U.S. 453 (1911) (requiring three brakemen on freight trains of more than 25 cars).

⁹¹⁸ E.g., *Terminal Assn v. Trainmen*, 318 U.S. 1 (1943) (requiring railroad to provide caboose cars for its employees); *Hennington v. Georgia*, 163 U.S. 299 (1896) (forbidding freight trains to run on Sundays). But see *Seaboard Air Line Ry. v. Blackwell*, 244 U.S. 310 (1917) (voiding as too onerous on interstate transportation law requiring trains to come to almost a complete stop at all grade crossings, when there were 124 highway crossings at grade in 123 miles, doubling the running time).

⁹¹⁹ Four cases over a lengthy period sustained the laws. *Chicago, R. I. & P. R. Co. v. Arkansas*, 219 U.S. 453 (1911); *St. Louis, Iron Mt. & S. R. Co. v. Arkansas*, 240 U.S. 518 (1916); *Missouri Pacific Co. v. Norwood*, 283 U.S. 249 (1931); *Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen v. Chicago, R. I. & P. R. Co.*, 382 U.S. 423 (1966). In the latter case, the Court noted the extensive and conflicting record with regard to safety, but it then ruled that with the issue in so much doubt it was peculiarly a legislative choice.

⁹²⁰ *Hendrick v. Maryland*, 235 U.S. 610 (1915); *Kane v. New Jersey*, 242 U.S. 160 (1916).

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interstate operations, in pursuit of these interests.⁹²¹ Here, too, safety concerns became overriding objects of deference, even in doubtful cases.⁹²² In regard to navigation, which had given rise to *Gibbons v. Ogden* and *Cooley*, the Court generally upheld much state regulation on the basis that the activities were local and did not demand uniform rules.⁹²³

As a general rule, during this time, although the Court did not permit States to regulate a purely interstate activity or prescribe prices for purely interstate transactions,⁹²⁴ it did sustain a great deal of price and other regulation imposed prior to or subsequent to the travel in interstate commerce of goods produced for such commerce or received from such commerce. For example, decisions late in the period upheld state price-fixing schemes applied to goods intended for interstate commerce.⁹²⁵

However, the States always had an obligation to act nondiscriminatorily. Just as in the taxing area, regulation that was parochially oriented, to protect local producers or industries, for instance, was not evaluated under ordinary standards but subjected to practically *per se* invalidation. The mirror image of *Welton v. Missouri*,⁹²⁶ the tax case, was *Minnesota v. Barber*,⁹²⁷ in which the Court invalidated a facially neutral law that in its practical effect discriminated against interstate commerce and in favor of local commerce. The law required fresh meat sold in the State to have been inspected by its own inspectors with 24 hours of slaughter.

⁹²¹ E.g., *Bradley v. Public Utility Comm.*, 289 U.S. 92 (1933) (State could deny an interstate firm a necessary certificate of convenience to operate as a common carrier on the basis that the route was overcrowded); *Welch Co. v. New Hampshire*, 306 U.S. 79 (1939) (maximum hours for drivers of motor vehicles); *Eichholz v. Public Service Comm.*, 306 U.S. 268 (1939) (reasonable regulations of traffic). But compare *Michigan Comm. v. Duke*, 266 U.S. 570 (1925) (State may not impose common-carrier responsibilities on business operating between States that did not assume them); *Buck v. Kuykendall*, 267 U.S. 307 (1925) (denial of certificate of convenience under circumstances was a ban on competition).

⁹²² E.g., *Mauer v. Hamilton*, 309 U.S. 598 (1940) (ban on operation of any motor vehicle carrying any other vehicle above the head of the operator). By far, the example of the greatest deference is *South Carolina Highway Dept. v. Barnwell Bros.*, 303 U.S. 177 (1938), in which the Court upheld, in a surprising Stone opinion, truck weight and width restrictions prescribed by practically no other State (in terms of the width, no other).

⁹²³ E.g., *Transportation Co. v. City of Chicago*, 99 U.S. 635 (1879); *Williamette Iron Bridge Co. v. Hatch*, 125 U.S. 1 (1888). See *Kelly v. Washington*, 302 U.S. 1 (1937) (upholding state inspection and regulation of tugs operating in navigable waters, in absence of federal law).

⁹²⁴ E.g., *Western Union Tel Co. v. Foster*, 247 U.S. 105 (1918); *Lemke v. Framers Grain Co.*, 258 U.S. 50 (1922); *State Corp. Comm. v. Wichita Gas Co.*, 290 U.S. 561 (1934).

⁹²⁵ *Milk Control Board v. Eisenberg Co.*, 306 U.S. 346 (1939) (milk); *Parker v. Brown*, 317 U.S. 341 (1943) (raisins).

⁹²⁶ 91 U.S. 275 (1875).

⁹²⁷ 136 U.S. 313 (1890).

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Thus, meat slaughtered in other States was excluded from the Minnesota market. The principle of the case has a long pedigree of application.⁹²⁸ State protectionist regulation on behalf of local milk producers has occasioned judicial censure. Thus, in *Baldwin v. G. A. F. Seelig, Inc.*,⁹²⁹ the Court had before it a complex state price-fixing scheme for milk, in which the State, in order to keep the price of milk artificially high within the State, required milk dealers buying out-of-state to pay producers, wherever they were, what the dealers had to pay within the State, and, thus, in-state producers were protected. And in *H. P. Hood & Sons v. Du Mond*,⁹³⁰ the Court struck down a state refusal to grant an out-of-state milk distributor a license to operate a milk receiving station within the State on the basis that the additional diversion of local milk to the other State would impair the supply for the in-state market. A State may not bar an interstate market to protect local interests.⁹³¹

State Taxation and Regulation: The Modern Law

General Considerations.—Transition from the old law to the modern standard occurred relatively smoothly in the field of regulation,⁹³² but in the area of taxation the passage was choppy and often witnessed retreats and advances.⁹³³ In any event, both taxation and regulation now are evaluated under a judicial balancing

⁹²⁸ E.g., *Brimmer v. Rebman*, 138 U.S. 78 (1891) (law requiring postslaughter inspection in each county of meat transported over 100 miles from the place of slaughter); *Dean Milk Co. v. City of Madison*, 340 U.S. 349 (1951) (city ordinance preventing selling of milk as pasteurized unless it had been processed and bottled at an approved plant within a radius of five miles from the central square of Madison). As the latter case demonstrates, it is constitutionally irrelevant that other Wisconsin producers were also disadvantaged by the law. For a modern application of the principle of these cases, see *Fort Gratiot Sanitary Landfill v. Michigan Natural Resources Dept.*, 112 S.Ct. 2019 (1992) (forbidding landfills from accepting out-of-county wastes).

⁹²⁹ 294 U.S. 511 (1935). See also *Polar Ice Cream & Creamery Co. v. Andrews*, 375 U.S. 361 (1964). With regard to products originating within the State, the Court had no difficulty with price fixing. *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502 (1934).

⁹³⁰ 336 U.S. 525 (1949).

⁹³¹ And the Court does not permit a State to combat discrimination against its own products by admitting only products (here, again, milk) from States that have reciprocity agreements with it to protect its own dealers. *Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. v. Cottrell*, 424 U.S. 366 (1976).

⁹³² Formulation of a balancing test was achieved in *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*, 325 U.S. 761 (1945), and was thereafter maintained more or less consistently. The Court's current phrasing of the test was in *Pike v. Bruce Church, Inc.*, 397 U.S. 137 (1970).

⁹³³ Indeed, scholars dispute just when the modern standard was firmly adopted. The conventional view is that it was articulated in *Complete Auto Transit, Inc. v. Brady*, 430 U.S. 274 (1977), but there also seems little doubt that the foundation of the present law was laid in *Northwestern States Portland Cement Co. v. Minnesota*, 358 U.S. 450 (1959).

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formula comparing the burden on interstate commerce with the importance of the state interest, save for discriminatory state action that cannot be justified at all.

Taxation.—During the 1940s and 1950s, there was engaged within the Court a contest between the view that interstate commerce could not be taxed at all, at least “directly,” and the view that the negative commerce clause protected against the risk of double taxation.⁹³⁴ In *Northwestern States Portland Cement Co. v. Minnesota*,⁹³⁵ the Court reasserted the principle expressed earlier in *Western Live Stock*, that the Framers did not intend to immunize interstate commerce from its just share of the state tax burden even though it increased the cost of doing business.⁹³⁶ *Northwestern States* held that a State could constitutionally impose a non-discriminatory, fairly apportioned net income tax on an out-of-state corporation engaged exclusively in interstate commerce in the taxing State. “For the first time outside the context of property taxation, the Court explicitly recognized that an exclusively interstate business could be subjected to the states’ taxing powers.”⁹³⁷ Thus, in *Northwestern States*, foreign corporations, which maintained a sales office and employed sales staff in the taxing State for solicitation of orders for their merchandise that, upon acceptance of the orders at their home office in another jurisdiction, were shipped to customers in the taxing State, were held liable to pay the latter’s income tax on that portion of the net income of their interstate business as was attributable to such solicitation.

Yet, the following years saw inconsistent rulings that turned almost completely upon the use of or failure to use “magic words” by legislative drafters. That is, it was constitutional for the States to tax a corporation’s net income, properly apportioned to the taxing State, as in *Northwestern States*, but no State could levy a tax on a foreign corporation for the privilege of doing business in the State, both taxes alike in all respects.⁹³⁸ In *Complete Auto Transit*,

⁹³⁴ Compare *Freeman v. Hewit*, 329 U.S. 249, 252–256 (1946), with *Western Live Stock v. Bureau of Revenue*, 303 U.S. 250, 258, 260 (1938).

⁹³⁵ 358 U.S. 450 (1959).

⁹³⁶ *Id.*, 461–462. See *Western Live Stock v. Bureau of Revenue*, 303 U.S. 250, 254 (1938). For recent reiterations of the principle, see *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota ex rel. Heitkamp*, 112 S.Ct. 1904, 1912 n. 5 (1992) (citing cases).

⁹³⁷ Hellerstein, *State Taxation of Interstate Business: Perspectives on Two Centuries of Constitutional Adjudication*, 41 *Tax Law.* 37, 54 (1987).

⁹³⁸ *Spector Motor Service, Inc. v. O’Connor*, 340 U.S. 602 (1951). The attenuated nature of the purported distinction was evidenced in *Colonial Pipeline Co. v. Traigle*, 421 U.S. 100 (1975), in which the Court sustained a nondiscriminatory, fairly apportioned franchise tax that was measured by the taxpayer’s capital stock, imposed on a pipeline company doing an exclusively interstate business in the taxing State, on the basis that it was a tax imposed on the privilege of conducting business in the corporate form.

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Inc. v. Brady,⁹³⁹ the Court overruled the cases embodying the distinction and articulated a standard that has governed the cases since. The tax in *Brady* was imposed on the privilege of doing business as applied to a corporation engaged in interstate transportation services in the taxing State; it was measured by the corporation's gross receipts from the service. The appropriate concern, the Court wrote, was to pay attention to "economic realities" and to "address the problems with which the commerce clause is concerned."⁹⁴⁰ The standard, a set of four factors that was distilled from precedent but newly applied, was firmly set out. A tax on interstate commerce will be sustained "when the tax is applied to an activity with a substantial nexus with the taxing State, is fairly apportioned, does not discriminate against interstate commerce, and is fairly related to the services provided by the State."⁹⁴¹ All subsequent cases have been decided in this framework.

Nexus.—Nexus is a requirement that flows from both the commerce clause and the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.⁹⁴² What is required is "some definite link, some minimum connection, between a state and the person, property or transaction it seeks to tax."⁹⁴³ In its commerce-clause setting, the nexus requirement serves to effectuate the "structural concerns about the effects of state regulation on the national economy."⁹⁴⁴ That is, "the 'substantial-nexus' requirement . . . limit[s] the reach of State taxing authority so as to ensure that State taxation does not unduly burden interstate commerce."⁹⁴⁵

Often surfacing in cases having to do with the imposition of an obligation by a State on an out-of-state vendor to collect use taxes

⁹³⁹ 430 U.S. 274 (1977).

⁹⁴⁰ *Id.*, 279, 288. "In reviewing Commerce Clause challenges to state taxes, our goal has instead been to 'establish a consistent and rational method of inquiry' focusing on 'the practical effect of a challenged tax.'" *Commonwealth Edison Co. v. Montana*, 453 U.S. 609, 615 (1981) (quoting *Mobil Oil Corp. v. Comr. of Taxes*, 445 U.S. 425, 443 (1980)).

⁹⁴¹ *Id.*, 279. The rationale of these four parts of the test is set out in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota ex rel. Heitkamp*, 112 S.Ct. 1904, 1913 (1992).

⁹⁴² It had been thought that the tests of nexus under the commerce clause and the due process clause were identical, but, controversially, in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota ex rel. Heitkamp*, 112 S.Ct. 1904, 1909–1911 (1992), but compare *id.*, 1916 (Justice White concurring in part and dissenting in part), the Court, stating that the two "are closely related," (citing *National Bellas Hess, Inc. v. Dept. of Revenue of Illinois*, 386 U.S. 753, 756 (1967)), held that the two constitutionally requirements "differ fundamentally" and it found a state tax met the due process test while violating the commerce clause.

⁹⁴³ *National Bellas Hess, Inc. v. Dept. of Revenue of Illinois*, 386 U.S. 753, 756 (1967). The phraseology is quoted from a due process case, *Miller Bros. Co. v. Maryland*, 347 U.S. 340, 344–345 (1954), but as a statement it probably survives the bifurcation of the tests in *Quill*.

⁹⁴⁴ *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota ex rel. Heitkamp*, 112 S.Ct. 1904, 1913 (1992).

⁹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

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on goods sold to purchasers in the taxing State, the test is a “physical presence” standard. The Court has sustained the imposition on mail order sellers with retail outlets, solicitors, or property within the taxing State,⁹⁴⁶ but it has denied the power to a State when the only connection is that the company communicates with customers in the State by mail or common carrier as part of a general interstate business.⁹⁴⁷ The validity of general business taxes on interstate enterprises may also be determined by the nexus standard. However, again, only a minimal contact is necessary.⁹⁴⁸ Thus, maintenance of one full-time employee within the State (plus occasional visits by non-resident engineers) to make possible the realization and continuance of contractual relations seemed to the Court to make almost frivolous a claim of lack of sufficient nexus.⁹⁴⁹ The application of a state business-and-occupation tax on the gross receipts from a large wholesale volume of pipe and drainage products in the State was sustained, even though the company maintained no office, owned no property, and had no employees in the State, its marketing activities being carried out by an in-state independent contractor.⁹⁵⁰ Also, the Court upheld a State’s application of a use tax to aviation fuel stored temporarily in the State prior to loading on aircraft for consumption in interstate flights.⁹⁵¹

Given the complexity of modern corporations and their frequent diversification and control of subsidiaries, state treatment of businesses operating within and without their borders requires an appropriate definition of the scope of business operations. Thus,

⁹⁴⁶ *Scripto v. Carson*, 362 U.S. 207 (1960); *National Geographic Society v. California Bd. of Equalization*, 430 U.S. 551 (1977). The agents in the State in *Scripto* were independent contractors, rather than employees, but this distinction was irrelevant. See also *Tyler Pipe Industries v. Dept. of Revenue*, 483 U.S. 232, 249–250 (1987) (reaffirming *Scripto* on this point). See also *D. H. Holmes Co. v. McNamara*, 486 U.S. 24 (1988) (imposition of use tax on catalogs, printed outside State at direction of an in-state corporation and shipped to prospective customers within the State, upheld).

⁹⁴⁷ *National Bellas Hess, Inc. v. Department of Revenue of Illinois*, 386 U.S. 753 (1967), reaffirmed with respect to the commerce clause in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota ex rel. Heitkamp*, 112 S.Ct. 1904 (1992).

⁹⁴⁸ Some in-state contact is necessary in many instances by statutory compulsion. Reacting to *Northwestern States*, Congress enacted P.L. 86–272, 15 U.S.C. §381, providing that mere solicitation by a company acting outside the State did not support imposition of a state income tax on a company’s proceeds. See *Heublein, Inc. v. South Carolina Tax Comm.*, 409 U.S. 275 (1972); *Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue v. William Wrigley, Jr., Co.*, 112 S.Ct. 2447 (1992).

⁹⁴⁹ *Standard Pressed Steel Co. v. Dept. of Revenue*, 419 U.S. 560 (1975). See also *General Motors Corp. v. Washington*, 377 U.S. 436 (1964).

⁹⁵⁰ *Tyler Pipe Industries, Inc. v. Dept. of Revenue*, 483 U.S. 232, 249–251 (1987). The Court noted its agreement with the state court holding that “the crucial factor governing nexus is whether the activities performed in this state on behalf of the taxpayer are significantly associated with the taxpayer’s ability to establish and maintain a market in this state for the sales.” *Id.*, 250.

⁹⁵¹ *United Air lines v. Mahin*, 410 U.S. 623 (1973).

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States may impose a tax in accordance with a “unitary business” apportionment formula on concerns carrying on part of their business within the taxing State based upon the company’s entire proceeds. But there must be a nexus, or minimal connection, between the interstate activities and the taxing State and a rational relationship between the income attributed to the State and the intrastate values of the enterprise.⁹⁵²

Apportionment.—This requirement is of long standing,⁹⁵³ but its importance has broadened as the scope of the States’ taxing powers has enlarged. It is concerned with what formulas the States must use to claim a share of a multistate business’ tax base for the taxing State, when the business carries on a single integrated enterprise both within and without the State. A State may not exact from interstate commerce more than the State’s fair share. Avoidance of multiple taxation, or the risk of multiple taxation, is the test of an apportionment formula. Generally speaking, this factor is both a commerce clause and a due process requisite, and it necessitates a rational relationship between the income attributed to the State and the intrastate values of the enterprise.⁹⁵⁴ The Court has declined to impose any particular formula on the States, reasoning that to do so would be to require the Court to engage in “extensive judicial lawmaking,” for which it was ill-suited and for which Congress had ample power and ability to legislate.⁹⁵⁵

Rather, “we determine whether a tax is fairly apportioned by examining whether it is internally and externally consistent.”⁹⁵⁶ “To be internally consistent, a tax must be structured so that if every State were to impose an identical tax, no multiple taxation would result. Thus, the internal consistency test focuses on the text of the challenged statute and hypothesizes a situation where other States have passed an identical statute. . . .

“The external consistency test asks whether the State has taxed only that portion of the revenues from the interstate activity which reasonably reflects the in-state component of the activity

⁹⁵² *Container Corp. of America v. Franchise Tax Board*, 463 U.S. 159, 165–169 (1983); *ASARCO Inc. v. Idaho State Tax Comm.*, 458 U.S. 307, 316–17 (1982).

⁹⁵³ E.g., *Pullman’s Palace Car Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 141 U.S. 18, 26 (1891); *Maine v. Grand Trunk Ry.*, 142 U.S. 217, 278 (1891).

⁹⁵⁴ The recent cases are, *Moorman Mfg. Co. v. Bair*, 437 U.S. 267 (1978); *Mobil Oil Corp. v. Comr. of Taxes*, 445 U.S. 425 (1980); *Exxon Corp. v. Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue*, 447 U.S. 207 (1980); *ASARCO v. Idaho State Tax Comm.*, 458 U.S. 307 (1982); *F. W. Woolworth Co. v. New Mexico Taxation Revenue Dept.*, 458 U.S. 354 (1982); *Container Corp. of America v. Franchise Tax Board*, 463 U.S. 159 (1983); *Tyler Pipe Industries v. Dept. of Revenue*, 483 U.S. 232, 251 (1987); *Allied-Signal, Inc. v. Director, Div. of Taxation*, 112 S.Ct. 2251 (1992). Cf. *American Trucking Assns., Inc. v. Scheiner*, 483 U.S. 266 (1987).

⁹⁵⁵ *Moorman Mfg. Co. v. Bair*, 437 U.S. 267, 278–280 (1978).

⁹⁵⁶ *Goldberg v. Sweet*, 488 U.S. 252, 261 (1989).

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being taxed. We thus examine the in-state business activity which triggers the taxable event and the practical or economic effect of the tax on that interstate activity.”⁹⁵⁷ In the latter case, the Court upheld as properly apportioned a state tax on the gross charge of any telephone call originated or terminated in the State and charged to an in-state service address, regardless of where the telephone call was billed or paid.⁹⁵⁸ A complex state tax imposed on trucks displays the operation of the test. Thus, a state registration tax met the internal consistency test because every State honored every other States’, and a motor fuel tax similarly was sustained because it was apportioned to mileage traveled in the State, whereas lump-sum annual taxes, an axle tax and an identification marker fee, being unapportioned flat taxes imposed for the use of the State’s roads, were voided, under the internal consistency test, because if every State imposed them the burden on interstate commerce would be great.⁹⁵⁹

Discrimination.—The “fundamental principle” governing this factor is simple. “No State may, consistent with the Commerce Clause, impose a tax which discriminates against interstate commerce . . . by providing a direct commercial advantage to local business.”⁹⁶⁰ That is, a tax which by its terms or operation imposes greater burdens on out-of-state goods or activities than on competing in-state goods or activities will be struck down as discriminatory under the commerce clause.⁹⁶¹ In *Armco, Inc. v. Hardesty*,⁹⁶² the Court voided as discriminatory the imposition on an out-of-state wholesaler of a state tax that was levied on manufacturing and wholesaling but that relieved manufacturers subject to the manufacturing tax of liability for paying the wholesaling tax. Even though the former tax was higher than the latter, the Court found the imposition discriminated against the interstate wholesaler.⁹⁶³ A state excise tax on wholesale liquor sales, which ex-

⁹⁵⁷ *Id.*, 261, 262 (internal citations omitted).

⁹⁵⁸ *Id.* The tax law provided a credit for any taxpayer who was taxed by another State on the same call. Actual multiple taxation could thus be avoided, the risks of other multiple taxation was small, and it was impracticable to keep track of the taxable transactions.

⁹⁵⁹ *American Trucking Assns., Inc. v. Scheiner*, 483 U.S. 266 (1987).

⁹⁶⁰ *Boston Stock Exchange v. State Tax Comm.*, 429 U.S. 318, 329 (1977) (quoting *Northwestern States Portland Cement Co. v. Minnesota*, 358 U.S. 450, 457 (1959)). The principle, as we have observed above, is a long-standing one under the commerce clause. E.g., *Welton v. Missouri*, 91 U.S. 275 (1876).

⁹⁶¹ *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725, 753–760 (1981). But see *Commonwealth Edison Co. v. Montana*, 453 U.S. 609, 617–619 (1981).

⁹⁶² 467 U.S. 638 (1984).

⁹⁶³ The Court applied the “internal consistency” test here, too, in order to determine the existence of discrimination. *Id.*, 644–645. Thus, the wholesaler did not have to demonstrate it had paid a like tax to another State, only that if other States imposed like taxes it would be subject to discriminatory taxation. See also Tyler

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empted sales of specified local products, was held to violate the commerce clause.⁹⁶⁴ A state statute that granted a tax credit for ethanol fuel if the ethanol was produced in the State, or if produced in another State that granted a similar credit to the State's ethanol fuel, was found discriminatory in violation of the clause.⁹⁶⁵

Benefit Relationship.—Although, in all the modern cases, the Court has stated that a necessary factor to sustain state taxes having an interstate impact is that the levy be fairly related to benefits provided by the taxing State, it has declined to be drawn into any consideration of the amount of the tax or the value of the benefits bestowed. The test rather is whether, as a matter of the first factor, the business has the requisite nexus with the State; if it does, the tax meets the fourth factor simply because the business has enjoyed the opportunities and protections which the State has afforded it.⁹⁶⁶

Regulation.—Adoption of the modern standard of commerce-clause review of state regulation of or having an impact on interstate commerce was achieved in *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*,⁹⁶⁷ although it was presaged in a series of opinions, mostly dissents, by Chief Justice Stone.⁹⁶⁸ The *Southern Pacific* case tested the validity of a state train-length law, justified as a safety measure. Revising a hundred years of doctrine, the Chief Justice wrote that whether a state or local regulation was valid depended upon a “reconciliation of the conflicting claims of state and national power is to be attained only by some appraisal and accommodation of the competing demands of the state and national interests involved.”⁹⁶⁹ Save in those few cases in which Congress has acted, “this Court, and not the state legislature, is under the commerce

Pipe Industries v. Washington State Dept. of Revenue, 483 U.S. 232 (1987); American Trucking Assns., Inc. v. Scheiner, 483 U.S. 266 (1987); Amerada Hess Corp. v. Director, New Jersey Taxation Div., 490 U.S. 66 (1989); Kraft General Foods v. Iowa Dept. of Revenue, 112 S.Ct. 2365 (1992)

⁹⁶⁴ Bacchus Imports, Ltd. v. Dias, 468 U.S. 263 (1984).

⁹⁶⁵ New Energy Co. of Indiana v. Limbach, 486 U.S. 269 (1988).

⁹⁶⁶ Commonwealth Edison Co. v. Montana, 453 U.S. 609, 620–629 (1981). Two state taxes imposing flat rates on truckers, because they did not vary directly with miles traveled or with some other proxy for value obtained from the State, were found to violate this standard in *American Trucking Assns., Inc. v. Scheiner*, 483 U.S. 266, 291 (1987), but this oblique holding was tagged onto an elaborate opinion holding the taxes invalid under two other *Brady* tests, and, thus, the precedential value is questionable.

⁹⁶⁷ 325 U.S. 761 (1945).

⁹⁶⁸ E.g., *DiSanto v. Pennsylvania*, 273 U.S. 34, 43 (1927) (dissenting); *California v. Thompson*, 313 U.S. 109 (1941); *Duckworth v. Arkansas*, 314 U.S. 390 (1941); *Parker v. Brown*, 317 U.S. 341, 362–368 (1943) (alternative holding).

⁹⁶⁹ *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*, 325 U.S. 761, 768–769 (1941).

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clause the final arbiter of the competing demands of state and national interests.”⁹⁷⁰

That the test to be applied was a balancing one, the Chief Justice made clear at length, stating that in order to determine whether the challenged regulation was permissible, “matters for ultimate determination are the nature and extent of the burden which the state regulation of interstate trains, adopted as a safety measure, imposes on interstate commerce, and whether the relative weights of the state and national interests involved are such as to make inapplicable the rule, generally observed, that the free flow of interstate commerce and its freedom from local restraints in matters requiring uniformity of regulation are interests safeguarded by the commerce clause from state interference.”⁹⁷¹

The test today continues to be the Stone articulation, although the more frequently quoted encapsulation of it is from *Pike v. Bruce Church, Inc.*⁹⁷² “Where the statute regulates even-handedly to effectuate a legitimate local public interest, and its effects on interstate commerce are only incidental, it will be upheld unless the burden imposed on such commerce is clearly excessive in relation to the putative local benefits. . . . If a legitimate local purpose is found, then the question becomes one of degree. And the extent of the burden that will be tolerated will of course depend on the nature of the local interest involved, and on whether it could be promoted as well with a lesser impact on interstate activities.”

Obviously, the test requires “even-handedness.” *Discrimination* in regulation is another matter altogether. When on its face or in its effect a regulation betrays “economic protectionism,” an intent to benefit in-state economic interests at the expense of out-of-state interests, no balancing is required. “When a state statute clearly discriminates against interstate commerce, it will be struck down . . . unless the discrimination is demonstrably justified by a valid factor unrelated to economic protectionism, Indeed, when the state statute amounts to simple economic protectionism, a ‘virtually *per se* rule of invalidity’ has applied.”⁹⁷³ Thus, an Oklahoma law that required coal-fired electric utilities in the State, producing

⁹⁷⁰ *Id.*, 769.

⁹⁷¹ *Id.*, 770–771.

⁹⁷² 397 U.S. 137, 142 (1970).

⁹⁷³ *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 112 S.Ct. 789, 800 (1992) (quoting *City of Philadelphia v. New Jersey*, 437 U.S. 617, 624 (1978)). See also *Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573, 579 (1986). In *Maine v. Taylor*, 477 U.S. 131 (1986), the Court did uphold a protectionist law, finding a valid justification aside from economic protectionism. The State barred the importation of out-of-state baitfish, and the Court credited lower-court findings that legitimate ecological concerns existed about the possible presence of parasites and nonnative species in baitfish shipments.

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power for sale in the State, to burn a mixture of coal containing at least 10% Oklahoma-mined coal was invalidated at the behest of a State that had previously provided virtually 100% of the coal used by the Oklahoma utilities.⁹⁷⁴ Similarly, the Court invalidated a state law that permitted interdiction of export of hydroelectric power from the State to neighboring States, when in the opinion of regulatory authorities the energy was required for use in the State; a State may not prefer its own citizens over out-of-state residents in access to resources within the State.⁹⁷⁵

States may certainly promote local economic interests and favor local consumers, but they may not do so by adversely regulating out-of-state producers or consumers. In *Hunt v. Washington State Apple Advertising Comm.*,⁹⁷⁶ the Court confronted a state requirement that closed containers of apples offered for sale or shipped into North Carolina carry no grade other than the applicable U. S. grade. Washington State mandated that all apples produced in and shipped in interstate commerce pass a much more rigorous inspection than that mandated by the United States. The inability to display the recognized state grade in North Carolina impeded marketing of Washington apples. The Court obviously suspected the impact was intended, but, rather than strike the state requirement down as purposeful, it held that the regulation had the practical effect of discriminating, and, inasmuch as no defense based on possible consumer protection could be presented, the state law was invalidated.⁹⁷⁷ State actions to promote local products and

⁹⁷⁴ *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 112 S.Ct. 789 (1992). See also *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725 (1981) (a tax case, invalidating a state first-use tax, which, because of exceptions and credits, imposed a tax only on natural gas moving out-of-state, because of impermissible discrimination).

⁹⁷⁵ *New England Power Co. v. New Hampshire*, 455 U.S. 331 (1982). See also *Hughes v. Oklahoma*, 441 U.S. 322 (1979) (voiding a ban on transporting minnows caught in the State for sale outside the State); *Sporhase v. Nebraska*, 458 U.S. 941 (1982) (invalidating a ban on the withdrawal of ground water from any well in the State intended for use in another State). These cases largely eviscerated a line of older cases recognizing a strong state interest in protection of animals and resources. See *Geer v. Connecticut*, 161 U.S. 519 (1896). *New England Power* had rather old antecedents. E.g., *West v. Kansas Gas Co.*, 221 U.S. 229 (1911); *Pennsylvania v. West Virginia*, 262 U.S. 553 (1923).

⁹⁷⁶ 432 U.S. 333 (1977). Other cases in which the State was attempting to promote and enhance local products and businesses include *Pike v. Bruce Church, Inc.*, 397 U.S. 137 (1970) (State required producer of high-quality cantaloupes to pack them in the State, rather than in an adjacent State at considerably less expense, in order that the produce be identified with the producing State); *Foster-Fountain Packing Co. v. Haydel*, 278 U.S. 1 (1928) (State banned export of shrimp from State until hulls and heads were removed and processed, in order to favor canning and manufacture within the State).

⁹⁷⁷ That discriminatory effects will result in invalidation, as well as purposeful discrimination, is also drawn from *Dean Milk Co. v. City of Madison*, 340 U.S. 349 (1951)

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producers, of everything from milk⁹⁷⁸ to alcohol,⁹⁷⁹ may not be achieved through protectionism.

Even garbage transportation and disposition is covered by the negative commerce clause. A state law that banned the importation of most solid or liquid wastes that originated outside the State was struck down, because the State could not justify it as a health or safety measure, in the form of a quarantine, inasmuch as it did not limit in-state disposal at its landfills; the State was simply attempting to conserve landfill space and lower costs to its residents by keeping out trash from other States.⁹⁸⁰ States may not interdict the movement of persons into the State, whatever the motive to protect themselves from economic or similar difficulties.⁹⁸¹

Drawing the line between discriminatory regulations that are almost *per se* invalid and regulations that necessitate balancing is not an easy task. Not every claim of protectionism is sustained. Thus, in *Minnesota v. Clover Leaf Creamery Co.*,⁹⁸² there was attacked a state law banning the retail sale of milk products in plastic, nonreturnable containers but permitting sales in other nonreturnable, nonrefillable containers, such as paperboard cartons. The Court found no discrimination against interstate commerce, because both in-state and out-of-state interests could not use plastic containers, and it refused to credit a lower, state-court finding that the measure was intended to benefit the local pulpwood industry. In *Exxon Corp. v. Governor of Maryland*,⁹⁸³ the Court upheld a statute that prohibited producers or refiners of petroleum products from operating retail service stations in Maryland. No discrimination was found, first, because there were no local producers or refiners within Maryland and therefore since the State's entire gasoline supply flowed in interstate commerce there was no favoritism, and, second, although the bar on operating fell entirely on

⁹⁷⁸ E.g., *H. P. Hood & Sons v. Du Mond*, 336 U.S. 525 (1949). See also *Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. v. Cottrell*, 424 U.S. 366 (1976) (state effort to combat discrimination by other States against its milk through reciprocity provisions).

⁹⁷⁹ *Healy v. Beer Institute, Inc.*, 491 U.S. 324 (1989); *Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573 (1986). And see *Bacchus Imports, Ltd. v. Dias*, 468 U.S. 263 (1984) (a tax case).

⁹⁸⁰ *City of Philadelphia v. New Jersey*, 437 U.S. 617 (1978), reaffirmed and applied in *Chemical Waste Management, Inc. v. Hunt*, 112 S.Ct. 2009 (1992), and *Fort Gratiot Sanitary Landfill v. Michigan Natural Resources Dept.*, 112 S.Ct. 2019 (1992).

⁹⁸¹ *Edwards v. California*, 314 U.S. 160 (1941) (California effort to bar "Okies," persons fleeing the Great Plains dust bowl in the Depression). Cf. the notable case of *Crandall v. Nevada*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 35 (1867) (without tying it to any particular provision of Constitution, Court finds a protected right of interstate movement). The right of travel is now an aspect of equal protection jurisprudence.

⁹⁸² 449 U.S. 456, 470–474 (1981).

⁹⁸³ 437 U.S. 117 (1978).

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out-of-state concerns, there were out-of-state concerns that did not produce or refine gasoline and they were able to continue operating in the State, so that there was some distinction between all in-state operators and some out-of-state operators as against some other out-of-state operators.

Still a model example of balancing is Chief Justice Stone's opinion in *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*.⁹⁸⁴ At issue was the validity of Arizona's law barring the operation within the State of trains of more than 14 passenger cars, no other State had a figure this low, or 70 freight cars, only one other State had a cap this low. First, the Court observed that the law substantially burdened interstate commerce. Enforcement of the law in Arizona, while train lengths went unregulated or were regulated by varying standards in other States, meant that interstate trains of a length lawful in other States had to be broken up before entering the State; inasmuch as it was not practicable to break up trains at the border, that act had to be accomplished at yards quite removed, with the result that the Arizona limitation controlled train lengths as far east as El Paso, Texas, and as far west as Los Angeles. Nearly 95% of the rail traffic in Arizona was interstate. The other alternative was to operate in other States with the lowest cap, Arizona's, with the result that that State's law controlled the railroads' operations over a wide area.⁹⁸⁵ If other States began regulating at different lengths, as they would be permitted to do, the burden on the railroads would burgeon. Moreover, the additional number of trains needed to comply with the cap just within Arizona was costly, and delays were occasioned by the need to break up and remake lengthy trains.⁹⁸⁶

Conversely, the Court found that as a safety measure the state cap had "at most slight and dubious advantage, if any, over unregulated train lengths." That is, while there were safety problems

⁹⁸⁴ 325 U.S. 761 (1945). Interestingly, Justice Stone had written the opinion for the Court in *South Carolina State Highway Dept. v. Barnwell Bros.*, 303 U.S. 177 (1938), in which, in a similar case involving regulation of interstate transportation and proffered safety reasons, he had eschewed balancing and deferred overwhelmingly to the state legislature. *Barnwell Bros.* involved a state law that prohibited use on state highways of trucks that were over 90 inches wide or that had a gross weight over 20,000 pounds, with from 85% to 90% of the Nation's trucks exceeding these limits. This deference and refusal to evaluate evidence resurfaced in a case involving an attack on railroad "full-crew" laws. *Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen v. Chicago, R.I. & P. Railroad Co.*, 393 U.S. 129 (1968).

⁹⁸⁵ The concern about the impact of one State's regulation upon the laws of other States is in part a reflection of the *Cooley* national uniformity interest and partly a hesitation about the autonomy of other States, E.g., *CTS Corp. v. Dynamics Corp. of America*, 481 U.S. 69, 88–89 (1987); *Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573, 583–584 (1986).

⁹⁸⁶ *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*, 325 U.S. 761, 771–775 (1945).

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with longer trains, the shorter trains mandated by state law required increases in the numbers of trains and train operations and a consequent increase in accidents generally more severe than those attributable to longer trains. In short, the evidence did not show that the cap lessened rather than increased the danger of accidents.⁹⁸⁷

Conflicting state regulations appeared in *Bibb v. Navajo Freight Lines, Inc.*⁹⁸⁸ There, Illinois required the use of contour mudguards on trucks and trailers operating on the State's highways, while adjacent Arkansas required the use of straight mudguards and banned contoured ones. At least 45 States authorized straight mudguards. The Court sifted the evidence and found it conflicting on the comparative safety advantages of contoured and straight mudguards. But, admitting that if that were all that was involved the Court would have to sustain the costs and burdens of outfitting with the required mudguards, the Court invalidated the Illinois law, because of the massive burden on interstate commerce occasioned by the necessity of truckers to shift cargoes to differently designed vehicles at the State's borders.

Arguably, the Court in more recent years has continued to stiffen the scrutiny with which it reviews state regulation of interstate carriers purportedly for safety reasons.⁹⁸⁹ Difficulty attends any evaluation of the possible developing approach, inasmuch as the Court has spoken with several voices. A close reading, however, indicates that while the Court is most reluctant to invalidate regulations that touch upon safety and that if safety justifications are not illusory it will not second-guess legislative judgment, nonetheless, the Court will not accept, without more, state assertions of safety motivations. "Regulations designed for that salutary purpose nevertheless may further the purpose so marginally, and interfere with commerce so substantially, as to be invalid under the Commerce Clause." Rather, the asserted safety purpose must be weighed against the degree of interference with interstate commerce. "This 'weighing' . . . requires . . . 'a sensitive consideration of the weight and nature of the state regulatory concern in light of the extent of the burden imposed on the course of interstate commerce.'"⁹⁹⁰

⁹⁸⁷ *Id.*, 775–779, 781–784.

⁹⁸⁸ 359 U.S. 520 (1959).

⁹⁸⁹ *Raymond Motor Transp. v. Rice*, 434 U.S. 429 (1978); *Kassel v. Consolidated Freightways Corp.*, 450 U.S. 662 (1981).

⁹⁹⁰ *Kassel v. Consolidated Freightways Corp.*, 450 U.S. 662, 67–671 (1981) (quoting *Raymond Motor Transp. v. Rice*, 434 U.S. 429, 441, 443 (1978)). Both cases invalidated state prohibitions of the use of 65-foot single-trailer trucks on state highways.

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Balancing has been used in other than transportation-industry cases. Indeed, the modern restatement of the standard was in such a case.⁹⁹¹ There, the State required cantaloupes grown in the State to be packed there, rather than in an adjacent State, so that in-state packers' names would be associated with a superior product. Promotion of a local industry was legitimate, the Court, said, but it did not justify the substantial expense the company would have to incur to comply. State efforts to protect local markets, concerns, or consumers against outside companies have largely been unsuccessful. Thus, a state law that prohibited ownership of local investment-advisory businesses by out-of-state banks, bank-holding companies, and trust companies was invalidated.⁹⁹² The Court plainly thought the statute was protectionist, but instead of voiding it for that reason it held that the legitimate interests the State might have did not justify the burdens placed on out-of-state companies and that the State could pursue the accomplishment of legitimate ends through some intermediate form of regulation. In *Edgar v. Mite Corp.*,⁹⁹³ an Illinois regulation of take-over attempts of companies that had specified business contacts with the State, as applied to an attempted take-over of a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Connecticut, was found to constitute an undue burden, with special emphasis upon the extraterritorial effect of the law and the dangers of disuniformity. These problems were found lacking in the next case, in which the state statute regulated the manner in which purchasers of corporations chartered within the State and with a specified percentage of in-state shareholders could proceed with their take-over efforts. The Court emphasized that the State was regulating only its own corporations, which it was empowered to do, and no matter how many other States adopted such laws there would be no conflict. The burdens on interstate commerce, and the Court was not that clear that the effects of the law were burdensome in the appropriate context, were justified by the State's interests in regulating its corporations and resident shareholders.⁹⁹⁴

In other areas, while the Court repeats balancing language, it has not applied it with any appreciable bite,⁹⁹⁵ but in most re-

⁹⁹¹ *Pike v. Bruce Church, Inc.*, 397 U.S. 137 (1970).

⁹⁹² *Lewis v. BT Investment Managers, Inc.*, 447 U.S. 27 (1980).

⁹⁹³ 457 U.S. 624 (1982) (plurality opinion).

⁹⁹⁴ *CTS Corp. v. Dynamics Corp. of America*, 481 U.S. 69 (1987).

⁹⁹⁵ E.g., *Northwest Central Pipeline Corp. v. State Corp. Comm. of Kansas*, 489 U.S. 493, 525–526 (1989); *Minnesota v. Clover Leaf Creamery Co.*, 449 U.S. 456, 472–474 (1981); *Exxon Corp. v. Governor of Maryland*, 437 U.S. 117, 127–128 (1978). But see *Bendix Autolite Corp. v. Midwesco Enterprises, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 888 (1988).

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spects the state regulations involved are at most problematic in the context of the concerns of the commerce clause.

Foreign Commerce and State Powers

State taxation and regulation of commerce from abroad are also subject to negative commerce clause constraints. In the seminal case of *Brown v. Maryland*,⁹⁹⁶ in the course of striking down a state statute requiring “all importers of foreign articles or commodities,” preparatory to selling the goods, to take out a license, Chief Justice Marshall developed a lengthy exegesis explaining why the law was void under both the import-export clause⁹⁹⁷ and the commerce clause. According to the Chief Justice, an inseparable part of the right to import was the right to sell, and a tax on the sale of an article is a tax on the article itself. Thus, the taxing power of the States did not extend in any form to imports from abroad so long as they remain “the property of the importer, in his warehouse, in the original form or package” in which they were imported, hence, the famous “original package” doctrine. Only when the importer parts with his importations, mixes them into his general property by breaking up the packages, may the State treat them as taxable property.

Obviously, to the extent that the import-export clause was construed to impose a complete ban on taxation of imports so long as they were in their original packages, there was little occasion to develop a commerce-clause analysis that would have reached only discriminatory taxes or taxes upon goods in transit.⁹⁹⁸ In other respects, however, the Court has applied the foreign commerce aspect of the clause more stringently against state taxation.

Thus, in *Japan Line, Ltd. v. County of Los Angeles*,⁹⁹⁹ the Court held that, in addition to satisfying the four requirements that govern the permissibility of state taxation of interstate commerce,¹⁰⁰⁰ “When a State seeks to tax the instrumentalities of for-

⁹⁹⁶ 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419 (1827).

⁹⁹⁷ Article I, § 10, cl. 2. This aspect of the doctrine of the case was considerably expanded in *Low v. Austin*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 29 (1872), and subsequent cases, to bar States from levying nondiscriminatory, *ad valorem* property taxes upon goods that are no longer in import transit. This line of cases was overruled in *Michelin Tire Corp. v. Wages*, 423 U.S. 276 (1976).

⁹⁹⁸ See, e.g., *Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Co. v. Reily*, 373 U.S. 64 (1963); *Minnesota v. Blasius*, 290 U.S. 1 (1933). After the holding in *Michelin Tire*, the two clauses are now congruent. The Court has observed that the two clauses are animated by the same policies. *Japan Line, Ltd. v. County of Los Angeles*, 441 U.S. 434, 449–450 n. 14 (1979).

⁹⁹⁹ 441 U.S. 434 (1979).

¹⁰⁰⁰ *Complete Auto Transit, Inc. v. Brady*, 430 U.S. 274, 279 (1977). A state tax failed to pass the nondiscrimination standard in *Kraft General Foods, Inc. v. Iowa Dept. of Revenue & Finance*, 112 S.Ct. 2365 (1992). Iowa imposed an income tax

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eign commerce, two additional considerations . . . come into play. The first is the enhanced risk of multiple taxation. . . . Second, a state tax on the instrumentalities of foreign commerce may impair federal uniformity in an area where federal uniformity is essential.”¹⁰⁰¹ Multiple taxation is to be avoided with respect to interstate commerce by apportionment so that no jurisdiction may tax all the property of a multistate business, and the rule of apportionment is enforced by the Supreme Court with jurisdiction over all the States. However, the Court is unable to enforce such a rule against another country, and the country of the domicile of the business may impose a tax on full value. Uniformity could be frustrated by disputes over multiple taxation, and trade disputes could result.

Applying both these concerns, the Court invalidated a state tax, a nondiscriminatory, *ad valorem* property tax, on foreign-owned instrumentalities, i.e., cargo containers, of international commerce. The containers were used exclusively in international commerce and were based in Japan, which did in fact tax them on full value. Thus, there was the actuality, not only the risk, of multiple taxation. National uniformity was endangered, because, while California taxed the Japanese containers, Japan did not tax American containers, and disputes resulted.¹⁰⁰²

On the other hand, the Court has upheld a state tax on all aviation fuel sold within the State as applied to a foreign airline operating charters to and from the United States. The Court found the *Complete Auto* standards met, and it similarly decided that the two standards specifically raised in foreign commerce cases were not violated. First, there was no danger of double taxation because the tax was imposed upon a discrete transaction, the sale of fuel, that occurred within one jurisdiction only. Second, the one-voice standard was satisfied, inasmuch as the United States had never entered into any compact with a foreign nation precluding such state taxation, having only signed agreements with others, having no force of law, aspiring to eliminate taxation that constituted im-

on a unitary business operating throughout the United States and in several foreign countries. It included in the tax base of corporations the dividends the companies received from subsidiaries operating in foreign countries, but it allowed exclusions from the base of dividends received from domestic subsidiaries. A domestic subsidiary doing business in Iowa was taxed but not ones that did no business. Thus, there was a facial distinction between foreign and domestic commerce.

¹⁰⁰¹ Id., 446, 448.

¹⁰⁰² Id., 451–457. For income taxes, the test is more lenient, accepting not only the risk but the actuality of some double taxation as something simply inherent in accounting devices. *Container Corp. of America v. Franchise Tax Bd.*, 463 U.S. 159, 187–192 (1983).

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pediments to air travel.¹⁰⁰³ Also, a state unitary-tax scheme that used a worldwide-combined reporting formula was upheld as applied to the taxing of the income of a domestic-based corporate group with extensive foreign operations.¹⁰⁰⁴

The power to regulate foreign commerce was always broader than the States' power to tax it, an exercise of the "police power" recognized by Chief Justice Marshall in *Brown v. Maryland*.¹⁰⁰⁵ That this power was constrained by notions of the national interest and preemption principles was evidenced in the cases striking down state efforts to curb and regulate the actions of shippers bringing persons into their ports.¹⁰⁰⁶ On the other hand, quarantine legislation to protect the States' residents from disease and other hazards was commonly upheld though it regulated international commerce.¹⁰⁰⁷ A state game-season law applied to criminalize the possession of a dead grouse imported from Russia was upheld because of the practical necessities of enforcement of domestic law.¹⁰⁰⁸

Nowadays, state regulation of foreign commerce is likely to be judged by the extra factors set out in *Japan Line*.¹⁰⁰⁹ Thus, the application of a state civil rights law to a corporation transporting passengers outside the State to an island in a foreign province was sustained in an opinion emphasizing that, because of the particularistic geographic situation the foreign commerce involved was more conceptual than actual, there was only a remote hazard of conflict between state law and the law of the other country and little if any prospect of burdening foreign commerce.¹⁰¹⁰

¹⁰⁰³ *Wardair Canada v. Florida Dept. of Revenue*, 477 U.S. 1 (1986).

¹⁰⁰⁴ *Container Corp. of America v. Franchise Tax Bd.*, 463 U.S. 159 (1983). The validity of the formula as applied to domestic corporations with foreign parents or to foreign corporations with foreign parents or foreign subsidiaries, so that some of the income earned abroad would be taxed within the taxing State, is a question of some considerable dispute.

¹⁰⁰⁵ *12 Wheat.* (25 U.S.) 419, 443–444 (1827).

¹⁰⁰⁶ *New York City v. Miln*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 102 (1837) (upholding reporting requirements imposed on ships' masters), overruled in *Henderson v. New York*, 92 U.S. 259 (1876); *Passenger Cases (Smith v. Turner)*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 282 (1849); *Chy Lung v. Freeman*, 92 U.S. 275 (1876).

¹⁰⁰⁷ *Campagnie Francaise De Navigation a Vapeur v. Louisiana State Bd. of Health*, 186 U.S. 380 (1902); *Louisiana v. Texas*, 176 U.S. 1 (1900); *Morgan v. Louisiana*, 118 U.S. 455 (1886).

¹⁰⁰⁸ *New York ex rel. Silz v. Hesterberg*, 211 U.S. 31 (1908).

¹⁰⁰⁹ *Japan Line, Inc. v. County of Los Angeles*, 441 U.S. 434, 456 n. 20 (1979) (construing *Bob-Lo Excursion Co. v. Michigan*, 333 U.S. 28 (1948)).

¹⁰¹⁰ *Ibid.*

CONCURRENT FEDERAL AND STATE JURISDICTION**The General Issue: Preemption**

In *Gibbons v. Ogden*,¹⁰¹¹ the Court, speaking by Chief Justice Marshall, held that New York legislation that excluded from the navigable waters of that State steam vessels enrolled and licensed under an act of Congress to engage in the coasting trade was in conflict with the federal law and hence void.¹⁰¹² The result, said the Chief Justice, was required by the supremacy clause, which proclaimed not only that the Constitution itself but statutes enacted pursuant to it and treaties superseded state laws that “interfere with, or are contrary to the laws of Congress In every such case, the act of Congress, or the treaty, is supreme; and the law of the State, though enacted in the exercise of powers not controverted, must yield to it.”¹⁰¹³

Since the turn of the century, federal legislation, primarily but not exclusively under the commerce clause, has penetrated deeper and deeper into areas once occupied by the regulatory power of the States. One result is that state laws on subjects about which Congress has legislated have been more and more frequently attacked as being incompatible with the acts of Congress and invalid under the supremacy clause.¹⁰¹⁴

¹⁰¹¹ 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1 (1824).

¹⁰¹² A modern application of *Gibbons v. Ogden* is *Douglas v. Seacoast Products*, 431 U.S. 265 (1977), in which the Court, in reliance on the present version of the licensing statute utilized by Chief Justice Marshall, struck down state laws curtailing the operations of federally licensed vessels. In the course of the *Douglas* opinion, the Court observed that “[a]lthough it is true that the Court’s view in *Gibbons* of the intent of the Second Congress in passing the Enrollment and Licensing Act is considered incorrect by commentators, its provisions have been repeatedly re-enacted in substantially the same form. We can safely assume that Congress was aware of the holding, as well as the criticism, of a case so renowned as *Gibbons*. We have no doubt that Congress has ratified the statutory interpretation of *Gibbons* and its progeny.” *Id.*, 278–279.

¹⁰¹³ *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 211 (1824). See also *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 436 (1819). Although preemption is basically constitutional in nature, deriving its forcefulness from the supremacy clause, it is much more like statutory decisionmaking, inasmuch as it depends upon an interpretation of an act of Congress in determining whether a state law is ousted. E.g., *Douglas v. Seacoast Products, Inc.*, 431 U.S. 265, 271–272 (1977). See also *Swift & Co. v. Wickham*, 382 U.S. 111 (1965). “Any such pre-emption or conflict claim is of course grounded in the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution: if a state measure conflicts with a federal requirement, the state provision must give way. The basic question involved in these cases, however, is never one of interpretation of the Federal Constitution but inevitably one of comparing two statutes.” *Id.*, 120.

¹⁰¹⁴ Cases considered under this heading are overwhelmingly about federal legislation based on the commerce clause, but the principles enunciated are identical whatever source of power Congress utilizes. Therefore, cases arising under legislation based on other powers are cited and treated interchangeably.

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“The constitutional principles of preemption, in whatever particular field of law they operate, are designed with a common end in view: to avoid conflicting regulation of conduct by various official bodies which might have some authority over the subject matter.”¹⁰¹⁵ As Justice Black once explained in a much quoted exposition of the matter: “There is not—and from the very nature of the problem there cannot be—any rigid formula or rule which can be used as a universal pattern to determine the meaning and purpose of every act of Congress. This Court, in considering the validity of state laws in the light of treaties or federal laws touching the same subject, has made use of the following expressions: conflicting; contrary to; occupying the field; repugnance; difference; irreconcilability; inconsistency; violation; curtailment; and interference. But none of these expressions provides an infallible constitutional test or an exclusive constitutional yardstick. In the final analysis, there can be no one crystal clear distinctly marked formula. Our primary function is to determine whether, under the circumstances of this particular case, Pennsylvania’s law stands as an obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the full purposes and objectives of Congress.”¹⁰¹⁶

Before setting out in their various forms the standards and canons to which the Court formally adheres, one must still recognize the highly subjective nature of their application. As an astute observer long ago observed, “the use or non-use of particular tests, as well as their content, is influenced more by judicial reaction to the desirability of the state legislation brought into question than by metaphorical sign-language of ‘occupation of the field.’ And it would seem that this is largely unavoidable. The Court, in order to determine an unexpressed congressional intent, has undertaken the task of making the independent judgment of social values that Congress has failed to make. In making this determination, the Court’s evaluation of the desirability of overlapping regulatory schemes or overlapping criminal sanctions cannot but be a substantial factor.”¹⁰¹⁷

¹⁰¹⁵ *Amalgamated Assn. of Street, Electric Ry. & Motor Coach Employees v. Lockridge*, 403 U.S. 274, 285–286 (1971).

¹⁰¹⁶ *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52, 67 (1941). This case arose under the immigration power of cl. 4.

¹⁰¹⁷ *Cramton, Pennsylvania v. Nelson: A Case Study in Federal Preemption*, 26 U. CHI. L. REV. 85, 87–88 (1956). “The [Court] appears to use essentially the same reasoning process in a case nominally hinging on preemption as it has in past cases in which the question was whether the state law regulated or burdened interstate commerce. [The] Court has adopted the same weighing of interests approach in preemption cases that it uses to determine whether a state law unjustifiably burdens interstate commerce. In a number of situations the Court has invalidated statutes on the preemption ground when it appeared that the state laws sought to favor local

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Preemption Standards.—Until roughly the New Deal, as recited above, the Supreme Court applied a doctrine of “dual federalism,” under which the Federal Government and the States were separate sovereigns, each preeminent in its own fields but not overlapping. This conception affected preemption cases, with the Court taking the view, largely, that any congressional regulation of a subject effectively preempted the field and ousted the States.¹⁰¹⁸ Thus, when Congress entered the field of railroad regulation, the result was invalidation of many previously enacted state measures. Even here, however, safety measures tended to survive, and health and safety legislation in other areas were protected from the effects of federal regulatory actions.

In the 1940s, the Court began to develop modern standards for determining when preemption occurred, which are still recited and relied on.¹⁰¹⁹ All modern cases recite some variation of the basic standards. “[T]he question whether a certain state action is preempted by federal law is one of congressional intent. The purpose of Congress is the ultimate touchstone. To discern Congress’ intent we examine the explicit statutory language and the structure and purpose of the statute.”¹⁰²⁰ Congress’ intent to supplant state authority in a particular field may be express in the terms of the statute.¹⁰²¹ Since preemption cases, when the statute contains no express provision, theoretically turn on statutory construction, generalizations about them can carry one only so far. Each case must construe a different federal statute with a distinct legislative history. If the statute and the legislative history are silent or unclear, the Supreme Court has developed over time general criteria which

economic interests at the expense of the interstate market. On the other hand, when the Court has been satisfied that valid local interests, such as those in safety or in the reputable operation of local business, outweigh the restrictive effect on interstate commerce, the Court has rejected the preemption argument and allowed state regulation to stand.” Note, *Preemption as a Preferential Ground: A New Canon of Construction*, 12 STAN. L. REV. 208, 217 (1959) (quoted approvingly as a “thoughtful student comment” in G. GUNTHER, CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (12th ed. 1991), 297).

¹⁰¹⁸E.g., *Charleston & W. Car. Ry. v. Varnville Furniture Co.*, 237 U.S. 597, 604 (1915). But see *Corn Products Refining Co. v. Eddy*, 249 U.S. 427, 438 (1919).

¹⁰¹⁹E.g., *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52 (1941); *Cloverleaf Butter v. Patterson*, 315 U.S. 148 (1942); *Rice v. Santa Fe Elevator Co.*, 331 U.S. 218 (1947); *California v. Zook*, 336 U.S. 725 (1949).

¹⁰²⁰*Gade v. National Solid Wastes Mgmt. Assn.*, 112 S.Ct. 2374, 2381–2382 (1992) (internal quotation marks and case citations omitted). Recourse to legislative history as one means of ascertaining congressional intent, although contested, is permissible. *Wisconsin Public Intervenor v. Mortier*, 501 U.S. 597, 606–612 & n. 4 (1991).

¹⁰²¹*Jones v. Rath Packing Co.*, 430 U.S. 519, 525 (1977); *FMC Corp. v. Holliday*, 498 U.S. 52, 56–57 (1991); *Wisconsin Public Intervenor v. Mortier*, 501 U.S. 597, 604–605 (1991).

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it purports to utilize in determining the preemptive effect of federal legislation.

“Absent explicit pre-emptive language, we have recognized at least two types of implied pre-emption: field pre-emption, where the scheme of federal regulation is so pervasive as to make reasonable the inference that Congress left no room for the States to supplement it, . . . and conflict pre-emption, where compliance with both federal and state regulations is a physical impossibility, . . . or where state law stands as an obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the full purposes and objectives of Congress.”¹⁰²² “Preemption of state law by federal statute or regulation is not favored ‘in the absence of persuasive reasons—either that the nature of the regulated subject matters permits no other conclusion, or that the Congress has unmistakably so ordained.’¹⁰²³ However, “[t]he relative importance to the State of its own law is not material when there is a conflict with a valid federal law, for the Framers of our Constitution provided that the federal law must prevail.”¹⁰²⁴

In the final conclusion, “the generalities” that may be drawn from the cases do not decide them. Rather, “the fate of state legislation in these cases has not been determined by these generalities but by the weight of the circumstances and the practical and experienced judgment in applying these generalities to the particular instances.”¹⁰²⁵

The Standards Applied.— As might be expected from the *ca-veat* just quoted, any overview of the Court’s preemption decisions

¹⁰²² Gade v. National Solid Wastes Mgmt. Assn., 112 S.Ct. 2374, 2383 (1992) (internal quotation marks and case citations omitted). The same or similar language is used throughout the preemption cases. E.g., Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc., 112 S.Ct. 2608, 2617 (1992); *id.*, 2625–2626 (Justice Blackmun concurring and dissenting); *id.*, 2632–2634 (Justice Scalia concurring and dissenting); Wisconsin Public Intervenor v. Mortier, 501 U.S. 597, 604–605 (1991); English v. General Electric Co., 496 U.S. 72, 78–80 (1990); Silkwood v. Kerr-McGee Corp., 464 U.S. 238, 248 (1984); Pacific Gas & Elec. Co. v. State Energy Resources Conservation & Dev. Comm., 461 U.S. 190, 203–204 (1983); Fidelity Federal Savings & Loan Assn. v. de la Cuesta, 458 U.S. 141, 153 (1982); Florida Lime & Avocado Growers v. Paul, 373 U.S. 132, 142 (1963); Hines v. Davidowitz, 312 U.S. 52, 67 (1941).

¹⁰²³ Florida Lime & Avocado Growers v. Paul, 373 U.S. 132, 142 (1963); Chicago & Northwestern Transp. Co. v. Kalo Brick & Tile Co., 450 U.S. 311, 317 (1981). Where Congress legislates in a field traditionally occupied by the States, courts should “start with the assumption that the historic police powers of the States were not to be superseded by the Federal Act unless that was the clear and manifest purpose of Congress.” Pacific Gas & Electric Co. v. State Energy Resources Conservation & Dev. Comm., 461 U.S. 190, 206 (1983) (quoting Rice v. Santa Fe Elevator Corp., 331 U.S. 218, 230 (1947)).

¹⁰²⁴ Free v. Brand, 369 U.S. 633, 666 (1962).

¹⁰²⁵ Union Brokerage Co. v. Jensen, 322 U.S. 202, 211 (1944) (per Justice Frankfurter).

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can only make the field seem muddled and to some extent it is. But some guidelines may be extracted.

Express Preemption. Of course, it is possible for Congress to write preemptive language that clearly and cleanly prescribes or does not prescribe displacement of state laws in an area.¹⁰²⁶ Provisions governing preemption can be relatively interpretation free.¹⁰²⁷ For example, a prohibition of state taxes on carriage of air passengers “or on the gross receipts derived therefrom” was held to preempt a state tax on airlines, described by the State as a personal property tax, but based on a percentage of the airline’s gross income; “the manner in which the state legislature has described and categorized [the tax] cannot mask the fact that the purpose and effect of the provision are to impose a levy upon the gross receipts of airlines.”¹⁰²⁸ But, more often than not, express preemptive language may be ambiguous or at least not free from conflicting interpretation. Thus, the Court was divided with respect to whether a provision of the Airline Deregulation Act proscribing the States from having and enforcing laws “relating to rates, routes, or services of any air carrier” applied to displace state consumer-protection laws regulating airline fare advertising.¹⁰²⁹

¹⁰²⁶Not only congressional enactments can preempt. Agency regulations, when Congress has expressly or implied empowered these bodies to preempt, are “the supreme law of the land” under the supremacy clause and can displace state law. E.g., *City of New York v. FCC*, 486 U.S. 57, 63–64 (1988); *Louisiana Public Service Comm. v. FCC*, 476 U.S. 355 (1986); *Capital Cities Cable, Inc. v. Crisp*, 467 U.S. 691 (1984); *Fidelity Federal Savings & Loan Assn. v. de la Cuesta*, 458 U.S. 141 (1982). Federal common law, i.e., law promulgated by the courts respecting uniquely federal interests and absent explicit statutory directive by Congress, can also displace state law. See *Boyle v. United Technologies Corp.*, 487 U.S. 500 (1988) (Supreme Court promulgated common-law rule creating government-contractor defense in tort liability suits, despite Congress having considered and failed to enact bills doing precisely this); *Westfall v. Erwin*, 484 U.S. 292 (1988) (civil liability of federal officials for actions taken in the course of their duty). Finally, ordinances of local governments are subject to preemption under the same standards as state law. *Hillsborough County v. Automated Medical Laboratories*, 471 U.S. 707 (1985).

¹⁰²⁷Thus, § 408 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act, as amended by the Wholesome Meat Act, 21 U.S.C. § 678, provides that “[m]arking, labeling, packaging, or ingredient requirements in addition to, or different than, those made under this chapter may not be imposed by any state” See *Jones v. Rath Packing Co.*, 430 U.S. 519, 528–532 (1977). Similarly, much state action is saved by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78bb(a), which states that “[n]othing in this chapter shall affect the jurisdiction of the securities commissioner (or any agency or officer performing like functions) of any State over any security or any person insofar as it does not conflict with the provisions of this chapter or the rules and regulations thereunder.” For examples of other express preemptive provisions, see *Norfolk & Western Railway Co. v. American Train Dispatchers’ Assn.*, 499 U.S. 117 (1991); *Exxon Corp. v. Hunt*, 475 U.S. 355 (1986).

¹⁰²⁸*Aloha Airlines v. Director of Taxation*, 464 U.S. 7, 13–14 (1983).

¹⁰²⁹*Morales v. TWA*, 112 S.Ct. 2031 (1992). The section, 49 U.S.C. § 1305(a)(1), was held to preempt state rules on advertising.

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Perhaps the broadest preemption section ever enacted, §514 of the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), is so constructed that the Court has been moved to comment that the provisions “are not a model of legislative drafting.”¹⁰³⁰ The section declares that the statute shall “supersede any and all State laws insofar as they now or hereafter relate to any employee benefit plan,” but saves to the States the power to enforce “law[s] . . . which regulates insurance, banking, or securities,” except that an employee benefit plan governed by ERISA shall not be “deemed” an insurance company, an insurer, or engaged in the business of insurance for purposes of state laws “purporting to regulate” insurance companies or insurance contracts.¹⁰³¹ Interpretation of the provisions has resulted in contentious and divided Court opinions.¹⁰³²

Illustrative of the judicial difficulty with ambiguous preemption language is the fractured opinions in the *Cipollone* case, in which the Court had to decide whether sections of the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act, enacted in 1965 and 1969, preempted state common-law actions against a cigarette company for the alleged harm visited on a smoker.¹⁰³³ The 1965 provision

¹⁰³⁰ *Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. v. Massachusetts*, 471 U.S. 724, 739 (1985), repeated in *FMC Corp. v. Holliday*, 498 U.S. 52, 58 (1991).

¹⁰³¹ 29 U.S.C. §§ 1144(a), 1144(b)(2)(A), 1144(b)(2)(B). The Court has described this section as a “virtually unique pre-emption provision.” *Franchise Tax Board v. Construction Laborers Vacation Trust*, 463 U.S. 1, 24 n. 26 (1983). See *Ingersoll-Rand Co. v. McClendon*, 498 U.S. 133, 138–139 (1990); and see *id.*, 142–145 (describing and applying another preemption provision of ERISA).

¹⁰³² *Ingersoll-Rand Co. v. McClendon*, 498 U.S. 133 (1990) (ERISA preempts state common-law claim of wrongful discharge to prevent employee attaining benefits under plan covered by ERISA); *FMC Corp. v. Holliday*, 498 U.S. 52 (1990) (provision of state motor-vehicle financial-responsibility law barring subrogation and reimbursement from claimant’s tort recovery for benefits received from a self-insured health-care plan preempted by ERISA); *Fort Halifax Packing Co. v. Coyne*, 482 U.S. 1 (1987) (state law requiring employers to provide a one-time severance payment to employees in the event of a plant closing held not preempted by 5–4 vote); *Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. v. Massachusetts*, 471 U.S. 724 (1985) (state law mandating that certain minimum mental-health-care benefits be provided to those insured under general health-insurance policy or employee health-care plan is a law “which regulates insurance” and is not preempted); *Shaw v. Delta Air Lines, Inc.*, 463 U.S. 85 (1983) (state law forbidding discrimination in employee benefit plans on the basis of pregnancy not preempted, because of another saving provision in ERISA, and provision requiring employers to pay sick-leave benefits to employees unable to work because of pregnancy not preempted under construction of coverage sections, but both laws “relate to” employee benefit plans); *Alessi v. Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.*, 451 U.S. 504 (1981) (state law prohibiting plans from reducing benefits by amount of workers’ compensation awards “relates to” employee benefit plan and is preempted);

¹⁰³³ *Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc.*, 112 S.Ct. 2608 (1992). The decision as a canon of construction promulgated two controversial rules. First, the courts should interpret narrowly provisions that purport to preempt state police-power regulations, and, second, that when a law has express preemption language courts should

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barred the requirement of any “statement” relating to smoking health, other than what the federal law imposed, and the 1969 provision barred the imposition of any “requirement or prohibition based on smoking and health” by any “State law.” It was, thus, a fair question whether common-law claims, based on design defect, failure to warn, breach of express warranty, fraudulent misrepresentation, and conspiracy to defraud, were preempted or whether only positive state enactments came within the scope of the clauses. Two groups of Justices concluded that the 1965 section reached only positive state law and did not preempt common-law actions;¹⁰³⁴ different alignments of Justices concluded that the 1969 provisions did reach common-law claims, as well as positive enactments, and did preempt some of the claims insofar as they in fact constituted a requirement or prohibition based on smoking health.¹⁰³⁵

Field Preemption. Where the scheme of federal regulation is “so pervasive as to make reasonable the inference that Congress left no room for the States to supplement it,”¹⁰³⁶ States are ousted from the field. Still a paradigmatic example of field preemption is *Hines v. Davidowitz*,¹⁰³⁷ in which the Court held that a new federal law requiring the registration of all aliens in the country precluded enforcement of a pre-existing state law mandating registration of aliens within the State. Adverting to the supremacy of national power in foreign relations and the sensitivity of the relationship between the regulation of aliens and the conduct of foreign affairs, the Court had little difficulty declaring the entire field to have been occupied by federal law.¹⁰³⁸ Similarly, in *Pennsylvania*

look only to that language and presume that when the preemptive reach of a law is defined Congress did not intend to go beyond that reach, so that field and conflict preemption will not be found. *Id.*, 2618; and *id.*, 2625–2626 (Justice Blackmun concurring and dissenting). Both parts of this canon are departures from established law. Narrow construction when state police powers are involved has hitherto related to *implied* preemption, not *express*, and courts generally have applied ordinary-meaning construction to such statutory language; further, courts have not precluded the finding of conflict preemption, though perhaps field preemption, because of the existence of some express preemptive language. See *id.*, 2632–2634 (Justice Scalia concurring and dissenting).

¹⁰³⁴ *Id.*, 2618–2619 (opinion of the court), 2626 (Justice Blackmun concurring).

¹⁰³⁵ *Id.*, 2619–2625 (plurality opinion), 2626–2631 (Justice Blackmun concurring and dissenting), 2634–2637 (Justice Scalia concurring and dissenting).

¹⁰³⁶ *Rice v. Santa Fe Elevator Corp.*, 331 U.S. 218, 230 (1947). The case also is the source of the often quoted maxim that when Congress legislates in a field traditionally occupied by the States, courts should “start with the assumption that the historic police powers of the States were not to be superseded by the Federal Act unless that was the clear and manifest purpose of Congress.” *Ibid.*

¹⁰³⁷ 312 U.S. 52 (1941).

¹⁰³⁸ The Court also said that courts must look to see whether under the circumstances of a particular case, the state law “stands as an obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the full purposes and objectives of Congress.” *Id.*, 67.

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v. Nelson,¹⁰³⁹ the Court invalidated as preempted a state law punishing sedition against the National Government. The Court enunciated a three-part test: 1) the pervasiveness of federal regulation; 2) federal occupation of the field as necessitated by the need for national uniformity; and 3) the danger of conflict between state and federal administration.¹⁰⁴⁰

The *Rice* case itself held that a federal system of regulating the operations of warehouses and the rates they charged completely occupied the field and ousted state regulation.¹⁰⁴¹ However, it is often a close decision whether a federal law has regulated part of a field, however defined, or the whole area, so that state law cannot even supplement the federal.¹⁰⁴² Illustrative of this point is the Court's holding that the Atomic Energy Act's preemption of the safety aspects of nuclear power did not invalidate a state law conditioning construction of nuclear power plants on a finding by a state agency that adequate storage and disposal facilities were available to treat nuclear wastes, since "economic" regulation of power generation has traditionally been left to the States - an arrangement maintained by the Act - and since the state law could be justified as an economic rather than a safety regulation.¹⁰⁴³

A city's effort to enforce stiff penalties for ship pollution that resulted from boilers approved by the Federal Government was

That standard is obviously drawn from conflict preemption, for the two standards are frequently intermixed. Nonetheless, not all state regulation is precluded. *De Canas v. Bica*, 424 U.S. 351 (1976) (upholding a state law penalizing the employment of an illegal alien, the case arising before enactment of the federal law doing the same thing).

¹⁰³⁹ 350 U.S. 497 (1956).

¹⁰⁴⁰ *Id.*, 502-505. Obviously, there is a noticeable blending into conflict preemption.

¹⁰⁴¹ *Rice v. Santa Fe Elevator Corp.*, 331 U.S. 218 (1947).

¹⁰⁴² Compare *Campbell v. Hussey*, 368 U.S. 297 (1961) (state law requiring tobacco of a certain type to be marked by white tags, ousted by federal regulation that occupied the field and left no room for supplementation), with *Florida Lime & Avocado Growers, Inc.*, 373 U.S. 132 (1963) (state law setting minimum oil content for avocados certified as mature by federal regulation is complementary to federal law, since federal standard was a minimum one, the field having not been occupied). One should be wary of assuming that a state law that has dual purposes and impacts will not, just for the duality, be held to be preempted. See *Gade v. National Solid Wastes Mgmt.*, 112 S.Ct. 2374 (1992); *Perez v. Campbell*, 402 U.S. 637 (1971) (under bankruptcy clause).

¹⁰⁴³ *Pacific Gas & Electric Co. v. Energy Resources Conservation & Dev. Comm.*, 461 U.S. 190 (1983). Neither does the same reservation of exclusive authority to regulate nuclear safety preempt imposition of punitive damages under state tort law, even if based upon the jury's conclusion that a nuclear licensee failed to follow adequate safety precautions. *Silkwood v. Kerr-McGee Corp.*, 464 U.S. 238 (1984). See also *English v. General Electric Co.*, 496 U.S. 72 (1990) (employee's state-law claim for intentional infliction of emotional distress for her nuclear-plant employer's actions retaliating for her whistleblowing is not preempted as relating to nuclear safety).

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held not preempted, the field of boiler safety, but not boiler pollution, having been occupied by federal regulation.¹⁰⁴⁴ A state liability scheme imposing cleanup costs and strict, no-fault liability on shore facilities and ships for any oil-spill damage was held to complement a federal law concerned solely with recovery of actual cleanup costs incurred by the Federal Government and which textually presupposed federal-state cooperation.¹⁰⁴⁵ On the other hand, a comprehensive regulation of the design, size, and movement of oil tankers in Puget Sound was found, save in one respect, to be either expressly or implicitly preempted by federal law and regulations. Critical to the determination was the Court's conclusion that Congress, without actually saying so, had intended to mandate exclusive standards and a single federal decisionmaker for safety purposes in vessel regulation.¹⁰⁴⁶ Also, a closely divided Court voided a city ordinance placing an 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. curfew on jet flights from the city airport where, despite the absence of preemptive language in federal law, federal regulation of aircraft noise was of such a pervasive nature as to leave no room for state or local regulation.¹⁰⁴⁷

Congress may preempt state regulation without itself prescribing a federal standard; it may deregulate a field and thus occupy it by opting for market regulation and precluding state or local regulation.¹⁰⁴⁸

Conflict Preemption. Several possible situations will lead to a holding that a state law is preempted as in conflict with federal law. First, it may be that the two laws, federal and state, will actually conflict. Thus, in *Rose v. Arkansas State Police*,¹⁰⁴⁹ federal law provided for death benefits for state law enforcement officers "in addition to" any other compensation, while the state law required a reduction in state benefits by the amount received from other

¹⁰⁴⁴ *Huron Portland Cement Co. v. City of Detroit*, 362 U.S. 440 (1960).

¹⁰⁴⁵ *Askew v. American Waterways Operators*, 411 U.S. 325 (1973).

¹⁰⁴⁶ *Ray v. Atlantic Richfield Co.*, 435 U.S. 151 (1978). See also *Exxon Corp. v. Eagerton*, 462 U.S. 176 (1983) (preempting a state ban on pass-through of a severance tax on oil and gas, because Congress has occupied the field of wholesale sales of natural gas in interstate commerce); *Schneidewind v. ANR Pipeline Co.*, 485 U.S. 293 (1988) (Natural Gas Act preempts state regulation of securities issuance by covered gas companies); *Bonito Boats v. Thunder Craft Boats*, 489 U.S. 141 (1989) (under patent clause, state law extending patent-like protection to unpatented designs invades an area of pervasive federal regulation).

¹⁰⁴⁷ *City of Burbank v. Lockheed Air Terminal*, 411 U.S. 624 (1973).

¹⁰⁴⁸ *Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp. v. Mississippi Oil & Gas Board*, 474 U.S. 409 (1986); *Puerto Rico Dept. of Consumer Affairs v. Isla Petroleum Corp.*, 485 U.S. 495 (1988).

¹⁰⁴⁹ 479 U.S. 1 (1986).

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sources. The Court, in a brief, *per curiam* opinion, had no difficulty finding the state provision preempted.¹⁰⁵⁰

Second, conflict preemption may occur when it is practically impossible to comply with the terms of both laws. Thus, where a federal agency had authorized federal savings and loan associations to include “due-on-sale” clauses in their loan instruments and where the State had largely prevented inclusion of such clauses, while it was literally possible for lenders to comply with both rules, the federal rule being permissive, the state regulation prevented the exercise of the flexibility the federal agency had conferred and was preempted.¹⁰⁵¹ On the other hand, it was possible for an employer to comply both with a state law mandating leave and reinstatement to pregnant employees and with a federal law prohibiting employment discrimination on the basis of pregnancy.¹⁰⁵² Similarly, when faced with both federal and state standards on the ripeness of avocados, the Court discerned that the federal standard was a “minimum” one rather than a “uniform” one and decided that growers could comply with both.¹⁰⁵³

Third, a fruitful source of preemption is found when it is determined that the state law stands as an obstacle to the accomplishment of the full purposes and objectives of Congress.¹⁰⁵⁴ Thus, the Court voided a state requirement that the average net weight of a package of flour in a lot could not be less than the net weight stated on the package. While applicable federal law permitted variations from stated weight caused by distribution losses, such as through partial dehydration, the State allowed no such deviation. Although it was possible for a producer to satisfy the federal standard while satisfying the tougher state standard, the Court discerned that to do so defeated one purpose of the federal requirement—the facilitating of value comparisons by shoppers. Because

¹⁰⁵⁰ See also *Lawrence County v. Lead-Deadwood School Dist.*, 469 U.S. 256 (1985) (state law requiring local governments to distribute federal payments in lieu of taxes in same manner as general state-tax revenues conflicts with federal law authorizing local governments to use the payments for any governmental purpose); *Southland Corp. v. Keating*, 465 U.S. 1 (1984) (state franchise law requiring judicial resolution of claims preempted by federal arbitration law precluding adjudication in state or federal courts of claims parties had contracted to submit to arbitration); *Perry v. Thomas*, 482 U.S. 483 (1987) (federal arbitration law preempts state law providing that court actions for collection of wages may be maintained without regard to agreements to arbitrate). See also *Free v. Bland*, 369 U.S. 663 (1962).

¹⁰⁵¹ *Fidelity Federal Savings & Loan Assn. v. de la Cuesta*, 458 U.S. 141 (1982).

¹⁰⁵² *California Federal Savings & Loan Assn. v. Guerra*, 479 U.S. 272 (1987). Compare *Cloverleaf Butter v. Patterson*, 315 U.S. 148 (1942) (federal law preempts more exacting state standards, even though both could be complied with and state standards were harmonious with purposes of federal law).

¹⁰⁵³ *Florida Lime & Avocado Growers, Inc. v. Paul*, 373 U.S. 132 (1963).

¹⁰⁵⁴ The standard is, of course, drawn from *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52, 67 (1941).

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different producers in different situations in order to comply with the state standard may have to overpack flour to make up for dehydration loss, consumers would not be comparing packages containing identical amounts of flour solids.¹⁰⁵⁵ In *Felder v. Casey*,¹⁰⁵⁶ a state notice-of-claim statute was found to frustrate the remedial objectives of civil rights laws as applied to actions brought in state court under 42 U. S. C. §1983. A state law recognizing the validity of an unrecorded oral sale of an aircraft was held preempted by the Federal Aviation Act's provision that unrecorded "instruments" of transfer are invalid, since the congressional purpose evidenced in the legislative history was to make information about an aircraft's title readily available by requiring that all transfers be documented and recorded.¹⁰⁵⁷

Also, a state law making agricultural producers' associations the exclusive bargaining agents and requiring payment of service fees by nonmember producers was held to counter a strong federal policy protecting the right of farmers to join or not join such associations.¹⁰⁵⁸ And a state assertion of the right to set minimum stream-flow requirements different from those established by FERC in its licensing capacity was denied as being preempted under the Federal Power Act, despite language requiring deference to state laws "relating to the control, appropriation, use, or distribution of water."¹⁰⁵⁹

Contrarily, a comprehensive federal regulation of insecticides and other such chemicals was held not to preempt a town ordinance that required a permit for the spraying of pesticides, there being no conflict between requirements.¹⁰⁶⁰ The application of state antitrust laws to authorize indirect purchasers to recover for all overcharges passed on to them by direct purchasers was held

¹⁰⁵⁵ *Jones v. Rath Packing Co.*, 430 U.S. 519, 532–543 (1977).

¹⁰⁵⁶ 487 U.S. 131 (1988).

¹⁰⁵⁷ *Philco Aviation v. Shacket*, 462 U.S. 406 (1983).

¹⁰⁵⁸ *Michigan Cannery & Freezers Assn. v. Agricultural Marketing & Bargaining Bd.*, 467 U.S. 461 (1984). See also *Nantahala Power & Light Co. v. Thornburg*, 476 U.S. 953 (1986) (state allocation of costs for purposes of setting retail electricity rates, by disallowing costs permitted by FERC in setting wholesale rates, frustrated federal regulation by possibly preventing the utility from recovering in its sales the costs of paying the FERC-approved wholesale rate); *Capital Cities Cable v. Crisp*, 467 U.S. 691 (1984) (state ban on cable TV advertising frustrates federal policy in the copyright law by which cable operators pay a royalty fee for the right to retransmit distant broadcast signals upon agreement not to delete commercials); *International Paper Co. v. Ouellette*, 479 U.S. 481 (1987) (damage action based on common law of downstream State frustrates Clean Water Act's policies favoring permitting State in interstate disputes and favoring predictability in permit process).

¹⁰⁵⁹ *California v. FERC*, 495 U.S. 490 (1990). The savings clause was found inapplicable on the basis of an earlier interpretation of the language in *First Iowa Hydro-Electric Cooperative v. FPC*, 328 U.S. 152 (1946).

¹⁰⁶⁰ *Wisconsin Public Intervenor v. Mortier*, 501 U.S. 597, 614–616 (1991).

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to implicate no preemption concerns, inasmuch as the federal anti-trust laws had been interpreted as not permitting indirect purchasers to recover under *federal* law; state law may be inconsistent with federal law but in no way did it frustrate federal objectives and policies.¹⁰⁶¹ The effect of federal policy was not strong enough to warrant a holding of preemption when a State authorized condemnation of abandoned railroad property after conclusion of an ICC proceeding permitting abandonment, although the railroad's opportunity costs in the property had been considered in the decision on abandonment.¹⁰⁶²

Federal Versus State Labor Laws.—One group of cases, which has caused the Court much difficulty over the years, concerns the effect of federal labor laws on state power to govern labor-management relations. Although the Court some time ago reached a settled rule, changes in membership on the Court reopened the issue and modified the rules.

With the enactment of the National Labor Relations Act and subsequent amendments, Congress declared a national policy in labor-management relations and established the NLRB to carry out that policy.¹⁰⁶³ It became the Supreme Court's responsibility to determine what role state law on labor-management relations was to play. At first, the Court applied a test of determination whether the state regulation was in direct conflict with the national regulatory scheme. Thus, in one early case, the Court held that an order by a state board which commanded a union to desist from mass picketing of a factory and from assorted personal threats was not in conflict with the national law that had not been invoked and

¹⁰⁶¹ California v. ARC America Corp., 490 U.S. 93 (1989).

¹⁰⁶² Hayfield Northern R. Co. v. Chicago & N. W. Transp. Co., 467 U.S. 622 (1984). See also CTS Corp. v. Dynamics Corp. of America, 481 U.S. 69 (1987) (federal law's broad purpose of protecting shareholders as a group is furthered by state anti-takeover law); Rose v. Rose, 481 U.S. 619 (1987) (provision governing veterans' disability benefits protects veterans' families as well as veterans, hence state child-support order resulting in payment out of benefits is not preempted).

¹⁰⁶³ Throughout the ups-and-downs of federal labor-law preemption, it remains the rule that the Board remains preeminent and almost exclusive. See, e.g., Wisconsin Dept. of Industry v. Gould, Inc., 475 U.S. 282 (1986) (States may not supplement Board enforcement by debarring from state contracts persons or firms that have violated the NLRA); Golden Gate Transit Corp. v. City of Los Angeles, 475 U.S. 608 (1986) (City may not condition taxicab franchise on settlement of strike by set date, since this intrudes into collective-bargaining process protected by NLRA). On the other hand, the NLRA's protection of associational rights is not so strong as to outweigh the Social Security Act's policy permitting States to determine whether to award unemployment benefits to persons voluntarily unemployed as the result of a labor dispute. New York Telephone Co. v. New York Labor Dept., 440 U.S. 519 (1979); Ohio Bureau of Employment Services v. Hodory, 431 U.S. 471 (1977); Baker v. General Motors Corp., 478 U.S. 621 (1986).

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that did not touch on some of the union conduct in question.¹⁰⁶⁴ A “cease and desist” order of a state board implementing a state provision making it an unfair labor practice for employees to conduct a slowdown or to otherwise interfere with production while on the job was found not to conflict with federal law,¹⁰⁶⁵ while another order of the board was also sustained in its prohibition of the discharge of an employee under a maintenance-of-membership clause inserted in a contract under pressure from the War Labor Board and which violated state law.¹⁰⁶⁶

On the other hand, a state statute requiring business agents of unions operating in the State to file annual reports and to pay an annual fee of one dollar was voided as in conflict with federal law.¹⁰⁶⁷ And state statutes providing for mediation and outlawing public utility strikes were similarly voided as being in specific conflict with federal law.¹⁰⁶⁸ A somewhat different approach was noted in several cases in which the Court held that the federal act had so occupied the field in certain areas as to preclude state regulation.¹⁰⁶⁹ The latter approach was predominant through the 1950s as the Court voided state court action in enjoining¹⁰⁷⁰ or awarding

¹⁰⁶⁴Allen-Bradley Local No. 1111 v. WERB, 315 U.S. 740 (1942).

¹⁰⁶⁵United Automobile Workers v. WERB, 336 U.S. 245 (1949) (overruled in Machinists & Aerospace Workers v. WERC, 427 U.S. 132 (1976)).

¹⁰⁶⁶Algoma Plywood Co. v. WERB, 336 U.S. 301 (1949).

¹⁰⁶⁷Hill v. Florida ex rel. Watson, 325 U.S. 538 (1945). More recently, the Court has held that *Hill's* premise that the NLRA grants an unqualified right to select union officials has been removed by amendments prohibiting some convicted criminals from holding union office. Partly because the federal disqualification standard was itself dependent upon application of state law, the Court ruled that more stringent state disqualification provisions, also aimed at individuals who had been involved in racketeering and other criminal conduct, were not inconsistent with federal law. *Brown v. Hotel Employees*, 468 U.S. 491 (1984).

¹⁰⁶⁸United Automobile Workers v. O'Brien, 339 U.S. 454 (1950); *Bus Employees v. WERB*, 340 U.S. 383 (1951). See also *Bus Employees v. Missouri*, 374 U.S. 74 (1963).

¹⁰⁶⁹*Weber v. Anheuser-Busch, Inc.*, 348 U.S. 468 (1955); *Garner v. Teamsters Local 776*, 346 U.S. 485 (1953); *Bethlehem Steel Co. v. New York Employment Relations Board*, 330 U.S. 767 (1947). Of course, where Congress clearly specifies, the Court has had no difficulty. Thus, in the NLRA, Congress provided, 29 U.S.C. § 164(b), that state laws on the subject could override the federal law on union security arrangements and the Court sustained those laws. *Lincoln Federal Labor Union v. Northwestern Iron & Metal Co.*, 335 U.S. 525 (1949); *AFL v. American Sash & Door Co.*, 335 U.S. 538 (1949). When Congress in the Railway Labor Act, 45 U.S.C. § 152, Eleventh, provided that the federal law on union security was to override contrary state laws, the Court sustained that determination. *Railway Employees' Department v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (1956). The Court has held that state courts may adjudicate questions relating to the permissibility of particular types of union security arrangements under state law even though the issue involves as well an interpretation of federal law., *Retail Clerks International Association v. Schermerhorn*, 375 U.S. 96 (1963).

¹⁰⁷⁰*Garner v. Teamsters Local 776*, 346 U.S. 485 (1953); *United Mine Workers v. Arkansas Flooring Co.*, 351 U.S. 62 (1956); *Meat Cutters v. Fairlawn Meats*, 353 U.S. 20 (1957); *Construction Laborers v. Curry*, 371 U.S. 542 (1963).

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damages¹⁰⁷¹ for peaceful picketing, in awarding of relief by damages or otherwise for conduct which constituted an unfair labor practice under federal law,¹⁰⁷² or in enforcing state antitrust laws so as to affect collective bargaining agreements¹⁰⁷³ or to bar a strike as a restraint of trade,¹⁰⁷⁴ even with regard to disputes over which the NLRB declined to assert jurisdiction because of the degree of effect on interstate commerce.¹⁰⁷⁵

In *San Diego Building Trades Council v. Garmon*,¹⁰⁷⁶ the Court enunciated the rule, based on its previous decade of adjudication. “When an activity is arguably subject to § 7 or § 8 of the Act, the States . . . must defer to the exclusive competence of the National Labor Relations Board if the danger of state interference with national policy is to be averted.”¹⁰⁷⁷

For much of the period since *Garmon*, the dispute in the Court concerned the scope of the few exceptions permitted in the *Garmon* principle. First, when picketing is not wholly peaceful but is attended by intimidation, violence, and obstruction of the roads affording access to the struck establishment, state police powers have been held not disabled to deal with the conduct and narrowly-drawn injunctions directed against violence and mass picketing have been permitted¹⁰⁷⁸ as well as damages to compensate for harm growing out of such activities.¹⁰⁷⁹

A 1958 case permitted a successful state court suit for reinstatement and damages for lost pay because of a wrongful expulsion, leading to discharge from employment, based on a theory that the union constitution and by-laws constitute a contract between the union and the members the terms of which can be enforced by state courts without the danger of a conflict between state and fed-

¹⁰⁷¹ *San Diego Building Trades Council v. Garmon*, 353 U.S. 26 (1957).

¹⁰⁷² *Guss v. Utah Labor Board*, 353 U.S. 1 (1957).

¹⁰⁷³ *Teamsters Union v. Oliver*, 358 U.S. 283 (1959).

¹⁰⁷⁴ *Weber v. Anheuser-Busch, Inc.*, 348 U.S. 468 (1955).

¹⁰⁷⁵ *Guss v. Utah Labor Board*, 353 U.S. 1 (1957). The “no-man’s land” thus created by the difference between the reach of Congress’ commerce power and the NLRB’s finite resources was closed by 73 Stat. 541, 29 U.S.C. § 164(c), which authorized the States to assume jurisdiction over disputes which the Board had indicated through promulgation of jurisdictional standards that it would not treat.

¹⁰⁷⁶ 359 U.S. 236 (1959).

¹⁰⁷⁷ *Id.*, 245. The rule is followed in, e.g., *Radio & Television Technicians v. Broadcast Service of Mobile*, 380 U.S. 255 (1965); *Hattiesburg Building & Trades Council v. Broome*, 377 U.S. 126 (1964); *Longshoremen Local 1416 v. Ariadne Shipping Co.*, 397 U.S. 195 (1970); *Amalgamated Assn. of Street, Electric Railway & Motor Coach Employees v. Lockridge*, 403 U.S. 274 (1971). Cf. *Nash v. Florida Industrial Comm.*, 389 U.S. 235 (1967).

¹⁰⁷⁸ *United Automobile Workers v. WERB*, 351 U.S. 266 (1956); *Youngdahl v. Rainfair*, 355 U.S. 131 (1957).

¹⁰⁷⁹ *United Automobile Workers v. Russell*, 356 U.S. 634 (1958); *United Construction Workers v. Laburnum Construction Corp.*, 347 U.S. 656 (1954).

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eral law.¹⁰⁸⁰ The Court subsequently narrowed the interpretation of this ruling by holding in two cases that members who alleged union interference with their existing or prospective employment relations could not sue for damages but must file unfair labor practice charges with the NLRB.¹⁰⁸¹ *Gonzales* was said to be limited to “purely internal union matters.”¹⁰⁸² Finally, *Gonzales*, was abandoned in a five-to-four decision in which the Court held that a person who alleged that his union had misinterpreted its constitution and its collective bargaining agreement with the individual’s employer in expelling him from the union and causing him to be discharged from his employment because he was late paying his dues, had to pursue his federal remedies.¹⁰⁸³ While it was not likely that in *Gonzales*, a state court resolution of the scope of duty owed the member by the union would implicate principles of federal law, Justice Harlan wrote for the Court, state court resolution in this case involved an interpretation of the contract’s union security clause, a matter on which federal regulation is extensive.¹⁰⁸⁴

One other exception has been based, like the violence cases, on the assumption that it concerns areas traditionally left to local law into which Congress would not want to intrude. In *Linn v. Plant Guard Workers*,¹⁰⁸⁵ the Court permitted a state court adjudication of a defamation action arising out of a labor dispute. And in *Letter Carriers v. Austin*,¹⁰⁸⁶ the Court held that federal law preempts state defamation laws in the context of labor disputes to the extent that the State seeks to make actionable defamatory statements in labor disputes published without knowledge of their falsity or in reckless disregard of truth or falsity.

However, a state tort action for the intentional infliction of emotional distress occasioned through an alleged campaign of personal abuse and harassment of a member of the union by the union and its officials was held not preempted by federal labor law. Federal law was not directed to the “outrageous conduct” alleged, and NLRB resolution of the dispute would neither touch upon the claim of emotional distress and physical injury nor award the plaintiff

¹⁰⁸⁰ *International Assn. of Machinists v. Gonzales*, 356 U.S. 617 (1958).

¹⁰⁸¹ *Journeyman Local 100 v. Borden*, 373 U.S. 690 (1963); *Iron Workers Local 207 v. Perko*, 373 U.S. 701 (1963). Applying *Perko*, the Court held that a state court action by a supervisor alleging union interference with his contractual relationship with his employer is preempted by the NLRA. *Local 926, Intl. Union of Operating Engineers v. Jones*, 460 U.S. 669 (1983).

¹⁰⁸² 373 U.S., 697; 373 U.S., 705.

¹⁰⁸³ *Amalgamated Assn. of Street, Electric Railway & Motor Coach Employees v. Lockridge*, 403 U.S. 274 (1971).

¹⁰⁸⁴ *Id.*, 296.

¹⁰⁸⁵ 383 U.S. 53 (1966).

¹⁰⁸⁶ 418 U.S. 264 (1974).

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any compensation. But state court jurisdiction, in order that there not be interference with the federal scheme, must be premised on tortious conduct either unrelated to employment discrimination or a function of the particularly abusive manner in which the discrimination is accomplished or threatened rather than a function of the actual or threatened discrimination itself.¹⁰⁸⁷

A significant retrenchment of *Garmon* occurred in *Sears, Roebuck & Co. v. Carpenters*,¹⁰⁸⁸ in the context of state court assertion of jurisdiction over trespassory picketing. Objecting to the company's use of nonunion work in one of its departments, the union picketed the store, using the company's property, the lot area surrounding the store, instead of the public sidewalks, to walk on. After the union refused to move its pickets to the sidewalk, the company sought and obtained a state court order enjoining the picketing on company property. Depending upon the union motivation for the picketing, it was either arguably prohibited or arguably protected by federal law, the trespassory nature of the picketing being one factor the NLRB would have looked to in determining at least the protected nature of the conduct. The Court held, however, that under the circumstances, neither the arguably prohibited nor the arguably protected rationale of *Garmon* was sufficient to deprive the state court of jurisdiction.

First, as to conduct arguably prohibited by NLRA, the Court seemingly expanded the *Garmon* exception recognizing state court jurisdiction for conduct that touches interests "deeply rooted in local feeling"¹⁰⁸⁹ in holding that where there exists "a significant state interest in protecting the citizens from the challenged conduct" and there exists "little risk of interference with the regulatory jurisdiction" of the NLRB, state law is not preempted. Here, there was obviously a significant state interest in protecting the company from trespass; the second, "critical inquiry" was whether the controversy presented to the state court was identical to or different from that which could have been presented to the Board. The Court concluded that the controversy was different. The Board would have been presented with determining the motivation of the picketing and the location of the picketing would have been irrele-

¹⁰⁸⁷ *Farmer v. Carpenters*, 430 U.S. 290 (1977). Following this case, the Court held that a state court action for misrepresentation and breach of contract, brought by replacement workers promised permanent employment when hired during a strike, was not preempted. The action for breach of contract by replacement workers having no remedies under the NLRA was found to be deeply rooted in local law and of only peripheral concern under the Act. *Belknap, Inc. v. Hale*, 463 U.S. 491 (1983). See also *Intl. Longshoremen's Assn. v. Davis*, 476 U.S. 380 (1986).

¹⁰⁸⁸ 436 U.S. 180 (1978).

¹⁰⁸⁹ *San Diego Bldg Trades Council v. Garmon*, 359 U.S. 236, 244 (1959).

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vant; the motivation was irrelevant to the state court and the situs of the picketing was the sole inquiry. Thus, there was deemed to be no realistic risk of state interference with Board jurisdiction.¹⁰⁹⁰

Second, in determining whether the picketing was protected, the Board would have been concerned with the situs of the picketing, since under federal labor laws the employer has no absolute right to prohibit union activity on his property. Preemption of state court jurisdiction was denied, nonetheless, in this case on two joined bases. One, preemption is not required in those cases in which the party who could have presented the protection issue to the Board has not done so and the other party to the dispute has no acceptable means of doing so. In this case, the union could have filed with the Board when the company demanded removal of the pickets, but did not, and the company could not file with the Board at all. Two, even if the matter is not presented to the Board, preemption is called for if there is a risk of erroneous state court adjudication of the protection issue that is unacceptable, so that one must look to the strength of the argument that the activity is protected. While the state court had to make an initial determination that the trespass was not protected under federal law, the same determination the Board would have made, in the instance of trespassory conduct, the risk of erroneous determination is small, because experience shows that a trespass is far more likely to be unprotected than protected.¹⁰⁹¹

Introduction of these two balancing tests into the *Garmon* rationale substantially complicates determining when state courts do not have jurisdiction and will no doubt occasion much more litigation in state courts than has previously existed.

Another series of cases involves not a Court-created exception to the *Garmon* rule but the applicability and interpretation of § 301 of the Taft-Hartley Act,¹⁰⁹² which authorizes suits in federal, and state,¹⁰⁹³ courts to enforce collective bargaining agreements. The Court has held that in enacting § 301, Congress authorized actions based on conduct arguably subject to the NLRA, so that the *Garmon* preemption doctrine does not preclude judicial enforcement of duties and obligations which would otherwise be within the exclusive jurisdiction of the NLRB so long as those duties and obli-

¹⁰⁹⁰ *Sears, Roebuck & Co. v. Carpenters*, 436 U.S. 180, 190–198 (1978).

¹⁰⁹¹ *Id.*, 199–207.

¹⁰⁹² 61 Stat. 156 (1947), 29 U.S.C. § 185(a).

¹⁰⁹³ *Charles Dowd Box Co. v. Courtney*, 368 U.S. 502 (1962). The state courts must, however, apply federal law. *Local 174, Teamsters v. Lucas Flour Co.*, 369 U.S. 95 (1962).

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gations are embodied in a collective-bargaining agreement, perhaps as interpreted in an arbitration proceeding.¹⁰⁹⁴

Here, too, the permissible role of state tort actions has been in great dispute. Generally, a state tort action as an alternative to a §301 arbitration or enforcement action is preempted if it is substantially dependent upon analysis of the terms of a collective-bargaining agreement.¹⁰⁹⁵ Thus, a state damage action for the bad-faith handling of an insurance claim under a disability plan that was part of a collective-bargaining agreement was preempted because it involved interpretation of that agreement and because state enforcement would frustrate the policies of §301 favoring uniform federal-law interpretation of collective-bargaining agreements and favoring arbitration as a predicate to adjudication.¹⁰⁹⁶

Finally, the Court has indicated that with regard to some situations, Congress has intended to leave the parties to a labor dispute free to engage in “self-help,” so that conduct not subject to federal law is nonetheless withdrawn from state control.¹⁰⁹⁷ However, the NLRA is concerned primarily “with establishing an equitable process for determining terms and conditions of employment, and not with particular substantive terms of the bargain that is struck when the parties are negotiating from relatively equal positions,” so States are free to impose minimum labor standards.¹⁰⁹⁸

COMMERCE WITH INDIAN TRIBES

Congress’ power to regulate commerce “with the Indian tribes,” once almost rendered superfluous by Court decision,¹⁰⁹⁹ has now

¹⁰⁹⁴Smith v. Evening News Assn., 371 U.S. 195 (1962); Humphrey v. Moore, 375 U.S. 335 (1964); Vaca v. Sipes, 386 U.S. 171 (1967).

¹⁰⁹⁵See the analysis in Lingle v. Norge Div. of Magic Chef, Inc., 486 U.S. 399 (1988) (state tort action for retaliatory discharge for exercising rights under a state workers’ compensation law is not preempted by §301, there being no required interpretation of a collective-bargaining agreement).

¹⁰⁹⁶Allis-Chalmers Corp. v. Lueck, 471 U.S. 202 (1985). See also Intl. Brotherhood of Electric Workers v. Hechler, 481 U.S. 851 (1987) (state-law claim that union breached duty to furnish employee a reasonably safe workplace preempted); United Steelworkers of America v. Rawson, 495 U.S. 362 (1990) (state-law claim that union was negligent in inspecting a mine, the duty to inspect being created by the collective-bargaining agreement preempted).

¹⁰⁹⁷Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen v. Jacksonville Terminal Co., 394 U.S. 369 (1969); Machinists & Aerospace Workers v. WERC, 427 U.S. 132 (1976); Golden Gate Transit Corp. v. City of Los Angeles, 475 U.S. 608 (1986). And, cf New York Telephone Co. v. New York State Dept. of Labor, 440 U.S. 519 (1979).

¹⁰⁹⁸Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. v. Massachusetts, 471 U.S. 724 (1985) (upholding a state requirement that health-care plans, including those resulting from collective bargaining, provide minimum benefits for mental-health care).

¹⁰⁹⁹United States v. Kagama, 118 U.S. 375 (1886). Rejecting the commerce clause as a basis for congressional enactment of a system of criminal laws for Indians living on reservations, the Court nevertheless sustained the act on the ground that the Federal Government had the obligation and thus the power to protect a

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been resurrected and made largely the basis for informing judicial judgment with respect to controversies concerning the rights and obligations of Native Americans. Although Congress in 1871 forbade the further making of treaties with Indian tribes,¹¹⁰⁰ cases disputing the application of the old treaties and especially their effects upon attempted state taxation and regulation of on-reservation activities continue to be a staple of the Court's docket.¹¹⁰¹ But this clause is one of the two bases now found sufficient to empower Federal Government authority over Native Americans. "The source of federal authority over Indian matters has been the subject of some confusion, but it is now generally recognized that the power derives from federal responsibility for regulating commerce with Indian tribes and for treaty making."¹¹⁰² Forsaking reliance upon other theories and rationales, the Court has established the preemption doctrine as the analytical framework within which to judge the permissibility of assertions of state jurisdiction over the Indians. However, the "semi-autonomous status" of Indian tribes erects an "independent but related" barrier to the exercise of state authority over commercial activity on an Indian reservation.¹¹⁰³ Thus, the question of preemption is not governed by the standards of preemption developed in other areas. "Instead, the traditional notions of tribal sovereignty, and the recognition and encouragement of this sovereignty in congressional Acts, inform the preemption analysis that governs this inquiry. . . . As a result, ambiguities in federal law should be construed generously, and federal preemption is not limited to those situations where Congress has explicitly announced an intention to pre-empt state activity."¹¹⁰⁴ A

weak and dependent people. Cf. *United States v. Holiday*, 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 407 (1866); *United States v. Sandoval*, 231 U.S. 28 (1913). This special fiduciary responsibility can also be created by statute. E.g., *United States v. Mitchell*, 463 U.S. 206 (1983).

¹¹⁰⁰ 16 Stat. 544, 566, 25 U.S.C. § 71.

¹¹⁰¹ E.g., *Puyallup Tribe v. Washington Game Dept.*, 433 U.S. 165 (1977); *Washington v. Washington State Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel Assn.*, 443 U.S. 658 (1979); *Montana v. United States*, 450 U.S. 544 (1981).

¹¹⁰² *McClanahan v. Arizona Tax Comm.*, 411 U.S. 164, 172 n. 7 (1973). See also *Morton v. Mancari*, 417 U.S. 535, 551–553 (1974); *United States v. Mazurie*, 419 U.S. 544, 553–556 (1974); *Bryan v. Itasca County*, 426 U.S. 373, 376 n. 2 (1976); *White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker*, 448 U.S. 136, 142 (1980); *Ramah Navajo School Board v. Bureau of Revenue of New Mexico*, 458 U.S. 832, 837 (1982).

¹¹⁰³ *White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker*, 448 U.S. 136, 142–143 (1980); *Ramah Navajo School Board v. Bureau of Revenue of New Mexico*, 458 U.S. 832, 837–838 (1982). "The two barriers are independent because either, standing alone, can be a sufficient basis for holding state law inapplicable to activity undertaken on the reservation or by tribal members." *Id.*, 837 (quoting *White Mountain*, supra, 143).

¹¹⁰⁴ *Ramah Navajo School Board v. Bureau of Revenue of New Mexico*, 458 U.S. 832, 838 (1982). See also *New Mexico v. Mescalero Apache Tribe*, 462 U.S. 324 (1983).

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corollary is that the preemption doctrine will not be applied strictly to prevent States from aiding Native Americans.¹¹⁰⁵ However, the protective rule is inapplicable to state regulation of liquor transactions, since there has been no tradition of tribal sovereignty with respect to that subject.¹¹⁰⁶

The scope of state taxing powers—the conflict of “the plenary power of the States over residents within their borders with the semi-autonomous status of Indians living on tribal reservations”¹¹⁰⁷—has been often litigated. Absent cession of jurisdiction or other congressional consent, States possess no power to tax Indian reservation lands or Indian income from activities carried on within the boundaries of the reservation.¹¹⁰⁸ Off-reservation Indian activities require an express federal exemption to deny state taxing power.¹¹⁰⁹ Subjection to taxation of non-Indians doing business with Indians on the reservation involves a close analysis of the federal statutory framework, although the operating premise was for many years to deny state power because of its burdens upon the development of tribal self-sufficiency as promoted through federal law and its interference with the tribes’ ability to exercise their sovereign functions.¹¹¹⁰

That operating premise, however, seems to have been eroded. For example, in *Cotton Petroleum Corp. v. New Mexico*,¹¹¹¹ the Court held that, in spite of the existence of multiple taxation occasioned by a state oil and gas severance tax applied to on-reservation operations by non-Indians, which was already taxed by the tribe,¹¹¹² the impairment of tribal sovereignty was “too indirect and too insubstantial” to warrant a finding of preemption. The fact that the State provided significant services to the oil and gas les-

¹¹⁰⁵ *Three Affiliated Tribes v. Wold Engineering*, 467 U.S. 138 (1984) (upholding state-court jurisdiction to hear claims of Native Americans against non-Indians involving transactions that occurred in Indian country). However, attempts by States to retrocede jurisdiction favorable to Native Americans may be held to be preempted. *Three Affiliated Tribes v. Wold Engineering*, 476 U.S. 877 (1986).

¹¹⁰⁶ *Rice v. Rehner*, 463 U.S. 713 (1983).

¹¹⁰⁷ *McClanahan v. Arizona Tax Comm.*, 411 U.S. 164, 165 (1973).

¹¹⁰⁸ *Mescalero Apache Tribe v. Jones*, 411 U.S. 145, 148 (1973); *McClanahan v. Arizona Tax Comm.*, 411 U.S. 164 (1973); *Moe v. Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes*, 425 U.S. 463 (1976); *Bryan v. Itasca County*, 426 U.S. 373 (1976); *Washington v. Confederated Colville Tribes*, 447 U.S. 134 (1980); *Montana v. Blackfeet Tribe*, 471 U.S. 759 (1985). See also *Oklahoma Tax Comm. v. Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe*, 498 U.S. 505 (1991). A discernable easing of the reluctance to find congressional cession is reflected in more recent cases. See *County of Yakima v. Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakima Indian Nation*, 112 S.Ct. 683 (1992).

¹¹⁰⁹ *Mescalero Apache Tribe v. Jones*, 411 U.S. 145, 148–149 (1973).

¹¹¹⁰ *White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker*, 448 U.S. 136 (1980); *Central Machinery Co. v. Arizona Tax Comm.*, 448 U.S. 160 (1980); *Ramah Navajo School Board v. Bureau of Revenue of New Mexico*, 458 U.S. 832 (1982).

¹¹¹¹ 490 U.S. 163 (1989).

¹¹¹² Held permissible in *Merrion v. Jicarilla Apache Tribe*, 455 U.S. 130 (1982).

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sees justified state taxation and also distinguished earlier cases in which the State had “asserted no legitimate regulatory interest that might justify the tax.”¹¹¹³ Still further erosion, or relaxation, of the principle of construction may be found in a later case, in which the Court, confronted with arguments that the imposition of particular state taxes on Indian property on the reservation was inconsistent with self-determination and self-governance, denominated these as “policy” arguments properly presented to Congress rather than the Court.¹¹¹⁴

The impact on tribal sovereignty is also a prime determinant of relative state and tribal regulatory authority.¹¹¹⁵

Since *Worcester v. Georgia*,¹¹¹⁶ it has been recognized that Indian tribes are unique aggregations possessing attributes of sovereignty over both their members and their territory.¹¹¹⁷ They are, of course, no longer possessed of the full attributes of sovereignty,¹¹¹⁸ having relinquished some part of it by their incorporation within the territory of the United States and their acceptance of its protection. By specific treaty provision, they yielded up other sovereign powers, and Congress has removed still others. “The sovereignty that the Indian tribes retain is of a unique and

¹¹¹³ *Id.*, 490 U.S., 185 (distinguishing *Bracker and Ramah Navaho School Bd.*

¹¹¹⁴ *County of Yakima v. Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakima Indian Nation*, 112 S.Ct. 683, 692 (1992). To be sure, this response was in the context of the reading of statutory texts and giving effect to them, but the unqualified designation is suggestive.

¹¹¹⁵ E.g., *New Mexico v. Mescalero Tribe*, 462 U.S. 324 (1983).

¹¹¹⁶ 5 Pet. (31 U.S.) 515 (1832). See also *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 1 (1831). Under this doctrine, tribes possess sovereign immunity from suit in the same way as the United States and the States do. *Santa Clara Pueblo v. Martinez*, 436 U.S. 49, 58 (1978); *United States v. United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co.*, 309 U.S. 506, 512–513 (1940). The Court has repeatedly rejected arguments to abolish tribal sovereign immunity or at least to curtail it. *Oklahoma Tax Comm. v. Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe*, 498 U.S. 505, 510 (1991).

¹¹¹⁷ *United States v. Wheeler*, 435 U.S. 313 (1978) (inherent sovereign power to punish tribal offenders). But tribes possess no criminal authority over non-Indians. *Oliphant v. Suquamish Indian Tribe*, 435 U.S. 191 (1978). And see *Duro v. Reina*, 495 U.S. 676 (1990) (tribe has no criminal jurisdiction over non-tribal Indians who commit crimes on the reservation; jurisdiction over members rests on consent of the self-governed, and absence of consent defeats jurisdiction). Compare *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202 (1987) (state regulation of on-reservation bingo is preempted as basically civil/regulatory rather than criminal/prohibitory), with *Brendale v. Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakima Indian Nation*, 492 U.S. 408 (1989) (extensive ownership of land within “open areas” of reservation by non-members of tribe precludes application of tribal zoning within such areas). Among the fundamental attributes of sovereignty which a tribe possesses unless divested of it by federal law is the power to tax non-Indians entering the reservation to engage in economic activities. *Washington v. Confederated Colville Tribes*, 447 U.S. 134 (1980); *Merrion v. Jicarilla Apache Tribe*, 455 U.S. 130 (1982).

¹¹¹⁸ *United States v. Kagama*, 118 U.S. 375, 381 (1886); *United States v. Wheeler*, 435 U.S. 313, 323 (1978).

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limited character. It exists only at the sufferance of Congress and is subject to complete defeasance.”¹¹¹⁹

In a case of major import for the settlement of Indian land claims, the Court ruled in *County of Oneida v. Oneida Indian Nation*,¹¹²⁰ that an Indian tribe may obtain damages for wrongful possession of land conveyed in 1795 without the federal approval required by the Nonintercourse Act.¹¹²¹ The Act reflected the accepted principle that extinguishment of the title to land by Native Americans required the consent of the United States and left intact a tribe’s common-law remedies to protect possessory rights. The Court reiterated the accepted rule that enactments are construed liberally in favor of Native Americans and that Congress may abrogate Indian treaty rights or extinguish aboriginal land title only if it does so clearly and unambiguously. Consequently, federal approval of land-conveyance treaties containing references to earlier conveyances that had violated the Nonintercourse Act did not constitute ratification of the invalid conveyances.¹¹²² Similarly, the Court refused to apply the general rule for borrowing a state statute of limitations for the federal common-law action, and it rejected the dissent’s view that, given “the extraordinary passage of time,” the doctrine of laches should have been applied to bar the claim.¹¹²³

While the power of Congress over Indian affairs is broad, it is not limitless.¹¹²⁴ The Court has promulgated a standard of review that defers to the legislative judgment “[a]s long as the special treatment can be tied rationally to the fulfillment of Congress’ unique obligation toward the Indians”¹¹²⁵ A more searching review is warranted when it is alleged that the Federal Government’s behavior toward the Indians has been in contravention of its obligation and that it has in fact taken property from a tribe which it had heretofore guaranteed to the tribe, without either com-

¹¹¹⁹ *United States v. Wheeler*, 435 U.S. 313, 323 (1978).

¹¹²⁰ 470 U.S. 226 (1985).

¹¹²¹ 1 Stat. 379 (1793).

¹¹²² *Id.*, 470 U.S., 246–248.

¹¹²³ *Id.*, 255, 257 (Justice Stevens).

¹¹²⁴ “The power of Congress over Indian affairs may be of a plenary nature; but it is not absolute.” *United States v. Alcea Bank of Tillamooks*, 329 U.S. 40, 54 (1946) (plurality opinion) (quoted with approval in *Delaware Tribal Business Comm. v. Weeks*, 430 U.S. 73, 84 (1977)).

¹¹²⁵ *Morton v. Mancari*, 417 U.S. 535, 555 (1974). The Court applied the standard to uphold a statutory classification that favored Indians over non-Indians. But in *Delaware Tribal Business Comm. v. Weeks*, 430 U.S. 73 (1977), the same standard was used to sustain a classification that disfavored, although inadvertently, one group of Indians as against other groups. While Indian tribes are unconstrained by federal or state constitutional provisions, Congress has legislated a “bill of rights” statute covering them. See *Santa Clara Pueblo v. Martinez*, 436 U.S. 49 (1978).

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pensating the tribe or otherwise giving the Indians the full value of the land.¹¹²⁶

Clause 4. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States.*

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Nature and Scope of Congress' Power

Naturalization has been defined by the Supreme Court as "the act of adopting a foreigner, and clothing him with the privileges of a native citizen."¹¹²⁷ In the *Dred Scott* case,¹¹²⁸ the Court asserted that the power of Congress under this clause applies only to "persons born in a foreign country, under a foreign government."¹¹²⁹ These dicta are much too narrow to describe the power that Congress has actually exercised on the subject. The competence of Congress in this field merges, in fact, with its indefinite, inherent powers in the field of foreign relations. "As a government, the United States is invested with all the attributes of sovereignty. As it has the character of nationality it has the powers of nationality, especially those which concern its relations and intercourse with other countries."¹¹³⁰

Congress' power over naturalization is an exclusive power; no State has the power to constitute a foreign subject a citizen of the United States.¹¹³¹ But power to naturalize aliens may be, and was early, devolved by Congress upon state courts of record.¹¹³² And States may confer the right of suffrage upon resident aliens who have declared their intention to become citizens and many did so until recently.¹¹³³

¹¹²⁶United States v. Sioux Nation, 448 U.S. 371 (1980). See also *Solem v. Bartlett*, 465 U.S. 463, 472 (1984) (there must be "substantial and compelling evidence of congressional intention to diminish Indian lands" before the Court will hold that a statute removed land from a reservation).

¹¹²⁷*Boyd v. Nebraska ex rel. Thayer*, 143 U.S. 135, 162 (1892).

¹¹²⁸*Scott v. Sandford*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 393 (1857).

¹¹²⁹*Id.*, 417, 419.

¹¹³⁰*Mackenzie v. Hare*, 239 U.S. 299, 311 (1915).

¹¹³¹*Chirac v. Chirac*, 2 Wheat. (15 U.S.) 259, 269 (1817); *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, 169 U.S. 649, 701 (1898).

¹¹³²The first naturalization act, 1 Stat. 103 (1790), so provided. See 8 U.S.C. § 1421. In *Holmgren v. United States*, 217 U.S. 509 (1910), it was held that Congress may provide for the punishment of false swearing in the proceedings in state courts.

¹¹³³*Spragins v. Houghton*, 3 Ill. 377 (1840); *Stewart v. Foster*, 2 Binn. (Pa.) 110 (1809). See K. PORTER, *A HISTORY OF SUFFRAGE IN THE UNITED STATES* (New York: 1918), ch. 5.

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Citizenship by naturalization is a privilege to be given, qualified, or withheld as Congress may determine, an individual may claim it as a right only upon compliance with the terms Congress imposes.¹¹³⁴ This interpretation makes of the naturalization power the only power granted in § 8 of Article I that is unrestrained by constitutional limitations on its exercise. Thus, the first naturalization act enacted by the first Congress restricted naturalization to “free white persons[s],”¹¹³⁵ which was expanded in 1870 so that persons of “African nativity and . . . descent” were entitled to be naturalized.¹¹³⁶ Orientals were specifically excluded from eligibility in 1882,¹¹³⁷ and the courts enforced these provisions without any indication that constitutional issues were thereby raised.¹¹³⁸ These exclusions are no longer law. Present naturalization statutes continue and expand on provisions designed to bar subversives, dissidents, and radicals generally from citizenship.¹¹³⁹

Although the usual form of naturalization is through individual application and official response on the basis of general congressional rules, naturalization is not so limited. Citizenship can be conferred by special act of Congress,¹¹⁴⁰ it can be conferred collectively either through congressional action, such as the naturalization of all residents of an annexed territory or of a territory made a State,¹¹⁴¹ or through treaty provision.¹¹⁴²

¹¹³⁴United States v. Macintosh, 283 U.S. 605, 615 (1931); Fong Yue Ting v. United States, 149 U.S. 698, 707–708 (1893). A *caveat* to this statement is that with regard to persons naturalized in the United States the qualification may only be a condition precedent and not a condition subsequent, *Schneider v. Rusk*, 377 U.S. 163 (1964), whereas persons born abroad who are made citizens at birth by statute if one or both of their parents are citizens are subject to conditions subsequent. *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815 (1971).

¹¹³⁵1 Stat. 103 (1790).

¹¹³⁶Act of July 14, 1870, § 7, 16 Stat. 254, 256.

¹¹³⁷Act of May 6, 1882, § 1, 22 Stat. 58.

¹¹³⁸Cf. *Ozawa v. United States*, 260 U.S. 178 (1922); *United States v. Bhagat Singh Thind*, 261 U.S. 204 (1923); *Toyota v. United States*, 268 U.S. 402 (1925); *Morrison v. California*, 291 U.S. 82 (1934). The Court refused to review the only case in which the constitutional issue was raised and rejected. *Kharaiti Ram Samras v. United States*, 125 F. 2d 879 (9th Cir., 1942), *cert. den.*, 317 U.S. 634 (1942).

¹¹³⁹The Alien and Sedition Act of 1798, 1 Stat. 570, empowered the President to deport any alien he found dangerous to the peace and safety of the Nation. In 1903, Congress provided for denial of naturalization and for deportation for mere belief in certain doctrines, i.e., anarchy. Act of March 3, 1903, 32 Stat. 1214. See *United States ex rel. Turner v. Williams*, 194 U.S. 279 (1904). The range of forbidden views was broadened in 1918. Act of October 15, 1918, § 1, 40 Stat. 1012. The present law is found in 8 U.S.C. § 1424 and is discussed *infra*, pp. 268–270.

¹¹⁴⁰E.g., 77 Stat. 5 (1963) (making Sir Winston Churchill an “honorary citizen of the United States.”).

¹¹⁴¹*Boyd v. Nebraska ex rel. Thayer*, 143 U.S. 135 (1892); *Contzen v. United States*, 179 U.S. 191 (1900).

¹¹⁴²*Boyd v. Nebraska ex rel. Thayer*, 143 U.S. 135, 164, 168–169 (1892).

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Categories of Citizens: Birth and Naturalization

The first sentence of §1 of the Fourteenth Amendment contemplates two sources of citizenship and two only: birth and naturalization.¹¹⁴³ This contemplation is given statutory expression in §301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952,¹¹⁴⁴ which itemizes those categories of persons who are citizens of the United States at birth; all other persons in order to become citizens must pass through the naturalization process. The first category merely tracks the language of the first sentence of §1 of the Fourteenth Amendment in declaring that all persons born in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens by birth.¹¹⁴⁵ But there are six other categories of citizens by birth. They are: (2) a person born in the United States to a member of an Indian, Eskimo, Aleutian, or other aboriginal tribe, (3) a person born outside the United States of citizen parents one of whom has been resident in the United States, (4) a person born outside the United States of one citizen parent who has been continuously resident in the United States for one year prior to the birth and of a parent who is a national but not a citizen, (5) a person born in an outlying possession of the United States of one citizen parent who has been continuously resident in the United States or an outlying possession for one year prior to the birth, (6) a person of unknown parentage found in the United States while under the age of five unless prior to his twenty-first birthday he is shown not to have been born in the United States, and (7) a person born outside the United States of an alien parent and a citizen parent who has been resident in the United States for a period of ten years, provided the person is to lose his citizenship unless he resides continuously in the United States for a period of five years between his fourteenth and twenty-eighth birthdays.

Subsection (7) citizens must satisfy the condition subsequent of five years continuous residence within the United States between the ages of fourteen and twenty-eight, a requirement held to be constitutional,¹¹⁴⁶ which means in effect that for constitutional purposes, according to the prevailing interpretation, there is a difference between persons born or naturalized in, that is, within, the United States and persons born outside the confines of the United States who are statutorily made citizens.¹¹⁴⁷ The principal dif-

¹¹⁴³ *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, 169 U.S. 649, 702 (1898).

¹¹⁴⁴ 66 Stat. 235, 8 U.S.C. §1401.

¹¹⁴⁵ §301(a)(1), 8 U.S.C. §1401(a)(1).

¹¹⁴⁶ *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815 (1971).

¹¹⁴⁷ Compare *Schneider v. Rusk*, 377 U.S. 163 (1964); *Afroyim v. Rusk*, 387 U.S. 253 (1967). It will be noted that in practically all cases persons statutorily made citizens at birth will be dual nationals, having the citizenship of the country where

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ference is that the former persons may not be involuntarily expatriated whereas the latter may be, subject only to due process protections.¹¹⁴⁸

The Naturalization of Aliens

Although, as has been noted, throughout most of our history there were significant racial and ethnic limitations upon eligibility for naturalization, the present law prohibits any such discrimination.

“The right of a person to become a naturalized citizen of the United States shall not be denied or abridged because of race or sex or because such person is married.”¹¹⁴⁹ However, any person “who advocates or teaches, or who is a member of or affiliated with any organization that advocates or teaches . . . opposition to all organized government, or “who advocates or teaches or who is a member of or affiliated with any organization that advocates or teaches the overthrow by force or violence or other unconstitutional means of the Government of the United States” or who is a member of or affiliated with the Communist Party, or other communist organizations, or other totalitarian organizations is ineligible.¹¹⁵⁰ These provisions moreover are “applicable to any applicant for naturalization who at any time within a period of ten years immediately preceding the filing of the petition for naturalization or after such filing and before taking the final oath of citizenship is, or has been found to be, within any of the classes enumerated within this section, notwithstanding that at the time the petition is filed he may not be included within such classes.”¹¹⁵¹

Other limitations on eligibility are also imposed. Eligibility may turn upon the decision of the responsible officials whether the petitioner is of “good moral character.”¹¹⁵² The immigration and nationality laws themselves include a number of specific congressional determinations that certain persons do not possess “good

they were born. Congress has never required a citizen having dual nationality to elect at some point one and forsake the other but it has enacted several restrictive statutes limiting the actions of dual nationals which have occasioned much litigation. E.g., *Savorgnan v. United States*, 338 U.S. 491 (1950); *Kawakita v. United States*, 343 U.S. 717 (1952); *Kennedy v. Mendoza-Martinez*, 372 U.S. 144 (1963); *Schneider v. Rusk*, 377 U.S. 163 (1964); *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815 (1971).

¹¹⁴⁸ Cf. *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815, 836 (1971); *Kennedy v. Mendoza-Martinez*, 372 U.S. 144 (1963); *Perez v. Brownell*, 356 U.S. 44, 58–62 (1958).

¹¹⁴⁹ § 311, 66 Stat. 239 (1952), 8 U.S.C. § 1422.

¹¹⁵⁰ § 313(a), 66 Stat. 240 (1952), 8 U.S.C. § 1424(a). Whether “mere” membership is sufficient to constitute grounds for ineligibility is unclear. Compare *Galvan v. Press*, 347 U.S. 522 (1954), with *Berenyi v. Immigration Director*, 385 U.S. 630 (1967).

¹¹⁵¹ § 313(c), 66 Stat. 241 (1952), 8 U.S.C. § 1424(c).

¹¹⁵² § 316(a)(3), 66 Stat. 242, 8 U.S.C. § 1427(a)(3).

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moral character,” including persons who are “habitual drunkards,”¹¹⁵³ adulterers,¹¹⁵⁴ polygamists or advocates of polygamy,¹¹⁵⁵ gamblers,¹¹⁵⁶ convicted felons,¹¹⁵⁷ and homosexuals.¹¹⁵⁸ In order to petition for naturalization, an alien must have been resident for at least five years and to have possessed “good moral character” for all of that period.

The process of naturalization culminates in the taking in open court of an oath “(1) to support the Constitution of the United States; (2) to renounce and abjure absolutely and entirely all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which the petitioner was before a subject or citizen; (3) to support and defend the Constitution and the laws of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; (4) to bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and (5)(A) to bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law, or (B) to perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law, or (C) to perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by law.”¹¹⁵⁹

Any naturalized person who takes this oath with mental reservations or conceals or misrepresents beliefs, affiliations, and conduct, which under the law disqualify one for naturalization, is subject, upon these facts being shown in a proceeding brought for the purpose, to have his certificate of naturalization cancelled.¹¹⁶⁰ Moreover, if within a year of his naturalization a person joins an organization or becomes in any way affiliated with one which was

¹¹⁵³ § 101(f)(1), 66 Stat. 172, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(f)(1).

¹¹⁵⁴ § 101(f)(2), 66 Stat. 172, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(f)(2).

¹¹⁵⁵ § 212(a)(11), 66 Stat. 182, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(11).

¹¹⁵⁶ § 101(f)(4) and (5), 66 Stat. 172, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(f)(4) and (5).

¹¹⁵⁷ § 101(f)(7) and (8), 66 Stat. 172, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(f)(7) and (8).

¹¹⁵⁸ § 212(a)(4), 66 Stat. 182, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(4), barring aliens afflicted with “psychopathic personality,” a congressional euphemism including homosexuality. *Boutilier v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 387 U.S. 118 (1967).

¹¹⁵⁹ § 337(a), 66 Stat. 258 (1952), 8 U.S.C. § 1448(a). In *United States v. Schwimmer*, 279 U.S. 644 (1929), and *United States v. Macintosh*, 283 U.S. 605 (1931), a divided Court held that clauses (3) and (4) of the oath, as then prescribed, required the candidate for naturalization to be willing to bear arms for the United States, thus disqualifying conscientious objectors. These cases were overturned, purely as a matter of statutory interpretation by *Girouard v. United States*, 328 U.S. 61 (1946), and Congress codified the result, 64 Stat. 1017 (1950), as it now appears in the cited statute.

¹¹⁶⁰ § 340(a), 66 Stat. 260 (1952), 8 U.S.C. § 1451(a). See *Kungys v. United States*, 485 U.S. 759 (1988) (badly fractured Court opinion dealing with the statutory requirements in a denaturalization proceeding under this section). And see *Johannessen v. United States*, 225 U.S. 227 (1912). Congress has imposed no time bar applicable to proceedings to revoke citizenship, so that many years after naturalization has taken place a naturalized citizen remains subject to divestment upon proof of fraud. *Costello v. United States*, 365 U.S. 265 (1961); *Polites v. United States*, 364 U.S. 426 (1960); *Knauer v. United States*, 328 U.S. 654 (1946); *Fedorenko v. United States*, 449 U.S. 490 (1981).

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a disqualification for naturalization if he had been a member at the time, the fact is made *prima facie* evidence of his bad faith in taking the oath and grounds for instituting proceedings to revoke his admission to citizenship.¹¹⁶¹

Rights of Naturalized Persons

Chief Justice Marshall early stated in dictum that “[a] naturalized citizen . . . becomes a member of the society, possessing all the rights of a native citizen, and standing, in the view of the Constitution, on the footing of a native. The Constitution does not authorize Congress to enlarge or abridge those rights. The simple power of the national legislature is, to prescribe a uniform rule of naturalization, and the exercise of this power exhausts it, so far as respects the individual.”¹¹⁶² A similar idea was expressed in *Knauer v. United States*.¹¹⁶³ “Citizenship obtained through naturalization is not a second-class citizenship. . . . [It] carries with it the privilege of full participation in the affairs of our society, including the right to speak freely, to criticize officials and administrators, and to promote changes in our laws including the very Charter of our Government.”

Despite these dicta, it is clear that particularly in the past but currently as well a naturalized citizen has been and is subject to requirements not imposed on native-born citizens. Thus, as we have noted above, a naturalized citizen is subject at any time to have his good faith in taking the oath of allegiance to the United States inquired into and to lose his citizenship if lack of such faith is shown in proper proceedings.¹¹⁶⁴ And the naturalized citizen within a year of his naturalization will join a questionable organi-

¹¹⁶¹ 340(c), 66 Stat. 261 (1952), 8 U.S.C. §1451(c). The time period had previously been five years.

¹¹⁶² *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 737, 827 (1824). One must be aware, however, that this language does not appear in any case having to do with citizenship or naturalization or the rights of naturalized citizens and its force may be therefore questioned. Compare *Afroyim v. Rusk*, 387 U.S. 253, 261 (1967) (Justice Black for the Court: “a mature and well-considered dictum . . .”), with *id.*, 275–276 (Justice Harlan dissenting; the dictum, “cannot have been intended to reach the question of citizenship.”). The issue in *Osborn* was the right of the Bank to sue in federal court. *Osborn* had argued that the fact that the bank was chartered under the laws of the United States did not make any legal issue involving the bank one arising under the laws of the United States for jurisdictional purposes; to argue the contrary, *Osborn* contended, was like suggesting that the fact that persons were naturalized under the laws of Congress meant such persons had an automatic right to sue in federal courts, unlike natural-born citizens. The quoted language of Marshall’s rejects this attempted analogy.

¹¹⁶³ 328 U.S. 654, 658 (1946).

¹¹⁶⁴ *Johannessen v. United States*, 225 U.S. 227 (1912); *Knauer v. United States*, 328 U.S. 654 (1946); *Costello v. United States*, 365 U.S. 265 (1961).

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zation at his peril.¹¹⁶⁵ In *Luria v. United States*,¹¹⁶⁶ the Court sustained a statute making *prima facie* evidence of bad faith a naturalized citizen's assumption of residence in a foreign country within five years after the issuance of a certificate of naturalization. But in *Schneider v. Rusk*,¹¹⁶⁷ the Court voided a statute that provided that a naturalized citizen should lose his United States citizenship if following naturalization he resided continuously for three years in his former homeland. "We start," Justice Douglas wrote for the Court, "from the premise that the rights of citizenship of the native-born and of the naturalized person are of the same dignity and are coextensive. The only difference drawn by the Constitution is that only the 'natural born' citizen is eligible to be President."¹¹⁶⁸ The failure of the statute, the Court held, was that it impermissibly distinguished between native-born and naturalized citizens, denying the latter the equal protection of the laws.¹¹⁶⁹ "This statute proceeds on the impermissible assumption that naturalized citizens as a class are less reliable and bear less allegiance to this country than do the native-born. This is an assumption that is impossible for us to make. . . . A native-born citizen is free to reside abroad indefinitely without suffering loss of citizenship. The discrimination aimed at naturalized citizens drastically limits their rights to live and work abroad in a way that other citizens may. It creates indeed a second-class citizenship. Living abroad, whether the citizen be naturalized or native-born, is no badge of lack of allegiance and in no way evidences a voluntary renunciation of nationality and allegiance."¹¹⁷⁰

The *Schneider* equal protection rationale was abandoned in the next case in which the Court held that the Fourteenth Amendment forbade involuntary expatriation of naturalized persons.¹¹⁷¹ But in *Rogers v. Bellei*,¹¹⁷² the Court refused to extend this holding to persons statutorily naturalized at birth abroad because one of their parents was a citizen and similarly refused to apply *Schneider*. Thus, one who failed to honor a condition subsequent had his citizenship revoked. "Neither are we persuaded that a condition subse-

¹¹⁶⁵ See 8 U.S.C. § 1451(c).

¹¹⁶⁶ 231 U.S. 9 (1913). The provision has been modified to reduce the period to one year. 8 U.S.C. § 1451(d).

¹¹⁶⁷ 377 U.S. 163 (1964).

¹¹⁶⁸ *Id.*, 165.

¹¹⁶⁹ While there is no equal protection clause specifically applicable to the Federal Government, it is established that the due process clause of the fifth Amendment forbids discrimination in much the same manner as the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

¹¹⁷⁰ *Schneider v. Rusk*, 377 U.S. 163, 168–169 (1964).

¹¹⁷¹ *Afroyim v. Rusk*, 387 U.S. 253 (1967).

¹¹⁷² 401 U.S. 815 (1971).

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quent in this area impresses one with 'second-class citizenship.' That cliché is too handy and too easy, and, like most clichés, can be misleading. That the condition subsequent may be beneficial is apparent in the light of the conceded fact that citizenship was fully deniable. The proper emphasis is on what the statute permits him to gain from the possible starting point of noncitizenship, not on what he claims to lose from the possible starting point of full citizenship to which he has no constitutional right in the first place. His citizenship, while it lasts, although conditional, is not 'second-class.'" ¹¹⁷³

It is not clear where the progression of cases has left us in this area. Clearly, naturalized citizens are fully entitled to all the rights and privileges of those who are citizens because of their birth here. But it seems equally clear that with regard to retention of citizenship, naturalized citizens are not in the secure position of citizens born here. ¹¹⁷⁴

On another point, the Court has held that, absent a treaty or statute to the contrary, a child born in the United States who is taken during minority to the country of his parents' origin, where his parents resume their former allegiance, does not thereby lose his American citizenship and that it is not necessary for him to make an election and return to the United States. ¹¹⁷⁵ On still another point, it has been held that naturalization is so far retroactive as to validate an acquisition of land prior to naturalization as to which the alien was under a disability. ¹¹⁷⁶

Expatriation: Loss of Citizenship

The history of the right of expatriation, voluntarily on the part of the citizen or involuntarily under duress of statute, is shadowy in United States constitutional law. Justice Story, in the course of an opinion, ¹¹⁷⁷ and Chancellor Kent, in his writings, ¹¹⁷⁸ accepted the ancient English doctrine of perpetual and unchangeable allegiance to the government of one's birth, a citizen being precluded from renouncing his allegiance without permission of that government. The pre-Civil War record on the issue is so vague because

¹¹⁷³ Id., 835–836.

¹¹⁷⁴ At least, there is a difference so long as *Afroyim* prevents Congress from making expatriation the consequence of certain acts when done by natural born citizens as well.

¹¹⁷⁵ *Perkins v. Elg*, 307 U.S. 325 (1939). The qualifying phrase "absent a treaty or statute . . ." is error now, so long as *Afroyim* remains in effect. But note *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815, 832–833 (1971).

¹¹⁷⁶ *Gouverneur v. Robertson*, 11 Wheat. (24 U.S.) 332 (1826); *Osterman v. Baldwin*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 116 (1867); *Manuel v. Wulff*, 152 U.S. 505 (1894).

¹¹⁷⁷ *Shanks v. DuPont*, 3 Pet. (28 U.S.) 242, 246 (1830).

¹¹⁷⁸ 2 J. KENT, COMMENTARIES (New York: 1827), 49–50.

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there was wide disagreement on the basis of national citizenship in the first place, with some contending that national citizenship was derivative from state citizenship, which would place the power of providing for expatriation in the state legislatures, and with others contending for the primacy of national citizenship, which would place the power in Congress.¹¹⁷⁹ The citizenship basis was settled by the first sentence of § 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment, but expatriation continued to be a muddled topic. An 1868 statute specifically recognized “the right of expatriation” by individuals, but it was directed to affirming the right of foreign nationals to expatriate themselves and to become naturalized United States citizens.¹¹⁸⁰ An 1865 law provided for the forfeiture of the “rights of citizenship” of draft-dodgers and deserters, but whether the statute meant to deprive such persons of citizenship or of their civil rights is unclear.¹¹⁸¹

Beginning in 1940, however, Congress did enact laws designed to strip of their citizenship persons who committed treason,¹¹⁸² deserted the armed forces in wartime,¹¹⁸³ left the country to evade the draft,¹¹⁸⁴ or attempted to overthrow the Government by force or violence.¹¹⁸⁵ In 1907, Congress provided that female citizens who married foreign citizens were to have their citizenship held “in abeyance” while they remained wedded but to be entitled to reclaim it when the marriage was dissolved.¹¹⁸⁶

About the simplest form of expatriation, the renunciation of citizenship by a person, there is no constitutional difficulty. “Expatriation is the voluntary renunciation or abandonment of national-

¹¹⁷⁹ J. TENBROEK, *ANTI-SLAVERY ORIGINS OF THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT* (New York: 1951), 71–94; see generally J. ROCHE, *THE EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP* (New York: 1949).

¹¹⁸⁰ Act of July 27, 1868, 15 Stat. 223. While the Act’s preamble rhetorically proclaims the “natural and inherent right of all people” to expatriate themselves, its title is “An Act concerning the Rights of American Citizens in foreign States” and its operative parts are concerned with that subject. It has long been taken, however, as a general proclamation of United States recognition of the right of United States citizens to expatriate themselves. *Mackenzie v. Hare*, 239 U.S. 299, 309 (1915); *Mandoli v. Acheson*, 344 U.S. 133, 135–136 (1952). Cf. *Savorgnan v. United States*, 338 U.S. 491, 498 n. 11 (1950).

¹¹⁸¹ The Enrollment Act of March 3, 1865, § 21, 13 Stat. 487, 490. The language of the section appears more consistent with a deprivation of civil rights than of citizenship. Note also that § 14 of the Wade-Davis Bill, pocket-vetoed by President Lincoln, specifically provided that any person holding office in the Confederate Government “is hereby declared not to be a citizen of the United States.” 6 J. RICHARDSON, *MESSAGES AND PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS* (Washington: 1899), 223.

¹¹⁸² Nationality Act of 1940, 54 Stat. 1169.

¹¹⁸³ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁸⁴ 58 Stat. 746 (1944).

¹¹⁸⁵ 68 Stat. 1146 (1954).

¹¹⁸⁶ 34 Stat. 1228 (1907), repealed by 42 Stat. 1021 (1922).

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ity and allegiance.”¹¹⁸⁷ But while the Court has hitherto insisted on the voluntary character of the renunciation, it has sustained the power of Congress to prescribe conditions and circumstances the voluntary entering into of which constitutes renunciation; the person need not intend to renounce so long as he intended to do what he did in fact do.¹¹⁸⁸

The Court first encountered the constitutional issue of forced expatriation in the rather anomalous form of the statute,¹¹⁸⁹ which placed in limbo the citizenship of any American female who married a foreigner. Sustaining the statute, the Court relied on the congressional foreign relations power exercised in order to prevent the development of situations that might entangle the United States in embarrassing or hostile relationships with a foreign country. Noting too the fictional merging of identity of husband and wife, the Court thought it well within congressional power to attach certain consequences to these actions, despite the woman’s contrary intent and understanding at the time she entered the relationship.¹¹⁹⁰

Beginning in 1958, the Court had a running encounter with the provisions of the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act, which prescribed expatriation for a lengthy series of actions.¹¹⁹¹ In 1958, a five-to-four decision sustained the power to divest a dual national of his United States citizenship because he had voted in an election in the other country of which he was a citizen.¹¹⁹² But at the same

¹¹⁸⁷ *Perkins v. Elg*, 307 U.S. 325, 334 (1939).

¹¹⁸⁸ *Mackenzie v. Hare*, 239 U.S. 299, 309, 311–312 (1915); *Savorgnan v. United States*, 338 U.S. 491, 506 (1950).

¹¹⁸⁹ 34 Stat. 1228 (1907).

¹¹⁹⁰ *Mackenzie v. Hare*, 239 U.S. 299 (1915).

¹¹⁹¹ See generally 8 U.S.C. §§ 1481–1489. Among the acts for which loss of citizenship is prescribed are (1) obtaining naturalization in a foreign state, (2) taking an oath of allegiance to a foreign state, (3) serving in the armed forces of a foreign state without authorization and with consequent acquisition of foreign nationality, (4) assuming public office under the government of a foreign state for which only nationals of that state are eligible, (5) voting in an election in a foreign state, (6) formally renouncing citizenship before a United States foreign service officer abroad, (7) formally renewing citizenship within the United States in time of war, subject to approval of the Attorney General, (8) being convicted and discharged from the armed services for desertion in wartime, (9) being convicted of treason or of an attempt to overthrow forcibly the Government of the United States, (10) fleeing or remaining outside the United States in wartime or a proclaimed emergency in order to evade military service, and (11) residing abroad if a naturalized citizen, subject to certain exceptions, for three years in the country of his birth or in which he was formerly a national or for five years in any other foreign state. Several of these sections have been declared unconstitutional, as explained in the text.

¹¹⁹² *Perez v. Brownell*, 356 U.S. 44 (1958). For the Court, Justice Frankfurter sustained expatriation as a necessary exercise of the congressional power to regulate the foreign relations of the United States to prevent the embarrassment and potential for trouble inherent in our nationals voting in foreign elections. Justice Whitaker dissented because he saw no problem of embarrassment or potential trouble

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time, another five-to-four decision, in which a majority rationale was lacking, struck down punitive expatriation visited on persons convicted by court-martial of desertion from the armed forces in wartime.¹¹⁹³ In the next case, the Court struck down another punitive expatriation visited on persons who, in time of war or emergency, leave or remain outside the country in order to evade military service.¹¹⁹⁴ And in the following year, the Court held unconstitutional a section of the law that expatriated a naturalized citizen who returned to his native land and resided there continuously for a period of three years.¹¹⁹⁵

The cases up to this point had lacked a common rationale and would have seemed to permit even punitive expatriation under the proper circumstances. But, in *Afroyim v. Rusk*,¹¹⁹⁶ a five-to-four majority overruled the 1958 decision permitting expatriation for voting in a foreign election and announced a constitutional rule against all but purely voluntary renunciation of United States citizenship. The majority ruled that the first sentence of §1 of the Fourteenth Amendment constitutionally vested citizenship in every person “born or naturalized in the United States” and that Congress was powerless to take that citizenship away.¹¹⁹⁷ The continuing vitality of this decision was called into question by another five-to-four decision in 1971, which technically distinguished *Afroyim* in upholding a congressionally-prescribed loss of citizenship visited

if the foreign state permitted aliens or dual nationals to vote. Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black and Douglas denied that expatriation is within Congress’ power to prescribe for an act, like voting, which is not necessarily a sign of intention to relinquish citizenship.

¹¹⁹³*Trop v. Dulles*, 356 U.S. 86 (1958). Chief Justice Warren for himself and three Justices held that expatriation for desertion was a cruel and unusual punishment proscribed by the Eighth Amendment. Justice Brennan concurred on the ground of a lack of the requisite relationship between the statute and Congress’ war powers. For the four dissenters, Justice Frankfurter argued that Congress had power to impose loss of citizenship for certain activity and that there was a rational nexus between refusal to perform a duty of citizenship and deprivation of citizenship. Justice Frankfurter denied that the penalty was cruel and unusual punishment and denied that it was punishment at all “in any valid constitutional sense.” *Id.*, 124.

¹¹⁹⁴*Kennedy v. Mendoza-Martinez*, 372 U.S. 144 (1963). For the Court Justice Goldberg held that penal expatriation effectuated solely by administrative determination violated due process because of the absence of procedural safeguards. Justices Black and Douglas continued to insist Congress could not deprive a citizen of his nationality at all. Justice Harlan for the dissenters thought the statute a valid exercise of Congress’ war powers but the four dissenters divided two-to-two on the validity of a presumption spelled out in the statute.

¹¹⁹⁵*Schneider v. Rusk*, 377 U.S. 163 (1964).

¹¹⁹⁶387 U.S. 253 (1967).

¹¹⁹⁷Justice Harlan, for himself and Justices Clark, Stewart, and White, argued in dissent that there was no evidence that the drafters of the Fourteenth Amendment had at all the intention ascribed to them by the majority. He would have found in *Afroyim*’s voluntary act of voting in a foreign election a voluntary renunciation of United States citizenship.

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upon a person who was statutorily naturalized “outside” the United States, and held not within the protection of the first sentence of §1 of the Fourteenth Amendment.¹¹⁹⁸ Thus, while *Afroyim* was distinguished, the tenor of the majority opinion was hostile to its holding, and it may be that in a future case it will be overruled.

The issue, then, of the constitutionality of congressionally-prescribed expatriation must be taken as unsettled.

ALIENS

The Power of Congress to Exclude Aliens

The power of Congress “to exclude aliens from the United States and to prescribe the terms and conditions on which they come in” is absolute, being an attribute of the United States as a sovereign nation. “That the government of the United States, through the action of the legislative department, can exclude aliens from its territory is a proposition which we do not think open to controversy. Jurisdiction over its own territory to that extent is an incident of every independent nation. It is a part of its independence. If it could not exclude aliens, it would be to that extent subject to the control of another power. . . . The United States, in their relation to foreign countries and their subjects or citizens, are one nation, invested with powers which belong to independent nations, the exercise of which can be invoked for the maintenance of its absolute independence and security throughout its entire territory.”¹¹⁹⁹

¹¹⁹⁸ *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815 (1971). The three remaining *Afroyim* dissenters plus Chief Justice Burger and Justice Blackmun made up the majority, the three remaining Justices of the *Afroyim* majority plus Justice Marshall made up the dissenters. The continuing vitality of *Afroyim* was assumed in *Vance v. Terrazas*, 444 U. S. 252 (1980), in which a divided Court upheld a congressionally-imposed standard of proof, preponderance of evidence, by which to determine whether one had by his actions renounced his citizenship.

¹¹⁹⁹ *Chinese Exclusion Case (Chae Chan Ping v. United States)*, 130 U.S. 581, 603, 604 (1889); see also *Fong Yue Ting v. United States*, 149 U.S. 698, 705 (1893); *The Japanese Immigrant Case (Yamataya v. Fisher)*, 189 U.S. 86 (1903); *United States ex rel. Turner v. Williams*, 194 U.S. 279 (1904); *Bugajewitz v. Adams*, 228 U.S. 585 (1913); *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52 (1941); *Kleindeist v. Mandel*, 408 U. S. 753 (1972). In *Galvan v. Press*, 347 U.S. 522, 530–531 (1954), Justice Frankfurter for the Court wrote: “[M]uch could be said for the view, were we writing on a clean slate, that the Due Process Clause qualifies the scope of political discretion heretofore recognized as belonging to Congress in regulating the entry and deportation of aliens. . . . But the slate is not clean. As to the extent of the power of Congress under review, there is not merely ‘a page of history,’ . . . but a whole volume. . . . [T]hat the formulation of these policies is entrusted exclusively to Congress has become about as firmly imbedded in the legislative and judicial tissues of our body politic as any aspect of our government.” Although the issue of racial discrimination was before the Court in *Jean v. Nelson*, 472 U.S. 846 (1985), in the context of parole for undocumented aliens, the Court avoided it, holding that statutes and regulations precluded INS considerations of race or national origin. Justices Marshall and Bren-

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Except for the Alien Act of 1798,¹²⁰⁰ Congress went almost a century without enacting laws regulating immigration into the United States. The first such statute, in 1875, barred convicts and prostitutes¹²⁰¹ and was followed by a series of exclusions based on health, criminal, moral, economic, and subversion considerations.¹²⁰² Another important phase was begun with passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882,¹²⁰³ which was not repealed until 1943.¹²⁰⁴ In 1924, Congress enacted into law a national origins quota formula which based the proportion of admissible aliens on the nationality breakdown of the 1920 census, which, of course, was heavily weighed in favor of English and northern European ancestry.¹²⁰⁵ This national origins quota system was in effect until it was repealed in 1965.¹²⁰⁶ The basic law remains the Immigra-

nan, in dissent, argued for reconsideration of the long line of precedents and for constitutional restrictions on the Government. *Id.*, 858. That there exists *some* limitation upon exclusion of aliens is one permissible interpretation of *Reagan v. Abourezk*, 484 U.S. 1 (1987), *affg. by an equally divided Court*, 785 F.2d 1043 (D.C.Cir. 1986), holding that mere membership in the Communist Party could not be used to exclude an alien on the ground that his activities might be prejudicial to the interests of the United States.

The power of Congress to prescribe the rules for exclusion or expulsion of aliens is a "fundamental sovereign attribute" which is "of a political character and therefore subject only to narrow judicial review." *Hampton v. Mow Sun Wong*, 426 U.S. 88, 101 n. 21 (1976); *Mathews v. Diaz*, 426 U.S. 67, 81-82 (1976); *Fiallo v. Bell*, 430 U.S. 787, 792 (1977). Although aliens are "an identifiable class of persons," who aside from the classification at issue "are already subject to disadvantages not shared by the remainder of the community," *Hampton v. Mow Sun Wong, supra*, 102, Congress may treat them in ways that would violate the equal protection clause if a State should do it. *Diaz, supra* (residency requirement for welfare benefits); *Fiallo, supra* (sex and illegitimacy classifications). Nonetheless in *Mow Sun Wong, supra*, 103, the Court observed that when the Federal Government asserts an overriding national interest as justification for a discriminatory rule that would violate the equal protection clause if adopted by a State, due process requires that it be shown that the rule was actually intended to serve that interest. The case struck down a classification that the Court thought justified by the interest asserted but that had not been imposed by a body charged with effectuating that interest. See *Vergara v. Hampton*, 581 F.2d 1281 (C.A. 7, 1978).

¹²⁰⁰ Act of June 25, 1798, 1 Stat. 570. The Act was part of the Alien and Sedition Laws and authorized the expulsion of any alien the President deemed dangerous.

¹²⁰¹ Act of March 3, 1875, 18 Stat. 477.

¹²⁰² 22 Stat. 214 (1882) (excluding idiots, lunatics, convicts, and persons likely to become public charges); 23 Stat. 332 (1885), and 24 Stat. 414 (1887) (regulating importing cheap foreign labor); 26 Stat. 1084 (1891) (persons suffering from certain diseases, those convicted of crimes involving moral turpitude, paupers, and polygamists); 32 Stat. 1213 (1903) (epileptics, insane persons, professional beggars, and anarchists); 34 Stat. 898 (1907) (feeble-minded, children unaccompanied by parents, persons suffering with tuberculosis, and women coming to the United States for prostitution or other immoral purposes).

¹²⁰³ Act of May 6, 1882, 22 Stat. 58.

¹²⁰⁴ Act of December 17, 1943, 57 Stat. 600.

¹²⁰⁵ Act of May 26, 1924, 43 Stat. 153.

¹²⁰⁶ Act of October 3, 1965, P.L. 89-236, 79 Stat. 911.

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tion and Nationality Act of 1952,¹²⁰⁷ which, with certain revisions in 1965 and later piecemeal alterations, regulates who may be admitted and under what conditions; the Act, it should be noted, contains a list of 31 excludable classes of aliens.¹²⁰⁸

Numerous cases underscore the sweeping nature of the powers of the Federal Government to exclude aliens and to deport by administrative process persons in excluded classes. For example, in *United States ex rel. Knauff v. Shaughnessy*,¹²⁰⁹ an order of the Attorney General excluding, on the basis of confidential information he would not disclose, a wartime bride, who was *prima facie* entitled to enter the United States,¹²¹⁰ was held to be unreviewable by the courts. Nor were regulations on which the order was based invalid as an undue delegation of legislative power. "Normally Congress supplies the conditions of the privilege of entry into the United States. But because the power of exclusion of aliens is also inherent in the executive department of the sovereign, Congress may in broad terms authorize the executive to exercise the power, e.g., as was done here, for the best interest of the country during a time of national emergency. Executive officers may be entrusted with the duty of specifying the procedures for carrying out the congressional intent."¹²¹¹ However, when Congress has spelled out the basis for exclusion or deportation, the Court remains free to interpret the statute and review the administration of it and to apply it, often in a manner to mitigate the effects of the law on aliens.¹²¹²

Congress' power to admit aliens under whatever conditions it lays down is exclusive of state regulation. The States "can neither add to nor take from the conditions lawfully imposed by Congress upon admission, naturalization and residence of aliens in the United States or the several states. State laws which impose discriminatory burdens upon the entrance or residence of aliens lawfully within the United States conflict with this constitutionally derived

¹²⁰⁷ Act of June 27, 1952, P.L. 82-414, 66 Stat. 163, 8 U.S.C. §§1101 et seq. as amended.

¹²⁰⁸ The list of excludable aliens may be found at 8 U.S.C. §1182. The list has been modified and classified by category in recent amendments.

¹²⁰⁹ 338 U.S. 537 (1950). See also *Shaughnessy v. United States ex rel. Mezei*, 345 U.S. 206 (1953), in which the Court majority upheld the Government's power to exclude on the basis of information it would not disclose a permanent resident who had gone abroad for about nineteen months and was seeking to return on a new visa. But the Court will frequently read the applicable statutes and regulations strictly against the Government for the benefit of persons sought to be excluded. Cf. *Delgado v. Carmichael*, 332 U.S. 388 (1947); *Kwong Hai Chew v. Colding*, 344 U.S. 590 (1953); *Rosenburg v. Fleuti*, 374 U.S. 449 (1963).

¹²¹⁰ Under the War Brides Act of 1945, 59 Stat. 659.

¹²¹¹ *Id.*, 338 U.S., 543.

¹²¹² E.g., *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Errico*, 385 U.S. 214 (1966).

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federal power to regulate immigration, and have accordingly been held invalid.”¹²¹³ This principle, however, has not precluded all state regulations dealing with aliens.¹²¹⁴ The power of Congress to legislate with respect to the conduct of alien residents is a concomitant of its power to prescribe the terms and conditions on which they may enter the United States, to establish regulations for sending out of the country such aliens as have entered in violation of law, and to commit the enforcement of such conditions and regulations to executive officers. It is not a power to lay down a special code of conduct for alien residents or to govern their private relations.¹²¹⁵

Yet Congress is empowered to assert a considerable degree of control over aliens after their admission to the country. By the Alien Registration Act of 1940, Congress provided that all aliens in the United States, fourteen years of age and over, should submit to registration and finger printing and willful failure to comply was made a criminal offense against the United States.¹²¹⁶ This Act, taken in conjunction with other laws regulating immigration and naturalization, has constituted a comprehensive and uniform system for the regulation of all aliens.¹²¹⁷

An important benefit of this comprehensive regulation accruing to the alien is that it precludes state regulation that may well be more severe and burdensome. For example, in *Hines v. Davidowitz*,¹²¹⁸ the Court voided a Pennsylvania law requiring the annual registration and fingerprinting of aliens but going beyond the subsequently-enacted federal law to require acquisition of an alien identification card that had to be carried at all times and to be exhibited to any police officer upon demand and to other licensing officers upon applications for such things as drivers' licenses. The Court did not squarely hold the State incapable of having such a law in the absence of federal law but appeared to lean in that

¹²¹³*Takahashi v. Fish & Game Commission*, 334 U.S. 410, 419 (1948); *De Canas v. Bica*, 424 U.S. 351, 358 n. 6 (1976); *Toll v. Moreno*, 458 U.S. 1, 12–13 (1982). See also *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52, 66 (1941); *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365, 376–380 (1971).

¹²¹⁴E.g., *Heim v. McCall*, 239 U.S. 175 (1915); *Ohio ex rel. Clarke v. Deckebach*, 274 U.S. 392 (1927); *Sugarman v. Dougall*, 413 U.S. 634, 646–649 (1973); *De Canas v. Bica*, 424 U.S. 351 (1976); *Cabell v. Chavez-Salido*, 454 U.S. 432 (1982).

¹²¹⁵Purporting to enforce this distinction, the Court voided a statute, which, in prohibiting the importation of “any alien woman or girl for the purpose of prostitution,” provided that whoever should keep for the purpose of prostitution “any alien woman or girl within three years after she shall have entered the United States” should be deemed guilty of a felony. *Keller v. United States*, 213 U.S. 138 (1909).

¹²¹⁶54 Stat. 670, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1301–1306.

¹²¹⁷See *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52, 69–70 (1941).

¹²¹⁸312 U.S. 52 (1941).

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direction.¹²¹⁹ Another decision voided a Pennsylvania law limiting those eligible to welfare assistance to citizens and an Arizona law prescribing a fifteen-year durational residency period before an alien could be eligible for welfare assistance.¹²²⁰ Congress had provided, Justice Blackmun wrote for a unanimous Court, that persons who were likely to become public charges could not be admitted to the United States and that any alien who became a public charge within five years of his admission was to be deported unless he could show that the causes of his economic situation arose after his entry.¹²²¹ Thus, in effect Congress had declared that lawfully admitted resident aliens who became public charges for causes arising after their entry were entitled to the full and equal benefit of all laws for the security of persons and property, and the States were disabled from denying aliens these benefits.¹²²²

Deportation

Unlike the exclusion proceedings,¹²²³ deportation proceedings afford the alien a number of constitutional rights: a right against self-incrimination,¹²²⁴ protection against unreasonable searches and seizures,¹²²⁵ guarantees against *ex post facto* laws, bills of attainder, and cruel and unusual punishment,¹²²⁶ a right to bail,¹²²⁷ a right to procedural due process,¹²²⁸ a right to counsel,¹²²⁹ a right to notice of charges and hearing,¹²³⁰ as well as a right to cross-examine.¹²³¹

Notwithstanding these guarantees, the Supreme Court has upheld a number of statutory deportation measures as not uncon-

¹²¹⁹ *Id.*, 68. But see *De Canas v. Bica*, 424 U.S. 351 (1976), in which the Court upheld a state law prohibiting an employer from hiring aliens not entitled to lawful residence in the United States. The Court wrote that States may enact legislation touching upon aliens coexistent with federal laws, under regular preemption standards, unless the nature of the regulated subject matter precludes the conclusion or unless Congress has unmistakably ordained the impermissibility of state law.

¹²²⁰ *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365 (1971). See also *Sugarman v. Dougall*, 413 U.S. 634 (1973); *In re Griffiths*, 413 U.S. 717 (1973); *Cabell v. Chavez-Salido*, 454 U.S. 432 (1982).

¹²²¹ 8 U.S.C. §§ 1182(a)(8), 1182(a)(15), 1251(a)(8).

¹²²² See 42 U.S.C. § 1981, applied in *Takahashi v. Fish and Game Commission*, 334 U.S. 410, 419 n. 7 (1948).

¹²²³ See *United States ex rel. Knauff v. Shaughnessy*, 338 U.S. 537, 544 (1950), where the Court noted that “[w]hatever the procedure authorized by Congress is, it is due process as far as an alien denied entry is concerned.”

¹²²⁴ *Kimm v. Rosenberg*, 363 U.S. 405 (1960).

¹²²⁵ *Abel v. United States*, 362 U.S. 217, 229 (1960).

¹²²⁶ *Marcello v. Bonds*, 349 U.S. 302 (1955).

¹²²⁷ *Carlson v. Landon*, 342 U.S. 524, 540 (1952).

¹²²⁸ *Wong Yang Sung v. McGrath*, 339 U.S. 33, 49 (1950).

¹²²⁹ 8 U.S.C. § 1252(b)(2).

¹²³⁰ 8 U.S.C. § 1252(b)(1).

¹²³¹ 8 U.S.C. § 1252(b)(3).

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stitutional. The Internal Security Act of 1950, in authorizing the Attorney General to hold in custody, without bail, aliens who are members of the Communist Party of the United States, pending determination as to their deportability, is not unconstitutional.¹²³² Nor was it unconstitutional to deport under the Alien Registration Act of 1940¹²³³ a legally resident alien because of membership in the Communist Party, although such membership ended before the enactment of the Act. Such application of the Act did not make it *ex post facto*, being but an exercise of the power of the United States to terminate its hospitality *ad libitum*.¹²³⁴ And a statutory provision¹²³⁵ making it a felony for an alien against whom a specified order of deportation is outstanding “to willfully fail or refuse to make timely application for travel or other documents necessary to his departure” was not on its face void for “vagueness.”¹²³⁶

BANKRUPTCY

Persons Who May Be Released From Debt

In an early case on circuit, Justice Livingston suggested that inasmuch as the English statutes on the subject of bankruptcy from the time of Henry VIII down had applied only to traders it might “well be doubted, whether an act of Congress subjecting to such a law every description of persons within the United States, would comport with the spirit of the powers vested in them in relation to this subject.”¹²³⁷ Neither Congress nor the Supreme Court has ever accepted this limited view. The first bankruptcy law, passed in 1800, departed from the English practice to the extent of including bankers, brokers, factors and underwriters as well as traders.¹²³⁸ Asserting that the narrow scope of the English statutes was a mere matter of policy, which by no means entered into the nature of such laws, Justice Story defined bankruptcy legislation in the sense of the Constitution as a law making provisions for cases of persons failing to pay their debts.¹²³⁹

This interpretation has been ratified by the Supreme Court. In *Hanover National Bank v. Moyses*,¹²⁴⁰ it held valid the Bankruptcy Act of 1898, which provided that persons other than traders might

¹²³² *Carlson v. Landon*, 342 U.S. 524 (1952).

¹²³³ 54 Stat. 670. For existing statutory provisions as to deportation, see 8 U.S.C. § 1251 *et seq.*

¹²³⁴ *Carlson v. Landon*, 342 U.S. 524 (1952).

¹²³⁵ 8 U.S.C. § 1252(e).

¹²³⁶ *United States v. Spector*, 343 U.S. 169 (1952).

¹²³⁷ *Adams v. Storey*, 1 Fed. Cas. 141, 142 (No. 66) (C.C.D.N.Y. 1817).

¹²³⁸ 2 Stat. 19 (1800).

¹²³⁹ 2 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1113.

¹²⁴⁰ 186 U.S. 181 (1902).

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become bankrupts and that this might be done on voluntary petition. The Court has given tacit approval to the extension of the bankruptcy laws to cover practically all classes of persons and corporations,¹²⁴¹ including even municipal corporations¹²⁴² and wage-earning individuals. The Bankruptcy Act has, in fact been amended to provide a wage-earners' extension plan to deal with the unique problems of debtors who derive their livelihood primarily from salaries or commissions. In furthering the implementation of this plan, the Supreme Court has held that a wage earner may make use of it, notwithstanding the fact he has been previously discharged in bankruptcy within the last six years.¹²⁴³

Liberalization of Relief Granted and Expansion of the Rights of the Trustee

As the coverage of the bankruptcy laws has been expanded, the scope of the relief afforded to debtors has been correspondingly enlarged. The act of 1800, like its English antecedents, was designed primarily for the benefit of creditors. Beginning with the act of 1841, which opened the door to voluntary petitions, rehabilitation of the debtor has become an object of increasing concern to Congress. An adjudication in bankruptcy is no longer requisite to the exercise of bankruptcy jurisdiction. In 1867, the debtor for the first time was permitted, either before or after adjudication of bankruptcy, to propose terms of composition that would become binding upon acceptance by a designated majority of his creditors and confirmation by a bankruptcy court. This measure was held constitutional,¹²⁴⁴ as were later acts, which provided for the reorganization of corporations that are insolvent or unable to meet their debts as they mature,¹²⁴⁵ and for the composition and extension of debts in proceedings for the relief of individual farmer debtors.¹²⁴⁶

Nor is the power of Congress limited to adjustment of the rights of creditors. The Supreme Court has also ruled that the rights of a purchaser at a judicial sale of the debtor's property are within reach of the bankruptcy power, and may be modified by a reasonable extension of the period for redemption from such sale.¹²⁴⁷ Moreover, the Court expanded the bankruptcy court's

¹²⁴¹ *Continental Bank v. Rock Island Ry.*, 294 U.S. 648, 670 (1935).

¹²⁴² *United States v. Bekins*, 304 U.S. 27 (1938), distinguishing *Ashton v. Cameron County Dist.*, 298 U.S. 513 (1936).

¹²⁴³ *Perry v. Commerce Loan Co.*, 383 U.S. 392 (1966).

¹²⁴⁴ *In re Reiman*, 20 Fed. Cas. 490 (No. 11,673) (D.C.S.D.N.Y. 1874), cited with approval in *Continental Bank v. Rock Island Ry.*, 294 U.S. 648, 672 (1935).

¹²⁴⁵ *Continental Bank v. Rock Island Ry.*, 294 U.S. 648 (1935).

¹²⁴⁶ *Wright v. Vinton Branch*, 300 U.S. 440 (1937); *Adair v. Bank of America Assn.*, 303 U.S. 350 (1938).

¹²⁴⁷ *Wright v. Union Central Ins. Co.*, 304 U.S. 502 (1938).

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power over the property of the estate by affording the trustee affirmative relief on counterclaim against a creditor filing a claim against the estate.¹²⁴⁸

Underlying most Court decisions and statutes in this area is the desire to achieve equity and fairness in the distribution of the bankrupt's funds.¹²⁴⁹ *United States v. Speers*,¹²⁵⁰ codified by an amendment to the Bankruptcy Act,¹²⁵¹ furthered this objective by strengthening the position of the trustee as regards the priority of a federal tax lien unrecorded at the time of bankruptcy.¹²⁵² The Supreme Court has held, in other cases dealing with the priority of various creditors' claims, that claims arising from the tort of the receiver is an "actual and necessary" cost of administration,¹²⁵³ that benefits under a nonparticipating annuity plan are not wages and are therefore not given priority,¹²⁵⁴ and that when taxes are allowed against a bankrupt's estate, penalties due because of the trustee's failure to pay the taxes incurred while operating a bankrupt business are also allowable.¹²⁵⁵ The Court's attitude with regard to these and other developments is perhaps best summarized in the opinion in *Continental Bank v. Rock Island Ry.*,¹²⁵⁶ where Justice Sutherland wrote, on behalf of a unanimous court: "[T]hese acts, far-reaching though they may be, have not gone beyond the limit of Congressional power; but rather have constituted extensions into a field whose boundaries may not yet be fully revealed."¹²⁵⁷

Constitutional Limitations on the Bankruptcy Power

In the exercise of its bankruptcy powers, Congress must not transgress the Fifth and Tenth Amendments. The Bankruptcy Act provides that oral testimony cannot be used in violation of the bankrupt's right against self-incrimination.¹²⁵⁸ Congress may not take from a creditor specific property previously acquired from a debtor, nor circumscribe the creditor's right to such an unreasonable extent as to deny him due process of law;¹²⁵⁹ this principle, however, is subject to the Supreme Court's finding that a bank-

¹²⁴⁸ *Katchen v. Landy*, 382 U.S. 323 (1966).

¹²⁴⁹ *Bank of Marin v. England*, 385 U.S. 99, 103 (1966).

¹²⁵⁰ 382 U.S. 266 (1965). Cf. *United States v. Vermont*, 337 U.S. 351 (1964).

¹²⁵¹ Act of July 5, 1966, 80 Stat. 269, 11 U.S.C. § 501, repealed.

¹²⁵² 382 U.S., 271-272.

¹²⁵³ *Reading Co. v. Brown*, 391 U.S. 471 (1968).

¹²⁵⁴ *Joint Industrial Board of the Election Industries v. United States*, 391 U.S. 224 (1968).

¹²⁵⁵ *Nicholas v. United States*, 384 U.S. 678 (1966).

¹²⁵⁶ 294 U.S. 648 (1935).

¹²⁵⁷ *Id.*, 671.

¹²⁵⁸ 11 U.S.C. § 344.

¹²⁵⁹ *Louisville Bank v. Radford*, 295 U.S. 555, 589, 602 (1935).

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ruptcy court has summary jurisdiction for ordering the surrender of voidable preferences when the trustee successfully counterclaims to a claim filed by the creditor receiving such preferences.¹²⁶⁰

Since Congress may not supersede the power of a State to determine how a corporation shall be formed, supervised, and dissolved, a corporation, which has been dissolved by a decree of a state court, may not file a petition for reorganization under the Bankruptcy Act.¹²⁶¹ But Congress may impair the obligation of a contract and may extend the provisions of the bankruptcy laws to contracts already entered into at the time of their passage.¹²⁶² Although it may not subject the fiscal affairs of a political subdivision of a State to the control of a federal bankruptcy court,¹²⁶³ Congress may empower such courts to entertain petitions by taxing agencies or instrumentalities for a composition of their indebtedness where the State has consented to the proceeding and the federal court is not authorized to interfere with the fiscal or governmental affairs of such petitioners.¹²⁶⁴ Congress may recognize the laws of the State relating to dower, exemption, the validity of mortgages, priorities of payment and similar matters, even though such recognition leads to different results from State to State;¹²⁶⁵ for although bankruptcy legislation must be uniform, the uniformity required is geographic, not personal.

The power of Congress to vest the adjudication of bankruptcy claims in entities not having the constitutional status of Article III federal courts is unsettled. At least, it may not give to non-Article III courts the authority to hear state law claims made subject to federal jurisdiction only because of their relevance to a bankruptcy proceeding.¹²⁶⁶

Constitutional Status of State Insolvency Laws: Preemption

Prior to 1898, Congress exercised the power to establish “uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcy” only intermittently. The first national bankruptcy law was not enacted until 1800 and was repealed in 1803; the second was passed in 1841 and was repealed

¹²⁶⁰ *Katchen v. Landy*, 382 U.S. 323, 327–340 (1966).

¹²⁶¹ *Chicago Title and Trust Co. v. Wilcox Bldg. Corp.*, 302 U.S. 120 (1937).

¹²⁶² *In re Klein*, 1 How. (42 U.S.) 277 (1843); *Hanover National Bank v. Moyses*, 186 U.S. 181 (1902).

¹²⁶³ *Ashton v. Cameron County Dist.*, 298 U.S. 513 (1936). See also *United States v. Bekii* 304 U.S. 27 (1938).

¹²⁶⁴ *United States v. Bekins*, 304 U.S. 27 (1938).

¹²⁶⁵ *Stellwagon v. Clum*, 245 U.S. 605 (1918); *Hanover National Bank v. Moyses*, 186 U.S. 181, 190 (1902).

¹²⁶⁶ *Northern Pipeline Constr. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50 (1982). And see *Granfinanciera, S.A. v. Nordberg*, 492 U.S. 33 (1989) (Seventh Amendment right to jury trial in bankruptcy cases).

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two years later; a third was enacted in 1867 and repealed in 1878.¹²⁶⁷ Thus, during the first eighty-nine years under the Constitution, a national bankruptcy law was in existence only sixteen years altogether. Consequently, the most important issue of interpretation that arose during that period concerned the effect of the clause on state law.

The Supreme Court ruled at an early date that in the absence of congressional action the States may enact insolvency laws, since it is not the mere existence of the power but rather its exercise that is incompatible with the exercise of the same power by the States.¹²⁶⁸ Later cases settled further that the enactment of a national bankruptcy law does not invalidate state laws in conflict therewith but serves only to relegate them to a state of suspended animation with the result that upon repeal of the national statute they again come into operation without re-enactment.¹²⁶⁹

A State is, of course, without power to enforce any law governing bankruptcies, which impairs the obligation of contracts,¹²⁷⁰ extends to persons or property outside its jurisdiction,¹²⁷¹ or conflicts with the national bankruptcy laws.¹²⁷² Giving effect to the policy of the federal statute, the Court has held that a state statute regulating this distribution of property of an insolvent was suspended by that law,¹²⁷³ and that a state court was without power to proceed with pending foreclosure proceedings after a farmer-debtor had filed a petition in federal bankruptcy court for a composition or extension of time to pay his debts.¹²⁷⁴ A state court injunction ordering a defendant to clean up a waste-disposal site was held to be a “liability on a claim” subject to discharge under the bankruptcy law, after the State had appointed a receiver to take charge of the defendant’s property and comply with the injunction.¹²⁷⁵ A

¹²⁶⁷ *Hanover National Bank v. Moyses*, 186 U.S. 181, 184 (1902).

¹²⁶⁸ *Sturges v. Crowninshield*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 122, 199 (1819); *Ogden v. Saunders*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 213, 368 (1827).

¹²⁶⁹ *Tua v. Carriere*, 117 U.S. 201 (1886); *Butler v. Goreley*, 146 U.S. 303, 314 (1892).

¹²⁷⁰ *Sturges v. Crowninshield*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 122 (1819).

¹²⁷¹ *Ogden v. Saunders*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 213, 368 (1827); *Denny v. Bennett*, 128 U.S. 489, 498 (1888); *Brown v. Smart*, 145 U.S. 454 (1892).

¹²⁷² *In re Watts and Sachs*, 190 U.S. 1, 27 (1903); *International Shoe Co. v. Pinkus*, 278 U.S. 261, 264 (1929).

¹²⁷³ *International Shoe Co. v. Pinkus*, 278 U.S. 261, 265 (1929).

¹²⁷⁴ *Kalb v. Feuerstein*, 308 U.S. 433 (1940).

¹²⁷⁵ *Ohio v. Kovacs*, 469 U.S. 274 (1985). Compare *Kelly v. Robinson*, 479 U.S. 36 (1986) (restitution obligations imposed as conditions of probation in state criminal actions are nondischargeable in proceedings under chapter 7), with *Pennsylvania Dept. of Public Welfare v. Davenport*, 495 U.S. 552 (1990) (restitution obligations imposed as condition of probation in state criminal actions are dischargeable in proceedings under chapter 13).

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state law governing fraudulent transfers was found to be compatible with the federal law.¹²⁷⁶

Substantial disagreement has marked the actions of the Justices in one area, however, resulting in three five-to-four decisions first upholding and then voiding state laws providing that a discharge in bankruptcy was not to relieve a judgment arising out of an automobile accident upon pain of suffering suspension of his driver's license.¹²⁷⁷ The state statutes were all similar enactments of the Uniform Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act, which authorizes the suspension of the license of any driver who fails to satisfy a judgment against himself growing out of a traffic accident; a section of the law specifically provides that a discharge in bankruptcy will not relieve the debtor of the obligation to pay and the consequence of license suspension for failure to pay. In the first two decisions, the Court majorities decided that the object of the state law was not to see that such judgments were paid but was rather a device to protect the public against irresponsible driving.¹²⁷⁸ The last case rejected this view and held that the Act's sole emphasis was one of providing leverage for the collection of damages from drivers and as such was in fact intended to and did frustrate the purpose of the federal bankruptcy law, the giving of a fresh start unhampered by debt.¹²⁷⁹

If a State desires to participate in the assets of a bankruptcy, it must submit to the appropriate requirements of the bankruptcy court with respect to the filing of claims by a designated date. It cannot assert a claim for taxes by filing a demand at a later date.¹²⁸⁰

Clauses 5 and 6. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures.*

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

¹²⁷⁶ *Stellwagen v. Clum*, 245 U.S. 605, 615 (1918).

¹²⁷⁷ *Reitz v. Mealey*, 314 U.S. 33 (1941); *Kesler v. Department of Public Safety*, 369 U.S. 153 (1962); *Perez v. Campbell*, 402 U.S. 637 (1971).

¹²⁷⁸ *Reitz v. Mealey*, 314 U.S. 33, 37 (1941); *Kesler v. Department of Public Safety*, 369 U.S. 153, 169–174 (1962).

¹²⁷⁹ *Perez v. Campbell*, 402 U.S. 637, 644–648, 651–654 (1971). The dissenters, Justice Blackmun for himself and Chief Justice Burger and Justices Harlan and Stewart, argued, in line with the *Reitz* and *Kesler* majorities, that the provision at issue was merely an attempt to assure driving competence and care on the part of its citizens and had only tangential effect upon bankruptcy.

¹²⁸⁰ *New York v. Irving Trust Co.*, 288 U.S. 329 (1933).

FISCAL AND MONETARY POWERS OF CONGRESS**Coinage, Weights, and Measures**

The power “to coin money” and “regulate the value thereof” has been broadly construed to authorize regulation of every phase of the subject of currency. Congress may charter banks and endow them with the right to issue circulating notes,¹²⁸¹ and it may restrain the circulation of notes not issued under its own authority.¹²⁸² To this end it may impose a prohibitive tax upon the circulation of the notes of state banks¹²⁸³ or of municipal corporations.¹²⁸⁴ It may require the surrender of gold coin and of gold certificates in exchange for other currency not redeemable in gold. A plaintiff who sought payment for the gold coin and certificates thus surrendered in an amount measured by the higher market value of gold was denied recovery on the ground that he had not proved that he would suffer any actual loss by being compelled to accept an equivalent amount of other currency.¹²⁸⁵ Inasmuch as “every contract for the payment of money, simply, is necessarily subject to the constitutional power of the government over the currency, whatever that power may be, and the obligation of the parties is, therefore, assumed with reference to that power,”¹²⁸⁶ the Supreme Court sustained the power of Congress to make Treasury notes legal tender in satisfaction of antecedent debts,¹²⁸⁷ and, many years later, to abrogate the clauses in private contracts calling for payment in gold coin, even though such contracts were executed before the legislation was passed.¹²⁸⁸ The power to coin money also imports authority to maintain such coinage as a medium of exchange at home, and to forbid its diversion to other uses by defacement, melting or exportation.¹²⁸⁹

Punishment of Counterfeiting

In its affirmative aspect, this clause has been given a narrow interpretation; it has been held not to cover the circulation of counterfeit coin or the possession of equipment susceptible of use for making counterfeit coin.¹²⁹⁰ At the same time, the Supreme Court has rebuffed attempts to read into this provision a limitation upon

¹²⁸¹ *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316 (1819).

¹²⁸² *Veazie Bank v. Fenno*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 533 (1869).

¹²⁸³ *Id.*, 548.

¹²⁸⁴ *National Bank v. United States*, 101 U.S. 1 (1880).

¹²⁸⁵ *Nortz v. United States*, 249 U.S. 317 (1935).

¹²⁸⁶ *Legal Tender Cases (Knox v. Lee)*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457, 549 (1871); *Legal Tender Cases (Juilliard v. Greenman)*, 110 U.S. 421, 449 (1884).

¹²⁸⁷ *Legal Tender Cases (Knox v. Lee)*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457 (1871).

¹²⁸⁸ *Norman v. Baltimore & O.R. Co.*, 294 U.S. 240 (1935).

¹²⁸⁹ *Ling Su Fan v. United States*, 218 U.S. 302 (1910).

¹²⁹⁰ *United States v. Marigold*, 9 How. (50 U.S.), 560, 568 (1850).

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either the power of the States or upon the powers of Congress under the preceding clause. It has ruled that a State may punish the issuance of forged coins.¹²⁹¹ On the ground that the power of Congress to coin money imports “the correspondent and necessary power and obligation to protect and to preserve in its purity this constitutional currency for the benefit of the nation,”¹²⁹² it has sustained federal statutes penalizing the importation or circulation of counterfeit coin,¹²⁹³ or the willing and conscious possession of dies in the likeness of those used for making coins of the United States.¹²⁹⁴ In short, the above clause is entirely superfluous. Congress would have had the power it purports to confer under the necessary and proper clause; and the same is the case with the other enumerated crimes it is authorized to punish. The enumeration was unnecessary and is not exclusive.¹²⁹⁵

Borrowing Power Versus Fiscal Power

Usually the aggregate of the fiscal and monetary powers of the National Government—to lay and collect taxes, to borrow money and to coin money and regulate the value thereof—have reinforced each other, and, cemented by the necessary and proper clause, have provided a secure foundation for acts of Congress chartering banks and other financial institutions,¹²⁹⁶ or making its treasury notes legal tender in the payment of antecedent debts.¹²⁹⁷ But in 1935, the opposite situation arose—one in which the power to regulate the value of money collided with the obligation incurred in the exercise of the power to borrow money. By a vote of eight-to-one the Supreme Court held that the obligation assumed by the exercise of the latter was paramount, and could not be repudiated to effectuate the monetary policies of Congress.¹²⁹⁸ In a concurring opinion, Justice Stone declined to join with the majority in suggesting that “the exercise of the sovereign power to borrow money on credit, which does not override the sovereign immunity from suit, may nevertheless preclude or impede the exercise of another sovereign power, to regulate the value of money; or to suggest that although there is and can be no present cause of action upon the re-

¹²⁹¹ *Fox v. Ohio*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 410 (1847).

¹²⁹² *United States v. Marigold*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 560, 568 (1850).

¹²⁹³ *Ibid.*

¹²⁹⁴ *Baender v. Barnett*, 255 U.S. 224 (1921).

¹²⁹⁵ *Legal Tender Cases (Knox v. Lee)*, 122 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457, 536 (1871).

¹²⁹⁶ *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 407 (1819); *Osborn v. United States Bank*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 737, 861 (1824); *Farmers' & Mechanics' Nat. Bank v. Dearing*, 91 U.S. 29, 33 (1875); *Smith v. Kansas City Title Co.*, 255 U.S. 180, 208 (1921).

¹²⁹⁷ *Legal Tender Cases (Knox v. Lee)*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457, 540–547 (1871).

¹²⁹⁸ *Perry v. United States*, 294 U.S. 330, 353 (1935).

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puddiated gold clause, its obligation is nevertheless, in some manner and to some extent, not stated, superior to the power to regulate the currency which we now hold to be superior to the obligation of the bonds.”¹²⁹⁹ However, with a view to inducing purchase of savings bonds, the sale of which is essential to successful management of the national debt, Congress is competent to authorize issuance of regulations creating a right of survivorship in such bonds registered in co-ownership form, and such regulations preempt provisions of state law prohibiting married couples from utilizing the survivorship privilege whenever bonds are paid out of community property.¹³⁰⁰

Clause 7. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To establish Post Offices and post roads.*

POSTAL POWER

“Establish”

The great question raised in the early days with reference to the postal clause concerned the meaning to be given to the word “establish”—did it confer upon Congress the power to construct post offices and post roads, or only the power to designate from existing places and routes those that should serve as post offices and post roads? As late as 1855, Justice McLean stated that this power “has generally been considered as exhausted in the designation of roads on which the mails are to be transported,” and concluded that neither under the commerce power nor the power to establish post roads could Congress construct a bridge over a navigable water.¹³⁰¹ A decade earlier, however, the Court, without passing upon the validity of the original construction of the Cumberland Road, held that being “charged . . . with the transportation of the mails,” Congress could enter a valid compact with the State of Pennsylvania regarding the use and upkeep of the portion of the road lying in the State.¹³⁰² The debate on the question was terminated in 1876 by the decision in *Kohl v. United States*,¹³⁰³ sustaining a proceeding by the United States to appropriate a parcel of land in Cincinnati as a site for a post office and courthouse.

¹²⁹⁹ *Id.*, 361.

¹³⁰⁰ *Free v. Bland*, 369 U.S. 663 (1962).

¹³⁰¹ *United States v. Railroad Bridge Co.*, 27 Fed. Cas. 686 (No. 16,114) (C.C.N.D. Ill. 1855).

¹³⁰² *Searight v. Stokes*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 151, 166 (1845).

¹³⁰³ 91 U.S. 367 (1876).

Power To Protect the Mails

The postal powers of Congress embrace all measures necessary to insure the safe and speedy transit and prompt delivery of the mails.¹³⁰⁴ And not only are the mails under the protection of the National Government, they are in contemplation of law its property. This principle was recognized by the Supreme Court in 1845 in holding that wagons carrying United States mail were not subject to a state toll tax imposed for use of the Cumberland Road pursuant to a compact with the United States.¹³⁰⁵ Half a century later it was availed of as one of the grounds on which the national executive was conceded the right to enter the national courts and demand an injunction against the authors of any wide-spread disorder interfering with interstate commerce and the transmission of the mails.¹³⁰⁶

Prompted by the efforts of Northern anti-slavery elements to disseminate their propaganda in the Southern States through the mails, President Jackson, in his annual message to Congress in 1835, suggested “the propriety of passing such a law as will prohibit, under severe penalties, the circulation in the Southern States, through the mail, of incendiary publications intended to instigate the slaves to insurrection.” In the Senate, John C. Calhoun resisted this recommendation, taking the position that it belonged to the States and not to Congress to determine what is and what is not calculated to disturb their security. He expressed the fear that if Congress might determine what papers were incendiary, and as such prohibit their circulation through the mail, it might also determine what were not incendiary and enforce their circulation.¹³⁰⁷ On this point his reasoning would appear to be vindicated by such decisions as those denying the right of the States to prevent the importation of alcoholic beverages from other States.¹³⁰⁸

Power To Prevent Harmful Use of the Postal Facilities

In 1872, Congress passed the first of a series of acts to exclude from the mails publications designed to defraud the public or corrupt its morals. In the pioneer case of *Ex parte Jackson*,¹³⁰⁹ the

¹³⁰⁴ *Ex parte Jackson*, 96 U.S. 727, 732 (1878). See *United States Postal Service v. Council of Greenburgh Civic Assns.*, 453 U.S. 114 (1981), in which the Court sustained the constitutionality of a law making it unlawful for persons to use, without payment of a fee (postage), a letterbox which has been designated an “authorized depository” of the mail by the Postal Service.

¹³⁰⁵ *Searight v. Stokes*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 151, 169 (1845).

¹³⁰⁶ *In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564, 599 (1895).

¹³⁰⁷ *Cong. Globe*, 24th Cong., 1st Sess., 3, 10, 298 (1835).

¹³⁰⁸ *Bowman v. Chicago & Nw. Railway Co.*, 125 U.S. 465 (1888); *Leisy v. Hardin*, 135 U.S. 100 (1890).

¹³⁰⁹ 96 U.S. 727 (1878).

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Court sustained the exclusion of circulars relating to lotteries on the general ground that “the right to designate what shall be carried necessarily involves the right to determine what shall be excluded.”¹³¹⁰ The leading fraud order case, decided in 1904, held to the same effect.¹³¹¹ Pointing out that it is “an indispensable adjunct to a civil government,” to supply postal facilities, the Court restated its premise that the “legislative body in thus establishing a postal service may annex such conditions . . . as it chooses.”¹³¹²

Later cases first qualified these sweeping assertions and then overturned them, holding Government operation of the mails to be subject to constitutional limitations. In upholding requirements that publishers of newspapers and periodicals seeking second-class mailing privileges file complete information regarding ownership, indebtedness, and circulation and that all paid advertisements in the publications be marked as such, the Court emphasized that these provisions were reasonably designed to safeguard the second-class privilege from exploitation by mere advertising publications.¹³¹³ Chief Justice White warned that the Court by no means intended to imply that it endorsed the Government’s “broad contentions concerning . . . the classification of the mails, or by the way of condition . . .”¹³¹⁴ Again, when the Court sustained an order of the Postmaster General excluding from the second-class privilege a newspaper he had found to have published material in contravention of the Espionage Act of 1917, the claim of absolute power in Congress to withhold the privilege was sedulously avoided.¹³¹⁵

A unanimous Court transformed these reservations into a holding in *Lamont v. Postmaster General*,¹³¹⁶ in which it struck down a statute authorizing the Post Office to detain mail it determined to be “communist political propaganda” and to forward it to the addressee only if he notified the Post Office he wanted to see it. Noting that Congress was not bound to operate a postal service, the Court observed that while it did, it was bound to observe constitutional guarantees.¹³¹⁷ The statute violated the First Amendment

¹³¹⁰ *Id.*, 732.

¹³¹¹ *Public Clearing House v. Coyne*, 194 U.S. 497 (1904), followed in *Donaldson v. Read Magazine*, 333 U.S. 178 (1948).

¹³¹² 194 U.S., 506.

¹³¹³ *Lewis Publishing Co. v. Morgan*, 229 U.S. 288 (1913).

¹³¹⁴ *Id.*, 316.

¹³¹⁵ *United States ex rel. Milwaukee Publishing Co. v. Burleson*, 255 U.S. 407 (1921). See also *Hannegan v. Esquire*, 327 U.S. 146 (1946), denying the Post Office the right to exclude *Esquire Magazine* from the mails on grounds of the poor taste and vulgarity of its contents.

¹³¹⁶ 381 U.S. 301 (1965).

¹³¹⁷ *Id.*, 305, quoting Justice Holmes in *United States ex rel. Milwaukee Publishing Co. v. Burleson*, 255 U.S. 407, 437 (1921) (dissenting opinion): “The United States may give up the Post Office when it sees fit, but while it carries it on the

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because it inhibited the right of persons to receive any information which they wished to receive.¹³¹⁸

On the other hand, a statute authorizing persons to place their names on a list in order to reject receipt of obscene or sexually suggestive materials is constitutional, because no sender has a right to foist his material on any unwilling receiver.¹³¹⁹ But, as in other areas, postal censorship systems must contain procedural guarantees sufficient to ensure prompt resolution of disputes about the character of allegedly objectionable material consistently with the First Amendment.¹³²⁰

Exclusive Power as an Adjunct to Other Powers

In the cases just reviewed, it was attempted to close the mails to communication which were deemed to be harmful. A much broader power of exclusion was asserted in the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935.¹³²¹ To induce compliance with the regulatory requirements of that act, Congress denied the privilege of using the mails for any purpose to holding companies that failed to obey that law, irrespective of the character of the material to be carried. Viewing the matter realistically, the Supreme Court treated this provision as a penalty. While it held this statute constitutional because the regulations whose infractions were thus penalized were themselves valid,¹³²² it declared that “Congress may not exercise its control over the mails to enforce a requirement which lies outside its constitutional province. . . .”¹³²³

State Regulations Affecting the Mails

In determining the extent to which state laws may impinge upon persons or corporations whose services are utilized by Congress in executing its postal powers, the task of the Supreme Court

use of the mails is almost as much a part of free speech as the right to use our tongues. . . .” And see *Blount v. Rizzi*, 400 U.S. 410, 416 (1971) (quoting same language). But for a different perspective on the meaning and application of the Holmes language, see *United States Postal Service v. Council of Greenburgh Civic Assns.*, 453 U.S. 114, 127 n. 5 (1981), although there too the Court observed that the postal power may not be used in a manner that abridges freedom of speech or press. *Id.*, 126. Notice, too, that first-class mail is protected against opening and inspection, except in accordance with the Fourth Amendment. *Ex parte Jackson*, 96 U.S. 727, 733 (1878); *United States v. van Leeuwen*, 397 U.S. 249 (1970). But see *United States v. Ramsey*, 431 U.S. 606 (1977) (border search).

¹³¹⁸*Lamont v. Postmaster General*, 381 U.S. 301, 306–307 (1965). And see *id.*, 308 (concurring opinion). Note that this was the first congressional statute ever voided as in conflict with the First Amendment.

¹³¹⁹*Rowan v. Post Office Department*, 397 U.S. 728 (1970).

¹³²⁰*Blount v. Rizzi*, 400 U.S. 410 (1971).

¹³²¹49 Stat. 803, 812, 813, 15 U.S.C. §§ 79d, 79e.

¹³²²*Electric Bond Co. v. SEC*, 303 U.S. 419 (1938).

¹³²³*Id.*, 442.

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has been to determine whether particular measures are consistent with the general policies indicated by Congress. Broadly speaking, the Court has approved regulations having a trivial or remote relation to the operation of the postal service, while disallowing those constituting a serious impediment to it. Thus, a state statute, which granted to one company an exclusive right to operate a telegraph business in the State, was found to be incompatible with a federal law, which, in granting to any telegraph company the right to construct its lines upon post roads, was interpreted as a prohibition of state monopolies in a field Congress was entitled to regulate in the exercise of its combined power over commerce and post roads.¹³²⁴

An Illinois statute, which, as construed by the state courts, required an interstate mail train to make a detour of seven miles in order to stop at a designated station, also was held to be an unconstitutional interference with the power of Congress under this clause.¹³²⁵ But a Minnesota statute requiring intrastate trains to stop at county seats was found to be unobjectionable.¹³²⁶

Local laws classifying postal workers with railroad employees for the purpose of determining a railroad's liability for personal injuries,¹³²⁷ or subjecting a union of railway mail clerks to a general law forbidding any "labor organization" to deny any person membership because of his race, color or creed,¹³²⁸ have been held not to conflict with national legislation or policy in this field. Despite the interference *pro tanto* with the performance of a federal function, a State may arrest a postal employee charged with murder while he is engaged in carrying out his official duties,¹³²⁹ but it cannot punish a person for operating a mail truck over its highways without procuring a driver's license from state authorities.¹³³⁰

Clause 8. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.*

¹³²⁴ *Pensacola Tel. Co. v. Western Union Telegraph Co.*, 96 U.S. 1 (1878).

¹³²⁵ *Illinois Central Railroad v. Illinois*, 163 U.S. 142 (1896).

¹³²⁶ *Gladson v. Minnesota*, 166 U.S. 427 (1897).

¹³²⁷ *Price v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 113 U.S. 218 (1895); *Martin v. Pittsburgh & Lake Erie R.R.*, 203 U.S. 284 (1906).

¹³²⁸ *Railway Mail Assn. v. Corsi*, 326 U.S. 88 (1945).

¹³²⁹ *United States v. Kirby*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 482 (1869).

¹³³⁰ *Johnson v. Maryland*, 254 U.S. 51 (1920).

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Scope of the Power

This clause is the foundation upon which the national patent and copyright laws rest, although it uses neither of those terms. So far as patents are concerned, modern legislation harks back to the Statute of Monopolies of 1624, whereby Parliament endowed inventors with the sole right to their inventions for fourteen years.¹³³¹ Copyright law, in turn, traces back to the English Statute of 1710, which secured to authors of books the sole right of publishing them for designated periods.¹³³² Congress was not vested by this clause, however, with anything akin to the royal prerogative in the creation and bestowal of monopolistic privileges.¹³³³ Its power is limited with regard both to subject matter and to the purpose and duration of the rights granted. Only the writings and discoveries of authors and inventors may be protected, and then only to the end of promoting science and the useful arts.¹³³⁴ The concept of originality is central to copyright, and it is a constitutional requirement Congress may not exceed.¹³³⁵ While Congress may grant exclusive rights only for a limited period, it may extend the term upon the expiration of the period originally specified, and in so doing may protect the rights of purchasers and assignees.¹³³⁶ The copyright and patent laws do not have, of their own force, any extraterritorial operation.¹³³⁷

¹³³¹ Pennock v. Dialogue, 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 1, 17, 18 (1829).

¹³³² Wheaton v. Peters, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 591, 656, 658 (1834).

¹³³³ Cf. Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 5, 9 (1966).

¹³³⁴ Kendall v. Winsor, 21 How. (62 U.S.) 322, 328 (1859); A. & P. Co. v. Supermarket Equipment Corp., 340 U.S. 147 (1950).

¹³³⁵ Feist Publications, Inc. v. Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc., 499 U.S. 340 (1991) (publisher of telephone directory, consisting of white pages and yellow pages, not entitled to copyright in white pages, which are only compilations). "To qualify for copyright protection, a work must be original to the author. . . . Originality, as the term is used in copyright, means only that the work was independently created by the author (as opposed to copied from other works), and that it possesses some minimal degree of creativity. . . . To be sure, the requisite level of creativity is extremely low; even a slight amount will suffice." *Id.*, 345. First clearly articulated in *The Trade Mark Cases*, 100 U.S. 82, 94 (1879), and *Burrow-Giles Lithographic Co. v. Saroney*, 111 U.S. 53, 58–60 (1884), the requirement is expressed in nearly every copyright opinion, but its forceful iteration in *Feist* was noteworthy, because originality is a statutory requirement as well, 17 U.S.C. § 102(a), and it was unnecessary to discuss the concept in constitutional terms.

¹³³⁶ *Evans v. Jordan*, 9 Cr. (13 U.S.) 199 (1815); *Bloomer v. McQuewan*, 14 How. (55 U.S.) 539, 548 (1852); *Bloomer v. Millinger*, 1 Wall. (68 U.S.) 340, 350 (1864); *Eunson v. Dodge*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 414, 416 (1873).

¹³³⁷ *Brown v. Duchesne*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 183, 195 (1857). It is, however, the ultimate objective of many nations, including the United States, to develop a system of patent issuance and enforcement which transcends national boundaries; it has been recommended, therefore, that United States policy should be to harmonize its patent system with that of foreign countries so long as such measures do not dimin-

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Patentable Discoveries

The protection traditionally afforded by acts of Congress under this clause has been limited to new and useful inventions,¹³³⁸ and while a patentable invention is a mental achievement,¹³³⁹ for an idea to be patentable it must have first taken physical form.¹³⁴⁰ Despite the fact that the Constitution uses the term “discovery” rather than “invention,” a patent may not be issued for the discovery of a hitherto unknown phenomenon of nature. “If there is to be invention from such a discovery, it must come from the application of the law of nature to a new and useful end.”¹³⁴¹ As for the mental processes which have been traditionally required, the Court has held in the past that an invention must display “more ingenuity . . . than the work of a mechanic skilled in the art;”¹³⁴² and while combination patents have been at times sustained,¹³⁴³ the accumulation of old devices is patentable “only when the whole in some way exceeds the sum of its parts.”¹³⁴⁴ Though “inventive genius”

ish the quality of the United States patent standards. President’s Commission on the Patent System, To Promote the Progress of Useful Arts, Report to the Senate Judiciary Committee, S. Doc. No. 5, 90th Cong., 1st sess. (1967), recommendation XXXV. Effectuation of this goal was begun with the United States agreement to the Berne Convention (the Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, Sept. 9, 1886), and Congress’ conditional implementation of the Convention through legislation. The Berne Convention Implementation Act of 1988, P. L. 100–568, 102 Stat. 2853, 17 U.S.C. § 101 and notes.

¹³³⁸ *Seymour v. Osborne*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 516, 549 (1871). Cf. *Collar Company v. Van Dusen*, 23 Wall. (90 U.S.) 530, 563 (1875); *Reckendorfer v. Faber*, 92 U.S. 347, 356 (1876).

¹³³⁹ *Smith v. Nichols*, 21 Wall. (89 U.S.) 112, 118 (1875).

¹³⁴⁰ *Rubber-Tip Pencil Company v. Howard*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 498, 507 (1874); *Clark Thread Co. v. Willimantic Linen Co.*, 140 U.S. 481, 489 (1891).

¹³⁴¹ *Funk Bros. Seed Co. v. Kalo Co.*, 333 U.S. 127, 130 (1948). Cf. *Dow Co. v. Halliburton Co.*, 324 U.S. 320 (1945); *Cuno Corp. v. Automatic Devices Corp.*, 314 U.S. 84, 89 (1941).

¹³⁴² *Sinclair Co. v. Interchemical Corp.*, 325 U.S. 327, 330 (1945); *Marconi Wireless Co. v. United States*, 320 U.S. 1 (1943).

¹³⁴³ *Keystone Manufacturing Co. v. Adams*, 151 U.S. 139 (1894); *Diamond Rubber Co. v. Consol. Tire Co.*, 220 U.S. 428 (1911).

¹³⁴⁴ *A. & P. Tea Co. v. Supermarket Equipment Corp.*, 340 U.S. 147 (1950). An interesting concurring opinion was filed by Justice Douglas for himself and Justice Black: “It is not enough,” says Justice Douglas, “that an article is new and useful. The Constitution never sanctioned the patenting of gadgets. Patents serve a higher end—the advancement of science. An invention need not be as startling as an atomic bomb to be patentable. But it has to be of such quality and distinction that masters of the scientific field in which it falls will recognize it as an advance.” *Id.*, 154–155. He then quotes the following from an opinion of Justice Bradley’s given 70 years ago:

“It was never the object of those laws to grant a monopoly for every trifling device, every shadow of a shade of an idea, which would naturally and spontaneously occur to any skilled mechanic or operator in the ordinary progress of manufacturers. Such an indiscriminate creation of exclusive privileges tends rather to obstruct than to stimulate invention. It creates a class of speculative schemers who make it their business to watch the advancing wave of improvement, and gather its foam in the

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and slightly varying language have been appearing in judicial decisions for almost a century,¹³⁴⁵ “novelty” and “utility” has been the primary statutory test since the Patent Act of 1793.¹³⁴⁶ With Congress’ enactment of the Patent Act of 1952, however, § 103 of the Act required that an innovation be of a “nonobvious” nature, that is, it must not be an improvement that would be obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the pertinent art.¹³⁴⁷ This alteration of the standard of patentability was perceived by some as overruling previous Supreme Court cases requiring perhaps a higher standard for obtaining a patent,¹³⁴⁸ but the Court itself interpreted the provision as codifying its earlier holding in *Hotchkiss v. Greenwood*,¹³⁴⁹ in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*¹³⁵⁰ The Court in this case said: “Innovation, *advancement*, and things which add to the sum of useful knowledge are inherent requisites in a patent system which by constitutional command must ‘promote the Progress of . . . useful Arts.’ This is the *standard* expressed in the Constitution and it may not be ignored.”¹³⁵¹ Congressional requirements on patentability, then, are conditions and tests that must fall within the constitutional standard. Underlying the constitutional tests and

form of patented monopolies, which enable them to lay a heavy tax upon the industry of the country, without contributing anything to the real advancement of the arts. It embarrasses the honest pursuit of business with fears and apprehensions of concealed liens and unknown liabilities to lawsuits and vexatious accountings for profits made in good faith. (*Atlantic Works v. Brady*, 107 U.S. 192, 200 (1882)).” *Id.*, 155.

The opinion concludes: “The attempts through the years to get a broader, looser conception of patents than the Constitution contemplates have been persistent. The Patent Office, like most administrative agencies, has looked with favor on the opportunity which the exercise of discretion affords to expand its own jurisdiction. And so it has placed a host of gadgets under the armour of patents—gadgets that obviously have had no place in the constitutional scheme of advancing scientific knowledge. A few that have reached this Court show the pressure to extend monopoly to the simplest of devices: [listing instances].” *Id.*, 156–158.

¹³⁴⁵ “Inventive genius”—Justice Hunt in *Reckendorfer v. Faber*, 92 U.S. 347, 357 (1875); “Genius or invention”—Chief Justice Fuller in *Smith v. Whitman Saddle Co.*, 148 U.S. 674, 681 (1893); “Intuitive genius”—Justice Brown in *Potts v. Creager*, 155 U.S. 597, 607 (1895); “Inventive genius”—Justice Stone in *Concrete Appliances Co. v. Gomery*, 269 U.S. 177, 185 (1925); “Inventive genius”—Justice Roberts in *Mantle Lamp Co. v. Aluminum Co.*, 301 U.S. 544, 546 (1937); “the flash of creative genius, not merely the skill of the calling”—Justice Douglas in *Cuno Corp. v. Automatic Devices Corp.*, 314 U.S. 84, 91 (1941).

¹³⁴⁶ Act of February 21, 1793, c. 11, 1 Stat. 318. See *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 3–4, 10 (1966).

¹³⁴⁷ 35 U.S.C. § 103.

¹³⁴⁸ *E.g.*, *A. & P. Tea Co. v. Supermarket Equip. Corp.*, 340 U.S. 147 (1950); *Jungerson v. Ostby & Barton Co.*, 335 U.S. 560 (1949); and *Cuno Corp. v. Automatic Devices Corp.*, 314 U.S. 84 (1941).

¹³⁴⁹ 11 How. (52 U.S.) 248 (1850).

¹³⁵⁰ 383 U.S. 1 (1966).

¹³⁵¹ *Id.*, 6 (first emphasis added, second emphasis by Court). For a thorough discussion, see *Bonito Boats, Inc. v. Thunder Craft Boats, Inc.*, 489 U.S. 141, 146–152 (1989).

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congressional conditions for patentability is the balancing of two interests—the interest of the public in being protected against monopolies and in having ready access to and use of new items versus the interest of the country, as a whole, in encouraging invention by rewarding creative persons for their innovations. By declaring a constitutional standard of patentability, however, the Court, rather than Congress, will be doing the ultimate weighing. As for the clarity of the patentability standard, the three-fold test of utility, novelty and advancement seems to have been made less clear by the Supreme Court's recent rejuvenation of "invention" as a standard of patentability.¹³⁵²

Procedure in Issuing Patents

The standard of patentability is a constitutional standard, and the question of the validity of a patent is a question of law.¹³⁵³ Congress may authorize the issuance of a patent for an invention by a special, as well as by general, law, provided the question as to whether the patentee's device is in truth an invention is left open to investigation under the general law.¹³⁵⁴ The function of the Commissioner of Patents in issuing letters patent is deemed to be quasi-judicial in character. Hence an act granting a right of appeal from the Commission to the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia is not unconstitutional as conferring executive power upon a judicial body.¹³⁵⁵ The primary responsibility, however, for weeding out unpatentable devices rests in the Patent Office.¹³⁵⁶ The present system of "de novo" hearings before the Court of Appeals allows the applicant to present new evidence which the Patent Office has not heard,¹³⁵⁷ thus making somewhat amorphous the central responsibility.

¹³⁵² *Anderson's-Black Rock, Inc. v. Pavement Salvage Co.*, 396 U.S. 57 (1969). "The question of invention must turn on whether the combination supplied the key requirement." *Id.*, 60. But the Court also appeared to apply the test of nonobviousness in the same decision: "We conclude that the combination was reasonably obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art." *Ibid.* See also *McClain v. Ortmyer*, 141 U.S. 419, 427 (1891), where, speaking of the use of "invention" as a standard of patentability the Court said: "The truth is the word cannot be defined in such manner as to afford any substantial aid in determining whether a particular device involves an exercise of the inventive faculty or not."

¹³⁵³ *A. & P. Tea Co. v. Supermarket Corp.*, 340 U.S. 147 (1950); *Mahn v. Harwood*, 112 U.S. 354, 358 (1884).

¹³⁵⁴ *Evans v. Eaton*, 3 Wheat. (16 U.S.) 454, 512 (1818).

¹³⁵⁵ *United States v. Duell*, 172 U.S. 576, 586–589 (1899). See also *Butterworth v. United States ex rel. Hoe*, 112 U.S. 50 (1884).

¹³⁵⁶ *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 18 (1966).

¹³⁵⁷ *In Jennings v. Brenner*, 255 F. Supp. 410, 412 (D.D.C. 1966), District Judge Holtzoff suggested that a system of remand be adopted.

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Nature and Scope of the Right Secured

The leading case bearing on the nature of the rights which Congress is authorized to *secure* is that of *Wheaton v. Peters*. Wheaton charged Peters with having infringed his copyright on the twelve volumes of “Wheaton’s Reports,” wherein are reported the decisions of the United States Supreme Court for the years from 1816 to 1827 inclusive. Peters’ defense turned on the proposition that inasmuch as Wheaton had not complied with all of the requirements of the act of Congress, his alleged copyright was void. Wheaton, while denying this assertion of fact, further contended that the statute was only intended to *secure* him in his pre-existent rights at common law. These at least, he claimed, the Court should protect. A divided Court held in favor of Peters on the legal question. It denied, in the first place, that there was any principle of the common law that protected an author in the sole right to continue to publish a work once published. It denied, in the second place, that there is any principle of law, common or otherwise, which pervades the Union except such as are embodied in the Constitution and the acts of Congress. Nor, in the third place, it held, did the word “securing” in the Constitution recognize the alleged common law principle Wheaton invoked. The exclusive right Congress is authorized to *secure* to authors and inventors owes its existence solely to the acts of Congress securing it,¹³⁵⁸ from which it follows that the rights granted by a patent or copyright are subject to such qualifications and limitations as Congress, in its unhampered consultation of the public interest, sees fit to impose.¹³⁵⁹

The Court’s “reluctance to expand [copyright] protection without explicit legislative guidance” controlled its decision in *Sony Corp. v. Universal City Studios*,¹³⁶⁰ in which it held that the manufacture and sale of video tape (or cassette) recorders for home use do not constitute “contributory” infringement of the copyright in

¹³⁵⁸ *Wheaton v. Peters*, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 591, 660 (1834); *Holmes v. Hurst*, 174 U.S. 82 (1899). The doctrine of common-law copyright was long statutorily preserved for unpublished works, but the 1976 revision of the federal copyright law abrogated the distinction between published and unpublished works, substituting a single federal system for that existing since the first copyright law in 1790. 17 U.S.C. § 301.

¹³⁵⁹ *Wheaton v. Peters*, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 591, 662 (1834); *Evans v. Jordan*, 9 Cr. (13 U.S.) 199 (1815). A major limitation of copyright law is that “fair use” of a copyrighted work is not an infringement. Fair use can involve such things as citation for the use of criticism and reproduction for classroom purposes, but it may not supersede the use of the original work. See *Harper & Row, Publishers v. Nation Enterprises*, 471 U.S. 539 (1985) (an unauthorized 300 to 400 word excerpt, published as a news “scoop” of the authorized prepublication excerpt of former President Ford’s memoirs and substantially affecting the potential market for the authorized version, was not a fair use within the meaning of §107 of the Copyright Act. 17 U.S.C. § 107)

¹³⁶⁰ 464 U.S. 417, 431 (1984).

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television programs. Copyright protection, the Court reiterated, is “wholly statutory,” and courts should be “circumspect” in extending protections to new technology. The Court refused to hold that contributory infringement could occur simply through the supplying of the devices with which someone else could infringe, especially in view of the fact that VCRs are capable of substantial noninfringing “fair use,” e.g., time shifting of television viewing.

In giving to authors the exclusive right to dramatize any of their works, Congress did not exceed its powers under this clause. Even as applied to pantomime dramatization by means of silent motion pictures, the act was sustained against the objection that it extended the copyright to ideas rather than to the words in which they were clothed.¹³⁶¹ But the copyright of the description of an art in a book was held not to lay a foundation for an exclusive claim to the art itself. The latter can be protected, if at all, only by letters patent.¹³⁶² Since copyright is a species of property distinct from the ownership of the equipment used in making copies of the matter copyrighted, the sale of a copperplate under execution did not pass any right to print and publish the map which the copperplate was designed to produce.¹³⁶³ A patent right may, however, be subjected, by bill in equity, to payment of a judgment debt of the patentee.¹³⁶⁴

Power of Congress Over Patent Rights

Letters patent for a new invention or discovery in the arts confer upon the patentee an exclusive property in the patented invention which cannot be appropriated or used by the Government without just compensation.¹³⁶⁵ Congress may, however, modify rights under an existing patent, provided vested property rights are not thereby impaired,¹³⁶⁶ but it does not follow that it may authorize an inventor to recall rights that he has granted to others or re-invest in him rights of property that he had previously conveyed for a valuable and fair consideration.¹³⁶⁷ Furthermore, the rights

¹³⁶¹ *Kalem Co. v. Harper Bros.*, 222 U.S. 55 (1911). For other problems arising because of technological and electronic advancement see, e.g., *Fortnightly Corp. v. United Artists Television, Inc.*, 392 U.S. 390 (1968); *Sony Corp. v. Universal City Studios*, 464 U.S. 417 (1984).

¹³⁶² *Baker v. Selden*, 101 U.S. 99, 105 (1880).

¹³⁶³ *Stevens v. Gladding*, 17 How. (58 U.S.) 447 (1855).

¹³⁶⁴ *Ager v. Murray*, 105 U.S. 126 (1882).

¹³⁶⁵ *James v. Campbell*, 104 U.S. 356, 358 (1882). See also *United States v. Burns* 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 246, 252 (1871); *Cammeyer v. Newton*, 94 U.S. 225, 234 (1877); *Hollister v. Benedict Manufacturing Co.*, 113 U.S. 59, 67 (1885); *United States v. Palmer*, 128 U.S. 262, 271 (1888); *Belknap v. Schild*, 161 U.S. 10, 16 (1896).

¹³⁶⁶ *McClurg v. Kingsland*, 1 How. (42 U.S.) 202, 206 (1843).

¹³⁶⁷ *Bloomer v. McQuewan*, 14 How. (55 U.S.) 539, 553 (1852).

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the present statutes confer are subject to the antitrust laws, though it can be hardly said that the cases in which the Court has endeavored to draw the line between the rights claimable by patentees and the kind of monopolistic privileges which are forbidden by those acts exhibit entire consistency in their holdings.¹³⁶⁸

State Power Affecting Patents and Copyrights

Displacement of state police or taxing powers by federal patent or copyright has been a source of considerable dispute. Ordinarily, rights secured to inventors must be enjoyed in subordination to the general authority of the States over all property within their limits. A state statute requiring the condemnation of illuminating oils inflammable at less than 130 degrees Fahrenheit was held not to interfere with any right secured by the patent laws, although the oil for which the patent was issued could not be made to comply with state specifications.¹³⁶⁹ In the absence of federal legislation, a State may prescribe reasonable regulations for the transfer of patent rights, so as to protect its citizens from fraud. Hence, a requirement of state law that the words “given for a patent right” appear on the face of notes given in payment for such right is not unconstitutional.¹³⁷⁰ Royalties received from patents or copyrights are subject to a nondiscriminatory state income tax, a holding to the contrary being overruled.¹³⁷¹

State power to protect things not patented or copyrighted under federal law has been buffeted under changing Court doctrinal views. In two major cases, the Court held that a State could not utilize unfair competition laws to prevent or punish the copying of products not entitled to a patent. Emphasizing the necessity for a uniform national policy and advertent to the monopolistic effects of the state protection, the Court inferred that because Congress had not extended the patent laws to the material at issue, federal policy was to promote free access when the materials were thus in

¹³⁶⁸ See *Motion Picture Co. v. Universal Film Co.*, 243 U.S. 502 (1917); *Morton Salt Co. v. Suppiger Co.*, 314 U.S. 488 (1942); *United States v. Masonite Corp.*, 316 U.S. 265 (1942); *United States v. New Wrinkle, Inc.*, 342 U.S. 371 (1952), where the Justices divided 6 to 3 as to the significance for the case of certain leading precedents; and *Walker Process Equip., Inc. v. Food Mach. & Chem. Corp.*, 382 U.S. 172 (1965).

¹³⁶⁹ *Patterson v. Kentucky*, 97 U.S. 501 (1879).

¹³⁷⁰ *Allen v. Riley*, 203 U.S. 347 (1906); *John Woods & Sons v. Carl*, 203 U.S. 358 (1906); *Ozan Lumber Co. v. Union County Bank*, 207 U.S. 251 (1907).

¹³⁷¹ *Fox Film Corp. v. Doyal*, 286 U.S. 123 (1932), overruling *Long v. Rockwood*, 277 U.S. 142 (1928).

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the public domain.¹³⁷² But, in *Goldstein v. California*,¹³⁷³ the Court distinguished the two prior cases and held that the determination whether a state “tape piracy” statute conflicted with the federal copyright statute depended upon the existence of a specific congressional intent to forbid state protection of the “writing” there involved. Its consideration of the statute and of its legislative history convinced the Court that Congress in protecting certain “writings” and in not protecting others bespoke no intention that federally unprotected materials should enjoy no state protection, only that Congress “has left the area unattended.”¹³⁷⁴ Similar analysis was used to sustain the application of a state trade secret law to protect a chemical process, that was patentable but not patented, from utilization by a commercial rival, which had obtained the process from former employees of the company, all of whom had signed agreements not to reveal the process. The Court determined that protection of the process by state law was not incompatible with the federal patent policy of encouraging invention and public use of patented inventions, inasmuch as the trade secret law serves other interests not similarly served by the patent law and where it protects matter clearly patentable it is not likely to deter applications for patents.¹³⁷⁵

Returning to the *Sears* and *Compco* emphasis, the Court unanimously, in *Bonito Boats v. ThunderCraft Boats*,¹³⁷⁶ reasserted that “efficient operation of the federal patent system depends upon substantially free trade in publicly known, unpatented design and utilitarian conceptions.”¹³⁷⁷ At the same time, however, the Court attempted to harmonize *Goldstein*, *Kewanee*, and other decisions: there is room for state regulation of the use of

¹³⁷² *Sears, Roebuck & Co. v. Stiffel Co.*, 376 U.S. 225 (1964); *Compco Corp. v. Day-Brite Lighting, Inc.*, 376 U.S. 234 (1964).

¹³⁷³ 412 U.S. 546 (1973). Informing the decisions were different judicial attitudes with respect to the preclusion of the States from acting in fields covered by the patent and copyright clauses, whether Congress had or had not acted. The latter case recognized permissible state interests, *id.*, 552–560, whereas the former intimated that congressional power was exclusive. *Sears, Roebuck & Co. v. Stiffel Co.*, 376 U.S. 225, 228–231 (1964).

¹³⁷⁴ In the 1976 revision of the copyright law, Congress broadly preempted, with narrow exceptions, all state laws bearing on material subject to copyright. 17 U.S.C. §301. The legislative history makes clear Congress’ intention to overturn *Goldstein* and “to preempt and abolish any rights under the common law or statutes of a state that are equivalent to copyright and that extend to works coming within the scope of the federal copyright law.” H. Rept. No. 94–1476, 94th Congress, 2d sess. (1976), 130. The statute preserves state tape piracy and similar laws as to sound recordings fixed before February 15, 1972, until February 15, 2047.

¹³⁷⁵ *Kewanee Oil Co. v. Bicron Corp.*, 416 U.S. 470 (1974). See also *Aronson v. Quick Point Pencil Co.*, 440 U.S. 257 (1979).

¹³⁷⁶ 489 U.S. 141 (1989).

¹³⁷⁷ *Id.*, 156.

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unpatented designs if those regulations are “necessary to promote goals outside the contemplation of the federal patent scheme.”¹³⁷⁸ What States are forbidden to do is to “offer *patent-like protection* to intellectual creations which would otherwise remain unprotected as a matter of federal law.”¹³⁷⁹ A state law “aimed directly at preventing the exploitation of the [unpatented] design” is invalid as impinging on an area of pervasive federal regulation.¹³⁸⁰

Trade-Marks and Advertisements

In the famous *Trade-Mark Cases*,¹³⁸¹ decided in 1879, the Supreme Court held void acts of Congress, which, in apparent reliance upon this clause, extended the protection of the law to trademarks registered in the Patent Office. “The ordinary trade mark,” said Justice Miller for the Court, “has no necessary relation to invention or discovery;” nor is it to be classified “under the head of writings of authors.” It does not “depend upon novelty, invention, discovery, or any work of the brain.”¹³⁸² Not many years later, the Court, again speaking through Justice Miller, ruled that a photograph may be constitutionally copyrighted,¹³⁸³ while still more recently a circus poster was held to be entitled to the same protection. In answer to the objection of the circuit court that a lithograph which “has no other use than that of a mere advertisement . . . (would not be within) the meaning of the Constitution,” Justice Holmes summoned forth the shades of Velasquez, Whistler, Rembrandt, Ruskin, Degas, and others in support of the proposition that it is not for the courts to attempt to judge the worth of pictorial illustrations outside the narrowest and most obvious limits.¹³⁸⁴

Clause 9. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court; (see Article III).*

¹³⁷⁸ Id., 166. As examples of state regulation that might be permissible, the Court referred to unfair competition, trademark, trade dress, and trade secrets laws. Perhaps by way of distinguishing *Sears* and *Compco*, both of which invalidated use of unfair competition laws, the Court suggested that prevention of “consumer confusion” is a permissible state goal that can be served in some instances by application of such laws. Id., 154.

¹³⁷⁹ Id., 156 (emphasis supplied).

¹³⁸⁰ Id., 158.

¹³⁸¹ 100 U.S. 82 (1879).

¹³⁸² Id., 94.

¹³⁸³ *Burrow-Giles Lithographic Co. v. Sarony*, 111 U.S. 53 (1884).

¹³⁸⁴ *Bleisten v. Donaldson Lithographing Co.*, 188 U.S. 239, 251 (1903).

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Clause 10. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations.*

**PIRACIES, FELONIES, AND OFFENSES AGAINST THE
LAW OF NATIONS**

Origin of the Clause

“When the United States ceased to be a part of the British empire, and assumed the character of an independent nation, they became subject to that system of rules which reason, morality, and custom had established among civilized nations of Europe, as their public law. . . . The faithful observance of this law is essential to national character. . . .”¹³⁸⁵ These words of the Chancellor Kent expressed the view of the binding character of international law that was generally accepted at the time the Constitution was adopted. During the Revolutionary War, Congress took cognizance of all matters arising under the law of nations and professed obedience to that law.¹³⁸⁶ Under the Articles of Confederation, it was given exclusive power to appoint courts for the trial of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, but no provision was made for dealing with offenses against the law of nations.¹³⁸⁷ The draft of the Constitution submitted to the Convention of 1787 by its Committee of Detail empowered Congress “to declare the law and punishment of piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and the punishment of counterfeiting the coin of the United States, and of offences against the law of nations.”¹³⁸⁸ In the debate on the floor of the Convention, the discussion turned on the question as to whether the terms, “felonies” and the “law of nations,” were sufficiently precise to be generally understood. The view that these terms were often so vague and indefinite as to require definition eventually prevailed and Congress was authorized to define as well as punish piracies, felonies, and offenses against the law of nations.¹³⁸⁹

Definition of Offenses

The fact that the Constitutional Convention considered it necessary to give Congress authority to define offenses against the law

¹³⁸⁵ 1 J. KENT, COMMENTARIES ON AMERICAN LAW (New York: 1826), 1.

¹³⁸⁶ 19 JOURNALS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, 315, 361 (1912); 20 id. 762; 21 id. 1136–1137, 1158.

¹³⁸⁷ Article IX.

¹³⁸⁸ 2 M. FARRAND, THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (New Haven: Rev. ed. 1937), 168, 182.

¹³⁸⁹ Id., 316.

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of nations does not mean that in every case Congress must undertake to codify that law or mark its precise boundaries before prescribing punishments for infractions thereof. An act punishing “the crime of piracy, as defined by the law of nations” was held to be an appropriate exercise of the constitutional authority to “define and punish” the offense, since it adopted by reference the sufficiently precise definition of International Law.¹³⁹⁰ Similarly, in *Ex parte Quirin*,¹³⁹¹ the Court found that by the reference in the Fifteenth Article of War to “offenders or offenses that . . . by the law of war may be triable by such military commissions . . .,” Congress had “exercised its authority to define and punish offenses against the law of nations by sanctioning, within constitutional limitations, the jurisdiction of military commissions to try persons for offenses which, according to the rules and precepts of the law of nations, and more particularly the law of war, are cognizable by such tribunals.”¹³⁹² Where, conversely, Congress defines with particularity a crime which is “an offense against the law of nations,” the law is valid, even if it contains no recital disclosing that it was enacted pursuant to this clause. Thus, the duty which the law of nations casts upon every government to prevent a wrong being done within its own dominion to another nation with which it is at peace, or to the people thereof, was found to furnish a sufficient justification for the punishment of the counterfeiting within the United States, of notes, bonds, and other securities of foreign governments.¹³⁹³

Extraterritorial Reach of the Power

Since this clause contains the only specific grant of power to be found in the Constitution for the punishment of offenses outside the territorial limits of the United States, a lower federal court held in 1932¹³⁹⁴ that the general grant of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction by Article III, §2, could not be construed as extending either the legislative or judicial power of the United States to cover offenses committed on vessels outside the United States but not on the high seas. Reversing that decision, the Supreme Court held that this provision “cannot be deemed to be a limitation on the powers, either legislative or judicial, conferred on the National Government by Article III, §2. The two clauses are the result of separate steps independently taken in the Convention, by which

¹³⁹⁰ *United States v. Smith*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 153, 160, 162 (1820). See also *The Marianna Flora*, 11 Wheat. (24 U.S.) 1, 40–41 (1826); *United States v. Brig Malek Abhel*, 2 How. (43 U.S.) 210, 232 (1844).

¹³⁹¹ 317 U.S. 1, 27 (1942).

¹³⁹² *Id.*, 28.

¹³⁹³ *United States v. Arjona*, 120 U.S. 479, 487, 488 (1887).

¹³⁹⁴ *United States v. Flores*, 3 F. Supp. 134 (E.D. Pa. 1932).

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the jurisdiction in admiralty, previously divided between the Confederation and the States, was transferred to the National Government. It would be a surprising result, and one plainly not anticipated by the framers or justified by principles which ought to govern the interpretation of a constitution devoted to the redistribution of governmental powers, if part of them were lost in the process of transfer. To construe the one clause as limiting rather than supplementing the other would be to ignore their history, and without effecting any discernible purpose of their enactment, to deny to both the States and the National Government powers which were common attributes of sovereignty before the adoption of the Constitution. The result would be to deny to both the power to define and punish crimes of less gravity than felonies committed on vessels of the United States while on the high seas, and crimes of every grade committed on them while in foreign territorial waters."¹³⁹⁵ Within the meaning of this section, an offense is committed on the high seas even where the vessel on which it occurs is lying at anchor on the road in the territorial waters of another country.¹³⁹⁶

Clauses 11, 12, 13, and 14. *The Congress shall have power*

* * * ;

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

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

To provide and maintain a Navy.

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

THE WAR POWER

Source and Scope

Three Theories.—Three different views regarding the source of the war power found expression in the early years of the Constitution and continued to vie for supremacy for nearly a century and a half. Writing in *THE FEDERALIST*,¹³⁹⁷ Hamilton elaborated

¹³⁹⁵ *United States v. Flores*, 289 U.S. 137, 149–150 (1933).

¹³⁹⁶ *United States v. Furlong*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 184, 200 (1820).

¹³⁹⁷ *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 23 (J. Cooke ed. ed.: 1937), 146–151.

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the theory that the war power is an aggregate of the particular powers granted by Article I, § 8. Not many years later, in 1795, the argument was advanced that the war power of the National Government is an attribute of sovereignty and hence not dependent upon the affirmative grants of the written Constitution.¹³⁹⁸ Chief Justice Marshall appears to have taken a still different view, namely that the power to wage war is implied from the power to declare it. In *McCulloch v. Maryland*,¹³⁹⁹ he listed the power “to declare and conduct a war”¹⁴⁰⁰ as one of the “enumerated powers” from which the authority to charter the Bank of the United States was deduced. During the era of the Civil War, the two latter theories were both given countenance by the Supreme Court. Speaking for four Justices in *Ex parte Milligan*, Chief Justice Chase described the power to declare war as “necessarily” extending “to all legislation essential to the prosecution of war with vigor and success, except such as interferes with the command of the forces and conduct of campaigns.”¹⁴⁰¹ In another case, adopting the terminology used by Lincoln in his Message to Congress on July 4, 1861,¹⁴⁰² the Court referred to “the war power” as a single unified power.¹⁴⁰³

An Inherent Power.—Thereafter, we find the phrase, “the war power,” being used by both Chief Justice White¹⁴⁰⁴ and Chief Justice Hughes,¹⁴⁰⁵ the former declaring the power to be “complete and undivided.”¹⁴⁰⁶ Not until 1936, however, did the Court explain the logical basis for imputing such an inherent power to the Federal Government. In *United States v. Curtis-Wright Corp.*,¹⁴⁰⁷ the reasons for this conclusion were stated by Justice Sutherland as follows: “As a result of the separation from Great Britain by the colonies acting as a unit, the powers of external sovereignty passed from the Crown not to the colonies severally, but to the colonies in their collective and corporate capacity as the United States of America. Even before the Declaration, the colonies were a unit in foreign affairs, acting through a common agency—namely, the Con-

¹³⁹⁸ *Penhallow v. Doane*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 53 (1795).

¹³⁹⁹ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316 (1819).

¹⁴⁰⁰ *Id.*, 407. (Emphasis supplied.)

¹⁴⁰¹ *Ex parte Milligan*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2, 139 (1866) (dissenting opinion); see also *Miller v. United States*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 268, 305 (1871); and *United States v. MacIntosh*, 283 U.S. 605, 622 (1931).

¹⁴⁰² Cong. Globe, 37th Congress, 1st Sess., App. 1 (1861).

¹⁴⁰³ *Hamilton v. Dillin*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 73, 86 (1875).

¹⁴⁰⁴ *Northern Pac. Ry. Co. v. North Dakota*, ex rel. Langer, 250 U.S. 135, 149 (1919).

¹⁴⁰⁵ *Home Bldg. & L. Assn. v. Blaisdell*, 290 U.S. 398 (1934).

¹⁴⁰⁶ *Northern Pac. Ry. Co. v. North Dakota*, ex rel. Langer, 250 U.S. 135, 149 (1919).

¹⁴⁰⁷ 299 U.S. 304 (1936).

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tinental Congress, composed of delegates from the thirteen colonies. That agency exercised the powers of war and peace, raised an army, created a navy, and finally adopted the Declaration of Independence. . . . It results that the investment of the Federal Government with the powers of external sovereignty did not depend upon the affirmative grants of the Constitution. The power to declare and wage war, to conclude peace, to make treaties, to maintain diplomatic relations with other sovereignties, if they had never been mentioned in the Constitution, would have vested in the Federal Government as necessary concomitants of nationality.”¹⁴⁰⁸

A Complexus of Granted Powers.—In *Lichter v. United States*,¹⁴⁰⁹ on the other hand, the Court speaks of the “war powers” of Congress. Upholding the Renegotiation Act, it declared that: “In view of this power ‘To raise and support Armies, . . . and the power granted in the same Article of the Constitution ‘to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers,’ . . . the only question remaining is whether the Renegotiation Act was a law ‘necessary and proper for carrying into Execution’ the war powers of Congress and especially its power to support armies.”¹⁴¹⁰ In a footnote, it listed the Preamble, the necessary and proper clause, the provisions authorizing Congress to lay taxes and provide for the common defense, to declare war, and to provide and maintain a navy, together with the clause designating the President as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, as being “among the many other provisions implementing the Congress and the President with powers to meet the varied demands of war. . . .”¹⁴¹¹

Declaration of War

In the early draft of the Constitution presented to the Convention by its Committee of Detail, Congress was empowered “to make war.”¹⁴¹² Although there were solitary suggestions that the power should better be vested in the President alone,¹⁴¹³ in the Senate

¹⁴⁰⁸ Id., 316, 318. On the controversy respecting *Curtiss-Wright*, see *infra*, Article II.

¹⁴⁰⁹ 334 U.S. 742 (1948).

¹⁴¹⁰ Id., 757–758.

¹⁴¹¹ Id., 755 n. 3.

¹⁴¹² 2 M. FARRAND, THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 313.

¹⁴¹³ Mr. Butler favored “vesting the power in the President, who will have all the requisite qualities, and will not make war but when the Nation will support it.” Id., 318.

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alone,¹⁴¹⁴ or in the President and the Senate,¹⁴¹⁵ the sentiment of the Convention, as best we can determine from the limited notes of the proceedings, was that the potentially momentous consequences of initiating armed hostilities should be called up only by the concurrence of the President and both Houses of Congress.¹⁴¹⁶ In contrast to the English system, the Framers did not want the wealth and blood of the Nation committed by the decision of a single individual;¹⁴¹⁷ in contrast to the Articles of Confederation, they did not wish to forego entirely the advantages of executive efficiency nor to entrust the matter solely to a branch so close to popular passions.¹⁴¹⁸

The result of these conflicting considerations was that the Convention amended the clause so as to give Congress the power to “declare war.”¹⁴¹⁹ Although this change could be read to give Congress the mere formal function of recognizing a state of hostilities, in the context of the Convention proceedings it appears more likely the change was intended to insure that the President was empowered to repel sudden attacks¹⁴²⁰ without awaiting congressional action and to make clear that the conduct of war was vested exclusively in the President.¹⁴²¹

¹⁴¹⁴Mr. Pinkney thought the House was too numerous for such deliberations but that the Senate would be more capable of a proper resolution and more acquainted with foreign affairs. Additionally, with the States equally represented in the Senate, the interests of all would be safeguarded. *Ibid.*

¹⁴¹⁵Hamilton’s plan provided that the President was “to make war or peace, with the advice of the senate . . .” 1 *id.*, 300.

¹⁴¹⁶2 *id.*, 318–319. In *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 69 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 465, Hamilton notes: “[T]he President is to be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States. In this respect his authority would be nominally the same with that of the king of Great Britain, but in substance much inferior to it. It would amount to nothing more than the supreme command and direction of the military and naval forces, as first General and admiral of the confederacy; while that of the British king extends to the *declaring* of war and to the *raising* and *regulating* of fleets and armies,—all which, by the Constitution under consideration, would appertain to the legislature.” (Emphasis in original). And see *id.*, No. 26, 164–171. Cf. C. BERDAHL, *WAR POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE IN THE UNITED STATES* (Urbana, Ill.: 1921), ch. V.

¹⁴¹⁷*THE FEDERALIST*, No. 69 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 464–465, 470. During the Convention, Gerry remarked that he “never expected to hear in a republic a motion to empower the Executive alone to declare war.” 2 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 318.

¹⁴¹⁸The Articles of Confederation vested powers with regard to foreign relations in the Congress.

¹⁴¹⁹2 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 318–319.

¹⁴²⁰Jointly introducing the amendment to substitute “declare” for “make,” Madison and Gerry noted the change would “leav[e] to the Executive the power to repel sudden attacks.” *Id.*, 318.

¹⁴²¹Connecticut originally voted against the amendment to substitute “declare” for “make” but “on the remark by Mr. King that ‘make’ war might be understood to ‘conduct’ it which was an Executive function, Mr. Ellsworth gave up his opposition, and the vote of Connecticut was changed. . . .” *Id.*, 319. The contemporary and

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An early controversy revolved about the issue of the President's powers and the necessity of congressional action when hostilities are initiated against us rather than the Nation instituting armed conflict. The Bey of Tripoli, in the course of attempting to extort payment for not molesting United States shipping, declared war upon the United States, and a debate began whether Congress had to enact a formal declaration of war to create a legal status of war. President Jefferson sent a squadron of frigates to the Mediterranean to protect our ships but limited its mission to defense in the narrowest sense of the term. Attacked by a Tripolitan cruiser, one of the frigates subdued it, disarmed it, and, pursuant to instructions, released it. Jefferson in a message to Congress announced his actions as in compliance with constitutional limitations on his authority in the absence of a declaration of war.¹⁴²² Hamilton espoused a different interpretation, contending that the Constitution vested in Congress the power to initiate war but that when another nation made war upon the United States we were already in a state of war and no declaration by Congress was needed.¹⁴²³ Congress thereafter enacted a statute authorizing the President to instruct the commanders of armed vessels of the United States to seize all vessels and goods of the Bey of Tripoli "and also to cause to be done all such other acts of precaution or hostility as *the state of war will justify . . .*"¹⁴²⁴ But no formal declaration of war was passed, Congress apparently accepting Hamilton's view.¹⁴²⁵

Sixty years later, the Supreme Court sustained the blockade of the Southern ports instituted by Lincoln in April 1861 at a time when Congress was not in session.¹⁴²⁶ Congress had subsequently ratified Lincoln's action,¹⁴²⁷ so that it was unnecessary for the Court to consider the constitutional basis of the President's action in the absence of congressional authorization, but the Court nonetheless approved, five-to-four, the blockade order as an exercise of

subsequent judicial interpretation was to the understanding set out in the text. Cf. *Talbot v. Seeman*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.), 1, 28 (1801) (Chief Justice Marshall: "The whole powers of war being, by the Constitution of the United States, vested in congress, the acts of that body alone can be resorted to as our guides in this inquiry."); *Ex parte Milligan*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2, 139 (1866).

¹⁴²² MESSAGES AND PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS, J. Richardson ed. (Washington: 1896), 326, 327.

¹⁴²³ 7 WORKS OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON, J. Hamilton ed. (New York: 1851), 746–747.

¹⁴²⁴ 2 Stat. 129, 130 (1802) (emphasis supplied).

¹⁴²⁵ Of course, Congress need not declare war in the all-out sense; it may provide for a limited war which, it may be, the 1802 statute recognized. Cf. *Bas v. Tingy*, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 37 (1800).

¹⁴²⁶ *The Prize Cases*, 2 Bl. (67 U.S.) 635 (1863).

¹⁴²⁷ 12 Stat. 326 (1861).

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Presidential power alone, on the ground that a state of war was a fact. "The President was bound to meet it in the shape it presented itself, without waiting for Congress to baptize it with a name; and no name given to it by him or them could change the fact."¹⁴²⁸ The minority challenged this doctrine on the ground that while the President could unquestionably adopt such measures as the laws permitted for the enforcement of order against insurgency, Congress alone could stamp an insurrection with the character of war and thereby authorize the legal consequences ensuing from a state of war.¹⁴²⁹

The view of the majority was proclaimed by a unanimous Court a few years later when it became necessary to ascertain the exact dates on which the war began and ended. The Court, the Chief Justice said, must "refer to some public act of the political departments of the government to fix the dates; and, for obvious reasons, those of the executive department, which may be, and, in fact, was, at the commencement of hostilities, obliged to act during the recess of Congress, must be taken. The proclamation of intended blockade by the President may therefore be assumed as marking the first of these dates, and the proclamation that the war had closed, as marking the second."¹⁴³⁰

These cases settled the issue whether a state of war could exist without formal declaration by Congress. When hostile action is taken against the Nation, or against its citizens or commerce, the appropriate response by order of the President may be resort to force. But the issue so much a source of controversy in the era of the Cold War and so divisive politically in the context of United States involvement in the Vietnamese War has been whether the President is empowered to commit troops abroad to further national interests in the absence of a declaration of war or specific congressional authorization short of such a declaration.¹⁴³¹ The Supreme Court studiously refused to consider the issue in any of the forms in which it was presented,¹⁴³² and the lower courts gen-

¹⁴²⁸The Prize Cases, 2 Bl. (67 U.S.) 635, 669 (1863).

¹⁴²⁹Id., 682.

¹⁴³⁰The Protector, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 700, 702 (1872).

¹⁴³¹The controversy, not susceptible of definitive resolution in any event, was stilled for the moment, when in 1973 Congress set a cut-off date for United States military activities in Indochina, P.L. 93-52, 108, 87 Stat. 134, and subsequently, over the President's veto, Congress enacted the War Powers Resolution, providing a framework for the assertion of congressional and presidential powers in the use of military force. P.L. 93-148, 87 Stat. 555 (1973), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1541-1548.

¹⁴³²In *Atlee v. Richardson*, 411 U.S. 911 (1973), affg. 347 F. Supp. 689 (E.D.Pa., 1982), the Court summarily affirmed a three-judge court's dismissal of a suit challenging the constitutionality of United States activities in Vietnam on political question grounds. The action constituted approval on the merits of the dismissal, but it did not necessarily approve the lower court's grounds. See also *Massachu-*

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erally refused, on “political question” grounds, to adjudicate the matter.¹⁴³³ In the absence of judicial elucidation, the Congress and the President have been required to accommodate themselves in the controversy to accept from each other less than each has been willing to accept but more than either has been willing to grant.¹⁴³⁴

THE POWER TO RAISE AND MAINTAIN ARMED FORCES

Purpose of Specific Grants

The clauses of the Constitution, which give Congress authority to raise and support armies, and so forth, were not inserted to endow the national government rather than the States with the power to do these things but to designate the department of the Federal Government, which would exercise the powers. As we have noted above, the English king was endowed with the power not only to initiate war but the power to raise and maintain armies and navies.¹⁴³⁵ Aware historically that these powers had been utilized to the detriment of the liberties and well-being of Englishmen and aware that in the English Declaration of Rights of 1688 it was insisted that standing armies could not be maintained without the

setts v. Laird, 400 U.S. 886 (1970); Holtzman v. Schlesinger, 414 U.S. 1304, 1316, 1321 (1973) (actions of individual justices on motions for stays). The Court simply denied certiorari in all cases on its discretionary docket.

¹⁴³³ E.g., Velvel v. Johnson, 287 F. Supp. 846 (D.Kan. 1968), *aff'd sub nom.* Velvel v. Nixon, 415 F.2d 236 (10th Cir., 1969), *cert. den.*, 396 U.S. 1042 (1970); Luftig v. McNamara, 252 F. Supp. 819 (D.D.C. 1966), *aff'd* 373 F.2d 664 (C.A.D.C. 1967), *cert. den.*, 389 U.S. 945 (1968); Mora v. McNamara, 387 F.2d 862 (D.C.Cir., 1967), *cert. den.*, 389 U.S. 934 (1968); Orlando v. Laird, 317 F. Supp. 1013 (E.D.N.Y. 1970), and Berk v. Laird, 317 F. Supp. 715 (E.D.N.Y. 1970), *consolidated and aff'd*, 443 F.2d 1039 (2d Cir., 1971), *cert. den.*, 404 U.S. 869 (1971); Massachusetts v. Laird, 451 F.2d 26 (1st Cir., 1971); Holtzman v. Schlesinger, 484 F.2d 1307 (2d Cir., 1973) *cert. den.*, 416 U.S. 936 (1974); Mitchell v. Laird, 488 F.2d 611 (D.C.Cir., 1973).

During the 1980s, the courts were no more receptive to suits, many by Members of Congress, seeking to obtain a declaration of the President's powers. The political question doctrine as well as certain discretionary authorities were relied on. See, e.g., Crockett v. Reagan, 558 F.Supp. 893 (D.D.C. 1982) (military aid to El Salvador), *aff'd*, 720 F.2d 1355 (D.C.Cir. 1983), *cert. den.*, 467 U.S. 1251 (1984); Conyers v. Reagan, 578 F.Supp. 324 (D.D.C. 1984) (invasion of Grenada), *dism'd. as moot*, 765 F.2d 1124 (D.C.Cir. 1985); Lowry v. Reagan, 676 F.Supp. 333 (D.D.C. 1987) (reflagging and military escort operation in Persian Gulf), *aff'd*, No. 87-5426 (D.C.Cir. 1988); Dellums v. Bush, 752 F.Supp. 1141 (D.D.C. 1990) (U.S. Saudia Arabia/Persian Gulf deployment).

¹⁴³⁴ For further discussion, see under section on President's commander-in-chief powers.

¹⁴³⁵ W. BLACKSTONE, COMMENTARIES, St. G. Tucker ed. (Philadelphia: 1803), 263.

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consent of Parliament, the Framers vested these basic powers in Congress.¹⁴³⁶

Time Limit on Appropriations for the Army

Prompted by the fear of standing armies to which Story alluded, the framers inserted the limitation that “no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years.” In 1904, the question arose whether this provision would be violated if the Government contracted to pay a royalty for use of a patent in constructing guns and other equipment where the payments are likely to continue for more than two years. Solicitor-General Hoyt ruled that such a contract would be lawful; that the appropriations limited by the Constitution “are those only which are to raise and support armies in the strict sense of the word ‘support,’ and that the inhibition of that clause does not extend to appropriations for the various means which an army may use in military operations, or which are deemed necessary for the common defense. . . .”¹⁴³⁷ Relying on this earlier opinion, Attorney General Clark ruled in 1948 that there was “no legal objection to a request to the Congress to appropriate funds to the Air Force for the procurement of aircraft and aeronautical equipment to remain available until expended.”¹⁴³⁸

Conscription

The constitutions adopted during the Revolutionary War by at least nine of the States sanctioned compulsory military service.¹⁴³⁹ Towards the end of the War of 1812, conscription of men for the army was proposed by James Monroe, then Secretary of War, but opposition developed and peace came before the bill could be enacted.¹⁴⁴⁰ In 1863, a compulsory draft law was adopted and put into operation without being challenged in the federal courts.¹⁴⁴¹ Not so the Selective Service Act of 1917.¹⁴⁴² This measure was attacked on the grounds that it tended to deprive the States of the right to “a well-regulated militia,” that the only power of Congress to exact compulsory service was the power to provide for calling forth the militia for the three purposes specified in the Constitu-

¹⁴³⁶ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1187.

¹⁴³⁷ 25 Ops. Atty. Gen. 105, 108 (1904).

¹⁴³⁸ 40 Ops. Atty. Gen. 555 (1948).

¹⁴³⁹ Selective Draft Law Cases, 245 U.S. 366, 380 (1918); *Cox v. Wood*, 247 U.S. 3 (1918).

¹⁴⁴⁰ *Id.*, 245 U.S., 385.

¹⁴⁴¹ *Id.*, 386–388. The measure was upheld by a state court. *Kneedler v. Lane*, 45 Pa. St. 238 (1863).

¹⁴⁴² Act of May 18, 1917, 40 Stat. 76.

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tion, which did not comprehend service abroad, and finally that the compulsory draft imposed involuntary servitude in violation of the Thirteenth Amendment. The Supreme Court rejected all of these contentions. It held that the powers of the States with respect to the militia were exercised in subordination to the paramount power of the National Government to raise and support armies, and that the power of Congress to mobilize an army was distinct from its authority to provide for calling the militia and was not qualified or in any wise limited thereby.¹⁴⁴³

Before the United States entered the first World War, the Court had anticipated the objection that compulsory military service would violate the Thirteenth Amendment and had answered it in the following words: “It introduced no novel doctrine with respect of services always treated as exceptional, and certainly was not intended to interdict enforcement of those duties which individuals owe to the State, such as services in the army, militia, on the jury, etc. The great purpose in view was liberty under the protection of effective government, not the destruction of the latter by depriving it of essential powers.”¹⁴⁴⁴ Accordingly, in the *Selective Draft Law Cases*,¹⁴⁴⁵ it dismissed the objection under that amendment as a contention that was “refuted by its mere statement.”¹⁴⁴⁶

Although the Supreme Court has so far formally declined to pass on the question of the “peacetime” draft,¹⁴⁴⁷ its opinions leave no doubt of the constitutional validity of the act. In *United States v. O'Brien*,¹⁴⁴⁸ upholding a statute prohibiting the destruction of selective service registrants’ certificate of registration, the Court, speaking through Chief Justice Warren, thought “[t]he power of Congress to classify and conscript manpower for military service is ‘beyond question.’”¹⁴⁴⁹ In noting Congress’ “broad constitutional power” to raise and regulate armies and navies,¹⁴⁵⁰ the Court has specifically observed that the conscription act was passed “pursuant to” the grant of authority to Congress in clauses 12–14.¹⁴⁵¹

¹⁴⁴³ *Selective Draft Law Cases*, 245 U.S. 366, 381, 382 (1918).

¹⁴⁴⁴ *Butler v. Perry*, 240 U.S. 328, 333 (1916).

¹⁴⁴⁵ 245 U.S. 366 (1918).

¹⁴⁴⁶ *Id.*, 390.

¹⁴⁴⁷ Universal Military Training and Service Act of 1948, 62 Stat. 604, as amended, 50 U.S.C. App. §§451–473. Actual conscription has been precluded as of July 1, 1973, P.L. 92–129, 85 Stat. 353, 50 U.S.C. App. §467(c), and registration was discontinued in 1975. Pres. Proc. No. 4360, 3 C.F.R. 462, 50 U.S.C. App. §453 note. Registration, but not conscription, was reactivated in the wake of the invasion of Afghanistan. P.L. 96–282, 94 Stat. 552 (1980).

¹⁴⁴⁸ 391 U.S. 367 (1968).

¹⁴⁴⁹ *Id.*, 377, quoting *Lichter v. United States*, 334 U.S. 742, 756 (1948).

¹⁴⁵⁰ *Schlesinger v. Ballard*, 419 U.S. 498, 510 (1975).

¹⁴⁵¹ *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57, 59 (1981). See *id.*, 64–65. And see *Selective Service System v. Minnesota Public Interest Research Group*, 468 U.S. 841

Care of the Armed Forces

Scope of the congressional and executive authority to prescribe the rules for the governance of the military is broad and subject to great deference by the judiciary. The Court recognizes “that the military is, by necessity, a specialized society separate from civilian society,” that “[t]he military constitutes a specialized community governed by a separate discipline from that of the civilian,” and that “Congress is permitted to legislate both with greater breadth and with greater flexibility when prescribing the rules by which [military society] shall be governed than it is when prescribing rules for [civilian society].”¹⁴⁵² Denying that Congress or military authorities are free to disregard the Constitution when acting in this area,¹⁴⁵³ the Court nonetheless operates with “a healthy deference to legislative and executive judgments” with respect to military affairs,¹⁴⁵⁴ so that, while constitutional guarantees apply, “the different character of the military community and of the military mission requires a different application of those protections.”¹⁴⁵⁵

In reliance upon this deference to congressional judgment with respect to the roles of the sexes in combat and the necessities of military mobilization, coupled with express congressional consideration of the precise questions, the Court sustained as constitutional the legislative judgment to provide only for registration of males for possible future conscription.¹⁴⁵⁶ Emphasizing the unique, separate status of the military, the necessity to indoctrinate men in obedience and discipline, the tradition of military neutrality in political affairs, and the need to protect troop morale, the Court upheld the validity of military post regulations, backed by congressional enactments, banning speeches and demonstrations of a partisan political nature and the distribution of literature without prior approval of post headquarters, with the commander authorized to keep out only those materials that would clearly endanger

(1984) (upholding denial of federal financial assistance under Title IV of the Higher Education Act to young men who fail to register for the draft).

¹⁴⁵² *Parker v. Levy*, 417 U.S. 733, 743–752 (1974). See also *Orloff v. Willoughby*, 345 U.S. 83, 93–94 (1953); *Schlesinger v. Councilman*, 420 U.S. 738, 746–748 (1975); *Greer v. Spock*, 424 U.S. 828, 837–838 (1976); *Middendorf v. Henry*, 425 U.S. 25, 45–46 (1976); *Brown v. Glines*, 444 U.S. 348, 353–358 (1980); *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57, 64–68 (1981).

¹⁴⁵³ *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57, 67 (1981).

¹⁴⁵⁴ *Id.*, 66. “[P]erhaps in no other area has the Court accorded Congress greater deference.” *Id.*, 64–65. See also *Gilligan v. Morgan*, 413 U.S. 1, 10 (1973).

¹⁴⁵⁵ *Parker v. Levy*, 417 U.S. 733, 758 (1974). “[T]he tests and limitations [of the Constitution] to be applied may differ because of the military context.” *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57, 67 (1981).

¹⁴⁵⁶ *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57 (1981). Compare *Frontiero v. Richardson*, 411 U.S. 677 (1973), with *Schlesinger v. Ballard*, 419 U.S. 498 (1975).

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the loyalty, discipline, or morale of troops on the base.¹⁴⁵⁷ On the same basis, the Court rejected challenges on constitutional and statutory grounds to military regulations requiring servicemen to obtain approval from their commanders before circulating petitions on base, in the context of circulations of petitions for presentation to Congress.¹⁴⁵⁸ And the statements of a military officer urging disobedience to certain orders could be punished under provisions that would have been of questionable validity in a civilian context.¹⁴⁵⁹ Reciting the considerations previously detailed, the Court has refused to allow enlisted men and officers to sue to challenge or set aside military decisions and actions.¹⁴⁶⁰

Congress has a plenary and exclusive power to determine the age at which a soldier or seaman shall be received, the compensation he shall be allowed and the service to which he shall be assigned. This power may be exerted to supersede parents' control of minor sons who are needed for military service. Where the statute requiring the consent of parents for enlistment of a minor son did not permit such consent to be qualified, their attempt to impose a condition that the son carry war risk insurance for the benefit of his mother was not binding on the Government.¹⁴⁶¹ Since the possession of government insurance payable to the person of his choice is calculated to enhance the morale of the serviceman, Congress may permit him to designate any beneficiary he desires, irrespective of state law, and may exempt the proceeds from the claims of creditors.¹⁴⁶² Likewise, Congress may bar a State from taxing the

¹⁴⁵⁷ *Greer v. Spock*, 424 U.S. 828 (1976), limiting *Flower v. United States*, 407 U.S. 197 (1972).

¹⁴⁵⁸ *Brown v. Glines*, 444 U.S. 348 (1980); *Secretary of the Navy v. Huff*, 444 U.S. 453 (1980). The statutory challenge was based on 10 U.S.C. §1034, which protects a serviceman's right to communicate with a Member of Congress, but which the Court interpreted narrowly.

¹⁴⁵⁹ *Parker v. Levy*, 417 U.S. 733 (1974).

¹⁴⁶⁰ *Chappell v. Wallace*, 462 U.S. 296 (1983) (enlisted men charging racial discrimination by their superiors in duty assignments and performance evaluations could not bring constitutional tort suits); *United States v. Stanley*, 483 U.S. 669 (1987) (officer who had been an unwitting, unconsenting subject of an Army experiment to test the effects of LSD on human subjects could not bring a constitutional tort for damages). These considerations are also the basis of the Court's construction of the Federal Tort Claims Act so that it does not reach injuries arising out of or in the course of military activity. *Feres v. United States*, 340 U.S. 135 (1950). In *United States v. Johnson*, 481 U.S. 681 (1987), four Justices urged reconsideration of *Feres*, but that has not occurred.

¹⁴⁶¹ *United States v. Williams*, 302 U.S. 46 (1937). See also *In re Grimley*, 137 U.S. 147, 153 (1890); *In re Morrissey*, 137 U.S. 157 (1890).

¹⁴⁶² *Wissner v. Wissner*, 338 U.S. 655 (1950); *Ridgway v. Ridgway*, 454 U.S. 46 (1981). In the absence of express congressional language, like that found in *Wissner*, the Court nonetheless held that a state court division under its community property system of an officer's military retirement benefits conflicted with the federal program and could not stand. *McCarty v. McCarty*, 453 U.S. 210 (1981). See also *Porter*

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tangible, personal property of a soldier, assigned for duty therein, but domiciled elsewhere.¹⁴⁶³ To safeguard the health and welfare of the armed forces, Congress may authorize the suppression of bordellos in the vicinity of the places where forces are stationed.¹⁴⁶⁴

Trial and Punishment of Offenses: Servicemen, Civilian Employees, and Dependents

Under its power to make rules for the government and regulation of the armed forces, Congress has set up a system of criminal law binding on all servicemen, with its own substantive laws, its own courts and procedures, and its own appeals procedure.¹⁴⁶⁵ The drafters of these congressional enactments conceived of a military justice system with application to all servicemen wherever they are, to reservists while on inactive duty training, and to certain civilians in special relationships to the military. In recent years, all these conceptions have been restricted.

Servicemen.—Although there is extensive disagreement about the practice of court-martial trial of servicemen for nonmilitary offenses in the past,¹⁴⁶⁶ the matter never really was raised in substantial degree until the Cold War period when the United States found it essential to maintain both at home and abroad a large standing army in which great numbers of servicemen were draftees. In *O'Callahan v. Parker*,¹⁴⁶⁷ the Court held that court-martial jurisdiction was lacking to try servicemen charged with a crime that was not "service connected." The Court attempted to assay no definition of "service connection," but among the factors it noted were that the crime in question was committed against a civilian in peacetime in the United States off-base while the serviceman was lawfully off duty.¹⁴⁶⁸ *O'Callahan* was overruled in *Solorio v. United States*,¹⁴⁶⁹ the Court holding that "the requirements of the

v. Aetna Casualty Co., 370 U.S. 159 (1962) (exemption from creditors' claims of disability benefits deposited by a veteran's guardian in a savings and loan association).

¹⁴⁶³ *Dameron v. Brodhead*, 345 U.S. 322 (1953). See also *California v. Buzard*, 382 U.S. 386 (1966); *Sullivan v. United States*, 395 U.S. 169 (1969).

¹⁴⁶⁴ *McKinley v. United States*, 249 U.S. 397 (1919).

¹⁴⁶⁵ The Uniform Code of Military Justice of 1950, 64 Stat. 107, as amended by the Military Justice Act of 1968, 82 Stat. 1335, 10 U.S.C. § 801 et seq. For prior acts, see 12 Stat. 736 (1863); 39 Stat. 650 (1916).

¹⁴⁶⁶ Compare *Solorio v. United States*, 483 U.S. 435, 441–447 (1987) (majority opinion), with *id.*, 456–461 (dissenting opinion), and *O'Callahan v. Parker*, 395 U.S. 258, 268–272 (1969) (majority opinion), with *id.*, 276–280 (Justice Harlan dissenting). See Duke & Vogel, "The Constitution and the Standing Army: Another Problem of Court-Martial Jurisdiction," 13 Vand. L. Rev. 435 (1960).

¹⁴⁶⁷ 395 U.S. 258 (1969).

¹⁴⁶⁸ *Id.*, 273–274. See also *Relford v. Commandant*, 401 U.S. 355 (1971); *Gosa v. Mayden*, 413 U.S. 665 (1973).

¹⁴⁶⁹ 483 U.S. 435 (1987).

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Constitution are not violated where . . . a court-martial is convened to try a serviceman who was a member of the armed services at the time of the offense charged.”¹⁴⁷⁰ Chief Justice Rehnquist’s opinion for the Court insisted that *O’Callahan* had been based on erroneous readings of English and American history, and that “the service connection approach . . . has proved confusing and difficult for military courts to apply.”¹⁴⁷¹

With regard to trials before court-martials, it is not clear what provisions of the Bill of Rights and other constitutional guarantees do apply. The Fifth Amendment expressly excepts “[c]ases arising in the land and naval forces” from its grand jury provision, and there is an implication that these cases are also excepted from the Sixth Amendment.¹⁴⁷² The double jeopardy provision of the Fifth Amendment appears to be applicable.¹⁴⁷³ The Court of Military Appeals now holds that servicemen are entitled to all constitutional rights except those expressly or by implication inapplicable to the military.¹⁴⁷⁴ The Uniform Code of Military Justice, supplemented by the *Manual for Courts-Martial*, affirmatively grants due process rights roughly comparable to civilian procedures, so that many such issues are unlikely to arise absolutely necessitating constitutional analysis.¹⁴⁷⁵ However, the Code leaves intact much of the criticized traditional structure of courts-martial, including the pervasive possibilities of command influence,¹⁴⁷⁶ and the Court of Military Appeals is limited on the scope of its review,¹⁴⁷⁷ thus creating areas in which constitutional challenges are likely.

Upholding Articles 133 and 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the Court stressed the special status of military soci-

¹⁴⁷⁰ *Id.*, 450–451.

¹⁴⁷¹ *Id.*, 448. Although the Court of Military Appeals had affirmed Solorio’s military-court conviction on the basis that the service-connection test had been met, the Court elected to reconsider and overrule *O’Callahan* altogether.

¹⁴⁷² *Ex parte Milligan*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2, 123, 138–139 (1866); *Ex parte Quirin*, 317 U.S. 1, 40 (1942). The matter was raised but left unresolved in *Middendorf v. Henry*, 425 U.S. 25 (1976).

¹⁴⁷³ See *Wade v. Hunter*, 336 U.S. 684 (1949). Cf. *Grafton v. United States*, 206 U.S. 333 (1907).

¹⁴⁷⁴ *United States v. Jacoby*, 11 U.S.C.M.A. 428, 29 C.M.R. 244 (1960); *United States v. Tempia*, 16 U.S.C.M.A. 629, 37 C.M.R. 249 (1967). This conclusion by the Court of Military Appeals is at least questioned and perhaps disapproved in *Middendorf v. Henry*, 425 U.S. 25, 43–48 (1976), in the course of overturning a CMA rule that counsel was required in summary court-martial. For the CMA’s response to the holding see *United States v. Booker*, 5 M. J. 238 (C.M.A. 1977), *rev’d in part on reh.*, 5 M. J. 246 (C.M.A. 1978).

¹⁴⁷⁵ The UCMJ guarantees counsel, protection from self-incrimination and double jeopardy, and warnings of rights prior to interrogation, to name a few.

¹⁴⁷⁶ Cf. *O’Callahan v. Parker*, 395 U.S. 258, 263–264 (1969).

¹⁴⁷⁷ 10 U.S.C. § 867.

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ety.¹⁴⁷⁸ This difference has resulted in a military Code regulating aspects of the conduct of members of the military that in the civilian sphere would go unregulated, but on the other hand the penalties imposed range from the severe to well below the threshold of that possible in civilian life. Because of these factors, the Court, while agreeing that constitutional limitations applied to military justice, was of the view that the standards of constitutional guarantees were significantly different in the military than in civilian life. Thus, the vagueness challenge to the Articles was held to be governed by the standard applied to criminal statutes regulating economic affairs, the most lenient of vagueness standards.¹⁴⁷⁹ Neither did application of the Articles to conduct essentially composed of speech necessitate a voiding of the conviction, inasmuch as the speech was unprotected, and, even while it might reach protected speech, the officer here was unable to raise that issue.¹⁴⁸⁰

Military courts are not Article III courts but agencies established pursuant to Article I.¹⁴⁸¹ It was established in the last century that the civil courts have no power to interfere with court-martial and that court-martial decisions are not subject to civil court review.¹⁴⁸² Until August 1, 1984, the Supreme Court had no jurisdiction to review by writ of *certiorari* the proceedings of a military commission, but Congress has now conferred appellate jurisdiction of decisions of the Court of Military Appeals.¹⁴⁸³ Prior to this time, civil court review of court-martial decisions was possible through *habeas corpus* jurisdiction,¹⁴⁸⁴ an avenue that continues to exist, but the Court severely limited the scope of such review, restricting it to the issue whether the court-martial has jurisdiction over the person tried and the offense charged.¹⁴⁸⁵ In *Burns v. Wil-*

¹⁴⁷⁸ *Parker v. Levy*, 417 U.S. 733 (1974). Article 133 punishes a commissioned officer for “conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman,” and Article 134 punishes any person subject to the Code for “all disorders and neglects to the prejudice of good order and discipline in the armed forces.”

¹⁴⁷⁹ *Id.*, 756.

¹⁴⁸⁰ *Id.*, 757–761.

¹⁴⁸¹ *Kurtz v. Moffitt*, 115 U.S. 487 (1885); *Dynes v. Hoover*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 65 (1858). Judges of Article I courts do not have the independence conferred by security of tenure and of compensation.

¹⁴⁸² *Dynes v. Hoover*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 65 (1858).

¹⁴⁸³ Military Justice Act of 1983, P.L. 98–209, 97 Stat. 1393, 28 U.S.C. § 1259.

¹⁴⁸⁴ Cf. *Ex parte Milligan*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2 (1866); *Ex parte Yerger*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 85 (1869); *Ex parte Reed*, 100 U.S. 13 (1879). While federal courts have jurisdiction to intervene in military court proceedings prior to judgment, as a matter of equity, following the standards applicable to federal court intervention in state criminal proceedings, they should act when the petitioner has not exhausted his military remedies only in extraordinary circumstances. *Schlesinger v. Councilman*, 420 U.S. 738 (1975).

¹⁴⁸⁵ *Ex parte Reed*, 100 U.S. 13 (1879); *Swaim v. United States*, 165 U.S. 553 (1897); *Carter v. Roberts*, 177 U.S. 496 (1900); *Hiatt v. Brown*, 339 U.S. 103 (1950).

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son,¹⁴⁸⁶ however, at least seven Justices appeared to reject the traditional view and adopt the position that civil courts on *habeas corpus* could review claims of denials of due process rights to which the military had not given full and fair consideration. Since *Burns*, the Court has thrown little light on the range of issues cognizable by a federal court in such litigation¹⁴⁸⁷ and the lower federal courts have divided several possible ways.¹⁴⁸⁸

Civilians and Dependents.—In recent years, the Court rejected the view of the drafters of the Code of Military Justice with regard to the persons Congress may constitutionally reach under its clause 14 powers. Thus, it held that an honorably discharged former soldier, charged with having committed murder during military service in Korea, could not be tried by court-martial but must be charged in federal court, if at all.¹⁴⁸⁹ After first leaning the other way,¹⁴⁹⁰ the Court on rehearing found lacking court-martial jurisdiction, at least in peacetime, to try civilian dependents of service personnel for capital crimes committed outside the United States.¹⁴⁹¹ Subsequently, the Court extended its ruling to civilian dependents overseas charged with noncapital crimes¹⁴⁹² and to civilian employees of the military charged with either capital or noncapital crimes.¹⁴⁹³

WAR LEGISLATION

War Powers in Peacetime

To some indeterminate extent, the power to wage war embraces the power to prepare for it and the power to deal with the problems of adjustment following its cessation. Justice Story em-

¹⁴⁸⁶ 346 U.S. 137 (1953).

¹⁴⁸⁷ Cf. *Fowler v. Wilkinson*, 353 U.S. 583 (1957); *United States v. Augenblick*, 393 U.S. 348, 350 n. 3, 351 (1969); *Parker v. Levy*, 417 U.S. 733 (1974); *Secretary of the Navy v. Avrech*, 418 U.S. 676 (1974).

¹⁴⁸⁸ E.g., *Calley v. Callaway*, 519 F. 2d 184, 194–203 (5th Cir., 1975) (*en banc*), *cert. den.*, 425 U.S. 911 (1976).

¹⁴⁸⁹ *United States ex rel. Toth v. Quarles*, 350 U.S. 11 (1955). See also *Lee v. Madigan*, 358 U.S. 228 (1959).

¹⁴⁹⁰ *Kinsella v. Krueger*, 351 U.S. 470 (1956); *Reid v. Covert*, 351 U.S. 487 (1956)

¹⁴⁹¹ *Reid v. Covert*, 354 U.S. 1 (1957) (voiding court-martial convictions of two women for murdering their soldier husbands stationed in Japan). Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, and Brennan were of the opinion Congress' power under clause 14 could not reach civilians. Justices Frankfurter and Harlan concurred, limited to capital cases. Justices Clark and Burton dissented.

¹⁴⁹² *Kinsella v. United States ex rel. Singleton*, 361 U.S. 234 (1960) (voiding court-martial conviction for noncapital crime of wife of soldier husband overseas). The majority could see no reason for distinguishing between capital and noncapital crimes. Justices Harlan and Frankfurter dissented on the ground that in capital cases greater constitutional protection, available in civil courts, was required.

¹⁴⁹³ *Grisham v. Hagan*, 361 U.S. 278 (1960); *McElroy v. United States ex rel. Guagliardo*, 361 U.S. 281 (1960).

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phasized that “[i]t is important also to consider, that the surest means of avoiding war is to be prepared for it in peace. . . . How could a readiness for war in time of peace be safely prohibited, unless we could in like manner prohibit the preparations and establishments of every hostile nation? . . . It will be in vain to oppose constitutional barriers to the impulse of self-preservation.”¹⁴⁹⁴ Authoritative judicial recognition of the power is found in *Ashwander v. Tennessee Valley Authority*,¹⁴⁹⁵ in which the power of the Federal Government to construct and operate a dam and power plant, pursuant to the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916,¹⁴⁹⁶ was sustained. The Court noted that the assurance of an abundant supply of electrical energy and of nitrates, which would be produced at the site, “constitute national defense assets” and the project was justifiable under the war powers.¹⁴⁹⁷

Perhaps the most significant example of legislation adopted pursuant to the war powers when no actual “shooting war” was in progress, with the object of strengthening national defense, was the Atomic Energy Act of 1946, establishing a body to oversee and further the research into and development of atomic energy for both military and civil purposes.¹⁴⁹⁸ Congress has also authorized a vast amount of highway construction, pursuant to its conception of their “primary importance to the national defense,”¹⁴⁹⁹ and the first extensive program of federal financial assistance in the field of education was the National Defense Education Act.¹⁵⁰⁰ The post-World War II years, though nominally peacetime, constituted the era of the Cold War and the occasions for several armed conflicts, notably in Korea and Indochina, in which the Congress enacted much legislation designed to strengthen national security, including an apparently permanent draft,¹⁵⁰¹ authorization of extensive space exploration,¹⁵⁰² authorization for wage and price con-

¹⁴⁹⁴ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1180.

¹⁴⁹⁵ 297 U.S. 288 (1936).

¹⁴⁹⁶ 39 Stat. 166 (1916).

¹⁴⁹⁷ 297 U.S., 327–328.

¹⁴⁹⁸ 60 Stat. 755 (1946), 42 U.S.C. § 1801 et seq.

¹⁴⁹⁹ 108(a), 70 Stat. 374, 378 (1956), 23 U.S.C. § 101(b), naming the Interstate System the “National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.”

¹⁵⁰⁰ 72 Stat. 1580 (1958), as amended, codified to various sections of Titles 20 and 42.

¹⁵⁰¹ Universal Military Training and Service Act of 1948, 62 Stat. 604, as amended, 50 U.S.C. App. §§ 451–473. Actual conscription has been precluded as of July 1, 1973, P. L. 92–129, 85 Stat. 353, 50 U. S. C. App. 467(c), although registration for possible conscription is in effect. P. L. 96–282, 94 Stat. 552 (1980).

¹⁵⁰² National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, 72 Stat. 426, as amended, codified in various sections of Titles 5, 18, and 50.

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trols,¹⁵⁰³ and continued extension of the Renegotiation Act to recapture excess profits on defense contracts.¹⁵⁰⁴ Additionally, the period saw extensive regulation of matter affecting individual rights, such as loyalty-security programs,¹⁵⁰⁵ passport controls,¹⁵⁰⁶ and limitations on members of the Communist Party and associated organizations,¹⁵⁰⁷ all of which are dealt with in other sections.

A particular province of such legislation is that designed to effect a transition from war to peace. The war power “is not limited to victories in the field. . . . It carries with it inherently the power to guard against the immediate renewal of the conflict, and to remedy the evils which have arisen from its rise and progress.”¹⁵⁰⁸ This principle was given a much broader application after the First World War in *Hamilton v. Kentucky Distilleries Co.*,¹⁵⁰⁹ where the War Time Prohibition Act¹⁵¹⁰ adopted after the signing of the Armistice was upheld as an appropriate measure for increasing war efficiency. The Court was unable to conclude that the war emergency had passed with the cessation of hostilities.¹⁵¹¹ But in 1924, it held that a rent control law for the District of Columbia, which had been previously upheld,¹⁵¹² had ceased to operate because the emergency which justified it had come to an end.¹⁵¹³

A similar issue was presented after World War II in which the Court held that the authority of Congress to regulate rents by virtue of the war power did not end with the presidential proclamation terminating hostilities on December 31, 1946.¹⁵¹⁴ However,

¹⁵⁰³Title II of the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1970, 84 Stat. 799, as amended, provided temporary authority for wage and price controls, a power which the President subsequently exercised. E.O. 11615, 36 Fed Reg. 15727 (August 16, 1971). Subsequent legislation expanded the President's authority. 85 Stat. 743, 12 U.S.C. § 1904 note.

¹⁵⁰⁴Renegotiation Act of 1951, 65 Stat. 7, as amended, 50 U.S.C. App. § 1211 et seq.

¹⁵⁰⁵E.g., *Cafeteria & Restaurant Workers v. McElroy*, 367 U.S. 886 (1961); *Peters v. Hobby*, 349 U.S. 331 (1955).

¹⁵⁰⁶*Zemel v. Rusk*, 381 U.S. 1 (1965); *United States v. Laub*, 385 U.S. 475 (1967).

¹⁵⁰⁷*United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967); *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437 (1965).

¹⁵⁰⁸*Stewart v. Kahn*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 493, 507 (1871) (sustaining a congressional deduction from a statute of limitations the period during which the Civil War prevented the bringing of an action). See also *Mayfield v. Richards*, 115 U.S. 137 (1885).

¹⁵⁰⁹251 U.S. 146 (1919). See also *Ruppert v. Caffey*, 251 U.S. 264 (1920).

¹⁵¹⁰Act of November 21, 1918, 40 Stat. 1046.

¹⁵¹¹251 U.S., 163.

¹⁵¹²*Block v. Hirsh*, 256 U.S. 135 (1921).

¹⁵¹³*Chastleton Corp. v. Sinclair*, 264 U.S. 543 (1924).

¹⁵¹⁴*Woods v. Cloyd W. Miller Co.*, 333 U.S. 138 (1948). See also *Fleming Mohawk Wrecking Co.*, 331 U.S. 111 (1947).

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the Court cautioned that “[w]e recognize the force of the argument that the effects of war under modern conditions may be felt in the economy for years and years, and that if the war power can be used in days of peace to treat all the wounds which war inflicts on our society, it may not only swallow up all other powers of Congress but largely obliterate the Ninth and Tenth Amendments as well. There are no such implications in today’s decision.”¹⁵¹⁵

In the same year, the Court sustained by only a five-to-four vote the Government’s contention that the power which Congress had conferred upon the President to deport enemy aliens in times of a declared war was not exhausted when the shooting stopped.¹⁵¹⁶ “It is not for us to question,” said Justice Frankfurter for the Court, “a belief by the President that enemy aliens who were justifiably deemed fit subjects for internment during active hostilities [sic] do not lose their potency for mischief during the period of confusion and conflict which is characteristic of a state of war even when the guns are silent but the peace of Peace has not come.”¹⁵¹⁷

Delegation of Legislative Power in Wartime

The Court has insisted that in times of war as in times of peace “the respective branches of the Government keep within the power assigned to each,”¹⁵¹⁸ thus raising the issue of permissible delegation, inasmuch as during a war Congress has been prone to delegate many more powers to the President than at other times.¹⁵¹⁹ But the number of cases actually discussing the matter is few.¹⁵²⁰ Two theories have been advanced at times when the delegation doctrine carried more of a force than it has in recent years. First, it is suggested that inasmuch as the war power is inherent in the Federal Government, and one shared by the legislative and executive branches, Congress does not really delegate legislative power when it authorizes the President to exercise the war power in a prescribed manner, a view which entirely overlooks the fact that the Constitution expressly vests the war power as a legislative power in Congress. Second, it is suggested that Congress’ power to delegate in wartime is limited as in other situations but that the

¹⁵¹⁵ *Id.*, 333 U.S., 143–144.

¹⁵¹⁶ *Ludecke v. Watkins*, 335 U.S. 160 (1948).

¹⁵¹⁷ *Id.*, 170.

¹⁵¹⁸ *Lichter v. United States*, 334 U.S. 742, 779 (1948).

¹⁵¹⁹ For an extensive consideration of this subject in the context of the President’s redelegation of it, see N. GRUNDSTEIN, *PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY IN WARTIME* (Pittsburgh: 1961).

¹⁵²⁰ In the *Selective Draft Law Cases*, 245 U.S. 366, 389 (1918), the objection was dismissed without discussion. The issue was decided by reference to peacetime precedents in *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S. 414, 424 (1944).

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existence of a state of war is a factor weighing in favor of the validity of the delegation.

The first theory was fully stated by Justice Bradley in *Hamilton v. Dillin*,¹⁵²¹ upholding a levy imposed by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to an act of Congress. To the argument that the levy was a tax the fixing of which Congress could not delegate, Justice Bradley noted that the power exercised “does not belong to the same category as the power to levy and collect taxes, duties, and excises. It belongs to the war powers of the Government. . . .”¹⁵²²

Both theories found expression in different passages of Chief Justice Stone’s opinion in *Hirabayashi v. United States*,¹⁵²³ upholding executive imposition of a curfew on Japanese-Americans pursuant to legislative delegation. On the one hand, he spoke to Congress and the Executive, “acting in cooperation,” to impose the curfew,¹⁵²⁴ while on the other hand, he noted that a delegation in which Congress has determined the policy and the rule of conduct, leaving to the Executive the carry-out of the matter, is permissible delegation.¹⁵²⁵

A similar ambiguity is found in *Lichter v. United States*,¹⁵²⁶ upholding the Renegotiation Act, but taken as a whole the Court there espoused the second theory. “The power [of delegation] is especially significant in connection with constitutional war powers under which the exercise of broad discretion as to method to be employed may be essential to an effective use of its war powers by Congress. The degree to which Congress must specify its policies and standards in order that the administrative authority granted may not be an unconstitutional delegation of its own legislative power is not capable of precise definition. . . . Thus, while the constitutional structure and controls of our Government are our guides equally in war and in peace, they must be read with the realistic purposes of the entire instrument fully in mind.”¹⁵²⁷ The Court then examined the exigencies of war and concluded that the delegation was valid.¹⁵²⁸

¹⁵²¹ 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 73 (1875).

¹⁵²² *Id.*, 96–97. Cf. *United States v. Chemical Foundation*, 272 U.S. 1 (1926).

¹⁵²³ 320 U.S. 81 (1943).

¹⁵²⁴ *Id.*, 91–92, 104.

¹⁵²⁵ *Id.*, 104.

¹⁵²⁶ 334 U.S. 742 (1948).

¹⁵²⁷ *Id.*, 778–779, 782.

¹⁵²⁸ *Id.*, 778–783.

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS IN WARTIME

Constitution and the Advance of the Flag

Theater of Military Operations.—Military law to the exclusion of constitutional limitations otherwise applicable is the rule in the areas in which military operations are taking place. This view was assumed by all members of the Court in *Ex parte Milligan*,¹⁵²⁹ in which the trial by a military commission of a civilian charged with disloyalty in a part of the country remote from the theater of military operations was held invalid. Although unanimous in the result, the Court divided five-to-four on the ground of decision. The point of disagreement was over which department of the Government had authority to say with finality what regions lie within the theater of military operations. The majority claimed this function for the courts and asserted that an area in which the civil courts were open and functioning does not;¹⁵³⁰ the minority argued that the question was for Congress' determination.¹⁵³¹ The entire Court rejected the Government's contention that the President's determination was conclusive in the absence of restraining legislation.¹⁵³²

Similarly, in *Duncan v. Kahanamoku*,¹⁵³³ the Court declared that the authority granted by Congress to the territorial governor of Hawaii to declare martial law under certain circumstances, which he exercised in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor, did not warrant the supplanting of civil courts with military tribunals and the trial of civilians for civilian crimes in these military tribunals at a time when no obstacle stood in the way of the operation of the civil courts, except, of course, the governor's order.

Enemy Country.—It has seemed reasonably clear that the Constitution does not follow the advancing troops into conquered territory. Persons in such territory have been held entirely beyond the reach of constitutional limitations and subject to the laws of war as interpreted and applied by the Congress and the President.¹⁵³⁴ "What is the law which governs an army invading an enemy's country?" the Court asked in *Dow v. Johnson*.¹⁵³⁵ "It is not the civil law of the invaded country; it is not the civil law of the conquering country; it is military law—the law of war—and its su-

¹⁵²⁹ 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2 (1866).

¹⁵³⁰ *Id.*, 127.

¹⁵³¹ *Id.*, 132, 138.

¹⁵³² *Id.*, 121, 139–142.

¹⁵³³ 327 U.S. 304 (1946).

¹⁵³⁴ *New Orleans v. The Steamship Co.*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 387 (1874); *Santiago v. Noguerras*, 214 U.S. 260 (1909); *Madsen v. Kinsella*, 343 U.S. 341 (1952).

¹⁵³⁵ 100 U.S. 158, 170 (1880).

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premacry for the protection of the officers and soldiers of the army, when in service in the field in the enemy's country, is as essential to the efficiency of the army as the supremacy of the civil law at home, and, in time of peace, is essential to the preservation of liberty."

These conclusions follow not only from the usual necessities of war but as well from the Court's doctrine that the Constitution is not automatically applicable in all territories acquired by the United States, the question turning upon whether Congress has made the area "incorporated" or "unincorporated" territory,¹⁵³⁶ but in *Reid v. Covert*,¹⁵³⁷ Justice Black in a plurality opinion of the Court asserted that wherever the United States acts it must do so only "in accordance with all the limitation imposed by the Constitution. . . . [C]onstitutional protections for the individual were designed to restrict the United States Government when it acts outside of this country, as well as at home."¹⁵³⁸ The case, however, involved the trial of a United States citizen abroad and the language quoted was not subscribed to by a majority of the Court; thus, it must be regarded as a questionable rejection of the previous line of cases.¹⁵³⁹

Enemy Property.—In *Brown v. United States*,¹⁵⁴⁰ Chief Justice Marshall dealt definitively with the legal position of enemy property during wartime. He held that the mere declaration of war by Congress does not effect a confiscation of enemy property situated within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, but the right of Congress by further action to subject such property to confiscation was asserted in the most positive terms. As an exercise of the war power, such confiscation was held not subject to the restrictions of the Fifth and Sixth Amendment. Since such confiscation is unrelated to the personal guilt of the owner, it is immaterial whether the property belongs to an alien, a neutral, or even to a citizen. The whole doctrine of confiscation is built upon the foundation that it is an instrument of coercion, which, by depriving an enemy of property within the reach of his power, whether within his territory or outside it, impairs his ability to resist the

¹⁵³⁶ *De Lima v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 1 (1901); *Dooley v. United States*, 182 U.S. 222 (1901); *Downes v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 244 (1901); *Dorr v. United States*, 195 U.S. 138 (1904).

¹⁵³⁷ 354 U.S. 1 (1957).

¹⁵³⁸ *Id.*, 6, 7.

¹⁵³⁹ For a comprehensive treatment, preceding *Reid v. Covert*, of the matter in the context of the post-War war crimes trials, see Fairman, *Some New Problems of the Constitution Following the Flag*, 1 *Stan. L. Rev.* 587 (1949).

¹⁵⁴⁰ 8 Cr. (12 U.S.) 110 (1814). See also *Conrad v. Waples*, 96 U.S. 279 (1878).

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confiscating government while at the same time it furnishes to that government means for carrying on the war.¹⁵⁴¹

Prizes of War.—The power of Congress with respect to prizes is plenary; no one can have any interest in prizes captured except by permission of Congress.¹⁵⁴² Nevertheless, since international law is a part of our law, the Court will administer it so long as it has not been modified by treaty or by legislative or executive action. Thus, during the Civil War, the Court found that the Confiscation Act of 1861, and the Supplementary Act of 1863, which, in authorizing the condemnation of vessels, made provision for the protection of interests of loyal citizens, merely created a municipal forfeiture and did not override or displace the law of prize. It decided, therefore, that when a vessel was liable to condemnation under either law, the Government was at liberty to proceed under the most stringent rules of international law, with the result that the citizen would be deprived of the benefit of the protective provisions of the statute.¹⁵⁴³ Similarly, when Cuban ports were blockaded during the Spanish-American War, the Court held, over the vigorous dissent of three of its members, that the rule of international law exempting unarmed fishing vessels from capture was applicable in the absence of any treaty provision, or other public act of the Government in relation to the subject.¹⁵⁴⁴

The Constitution at Home in Wartime

Personal Liberty.—“The Constitution of the United States is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and in peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men, at all times, and under all circumstances. No doctrine, involving more pernicious consequences, was ever invented by the wit of man than that any of its provisions can be suspended during any of the great exigencies of government. Such a doctrine leads directly to anarchy or despotism, but the theory of necessity on which it is based is false; for the government, within the Constitution, has all the powers granted to it, which are necessary to preserve its existence; as has been happily proved by the result of the great effort to throw off its just authority.”¹⁵⁴⁵

¹⁵⁴¹ *Miller v. United States*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 268 (1871); *Steehr v. Wallace*, 255 U.S. 239 (1921); *Central Trust Co. v. Garvan*, 254 U.S. 554 (1921); *United States v. Chemical Foundation*, 272 U.S. 1 (1926); *Silesian-American Corp. v. Clark*, 332 U.S. 469 (1947); *Cities Service Co. v. McGrath*, 342 U.S. 330 (1952); *Handelsbureau La Mola v. Kennedy*, 370 U.S. 940 (1962); cf. *Honda v. Clark*, 386 U.S. 484 (1967).

¹⁵⁴² *The Siren*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 389 (1871).

¹⁵⁴³ *The Hampton*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 372, 376 (1867).

¹⁵⁴⁴ *The Paquete Habana*, 175 U.S. 677, 700, 711 (1900).

¹⁵⁴⁵ *Ex parte Milligan*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2, 120–121 (1866).

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Ex parte Milligan, from which these words are quoted, is justly deemed one of the great cases undergirding civil liberty in this country in times of war or other great crisis, holding that except in areas in which armed hostilities have made enforcement of civil law impossible constitutional rights may not be suspended and civilians subjected to the vagaries of military justice. Yet, the words were uttered after the cessation of hostilities, and the Justices themselves recognized that with the end of the shooting there arose the greater likelihood that constitutional rights could be and would be observed and that the Court would require the observance.¹⁵⁴⁶ This pattern recurs with each critical period.

That the power of Congress to punish seditious utterances in wartime is limited by the First Amendment was assumed by the Court in a series of cases,¹⁵⁴⁷ in which it nonetheless affirmed conviction for violations of the Espionage Act of 1917.¹⁵⁴⁸ The Court also upheld a state law making it an offense for persons to advocate that citizens of the State should refuse to assist in prosecuting war against enemies of the United States.¹⁵⁴⁹ Justice Holmes matter-of-factly stated the essence of the pattern that we have mentioned. "When a nation is at war many things that might be said in time of peace are such a hindrance to its effort that their utterance will not be endured so long as men fight and that no Court could regard them as protected by any constitutional right."¹⁵⁵⁰ By far, the most dramatic restraint of personal liberty imposed during World War II was the detention and relocation of the Japanese residents of the Western States, including those who were native-born citizens of the United States. When various phases of this program were challenged, the Court held that in order to prevent espionage and sabotage, the authorities could restrict the movement of these persons by a curfew order,¹⁵⁵¹ even by a regulation excluding them from defined areas,¹⁵⁵² but that a citizen of Japanese ances-

¹⁵⁴⁶ "During the late wicked Rebellion, the temper of the times did not allow that calmness in deliberation and discussion so necessary to a correct conclusion of a purely judicial question. *Then*, considerations of safety were mingled with the exercise of power; and feelings and interests prevailed which were happily terminated. *Now* that the public safety is assured, this question, as well as all others, can be discussed and decided without passion or the admixture of any element not required to form a legal judgment." *Id.*, 109 (emphasis by Court).

¹⁵⁴⁷ *Schneck v. United States*, 249 U.S. 47 (1919); *Debs v. United States*, 249 U.S. 211 (1919); *Surgarman v. United States*, 249 U.S. 182 (1919); *Frohwerk v. United States*, 249 U.S. 204 (1919); *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616 (1919).

¹⁵⁴⁸ 40 Stat. 217 (1917), as amended by 40 Stat. 553 (1918).

¹⁵⁴⁹ *Gilbert v. Minnesota*, 254 U.S. 325 (1920).

¹⁵⁵⁰ *Schenck v. United States*, 249 U.S. 47, 52 (1919).

¹⁵⁵¹ *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 320 U.S. 81 (1943).

¹⁵⁵² *Korematsu v. United States*, 323 U.S. 214 (1944).

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try whose loyalty was conceded could not be detained in a relocation camp.¹⁵⁵³

A mixed pattern emerges from an examination of the Cold War period. Legislation designed to regulate and punish the organizational activities of the Communist Party and its adherents was at first upheld¹⁵⁵⁴ and then in a series of cases was practically vitiated.¹⁵⁵⁵ Against a contention that Congress' war powers had been utilized to achieve the result, the Court struck down for the second time in history a congressional statute as an infringement of the First Amendment.¹⁵⁵⁶ It voided a law making it illegal for any member of a "communist-action organization" to work in a defense facility.¹⁵⁵⁷ The majority reasoned that the law overbroadly required a person to choose between his First Amendment-protected right of association and his right to hold a job, without attempting to distinguish between those persons who constituted a threat and those who did not.¹⁵⁵⁸

On the other hand, in *New York Times Co. v. United States*,¹⁵⁵⁹ a majority of the Court agreed that in appropriate circumstances the First Amendment would not preclude a prior restraint of publication of information that might result in a sufficient degree of harm to the national interest, although a different majority concurred in denying the Government's request for an injunction in that case.¹⁵⁶⁰

Enemy Aliens.—The Alien Enemy Act of 1798 authorized the President to deport any alien or to license him to reside within the United States at any place to be designated by the President.¹⁵⁶¹ Though critical of the measure, many persons conceded its con-

¹⁵⁵³ Ex parte Endo, 323 U.S. 283 (1944).

¹⁵⁵⁴ E.g., *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494 (1951); *Communist Party v. Subversive Activities Control Board*, 367 U.S. 1 (1961); *American Communications Association v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382 (1950).

¹⁵⁵⁵ E.g., *Yates v. United States*, 354 U.S. 298 (1957); *Albertson v. Subversive Activities Control Board*, 382 U.S. 70 (1965); *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437 (1965).

¹⁵⁵⁶ *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967); cf. *Aptheker v. Secretary of State*, 378 U.S. 500 (1964). And see *Schneider v. Smith*, 390 U.S. 17 (1968).

¹⁵⁵⁷ §5(a)(1)(D) of the Subversive Control Act of 1950, 64 Stat. 992, 50 U.S.C. §784(a)(1)(D).

¹⁵⁵⁸ *Id.*, 389 U.S., 264–266. Justices Harlan and White dissented, contending that the right of association should have been balanced against the public interest and finding the weight of the latter the greater. *Id.*, 282.

¹⁵⁵⁹ 403 U.S. 713 (1971).

¹⁵⁶⁰ The result in the case was reached by a six-to-three majority. The three dissenters, Chief Justice Burger, *id.*, 748, Justice Harlan, *id.*, 752, and Justice Blackmun, *id.*, 759, would have granted an injunction in the case; Justices Stewart and White, *id.*, 727, 730, would not in that case but could conceive of cases in which they would.

¹⁵⁶¹ 1 Stat. 577 (1798).

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stitutionality on the theory that Congress' power to declare war carried with it the power to treat the citizens of a foreign power against which war has been declared as enemies entitled to summary justice.¹⁵⁶² A similar statute was enacted during World War I¹⁵⁶³ and was held valid in *Ludecke v. Watkins*.¹⁵⁶⁴

During World War II, the Court unanimously upheld the power of the President to order to trial before a military tribunal German saboteurs captured within this Country.¹⁵⁶⁵ Enemy combatants, said Chief Justice Stone, who without uniforms come secretly through the lines during time of war, for the purpose of committing hostile acts, are not entitled to the status of prisoners of war but are unlawful combatants punishable by military tribunals.

Eminent Domain.—An often-cited dictum uttered shortly after the Mexican War asserted the right of an owner to compensation for property destroyed to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy, or for that taken for public use.¹⁵⁶⁶ In *United States v. Russell*,¹⁵⁶⁷ decided following the Civil War, a similar conclusion was based squarely on the Fifth Amendment, although the case did not necessarily involve the point. Finally, in *United States v. Pacific Railroad*,¹⁵⁶⁸ also a Civil War case, the Court held that the United States was not responsible for the injury or destruction of private property by military operations, but added that it did not have in mind claims for property of loyal citizens taken for the use of the national forces. "In such cases," the Court said, "it has been the practice of the government to make compensation for the property taken. . . . although the seizure and appropriation of private property under such circumstances by the military authorities may not be within the terms of the constitutional clauses."¹⁵⁶⁹

Meantime, however, in 1874, a committee of the House of Representatives, in an elaborate report on war claims growing out of the Civil War, had voiced the opinion that the Fifth Amendment embodies the distinction between a taking of property in the course of military operations or other urgent military necessity, and other takings for war purposes, and required compensation of owners in the latter class of cases.¹⁵⁷⁰ In determining what constitutes just compensation for property requisitioned for war purposes during

¹⁵⁶² 6 Writing of James Madison, G. Hunt ed. (New York: 1904), 360–361.

¹⁵⁶³ 40 Stat. 531 (1918), 50 U.S.C. § 21.

¹⁵⁶⁴ 335 U.S. 160 (1948).

¹⁵⁶⁵ *Ex parte Quirin*, 317 U.S. 1 (1942).

¹⁵⁶⁶ *Mitchell v. Harmony*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 115, 134 (1852).

¹⁵⁶⁷ 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 623, 627 (1871).

¹⁵⁶⁸ 120 U.S. 227 (1887).

¹⁵⁶⁹ *Id.*, 239.

¹⁵⁷⁰ H.R. Rept. No. 262, 43d Cong., 1st Sess. (1874), 39–40.

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World War II, the Court has assumed that the Fifth Amendment is applicable to such takings.¹⁵⁷¹ But as to property seized and destroyed to prevent its use by the enemy, it has relied on the principle enunciated in *United States v. Pacific Railroad* as justification for the conclusion that owners thereof are not entitled to compensation.¹⁵⁷²

Rent and Price Controls.—Even at a time when the Court was utilizing substantive due process to void economic regulations, it generally sustained such regulations in wartime. Thus, shortly following the end of World War I, it sustained, by a narrow margin, a rent control law for the District of Columbia, which not only limited permissible rent increases but also permitted existing tenants to continue in occupancy provided they paid rent and observed other stipulated conditions.¹⁵⁷³ Justice Holmes for the majority conceded in effect that in the absence of a war emergency the legislation might transcend constitutional limitations¹⁵⁷⁴ but noted that “a public exigency will justify the legislature in restricting property rights in land to a certain extent without compensation.”¹⁵⁷⁵

During World War II and thereafter, economic controls were uniformly sustained.¹⁵⁷⁶ An apartment house owner who complained that he was not allowed a “fair return” on the property was dismissed with the observation that “a nation which can demand the lives of its men and women in the waging of . . . war is under no constitutional necessity of providing a system of price control . . . which will assure each landlord a ‘fair return’ on his property.”¹⁵⁷⁷ The Court also held that rental ceilings could be established without a prior hearing when the exigencies of national security precluded the delay which would ensue.¹⁵⁷⁸

¹⁵⁷¹ *United States v. Commodities Trading Corp.*, 339 U.S. 121 (1950); *United States v. Toronto Nav. Co.*, 338 U.S. 396 (1949); *Kimball Laundry Co. v. United States*, 338 U.S. 1 (1949); *United States v. Cors*, 337 U.S. 325 (1949); *United States v. Felin & Co.*, 334 U.S. 624 (1948); *United States v. Petty Motor Co.*, 327 U.S. 372 (1946); *United States v. General Motors Corp.*, 323 U.S. 373 (1945).

¹⁵⁷² *United States v. Caltex, Inc.*, 344 U.S. 149, 154 (1952). Justices Douglas and Black dissented.

¹⁵⁷³ *Block v. Hirsh*, 256 U.S. 135 (1921).

¹⁵⁷⁴ But *quaere* in the light of *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502 (1934), *Olsen v. Nebraska ex rel. Western Reference and Bond Association*, 313 U.S. 236 (1941), and their progeny.

¹⁵⁷⁵ *Block v. Hirsh*, 256 U.S. 135, 156 (1921).

¹⁵⁷⁶ *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S. 414 (1944); *Bowles v. Willingham*, 321 U.S. 503 (1944); *Lockerty v. Phillips*, 319 U.S. 182 (1943); *Fleming v. Mohawk Wrecking & Lumber Co.*, 331 U.S. 111 (1947); *Lichter v. United States*, 334 U.S. 742 (1948).

¹⁵⁷⁷ *Bowles v. Willingham*, 321 U.S. 503, 519 (1944).

¹⁵⁷⁸ *Id.*, 521. The Court stressed, however, that Congress had provided for judicial review after the regulations and orders were made effective.

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But in another World War I case, the Court struck down a statute which penalized the making of “any unjust or unreasonable rate or charge in handling . . . any necessities”¹⁵⁷⁹ as repugnant to the Fifth and Sixth Amendments in that it was so vague and indefinite that it denied due process and failed to give adequate notice of what acts would violate it.¹⁵⁸⁰

Clause 15. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions.*

Clause 16. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militi according to the discipline prescribed by Congress.*

THE MILITIA CLAUSE**Calling Out the Militia**

The States as well as Congress may prescribe penalties for failure to obey the President’s call of the militia. They also have a concurrent power to aid the National Government by calls under their own authority, and in emergencies may use the militia to put down armed insurrection.¹⁵⁸¹ The Federal Government may call out the militia in case of civil war; its authority to suppress rebellion is found in the power to suppress insurrection and to carry on war.¹⁵⁸² The act of February 28, 1795,¹⁵⁸³ which delegated to the President the power to call out the militia, was held constitutional.¹⁵⁸⁴ A militiaman who refused to obey such a call was not “employed in the service of the United States so as to be subject

¹⁵⁷⁹ Act of October 22, 1919, 2, 41 Stat. 297.

¹⁵⁸⁰ United States v. L. Cohen Grocery Co., 255 U.S. 81 (1921).

¹⁵⁸¹ Moore v. Houston, 3 S. & R. (Pa.) 169 (1817), affirmed, Houston v. Moore, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 1 (1820).

¹⁵⁸² Texas v. White, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 700 (1869); Tyler v. Defrees, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 331 (1871).

¹⁵⁸³ 1 Stat. 424 (1795), 10 U.S.C. § 332.

¹⁵⁸⁴ Martin v. Mott, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 19, 32 (1827).

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to the article of war,” but was liable to be tried for disobedience of the act of 1795.¹⁵⁸⁵

Regulation of the Militia

The power of Congress over the militia “being unlimited, except in the two particulars of officering and training them . . . it may be exercised to any extent that may be deemed necessary by Congress. . . . The power of the state government to legislate on the same subjects, having existed prior to the formation of the Constitution, and not having been prohibited by that instrument, it remains with the States, subordinate nevertheless to the paramount law of the General Government . . .”¹⁵⁸⁶ Under the National Defense Act of 1916,¹⁵⁸⁷ the militia, which hitherto had been an almost purely state institution, was brought under the control of the National Government. The term “militia of the United States” was defined to comprehend “all able-bodied male citizens of the United States and all other able-bodied males who have . . . declared their intention to become citizens of the United States,” between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. The act reorganized the National Guard, determined its size in proportion to the population of the several States, required that all enlistments be for “three years in service and three years in reserve,” limited the appointment of officers to those who “shall have successfully passed such tests as to . . . physical, moral and professional fitness as the President shall prescribe,” and authorized the President in certain emergencies to “draft into the military service of the United States to serve therein for the period of the war unless sooner discharged, and all members of the National Guard and National Guard Reserve,” who thereupon should “stand discharged from the militia.”¹⁵⁸⁸

The militia clauses do not constrain Congress in raising and supporting a national army. The Court has approved the system of “dual enlistment,” under which persons enlisted in state militia (National Guard) units simultaneously enlist in the National

¹⁵⁸⁵ *Houston v. Moore*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 1 (1820); *Martin v. Mott*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 19 (1827).

¹⁵⁸⁶ *Houston v. Moore*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 1, 16 (1820). Organizing and providing for the militia being constitutionally committed to Congress and statutorily shared with the Executive, the judiciary is precluded from exercising oversight over the process, *Gilligan v. Morgan*, 413 U.S. 1 (1973), although wrongs committed by troops are subject to judicial relief in damages. *Scheuer v. Rhodes*, 416 U.S. 233 (1974).

¹⁵⁸⁷ 39 Stat. 166, 197, 198, 200, 202, 211 (1916), codified in sections of Titles 10 & 32. See Wiener, *The Militia Clause of the Constitution*, 54 Harv. L. Rev. 181 (1940).

¹⁵⁸⁸ Military and civilian personnel of the National Guard are state, rather than federal, employees and the Federal Government is thus not liable under the Tort Claims Act for their negligence. *Maryland v. United States*, 381 U.S. 41 (1965).

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Guard of the United States, and, when called to active duty in the federal service, are relieved of their status in the state militia. Consequently, the restrictions in the first militia clause have no application to the federalized National Guard; there is no constitutional requirement that state governors hold a veto power over federal duty training conducted outside the United States or that a national emergency be declared before such training may take place.¹⁵⁸⁹

Clause 17. *Congress shall have power * * ** To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings.

SEAT OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Convention was moved to provide for the creation of a site in which to locate the Capital of the Nation, completely removed from the control of any State, because of the humiliation suffered by the Continental Congress on June 21, 1783. Some eighty soldiers, unpaid and weary, marched on the Congress sitting in Philadelphia, physically threatened and verbally abused the members, and caused the Congress to flee the City when neither municipal nor state authorities would take action to protect the members.¹⁵⁹⁰ Thus, Madison noted that “[t]he indispensable necessity of complete authority at the seat of government, carries its own evidence with it. . . . Without it, not only the public authority might be insulted and its proceedings interrupted with impunity, but a dependence of the members of the general government on the State comprehending the seat of government, for protection in the exercise of their duty, might bring on the national council an imputa-

¹⁵⁸⁹ *Perpich v. Department of Defense*, 496 U.S. 434 (1990).

¹⁵⁹⁰ J. FISKE, *THE CRITICAL PERIOD OF AMERICAN HISTORY, 1783–1789* (Boston: 1888), 112–113; W. TINDALL, *THE ORIGIN AND GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA* (Washington: 1903), 31–36.

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tion of awe or influence, equally dishonorable to the government and dissatisfactory to the other members of the confederacy.”¹⁵⁹¹

The actual site was selected by compromise, Northerners accepting the Southern-favored site on the Potomac in return for Southern support for a Northern aspiration, assumption of Revolutionary War debts by the National Government.¹⁵⁹² Maryland and Virginia both authorized the cession of territory¹⁵⁹³ and Congress accepted.¹⁵⁹⁴ Congress divided the District into two counties, Washington and Alexandria, and provided that the local laws of the two States should continue in effect.¹⁵⁹⁵ It also established a circuit court and provided for the appointment of judicial and law enforcement officials.¹⁵⁹⁶

There seems to have been no consideration, at least none recorded, given at the Convention or in the ratifying conventions to the question of the governance of the citizens of the District.¹⁵⁹⁷ Madison in *THE FEDERALIST* did assume that the inhabitants “will have had their voice in the election of the government which is to exercise authority over them, as a municipal legislature for all local purposes, derived from their own suffrages, will of course be allowed them. . . .”¹⁵⁹⁸ Although there was some dispute about the constitutional propriety of permitting local residents a measure of “home rule,” to use the recent term,¹⁵⁹⁹ almost from the first there

¹⁵⁹¹ *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 43 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 288–289. See also 3 J. STORY, *COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES* (Boston: 1833), 1213, 1214.

¹⁵⁹² W. TINDALL, *THE ORIGIN AND GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA* (Washington: 1903), 5–30.

¹⁵⁹³ Maryland Laws 1798, ch. 2, p. 46; 13 Laws of Virginia 43 (Hening 1789).

¹⁵⁹⁴ Act of July 16, 1790, 1 Stat. 130. In 1846, Congress authorized a referendum in Alexandria County on the question of retroceding that portion to Virginia. The voters approved and the area again became part of Virginia. Laws of Virginia 1845–46, ch. 64, p. 50; Act of July 9, 1846, 9 Stat. 35; Proclamation of September 7, 1846; 9 Stat. 1000. Constitutional questions were raised about the retrocession but suit did not reach the Supreme Court until some 40 years later and the Court held that the passage of time precluded the raising of the question. *Phillips v. Payne*, 92 U.S. 130 (1875).

¹⁵⁹⁵ Act of February 27, 1801, 2, 2 Stat. 103. The declaration of the continuing effect of state law meant that law in the District was frozen as of the date of cession, unless Congress should change it, which it seldom did. For some of the problems, see *Tayloe v. Thompson*, 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 358 (1831); *Ex parte Watkins*, 7 Pet. (32 U.S.) 568 (1833); *Stelle v. Carroll*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 201 (1838); *Van Ness v. United States Bank*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 17 (1839); *United States v. Eliason*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 291 (1842).

¹⁵⁹⁶ Act of March 3, 1801, 1, 2 Stat. 115.

¹⁵⁹⁷ The objections raised in the ratifying conventions and elsewhere seemed to have consisted of prediction of the perils to the Nation of setting up the National Government in such a place. 3 J. STORY, *COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES* (Boston: 1833), 1215, 1216.

¹⁵⁹⁸ *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 43 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 289.

¹⁵⁹⁹ Such a contention was cited and rebutted in 3 J. STORY, *COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES* (Boston: 1833), 1218.

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were local elections provided for. In 1802, the District was divided into five divisions, in some of which the governing officials were elected; an elected mayor was provided in 1820. District residents elected some of those who governed them until this form of government was swept away in the aftermath of financial scandals in 1874¹⁶⁰⁰ and replaced with presidentially appointed Commission in 1878.¹⁶⁰¹ The Commission lasted until 1967 when it was replaced by an appointed Mayor-Commissioner and an appointed city council.¹⁶⁰² In recent years, Congress provided for a limited form of self-government in the District, with the major offices filled by election.¹⁶⁰³ District residents vote for President and Vice President¹⁶⁰⁴ and elect a nonvoting delegate to Congress.¹⁶⁰⁵ An effort by constitutional amendment to confer voting representation in the House and Senate failed of ratification.¹⁶⁰⁶

Constitutionally, it appears that Congress is neither required to provide for a locally elected government¹⁶⁰⁷ nor precluded from delegating its powers over the District to an elective local government.¹⁶⁰⁸ The Court has indicated that the “exclusive” jurisdiction granted was meant to exclude any question of state power over the area and was not intended to require Congress to exercise all powers itself.¹⁶⁰⁹

Chief Justice Marshall for the Court held in *Hepburn v. Ellzey*¹⁶¹⁰ that the District of Columbia was not a State within the meaning of the diversity jurisdiction clause of Article III. This

¹⁶⁰⁰ Act of May 3, 1802, 2 Stat. 195; Act of May 15, 1820, 3 Stat. 583; Act of February 21, 1871, 16 Stat. 419; Act of June 20, 1874, 18 Stat. 116. The engrossing story of the postwar changes in the government is related in W. WHYTE, *THE UNCIVIL WAR: WASHINGTON DURING THE RECONSTRUCTION* (Washington: 1958).

¹⁶⁰¹ Act of June 11, 1878, 20 Stat. 103.

¹⁶⁰² Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1967, 32 Fed. Reg. 11699, reprinted as appendix to District of Columbia Code, Title I.

¹⁶⁰³ District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, P.L. 93-198, 87 Stat. 774.

¹⁶⁰⁴ Twenty-third Amendment.

¹⁶⁰⁵ P.L. 91-405, 84 Stat. 848, D.C. Code, § 1-291.

¹⁶⁰⁶ H.J. Res. 554, 95th Congress, passed the House on March 2, 1978, and the Senate on August 22, 1978, but only 16 States had ratified before the expiration after seven years of the proposal.

¹⁶⁰⁷ *Loughborough v. Blake*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 317 (1820); *Heald v. District of Columbia*, 259 U.S. 114 (1922).

¹⁶⁰⁸ *District of Columbia v. John R. Thompson Co.*, 346 U.S. 100 (1953). The case upheld the validity of ordinances enacted by the District governing bodies in 1872 and 1873 prohibiting racial discrimination in places of public accommodations.

¹⁶⁰⁹ *Id.*, 109-110. See also *Thompson v. Lessee of Carroll*, 22 How. (63 U.S.) 422 (1860); *Stoutenburgh v. Hennick*, 129 U.S. 141 (1889).

¹⁶¹⁰ 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 445 (1805); see also *Sere v. Pitot*, 6 Cf. (10 U.S.) 332 (1810); *New Orleans v. Winter*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 91 (1816). The District was held to be a State within the terms of a treaty. *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258 (1890).

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view, adhered to for nearly a century and a half,¹⁶¹¹ was overturned by the Court in 1949 upholding the constitutionality of a 1940 statute authorizing federal courts to take jurisdiction of non-federal controversies between residents of the District of Columbia and the citizens of a State.¹⁶¹² The decision was by a five to four division, but the five in the majority disagreed among themselves on the reasons. Three thought the statute to be an appropriate exercise of the power of Congress to legislate for the District of Columbia pursuant to this clause without regard to Article III.¹⁶¹³ Two others thought that *Hepburn v. Ellzey* had been erroneously decided and would have overruled it.¹⁶¹⁴ But six Justices rejected the former rationale, and seven Justices rejected the latter one; since five Justices agreed, however, that the statute was constitutional, it was sustained.

It is not disputed that the District is a part of the United States and that its residents are entitled to all the guarantees of the United States Constitution including the privilege of trial by jury¹⁶¹⁵ and of presentment by a grand jury.¹⁶¹⁶ Legislation restrictive of liberty and property in the District must find justification in facts adequate to support like legislation by a State in the exercise of its police power.¹⁶¹⁷

Congress possesses over the District of Columbia the blended powers of a local and national legislature.¹⁶¹⁸ This fact means that in some respects ordinary constitutional restrictions do not operate; thus, for example, in creating local courts of local jurisdiction in the District, Congress acts pursuant to its legislative powers under clause 17 and need not create courts that comply that Article III court requirements.¹⁶¹⁹ And when legislating for the District Con-

¹⁶¹¹ *Barney v. City of Baltimore*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 280 (1868); *Hooe v. Jamieson*, 166 U.S. 395 (1897); *Hooe v. Werner*, 166 U.S. 399 (1897).

¹⁶¹² *National Mutual Ins. Co. v. Tidewater Transfer Co.*, 337 U.S. 582 (1949).

¹⁶¹³ *Id.*, 588–600 (Justices Jackson, Black and Burton).

¹⁶¹⁴ *Id.*, 604 (Justices Rutledge and Murphy). The dissents were by Chief Justice Vinson, *id.*, 626, joined by Justice Douglas, and by Justice Frankfurter, *id.*, 646, joined by Justice Reed.

¹⁶¹⁵ *Callan v. Wilson*, 127 U.S. 540 (1888); *Capital Traction Co. v. Hof*, 174 U.S. 1 (1899).

¹⁶¹⁶ *United States v. Moreland*, 258 U.S. 433 (1922).

¹⁶¹⁷ *Wright v. Davidson*, 181 U.S. 371, 384 (1901); *cf. Adkins v. Children's Hospital*, 261 U.S. 525 (1923), overruled in *West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish*, 300 U.S. 379 (1937).

¹⁶¹⁸ *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524, 619 (1838); *Shoemaker v. United States*, 147 U.S. 282, 300 (1893); *Atlantic Cleaners & Dyers v. United States*, 286 U.S. 427, 435 (1932); *O'Donoghue v. United States*, 289 U.S. 516, 518 (1933).

¹⁶¹⁹ In the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970, P.L. 91–358, 111, 84 Stat. 475, D.C. Code, §11–101, Congress specifically declared it was acting pursuant to Article I in creating the Superior Court and the

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gress remains the legislature of the Union, so that it may give its enactments nationwide operation to the extent necessary to make them locally effective.¹⁶²⁰

AUTHORITY OVER PLACES PURCHASED

“Places”

This clause has been broadly construed to cover all structures necessary for carrying on the business of the National Government.¹⁶²¹ It includes post offices,¹⁶²² a hospital and a hotel located in a national park,¹⁶²³ and locks and dams for the improvement of navigation.¹⁶²⁴ But it does not cover lands acquired for forests, parks, ranges, wild life sanctuaries or flood control.¹⁶²⁵ Nevertheless, the Supreme Court has held that a State may convey, and the Congress may accept, either exclusive or qualified jurisdiction over property acquired within the geographical limits of a State, for purposes other than those enumerated in clause 17.¹⁶²⁶

After exclusive jurisdiction over lands within a State has been ceded to the United States, Congress alone has the power to punish crimes committed within the ceded territory.¹⁶²⁷ Private property located thereon is not subject to taxation by the State,¹⁶²⁸ nor can state statutes enacted subsequent to the transfer have any operation therein.¹⁶²⁹ But the local laws in force at the date of cession that are protective of private rights continue in force until abro-

District of Columbia Court of Appeals and pursuant to Article III in continuing the United States District Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The Article I courts were sustained in *Palmore v. United States*, 411 U.S. 389 (1973). See also *Swain v. Pressley*, 430 U.S. 372 (1977). The latter, federal courts, while Article III courts, traditionally have had some non-Article III functions imposed on them, under the “hybrid” theory announced in *O’Donoghue v. United States*, 289 U.S. 516 (1933). E.g., *Hobson v. Hansen*, 265 F. Supp. 902 (D.C.D.C. 1967), app. dismd., 393 U.S. 801 (1968) (power then vested in District Court to appoint school board members). See also *Keller v. Potomac Electric Co.*, 261 U.S. 428 (1923); *Embry v. Palmer*, 107 U.S. 3 (1883).

¹⁶²⁰ *Cohens v. Virginia*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264, 428 (1821).

¹⁶²¹ *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*, 302 U.S. 134, 143 (1937).

¹⁶²² *Battle v. United States*, 209 U.S. 36 (1908).

¹⁶²³ *Arlington Hotel v. Fant*, 278 U.S. 439 (1929).

¹⁶²⁴ *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*, 302 U.S. 134, 143 (1937).

¹⁶²⁵ *Collins v. Yosemite Park Co.*, 304 U.S. 518, 530 (1938).

¹⁶²⁶ *Id.*, 528.

¹⁶²⁷ *Battle v. United States*, 209 U.S. 36 (1908); *Johnson v. Yellow Cab Co.*, 321 U.S. 383 (1944); *Bowen v. Johnston*, 306 U.S. 19 (1939).

¹⁶²⁸ *Surplus Trading Co. v. Cook*, 281 U.S. 647 (1930).

¹⁶²⁹ *Western Union Telegraph Co. v. Chiles*, 214 U.S. 274 (1909); *Arlington Hotel v. Fant*, 278 U.S. 439 (1929); *Pacific Coast Dairy v. Department of Agriculture*, 318 U.S. 285 (1943). The Assimilative Crimes Act of 1948, 18 U.S.C. § 13, making applicable to a federal enclave a subsequently enacted criminal law of the State in which the enclave is situated entails no invalid delegation of legislative power to the State. *United States v. Sharpnack*, 355 U.S. 286, 294, 296–297 (1958).

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gated by Congress.¹⁶³⁰ Moreover, as long as there is no interference with the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, an area subject thereto may be annexed by a municipality.¹⁶³¹

Duration of Federal Jurisdiction

A State may qualify its cession of territory by a condition that jurisdiction shall be retained by the United States only so long as the place is used for specified purposes.¹⁶³² Such a provision operates prospectively and does not except from the grant that portion of a described tract which is then used as a railroad right of way.¹⁶³³ In 1892, the Court upheld the jurisdiction of the United States to try a person charged with murder on a military reservation, over the objection that the State had ceded jurisdiction only over such portions of the area as were used for military purposes and that the particular place on which the murder was committed was used solely for farming. The Court held that the character and purpose of the occupation having been officially established by the political department of the government, it was not open to the Court to inquire into the actual uses to which any portion of the area was temporarily put.¹⁶³⁴ A few years later, however, it ruled that the lease to a city, for use as a market, of a portion of an area which had been ceded to the United States for a particular purpose, suspended the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States.¹⁶³⁵

The question arose whether the United States retains jurisdiction over a place, which was ceded to it unconditionally, after it has abandoned the use of the property for governmental purposes and entered into a contract for the sale thereof to private persons. Minnesota asserted the right to tax the equitable interest of the purchaser in such land, and the Supreme Court upheld its right to do so. The majority assumed that “the Government’s unrestricted transfer of property to nonfederal hands is a relinquishment of the exclusive legislative power.”¹⁶³⁶ In separate concurring opinions,

¹⁶³⁰ *Chicago, R. I. & P. Ry. Co. v. McGlinn*, 114 U.S. 542, 545 (1885); *Stewart & Co. v. Sadrakula*, 309 U.S. 94 (1940).

¹⁶³¹ *Howard v. Commissioners*, 344 U.S. 624 (1953). As *Howard* recognized, such areas of federal property do not cease to be part of the State in which they are located and the residents of the areas are for most purposes residents of the State. Thus, a State may not constitutionally exclude such residents from the privileges of suffrage if they are otherwise qualified. *Evans v. Cornman*, 398 U.S. 419 (1970).

¹⁶³² *Palmer v. Barrett*, 162 U.S. 399 (1896).

¹⁶³³ *United States v. Unzeuta*, 281 U.S. 138 (1930).

¹⁶³⁴ *Benson v. United States*, 146 U.S. 325, 331 (1892).

¹⁶³⁵ *Palmer v. Barrett*, 162 U.S. 399 (1896).

¹⁶³⁶ *S.R.A., Inc. v. Minnesota*, 327 U.S. 558, 564 (1946).

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Chief Justice Stone and Justice Frankfurter reserved judgment on the question of territorial jurisdiction.¹⁶³⁷

Reservation of Jurisdiction by States

For more than a century the Supreme Court kept alive, by repeated dicta,¹⁶³⁸ the doubt expressed by Justice Story “whether Congress are by the terms of the Constitution, at liberty to purchase lands for forts, dockyards, etc., with the consent of a State legislature, where such consent is so qualified that it will not justify the ‘exclusive legislation’ of Congress there. It may well be doubted if such consent be not utterly void.”¹⁶³⁹ But when the issue was squarely presented in 1937, the Court ruled that where the United States purchases property within a State with the consent of the latter, it is valid for the State to convey, and for the United States to accept, “concurrent jurisdiction” over such land, the State reserving to itself the right to execute process “and such other jurisdiction and authority over the same as is not inconsistent with the jurisdiction ceded to the United States.”¹⁶⁴⁰ The holding logically renders the second half of clause 17 superfluous. In a companion case, the Court ruled further that even if a general state statute purports to cede exclusive jurisdiction, such jurisdiction does not pass unless the United States accepts it.¹⁶⁴¹

Clause 18. *The Congress shall have Power * * * To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.*

COEFFICIENT OR ELASTIC CLAUSE**Scope of Incidental Powers**

That this clause is an enlargement, not a constriction, of the powers expressly granted to Congress, that it enables the law-makers to select any means reasonably adapted to effectuate those

¹⁶³⁷Id., 570, 571.

¹⁶³⁸Fort Leavenworth R.R. Co. v. Lowe, 114 U.S. 525, 532 (1885); United States v. Unzeuta, 281 U.S. 138, 142 (1930); Surplus Trading Co. v. Cook, 281 U.S. 647, 652 (1930).

¹⁶³⁹United States v. Cornell, 25 Fed. Cas. 646, 649 (No. 14,867) (C.C.D.R.I. 1819).

¹⁶⁴⁰James v. Dravo Contracting Co., 302 U.S. 134, 145 (1937).

¹⁶⁴¹Mason Co. v. Tax Comm. 302 U.S. 186 (1937). See also Atkinson v. Tax Comm., 303 U.S. 20 (1938).

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powers, was established by Marshall's classic opinion in *McCulloch v. Maryland*.¹⁶⁴² "Let the end be legitimate," he wrote, "let it be within the scope of the Constitution, and all means which are appropriate, which are plainly adapted to that end, which are not prohibited, but consistent with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, are constitutional."¹⁶⁴³ Moreover, the provision gives Congress a share in the responsibilities lodged in other departments, by virtue of its right to enact legislation necessary to carry into execution all powers vested in the National Government. Conversely, where necessary for the efficient execution of its own powers, Congress may delegate some measure of legislative power to other departments.¹⁶⁴⁴

Operation of Coefficient Clause

Practically every power of the National Government has been expanded in some degree by the coefficient clause. Under its authority Congress has adopted measures requisite to discharge the treaty obligations of the nation;¹⁶⁴⁵ it has organized the federal judicial system and has enacted a large body of law defining and punishing crimes. Effective control of the national economy has been made possible by the authority to regulate the internal commerce of a State to the extent necessary to protect and promote interstate commerce.¹⁶⁴⁶ The right of Congress to utilize all known and appropriate means for collecting the revenue, including the distraint of property for federal taxes,¹⁶⁴⁷ and its power to acquire property needed for the operation of the Government by the exercise of the power of eminent domain,¹⁶⁴⁸ have greatly extended the range of national power. But the widest application of the necessary and proper clause has occurred in the field of monetary and fiscal controls. Inasmuch as the various specific powers granted by Article I, § 8, do not add up to a general legislative power over such matters, the Court has relied heavily upon this clause in sustaining

¹⁶⁴² 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316 (1819).

¹⁶⁴³ *Id.*, 420. This decision had been clearly foreshadowed fourteen years earlier by Marshall's opinion in *United States v. Fisher*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 358, 396 (1805). Upholding an act which gave priority to claims of the United States against the estate of a bankrupt he wrote: "The government is to pay the debt of the Union, and must be authorized to use the means which appear to itself most eligible to effect that object. It has, consequently, a right to make remittance, by bills or otherwise, and to take those precautions which will render the transaction safe."

¹⁶⁴⁴ *Supra*, pp. 73–89.

¹⁶⁴⁵ *Neely v. Henkel*, 180 U.S. 109, 121 (1901). See also *Missouri v. Holland*, 252 U.S. 416 (1920).

¹⁶⁴⁶ *Supra*, pp. 165–167, 203–209.

¹⁶⁴⁷ *Murray's Lessee v. Hoboken Land & Improvement Co.*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 272, 281 (1856).

¹⁶⁴⁸ *Kohl v. United States*, 91 U.S. 367, 373 (1876); *United States v. Fox*, 94 U.S. 315, 320 (1877).

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the comprehensive control which Congress has asserted over this subject.¹⁶⁴⁹

Definition of Punishment and Crimes

Although the only crimes which Congress is expressly authorized to punish are piracies, felonies on the high seas, offenses against the law of nations, treason and counterfeiting of the securities and current coin of the United States, its power to create, define, and punish crimes and offenses whenever necessary to effectuate the objects of the Federal Government is universally conceded.¹⁶⁵⁰ Illustrative of the offenses which have been punished under this power are the alteration of registered bonds,¹⁶⁵¹ the bringing of counterfeit bonds into the country,¹⁶⁵² conspiracy to injure prisoners in custody of a United States marshal,¹⁶⁵³ impersonation of a federal officer with intent to defraud,¹⁶⁵⁴ conspiracy to injure a citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States,¹⁶⁵⁵ the receipt by Government officials of contributions from Government employees for political purposes,¹⁶⁵⁶ advocating the overthrow of the Government by force.¹⁶⁵⁷ Part I of Title 18 of the United States Code comprises more than 500 sections defining penal offenses against the United States.¹⁶⁵⁸

Chartering of Banks

As an appropriate means for executing “the great powers, to lay and collect taxes; to borrow money; to regulate commerce; to declare and conduct a war; and to raise and support armies . . . ,” Congress may incorporate banks and kindred institutions.¹⁶⁵⁹

¹⁶⁴⁹ *Supra.*, pp. 144–159.

¹⁶⁵⁰ *United States v. Fox*, 95 U.S. 670, 672 (1878); *United States v. Hall*, 98 U.S. 343, 357 (1879); *United States v. Worrall*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 384, 394 (1798); *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316 (1819). That this power has been freely exercised is attested by the pages of the United States Code devoted to Title 18, entitled “Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure.” In addition numerous regulatory measures prescribe criminal penalties for infractions thereof.

¹⁶⁵¹ *Ex parte Carll*, 106 U.S. 521 (1883).

¹⁶⁵² *United States v. Marigold*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 560, 567 (1850).

¹⁶⁵³ *Logan v. United States*, 144 U.S. 263 (1892).

¹⁶⁵⁴ *United States v. Barnow*, 239 U.S. 74 (1915).

¹⁶⁵⁵ *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884); *United States v. Waddell*, 112 U.S. 76 (1884); *In re Quarles and Butler*, 158 U.S. 532, 537 (1895); *Motes v. United States*, 178 U.S. 458, (1900); *United States v. Mosley*, 238 U.S. 383 (1915). See also *Rakes v. United States*, 212 U.S. 55 (1909).

¹⁶⁵⁶ *Ex parte Curtis*, 106 U.S. 371 (1882).

¹⁶⁵⁷ 18 U.S.C. § 2385.

¹⁶⁵⁸ See National Commission on Reform of Federal Criminal Laws, Final Report (Washington: 1970); National Commission on Reform of Federal Criminal Laws, Working Papers (Washington: 1970), 2 vols.

¹⁶⁵⁹ *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 407 (1819).

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Moreover, it may confer upon them private powers, which, standing alone, have no relation to the functions of the Federal Government, if those privileges are essential to the effective operation of such corporations.¹⁶⁶⁰ Where necessary to meet the competition of state banks, Congress may authorize national banks to perform fiduciary functions, even though, apart from the competitive situation, federal instrumentalities might not be permitted to engage in such business.¹⁶⁶¹ The Court will not undertake to assess the relative importance of the public and private functions of a financial institution Congress has seen fit to create. It sustained the act setting up the Federal Farm Loan Banks to provide funds for mortgage loans on agricultural land against the contention that the right of the Secretary of the Treasury, which he had not exercised, to use these banks as depositories of public funds, was merely a pretext for chartering those banks for private purposes.¹⁶⁶²

Currency Regulations

Reinforced by the necessary and proper clause, the powers “to lay and collect taxes, to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States,” and “to borrow money on the credit of the United States and to coin money and regulate the value thereon . . . ,”¹⁶⁶³ have been held to give Congress virtually complete control over money and currency. A prohibitive tax on the notes of state banks,¹⁶⁶⁴ the issuance of treasury notes impressed with the quality of legal tender in payment of private debts¹⁶⁶⁵ and the abrogation of clauses in private contracts, which called for payment in gold coin,¹⁶⁶⁶ were sustained as appropriate measures for carrying into effect some or all of the foregoing powers.

Power to Charter Corporations

In addition to the creation of banks, Congress has been held to have authority to charter a railroad corporation,¹⁶⁶⁷ or a corporation to construct an interstate bridge,¹⁶⁶⁸ as instrumentalities

¹⁶⁶⁰ *Osborn v. United States Bank*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738, 862 (1824). See also *Pittman v. Home Owners' Corp.*, 308 U.S. 21 (1939).

¹⁶⁶¹ *First National Bank v. Follows ex rel. Union Trust Co.*, 244 U.S. 416 (1917); *Missouri ex rel. Burnes National Bank v. Duncan*, 265 U.S. 17 (1924).

¹⁶⁶² *Smith v. Kansas City Title Co.*, 255 U.S. 180 (1921).

¹⁶⁶³ *Legal Tender Cases (Julliard v. Greenman)*, 110 U.S. 421, 449 (1884).

¹⁶⁶⁴ *Veazie Bank v. Fenno*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 533 (1869).

¹⁶⁶⁵ *Legal Tender Cases (Julliard v. Greenman)*, 110 U.S. 421 (1884). See also *Legal Tender Cases (Knox v. Lee)*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457 (1871).

¹⁶⁶⁶ *Norman v. B. & O. R. Co.*, 294 U.S. 240, 303 (1935).

¹⁶⁶⁷ *Pacific Railroad Removal Cases*, 115 U.S. 1 (1885); *California v. Pacific Railroad Company*, 127 U.S. 1, 39 (1888).

¹⁶⁶⁸ *Luxton v. North River Bridge Co.*, 153 U.S. 525 (1894).

Sec. 8—Powers of Congress**Cl. 18—Incidental Powers**

for promoting commerce among the States, and to create corporations to manufacture aircraft¹⁶⁶⁹ or merchant vessels¹⁶⁷⁰ as incidental to the war power.

Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Inasmuch as the Constitution “delineated only the great outlines of the judicial power . . . , leaving the details to Congress, . . . [t]he distribution and appropriate exercise of the judicial power must . . . be made by laws passed by Congress. . . .”¹⁶⁷¹ As a necessary and proper provision for the exercise of the jurisdiction conferred by Article III, §2, Congress may direct the removal from a state to a federal court of a criminal prosecution against a federal officer for acts done under color of federal law,¹⁶⁷² and may authorize the removal before trial of civil cases arising under the laws of the United States.¹⁶⁷³ It may prescribe the effect to be given to judicial proceedings of the federal courts¹⁶⁷⁴ and may make all laws necessary for carrying into execution the judgments of federal courts.¹⁶⁷⁵ When a territory is admitted as a State, Congress may designate the court to which the records of the territorial courts shall be transferred and may prescribe the mode for enforcement and review of judgments rendered by those courts.¹⁶⁷⁶ In the exercise of other powers conferred by the Constitution, apart from Article III, Congress may create legislative courts and “clothe them with functions deemed essential or helpful in carrying those powers into execution.”¹⁶⁷⁷

Special Acts Concerning Claims

This clause enables Congress to pass special laws to require other departments of the Government to prosecute or adjudicate particular claims, whether asserted by the Government itself or by private persons. In 1924,¹⁶⁷⁸ Congress adopted a Joint Resolution directing the President to cause suit to be instituted for the cancellation of certain oil leases alleged to have been obtained from the Government by fraud and to prosecute such other actions and proceedings, civil and criminal, as were warranted by the facts.

¹⁶⁶⁹ *Clallam County v. United States*, 263 U.S. 341 (1923).

¹⁶⁷⁰ *Sloan Shipyards v. United States Fleet Corp.*, 258 U.S. 549 (1922).

¹⁶⁷¹ *Rhode Island v. Massachusetts*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 657, 721 (1838).

¹⁶⁷² *Tennessee v. Davis*, 100 U.S. 257, 263 (1880).

¹⁶⁷³ *Railway Company v. Whitton*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 270, 287 (1872).

¹⁶⁷⁴ *Embry v. Palmer*, 107 U.S. 3 (1883).

¹⁶⁷⁵ *Bank of the United States v. Halstead*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 51, 53 (1825).

¹⁶⁷⁶ *Express Company v. Kountze Brothers*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 342, 350 (1869).

¹⁶⁷⁷ *Ex parte Bakelite Corp.*, 279 U.S. 438, 449 (1929). But see *Northern Pipeline Const. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50 (1982).

¹⁶⁷⁸ 43 Stat. 5 (1924). See *Sinclair v. United States*, 279 U.S. 263 (1929).

Sec. 9—Denied to Congress**Cl. 1—Importation of Slaves**

This resolution also authorized the appointment of special counsel to have charge of such litigation. Private acts providing for a review of an order for compensation under the Longshoreman's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act,¹⁶⁷⁹ or conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims, after it had denied recovery, to hear and determine certain claims of a contractor against the Government, have been held constitutional.¹⁶⁸⁰

Maritime Law

Congress may implement the admiralty and maritime jurisdiction conferred upon the federal courts by revising and amending the maritime law that existed at the time the Constitution was adopted, but in so doing, it cannot go beyond the reach of that jurisdiction.¹⁶⁸¹ This power cannot be delegated to the States; hence, acts of Congress that purported to make state workmen's compensation laws applicable to maritime cases were held unconstitutional.¹⁶⁸²

SECTION 9. Clause 1. The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

POWERS DENIED TO CONGRESS**General Purpose of Section 9**

This section of the Constitution (containing eight clauses restricting or prohibiting legislation affecting the importation of slaves, the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus*, the enactment of bills of attainder or *ex post facto* laws, the levying of taxes on exports, the granting of preference to ports of one State over another, the granting of titles of nobility, *et cetera*) is devoted to restraints upon the power of Congress and of the National Govern-

¹⁶⁷⁹Paramino Co. v. Marshall, 309 U.S. 370 (1940).

¹⁶⁸⁰Pope v. United States, 323 U.S. 1 (1944).

¹⁶⁸¹Detroit Trust Co. v. The Thomas Barlum, 293 U.S. 21 (1934).

¹⁶⁸²Knickerbocker Ice Co. v. Stewart, 253 U.S. 149 (1920); Washington v. Dawson & Co., 264 U.S. 219 (1924).

Sec. 9—Denied to Congress

Cl. 2—Habeas Corpus

ment,¹⁶⁸³ and in no respect affects the States in the regulation of their domestic affairs.¹⁶⁸⁴

The above clause, which sanctioned the importation of slaves by the States for twenty years after the adoption of the Constitution, when considered with the section requiring escaped slaves to be returned to their masters, Art. IV, § 1, cl. 3, was held by Chief Justice Taney in *Scott v. Sandford*,¹⁶⁸⁵ to show conclusively that such persons and their descendants were not embraced within the term “citizen” as used in the Constitution. Today, this ruling is interesting only as an historical curiosity.

Clause 2. The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

This clause is the only place in the Constitution in which the Great Writ is mentioned, a strange fact in the context of the regard with which the right was held at the time the Constitution was written¹⁶⁸⁶ and stranger in the context of the role the right has come to play in the Supreme Court’s efforts to constitutionalize federal and state criminal procedure.¹⁶⁸⁷

Only the Federal Government and not the States, it has been held obliquely, is limited by the clause.¹⁶⁸⁸ The issue that has always excited critical attention is the authority in which the clause places the power to determine whether the circumstances warrant suspension of the privilege of the Writ.¹⁶⁸⁹ The clause itself does

¹⁶⁸³ *Barron v. Baltimore*, 7 Pet. (32 U.S.) 243 (1833); *Morgan v. Louisiana*, 118 U.S. 455, 467 (1886).

¹⁶⁸⁴ *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113, 135 (1877); *Johnson v. Chicago & Pacific Elevator Co.*, 119 U.S. 388, 400 (1886).

¹⁶⁸⁵ 19 How. (60 U.S.) 393, 411 (1857).

¹⁶⁸⁶ R. WALKER, *THE AMERICAN RECEPTION OF THE WRIT OF LIBERTY* (Norman, Okla.: 1961).

¹⁶⁸⁷ *Infra*, discussion under Article III.

¹⁶⁸⁸ *Gasquet v. Lapeyre*, 242 U.S. 367, 369 (1917).

¹⁶⁸⁹ In form, of course, clause 2 is a limitation of power, not a grant of power, and is in addition placed in a section of limitations. It might be argued, therefore, that the power to suspend lies elsewhere and that this clause limits that authority. This argument is opposed by the little authority there is on the subject. 3 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: 1937), 213 (Luther Martin); *Ex parte Merryman*, 17 Fed. Cas. 144, 148 (No. 9487), (C.C.D. Md. 1861); but cf. 3 J. ELLIOT, *THE DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON THE ADOPTION OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION* (Washington: 2d ed. 1836), 464 (Edmund Randolph). At the Convention, Gouverneur Morris proposed the language of the present clause: the first section of the clause, down to “unless” was adopted unanimously, but the second part, qualifying the prohibition on suspension was adopted over the opposition of three States. 2 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, 438. It would hardly have been meaningful for those States opposing any power to suspend to vote against this language if the power to suspend were conferred elsewhere.

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Cl. 3—Bills of Attainder

not specify, and while most of the clauses of 9 are directed at Congress not all of them are.¹⁶⁹⁰ At the Convention, the first proposal of a suspending authority expressly vested “in the legislature” the suspending power,¹⁶⁹¹ but the author of this proposal did not retain this language when the matter was taken up,¹⁶⁹² the present language then being adopted.¹⁶⁹³ Nevertheless, Congress’ power to suspend was assumed in early commentary¹⁶⁹⁴ and stated in dictum by the Court.¹⁶⁹⁵ President Lincoln suspended the privilege on his own motion in the early Civil War period,¹⁶⁹⁶ but this met with such opposition¹⁶⁹⁷ that he sought and received congressional authorization.¹⁶⁹⁸ Three other suspensions were subsequently ordered on the basis of more or less express authorizations from Congress.¹⁶⁹⁹

When suspension operates, what is suspended? In *Ex parte Milligan*,¹⁷⁰⁰ the Court asserted that the Writ is not suspended but only the privilege, so that the Writ would issue and the issuing court on its return would determine whether the person applying can proceed, thereby passing on the constitutionality of the suspension and whether the petitioner is within the terms of the suspension.

Clause 3. No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

¹⁶⁹⁰ Cf. Clauses 7, 8.

¹⁶⁹¹ 2 M. FARRAND, THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 341.

¹⁶⁹² *Id.*, 438.

¹⁶⁹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁶⁹⁴ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1336.

¹⁶⁹⁵ *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75, 101 (1807).

¹⁶⁹⁶ Cf. J. RANDALL, CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS UNDER LINCOLN (Urbana: rev. ed. 1951), 118–139.

¹⁶⁹⁷ Including a finding by Chief Justice Taney on circuit that the President’s action was invalid. *Ex parte Merryman*, 17 Fed. Cas. 144 (No. 9487) (C.C.D. Md. 1861).

¹⁶⁹⁸ Act of March 3, 1863, 1, 12 Stat. 755. See Sellery, *Lincoln’s Suspension of Habeas Corpus as Viewed by Congress*, 1 U. Wis. History Bull. 213 (1907).

¹⁶⁹⁹ The privilege of the Writ was suspended in nine counties in South Carolina in order to combat the Ku Klux Klan, pursuant to Act of April 20, 1871, 4, 17 Stat. 14. It was suspended in the Philippines in 1905, pursuant to the Act of July 1, 1902, 5, 32 Stat. 692. Cf. *Fisher v. Baker*, 203 U.S. 174 (1906). Finally, it was suspended in Hawaii during World War II, pursuant to a section of the Hawaiian Organic Act, 67, 31 Stat. 153 (1900). Cf. *Duncan v. Kahanamoku*, 327 U.S. 304 (1946). For the problem of *de facto* suspension through manipulation of the jurisdiction of the federal courts, see *infra*, discussion under Article III.

¹⁷⁰⁰ 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2, 130–131 (1866).

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Bills of Attainder

“Bills of attainder . . . are such special acts of the legislature, as inflict capital punishments upon persons supposed to be guilty of high offences, such as treason and felony, without any conviction in the ordinary course of judicial proceedings. If an act inflicts a milder degree of punishment than death, it is called a bill of pains and penalties. . . . In such cases, the legislature assumes judicial magistracy, pronouncing upon the guilt of the party without any of the common forms and guards of trial, and satisfying itself with proofs, when such proofs are within its reach, whether they are conformable to the rules of evidence, or not. In short, in all such cases, the legislature exercises the highest power of sovereignty, and what may be properly deemed an irresponsible despotic discretion, being governed solely by what it deems political necessity or expediency, and too often under the influence of unreasonable fears, or unfounded suspicions.”¹⁷⁰¹ The phrase “bill of attainder,” as used in this clause and in clause 1 of § 10, applies to bills of pains and penalties as well as to the traditional bills of attainder.¹⁷⁰²

The prohibition embodied in this clause is not to be strictly and narrowly construed in the context of traditional forms but is to be interpreted in accordance with the designs of the framers so as to preclude trial by legislature, a violation of the separation of powers concept.¹⁷⁰³ The clause thus prohibits all legislative acts, “no matter what their form, that apply either to named individuals or to easily ascertainable members of a group in such a way as to inflict punishment on them without a judicial trial. . . .”¹⁷⁰⁴ That the Court has applied the clause dynamically is revealed by a consideration of the three cases in which acts of Congress have been struck down as violating it.¹⁷⁰⁵ In *Ex parte Garland*,¹⁷⁰⁶ the Court struck down a statute that required attorneys to take an oath that they had taken no part in the Confederate rebellion against the United States before they could practice in federal courts. The statute, and a state constitutional amendment requiring a similar oath of per-

¹⁷⁰¹ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1338.

¹⁷⁰² *Cummings v. Missouri*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 277, 323 (1867); cf. *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437, 441–442, (1965).

¹⁷⁰³ *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437, 442–446 (1965). Four dissenting Justices, however, denied that any separation of powers concept underlay the clause. *Id.*, 472–473.

¹⁷⁰⁴ *United States v. Lovett*, 328 U.S. 303, 315 (1946).

¹⁷⁰⁵ For a rejection of the Court’s approach and a plea to adhere to the traditional concept, see *id.*, 318 (Justice Frankfurter concurring).

¹⁷⁰⁶ 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333 (1867).

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sons before they could practice certain professions,¹⁷⁰⁷ were struck down as legislative acts inflicting punishment on a specific group the members of which had taken part in the rebellion and therefore could not truthfully take the oath. The clause then lay unused until 1946 when the Court utilized it to strike down a rider to an appropriations bill forbidding the use of money appropriated therein to pay the salaries of three named persons whom the House of Representatives wished discharged because they were deemed to be “subversive.”¹⁷⁰⁸

Then, in *United States v. Brown*,¹⁷⁰⁹ a sharply divided Court held void as a bill of attainder a statute making it a crime for a member of the Communist Party to serve as an officer or as an employee of a labor union. Congress could, Chief Justice Warren wrote for the majority, under its commerce power, protect the economy from harm by enacting a prohibition generally applicable to any person who commits certain acts or possesses certain characteristics making him likely in Congress’ view to initiate political strikes or other harmful deeds and leaving it to the courts to determine whether a particular person committed the specified acts or possessed the specified characteristics; it was impermissible, however, for Congress to designate a class of persons—members of the Communist Party—as being forbidden to hold union office.¹⁷¹⁰ The dissenters viewed the statute as merely expressing in shorthand the characteristics of those persons who were likely to utilize union responsibilities to accomplish harmful acts; Congress could validly conclude that all members of the Communist Party possessed those characteristics.¹⁷¹¹ The majority’s decision in *Brown* cast in doubt certain statutes and certain statutory formulations that had been held not to constitute bills of attainder. For example, a predecessor of the statute struck down in *Brown*, which had conditioned a union’s access to the NLRB upon the filing of affidavits by all of the union’s officers attesting that they were not members of or affiliated with the Communist Party, had been upheld,¹⁷¹² and although Chief Justice Warren distinguished the previous case from

¹⁷⁰⁷ *Cummings v. Missouri*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 277 (1867).

¹⁷⁰⁸ *United States v. Lovett*, 328 U.S. 303 (1946).

¹⁷⁰⁹ 381 U.S. 437 (1965).

¹⁷¹⁰ The Court of Appeals had voided the statute as an infringement of First Amendment expression and association rights, but the Court majority did not choose to utilize this ground. 334 F. 2d 488 (9th Cir., 1964). However, in *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967), a very similar statute making it unlawful for any member of a “Communist-action organization” to be employed in a defense facility was struck down on First Amendment grounds and the bill of attainder argument was ignored.

¹⁷¹¹ *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437, 462 (1965) (Justices White, Clark, Harlan, and Stewart dissenting).

¹⁷¹² *American Communications Assn. v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382 (1950).

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Brown on the basis that the Court in the previous decision had found the statute to be preventive rather than punitive,¹⁷¹³ he then proceeded to reject the contention that the punishment necessary for a bill of attainder had to be punitive or retributive rather than preventive,¹⁷¹⁴ thus undermining the prior decision. Of much greater significance was the effect of the *Brown* decision on “conflict-of-interest” legislation typified by that upheld in *Board of Governors v. Agnew*.¹⁷¹⁵ The statute there forbade any partner or employee of a firm primarily engaged in underwriting securities from being a director of a national bank.¹⁷¹⁶ Chief Justice Warren distinguished the prior decision and the statute on three grounds from the statute then under consideration. First, the union statute inflicted its deprivation upon the members of a suspect political group in typical bill-of-attainder fashion, unlike the statute in *Agnew*. Second, in the *Agnew* statute, Congress did not express a judgment upon certain men or members of a particular group; it rather concluded that any man placed in the two positions would suffer a temptation any man might yield to. Third, Congress established in the *Agnew* statute an objective standard of conduct expressed in shorthand, which precluded persons from holding the two positions.

Apparently withdrawing from the *Brown* analysis in upholding a statute providing for governmental custody of documents and recordings accumulated during the tenure of former President Nixon,¹⁷¹⁷ the Court set out a rather different formula for deciding bill of attainder cases.¹⁷¹⁸ The law specifically applied only to President Nixon and directed an executive agency to assume control over the materials and prepare regulations providing for ultimate public dissemination of at least some of them; the act assumed that it did not deprive the former President of property rights but authorized the award of just compensation if it should be judicially determined that there was a taking. First, the Court

¹⁷¹³ *Id.*, 413, 414, cited in *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437, 457–458 (1965).

¹⁷¹⁴ *Id.*, 458–461.

¹⁷¹⁵ 329 U.S. 441 (1947).

¹⁷¹⁶ 12 U.S.C. § 78.

¹⁷¹⁷ The Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act, P.L. 93–526, 88 Stat. 1695 (1974), note following 44 U.S.C. § 2107. For an application of this statute, see *Nixon v. Warner Communications*, 435 U.S. 589 (1978).

¹⁷¹⁸ *Nixon v. Administrator of General Services*, 433 U.S. 425, 468–484 (1977). Justice Stevens’ concurrence is more specifically directed to the facts behind the statute than is the opinion of the Court, *id.*, 484, and Justice White, author of the dissent in *Brown*, merely noted he found the act nonpunitive. *Id.*, 487. Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.*, 504, 536–545, 545. Adding to the impression of a departure from *Brown* is the quotation in the opinion of the Court at several points of the *Brown* dissent, *id.*, 470 n. 31, 471 n. 34, while the dissent quoted and relied on the opinion of the Court in *Brown*. *Id.*, 538, 542.

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denied that the clause denies the power to Congress to burden some persons or groups while not so treating all other plausible individuals or groups; even the present law's specificity in referring to the former President by name and applying only to him did not condemn the act because he "constituted a legitimate class of one" on whom Congress could "fairly and rationally" focus.¹⁷¹⁹ Second, even if the statute's specificity did bring it within the prohibition of the clause, the lodging of Mr. Nixon's materials with the GSA did not inflict punishment within the meaning of the clause. This analysis was a three-pronged one: 1) the law imposed no punishment traditionally judged to be prohibited by the clause; 2) the law, viewed functionally in terms of the type and severity of burdens imposed, could rationally be said to further nonpunitive legislative purposes; and 3) the law had no legislative record evincing a congressional intent to punish.¹⁷²⁰ That is, the Court, looking "to its terms, to the intent expressed by Members of Congress who voted its passage, and to the existence or nonexistence of legitimate explanations for its apparent effect," concluded that the statute served to further legitimate policies of preserving the availability of evidence for criminal trials and the functioning of the adversary legal system and in promoting the preservation of records of historical value, all in a way that did not and was not intended to punish the former President.

The clause protects individual persons and groups who are vulnerable to nonjudicial determinations of guilt and does not apply to a State; neither does a State have standing to invoke the clause for its citizens against the Federal Government.¹⁷²¹

Ex Post Facto Laws

Definition.—At the time the Constitution was adopted, many persons understood the term *ex post facto* laws to "embrace all retrospective laws, or laws governing or controlling past transactions, whether . . . of a civil or a criminal nature."¹⁷²² But in the early case of *Calder v. Bull*,¹⁷²³ the Supreme Court decided that the phrase, as used in the Constitution, applied only to penal and criminal statutes. But although it is inapplicable to retroactive legislation of any other kind,¹⁷²⁴ the constitutional prohibition may

¹⁷¹⁹ *Id.*, 472. Justice Stevens carried the thought further, although in the process he severely limited the precedential value of the decision. *Id.*, 484.

¹⁷²⁰ *Id.*, 473–484.

¹⁷²¹ *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 324 (1966).

¹⁷²² 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1339.

¹⁷²³ 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 386, 393 (1798).

¹⁷²⁴ *Bankers Trust Co. v. Blodgett*, 260 U.S. 647, 652 (1923).

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not be evaded by giving a civil form to a measure that is essentially criminal.¹⁷²⁵ Every law, which makes criminal an act that was innocent when done, or which inflicts a greater punishment than the law annexed to the crime when committed, is an *ex post facto* law within the prohibition of the Constitution.¹⁷²⁶ A prosecution under a temporary statute, which was extended before the date originally set for its expiration, does not offend this provision even though it is instituted subsequent to the extension of the statute's duration for a violation committed prior thereto.¹⁷²⁷ Since this provision has no application to crimes committed outside the jurisdiction of the United States against the laws of a foreign country, it is immaterial in extradition proceedings whether the foreign law is *ex post facto* or not.¹⁷²⁸

What Constitutes Punishment.—An act of Congress that prescribed as a qualification for practice before the federal courts an oath that the attorney had not participated in the Rebellion was found unconstitutional since it operated as a punishment for past acts.¹⁷²⁹ But a statute that denied to polygamists the right to vote in a territorial election was upheld even as applied to one who had not contracted a polygamous marriage and had not cohabited with more than one woman since the act was passed, because the law did not operate as an additional penalty for the offense of polygamy but merely defined it as a disqualification of a voter.¹⁷³⁰ A deportation law authorizing the Secretary of Labor to expel aliens for criminal acts committed before its passage is not *ex post facto* since deportation is not a punishment.¹⁷³¹ For this reason, a statutory provision terminating payment of old-age benefits to an alien deported for Communist affiliation also is not *ex post facto*, for the denial of a non-contractual benefit to a deported alien is not a penalty

¹⁷²⁵ *Burgess v. Salmon*, 97 U.S. 381 (1878).

¹⁷²⁶ *Calder v. Bull*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 386, 390 (1798); *Ex parte Garland*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333, 377 (1867); *Burgess v. Salmon*, 97 U.S. 381, 384 (1878).

¹⁷²⁷ *United States v. Powers*, 307 U.S. 214 (1939).

¹⁷²⁸ *Neely v. Henkel*, 180 U.S. 109, 123 (1901). Cf. *In re Yamashita*, 327 U.S. 1, 26 (1946) (dissenting opinion of Justice Murphy); *Hirota v. MacArthur*, 338 U.S. 197, 199 (1948) (concurring opinion of Justice Douglas).

¹⁷²⁹ *Ex parte Garland*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333 (1867).

¹⁷³⁰ *Murphy v. Ramsey*, 114 U.S. 15 (1885).

¹⁷³¹ *Mahler v. Eby*, 264 U.S. 32 (1924); *Bugajewitz v. Adams*, 228 U.S. 585 (1913); *Marcello v. Bonds*, 349 U.S. 302 (1955). Justices Black and Douglas, reiterating in *Lehman v. United States ex rel. Carson*, 353 U.S. 685, 690–691 (1957), their dissent from the premise that the *ex post facto* clause is directed solely to penal legislation, disapproved a holding that an immigration law, enacted in 1952, 8 U.S.C. § 1251, which authorized deportation of an alien who, in 1945, had acquired a status of nondeportability under pre-existing law is valid. In their opinion, to banish, in 1957, an alien who had lived in the United States for almost 40 years, for an offense committed in 1936, and for which he already had served a term in prison, was to subject him to new punishment retrospectively imposed.

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but a regulation designed to relieve the Social Security System of administrative problems of supervision and enforcement likely to arise from disbursements to beneficiaries residing abroad.¹⁷³² Likewise an act permitting the cancellation of naturalization certificates obtained by fraud prior to the passage of the law was held not to impose a punishment, but it was simply to deprive the alien of his illgotten privileges.¹⁷³³

Change in Place or Mode of Trial.—A change of the place of trial of an alleged offense after its commission is not an *ex post facto* law. If no place of trial was provided when the offense was committed, Congress may designate the place of trial thereafter.¹⁷³⁴ A law which alters the rule of evidence to permit a person to be convicted upon less or different evidence than was required when the offense was committed is invalid,¹⁷³⁵ but a statute which simply enlarges the class of persons who may be competent to testify in criminal cases is not *ex post facto* as applied to a prosecution for a crime committed prior to its passage.¹⁷³⁶

Clause 4. No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

Direct Taxes

The Hylton Case.—The crucial problem under this section is to distinguish “direct” from other taxes. In its opinion in *Pollock v. Farmers’ Loan & Trust Co.*, the Court declared: “It is apparent . . . that the distinction between direct and indirect taxation was well understood by the framers of the Constitution and those who adopted it.”¹⁷³⁷ Against this confident dictum may be set the following brief excerpt from Madison’s NOTES ON THE CONVENTION: “Mr. King asked what was the precise meaning of *direct* taxation? No one answered.”¹⁷³⁸ The first case to come before the Court on this issue was *Hylton v. United States*,¹⁷³⁹ which was decided early in 1796. Congress has levied, according to the rule of uniformity, a specific tax upon all carriages, for the conveyance of persons, which were to be kept by, or for any person, for his own use, or

¹⁷³² *Flemming v. Nestor*, 363 U.S. 603 (1960).

¹⁷³³ *Johannessen v. United States*, 225 U.S. 227 (1912).

¹⁷³⁴ *Cook v. United States*, 138 U.S. 157, 183 (1891).

¹⁷³⁵ *Calder v. Bull*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 386, 390 (1798).

¹⁷³⁶ *Hopt v. Utah*, 110 U.S. 574, 589 (1884).

¹⁷³⁷ 157 U.S. 429, 573 (1895).

¹⁷³⁸ J. MADISON, THE DEBATES IN THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (G. Hunt & J. Scott eds.) (Greenwood Press ed. 1970), 435.

¹⁷³⁹ 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 171 (1796).

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to be let out for hire, or for the conveying of passengers. In a fictitious statement of facts, it was stipulated that the carriages involved in the case were kept exclusively for the personal use of the owner and not for hire. The principal argument for the constitutionality of the measure was made by Hamilton, who treated it as an "excise tax,"¹⁷⁴⁰ while Madison both on the floor of Congress and in correspondence attacked it as "direct" and so void, inasmuch as it was levied without apportionment.¹⁷⁴¹ The Court, taking the position that the direct tax clause constituted in practical operation an exception to the general taxing powers of Congress, held that no tax ought to be classified as "direct" which could not be conveniently apportioned, and on this basis sustained the tax on carriages as one on their "use" and therefore an "excise." Moreover, each of the judges advanced the opinion that the direct tax clause should be restricted to capitation taxes and taxes on land, or that at most, it might cover a general tax on the aggregate or mass of things that generally pervade all the States, especially if an assessment should intervene, while Justice Paterson, who had been a member of the Federal Convention, testified to his recollection that the principal purpose of the provision had been to allay the fear of the Southern States lest their Negroes and land should be subjected to a specific tax.¹⁷⁴²

From the Hylton to the Pollock Case.—The result of the *Hylton* case was not challenged until after the Civil War. A number of the taxes imposed to meet the demands of that war were assailed during the postwar period as direct taxes but without result. The Court sustained successively, as "excises" or "duties," a tax on an insurance company's receipts for premiums and assessments;¹⁷⁴³ a tax on the circulating notes of state banks,¹⁷⁴⁴ an inheritance tax on real estate,¹⁷⁴⁵ and finally a general tax on incomes.¹⁷⁴⁶ In the last case, the Court took pains to state that it regarded the term "direct taxes" as having acquired a definite and fixed meaning, to wit, capitation taxes, and taxes on land.¹⁷⁴⁷ Then, almost one hundred years after the *Hylton* case, the famous

¹⁷⁴⁰THE WORKS OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON, J. Hamilton ed. (New York: 1851), 845. "If the meaning of the word excise is to be sought in the British statutes, it will be found to include the duty on carriages, which is there considered as an excise, and then must necessarily be uniform and liable to apportionment; consequently, not a direct tax."

¹⁷⁴¹4 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 730 (1794); 2 LETTERS AND OTHER WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON (Philadelphia: 1865), 14.

¹⁷⁴²3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 171, 177 (1796).

¹⁷⁴³Pacific Insurance Company v. Soule, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 433 (1869).

¹⁷⁴⁴Veazie Bank v. Fenno, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 533 (1869).

¹⁷⁴⁵Scholey v. Rew, 23 Wall. (90 U.S.) 331 (1875).

¹⁷⁴⁶Springer v. United States, 102 U.S. 586 (1881).

¹⁷⁴⁷Id., 602.

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case of *Pollock v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.*¹⁷⁴⁸ arose under the Income Tax Act of 1894.¹⁷⁴⁹ Undertaking to correct “a century of error,” the Court held, by a vote of five-to-four, that a tax on income from property was a direct tax within the meaning of the Constitution and hence void because not apportioned according to the census.

Restriction of the Pollock Decision.—The *Pollock* decision encouraged taxpayers to challenge the right of Congress to levy by the rule of uniformity numerous taxes that had always been reckoned to be excises. But the Court evinced a strong reluctance to extend the doctrine to such exactions. Purporting to distinguish taxes levied “because of ownership” or “upon property as such” from those laid upon “privileges,”¹⁷⁵⁰ it sustained as “excises” a tax on sales on business exchanges,¹⁷⁵¹ a succession tax which was construed to fall on the recipients of the property transmitted rather than on the estate of the decedent,¹⁷⁵² and a tax on manufactured tobacco in the hands of a dealer, after an excise tax had been paid by the manufacturer.¹⁷⁵³ Again, in *Thomas v. United States*,¹⁷⁵⁴ the validity of a stamp tax on sales of stock certificates was sustained on the basis of a definition of “duties, imposts and excises.” These terms, according to the Chief Justice, “were used comprehensively to cover customs and excise duties imposed on importation, consumption, manufacture and sale of certain commodities, privileges, particular business transactions, vocations, occupations and the like.”¹⁷⁵⁵ On the same day, it ruled, in *Spreckels Sugar Refining Co. v. McClain*,¹⁷⁵⁶ that an exaction, denominated a special excise tax, imposed on the business of refining sugar and measured by the gross receipts thereof, was in truth an excise and hence properly levied by the rule of uniformity. The lesson of *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*¹⁷⁵⁷ was the same. In the *Flint* case, what was in form an income tax was sustained as a tax on the privilege of doing business as a corporation, the value of the privilege being measured by the income, including income from investments. Similarly,, in *Stanton v. Baltic Mining Co.*,¹⁷⁵⁸ a tax on the annual production of mines was held to be “independently of the effect of the oper-

¹⁷⁴⁸ 157 U.S. 429 (1895); 158 U.S. 601 (1895).

¹⁷⁴⁹ 28 Stat. 509, 553 (1894).

¹⁷⁵⁰ *Stanton v. Baltic Mining Co.*, 240 U.S. 103 (1916); *Knowlton v. Moore*, 178 U.S. 41, 80 (1900).

¹⁷⁵¹ *Nicol v. Ames*, 173 U.S. 509 (1899).

¹⁷⁵² *Knowlton v. Moore*, 178 U.S. 41 (1900).

¹⁷⁵³ *Patton v. Brady*, 184 U.S. 608 (1902).

¹⁷⁵⁴ 192 U.S. 363 (1904).

¹⁷⁵⁵ *Id.*, 370.

¹⁷⁵⁶ 192 U.S. 397 (1904).

¹⁷⁵⁷ 220 U.S. 107 (1911).

¹⁷⁵⁸ 240 U.S. 103 (1916).

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ation of the Sixteenth Amendment . . . not a tax upon property as such because of its ownership, but a true excise levied on the results of the business of carrying on mining operations.”¹⁷⁵⁹

A convincing demonstration of the extent to which the *Pollock* decision had been whittled down by the time the Sixteenth Amendment was adopted is found in *Billings v. United States*.¹⁷⁶⁰ In challenging an annual tax assessed for the year 1909 on the use of foreign built yachts—a levy not distinguishable in substance from the carriage tax involved in the *Hylton* case as construed by the Supreme Court—counsel did not even suggest that the tax should be classed as a direct tax. Instead, he based his argument that the exaction constituted a taking of property without due process of law upon the premise that it was an excise, and the Supreme Court disposed of the case upon the same assumption.

In 1921, the Court cast aside the distinction drawn in *Knowlton v. Moore* between the right to transmit property on the one hand and the privilege of receiving it on the other, and sustained an estate tax as an excise. “Upon this point,” wrote Justice Holmes for a unanimous Court, “a page of history is worth a volume of logic.”¹⁷⁶¹ This proposition being established, the Court had no difficulty in deciding that the inclusion in the computation of the estate tax of property held as joint tenants,¹⁷⁶² or as tenants by the entirety,¹⁷⁶³ or the entire value of community property owned by husband and wife,¹⁷⁶⁴ or the proceeds of insurance upon the life of the decedent,¹⁷⁶⁵ did not amount to direct taxation of such property. Similarly, it upheld a graduated tax on gifts as an excise, saying that it was “a tax laid only upon the exercise of a single one of those powers incident to ownership, the power to give the property owned to another.”¹⁷⁶⁶ Justice Sutherland, speaking for himself and two associates, urged that “the right to give away one’s property is as fundamental as the right to sell it or, indeed, to possess it.”¹⁷⁶⁷

Miscellaneous.—The power of Congress to levy direct taxes is not confined to the States represented in that body. Such a tax may be levied in proportion to population in the District of Colum-

¹⁷⁵⁹ *Id.*, 114.

¹⁷⁶⁰ 232 U.S. 261 (1914).

¹⁷⁶¹ *New York Trust Co. v. Eisner*, 256 U.S. 345, 349 (1921).

¹⁷⁶² *Phillips v. Dime Trust & S.D. Co.*, 284 U.S. 160 (1931).

¹⁷⁶³ *Tyler v. United States*, 281 U.S. 497 (1930).

¹⁷⁶⁴ *Fernandez v. Wiener*, 326 U.S. 340 (1945).

¹⁷⁶⁵ *Chase Nat. Bank v. United States*, 278 U.S. 327 (1929); *United States v. Manufacturers Nat. Bank*, 363 U.S. 194, 198–201 (1960).

¹⁷⁶⁶ *Bromley v. McCaughn*, 280 U.S. 124, 136 (1929). See also *Helvering v. Bullard*, 303 U.S. 297 (1938).

¹⁷⁶⁷ *Bromley v. McCaughn*, 280 U.S. 124, 140 (1929).

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Cl. 5—Export Duties

bia.¹⁷⁶⁸ A penalty imposed for nonpayment of a direct tax is not a part of the tax itself and hence is not subject to the rule of apportionment. Accordingly, the Supreme Court sustained the penalty of fifty percent, which Congress exacted for default in the payment of the direct tax on land in the aggregate amount of twenty million dollars that was levied and apportioned among the States during the Civil War.¹⁷⁶⁹

Clause 5. No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

Taxes on Exports

This prohibition applies only to the imposition of duties on goods by reason of exportation.¹⁷⁷⁰ The word “export” signifies goods exported to a foreign country, not to an unincorporated territory of the United States.¹⁷⁷¹ A general tax laid on all property alike, including that intended for export, is not within the prohibition, if it is not levied on goods in course of exportation nor because of their intended exportation.¹⁷⁷² Where the sale to a commission merchant for a foreign consignee was consummated by delivery of the goods to an exporting carrier, the sale was held to be a step in the exportation and hence exempt from a general tax on sales of such commodity.¹⁷⁷³ The giving of a bond for exportation of distilled liquor was not the commencement of exportation so as to exempt from an excise tax spirits that were not exported pursuant to such bond.¹⁷⁷⁴ A tax on the income of a corporation derived from its export trade was not a tax on “articles exported” within the meaning of the Constitution.¹⁷⁷⁵

Stamp Taxes.—A stamp tax imposed on foreign bills of lading,¹⁷⁷⁶ charter parties,¹⁷⁷⁷ or marine insurance policies,¹⁷⁷⁸ was in effect a tax or duty upon exports, and so void; but an act requiring the stamping of all packages of tobacco intended for export in

¹⁷⁶⁸ *Loughborough v. Blake*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 317 (1820).

¹⁷⁶⁹ *De Treville v. Smalls*, 98 U.S. 517, 527 (1879).

¹⁷⁷⁰ *Turpin v. Burgess*, 117 U.S. 504, 507 (1886). Cf. *Almy v. California*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 169, 174 (1861).

¹⁷⁷¹ *Dooley v. United States*, 183 U.S. 151, 154 (1901).

¹⁷⁷² *Cornell v. Coyne*, 192 U.S. 418, 428 (1904); *Turpin v. Burgess*, 117 U.S. 504, 507 (1886).

¹⁷⁷³ *Spalding & Bros. v. Edwards*, 262 U.S. 66 (1923).

¹⁷⁷⁴ *Thompson v. United States*, 142 U.S. 471 (1892).

¹⁷⁷⁵ *Peck & Co. v. Lowe*, 247 U.S. 165 (1918); *National Paper Co. v. Bowers*, 266 U.S. 373 (1924).

¹⁷⁷⁶ *Fairbank v. United States*, 181 U.S. 283 (1901).

¹⁷⁷⁷ *United States v. Hvoslef*, 237 U.S. 1 (1915).

¹⁷⁷⁸ *Thames & Mersey Inc. Co. v. United States*, 237 U.S. 19 (1915).

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Cl. 6—Preference to Ports

order to prevent fraud was held not to be forbidden as a tax on exports.¹⁷⁷⁹

Clause 6. No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

The “No Preference” Clause

The limitations imposed by this section were designed to prevent preferences as between ports because of their location in different States. They do not forbid such discriminations as between individual ports. Acting under the commerce clause, Congress may do many things that benefit particular ports and which incidentally result to the disadvantage of other ports in the same or neighboring States. It may establish ports of entry, erect and operate lighthouses, improve rivers and harbors, and provide structures for the convenient and economical handling of traffic.¹⁷⁸⁰ A rate order of the Interstate Commerce Commission which allowed an additional charge to be made for ferrying traffic across the Mississippi to cities on the east bank of the river was sustained over the objection that it gave an unconstitutional preference to ports in Texas.¹⁷⁸¹ Although there were a few early intimations that this clause was applicable to the States as well as to Congress,¹⁷⁸² the Supreme Court declared emphatically in 1886 that state legislation was unaffected by it.¹⁷⁸³ After more than a century, the Court confirmed, over the objection that this clause was offended, the power which the First Congress had exercised¹⁷⁸⁴ in sanctioning the continued supervision and regulation of pilots by the States.¹⁷⁸⁵

¹⁷⁷⁹ *Pace v. Burgess*, 92 U.S. 372 (1876); *Turpin v. Burgess*, 117 U.S. 504, 505 (1886).

¹⁷⁸⁰ *Louisiana Pub. Serv. Comm. v. Texas & N.O.R. Co.*, 284 U.S. 125, 131 (1931); *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 421, 433 (1856); *South Carolina v. Georgia*, 93 U.S. 4 (1876). In *Williams v. United States*, 255 U.S. 336 (1921) the argument that an act of Congress which prohibited interstate transportation of liquor into States whose laws prohibited manufacture or sale of liquor for beverage purposes was repugnant to this clause was rejected.

¹⁷⁸¹ *Louisiana PSC v. Texas & N.O.R. Co.*, 284 U.S. 125, 132 (1931).

¹⁷⁸² *Passenger Cases (Smith v. Turner)*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 282, 414 (1849) (opinion of Justice Wayne); cf. *Cooley v. Port Wardens*, 12 How. (53 U.S.) 299, 314 (1851).

¹⁷⁸³ *Morgan v. Louisiana*, 118 U.S. 455, 467 (1886). See also *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113, 135 (1877); *Johnson v. Chicago & Pacific Elevator Co.*, 119 U.S. 388, 400 (1886).

¹⁷⁸⁴ 1 Stat. 53, 54, §4 (1789).

¹⁷⁸⁵ *Thompson v. Darden*, 198 U.S. 310 (1905).

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Cl. 7—Payment of Claims

Clause 7. No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

Appropriations

This clause is a limitation upon the power of the Executive Department and does not restrict Congress in appropriating moneys in the Treasury.¹⁷⁸⁶ That body may recognize and pay a claim of an equitable, moral, or honorary nature. When it directs a specific sum to be paid to a certain person, neither the Secretary of the Treasury nor any court has discretion to determine whether the person is entitled to receive it.¹⁷⁸⁷ In making appropriations to pay claims arising out of the Civil War, Congress could, the Court held, lawfully provide that certain persons, i.e., those who had aided the Rebellion, should not be paid out of the funds made available by the general appropriation, but that such persons should seek relief from Congress.¹⁷⁸⁸ The Court has also recognized that Congress has a wide discretion with regard to the extent to which it shall prescribe details of expenditures for which it appropriates funds and has approved the frequent practice of making general appropriations of large amounts to be allotted and expended as directed by designated government agencies. Citing as an example that act of June 17, 1902,¹⁷⁸⁹ where all moneys received from the sale and disposal of public lands in a large number of States and territories were set aside as a special fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior upon such projects as he determined to be practicable and advisable for the reclamation of arid and semi-arid lands within those States and territories, the Court declared: "The constitutionality of this delegation of authority has never been seriously questioned."¹⁷⁹⁰

Payment of Claims

No officer of the Federal Government is authorized to pay a debt due from the United States, whether reduced to judgment or not, without an appropriation for that purpose.¹⁷⁹¹ Nor may a gov-

¹⁷⁸⁶ *Cincinnati Soap Co. v. United States*, 301 U.S. 308, 321 (1937); *Knote v. United States*, 95 U.S. 149, 154 (1877).

¹⁷⁸⁷ *United States v. Price*, 116 U.S. 43 (1885); *United States v. Realty Company*, 163 U.S. 427, 439 (1896); *Allen v. Smith*, 173 U.S. 389, 393 (1899).

¹⁷⁸⁸ *Hart v. United States*, 118 U.S. 62, 67 (1886).

¹⁷⁸⁹ 32 Stat. 388 (1902).

¹⁷⁹⁰ *Cincinnati Soap Co. v. United States*, 301 U.S. 308, 322 (1937).

¹⁷⁹¹ *Reeside v. Walker*, 11 How. (52 U.S.) 272 (1851).

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ernment employee, by erroneous advice to a claimant, bind the United States through equitable estoppel principles to pay a claim for which an appropriation has not been made.¹⁷⁹²

After the Civil War, a number of controversies arose out of attempts by Congress to restrict the payment of the claims of persons who had aided the Rebellion but had thereafter received a pardon from the President. The Supreme Court held that Congress could not prescribe the evidentiary effect of a pardon in a proceeding in the Court of Claims for property confiscated during the Civil War,¹⁷⁹³ but that where the confiscated property had been sold and the proceeds paid into the Treasury, a pardon did not of its own force authorize the restoration of such proceeds.¹⁷⁹⁴ It was within the competence of Congress to declare that the amount due to persons thus pardoned should not be paid out of the Treasury and that no general appropriation should extend to their claims.¹⁷⁹⁵

Clause 8. No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

In 1871 the Attorney General of the United States ruled that: "A minister of the United States abroad is not prohibited by the Constitution from rendering a friendly service to a foreign power, even that of negotiating a treaty for it, provided he does not become an officer of that power . . . but the acceptance of a formal commission, as minister plenipotentiary, creates an official relation between the individual thus commissioned and the government which in this way accredits him as its representative," which is prohibited by this clause of the Constitution.¹⁷⁹⁶

SECTION 10. No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and sil-

¹⁷⁹² OPM v. Richmond, 496 U.S. 414 (1990).

¹⁷⁹³ United States v. Klein, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 128 (1872).

¹⁷⁹⁴ Knote v. United States, 95 U.S. 149, 154 (1877); Austin v. United States, 155 U.S. 417, 427 (1894).

¹⁷⁹⁵ Hart v. United States, 118 U.S. 62, 67 (1886).

¹⁷⁹⁶ 13 Ops. Atty. Gen. 538 (1871).

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Cl. 1—Bills of Credit

ver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

POWERS DENIED TO THE STATES**Treaties, Alliances, or Confederations**

At the time of the Civil War, this clause was one of the provisions upon which the Court relied in holding that the Confederation formed by the seceding States could not be recognized as having any legal existence.¹⁷⁹⁷ Today, its practical significance lies in the limitations which it implies upon the power of the States to deal with matters having a bearing upon international relations. In the early case of *Holmes v. Jennison*,¹⁷⁹⁸ Chief Justice Taney invoked it as a reason for holding that a State had no power to deliver up a fugitive from justice to a foreign State. Recently, the kindred idea that the responsibility for the conduct of foreign relations rests exclusively with the Federal Government prompted the Court to hold that, since the oil under the three mile marginal belt along the California coast might well become the subject of international dispute and since the ocean, including this three mile belt, is of vital consequence to the nation in its desire to engage in commerce and to live in peace with the world, the Federal Government has paramount rights in and power over that belt, including full dominion over the resources of the soil under the water area.¹⁷⁹⁹ In *Skiriotes v. Florida*,¹⁸⁰⁰ the Court, on the other hand, ruled that this clause did not disable Florida from regulating the manner in which its own citizens may engage in sponge fishing outside its territorial waters. Speaking for a unanimous Court, Chief Justice Hughes declared; "When its action does not conflict with federal legislation, the sovereign authority of the State over the conduct of its citizens upon the high seas is analogous to the sovereign authority of the United States over its citizens in like circumstances."¹⁸⁰¹

Bills of Credit

Within the sense of the Constitution, bills of credit signify a paper medium of exchange, intended to circulate between individuals, and between the Government and individuals, for the ordi-

¹⁷⁹⁷ *Williams v. Bruffy*, 96 U.S. 176, 183 (1878).

¹⁷⁹⁸ 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 540 (1840).

¹⁷⁹⁹ *United States v. California*, 332 U.S. 19 (1947).

¹⁸⁰⁰ 313 U.S. 69 (1941).

¹⁸⁰¹ *Id.*, 78–79.

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nary purposes of society. It is immaterial whether the quality of legal tender is imparted to such paper. Interest bearing certificates, in denominations not exceeding ten dollars, which were issued by loan offices established by the State of Missouri and made receivable in payment of taxes or other moneys due to the State, and in payment of the fees and salaries of state officers, were held to be bills of credit whose issuance was banned by this section.¹⁸⁰² The States are not forbidden, however, to issue coupons receivable for taxes,¹⁸⁰³ nor to execute instruments binding themselves to pay money at a future day for services rendered or money borrowed.¹⁸⁰⁴ Bills issued by state banks are not bills of credit;¹⁸⁰⁵ it is immaterial that the State is the sole stockholder of the bank,¹⁸⁰⁶ that the officers of the bank were elected by the state legislature,¹⁸⁰⁷ or that the capital of the bank was raised by the sale of state bonds.¹⁸⁰⁸

Legal Tender

Relying on this clause, which applies only to the States and not to the Federal Government,¹⁸⁰⁹ the Supreme Court has held that where the marshal of a state court received state bank notes in payment and discharge of an execution, the creditor was entitled to demand payment in gold or silver.¹⁸¹⁰ Since, however, there is nothing in the Constitution prohibiting a bank depositor from consenting when he draws a check that payment may be made by draft, a state law providing that checks drawn on local banks should, at the option of the bank, be payable in exchange drafts was held valid.¹⁸¹¹

Bills of Attainder

Statutes passed after the Civil War with the intent and result of excluding persons who had aided the Confederacy from following certain callings, by the device of requiring them to take an oath

¹⁸⁰² *Craig v. Missouri*, 4 Pet. (29 U.S.) 410, 425 (1830); *Byrne v. Missouri*, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 40 (1834).

¹⁸⁰³ *Virginia Coupon Cases (Poindexter v. Greenhow)*, 114 U.S. 269 (1885); *Chaffin v. Taylor*, 116 U.S. 567 (1886).

¹⁸⁰⁴ *Houston & Texas Central Rd. v. Texas*, 177 U.S. 66 (1900).

¹⁸⁰⁵ *Briscoe v. Bank of Kentucky*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 257 (1837).

¹⁸⁰⁶ *Darrington v. Bank of Alabama*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 12, 15 (1851); *Curran v. Arkansas*, 15 How. (56 U.S.) 304, 317 (1854).

¹⁸⁰⁷ *Briscoe v. Bank of Kentucky*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 257 (1837).

¹⁸⁰⁸ *Woodruff v. Trapnall*, 10 How. (51 U.S.) 190, 205 (1851).

¹⁸⁰⁹ *Legal Tender Cases (Juilliard v. Greenman)*, 110 U.S. 421, 446 (1884).

¹⁸¹⁰ *Gwin v. Breedlove*, 2 How. (43 U.S.) 29, 38 (1844). See also *Griffin v. Thompson*, 2 How. (43 U.S.) 244 (1844).

¹⁸¹¹ *Farmers & Merchants Bank v. Fed. Reserve Bank*, 262 U.S. 649, 659 (1923).

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Cl. 1—Ex Post Facto Laws

that they had never given such aid, were held invalid as being bills of attainder, as well as *ex post facto* laws.¹⁸¹²

Other attempts to raise bill-of-attainder claims have been unsuccessful. A Court majority denied that a municipal ordinance, that required all employees to execute oaths that they had never been affiliated with Communist or similar organizations, violated the clause, on the grounds that the ordinance merely provided standards of qualifications and eligibility for employment.¹⁸¹³ A law that prohibited any person convicted of a felony and not subsequently pardoned from holding office in a waterfront union was not a bill of attainder because the “distinguishing feature of a bill of attainder is the substitution of a legislative for a judicial determination of guilt” and the prohibition “embodies no further implications of appellant’s guilt than are contained in his 1920 judicial conviction.”¹⁸¹⁴

Ex Post Facto Laws

Scope of the Provision.—This clause, like the cognate restriction imposed on the Federal Government by §9, relates only to penal and criminal legislation and not to civil laws that affect private rights adversely.¹⁸¹⁵ There are three categories of *ex post facto* laws: those “which punish[] as a crime an act previously committed, which was innocent when done; which make[] more burdensome the punishment for a crime, after its commission; or which deprive[] one charged with crime of any defense available according to law at the time when the act was committed.”¹⁸¹⁶ The bar is directed only against legislative action and does not touch erroneous or inconsistent decisions by the courts.¹⁸¹⁷ Even though a law is

¹⁸¹²Cummings v. Missouri, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 277, 323 (1867); Klinger v. Missouri, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 257 (1872); Pierce v. Carskadon, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 234, 239 (1873).

¹⁸¹³Garner v. Board of Public Works of Los Angeles, 341 U.S. 716, 722–723 (1951). Cf. Konigsberg v. State Bar of California, 366 U.S. 36, 47 n. 9 (1961).

¹⁸¹⁴De Veau v. Braisted, 363 U.S. 144, 160 (1960). Presumably, United States v. Brown, 381 U.S. 437 (1965), does not qualify this decision.

¹⁸¹⁵Calder v. Bull, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 386, 390 (1798); Watson v. Mercer, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 88, 110 (1834); Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad Co. v. Nesbit, 10 How. (51 U.S.) 395, 401 (1850); Carpenter v. Pennsylvania, 17 How. (58 U.S.) 456, 463 (1855); Loche v. New Orleans, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 172 (1867); Orr v. Gilman, 183 U.S. 278, 285 (1902); Kentucky Union Co. v. Kentucky, 219 U.S. 140 (1911).

¹⁸¹⁶Collins v. Youngblood, 497 U.S. 37, 42 (1990) (quoting Beazell v. Ohio, 269 U.S. 167, 169–170 (1925)). Alternatively, the Court described the reach of the clause as extending to laws that “alter the definition of crimes or increase the punishment for criminal acts.” *Id.*, 43.

¹⁸¹⁷Frank v. Mangum, 237 U.S. 309, 344 (1915); Ross v. Oregon, 227 U.S. 150, 161 (1913). However, an unforeseeable judicial enlargement of a criminal statute so as to encompass conduct not covered on the face of the statute operates like an *ex post facto* law if it is applied retroactively and violates due process in that event. Bouie v. City of Columbia, 378 U.S. 347 (1964). See Marks v. United States, 430

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ex post facto and invalid as to crimes committed prior to its enactment, it is nonetheless valid as to subsequent offenses.¹⁸¹⁸ If it mitigates the rigor of the law in force at the time the crime was committed,¹⁸¹⁹ or if it merely penalizes the continuance of conduct lawfully begun before its passage, the statute is not *ex post facto*. Thus, measures penalizing the failure of a railroad to cut drains through existing embankments¹⁸²⁰ or making illegal the continued possession of intoxicating liquors which were lawfully acquired¹⁸²¹ have been held valid.

Denial of Future Privileges to Past Offenders.—The right to practice a profession may be denied to one who was convicted of an offense before the statute was enacted if the offense reasonably may be regarded as a continuing disqualification for the profession. Without offending the Constitution, statutes barring a person from practicing medicine after conviction of a felony¹⁸²² or excluding convicted felons from waterfront union offices, unless pardoned or in receipt of a parole board's good conduct certificate,¹⁸²³ may be enforced against a person convicted before the measures were passed. But the test oath prescribed after the Civil War, whereby office holders, teachers, or preachers were required to swear that they had not participated in the Rebellion, was held invalid on the ground that it had no reasonable relation to fitness to perform official or professional duties, but rather was a punishment for past offenses.¹⁸²⁴ A similar oath required of suitors in the courts also was held void.¹⁸²⁵

Changes in Punishment.—Statutes that changed an indeterminate sentence law to require a judge to impose the maximum sentence, whereas formerly he could impose a sentence between the minimum and maximum,¹⁸²⁶ required criminals sentenced to death to be kept thereafter in solitary confinement,¹⁸²⁷ or allowed a warden to fix, within limits of one week, and keep secret the time

U.S. 188 (1977) (applying *Bouie* in context of §9, cl. 3). But see *Splawn v. California*, 431 U.S. 595 (1977) (rejecting application of *Bouie*). The Court itself has not always adhered to this standard. See *Ginzburg v. United States*, 383 U.S. 463 (1966).

¹⁸¹⁸ *Jachne v. New York*, 128 U.S. 189, 190 (1888).

¹⁸¹⁹ *Rooney v. North Dakota*, 196 U.S. 319, 325 (1905).

¹⁸²⁰ *Chicago & Alton R.R. v. Tranbarger*, 238 U.S. 67 (1915).

¹⁸²¹ *Samuels v. McCurdy*, 267 U.S. 188 (1925).

¹⁸²² *Hawker v. New York*, 170 U.S. 189, 190 (1898). See also *Reetz v. Michigan*, 188 U.S. 505, 509 (1903); *Lehmann v. State Board of Public Accountancy*, 263 U.S. 394 (1923).

¹⁸²³ *De Veau v. Braisted*, 363 U.S. 144, 160 (1960).

¹⁸²⁴ *Cummings v. Missouri*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 277, 316 (1867).

¹⁸²⁵ *Pierce v. Carskadon*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 234 (1873).

¹⁸²⁶ *Lindsey v. Washington*, 301 U.S. 397 (1937). But note the limitation of *Lindsey* in *Dobbert v. Florida*, 432 U.S. 282, 298–301 (1977).

¹⁸²⁷ *Holden v. Minnesota*, 137 U.S. 483, 491 (1890).

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of execution,¹⁸²⁸ were held to be *ex post facto* as applied to offenses committed prior to their enactment. Because it made more onerous the punishment for crimes committed before its enactment, a law, a law that altered sentencing guidelines to make it more likely the sentencing authority would impose on a defendant a more severe sentence than was previously likely and making it impossible for the defendant to challenge the sentence was *ex post facto* as to one who had committed the offense prior to the change.¹⁸²⁹ But laws providing heavier penalties for new crimes thereafter committed by habitual criminals,¹⁸³⁰ changing the punishment from hanging to electrocution, fixing the place therefor in the penitentiary, and permitting the presence of a greater number of invited witnesses,¹⁸³¹ or providing for close confinement of six to nine months in the penitentiary, in lieu of three to six months in jail prior to execution, and substituting the warden for the sheriff as hangman, have been sustained.¹⁸³²

In *Dobbert v. Florida*,¹⁸³³ the Court may have formulated a new test for determining when a criminal statute *vis-a-vis* punishment is *ex post facto*. Defendant murdered two of his children; at the time of the commission of the offenses, Florida law provided the death penalty upon conviction for certain takings of life. Subsequent to the commission of the capital offenses, the Supreme Court held laws similar to Florida's unconstitutional to the extent that death was a sentence under them, although convictions obtained under the statutes were not to be overturned,¹⁸³⁴ and the Florida Supreme Court voided its death penalty statutes on the authority of the High Court decision. The Florida legislature then enacted a new capital punishment law, which was sustained. *Dobbert* was convicted and sentenced to death under the new law, which was enacted after the commission of his offenses. The Court rejected the *ex post facto* challenge to the sentence on the basis that whether the old statute was constitutional or not, "it clearly indicated Florida's view of the severity of murder and of the degree of punishment which the legislature wished to impose upon murderers. The statute was intended to provide maximum deterrence, and its existence on the statute books provided fair warning as to the degree

¹⁸²⁸ *Medley*, Petitioner, 134 U.S. 160, 171 (1890).

¹⁸²⁹ *Miller v. Florida*, 482 U.S. 423 (1987).

¹⁸³⁰ *Gryger v. Burke*, 334 U.S. 728 (1948); *McDonald v. Massachusetts*, 180 U.S. 311 (1901); *Graham v. West Virginia*, 224 U.S. 616 (1912).

¹⁸³¹ *Malloy v. South Carolina*, 237 U.S. 180 (1915).

¹⁸³² *Rooney v. North Dakota*, 196 U.S. 319, 324 (1905).

¹⁸³³ 432 U.S. 282, 297–298 (1977). Justices Stevens, Brennan, and Marshall dissented. *Id.*, 304.

¹⁸³⁴ *Furman v. Georgia*, 408 U.S. 238 (1972). The new law was sustained in *Proffitt v. Florida*, 428 U.S. 242 (1976).

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of culpability which the State ascribed to the act of murder.”¹⁸³⁵ Whether the “fair warning” standard is to have any prominent place in *ex post facto* jurisprudence may be an interesting question but it is problematical in any event whether the fact situation will occur often enough to make the principle applicable in very many cases.

Changes in Procedure.—An accused person does not have a right to be tried in all respects in accordance with the law in force when the crime charged was committed.¹⁸³⁶ Laws shifting the place of trial from one county to another,¹⁸³⁷ increasing the number of appellate judges and dividing the appellate court into divisions,¹⁸³⁸ granting a right of appeal to the State,¹⁸³⁹ changing the method of selecting and summoning jurors,¹⁸⁴⁰ making separate trials for persons jointly indicted a matter of discretion for the trial court rather than a matter of right,¹⁸⁴¹ and allowing a comparison of handwriting experts¹⁸⁴² have been sustained over the objection that they were *ex post facto*. It was said or suggested in a number of these cases, and two decisions were rendered precisely on the basis, that the mode of procedure might be changed only so long as the substantial rights of the accused were not curtailed.¹⁸⁴³ The Court has now disavowed this position.¹⁸⁴⁴ All that the language of most of these cases meant was that a legislature might not evade the *ex post facto* clause by labeling changes as alteration of “procedure.” If a change labeled “procedural” effects a substantive change in the definition of a crime or increases punishment or denies a defense, the clause is invoked; however, if a law changes the procedures by which a criminal case is adjudicated, the clause is

¹⁸³⁵ *Id.*, 432 U.S., 297.

¹⁸³⁶ *Gibson v. Mississippi*, 162 U.S. 565, 590 (1896).

¹⁸³⁷ *Gut v. Minnesota*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 35, 37 (1870).

¹⁸³⁸ *Duncan v. Missouri*, 152 U.S. 377 (1894).

¹⁸³⁹ *Mallett v. North Carolina*, 181 U.S. 589, 593 (1901).

¹⁸⁴⁰ *Gibson v. Mississippi*, 162 U.S. 565, 588 (1896).

¹⁸⁴¹ *Bezell v. Ohio*, 269 U.S. 167 (1925).

¹⁸⁴² *Thompson v. Missouri*, 171 U.S. 380, 381 (1898).

¹⁸⁴³ E.g., *Duncan v. Missouri*, 152 U.S. 377, 382–383 (1894); *Malloy v. South Carolina*, 237 U.S. 180, 183 (1915); *Bezell v. Ohio*, 269 U.S. 167, 171 (1925). The two cases decided on the basis of the distinction were *Thompson v. Utah*, 170 U.S. 343 (1898) (application to felony trial for offense committed before enactment of change from 12-person jury to an eight-person jury void under clause), and *Kring v. Missouri*, 107 U.S. 221 (1883) (as applied to a case arising before change, a law abolishing a rule under which a guilty plea functioned as a acquittal of a more serious offense, so that defendant could be tried on the more serious charge, a violation of the clause).

¹⁸⁴⁴ *Collins v. Youngblood*, 497 U.S. 37, 44–52 (1990). In so doing, the Court overruled *Kring* and *Thompson v. Utah*.

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not implicated, regardless of the increase in the burden on a defendant.¹⁸⁴⁵

Obligation of Contracts

“Law” Defined.—The term comprises statutes, constitutional provisions,¹⁸⁴⁶ municipal ordinances,¹⁸⁴⁷ and administrative regulations having the force and operation of statutes.¹⁸⁴⁸ But are judicial decisions within the clause? The abstract principle of the separation of powers, at least until recently, forbade the idea that the courts “make” law and the word “pass” in the above clause seemed to confine it to the formal and acknowledged methods of exercise of the law-making function. Accordingly, the Court has frequently said that the clause does not cover judicial decisions, however erroneous, or whatever their effect on existing contract rights.¹⁸⁴⁹ Nevertheless, there are important exceptions to this rule that are hereinafter set forth.

Status of Judicial Decision.—While the highest state court usually has final authority in determining the construction as well as the validity of contracts entered into under the laws of the State, and the national courts will be bound by their decision of such matters, nevertheless, for reasons that are fairly obvious, this rule does not hold when the contract is one whose obligation is alleged to have been impaired by state law.¹⁸⁵⁰ Otherwise, the chal-

¹⁸⁴⁵Id., 44, 52. *Youngblood* upheld a Texas statute, as applied to a person committing an offense and tried before passage of the law, that authorized criminal courts to reform an improper verdict assessing a punishment not authorized by law, which had the effect of denying defendant a new trial to which he would have been previously entitled.

¹⁸⁴⁶*Dodge v. Woolsey*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 331 (1856); *Ohio & M. R. Co. v. McClure*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 511 (1871); *New Orleans Gas Co. v. Louisiana Light Co.*, 115 U.S. 650 (1885); *Bier v. McGehee*, 148 U.S. 137, 140 (1893).

¹⁸⁴⁷*New Orleans Water-Works Co. v. Rivers*, 115 U.S. 674 (1885); *City of Walla Walla v. Walla Walla Water Co.*, 172 U.S. 1 (1898); *City of Vicksburg v. Waterworks Co.*, 202 U.S. 453 (1906); *Atlantic Coast Line v. City of Goldsboro*, 232 U.S. 548 (1914); *Cuyahoga Power Co. v. City of Akron*, 240 U.S. 462 (1916).

¹⁸⁴⁸*Ibid.*; see also *Grand Trunk Ry. v. Indiana R.R. Comm.*, 221 U.S. 400 (1911); *Appleby v. Delaney*, 271 U.S. 403 (1926).

¹⁸⁴⁹*Central Land Company v. Laidley*, 159 U.S. 103 (1895). See also *N.O. Water-Works Co. v. La. Sugar Co.*, 125 U.S. 18 (1888); *Hanford v. Davies*, 163 U.S. 273 (1896); *Ross v. Oregon*, 227 U.S. 150 (1913); *Detroit United Ry. v. Michigan*, 242 U.S. 238 (1916); *Long Sault Development Co. v. Call*, 242, U.S. 272, (1916); *McCoy v. Union Elevated R. Co.*, 247 U.S. 354 (1918); *Columbia G. & E. Ry. v. South Carolina*, 261 U.S. 236 (1923); *Tidal Oil Co. v. Flannagan*, 263 U.S. 444 (1924).

¹⁸⁵⁰*Jefferson Branch Bank v. Skelly*, 1 Bl. (66 U.S.) 436, 443 (1862); *Bridge Proprietors v. Hoboken Co.*, 1 Wall. (68 U.S.) 116, 145 (1863); *Wright v. Nagle*, 101 U.S. 791, 793 (1880); *McGahey v. Virginia*, 135 U.S. 662, 667 (1890); *Scott v. McNeal*, 154 U.S. 34, 35 (1894); *Stearns v. Minnesota*, 179 U.S. 223, 232–233 (1900); *Coombs v. Getz*, 285 U.S. 434, 441 (1932); *Atlantic Coast Line R. Co. v. Phillips*, 332 U.S. 168, 170 (1947).

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lenged state authority could be vindicated through the simple device of a modification or outright nullification by the state court of the contract rights in issue. Similarly, the highest state court usually has final authority in construing state statutes and determining their validity in relation to the state constitution. But this rule too has had to bend to some extent to the Supreme Court's interpretation of the obligation of contracts clause.¹⁸⁵¹

Suppose the following situation: (1) a municipality, acting under authority conferred by a state statute, has issued bonds in aid of a railway company; (2) the validity of this statute has been sustained by the highest state court; (3) later the state legislature passes an act to repeal certain taxes to meet the bonds; (4) it is sustained in doing so by a decision of the highest state court holding that the statute authorizing the bonds was unconstitutional *ab initio*. In such a case the Supreme Court would take an appeal from the state court and would reverse the latter's decision of unconstitutionality because of its effect in rendering operative the act to repeal the tax.¹⁸⁵²

Suppose further, however, that the state court has reversed itself on the question of the constitutionality of the bonds in a suit by a creditor for payment without there having been an act of repeal. In this situation, the Supreme Court would still afford relief if the case is one between citizens of different States, which reaches it via a lower federal court.¹⁸⁵³ This is because in cases of this nature the Court formerly felt free to determine questions of fundamental justice for itself. Indeed, in such a case, the Court has apparently in the past regarded itself as free to pass upon the constitutionality of the state law authorizing the bonds even though there has been no prior decision by the highest state court sustaining them, the idea being that contracts entered into simply on the

¹⁸⁵¹ *McCullough v. Virginia*, 172 U.S. 102 (1898); *Houston & Texas Central R. Co. v. Texas*, 177 U.S. 66, 76, 77 (1900); *Hubert v. New Orleans*, 215 U.S. 170, 175 (1909); *Carondelet Canal Co. v. Louisiana*, 233 U.S. 362, 376 (1914); *Louisiana Ry. & Nav. Co. v. New Orleans*, 235 U.S. 164, 171 (1914).

¹⁸⁵² *State Bank of Ohio v. Knoop*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 369 (1854), and *Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Co. v. Debolt*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 416 (1854) are the leading cases. See also *Jefferson Branch Bank v. Skelly*, 1 Bl. (66 U.S.) 436 (1862); *Louisiana v. Pilsbury*, 105 U.S. 278 (1882); *McGahey v. Virginia*, 135 U.S. 662 (1890); *Mobile & Ohio Railroad v. Tennessee*, 153 U.S. 486 (1894); *Bacon v. Texas*, 163 U.S. 207 (1896); *McCullough v. Virginia*, 172 U.S. 102 (1898).

¹⁸⁵³ *Gelpcke v. Dubuque*, 1 Wall. (68 U.S.) 175, 206 (1865); *Havemayer v. Iowa County*, 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 294 (1866); *Thomson v. Lee County*, 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 327 (1866); *The City v. Lamson*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 477 (1870); *Olcott v. The Supervisors*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 678 (1873); *Taylor v. Ypsilanti*, 105 U.S. 60 (1882); *Anderson v. Santa Anna*, 116 U.S. 356 (1886); *Wilkes County v. Coler*, 180 U.S. 506 (1901).

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faith of the presumed constitutionality of a state statute are entitled to this protection.¹⁸⁵⁴

In other words, in cases of which it has jurisdiction because of diversity of citizenship, the Court has held that the obligation of contracts is capable of impairment by subsequent judicial decisions no less than by subsequent statutes and that it is able to prevent such impairment. In cases, on the other hand, of which it obtains jurisdiction only on the constitutional ground and by appeal from a state court, it has always adhered in terms to the doctrine that the word “laws” as used in Article I, § 10, does not comprehend judicial decisions. Yet even in these cases, it will intervene to protect contracts entered into on the faith of existing decisions from an impairment that is the direct result of a reversal of such decisions, but there must be in the offing, as it were, a statute of some kind—one possibly many years older than the contract rights involved—on which to pin its decision.¹⁸⁵⁵

In 1922, Congress, through an amendment to the Judicial Code, endeavored to extend the reviewing power of the Supreme Court to suits involving “. . . the validity of a contract wherein it is claimed that a change in the rule of law or construction of statutes by the highest court of a State applicable to such contract would be repugnant to the Constitution of the United States. . . .” This appeared to be an invitation to the Court to say frankly that the obligation of a contract can be impaired as well by a subsequent decision as by a subsequent statute. The Court, however, declined the invitation in an opinion by Chief Justice Taft that reviewed many of the cases covered in the preceding paragraphs.

Dealing with *Gelpcke* and adherent decisions, Chief Justice Taft said: “These cases were not writs of error to the Supreme Court of a State. They were appeals or writs of error to federal courts where recovery was sought upon municipal or county bonds or some other form of contracts, the validity of which had been sustained by decisions of the Supreme Court of a State prior to their execution, and had been denied by the same court after their issue or making. In such cases the federal courts exercising jurisdiction between citizens of different States held themselves free to decide what the state law was, and to enforce it as laid down by the state Supreme Court before the contracts were made rather than in later decisions. They did not base this conclusion on Article I, § 10, of the Federal Constitution, but on the state law as they determined it,

¹⁸⁵⁴Great Southern Hotel Co. v. Jones, 193 U.S. 532, 548 (1904).

¹⁸⁵⁵Sauer v. New York, 206 U.S. 536 (1907); Muhlker v. New York & Harlem Railroad Co., 197 U.S. 544, 570 (1905).

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which, in diverse citizenship cases, under the third Article of the Federal Constitution they were empowered to do. *Burgess v. Seligman*, 107 U.S. 20 (1883).¹⁸⁵⁶ While doubtless this was an available explanation in 1924, the decision in 1938 in *Erie Railroad Co. v. Tompkins*,¹⁸⁵⁷ so cut down the power of the federal courts to decide diversity of citizenship cases according to their own notions of “general principles of common law” as to raise the question whether the Court will not be required eventually to put *Gelpcke* and its companions and descendants squarely on the obligation of contracts clause or else abandon them.

“Obligation” Defined.—A contract is analyzable into two elements: the agreement, which comes from the parties, and the obligation, which comes from the law and makes the agreement binding on the parties. The concept of obligation is an importation from the Civil Law and its appearance in the contracts clause is supposed to have been due to James Wilson, a graduate of Scottish universities and a Civilian. Actually, the term as used in the contracts clause has been rendered more or less superfluous by the doctrine that the law in force when a contract is made enters into and comprises a part of the contract itself.¹⁸⁵⁸ Hence, the Court sometimes recognizes the term in its decisions applying the clause, sometimes ignores it. In *Sturges v. Crowninshield*,¹⁸⁵⁹ Marshall defined “obligation of contract” as “the law which binds the parties to perform their agreement;” but a little later the same year he sets forth the points presented for consideration in *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*,¹⁸⁶⁰ to be: “1. Is this contract protected by the Constitution of the United States? 2. Is it impaired by the acts under which the defendant holds?”¹⁸⁶¹ The word “obligation” undoubtedly does carry the implication that the Constitution was intended to protect only executory contracts—i.e., contracts still awaiting performance, but this implication was early rejected for a certain class of contracts, with immensely important result for the clause.

“Impair” Defined.—“The obligations of a contract,” says Chief Justice Hughes for the Court in *Home Building & Loan Assn. v. Blaisdell*,¹⁸⁶² “are impaired by a law which renders them in-

¹⁸⁵⁶ *Tidal Oil Company v. Flanagan*, 263 U.S. 444, 450, 451–452 (1924).

¹⁸⁵⁷ 304 U.S. 64 (1938).

¹⁸⁵⁸ *Walker v. Whitehead*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 314 (1873); *Wood v. Lovett*, 313 U.S. 362, 370 (1941).

¹⁸⁵⁹ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 122, 197 (1819); see also *Curran v. Arkansas*, 15 How. (56 U.S.) 304 (1854).

¹⁸⁶⁰ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 518 (1819).

¹⁸⁶¹ *Id.*, 627.

¹⁸⁶² 290 U.S. 398 (1934).

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valid, or releases or extinguishes them . . . , and impairment . . . has been predicated upon laws which without destroying contracts derogate from substantial contractual rights.”¹⁸⁶³ But he adds: “Not only are existing laws read into contracts in order to fix obligations as between the parties, but the reservation of essential attributes of sovereign power is also read into contracts as a postulate of the legal order. The policy of protecting contracts against impairment presupposes the maintenance of a government by virtue of which contractual relations are worthwhile,—a government which retains adequate authority to secure the peace and good order of society. This principle of harmonizing the constitutional prohibition with the necessary residuum of state power has had progressive recognition in the decisions of this Court.”¹⁸⁶⁴ In short, the law from which the obligation stems must be understood to include constitutional law and, moreover a “progressive” constitutional law.¹⁸⁶⁵

Vested Rights Not Included.—The term “contracts” is used in the contracts clause in its popular sense of an agreement of minds. The clause therefore does not protect vested rights that are not referable to such an agreement between the State and an individual, such as the right of recovery under a judgment. The individual in question may have a case under the Fourteenth Amendment, but not one under Article I, § 10.¹⁸⁶⁶

Public Grants That Are Not “Contracts”.—Not all grants by a State constitute “contracts” within the sense of Article I, § 10. In his *Dartmouth College* decision, Chief Justice Marshall conceded that “if the act of incorporation be a grant of political power, if it creates a civil institution, to be employed in the administration of the government . . . the subject is one in which the legislature of the State may act according to its own judgment,” unrestrained by the Constitution¹⁸⁶⁷—thereby drawing a line between “public” and

¹⁸⁶³ *Id.*, 431.

¹⁸⁶⁴ *Id.*, 435. And see *City of El Paso v. Simmons*, 379 U.S. 497 (1965).

¹⁸⁶⁵ “The *Blaisdell* decision represented a realistic appreciation of the fact that ours is an evolving society and that the general words of the contract clause were not intended to reduce the legislative branch of government to helpless impotency.” Justice Black, in *Wood v. Lovett*, 313 U.S. 362, 383 (1941).

¹⁸⁶⁶ *Crane v. Hahlo*, 258 U.S. 142, 145–146 (1922); *Louisiana ex rel. Folsom v. Mayor of New Orleans*, 109 U.S. 285, 288 (1883); *Morley v. Lake Shore Railway Co.*, 146 U.S. 162, 169 (1892). That the obligation of contracts clause did not protect vested rights merely as such was stated by the Court as early as *Satterlee v. Matthewson*, 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 380, 413 (1829); and again in *Charles River Bridge v. Warren Bridge*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 420, 539–540 (1837).

¹⁸⁶⁷ *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 518, 629 (1819).

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“private” corporations that remained undisturbed for more than half a century.¹⁸⁶⁸

It has been subsequently held many times that municipal corporations are mere instrumentalities of the State for the more convenient administration of local governments, whose powers may be enlarged, abridged, or entirely withdrawn at the pleasure of the legislature.¹⁸⁶⁹ The same principle applies, moreover, to the property rights which the municipality derives either directly or indirectly from the State. This was first held as to the grant of a franchise to a municipality to operate a ferry and has since then been recognized as the universal rule.¹⁸⁷⁰ It was stated in a case decided in 1923 that the distinction between the municipality as an agent of the State for governmental purposes and as an organization to care for local needs in a private or proprietary capacity, while it limited the legal liability of municipalities for the negligent acts or omissions of its officers or agents, did not, on the other hand, furnish ground for the application of constitutional restraints against the State in favor of its own municipalities.¹⁸⁷¹ Thus, no contract rights were impaired by a statute relocating a county seat, even though the former location was by law to be “permanent” and the citizens of the community had donated land and furnished bonds for the erection of public buildings.¹⁸⁷² Similarly, a statute changing the boundaries of a school district, giving to the new district the property within its limits that had belonged to the former district, and requiring the new district to assume the debts of the old district, did not impair the obligation of contracts.¹⁸⁷³ Nor was the contracts clause violated by state legislation authorizing state control over insolvent communities through a Municipal Finance Commission.¹⁸⁷⁴

On the same ground of public agency, neither appointment nor election to public office creates a contract in the sense of Article I,

¹⁸⁶⁸ In *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113 (1877) a category of “business affected with a public interest” and whose property is “impressed with a public use” was recognized. A corporation engaged in such a business becomes a “quasi-public” corporation, the power of the State to regulate which is larger than in the case of a purely private corporation. Inasmuch as most corporations receiving public franchises are of this character, the final result of *Munn* was to enlarge the police power of the State in the case of the most important beneficiaries of the *Dartmouth College* decision.

¹⁸⁶⁹ *Meriwether v. Garrett*, 102 U.S. 472 (1880); *Covington v. Kentucky*, 173 U.S. 231 (1899); *Hunter v. Pittsburgh*, 207 U.S. 161 (1907).

¹⁸⁷⁰ *East Hartford v. Hartford Bridge Co.*, 10 How. (51 U.S.) 511 (1851); *Hunter v. Pittsburgh*, 207 U.S. 161 (1907).

¹⁸⁷¹ *City of Trenton v. New Jersey* 262 U.S. 182, 191 (1923).

¹⁸⁷² *Newton v. Commissioners*, 100 U.S. 548 (1880).

¹⁸⁷³ *Michigan ex rel. Kies v. Lowrey*, 199 U.S. 233 (1905).

¹⁸⁷⁴ *Faitoute Co. v. City of Asbury Park*, 316 U.S. 502 (1942).

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§ 10, whether as to tenure, or salary, or duties, all of which remain, so far as the Constitution of the United States is concerned, subject to legislative modification or outright repeal.¹⁸⁷⁵ Indeed, there can be no such thing in this country as property in office, although the common law sustained a different view that sometimes found reflection in early cases.¹⁸⁷⁶ When, however, services have once been rendered, there arises an implied contract that they shall be compensated at the rate in force at the time they were rendered.¹⁸⁷⁷ Also, an express contract between the State and an individual for the performance of specific services falls within the protection of the Constitution. Thus, a contract made by the governor pursuant to a statute authorizing the appointment of a commissioner to conduct, over a period of years, a geological, mineralogical, and agricultural survey of the State, for which a definite sum had been authorized, was held to have been impaired by repeal of the statute.¹⁸⁷⁸ But a resolution of a local board of education reducing teachers' salaries for the school year 1933–1934, pursuant to an act of the legislature authorizing such action, was held not to impair the contract of a teacher who, having served three years, was by earlier legislation exempt from having his salary reduced except for inefficiency or misconduct.¹⁸⁷⁹ Similarly, it was held that an Illinois statute that reduced the annuity payable to retired teachers under an earlier act did not violate the contracts clause, since it had not been the intention of the earlier act to propose a contract but only to put into effect a general policy.¹⁸⁸⁰ On the other hand, the right of one, who had become a 'permanent teacher' under the Indiana Teachers Tenure Act of 1927, to continued employment was held to be contractual and to have been impaired by the repeal in 1933 of the earlier act.¹⁸⁸¹

Tax Exemptions: When Not "Contracts".—From a different point of view, the Court has sought to distinguish between grants of privileges, whether to individuals or to corporations, which are contracts and those which are mere revocable licenses, although on

¹⁸⁷⁵ *Butler v. Pennsylvania*, 10 How. (51 U.S.) 402 (1850); *Fisk v. Jefferson Police Jury*, 116 U.S. 131 (1885); *Dodge v. Board of Education*, 302 U.S. 74 (1937); *Mississippi ex rel. Robertson v. Miller*, 276 U.S. 174 (1928).

¹⁸⁷⁶ *Butler v. Pennsylvania*, 10 How. (51 U.S.) 420 (1850). Cf. *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803); *Hoke v. Henderson*, 154 N.C. (4 Dev.) 1 (1833). See also *United States v. Fisher*, 109 U.S. 143 (1883); *United States v. Mitchell*, 109 U.S. 146 (1883); *Crenshaw v. United States*, 134 U.S. 99 (1890).

¹⁸⁷⁷ *Fisk v. Jefferson Police Jury*, 116 U.S. 131 (1885); *Mississippi ex rel. Robertson v. Miller*, 276 U.S. 174 (1928).

¹⁸⁷⁸ *Hall v. Wisconsin*, 103 U.S. 5 (1880). Cf. *Higginbotham v. City of Baton Rouge*, 306 U.S. 535 (1930).

¹⁸⁷⁹ *Phelps v. Board of Education*, 300 U.S. 319 (1937).

¹⁸⁸⁰ *Dodge v. Board of Education*, 302 U.S. 74 (1937).

¹⁸⁸¹ *Indiana ex rel. Anderson v. Brand*, 303 U.S. 95 (1938).

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account of the doctrine of presumed consideration mentioned earlier, this has not always been easy to do. In pursuance of the precedent set in *New Jersey v. Wilson*,¹⁸⁸² the legislature of a State “may exempt particular parcels of property or the property of particular persons or corporations from taxation, either for a specified period or perpetually, or may limit the amount or rate of taxation, to which such property shall be subjected,” and such an exemption is frequently a contract within the sense of the Constitution. Indeed this is always so when the immunity is conferred upon a corporation by the clear terms of its charter.¹⁸⁸³ When, on the other hand, an immunity of this sort springs from general law, its precise nature is more open to doubt, as a comparison of decisions will serve to illustrate.

In *State Bank of Ohio v. Knoop*,¹⁸⁸⁴ a closely divided Court held that a general banking law of Ohio, which provided that companies complying therewith and their stockholders should be exempt from all but certain taxes, was, as to a bank organized under it and its stockholders, a contract within the meaning of Article I, § 10. The provision was not, the Court said, “a legislative command nor a rule of taxation until changed, but a contract stipulating against any change, from the nature of the language used and the circumstances under which it was adopted.”¹⁸⁸⁵ When, however, the State of Michigan pledged itself, by a general legislative act, not to tax any corporation, company, or individual undertaking to manufacture salt in the State from water there obtained by boring on property used for this purpose and, furthermore, to pay a bounty on the salt so manufactured, it was held not to have engaged itself within the constitutional sense. “General encouragements,” said the Court, “held out to all persons indiscriminately, to engage in a particular trade or manufacture, whether such encouragement be in the shape of bounties or drawbacks, or other advantage, are always under the legislative control, and may be discontinued at any time.”¹⁸⁸⁶ So far as exemption from taxation is concerned the difference between these two cases is obviously slight, but the later

¹⁸⁸² 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 164 (1812).

¹⁸⁸³ *The Delaware Railroad Tax*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 206, 225 (1874); *Pacific Railroad Company v. Maguire*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 36, 43 (1874); *Humphrey v. Pegues*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 244, 249 (1873); *Home of the Friendless v. Rouse*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 430, 438 (1869).

¹⁸⁸⁴ 16 How. (57 U.S.) 369 (1854).

¹⁸⁸⁵ *Id.*, 382–383.

¹⁸⁸⁶ *Salt Company v. East Saginaw*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 373, 379 (1872). See also *Welch v. Cook*, 97 U.S. 541 (1879); *Grand Lodge v. New Orleans*, 166 U.S. 143 (1897); *Wisconsin & Michigan Ry. Co. v. Powers*, 191 U.S. 379 (1903). Cf. *Ettor v. Tacoma*, 228 U.S. 148 (1913), in which it was held that the repeal of a statute providing for consequential damages caused by changes of grades of streets could not constitutionally affect an already accrued right to compensation.

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one is unquestionable authority for the proposition that legislative bounties are repealable at will.

Furthermore, exemptions from taxation have in certain cases been treated as gratuities repealable at will, even when conferred by specific legislative enactments. This would seem always to be the case when the beneficiaries were already in existence when the exemption was created and did nothing of a more positive nature to qualify for it than to continue in existence.¹⁸⁸⁷ Yet the cases are not always easy to explain in relation to each other, except in light of the fact that the Court's point of view has altered from time to time.¹⁸⁸⁸

“Contracts” Include Public Contracts and Corporate Charters.—The question, which was settled very early, was whether the clause was intended to be applied solely in protection of private contracts or in the protection also of public grants, or, more broadly, in protection of public contracts, in short, those to which a State is a party.¹⁸⁸⁹ Support for the affirmative answer accorded this question could be derived from the following sources. For one thing, the clause departed from the comparable provision in the Northwest Ordinance (1787) in two respects: first, in the presence of the word “obligation;” secondly, in the absence of the word “private.” There is good reason for believing that Wilson may have been responsible for both alterations, inasmuch as two years earlier he had denounced a current proposal to repeal the Bank of North America's Pennsylvania charter in the following words: “If the act for incorporating the subscribers to the Bank of North America shall be repealed in this manner, every precedent will be established for repealing, in the same manner, every other legisla-

¹⁸⁸⁷ See *Rector of Christ Church, Phila. v. County of Philadelphia*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 300, 302 (1861); *Seton Hall College v. South Orange*, 242 U.S. 100 (1916).

¹⁸⁸⁸ Compare the above cases with *Home of the Friendless v. Rouse*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 430, 437 (1869); *Illinois Central Railroad v. Decatur*, 147 U.S. 190 (1893), with *Wisconsin & Michigan Ry. Co. v. Powers*, 191 U.S. 379 (1903).

¹⁸⁸⁹ According to Benjamin F. Wright, throughout the first century of government under the Constitution “the contract clause had been considered in almost forty per cent of all cases involving the validity of State legislation,” and of these the vast proportion involved legislative grants of one type or other, the most important category being charters of incorporation. However, the numerical prominence of such grants in the cases does not overrate their relative importance from the point of view of public interest. B. WRIGHT, *THE CONTRACT CLAUSE OF THE CONSTITUTION*, (Boston: 1938), 95.

Madison explained the clause by allusion to what had occurred “in the internal administration of the States” in the years preceding the Constitutional Convention, in regard to private debts. Violations of contracts had become familiar in the form of depreciated paper made legal tender, of property substituted for money, of installment laws, and of the occlusions of the courts of justice. 3 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 548; *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 44 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 301–302.

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tive charter in Pennsylvania. A pretence, as specious as any that can be alleged on this occasion, will never be wanting on any future occasion. Those acts of the state, which have hitherto been considered as the sure anchors of privilege and of property, will become the sport of every varying gust of politicks, and will float wildly backwards and forwards on the irregular and impetuous tides of party and faction.”¹⁸⁹⁰

Furthermore, in its first important constitutional case, that of *Chisholm v. Georgia*,¹⁸⁹¹ the Court ruled that its original jurisdiction extended to an action in assumpsit brought by a citizen of South Carolina against the State of Georgia. This construction of the federal judicial power was, to be sure, promptly repealed by the Eleventh Amendment, but without affecting the implication that the contracts protected by the Constitution included public contracts.

One important source of this diversity of opinion is to be found in that ever welling spring of constitutional doctrine in early days, the prevalence of natural law notions and the resulting vague significance of the term “law.” In *Sturges v. Crowninshield*, Marshall defined the obligation of contracts as “the law which binds the parties to perform their undertaking.” Whence, however, comes this law? If it comes from the State alone, which Marshall was later to deny even as to private contracts,¹⁸⁹² then it is hardly possible to hold that the States’ own contracts are covered by the clause, which manifestly does not create an obligation for contracts but only protects such obligation as already exists. But, if, on the other hand, the law furnishing the obligation of contracts comprises Natural Law and kindred principles, as well as law which springs from state authority, then, inasmuch as the State itself is presumably bound by such principles, the State’s own obligations, so far as harmonious with them, are covered by the clause.

Fletcher v. Peck,¹⁸⁹³ has the double claim to fame in that it was the first case in which the Supreme Court held a state enactment to be in conflict with the Constitution, and also the first case to hold that the contracts clause protected public grants. By an act passed on January 7, 1795, the Georgia Legislature directed the sale to four land companies of public lands comprising most of what are now the States of Alabama and Mississippi. As soon became known, the passage of the measure had been secured by open and wholesale bribery. So when a new legislature took over in the

¹⁸⁹⁰ 2 THE WORKS OF JAMES WILSON, R. McCloskey ed. (Cambridge: 1967), 834.

¹⁸⁹¹ 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 419 (1793).

¹⁸⁹² *Ogden v. Saunders*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 213, 338 (1827).

¹⁸⁹³ 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 87 (1810).

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winter of 1795–1796, almost its first act was to revoke the sale made the previous year.

Meantime, however, the land companies had disposed of several millions of acres of their holdings to speculators and prospective settlers, and following the rescinding act some of these took counsel with Alexander Hamilton as to their rights. In an opinion which was undoubtedly known to the Court when it decided *Fletcher v. Peck*, Hamilton characterized the repeal as contravening “the first principles of natural justice and social policy,” especially so far as it was made “to the prejudice . . . of third persons . . . innocent of the alleged fraud or corruption; . . . moreover,” he added, “the Constitution of the United States, article first, section tenth, declares that no State shall pass a law impairing the obligations of contract. This must be equivalent to saying no State shall pass a law revoking, invalidating, or altering a contract. Every grant from one to another, whether the grantor be a State or an individual, is virtually a contract that the grantee shall hold and enjoy the thing granted against the grantor, and his representatives. It, therefore, appears to me that taking the terms of the Constitution in their large sense, and giving them effect according to the general spirit and policy of the provisions, the revocation of the grant by the act of the legislature of Georgia may justly be considered as contrary to the Constitution of the United States, and, therefore null. And that the courts of the United States, in cases within their jurisdiction, will be likely to pronounce it so.”¹⁸⁹⁴ In the debate to which the “Yazoo Land Frauds,” as they were contemporaneously known, gave rise in Congress, Hamilton’s views were quoted frequently.

So far as it invoked the obligation of contracts clause, Marshall’s opinion in *Fletcher v. Peck* performed two creative acts. He recognized that an obligatory contract was one still to be performed—in other words, was an executory contract, also that a grant of land was an executed contract—a conveyance. But, he asserted, every grant is attended by “an implied contract” on the part of the grantor not to claim again the thing granted. Thus, grants are brought within the category of contracts having continuing obligation and so within Article I, § 10. But the question still remained of the nature of this obligation. Marshall’s answer to this can only be inferred from his statement at the end of his opinion. The State of Georgia, he says, “was restrained” from the passing of the rescinding act “either by general principles which are common to our

¹⁸⁹⁴B. WRIGHT, THE CONTRACT CLAUSE OF THE CONSTITUTION (Boston: 1938), 22. Professor Wright dates Hamilton’s pamphlet, 1796.

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free institutions, or by particular provisions of the Constitution of the United States.”¹⁸⁹⁵

The protection thus thrown about land grants was presently extended, in the case of *New Jersey v. Wilson*,¹⁸⁹⁶ to a grant of immunity from taxation that the State of New Jersey had accorded certain Indian lands, and several years after that, in the *Dartmouth College* case,¹⁸⁹⁷ to the charter privileges of an eleemosynary corporation.

In *City of El Paso v. Simmons*,¹⁸⁹⁸ the Court held, over a vigorous dissent by Justice Black, that Texas had not violated this clause when it amended its laws governing the sale of public lands so as to restrict the previously unlimited right of a delinquent to reinstate himself upon forfeited land by a single payment of all past interest due.

Corporate Charters: Different Ways of Regarding.—There are three ways in which the charter of a corporation may be regarded. In the first place, it may be thought of simply as a license terminable at will by the State, like a liquor-seller's license or an auctioneer's license, but affording the incorporators, so long as it remains in force, the privileges and advantages of doing business in the form of a corporation. Nowadays, indeed, when corporate charters are usually issued to all legally qualified applicants by an administrative officer who acts under a general statute, this would probably seem to be the natural way of regarding them were it not for the *Dartmouth College* decision. But, in 1819, charters were granted directly by the state legislatures in the form of special acts and there were very few profit-taking corporations in the country. The later extension of the benefits of the *Dartmouth College* decision to corporations organized under general law took place without discussion.

Secondly, a corporate charter may be regarded as a franchise constituting a vested or property interest in the hands of the holders, and therefore as forfeitable only for abuse or in accordance with its own terms. This is the way in which some of the early

¹⁸⁹⁵ 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 87, 139 (1810). Justice Johnson, in his concurring opinion, relied exclusively on general principles. “I do not hesitate to declare, that a State does not possess the power of revoking its own grants. But I do it, on a general principle, on the reason and nature of things; a principle which will impose laws even on the Deity.” *Id.*, 143.

¹⁸⁹⁶ 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 164 (1812). The exemption from taxation which was involved in this case was held in 1886 to have lapsed through the acquiescence for sixty years by the owners of the lands in the imposition of taxes upon these. *Given v. Wright*, 117 U.S. 648 (1886).

¹⁸⁹⁷ *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 518 (1819).

¹⁸⁹⁸ 379 U.S. 497 (1965). See also *Thorpe v. Housing Authority of City of Durham*, 393 U.S. 268, 278–279 (1969).

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state courts did regard them at the outset.¹⁸⁹⁹ It is also the way in which Blackstone regarded them in relation to the royal prerogative, although not in relation to the sovereignty of Parliament, and the same point of view found expression in Story's concurring opinion in *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, as it did also in Webster's argument in that case.¹⁹⁰⁰

The third view is the one formulated by Chief Justice Marshall in his controlling opinion in *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*.¹⁹⁰¹ This is that the charter of Dartmouth College, a purely private institution, was the outcome and partial record of a contract between the donors of the college, on the one hand, and the British Crown, on the other, and the contract still continued in force between the State of New Hampshire, as the successor to the Crown and Government of Great Britain, and the trustees, as successors to the donors. The charter, in other words, was not simply a grant—rather it was the documentary record of a still existent agreement between still existent parties.¹⁹⁰² Taking this view, which he developed with great ingenuity and persuasiveness, Marshall was able to appeal to the obligation of contracts clause directly, and without further use of his fiction in *Fletcher v. Peck* of an executory contract accompanying the grant.

A difficulty still remained, however, in the requirement that a contract, before it can have obligation, must import consideration, that is to say, must be shown not to have been entirely gratuitous on either side. Moreover, the consideration, which induced the Crown to grant a charter to Dartmouth College, was not merely a speculative one. It consisted of the donations of the donors to the important public interest of education. Fortunately or unfortunately, in dealing with this phase of the case, Marshall used more sweeping terms than were needed. "The objects for which a corporation is created," he wrote, "are universally such as the government wishes to promote. They are deemed beneficial to the country; and this benefit constitutes the consideration, and in most cases,

¹⁸⁹⁹ In 1806 Chief Justice Parsons of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, without mentioning the contracts clause, declared that rights legally vested in a corporation cannot be "controlled or destroyed by a subsequent statute, unless a power [for that purpose] be reserved to the legislature in the act of incorporation," *Wales v. Stetson*, 2 Mass. 142 (1806). See also *Stoughton v. Baker*, 4 Mass. 521 (1808) to like effect; cf. *Locke v. Dane*, 9 Mass. 360 (1812) in which it is said that the purpose of the contracts clause was to provide against paper money and insolvent laws. Together these holdings add up to the conclusion that the reliance of the Massachusetts court was on "fundamental principles," rather than the contracts clause.

¹⁹⁰⁰ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.), 577–595 (Webster's argument); *id.*, 666 (Story's opinion). See also Story's opinion for the Court in *Terrett v. Taylor*, 9 Cr. (13 U.S.) 43 (1815).

¹⁹⁰¹ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 518 (1819).

¹⁹⁰² *Id.*, 627.

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the sole consideration of the grant.” In other words, the simple fact of the charter having been granted imports consideration from the point of view of the State.¹⁹⁰³ With this doctrine before it, the Court in *Providence Bank v. Billings*,¹⁹⁰⁴ and again in *Charles River Bridge v. Warren Bridge*,¹⁹⁰⁵ admitted, without discussion of the point, the applicability of the *Dartmouth College* decision to purely business concerns.

Reservation of Right to Alter or Repeal Corporate Charters.—It is next in order to consider four principles or doctrines whereby the Court has itself broken down the force of the *Dartmouth College* decision in great measure in favor of state legislative power. By the logic of the *Dartmouth College* decision itself, the State may reserve in a corporate charter the right to “amend, alter, and repeal” the same, and such reservation becomes a part of the contract between the State and the incorporators, the obligation of which is accordingly not impaired by the exercise of the right.¹⁹⁰⁶ Later decisions recognize that the State may reserve the right to amend, alter, and repeal by general law, with the result of incorporating the reservation in all charters of subsequent date.¹⁹⁰⁷ There is, however, a difference between a reservation by a statute and one by constitutional provision. While the former may be repealed as to a subsequent charter by the specific terms thereof, the latter may not.¹⁹⁰⁸

Is the right reserved by a State to “amend” or “alter” a charter without restriction? When it is accompanied, as it generally is, by the right to “repeal,” one would suppose that the answer to this question was self-evident. Nonetheless, there are a number of judicial dicta to the effect that this power is not without limit, that it must be exercised reasonably and in good faith, and that the alterations made must be consistent with the scope and object of the grant.¹⁹⁰⁹ Such utterances amount, apparently, to little more than

¹⁹⁰³Id., 637; see also *Home of the Friendless v. Rouse*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 430, 437 (1869).

¹⁹⁰⁴4 Pet. (29 U.S.) 514 (1830).

¹⁹⁰⁵11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 420 (1837).

¹⁹⁰⁶*Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 518, 712 (1819) (Justice Story).

¹⁹⁰⁷*Home of the Friendless v. Rouse*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 430, 438 (1869); *Pennsylvania College Cases*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 190, 213 (1872); *Miller v. New York*, 15 Wall. (82 U.S.) 478 (1873); *Murray v. Charleston*, 96 U.S. 432 (1878); *Greenwood v. Freight Co.*, 105 U.S. 13 (1882); *Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Co. v. Miller*, 114 U.S. 176 (1885); *Louisville Water Company v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 1 (1892).

¹⁹⁰⁸*New Jersey v. Yard*, 95 U.S. 104, 111 (1877).

¹⁹⁰⁹See *Holyoke Company v. Lyman*, 15 Wall. (82 U.S.) 500, 520 (1873). See also *Shields v. Ohio*, 95 U.S. 319 (1877); *Fair Haven R.R. v. New Haven*, 203 U.S. 379 (1906); *Berea College v. Kentucky*, 211 U.S. 45 (1908). Also *Lothrop v. Stedman*, 15 Fed. Cas. 922 (No. 8519) (C.C.D. Conn. 1875) where the principles of natural justice are thought to set a limit to the power.

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an anchor to windward, for while some of the state courts have applied tests of this nature to the disallowance of legislation, it does not appear that the Supreme Court of the United States has ever done so.¹⁹¹⁰

Quite different is it with the distinction pointed out in the cases between the franchises and privileges that a corporation derives from its charter and the rights of property and contract that accrue to it in the course of its existence. Even the outright repeal of the former does not wipe out the latter or cause them to escheat to the State. The primary heirs of the defunct organization are its creditors, but whatever of value remains after their valid claims are met goes to the former shareholders.¹⁹¹¹ By the earlier weight of authority, on the other hand, persons who contract with companies whose charters are subject to legislative amendment or repeal do so at their own risk; any “such contracts made between individuals and the corporation do not vary or in any manner change or modify the relation between the State and the corporation in respect to the right of the State to alter, modify, or amend such a charter. . . .”¹⁹¹² But later holdings becloud this rule.¹⁹¹³

Corporation Subject to the Law and Police Power.—But suppose the State neglects to reserve the right to amend, alter, or repeal—is it, then, without power to control its corporate creatures? By no means. Private corporations, like other private persons, are always presumed to be subject to the legislative power of the State, from which it follows that immunities conferred by charter are to be treated as exceptions to an otherwise controlling rule. This principle was recognized by Chief Justice Marshall in the case of *Providence Bank v. Billings*,¹⁹¹⁴ in which he held that in the absence of express stipulation or reasonable implication to the contrary in its charter, the bank was subject to the taxing power of the State, notwithstanding that the power to tax is the power to destroy.

And of course the same principle is equally applicable to the exercise by the State of its police powers. Thus, in what was per-

¹⁹¹⁰See in this connection the cases cited by Justice Sutherland in his opinion for the Court in *Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Jenkins*, 297 U.S. 629 (1936).

¹⁹¹¹*Curran v. Arkansas*, 15 How. (56 U.S.) 304 (1853); *Shields v. Ohio*, 95 U.S. 319 (1877); *Greenwood v. Freight Co.*, 105 U.S. 13 (1882); *Adirondack Railway Co. v. New York*, 176 U.S. 335 (1900); *Stearns v. Minnesota*, 179 U.S. 223 (1900); *Chicago, M. & St. P. R. v. Wisconsin*, 238 U.S. 491 (1915); *Coombes v. Getz*, 285 U.S. 434 (1932).

¹⁹¹²*Pennsylvania College Cases*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 190, 218 (1872). See also *Calder v. Michigan*, 218 U.S. 591 (1910).

¹⁹¹³*Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway Co. v. Smith*, 173 U.S. 684, 690 (1899); *Coombes v. Getz*, 285 U.S. 434 (1932). Both these decisions cite *Greenwood v. Freight Co.*, 105 U.S. 13, 17 (1882), but without apparent justification.

¹⁹¹⁴4 Pet. (29 U.S.) 514 (1830).

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haps the leading case before the Civil War, the Supreme Court of Vermont held that the legislature of that State had the right, in furtherance of the public safety, to require chartered companies operating railways to fence in their tracks and provide cattle guards. In a matter of this nature, said the court, corporations are on a level with individuals engaged in the same business, unless, from their charter, they can prove the contrary.¹⁹¹⁵ Since then the rule has been applied many times in justification of state regulation of railroads,¹⁹¹⁶ and even of the application of a state prohibition law to a company that had been chartered expressly to manufacture beer.¹⁹¹⁷

Strict Construction of Charters, Tax Exemptions.—Long, however, before the cases last cited were decided, the principle that they illustrate had come to be powerfully reinforced by two others, the first of which is that all charter privileges and immunities are to be strictly construed as against the claims of the State, or as it is otherwise often phrased, “nothing passes by implication in a public grant.”

The leading case was that of the *Charles River Bridge v. Warren Bridge*,¹⁹¹⁸ which was decided shortly after Chief Justice Marshall’s death by a substantially new Court. The question at issue was whether the charter of the complaining company, which authorized it to operate a toll bridge, stood in the way of the State’s

¹⁹¹⁵Thorpe v. Rutland & Burlington R. Company, 27 Vt. 140 (1854).

¹⁹¹⁶Thus a railroad may be required, at its own expense and irrespective of benefits to itself, to eliminate grade crossings in the interest of the public safety, *New York & N.E. Railroad v. Bristol*, 151 U.S. 556 (1894), to make highway crossings reasonably safe and convenient for public use, *Great Northern Ry. Co. v. Minnesota ex rel. Clara City*, 246 U.S. 434 (1918), to repair viaducts, *Northern Pacific Railway v. Duluth*, 208 U.S. 583 (1908), and to fence its right of way, *Minneapolis & St. L. Ry. v. Emmons*, 149 U.S. 364 (1893). Though a railroad company owns the right of way along a street, the city may require it to lay tracks to conform to the established grade; to fill in tracks at street intersections; and to remove tracks from a busy street intersection, when the attendant disadvantage and expense are small and the safety of the public appreciably enhanced *Denver & R.G.R. Co. v. Denver*, 250 U.S. 241 (1919).

Likewise the State, in the public interest, may require a railroad to reestablish an abandoned station, even though the railroad commission had previously authorized its abandonment on condition that another station be established elsewhere, a condition which had been complied with. *Railroad Co. v. Hammersley*, 104 U.S. 1 (1881). It may impose upon a railroad liability for fire communicated by its locomotives, even though the State had previously authorized the company to use said type of locomotive power, *St. Louis & San Francisco Railway v. Mathews*, 165 U.S. 1, 5 (1897), and it may penalize the failure to cut drains through embankments so as to prevent flooding of adjacent lands. *Chicago & Alton R.R. v. Tranbarger*, 238 U.S. 67 (1915).

¹⁹¹⁷*Beer Co. v. Massachusetts*, 97 U.S. 25 (1878). See also *Fertilizing Co. v. Hyde Park*, 97 U.S. 659 (1878); *Hammond Packing Co. v. Arkansas*, 212 U.S. 322, 345 (1909).

¹⁹¹⁸11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 420 (1837).

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permitting another company of later date to operate a free bridge in the immediate vicinity. Inasmuch as the first company could point to no clause in its charter specifically vested it with an exclusive right, the Court held the charter of the second company to be valid on the principle just stated. Justice Story, presented a vigorous dissent, in which he argued cogently, but unavailingly, that the monopoly claimed by the Charles River Bridge Company was fully as reasonable an implication from the terms of its charter and the circumstances surrounding its concession as perpetuity had been from the terms of the Dartmouth College charter and the ensuing transaction.

The Court was in fact making new law, because it was looking at things from a new point of view. This was the period when judicial recognition of the Police Power began to take on a doctrinal character. It was also the period when the railroad business was just beginning. Chief Justice Taney's opinion evinces the influence of both these developments. The power of the State to provide for its own internal happiness and prosperity was not, he asserted, to be pared away by mere legal intendments, nor was its ability to avail itself of the lights of modern science to be frustrated by obsolete interests such as those of the old turnpike companies, the charter privileges of which, he apprehended, might easily become a bar to the development of transportation along new lines.¹⁹¹⁹

The rule of strict construction has been reiterated by the Court many times. In the Court's opinion in *Blair v. City of Chicago*,¹⁹²⁰ decided nearly seventy years after the *Charles River Bridge* case, it said: "Legislative grants of this character should be in such unequivocal form of expression that the legislative mind may be distinctly impressed with their character and import, in order that the privilege may be intelligently granted or purposely withheld. It is a matter of common knowledge that grants of this character are usually prepared by those interested in them, and submitted to the legislature with a view to obtain from such bodies the most liberal grant of privileges which they are willing to give. This is one among many reasons why they are to be strictly construed. . . . The principle is this, that all rights which are asserted against the State must be clearly defined, and not raised by inference or presumption; and if the charter is silent about a power, it does not exist. If, on a fair reading of the instrument, reasonable doubts arise as to the proper interpretation to be given to it, those doubts are to be solved in favor of the State; and where it is susceptible

¹⁹¹⁹Id., 548–553.

¹⁹²⁰201 U.S. 400 (1906).

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of two meanings, the one restricting and the other extending the powers of the corporation, that construction is to be adopted which works the least harm to the State.”¹⁹²¹

An excellent illustration of the operation of the rule in relation to tax exemptions was furnished by the derivative doctrine that an immunity of this character must be deemed as intended solely for the benefit of the corporation receiving it and hence, in the absence of express permission by the State, may not be passed on to a successor.¹⁹²² Thus, where two companies, each exempt from taxation, were permitted by the legislature to consolidate, the new corporation was held to be subject to taxation.¹⁹²³ Again, a statute which granted a corporation all “the rights and privileges” of an earlier corporation was held not to confer the latter’s “immunity” from taxation.¹⁹²⁴ Yet again, a legislative authorization of the transfer by one corporation to another of the former’s “estate, property, right, privileges, and franchises” was held not to clothe the later company with the earlier one’s exemption from taxation.¹⁹²⁵

Furthermore, an exemption from taxation is to be strictly construed even in the hands of one clearly entitled to it. So the exemption conferred by its charter on a railway company was held not to extend to branch roads constructed by it under a later statute.¹⁹²⁶ Also, a general exemption of the property of a corporation from taxation was held to refer only to the property actually employed in its business.¹⁹²⁷ Also, the charter exemption of the capital stock of a railroad from taxation “for ten years after completion of the said road” was held not to become operative until the completion of the road.¹⁹²⁸ So also the exemption of the campus and endowment fund of a college was held to leave other lands of the college, though a part of its endowment, subject to taxation.¹⁹²⁹ Provisions in a statute that bonds of the State and its political subdivisions were not to be taxed and should not be taxed were held

¹⁹²¹ *Id.*, 471–472, citing *The Binghamton Bridge*, 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 51, 75 (1866).

¹⁹²² *Memphis & L. R. Co. v. Commissioners*, 112 U.S. 609, 617 (1884). See also *Morgan v. Louisiana*, 93 U.S. 217 (1876); *Wilson v. Gaines*, 103 U.S. 417 (1881); *Louisville & Nashville R.R. Co. v. Palmes*, 109 U.S. 244, 251 (1883); *Norfolk & Western Railroad v. Pendleton*, 156 U.S. 667, 673 (1895); *Pickard v. East Tennessee, V. & G.R. Co.*, 130 U.S. 637, 641 (1889).

¹⁹²³ *Atlantic & Gulf R. Co. v. Georgia*, 98 U.S. 359, 365 (1879).

¹⁹²⁴ *Phoenix F. & M. Ins. Co. v. Tennessee*, 161 U.S. 174 (1896).

¹⁹²⁵ *Rochester Railway Co. v. Rochester*, 205 U.S. 236 (1907); followed in *Wright v. Georgia R.R. & Banking Co.*, 216 U.S. 420 (1910); *Rapid Transit Corp. v. New York*, 303 U.S. 573 (1938). Cf. *Tennessee v. Whitworth*, 117 U.S. 139 (1886), the authority of which is respected in the preceding case.

¹⁹²⁶ *Chicago, B. & K.C. R. v. Guffey*, 120 U.S. 569 (1887).

¹⁹²⁷ *Ford v. Delta and Pine Land Company*, 164 U.S. 662 (1897).

¹⁹²⁸ *Vicksburg, S. & P. R. Co. v. Dennis*, 116 U.S. 665 (1886).

¹⁹²⁹ *Millsaps College v. City of Jackson*, 275 U.S. 129 (1927).

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not to exempt interest on them from taxation as income of the owners.¹⁹³⁰

Strict Construction and the Police Power.—The police power, too, has frequently benefitted from the doctrine of strict construction, although this recourse is today seldom, if ever, necessary in this connection. Some of the more striking cases may be briefly summarized. The provision in the charter of a railway company permitting it to set reasonable charges still left the legislature free to determine what charges were reasonable.¹⁹³¹ On the other hand, when a railway agreed to accept certain rates for a specified period, it thereby foreclosed the question of the reasonableness of such rates.¹⁹³² The grant to a company of the right to supply a city with water for twenty-five years was held not to prevent a similar concession to another company by the same city.¹⁹³³ The promise by a city in the charter of a water company not to make a similar grant to any other person or corporation was held not to prevent the city itself from engaging in the business.¹⁹³⁴ A municipal concession to a water company to run for thirty years and accompanied by the provision that the “said company shall charge the following rates,” was held not to prevent the city from reducing such rates.¹⁹³⁵ But more broadly, the grant to a municipality of the power to regulate the charges of public service companies was held not to bestow the right to contract away this power.¹⁹³⁶ Indeed, any claim by a private corporation that it received the rate-making power from a municipality must survive a two-fold challenge: first, as to the right of the municipality under its charter to make such a grant, secondly, as to whether it has actually done so, and in both respects an affirmative answer must be based on express words and not on implication.¹⁹³⁷

¹⁹³⁰ *Hale v. State Board*, 302 U.S. 95 (1937).

¹⁹³¹ *Railroad Commission Cases (Stone v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.)*, 116 U.S. 307, 330 (1886), extended in *Southern Pacific Co. v. Campbell*, 230 U.S. 537 (1913) to cases in which the word “reasonable” does not appear to qualify the company’s right to prescribe tolls. See also *American Bridge Co. v. Comm.*, 307 U.S. 486 (1939).

¹⁹³² *Georgia Ry. Co. v. Town of Decatur*, 262 U.S. 432 (1923). See also *Southern Iowa Elec. Co. v. City of Chariton*, 255 U.S. 539 (1921).

¹⁹³³ *City of Walla Walla v. Walla Walla Water Co.*, 172 U.S. 1, 15 (1898).

¹⁹³⁴ *Skaneateles Water Co. v. Village of Skaneateles*, 184 U.S. 354 (1902); *Water Co. v. City of Knoxville*, 200 U.S. 22 (1906); *Madera Water Works v. City of Madera*, 228 U.S. 454 (1913).

¹⁹³⁵ *Rogers Park Water Company v. Fergus*, 180 U.S. 624 (1901).

¹⁹³⁶ *Home Tel. & Tel. Co. v. City of Los Angeles*, 211 U.S. 265 (1908); *Wyan-dotte Gas Co. v. Kansas*, 231 U.S. 622 (1914).

¹⁹³⁷ See also *Puget Sound Traction Co. v. Reynolds*, 244 U.S. 574 (1917). “Before we can find impairment of a contract we must find an obligation of the contract which has been impaired. Since the contract here relied upon is one between a political subdivision of a state and private individuals, settled principles of construction require that the obligation alleged to have been impaired be clearly and unequivocal.”

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Doctrine of Inalienability as Applied to Eminent Domain, Taxing, and Police Powers.—The second of the doctrines mentioned above, whereby the principle of the subordination of all persons, corporate and individual alike, to the legislative power of the State has been fortified, is the doctrine that certain of the State's powers are inalienable, and that any attempt by a State to alienate them, upon any consideration whatsoever, is *ipso facto* void and hence incapable of producing a "contract" within the meaning of Article I, §10. One of the earliest cases to assert this principle occurred in New York in 1826. The corporation of the City of New York, having conveyed certain lands for the purposes of a church and cemetery together with a covenant for quiet enjoyment, later passed a by-law forbidding their use as a cemetery. In denying an action against the city for breach of covenant, the state court said the defendants "had no power as a party, [to the covenant] to make a contract which should control or embarrass their legislative powers and duties."¹⁹³⁸

The Supreme Court first applied similar doctrine in 1848 in a case involving a grant of exclusive right to construct a bridge at a specified locality. Sustaining the right of the State of Vermont to make a new grant to a competing company, the Court held that the obligation of the earlier exclusive grant was sufficiently recognized in making just compensation for it; and that corporate franchises, like all other forms of property, are subject to the overruling power of eminent domain.¹⁹³⁹ This reasoning was reinforced by an appeal to the theory of state sovereignty, which was held to involve the corollary of the inalienability of all the principal powers of a State.

The subordination of all charter rights and privileges to the power of eminent domain has been maintained by the Court ever since; not even an explicit agreement by the State to forego the exercise of the power will avail against it.¹⁹⁴⁰ Conversely, the State may revoke an improvident grant of public property without recourse to the power of eminent domain, such a grant being inherently beyond the power of the State to make. So when the legislature of Illinois in 1869 devised to the Illinois Central Railroad Company, its successors and assigns, the State's right and title to nearly a thousand acres of submerged land under Lake Michigan

cally expressed." Justice Black for the Court in *Keefe v. Clark*, 322 U.S. 393, 396-397 (1944).

¹⁹³⁸*Brick Presbyterian Church v. New York*, 5 Cow. (N.Y.) 538, 540 (1826).

¹⁹³⁹*West River Bridge Company v. Dix*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 507 (1848). See also *Backus v. Lebanon*, 11 N.H. 19 (1840); *White River Turnpike Co. v. Vermont Cent. R. Co.*, 21 Vt. 590 (1849); and *Bonaparte v. Camden & A.R. Co.*, 3 Fed. Cas. 821 (No. 1617) (C.C.D.N.J. 1830).

¹⁹⁴⁰*Pennsylvania Hospital v. City of Philadelphia*, 245 U.S. 20 (1917).

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along the harbor front of Chicago, and four years later sought to repeal the grant, the Court, a four-to-three decision, sustained an action by the State to recover the lands in question. Said Justice Field, speaking for the majority: "Such abdication is not consistent with the exercise of that trust which requires the government of the State to preserve such waters for the use of public. The trust devolving upon the State for the public, and which can only be discharged by the management and control of property in which the public has an interest, cannot be relinquished by a transfer of the property. . . . Any grant of the kind is necessarily revocable, and the exercise of the trust by which the property was held by the State can be resumed at any time."¹⁹⁴¹

On the other hand, repeated endeavors to subject tax exemptions to the doctrine of inalienability, though at times supported by powerful minorities on the Bench, have failed.¹⁹⁴² As recently as January, 1952, the Court ruled that the Georgia Railway Company was entitled to seek an injunction in the federal courts against an attempt by Georgia's Revenue Commission to compel it to pay ad valorem taxes contrary to the terms of its special charter issued in 1833. In answer to the argument that this was a suit contrary to the Eleventh Amendment, the Court declared that the immunity from federal jurisdiction created by the Amendment "does not extend to individuals who act as officers without constitutional authority."¹⁹⁴³

The leading case involving the police power is *Stone v. Mississippi*.¹⁹⁴⁴ In 1867, the legislature of Mississippi chartered a company to which it expressly granted the power to conduct a lottery. Two years later, the State adopted a new Constitution which contained a provision forbidding lotteries, and a year later the legislature passed an act to put this provision into effect. In upholding this act and the constitutional provision on which it was based, the Court said: "The power of governing is a trust committed by the people to the government, no part of which can be granted away. The people, in their sovereign capacity, have established their agencies for the preservation of the public health and the public morals, and the protection of public and private rights," and these agencies can neither give away nor sell their discretion. All that

¹⁹⁴¹ *Illinois Central R. Co. v. Illinois*, 146 U.S. 387, 453, 455 (1892).

¹⁹⁴² See especially *Home of the Friendless v. Rouse*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 430 (1869), and *The Washington University v. Rouse*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 439 (1869).

¹⁹⁴³ *Georgia R. Co. v. Redwine*, 342 U.S. 299, 305-306 (1952). The Court distinguished *In re Ayers*, 123 U.S. 443 (1887) on the ground that the action there was barred "as one in substance directed at the State merely to obtain specific performance of a contract with the State." 342 U.S., 305.

¹⁹⁴⁴ 101 U.S. 814 (1880).

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one can get by a charter permitting the business of conducting a lottery “is suspension of certain governmental rights in his favor, subject to withdrawal at will.”¹⁹⁴⁵

The Court shortly afterward applied the same reasoning in a case in which was challenged the right of Louisiana to invade the exclusive privilege of a corporation engaged in the slaughter of cattle in New Orleans by granting another company the right to engage in the same business. Although the State did not offer to compensate the older company for the lost monopoly, its action was sustained on the ground that it had been taken in the interest of the public health.¹⁹⁴⁶ When, however, the City of New Orleans, in reliance on this precedent, sought to repeal an exclusive franchise which it had granted a company for fifty years to supply gas to its inhabitants, the Court interposed its veto, explaining that in this instance neither the public health, the public morals, nor the public safety was involved.¹⁹⁴⁷

Later decisions, nonetheless, apply the principle of inalienability broadly. To quote from one: “It is settled that neither the ‘contract’ clause nor the ‘due process’ clause has the effect of overriding the power to the State to establish all regulations that are reasonably necessary to secure the health, safety, good order, comfort, or general welfare of the community; that this power can neither be abdicated nor bargained away, and is inalienable even by express grant; and all contract and property rights are held subject to its fair exercise.”¹⁹⁴⁸

It would scarcely suffice today for a company to rely upon its charter privileges or upon special concessions from a State in resisting the application to it of measures alleged to have been enacted under the police power thereof; if this claim is sustained, the obligation of the contract clause will not avail, and if it is not, the due process of law clause of the Fourteenth Amendment will furnish a sufficient reliance. That is to say, the discrepancy that once existed between the Court’s theory of an overriding police power in these two adjoining fields of constitutional law is today apparently at an end. Indeed, there is usually no sound reason why rights based on public grant should be regarded as more sacrosanct than

¹⁹⁴⁵ *Id.*, 820–821.

¹⁹⁴⁶ *Butcher’s Union Co. v. Crescent City Co.*, 111 U.S. 746 (1884).

¹⁹⁴⁷ *New Orleans Gas Co. v. Louisiana Light Co.*, 115 U.S. 650 (1885).

¹⁹⁴⁸ *Atlantic Coast Line R. Co. v. City of Goldsboro*, 232 U.S. 548, 558 (1914). See also *Chicago & Alton Railroad v. Tranbarger*, 238 U.S. 67 (1915); *Pennsylvania Hospital v. Philadelphia*, 245 U.S. 20 (1917); where the police power and eminent domain are treated on the same basis in respect of inalienability; *Wabash Railroad Company v. Defiance*, 167 U.S. 88, 97 (1897); *Home Tel. & Tel. v. City of Los Angeles*, 211 U.S. 265 (1908).

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rights that involve the same subject matter but are of different provenience.

Private Contracts.—The term “private contract” is, naturally, not all-inclusive. A judgment, though granted in favor of a creditor, is not a contract in the sense of the Constitution,¹⁹⁴⁹ nor is marriage.¹⁹⁵⁰ And whether a particular agreement is a valid contract is a question for the courts, and finally for the Supreme Court, when the protection of the contract clause is invoked.¹⁹⁵¹

The question of the nature and source of the obligation of a contract, which went by default in *Fletcher v. Peck* and the *Dartmouth College Case*, with such vastly important consequences, had eventually to be met and answered by the Court in connection with private contracts. The first case involving such a contract to reach the Supreme Court was *Sturges v. Crowninshield*,¹⁹⁵² in which a debtor sought escape behind a state insolvency act of later date than his note. The act was held inoperative, but whether this was because of its retroactivity in this particular case or for the broader reason that it assumed to excuse debtors from their promises was not at the time made clear. As noted earlier, Chief Justice Marshall’s definition on this occasion of the obligation of a contract as the law that binds the parties to perform their undertakings was not free from ambiguity, owing to the uncertain connotation of the term law.

These obscurities were finally cleared up for most cases in *Ogden v. Saunders*,¹⁹⁵³ in which the temporal relation of the statute and the contract involved was exactly reversed—the former antedating the latter. Marshall contended, but unsuccessfully, that the statute was void, inasmuch as it purported to release the debtor from that original, intrinsic obligation that always attaches under natural law to the acts of free agents. “When,” he wrote, “we advert to the course of reading generally pursued by American statesmen in early life, we must suppose that the framers of our

¹⁹⁴⁹ *Morley v. Lake Shore Railway Co.*, 146 U.S. 162 (1892); *New Orleans v. N.O. Water Works Co.*, 142 U.S. 79 (1891); *Missouri & Ark L. & M. Co. v. Sebastian County*, 249 U.S. 170 (1919). But cf. *Livingston’s Lessee v. Moore*, 7 Pet. (32 U.S.) 469, 549 (1833); and *Garrison v. New York*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 196, 203 (1875), suggesting that a different view was earlier entertained in the case of judgments in actions of debt.

¹⁹⁵⁰ *Maynard v. Hill*, 125 U.S. 190 (1888); *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 518, 629 (1819). Cf. *Andrews v. Andrews*, 188 U.S. 14 (1903). The question whether a wife’s rights in the community property under the laws of California were of a contractual nature was raised but not determined in *Moffit v. Kelly*, 218 U.S. 400 (1910).

¹⁹⁵¹ *New Orleans v. New Orleans Water Works Co.*, 142 U.S. 79 (1891); *Zane v. Hamilton County*, 189 U.S. 370, 381 (1903).

¹⁹⁵² 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 122 (1819).

¹⁹⁵³ 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 213 (1827).

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Constitution were intimately acquainted with the writings of those wise and learned men whose treatises on the laws of nature and nations have guided public opinion on the subjects of obligation and contracts,” and that they took their views on these subjects from those sources. He also posed the question of what would happen to the obligation of contracts clause if States might pass acts declaring that all contracts made subsequently thereto should be subject to legislative control.¹⁹⁵⁴

For the first and only time, a majority of the Court abandoned the Chief Justice’s leadership. Speaking by Justice Washington, it held that the obligation of private contracts is derived from the municipal law—state statutes and judicial decisions—and that the inhibition of Article I, § 10, is confined to legislative acts made after the contracts affected by them, subject to the following exception. By a curiously complicated line of reasoning, it was also held in the same case that when the creditor is a nonresident, then a State by an insolvency law may not alter the former’s rights under a contract, albeit one of later date.

With the proposition established that the obligation of a private contract comes from the municipal law in existence when the contract is made, a further question presents itself, namely, what part of the municipal law is referred to? No doubt, the law which determines the validity of the contract itself is a part of such law. Also part of such law is the law which interprets the terms used in the contract, or which supplies certain terms when others are used, as for instance, constitutional provisions or statutes which determine what is “legal tender” for the payment of debts, or judicial decisions which construe the term “for value received” as used in a promissory note, and so on. In short, any law which at the time of the making of a contract goes to measure the rights and duties of the parties to it in relation to each other enters into its obligation.

Remedy a Part of the Private Obligation.—Suppose, however, that one of the parties to a contract fails to live up to his obligation as thus determined. The contract itself may now be regarded as at an end, but the injured party, nevertheless, has a new set of rights in its stead, those which are furnished him by the remedial law, including the law of procedure. In the case of a mortgage, he may foreclose; in the case of a promissory note, he may sue; and in certain cases, he may demand specific performance. Hence the further question arises, whether this remedial law is to be considered a part of the law supplying the obligation of contracts. Origi-

¹⁹⁵⁴Id., 353–354.

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nally, the predominating opinion was negative, since as we have just seen, this law does not really come into operation until the contract has been broken. Yet it is obvious that the sanction which this law lends to contracts is extremely important—indeed, indispensable. In due course it became the accepted doctrine that that part of the law which supplies one party to a contract with a remedy if the other party does not live up to his agreement, as authoritatively interpreted, entered into the “obligation of contracts” in the constitutional sense of this term, and so might not be altered to the material weakening of existing contracts. In the Court’s own words: “Nothing can be more material to the obligation than the means of enforcement. Without the remedy the contract may, indeed, in the sense of the law, be said not to exist, and its obligation to fall within the class of those moral and social duties which depend for their fulfillment wholly upon the will of the individual. The ideas of validity and remedy are inseparable . . .”¹⁹⁵⁵

This rule was first definitely announced in 1843 in the case of *Bronson v. Kinzie*.¹⁹⁵⁶ Here, an Illinois mortgage giving the mortgagee an unrestricted power of sale in case of the mortgagor’s default was involved, along with a later act of the legislature that required mortgaged premises to be sold for not less than two-thirds of the appraised value and allowed the mortgagor a year after the sale to redeem them. It was held that the statute, in altering the preexisting remedies to such an extent, violated the constitutional prohibition and hence was void. The year following a like ruling was made in the case of *McCracken v. Hayward*,¹⁹⁵⁷ as to a statutory provision that personal property should not be sold under execution for less than two-thirds of its appraised value.

But the rule illustrated by these cases does not signify that a State may make no changes in its remedial or procedural law that affect existing contracts. “Provided,” the Court has said, “a substantial or efficacious remedy remains or is given, by means of which a party can enforce his rights under the contract, the Legislature may modify or change existing remedies or prescribe new modes of procedure.”¹⁹⁵⁸ Thus, States are constantly remodelling their judicial systems and modes of practice unembarrassed by the obligation of contracts clause.¹⁹⁵⁹ The right of a State to abolish

¹⁹⁵⁵United States ex rel. *Von Hoffman v. Quincy*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 535, 552 (1867).

¹⁹⁵⁶1 How. (42 U.S.) 311 (1843).

¹⁹⁵⁷2 How. (43 U.S.) 608 (1844).

¹⁹⁵⁸*Oshkosh Waterworks Co. v. Oshkosh*, 187 U.S. 437, 439 (1903); *City & Lake Railroad v. New Orleans*, 157 U.S. 219 (1895).

¹⁹⁵⁹*Antoni v. Greenhow*, 107 U.S. 769 (1883).

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imprisonment for debt was early asserted.¹⁹⁶⁰ Again, the right of a State to shorten the time for the bringing of actions has been affirmed even as to existing causes of action, but with the proviso added that a reasonable time must be left for the bringing of such actions.¹⁹⁶¹ On the other hand, a statute which withdrew the judicial power to enforce satisfaction of a certain class of judgments by mandamus was held invalid.¹⁹⁶² In the words of the Court: "Every case must be determined upon its own circumstances;"¹⁹⁶³ and it later added: "In all such cases the question becomes . . . one of reasonableness, and of that the legislature is primarily the judge."¹⁹⁶⁴

There is one class of cases resulting from the doctrine that the law of remedy constitutes a part of the obligation of a contract to which a special word is due. This comprises cases in which the contracts involved were municipal bonds. While a city is from one point of view but an emanation from the government's sovereignty and an agent thereof, when it borrows money it is held to be acting in a corporate or private capacity and so to be suable on its contracts. Furthermore, as was held in the leading case of *United States ex rel. Von Hoffman v. Quincy*,¹⁹⁶⁵ "where a State has authorized a municipal corporation to contract and to exercise the

¹⁹⁶⁰The right was upheld in *Mason v. Haile*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 370 (1827), and again in *Penniman's Case*, 103 U.S. 714 (1881).

¹⁹⁶¹*McGahey v. Virginia*, 135 U.S. 662 (1890).

¹⁹⁶²*Louisiana v. New Orleans*, 102 U.S. 203 (1880).

¹⁹⁶³*United States ex rel. Von Hoffman v. Quincy*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 535, 554 (1867).

¹⁹⁶⁴*Antoni v. Greenhow*, 107 U.S. 769, 775 (1883). Illustrations of changes in remedies, which have been sustained, may be seen in the following cases: *Jackson v. Lamphire*, 3 Pet. (28 U.S.) 280 (1830); *Hawkins v. Barney's Lessee*, 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 457 (1831); *Crawford v. Branch Bank of Mobile* 7 How. (48 U.S.) 279 (1849); *Curtis v. Whitney*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 68 (1872); *Railroad Co. v. Hecht*, 95 U.S. 168 (1877); *Terry v. Anderson*, 95 U.S. 628 (1877); *Tennessee v. Sneed*, 96 U.S. 69 (1877); *South Carolina v. Gaillard*, 101 U.S. 433 (1880); *Louisiana v. New Orleans*, 102 U.S. 203 (1880); *Connecticut Mut. Life Ins. Co. v. Cushman*, 108 U.S. 51 (1883); *Vance v. Vance*, 108 U.S. 514 (1883); *Gilfillan v. Union Canal Co.*, 109 U.S. 401 (1883); *Hill v. Merchant's Ins. Co.*, 134 U.S. 515 (1890); *City & Lake Railroad v. New Orleans*, 157 U.S. 219 (1895); *Red River Valley Bank v. Craig*, 181 U.S. 548 (1901); *Wilson v. Standefer*, 184 U.S. 399 (1902); *Oshkosh Waterworks Co. v. Oshkosh*, 187 U.S. 437 (1903); *Waggoner v. Flack*, 188 U.S. 595 (1903); *Bernheimer v. Converse*, 206 U.S. 516 (1907); *Henley v. Myers*, 215 U.S. 373 (1910); *Selig v. Hamilton*, 234 U.S. 652 (1914); *Security Bank v. California*, 263 U.S. 282 (1923); *United States Mortgage Co. v. Matthews*, 293 U.S. 232 (1934); *McGee v. International Life Ins. Co.*, 355 U.S. 220 (1957).

Compare the following cases, where changes in remedies were deemed to be of such character as to interfere with substantial rights: *Wilmington & Weldon R.R. v. King*, 91 U.S. 3 (1875); *Memphis v. United States*, 97 U.S. 293 (1878); *Virginia Coupon Cases (Poindexter v. Greenhow)*, 114 U.S. 269, 270, 298, 299 (1885); *Effinger v. Kenney*, 115 U.S. 566 (1885); *Fisk v. Jefferson Police Jury*, 116 U.S. 131 (1885); *Bradley v. Lightcap*, 195 U.S. 1 (1904); *Bank of Minden v. Clement*, 256 U.S. 126 (1921).

¹⁹⁶⁵4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 535, 554-555 (1867).

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power of local taxation to the extent necessary to meet its engagements, the power thus given cannot be withdrawn until the contract is satisfied." In this case, the Court issued a mandamus compelling the city officials to levy taxes for the satisfaction of a judgment on its bonds in accordance with the law as it stood when the bonds were issued.¹⁹⁶⁶ Nor may a State by dividing an indebted municipality among others enable it to escape its obligations. The debt follows the territory, and the duty of assessing and collecting taxes to satisfy it devolves upon the succeeding corporations and their officers.¹⁹⁶⁷ But where a municipal organization has ceased practically to exist through the vacation of its offices, and the government's function is exercised once more by the State directly, the Court has thus far found itself powerless to frustrate a program of repudiation.¹⁹⁶⁸ However, there is no reason why the State should enact the role of *particeps criminis* in an attempt to relieve its municipalities of the obligation to meet their honest debts. Thus, in 1931, during the Great Depression, New Jersey created a Municipal Finance Commission with power to assume control over its insolvent municipalities. To the complaint of certain bondholders that this legislation impaired the contract obligations of their debtors, the Court, speaking by Justice Frankfurter, pointed out that the practical value of an unsecured claim against a city is "the effectiveness of the city's taxing power," which the legislation under review was designed to conserve.¹⁹⁶⁹

Private Contracts and the Police Power.—The increasing subjection of public grants to the police power of the States has been previously pointed out. That purely private contracts should be in any stronger situation in this respect obviously would be anomalous in the extreme. In point of fact, the ability of private parties to curtail governmental authority by the easy device of contracting with one another is, with an exception to be noted, even less than that of the State to tie its own hands by contracting away

¹⁹⁶⁶ See also *Nelson v. St. Martin's Parish*, 111 U.S. 716 (1884).

¹⁹⁶⁷ *Mobile v. Watson*, 116 U.S. 289 (1886); *Graham v. Folsom*, 200 U.S. 248 (1906).

¹⁹⁶⁸ *Heine v. Levee Commissioners*, 19 Wall. (86 U.S.) 655 (1874). Cf., *Virginia v. West Virginia*, 246 U.S. 565 (1918).

¹⁹⁶⁹ *Faitoute Co. v. City of Asbury Park*, 316 U.S. 502, 510 (1942). Alluding to the ineffectiveness of purely judicial remedies against defaulting municipalities, Justice Frankfurter says: "For there is no remedy when resort is had to 'devices and contrivances' to nullify the taxing power which can be carried out only through authorized officials. See *Rees v. City of Watertown*, 19 Wall. (86 U.S.) 107, 124 (1874). And so we have had the spectacle of taxing officials resigning from office in order to frustrate tax levies through mandamus, and officials running on a platform of willingness to go to jail rather than to enforce a tax levy (see *Raymond, State and Municipal Bonds*, 342-343), and evasion of service by tax collectors, thus making impotent a court's mandate. *Yost v. Dallas County*, 236 U.S. 50, 57 (1915)." *Id.*, 511.

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its own powers. So, when it was contended in an early Pennsylvania case that an act prohibiting the issuance of notes by unincorporated banking associations was violative of the obligation of contracts clause because of its effect upon certain existing contracts of members of such association, the state Supreme Court answered: "But it is said, that the members had formed a contract between themselves, which would be dissolved by the stoppage of their business. And what then? Is that such a violation of contracts as is prohibited by the Constitution of the United States? Consider to what such a construction would lead. Let us suppose, that in one of the States there is no law against gaming, cock-fighting, horse-racing or public masquerades, and that companies should be formed for the purpose of carrying on these practices. . . ." Would the legislature then be powerless to prohibit them? The answer returned, of course, was no.¹⁹⁷⁰

The prevailing doctrine was stated by the Supreme Court of the United States in the following words: "It is the settled law of this court that the interdiction of statutes impairing the obligation of contracts does not prevent the State from exercising such powers as are vested in it for the promotion of the common weal, or are necessary for the general good of the public, though contracts previously entered into between individuals may thereby be affected. . . . In other words, that parties by entering into contracts may not estop the legislature from enacting laws intended for the public good."¹⁹⁷¹

So, in an early case, we find a state recording act upheld as applying to deeds dated before the passage of the act.¹⁹⁷² Later cases have brought the police power in its more customary phases into contact with private as well as with public contracts. Lottery tickets, valid when issued, were necessarily invalidated by legislation prohibiting the lottery business;¹⁹⁷³ contracts for the sale of beer, valid when entered into, were similarly nullified by a state prohibition law;¹⁹⁷⁴ and contracts of employment were modified by later laws regarding the liability of employers and workmen's compensation.¹⁹⁷⁵ Likewise, a contract between plaintiff and defendant

¹⁹⁷⁰Myers v. Irwin, 2 S. & R. (Pa.), 367, 372 (1816); see, to the same effect, Lindenmuller v. The People, 33 Barb. (N.Y.) 548 (1861); Brown v. Penobscot Bank, 8 Mass. 445 (1812).

¹⁹⁷¹Manigault v. Springs, 199 U.S. 473, 480 (1905).

¹⁹⁷²Jackson v. Lamphire, 3 Pet. (28 U.S.) 280 (1830). See also Phalen v. Virginia, 8 How. (49 U.S.) 163 (1850).

¹⁹⁷³Stone v. Mississippi, 101 U.S. 814 (1880).

¹⁹⁷⁴Beer Co. v. Massachusetts, 97 U.S. 25 (1878).

¹⁹⁷⁵New York Central R. Co. v. White, 243 U.S. 188 (1917). In this and the preceding two cases the legislative act involved did not except from its operation existing contracts.

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did not prevent the State from making the latter a concession which rendered the contract worthless;¹⁹⁷⁶ nor did a contract as to rates between two railway companies prevent the State from imposing different rates;¹⁹⁷⁷ nor did a contract between a public utility company and a customer protect the rates agreed upon from being superseded by those fixed by the State.¹⁹⁷⁸ Similarly, a contract for the conveyance of water beyond the limits of a State did not prevent the State from prohibiting such conveyance.¹⁹⁷⁹

But the most striking exertions of the police power touching private contracts, as well as other private interests within recent years, have been evoked by war and economic depression. Thus, in World War I, the State of New York enacted a statute, which, declaring that a public emergency existed, forbade the enforcement of covenants for the surrender of the possession of premises on the expiration of leases, and wholly deprived for a period owners of dwellings, including apartment and tenement houses, within the City of New York and contiguous counties, of possessory remedies for the eviction from their premises of tenants in possession when the law took effect, providing the latter were able and willing to pay a reasonable rent. In answer to objections leveled against this legislation on the basis of the obligation of contracts clause, the Court said: "But contracts are made subject to this exercise of the power of the State when otherwise justified, as we have held this to be."¹⁹⁸⁰ In a subsequent case, however, the Court added that, while the declaration by the legislature of a justifying emergency was entitled to great respect, it was not conclusive; a law "depending upon the existence of an emergency or other certain state of facts to uphold it may cease to operate if the emergency ceases or the facts change," and whether they have changed was always open to judicial inquiry.¹⁹⁸¹

Summing up the result of the cases above referred to, Chief Justice Hughes, speaking for the Court in *Home Building & Loan Assn. v. Blaisdell*,¹⁹⁸² remarked in 1934: "It is manifest from this review of our decisions that there has been a growing appreciation of public needs and of the necessity of finding ground for a rational compromise between individual rights and public welfare. The settlement and consequent contraction of the public domain, the pres-

¹⁹⁷⁶ *Manigault v. Springs*, 199 U.S. 473 (1905).

¹⁹⁷⁷ *Portland Ry. Co. v. Oregon R. Comm.*, 229 U.S. 397 (1913).

¹⁹⁷⁸ *Midland Co. v. Kansas City Power Co.*, 300 U.S. 109 (1937).

¹⁹⁷⁹ *Hudson Water Co. v. McCarter*, 209 U.S. 349 (1908).

¹⁹⁸⁰ *Marcus Brown Co. v. Feldman*, 256 U.S. 170, 198 (1921), followed in *Levy Leasing Co. v. Siegel*, 258 U.S. 242 (1922).

¹⁹⁸¹ *Chastleton Corp. v. Sinclair*, 264 U.S. 543, 547-548 (1924).

¹⁹⁸² 290 U.S. 398 (1934).

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sure of a constantly increasing density of population, the interrelation of the activities of our people and the complexity of our economic interests, have inevitably led to an increased use of the organization of society in order to protect the very bases of individual opportunity. Where, in earlier days, it was thought that only the concerns of individuals or of classes were involved, and that those of the State itself were touched only remotely, it has later been found that the fundamental interests of the State are directly affected; and that the question is no longer merely that of one party to a contract as against another, but of the use of reasonable means to safeguard the economic structure upon which the good of all depends. . . . The principle of this development is . . . that the reservation of the reasonable exercise of the protective power of the States is read into all contracts . . .”¹⁹⁸³

Evaluation of the Clause Today.—It should not be inferred that the obligation of contracts clause is today totally moribund. Even prior to the most recent decisions, it still furnished the basis for some degree of judicial review as to the substantiality of the factual justification of a professed exercise by a state legislature of its police power, and in the case of legislation affecting the remedial rights of creditors, it still affords a solid and palpable barrier against legislative erosion. Nor is this surprising in view of the fact that, as we have seen, such rights were foremost in the minds of the framers of the clause. The Court’s attitude toward insolvency laws, redemption laws, exemption laws, appraisement laws and the like, has always been that they may not be given retroactive operation,¹⁹⁸⁴ and the general lesson of these earlier cases is confirmed by the Court’s decisions between 1934 and 1945 in certain cases involving state moratorium statutes. In *Home Building & Loan Assn. v. Blaisdell*,¹⁹⁸⁵ the leading case, a closely divided Court sustained the Minnesota Moratorium Act of April 18, 1933, which, reciting the existence of a severe financial and economic depression for several years and the frequent occurrence of mortgage foreclosure sales for inadequate prices, and asserting that these conditions had created an economic emergency calling for the exercise of the

¹⁹⁸³Id., 442, 444. See also *Veix v. Sixth Ward Assn.* 310 U.S. 32 (1940), in which was sustained a New Jersey statute amending in view of the Depression the law governing building and loan associations. The authority of the State to safeguard the vital interests of the people, said Justice Reed, “extends to economic needs as well.” Id., 39. In *Lincoln Federal Labor Union v. Northwestern Iron & Metal Co.*, 335 U.S. 525, 531–532 (1949), the Court dismissed out-of-hand a suggestion that a state law outlawing union security agreements was an invalid impairment of existing contracts, citing *Blaisdell* and *Veix*.

¹⁹⁸⁴See especially *Edwards v. Kearzey*, 96 U.S. 595 (1878); *Barnitz v. Beverly*, 163 U.S. 118 (1896).

¹⁹⁸⁵290 U.S. 398 (1934).

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State's police power, authorized its courts to extend the period for redemption from foreclosure sales for such additional time as they might deem just and equitable, although in no event beyond May 1, 1935.

The act also left the mortgagor in possession during the period of extension, subject to the requirement that he pay a reasonable rental for the property as fixed by the court. Contemporaneously, however, less carefully drawn statutes from Missouri and Arkansas, acts which were not as considerate of creditor's rights, were set aside as violative of the contracts clause.¹⁹⁸⁶ "A State is free to regulate the procedure in its courts even with reference to contracts already made," said Justice Cardozo for the Court, "and moderate extensions of the time for pleading or for trial will ordinarily fall within the power so reserved. A different situation is presented when extensions are so piled up as to make the remedy a shadow. . . . What controls our judgment at such times is the underlying reality rather than the form or label. The changes of remedy now challenged as invalid are to be viewed in combination, with the cumulative significance that each imparts to all. So viewed they are seen to be an oppressive and unnecessary destruction of nearly all the incidents that give attractiveness and value to collateral security."¹⁹⁸⁷ On the other hand, in the most recent of this category of cases, the Court gave its approval to an extension by the State of New York of its moratorium legislation. While recognizing that business conditions had improved, the Court was of the opinion that there was reason to believe that "the sudden termination of the legislation which has dammed up normal liquidation of these mortgages for more than eight years might well result in an emergency more acute than that which the original legislation was intended to alleviate."¹⁹⁸⁸

And meantime the Court had sustained legislation of the State of New York under which a mortgagee of real property was denied a deficiency judgment in a foreclosure suit where the state court found that the value of the property purchased by the mortgagee at the foreclosure sale was equal to the debt secured by the mortgage.¹⁹⁸⁹ "Mortgagees," the Court said, "are constitutionally entitled to no more than payment in full. . . . To hold that mortgagees are entitled under the contract clause to retain the advantages of

¹⁹⁸⁶ *W. B. Worthen Co. v. Thomas*, 292 U.S. 426 (1934); *W. B. Worthen Co. v. Kavanaugh*, 295 U.S. 56 (1935).

¹⁹⁸⁷ *Id.*, 62.

¹⁹⁸⁸ *East New York Bank v. Hahn*, 326 U.S. 230, 235 (1945), quoting New York Legislative Document (1942), No. 45, p. 25.

¹⁹⁸⁹ *Honeyman v. Jacobs*, 306 U.S. 539 (1939). See also *Gelfert v. National City Bank*, 313 U.S. 221 (1941).

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a forced sale would be to dignify into a constitutionally protected property right their chance to get more than the amount of their contracts. . . . The contract clause does not protect such a strategical, procedural advantage.”¹⁹⁹⁰

More important, the Court has been at pains most recently to reassert the vitality of the clause, although one may wonder whether application of the clause will be more than episodic.

“[T]he Contract Clause remains a part of our written Constitution.”¹⁹⁹¹ So saying, the Court struck down state legislation in two instances, one law involving the government’s own contractual obligation and the other affecting private contracts.¹⁹⁹² A finding that a contract has been “impaired” in some way is merely the preliminary step in evaluating the validity of the state action.¹⁹⁹³ But in both cases the Court applied a stricter-than-usual scrutiny to the statutory action, in the public contracts case precisely because it was its own obligation that the State was attempting to avoid and in the private contract case, apparently, because the legislation was in aid of a “narrow class.”¹⁹⁹⁴ The approach in any event is one of balancing. “The severity of the impairment measures the height of the hurdle the state legislation must clear. Minimal alteration of contractual obligations may end the inquiry at its first stage. Severe impairment, on the other hand, will push the inquiry to a careful examination of the nature and purpose of the state legislation.”¹⁹⁹⁵ Having determined that a severe impairment had resulted in both cases,¹⁹⁹⁶ the Court moved on to assess the justifica-

¹⁹⁹⁰ *Id.*, 233–234.

¹⁹⁹¹ *United States Trust Co. v. New Jersey*, 431 U.S. 1, 16 (1977). “It is not a dead letter.” *Allied Structural Steel Co. v. Spannaus*, 438 U.S. 234, 241 (1978). A majority of the Court seems fully committed to using the clause. Only Justices Brennan, White, and Marshall dissented in both cases. Chief Justice Burger and Justices Rehnquist and Stevens joined both opinions of the Court. Of the three remaining Justices, who did not participate in one or the other case, Justice Blackmun wrote the opinion in *United States Trust* while Justice Stewart wrote the opinion in *Spannaus* and Justice Powell joined it.

¹⁹⁹² *United States Trust* involved a repeal of a covenant statutorily enacted to encourage persons to purchase New York-New Jersey Port Authority bonds by limiting the Authority’s ability to subsidize rail passenger transportation. *Spannaus* involved a statute requiring prescribed employers who had a qualified pension plan to provide funds sufficient to cover full pensions for all employees who had worked at least 10 years if the employer either terminated the plan or closed his offices in the State, a law that greatly altered the company’s liabilities under its contractual pension plan.

¹⁹⁹³ 431 U.S., 21; 438 U.S., 244.

¹⁹⁹⁴ 431 U.S., 22–26; 438 U.S., 248.

¹⁹⁹⁵ 438 U.S., 245.

¹⁹⁹⁶ 431 U.S., 17–21 (the Court was unsure of the value of the interest impaired but deemed it “an important security provision”); 438 U.S. 244–247 (statute mandated company to recalculate, and in one lump sum, contributions previously adequate).

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tion for the state action. In *United States Trust*, the test utilized by the Court was that an impairment would be upheld only if it were “necessary” and “reasonable” to serve an important public purpose. But the two terms were given somewhat restrictive meanings. Necessity is shown only when the State’s objectives could not have been achieved through less dramatic modifications of the contract; reasonableness is a function of the extent to which alteration of the contract was prompted by circumstances unforeseen at the time of its formation. The repeal of the covenant in issue was found to fail both prongs of the test.¹⁹⁹⁷ In *Spannaus*, the Court drew from its prior cases four standards: did the law deal with a broad generalized economic or social problem, did it operate in an area already subject to state regulation at the time the contractual obligations were entered into, did it effect simply a temporary alteration of the contractual relationship, and did the law operate upon a broad class of affected individuals or concerns. The Court found that the challenged law did not possess any of these attributes and thus struck it down.¹⁹⁹⁸

Whether these two cases portend an active judicial review of economic regulatory activities, in contrast to the extreme deference shown such legislation under the due process and equal protection clauses, is problematical. Both cases contain language emphasizing the breadth of the police powers of government that may be used to further the public interest and admitting limited judicial scrutiny. Nevertheless, “[i]f the Contract Clause is to retain any meaning at all . . . it must be understood to impose *some* limits upon the power of a State to abridge existing contractual relationships, even in the exercise of its otherwise legitimate police power.”¹⁹⁹⁹

Clause 2. No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it’s inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the

¹⁹⁹⁷ 431 U.S., 25–32 (State could have modified the impairment to achieve its purposes without totally abandoning the covenant, though the Court reserved judgment whether lesser impairments would have been constitutional, *id.*, 30 n. 28, and it had alternate means to achieve its purposes; the need for mass transportation was obvious when covenant was enacted and State could not claim that unforeseen circumstances had arisen.)

¹⁹⁹⁸ 438 U.S., 244–251. See also *Exxon Corp. v. Eagerton*, 462 U.S. 176 (1983) (emphasizing the first but relying on all but the third of these tests in upholding a prohibition on pass-through of an oil and gas severance tax).

¹⁹⁹⁹ 438 U.S., 242 (emphasis by Court).

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Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Control of the Congress.

Duties on Exports or Imports

Scope.—Only articles imported from or exported to a foreign country, or “a place over which the Constitution has not extended its commands with respect to imports and their taxation,” are comprehended by the terms “imports” and “exports.”²⁰⁰⁰ With respect to exports, the exemption from taxation “attaches to the export and not to the article before its exportation,”²⁰⁰¹ requiring an essentially factual inquiry into whether there have been acts of movement toward a final destination constituting sufficient entrance into the export stream as to invoke the protection of the clause.²⁰⁰² To determine how long imported wares remain under the protection of this clause, the Supreme Court enunciated the original package doctrine in the leading case of *Brown v. Maryland*. “When the importer has so acted upon the thing imported,” wrote Chief Justice Marshall, “that it has become incorporated and mixed up with the mass of property in the country, it has, perhaps, lost its distinctive character as an import, and has become subject to the taxing power of the State; but while remaining the property of the importer, in his warehouse, in the original form or package in which it was imported, a tax upon it is too plainly a duty on imports, to escape the prohibition in the Constitution.”²⁰⁰³ A box, case, or bale in which separate parcels of goods have been placed by the foreign seller is regarded as the original package, and upon the opening of such container for the purpose of using the separate parcels, or of exposing them for sale, each loses its character as an import and becomes subject to taxation as a part of the general mass of property in the State.²⁰⁰⁴ Imports for manufacture cease to be such when the intended processing takes place,²⁰⁰⁵ or when the original packages are broken.²⁰⁰⁶ Where a manufacturer imports merchandise and stores it in his warehouse in the original

²⁰⁰⁰ *Hooeven & Allison Co. v. Evatt*, 324 U.S. 652, 673 (1945). Goods brought from another State are not within the clause. *Woodruff v. Parham*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 123 (1869).

²⁰⁰¹ *Cornell v. Coyne*, 192 U.S. 418, 427 (1904).

²⁰⁰² *Richfield Oil Corp. v. State Bd. of Equalization*, 329 U.S. 69 (1946); *Empress Siderurgica v. County of Merced*, 337 U.S. 154 (1947); *Kosydar v. National Cash Register Co.*, 417 U.S. 62 (1974).

²⁰⁰³ 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419, 441–442 (1827).

²⁰⁰⁴ *May v. New Orleans*, 178 U.S. 496, 502 (1900).

²⁰⁰⁵ *Id.*, 501; *Gulf Fisheries Co. v. MacInerney*, 276 U.S. 124 (1928); *McGoldrick v. Gulf Oil Corp.*, 309 U.S. 414 (1940).

²⁰⁰⁶ *Low v. Austin*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 29 (1872); *May v. New Orleans*, 178 U.S. 496 (1900).

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packages, that merchandise does not lose its quality as an import, at least so long as it is not required to meet such immediate needs.²⁰⁰⁷ The purchaser of imported goods is deemed to be the importer if he was the efficient cause of the importation, whether the title to the goods vested in him at the time of shipment, or after its arrival in this country.²⁰⁰⁸ A state franchise tax measured by properly apportioned gross receipts may be imposed upon a railroad company in respect of the company's receipts for services in handling imports and exports at its marine terminal.²⁰⁰⁹

Privilege Taxes.—A state law requiring importers to take out a license to sell imported goods amounts to an indirect tax on imports and hence is unconstitutional.²⁰¹⁰ Likewise, a franchise tax upon foreign corporations engaged in importing nitrate and selling it in the original packages,²⁰¹¹ a tax on sales by brokers²⁰¹² and auctioneers²⁰¹³ of imported merchandise in original packages, and a tax on the sale of goods in foreign commerce consisting of an annual license fee plus a percentage of gross sales,²⁰¹⁴ have been held invalid. On the other hand, pilotage fees,²⁰¹⁵ a tax upon the gross sales of a purchaser from the importer,²⁰¹⁶ a license tax upon dealing in fish which, through processing, handling, and sale, have lost their distinctive character as imports,²⁰¹⁷ an annual license fee imposed on persons engaged in buying and selling foreign bills of exchange,²⁰¹⁸ and a tax upon the right of an alien to receive property as heir, legatee, or donee of a deceased person²⁰¹⁹ have been held not to be duties on imports or exports.

Property Taxes.—Overruling a line of prior decisions which it thought misinterpreted the language of *Brown v. Maryland*, the Court now holds that the clause does not prevent a State from levying a nondiscriminatory, *ad valorem* property tax upon goods that are no longer in import transit.²⁰²⁰ Thus, a company's inventory of

²⁰⁰⁷ *Hooven & Allison Co. v. Evatt*, 324 U.S. 652, 667 (1945). But see *Limbach v. Hooven & Allison Co.*, 466 U.S. 353 (1984) (overruling the earlier decision).

²⁰⁰⁸ *Id.*, 664.

²⁰⁰⁹ *Canton R. Co. v. Rogan*, 340 U.S. 511 (1951).

²⁰¹⁰ *Brown v. Maryland*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 419, 447 (1827).

²⁰¹¹ *Anglo-Chilean Corp. v. Alabama*, 288 U.S. 218 (1933).

²⁰¹² *Low v. Austin*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 29, 33 (1872).

²⁰¹³ *Cook v. Pennsylvania*, 97 U.S. 566, 573 (1878).

²⁰¹⁴ *Crew Levick Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 245 U.S. 292 (1917).

²⁰¹⁵ *Cooley v. Port Wardens*, 12 How. (53 U.S.) 299, 313 (1851).

²⁰¹⁶ *Waring v. The Mayor*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 110, 122 (1869). See also *Pervear v. Massachusetts*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 475, 478 (1867); *Schollenberger v. Pennsylvania*, 171 U.S. 1, 24 (1898).

²⁰¹⁷ *Gulf Fisheries Co. v. MacInerney*, 276 U.S. 124 (1928).

²⁰¹⁸ *Nathan v. Louisiana*, 8 How. (49 U.S.) 73, 81 (1850).

²⁰¹⁹ *Mager v. Grima*, 8 How. (49 U.S.) 490 (1850).

²⁰²⁰ *Michelin Tire Corp. v. Wages*, 423 U.S. 276 (1976), overruling *Low v. Austin*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 29 (1872), expressly, and, necessarily, *Hooven & Allison Co.*

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imported tires maintained at its whole distribution warehouse could be included in the State's tax upon the entire inventory. The clause does not prohibit every "tax" with some impact upon imports or exports but reaches rather exactions directed only at imports or exports or commercial activity therein as such.²⁰²¹

Inspection Laws.—Inspection laws "are confined to such particulars as, in the estimation of the legislature and according to the customs of trade, are deemed necessary to fit the inspected article for the market, by giving the purchaser public assurance that the article is in that condition, and of that quality, which makes it merchantable and fit for use or consumption."²⁰²² In *Turner v. Maryland*,²⁰²³ the Court listed as recognized elements of inspection laws, the "quality of the article, form, capacity, dimensions, and weight of package, mode of putting up, and marking and branding of various kinds. . . ." ²⁰²⁴ It sustained as an inspection law a charge for storage and inspection imposed upon every hogshead of tobacco grown in the State and intended for export, which the law required to be brought to a state warehouse to be inspected and branded. The Court has cited this section as a recognition of a general right of the States to pass inspection laws, and to bring within their reach articles of interstate, as well as of foreign, commerce.²⁰²⁵ But on the ground that, "it has never been regarded as within the legitimate scope of inspection laws to forbid trade in respect to any known article of commerce, irrespective of its condition and quality, merely on account of its intrinsic nature and the injurious consequence of its use or abuse," it held that a state law forbidding the importation of intoxicating liquors into the State could not be sustained as an inspection law.²⁰²⁶

v. *Evatt*, 324 U.S. 652 (1945), among others. The latter case was expressly overruled in *Limbach v. Hooven & Allison Co.*, 466 U.S. 353 (1984), involving the same tax and the same parties. In *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Bowers*, 358 U.S. 534 (1959), property taxes were sustained on the basis that the materials taxed had lost their character as imports. On exports, see *Selliger v. Kentucky*, 213 U.S. 200 (1909) (property tax levied on warehouse receipts for whiskey exported to Germany invalid).

²⁰²¹ *Michelin Tire Corp. v. Wages*, 423 U.S. 276, 290–294 (1976). *Accord*: *R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. v. Durham County*, 479 U.S. 130 (1986) (tax on imported tobacco stored for aging in customs-bonded warehouse and destined for domestic manufacture and sale); *but cf.* *Xerox Corp. v. County of Harris*, 459 U.S. 145, 154 (1982) (similar tax on goods stored in customs-bonded warehouse is preempted "by Congress' comprehensive regulation of customs duties;" case, however, dealt with goods stored for export).

²⁰²² *Bowman v. Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co.*, 125 U.S. 465, 488 (1888).
²⁰²³ 107 U.S. 38 (1883).

²⁰²⁴ *Id.*, 55.

²⁰²⁵ *Patapsco Guano Co. v. North Carolina*, 171 U.S. 345, 361 (1898).

²⁰²⁶ *Bowman v. Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co.*, 125 U.S. 465 (1888). The Twenty-first Amendment has had no effect on this principle. *Department of Revenue v. James B. Beam Distilling Co.*, 377 U.S. 341 (1964).

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Clause 3. No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

Tonnage Duties

The prohibition against tonnage duties embraces all taxes and duties, regardless of their name or form, whether measured by the tonnage of the vessel or not, which are in effect charges for the privilege of entering, trading in, or lying in a port.²⁰²⁷ But it does not extend to charges made by state authority, even if graduated according to tonnage,²⁰²⁸ for services rendered to the vessel, such as pilotage, towage, charges for loading and unloading cargoes, wharfage, or storage.²⁰²⁹ For the purpose of determining wharfage charges, it is immaterial whether the wharf was built by the State, a municipal corporation, or an individual. Where the wharf was owned by a city, the fact that the city realized a profit beyond the amount expended did not render the toll objectionable.²⁰³⁰ The services of harbor masters for which fees are allowed must be actually rendered, and a law permitting harbor masters or port wardens to impose a fee in all cases is void.²⁰³¹ A State may not levy a tonnage duty to defray the expenses of its quarantine system,²⁰³² but it may exact a fixed fee for examination of all vessels passing quarantine.²⁰³³ A state license fee for ferrying on a navigable river is not a tonnage tax but rather is a proper exercise of the police power and the fact that a vessel is enrolled under federal law does

²⁰²⁷ *Clyde Mallory Lines v. Alabama*, 296 U.S. 261, 265 (1935); *Cannon v. City of New Orleans*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 577, 581 (1874); *Transportation Co. v. Wheeling*, 99 U.S. 273, 283 (1879).

²⁰²⁸ *Packet Co. v. Keokuk*, 95 U.S. 80 (1877); *Transportation Co. v. Parkersburg*, 107 U.S. 691 (1883); *Ouachita Packet Co. v. Aiken*, 121 U.S. 444 (1887).

²⁰²⁹ *Cooley v. Port Wardens*, 12 How. (53 U.S.) 299, 314 (1851); *Ex parte McNeil*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 236 (1872); *Inman Steamship Company v. Tinker*, 94 U.S. 238, 243 (1877); *Packet Co. v. St. Louis*, 100 U.S. 423 (1880); *City of Vicksburg v. Tobin*, 100 U.S. 430 (1880); *Packet Co. v. Catlettsburg*, 105 U.S. 559 (1882).

²⁰³⁰ *Huse v. Glover*, 119 U.S. 543, 549 (1886).

²⁰³¹ *Steamship Co. v. Portwardens*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 31 (1867).

²⁰³² *Peete v. Morgan*, 19 Wall. (86 U.S.) 581 (1874).

²⁰³³ *Morgan v. Louisiana*, 118 U.S. 455, 462 (1886).

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not exempt it.²⁰³⁴ In the *State Tonnage Tax Cases*,²⁰³⁵ an annual tax on steamboats measured by their registered tonnage was held invalid despite the contention that it was a valid tax on the steamboat as property.

Keeping Troops

This provision contemplates the use of the State's military power to put down an armed insurrection too strong to be controlled by civil authority,²⁰³⁶ and the organization and maintenance of an active state militia is not a keeping of troops in time of peace within the prohibition of this clause.²⁰³⁷

Interstate Compacts

Background of Clause.—Except for the single limitation that the consent of Congress must be obtained, the original inherent sovereign rights of the States to make compacts with each other was not surrendered under the Constitution.²⁰³⁸ “The Compact,” as the Supreme Court has put it, “adapts to our Union of sovereign States the age-old treaty-making power of independent sovereign nations.”²⁰³⁹ In American history, the compact technique can be traced back to the numerous controversies that arose over the ill-defined boundaries of the original colonies. These disputes were usually resolved by negotiation, with the resulting agreement subject to approval by the Crown.²⁰⁴⁰ When the political ties with Britain were broken, the Articles of Confederation provided for appeal to Congress in all disputes between two or more States over boundaries or “any cause whatever”²⁰⁴¹ and required the approval of Congress for any “treaty confederation or alliance” to which a State should be a party.²⁰⁴²

The Framers of the Constitution went further. By the first clause of this section they laid down an unqualified prohibition against “any treaty, alliance or confederation,” and by the third clause they required the consent of Congress for “any agreement or compact.” The significance of this distinction was pointed out by

²⁰³⁴ *Wiggins Ferry Co. v. City of East St. Louis*, 107 U.S. 365 (1883). See also *Gloucester Ferry Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 114 U.S. 196, 212 (1885); *Philadelphia Steamship Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 122 U.S. 326, 338 (1887); *Osborne v. City of Mobile*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 479, 481 (1873).

²⁰³⁵ 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 204, 217 (1871).

²⁰³⁶ *Luther v. Borden*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1, 45 (1849).

²⁰³⁷ *Presser v. Illinois*, 116 U.S. 252 (1886).

²⁰³⁸ *Poole v. Fleeger*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 185, 209 (1837).

²⁰³⁹ *Hinderlider v. La Plata Co.*, 304 U.S. 92, 104 (1938).

²⁰⁴⁰ *Frankfurter and Landis, The Compact Clause of the Constitution—A Study in Interstate Adjustments*, 34 Yale L.J. 685, 691 (1925).

²⁰⁴¹ Article IX.

²⁰⁴² Article VI.

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Chief Justice Taney in *Holmes v. Jennison*.²⁰⁴³ “As these words (‘agreement or compact’) could not have been idly or superfluously used by the framers of the Constitution, they cannot be construed to mean the same thing with the word treaty. They evidently mean something more, and were designed to make the prohibition more comprehensive. . . . The word ‘agreement,’ does not necessarily import and direct any express stipulation; nor is it necessary that it should be in writing.

“If there is a verbal understanding, to which both parties have assented, and upon which both are acting, it is an ‘agreement.’ And the use of all of these terms, ‘treaty,’ ‘agreement,’ ‘compact,’ show that it was the intention of the framers of the Constitution to use the broadest and most comprehensive terms; and that they anxiously desired to cut off all connection or communication between a State and a foreign power; and we shall fail to execute that evident intention, unless we give to the word ‘agreement’ its most extended signification; and so apply it as to prohibit every agreement, written or verbal, formal or informal, positive or implied, by the mutual understanding of the parties.”²⁰⁴⁴ But in *Virginia v. Tennessee*,²⁰⁴⁵ decided more than a half century later, the Court shifted position, holding that the unqualified prohibition of compacts and agreements between States without the consent of Congress did not apply to agreements concerning such minor matters as adjustments of boundaries, which have no tendency to increase the political powers of the contracting States or to encroach upon the just supremacy of the United States. Adhering to this later understanding of the clause, the Court found no enhancement of state power *quoad* the Federal Government through entry into the Multistate Tax Compact and thus sustained the agreement among participating States without congressional consent.²⁰⁴⁶

Subject Matter of Interstate Compacts.—For many years after the Constitution was adopted, boundary disputes continued to predominate as the subject matter of agreements among the States. Since the turn of the twentieth century, however, the interstate compact has been used to an increasing extent as an instrument for state cooperation in carrying out affirmative programs for solving common problems.²⁰⁴⁷ The execution of vast public undertak-

²⁰⁴³ 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 540 (1840).

²⁰⁴⁴ *Id.*, 570, 571, 572.

²⁰⁴⁵ 148 U.S. 503, 518 (1893). See also *Stearns v. Minnesota*, 179 U.S. 223, 244 (1900).

²⁰⁴⁶ *United States Steel Corp. v. Multistate Tax Comm.*, 434 U.S. 452 (1978). See also *New Hampshire v. Maine*, 426 U.S. 363 (1976).

²⁰⁴⁷ Frankfurter and Landis, *The Compact Clause of the Constitution—A Study in Interstate Adjustments*, 34 *Yale L.J.* 685 (1925); F. ZIMMERMAN and M. WENDELL,

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ings, such as the development of the Port of New York by the Port Authority created by compact between New York and New Jersey, flood control, the prevention of pollution, and the conservation and allocation of water supplied by interstate streams, are among the objectives accomplished by this means. Another important use of this device was recognized by Congress in the act of June 6, 1934,²⁰⁴⁸ whereby it consented in advance to agreements for the control of crime. The first response to this stimulus was the Crime Compact of 1934, providing for the supervision of parolees and probationers, to which most of the States have given adherence.²⁰⁴⁹ Subsequently, Congress has authorized, on varying conditions, compacts touching the production of tobacco, the conservation of natural gas, the regulation of fishing in inland waters, the furtherance of flood and pollution control, and other matters. Moreover, many States have set up permanent commissions for interstate cooperation, which have led to the formation of a Council of State Governments, the creation of special commissions for the study of the crime problem, the problem of highway safety, the trailer problem, problems created by social security legislation, et cetera, and the framing of uniform state legislation for dealing with some of these.²⁰⁵⁰

Consent of Congress.—The Constitution makes no provision with regard to the time when the consent of Congress shall be given or the mode or form by which it shall be signified.²⁰⁵¹ While the consent will usually precede the compact or agreement, it may be given subsequently where the agreement relates to a matter which could not be well considered until its nature is fully developed.²⁰⁵² The required consent is not necessarily an expressed consent; it may be inferred from circumstances.²⁰⁵³ It is sufficiently indicated, when not necessary to be made in advance, by the approval of proceedings taken under it.²⁰⁵⁴ The consent of Congress may be granted conditionally “upon terms appropriate to the subject and transgressing no constitutional limitations.”²⁰⁵⁵ Congress

INTERSTATE COMPACTS SINCE 1925 (Chicago: 1951); F. ZIMMERMAN and M. WENDELL, *THE LAW AND USE OF INTERSTATE COMPACTS* (Chicago: 1961).

²⁰⁴⁸ 48 Stat. 909 (1934).

²⁰⁴⁹ F. ZIMMERMAN and M. WENDELL, *INTERSTATE COMPACTS SINCE 1925* (Chicago: 1951), 91.

²⁰⁵⁰ 7 U.S.C. § 515; 15 U.S.C. § 717j; 16 U.S.C. § 552; 33 U.S.C. §§ 11, 567–567b.

²⁰⁵¹ *Green v. Biddle*, 8 Wheat. (21 U.S.) 1, 85 (1823).

²⁰⁵² *Virginia v. Tennessee*, 148 U.S. 503 (1893).

²⁰⁵³ *Virginia v. West Virginia*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 39 (1871).

²⁰⁵⁴ *Wharton v. Wise*, 153 U.S. 155, 173 (1894).

²⁰⁵⁵ *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*, 302 U.S. 134 (1937). See also *Arizona v. California*, 292 U.S. 341, 345 (1934). When it approved the New York-New Jersey Waterfront Compact, 67 Stat. 541, Congress, for the first time, expressly gave its

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does not, by giving its consent to a compact, relinquish or restrict its own powers, as for example, its power to regulate interstate commerce.²⁰⁵⁶

Grants of Franchise to Corporations by Two States.—It is competent for a railroad corporation organized under the laws of one State, when authorized so to do by the consent of the State which created it, to accept authority from another State to extend its railroad into such State and to receive a grant of powers to own and control, by lease or purchase, railroads therein and to subject itself to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the second State. Such legislation on the part of two or more States is not, in the absence of inhibitory legislation by Congress, regarded as within the constitutional prohibition of agreements or compacts between States.²⁰⁵⁷

Legal Effect of Interstate Compacts.—Whenever, by the agreement of the States concerned and the consent of Congress, an interstate compact comes into operation, it has the same effect as a treaty between sovereign powers. Boundaries established by such compacts become binding upon all citizens of the signatory States and are conclusive as to their rights.²⁰⁵⁸ Private rights may be affected by agreements for the equitable apportionment of the water of an interstate stream, without a judicial determination of existing rights.²⁰⁵⁹ Valid interstate compacts are within the protection of the obligation of contracts clause,²⁰⁶⁰ and a “sue and be sued” provision therein operates as a waiver of immunity from suit in federal courts otherwise afforded by the Eleventh Amendment.²⁰⁶¹ The Supreme Court in the exercise of its original jurisdiction may enforce interstate compacts following principles of general contract law.²⁰⁶² Congress also has authority to compel compliance with

consent to the subsequent adoption of implementing legislation by the participating States. *De Veau v. Braisted*, 363 U.S. 144, 145 (1960).

²⁰⁵⁶*Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 421, 433 (1856).

²⁰⁵⁷*St. Louis & San Francisco Railway v. James*, 161 U.S. 545, 562 (1896).

²⁰⁵⁸*Poole v. Fleeger*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 185, 209 (1837); *Rhode Island v. Massachusetts*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 657, 725 (1838).

²⁰⁵⁹*Hinderlider v. La Plata Co.*, 304 U.S. 92, 104, 106 (1938).

²⁰⁶⁰*Green v. Biddle*, 8 Wheat. (21 U.S.) 1, 13 (1823); *Virginia v. West Virginia*, 246 U.S. 565 (1918). See also *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 518, 566 (1852); *Olin v. Kitzmiller*, 259 U.S. 260 (1922).

²⁰⁶¹*Petty v. Tennessee-Missouri Comm.*, 359 U.S. 275 (1959).

²⁰⁶²*Texas v. New Mexico*, 482 U.S. 124 (1987). If the compact makes no provision for resolving impasse, then the Court may exercise its jurisdiction to apportion waters of interstate streams. In doing so, however, the Court will not rewrite the compact by ordering appointment of a third voting commissioner to serve as a tie-breaker; rather, the Court will attempt to apply the compact to the extent that its provisions govern the controversy. *Texas v. New Mexico*, 462 U.S. 554 (1983).

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such compacts.²⁰⁶³ Nor may a State read herself out of a compact which she has ratified and to which Congress has consented by pleading that under the State's constitution as interpreted by the highest state court she had lacked power to enter into such an agreement and was without power to meet certain obligations thereunder. The final construction of the state constitution in such a case rests with the Supreme Court.²⁰⁶⁴

²⁰⁶³ *Virginia v. West Virginia*, 246 U.S. 565, 601 (1918).

²⁰⁶⁴ *Dyer v. Sims*, 341 U.S. 22 (1951).

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1. The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows:

NATURE AND SCOPE OF PRESIDENTIAL POWER

Creation of the Presidency

Of all the issues confronting the members of the Philadelphia Convention, the nature of the presidency ranks among the most important and the resolution of the question one of the most significant steps taken.¹ The immediate source of Article II was the New York constitution in which the governor was elective by the people and thus independent of the legislature, his term was three years and he was indefinitely re-eligible, his decisions except with regard to appointments and vetoes were unencumbered with a council, he was in charge of the militia, he possessed the pardoning power, and he was charged to take care that the laws were faithfully executed.² But when the Convention assembled and almost to its closing days, there was no assurance that the executive department would not be headed by plural administrators, would not be unalterably tied to the legislature, and would not be devoid of many of the powers normally associated with an executive.

Debate in the Convention proceeded against a background of many things, but most certainly uppermost in the delegates' minds was the experience of the States and of the national government under the Articles of Confederation. Reacting to the exercise of powers by the royal governors, the framers of the state constitutions had generally created weak executives and strong legislatures, though not in all instances. The Articles of Confederation

¹The background and the action of the Convention is comprehensively examined in C. THACH, *THE CREATION OF THE PRESIDENCY 1775-1789* (Baltimore: 1923). A review of the Constitution's provisions being put into operation is J. HART, *THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY IN ACTION 1789* (New York: 1948).

²Hamilton observed the similarities and differences between the President and the New York Governor in *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 69 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 462-470. On the text, see New York Constitution of 1777, Articles XVII-XIX, in 5 F. THORPE, *THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTIONS*, H. Doc. No. 357, 59th Congress, 2d sess. (Washington: 1909), 2632-2633.

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vested all powers in a unicameral congress. Experience had demonstrated that harm was to be feared as much from an unfettered legislature as from an uncurbed executive and that many advantages of a reasonably strong executive could not be conferred on the legislative body.³

Nonetheless, the Virginia Plan, which formed the basis of discussion, offered in somewhat vague language a weak executive. Selection was to be by the legislature, and that body was to determine the major part of executive competency. The executive's salary was, however, to be fixed and not subject to change by the legislative branch during the term of the executive, and he was ineligible for re-election so that he need not defer overly to the legislature. A council of revision was provided of which the executive was a part with power to negative national and state legislation. The executive power was said to be the power to "execute the national laws" and to "enjoy the Executive rights vested in Congress by the Confederation." The Plan did not provide for a single or plural executive, leaving that issue open.⁴

When the executive portion of the Plan was taken up on June 1, James Wilson immediately moved that the executive should consist of a single person.⁵ In the course of his remarks, Wilson demonstrated his belief in a strong executive, advocating election by the people, which would free the executive of dependence on the national legislature and on the States, proposing indefinite re-eligibility, and preferring an absolute negative though in concurrence with a council of revision.⁶ The vote on Wilson's motion was put over until the questions of method of selection, term, mode of removal, and powers to be conferred had been considered; subsequently, the motion carried,⁷ and the possibility of the development of a strong President was made real.

Only slightly less important was the decision finally arrived at not to provide for an executive council, which would participate not only in the executive's exercise of the veto power but also in the exercise of all his executive duties, notably appointments and treaty making. Despite strong support for such a council, the Convention ultimately rejected the proposal and adopted language vesting

³C. THACH, *THE CREATION OF THE PRESIDENCY 1775-1789* (Baltimore: 1923), chs. 1-3.

⁴The plans offered and the debate is reviewed in C. THACH, *THE CREATION OF THE PRESIDENCY 1775-1789* (Baltimore: 1923), ch. 4. The text of the Virginia Plan may be found in 1 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 21.

⁵*Id.*, 65.

⁶*Id.*, 65, 66, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73.

⁷*Id.*, 93.

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in the Senate the power to “advise and consent” with regard to these matters.⁸

Finally, the designation of the executive as the “President of the United States” was made in a tentative draft reported by the Committee on Detail⁹ and accepted by the Convention without discussion.¹⁰ The same clause had provided that the President’s title was to be “His Excellency,”¹¹ and, while this language was also accepted without discussion,¹² it was subsequently omitted by the Committee on Style and Arrangement¹³ with no statement of the reason and no comment in the Convention.

Executive Power: Theory of the Presidential Office

The most obvious meaning of the language of Article II, § 1, is to confirm that the executive power is vested in a single person, but almost from the beginning it has been contended that the words mean much more than this simple designation of locus. Indeed, contention with regard to this language reflects the much larger debate about the nature of the Presidency. With Justice Jackson, we “may be surprised at the poverty of really useful and unambiguous authority applicable to concrete problems of executive power as they actually present themselves. Just what our forefathers did envision, or would have envisioned had they foreseen modern conditions, must be divined from materials almost as enigmatic as the dreams Joseph was called upon to interpret for Pharaoh. A century and a half of partisan debate and scholarly speculation yields no net result but only supplies more or less apt quotations from respected sources on each side of any question. They largely cancel each other.”¹⁴ At the least, it is no doubt true that the “loose and general expressions” by which the powers and duties of the executive branch are denominated¹⁵ place the President in a position in which he, as Professor Woodrow Wilson noted, “has the right, in law and conscience, to be as big a man as he can” and in which “only his capacity will set the limit.”¹⁶

⁸The last proposal for a council was voted down on September 7. 2 *id.*, 542.

⁹*Id.*, 185.

¹⁰*Id.*, 401.

¹¹*Id.*, 185.

¹²*Id.*, 401.

¹³*Id.*, 597.

¹⁴*Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579, 634–635 (1952) (concurring opinion).

¹⁵A. UPSHUR, *A BRIEF ENQUIRY INTO THE TRUE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT* (Petersburg, Va.: 1840), 116.

¹⁶W. WILSON, *CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES* (New York: 1908), 202, 205.

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Hamilton and Madison.—In Hamilton's defense of President Washington's issuance of a neutrality proclamation upon the outbreak of war between France and Great Britain may be found not only the lines but most of the content of the argument that Article II vests significant powers in the President as possessor of executive powers not enumerated in subsequent sections of Article II.¹⁷ Said Hamilton: "The second article of the Constitution of the United States, section first, establishes this general proposition, that 'the Executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.' The same article, in a succeeding section, proceeds to delineate particular cases of executive power. It declares, among other things, that the president shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States; that he shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, to make treaties; that it shall be his duty to receive ambassadors and other public ministers, *and to take care that the laws be faithfully executed.* It would not consist with the rules of sound construction, to consider this enumeration of particular authorities as derogating from the more comprehensive grant in the general clause, further than as it may be coupled with express restrictions or limitations; as in regard to the co-operation of the senate in the appointment of officers, and the making of treaties; which are plainly qualifications of the general executive powers of appointing officers and making treaties.

"The difficulty of a complete enumeration of all the cases of executive authority, would naturally dictate the use of general terms, and would render it improbable that a specification of certain particulars was designed as a substitute for those terms, when antecedently used. The different mode of expression employed in the constitution, in regard to the two powers, the legislative and the executive, serves to confirm this inference. In the article which gives the legislative powers of the government, the expressions are, 'All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a congress of the United States.' In that which grants the executive power, the expressions are, 'The *executive power* shall be vested in a President of the United States.' The enumeration ought therefore to be considered, as intended merely to specify the principal articles implied in the definition of executive power; leaving the rest to flow from the general grant of that power, interpreted in conformity with other parts of the Constitution, and with the principles of free gov-

¹⁷ 32 WRITINGS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, J. Fitzpatrick ed. (Washington: 1939), 430. See C. THOMAS, AMERICAN NEUTRALITY IN 1793: A STUDY IN CABINET GOVERNMENT (New York: 1931).

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ernment. The general doctrine of our Constitution then is, that the *executive power* of the nation is vested in the President; subject only to the *exceptions* and *qualifications*, which are expressed in the instrument.”¹⁸

Madison’s reply to Hamilton, in five closely reasoned articles,¹⁹ was almost exclusively directed to Hamilton’s development of the contention from the quoted language that the conduct of foreign relations was in its nature an executive function and that the powers vested in Congress which bore on this function, such as the power to declare war, did not diminish the discretion of the President in the exercise of his powers. Madison’s principal reliance was on the vesting of the power to declare war in Congress, thus making it a legislative function rather than an executive one, combined with the argument that possession of the exclusive power carried with it the exclusive right to judgment about the obligations to go to war or to stay at peace, negating the power of the President to proclaim the nation’s neutrality. Implicit in the argument was the rejection of the view that the first section of Article II bestowed powers not vested in subsequent sections. “Were it once established that the powers of war and treaty are in their nature executive; that so far as they are not by strict construction transferred to the legislature, they actually belong to the executive; that of course all powers not less executive in their nature than those powers, if not granted to the legislature, may be claimed by the executive; if granted, are to be taken strictly, with a residuary right in the executive; or . . . perhaps claimed as a concurrent right by the executive; and no citizen could any longer guess at the character of the government under which he lives; the most penetrating jurist would be unable to scan the extent of constructive prerogative.”²⁰ The arguments are today pursued with as great fervor, as great learning, and with two hundred years experience, but the constitutional part of the

¹⁸7 WORKS OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON, J. C. Hamilton ed. (New York: 1851), 76, 80–81 (emphasis in original).

¹⁹1 LETTERS AND OTHER WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON (Philadelphia: 1865), 611–654.

²⁰*Id.*, 621. In the congressional debates on the President’s power to remove executive officeholders, cf. C. THACH, THE CREATION OF THE PRESIDENCY 1775–1789 (Baltimore: 1923), ch. 6, Madison had urged contentions quite similar to Hamilton’s, finding in the first section of Article II and in the obligation to execute the laws a vesting of executive powers sufficient to contain the power solely on his behalf to remove subordinates. 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 496–497. Madison’s language here was to be heavily relied on by Chief Justice Taft on this point in *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52, 115–126 (1926), but compare, Corwin, *The President’s Removal Power Under the Constitution*, in 4 SELECTED ESSAYS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (Chicago: 1938), 1467, 1474–1483, 1485–1486.

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contentiousness still settles upon the reading of the vesting clauses of Articles I, II, and III.²¹

The Myers Case.—However much the two arguments are still subject to dispute, Chief Justice Taft, himself a former President, appears in *Myers v. United States*²² to have carried a majority of the Court with him in establishing the Hamiltonian conception as official doctrine. That case confirmed one reading of the “Decision of 1789” in holding the removal power to be constitutionally vested in the President.²³ But its importance here lies in its interpretation of the first section of Article II. That language was read, with extensive quotation from Hamilton and from Madison on the removal power, as vesting all executive power in the President, the subsequent language was read as merely particularizing some of this power, and consequently the powers vested in Congress were read as exceptions which must be strictly construed in favor of powers retained by the President.²⁴ *Myers* remains the fountain-head of the latitudinarian constructionists of presidential power, but its dicta, with regard to the removal power, were first circumscribed in *Humphrey’s Executor v. United States*,²⁵ and then considerably altered in *Morrison v. Olson*;²⁶ with regard to the President’s “inherent” powers, the *Myers* dicta were called into considerable question by *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*.²⁷

The Curtiss-Wright Case.—Further Court support of the Hamiltonian view was advanced in *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corp.*,²⁸ in which Justice Sutherland posited the doctrine that the power of the National Government in foreign relations is not one of enumerated but of inherent powers;²⁹ this doctrine was

²¹ Compare Calabresi & Rhodes, *The Structural Constitution: Unitary Executive, Plural Judiciary*, 105 Harv. L. Rev. 1155 (1992), with Froomkin, *The Imperial Presidency’s New Vestments*, 88 Nw. U. L. Rev. 1346 (1994), and responses by Calabresi, Rhodes and Froomkin, in *id.*, 1377, 1406, 1420.

²² 272 U.S. 52 (1926). See Corwin, *The President’s Removal Power Under the Constitution*, in 4 SELECTED ESSAYS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (Chicago: 1938), 1467.

²³ C. THACH, *THE CREATION OF THE PRESIDENCY 1775–1789* (Baltimore: 1923), ch. 6.

²⁴ *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52, 163–164 (1926). Professor Taft had held different views. “The true view of the executive functions is, as I conceive it, that the president can exercise no power which cannot be fairly and reasonably traced to some specific grant of power or justly implied and included within such express grant as proper and necessary in its exercise. Such specific grant must be either in the federal constitution or in an act of congress passed in pursuance thereof. There is no undefined residuum of power which he can exercise because it seems to him to be in the public interest. . . .” W. TAFT, *OUR CHIEF MAGISTRATE AND HIS POWERS* (New York: 1916), 139–140.

²⁵ 295 U.S. 602 (1935).

²⁶ 487 U.S. 654, 685–693 (1988).

²⁷ 343 U.S. 579 (1952).

²⁸ 299 U.S. 304 (1936).

²⁹ *Id.*, 315–316, 318.

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then combined with Hamilton's contention that control of foreign relations is exclusively an executive function with obvious implications for the power of the President. The case arose as a challenge to the delegation of power from Congress to the President with regard to a foreign relations matter. Justice Sutherland denied that the limitations on delegation in the domestic field were at all relevant in foreign affairs. "The broad statement that the federal government can exercise no powers except those specifically enumerated in the constitution, and such implied powers—as are necessary and proper to carry into effect the enumerated powers, is categorically true only in respect of our internal affairs. In that field the primary purpose of the Constitution was to carve from the general mass of legislative powers then possessed by the states such portions as were thought desirable to vest in the federal government, leaving those not included in the enumeration still in the states. . . . That this doctrine applies only to powers which the states had, is self evident. And since the states severally never possessed international powers, such powers could not have been carved from the mass of state powers but obviously were transmitted to the United States from some other source. . . ."

"As a result of the separation from Great Britain by the colonies acting as a unit, the powers of external sovereignty passed from the Crown not to the colonies severally, but to the colonies in their collective and corporate capacity as the United States of America. . . ."

"It results that the investment of the federal government with the powers of external sovereignty did not depend upon the affirmative grants of the Constitution. The powers to declare and wage war, to conclude peace, to make treaties, to maintain diplomatic relations with other sovereignties if they had never been mentioned in the Constitution, would have been vested in the federal government as necessary concomitants of nationality. . . ."

"Not only . . . is the federal power over external affairs in origin and essential character different from that over internal affairs, but participation in the exercise of power is significantly limited. In this vast external realm with its important, complicated, delicate and manifold problems, the President alone has the power to speak or listen as a representative of the nation . . ."³⁰

Scholarly criticism of Justice Sutherland's reasoning has demonstrated that his essential postulate, the passing of sovereignty in external affairs directly from the British Crown to the colonies as

³⁰Ibid.

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a collective unit, is in error.³¹ Dicta in later cases controvert the conclusions drawn in *Curtiss-Wright* about the foreign relations power being inherent rather than subject to the limitations of the delegated powers doctrine.³² The holding in *Kent v. Dulles*³³ that delegation to the Executive of discretion in the issuance of passports must be measured by the usual standards applied in domestic delegations appeared to circumscribe, Justice Sutherland's more expansive view, but the subsequent limitation of that decision, though formally reasoned within its analytical framework, coupled with language addressed to the President's authority in foreign affairs, leaves clouded the vitality of that decision.³⁴ The case nonetheless remains with *Myers v. United States* the source and support of those contending for broad inherent executive powers.³⁵

The Youngstown Case.—The only recent case in which the “inherent” powers of the President or the issue of what executive powers are vested by the first section of Article II has been exten-

³¹ Levitan, *The Foreign Relations Power: An Analysis of Mr. Justice Sutherland's Theory*, 55 Yale L. J. 467 (1946); Patterson, *In re United States v. Curtiss-Wright Corp.*, 22 Texas L. Rev. 286, 445 (1944); Lofgren, *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Corporation: An Historical Reassessment*, 83 Yale L. J. 1 (1973), reprinted in C. LOFGREN, “GOVERNMENT FROM REFLECTION AND CHOICE”—CONSTITUTIONAL ESSAYS ON WAR, FOREIGN RELATIONS, AND FEDERALISM (1986), 167.

³² E.g., *Ex parte Quirin*, 317 U.S. 1, 25 (1942) (Chief Justice Stone); *Reid v. Covert*, 354 U.S. 1, 5–6 (1957) (plurality opinion, per Justice Black).

³³ 357 U.S. 116, 129 (1958).

³⁴ *Haig v. Agee*, 453 U.S. 280 (1981). For the reliance on *Curtiss-Wright*, see *id.*, 291, 293–294 & n. 24, 307–308. But see *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654, 659–662 (1981), qualified by *id.*, 678. Compare *Webster v. Doe*, 486 U.S. 592 (1988) (construing National Security Act as not precluding judicial review of constitutional challenges to CIA Director's dismissal of employee, over dissent relying in part on *Curtiss-Wright* as interpretive force counseling denial of judicial review), with *Department of the Navy v. Egan*, 484 U.S. 518 (1988) (denying Merit Systems Protection Board authority to review the substance of an underlying security-clearance determination in reviewing an adverse action and noticing favorably President's inherent power to protect information without any explicit legislative grant).

³⁵ That the opinion “remains authoritative doctrine” is stated in L. HENKIN, *FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE CONSTITUTION* (1972), 25–26. It is utilized as an interpretive precedent in AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE, *RESTATEMENT (THIRD) OF THE LAW, THE FOREIGN RELATIONS LAW OF THE UNITED STATES* (1987), see, e.g., §§1, 204, 339. It will be noted, however, that the Restatement is circumspect about the reach of the opinion in controversies between presidential and congressional powers.

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sively considered³⁶ is *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*,³⁷ and the multiple opinions there produced make difficult an evaluation of the matter. During the Korean War, President Truman seized the steel industry then in the throes of a strike. No statute authorized the seizure, and the Solicitor General defended the action as an exercise of the President's executive powers which were conveyed by the first section of Article II, by the obligation to enforce the laws, and by the vesting of the function of commander-in-chief. Six-to-three the Court rejected this argument and held the seizure void. But the doctrinal problem is complicated by the fact that Congress had expressly rejected seizure proposals in considering labor legislation and had authorized procedures not followed by the President which did not include seizure. Thus, four of the majority Justices³⁸ appear to have been decisively influenced by the fact that Congress had denied the power claimed and this in an area in which the Constitution vested the power to decide at least concurrently if not exclusively in Congress. Three and perhaps four Justices³⁹ appear to have rejected the Government's argument on the merits while three⁴⁰ accepted it in large measure. Despite the inconclusiveness of the opinions, it seems clear that the result was

³⁶The issue is implicit in several of the opinions of the Justices in *New York Times Co. v. United States*, 403 U.S. 713 (1971). See *id.*, 727, 728–730 (Justice Stewart concurring), 752, 756–759 (Justice Harlan dissenting). Assertions of inherent power to sustain presidential action were made in *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654 (1981), but the Court studiously avoided these arguments in favor of a somewhat facile statutory analysis. Separation-of-powers analysis informed the Court's decisions in *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683 (1974), *Nixon v. Administrator of General Services*, 433 U.S. 425 (1977), *Nixon v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 731 (1982), and *Harlow v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 800 (1982). While perhaps somewhat latitudinarian in some respect of the President's powers, the analysis looks away from inherent powers. But see *Haig v. Agee*, 453 U.S. 280 (1981), in which the statutory and congressional ratification analyses is informed with a view of a range of presidential foreign affairs discretion combined with judicial deference according the President *de facto* much of the theoretically-based authority spelled out in *Curtiss-Wright*.

³⁷343 U.S. 579 (1952). See Corwin, *The Steel Seizure Case: A Judicial Brick Without Straw*, 53 Colum. L. Rev. 53 (1953). A case similar to *Youngstown* was *AFL-CIO v. Kahn*, 618 F.2d 784 (D.C.Cir.) (*en banc*), *cert. den.*, 443 U.S. 915 (1979), sustaining a presidential order denying government contracts to companies failing to comply with certain voluntary wage and price guidelines on the basis of statutory interpretation of certain congressional delegations.

³⁸343 U.S. 593, 597–602 (Justice Frankfurter concurring, though he also noted he expressly joined Justice Black's opinion as well), 634, 635–640 (Justice Jackson concurring), 655, 657 (Justice Burton concurring), 660 (Justice Clark concurring).

³⁹*Id.*, 582 (Justice Black delivering the opinion of the Court), 629 (Justice Douglas concurring, but note his use of the Fifth Amendment just compensation argument), 634 (Justice Jackson concurring), 655 (Justice Burton concurring).

⁴⁰*Id.*, 667 (Chief Justice Vinson and Justices Reed and Minton dissenting).

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a substantial retreat from the proclamation of vast presidential powers made in *Myers* and *Curtiss-Wright*.⁴¹

The Practice in the Presidential Office.—However contested the theory of expansive presidential powers, the practice in fact has been one of expansion of those powers, an expansion that a number of “weak” Presidents and the temporary ascendancy of Congress in the wake of the Civil War has not stemmed. Perhaps the point of no return in this area was reached in 1801 when the Jefferson-Madison “strict constructionists” came to power and, instead of diminishing executive power and federal power in general, acted rather to enlarge both, notably by the latitudinarian construction of implied federal powers to justify the Louisiana Purchase.⁴² After a brief lapse into Cabinet government, the executive in the hands of Andrew Jackson stamped upon the presidency the outstanding features of its final character, thereby reviving, in the opinion of Henry Jones Ford, “the oldest political institution of the race, the elective Kingship.”⁴³ While the modern theory of presidential power was conceived primarily by Alexander Hamilton, the modern conception of the presidential office was the contribution primarily of Andrew Jackson.⁴⁴

Executive Power: Separation-of-Powers Judicial Protection

In recent cases, the Supreme Court has pronouncedly protected the Executive Branch, applying separation-of-powers principles to invalidate what it perceived to be congressional usurpation of executive power, but its mode of analysis has lately shifted seemingly to permit Congress a greater degree of discretion.⁴⁵ In striking

⁴¹ *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52 (1926); *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corp.*, 299 U.S. 304 (1936). Note that in *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654, 659–662, 668–669 (1981), the Court turned to *Youngstown* as embodying “much relevant analysis” on an issue of presidential power.

⁴² For the debates on the constitutionality of the Purchase, see E. BROWN, *THE CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE, 1803–1812* (Berkeley: 1920). The differences and similarities between the Jeffersonians and the Federalists can be seen by comparing L. WHITE, *THE JEFFERSONIANS—A STUDY IN ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY 1801–1829* (New York: 1951), with L. WHITE, *THE FEDERALISTS—A STUDY IN ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY* (New York: 1948). That the responsibilities of office did not turn the Jeffersonians into Hamiltonians may be gleaned from Madison’s veto of an internal improvements bill. 2 J. RICHARDSON (comp.), *MESSAGES AND PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS* (Washington: 1897), 569.

⁴³ H. FORD, *THE RISE AND GROWTH OF AMERICAN POLITICS* (New York: 1898), 293.

⁴⁴ E. CORWIN, *THE PRESIDENT—OFFICE AND POWERS 1787–1957* (New York: 4th ed. 1957), ch. 1.

⁴⁵ Not that there have not been a few cases prior to the present period. See *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52 (1926). But a hallmark of previous disputes between President and Congress has been the use of political combat to resolve them, rather than a resort to the courts. The beginning of the present period was *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 109–143 (1976).

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down the congressional veto as circumventing Article I's bicameralism and presentment requirements attending exercise of legislative power, the Court also suggested in *INS v. Chadha*⁴⁶ that the particular provision in question, involving veto of the Attorney General's decision to suspend deportation of an alien, in effect allowed Congress impermissible participation in execution of the laws.⁴⁷ And in *Bowsher v. Synar*,⁴⁸ the Court held that Congress had invalidly vested executive functions in a legislative branch official. Underlying both decisions was the premise, stated by Chief Justice Burger's opinion of the Court in *Chadha*, that "the powers delegated to the three Branches are functionally identifiable," distinct, and definable.⁴⁹ In a "standing-to-sue" case, Justice Scalia for the Court denied that Congress could by statute confer standing on citizens not suffering particularized injuries to sue the Federal Government to compel it to carry out a duty imposed by Congress, arguing that to permit this course would be to allow Congress to divest the President of his obligation under the "take care" clause and to delegate the power to the judiciary.⁵⁰ On the other hand, the Court in the independent counsel case, while acknowledging that the contested statute did restrict to some degree a constitutionally delegated function, law enforcement, upheld the law upon a flexible analysis that emphasized that neither the legislative nor the judicial branch had aggrandized its power and that the incursion into executive power did not impermissibly interfere with the President's constitutionally assigned functions.⁵¹

⁴⁶ 462 U.S. 919 (1983).

⁴⁷ Although Chief Justice Burger's opinion of the Court described the veto decision as legislative in character, it also seemingly alluded to the executive nature of the decision to countermand the Attorney General's application of delegated power to a particular individual. "Disagreement with the Attorney General's decision on Chadha's deportation . . . involves determinations of policy that Congress can implement in only one way. . . . Congress must abide by its delegation of authority until that delegation is legislatively altered or revoked." *Id.*, 954–55. The Court's uncertainty is explicitly spelled out in *Metropolitan Washington Airports Auth. v. Citizens for the Abatement of Aircraft Noise, inc.*, 501 U.S. 252 (1991).

⁴⁸ 478 U.S. 714 (1986).

⁴⁹ *Id.*, 462 U.S., 951.

⁵⁰ *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2144–2146 (1992). Evidently, however, while Justices Kennedy and Souter joined this part of the opinion, *id.*, 2146 (concurring in part and concurring in the judgment), they do not fully subscribe to the apparent full reach of Justice Scalia's doctrinal position, leaving the position, if that be true, supported in full only by a plurality.

⁵¹ *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654 (1988). The opinion by Chief Justice Rehnquist was joined by seven of the eight participating Justices. Only Justice Scalia dissented. In *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 390–91 (1989), the Court, approving the placement of the Sentencing Commission in the judicial branch, denied that executive powers were diminished because of the historic judicial responsibility to determine what sentence to impose on a convicted offender. Earlier, in *Young v. United States ex rel. Vuitton*, 481 U.S. 787 (1987), the Court, in upholding the power of federal judges to appoint private counsel to prosecute con-

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At issue in *Synar* were the responsibilities vested in the Comptroller General by the “Gramm-Rudman-Hollings” Deficit Control Act,⁵² which set maximum deficit amounts for federal spending for fiscal years 1986 through 1991, and which directed across-the-board cuts in spending when projected deficits would exceed the target deficits. The Comptroller was to prepare a report for each fiscal year containing detailed estimates of projected federal revenues and expenditures, and specifying the reductions, if any, necessary to meet the statutory target. The President was required to implement the reductions specified in the Comptroller’s report. The Court viewed these functions of the Comptroller “as plainly entailing execution of the law in constitutional terms. Interpreting a law . . . to implement the legislative mandate is the very essence of ‘execution’ of the law,” especially where “exercise [of] judgment” is called for, and where the President is required to implement the interpretation.⁵³ Because Congress by earlier enactment had retained authority to remove the Comptroller General from office, the Court held, executive powers may not be delegated to him. “By placing the responsibility for execution of the [Act] in the hands of an officer who is subject to removal only by itself, Congress in effect has retained control over the execution of the Act and has intruded into the executive function.”⁵⁴

The Court in *Chadha* and *Synar* ignored or rejected assertions that its formalistic approach to separation of powers may bring into question the validity of delegations of legislative authority to the modern administrative state, sometimes called the “fourth branch.” As Justice White asserted in dissent in *Chadha*, “by virtue of congressional delegation, legislative power can be exercised by independent agencies and Executive departments. . . . There is no question but that agency rulemaking is lawmaking in any functional or realistic sense of the term.”⁵⁵ Moreover, Justice White noted, “rules and adjudications by the agencies meet the Court’s own definition of legislative action.”⁵⁶ Justice Stevens, concurring in *Synar*, sounded the same chord in suggesting that the Court’s holding should not depend on classification of “chameleon-like” powers as executive, legislative, or judicial.⁵⁷ The Court answered these assertions on two levels: that the bicameral protection “is not

tempt of court actions, rejected the assertion that the judiciary usurped executive power in appointing such counsel.

⁵² The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, Pub. L. 99-177, 99 Stat. 1038.

⁵³ *Id.*, 478 U.S., 732-733.

⁵⁴ *Id.*, 734.

⁵⁵ *Id.*, 462 U.S., 985-86.

⁵⁶ *Id.*, 462 U.S., 989.

⁵⁷ *Id.*, 478 U.S., 736, 750.

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necessary” when legislative power has been delegated to another branch confined to implementing statutory standards set by Congress, and that “the Constitution does not so require.”⁵⁸ In the same context, the Court acknowledged without disapproval that it had described some agency action as resembling lawmaking.⁵⁹ Thus *Chadha* may not be read as requiring that all “legislative power” as the Court defined it must be exercised by Congress, and *Synar* may not be read as requiring that all “executive power” as the Court defined it must be exercised by the executive. A more limited reading is that when Congress elects to exercise legislative power itself rather than delegate it, it must follow the prescribed bicameralism and presentment procedures, and when Congress elects to delegate legislative power or assign executive functions to the executive branch, it may not control exercise of those functions by itself exercising removal (or appointment) powers.

A more flexible approach was followed in the independent counsel case. Here, there was no doubt that the statute limited the President’s law enforcement powers. Upon a determination by the Attorney General that reasonable grounds exist for investigation or prosecution of certain high ranking government officials, he must notify a special, Article III court which appoints a special counsel. The counsel is assured full power and independent authority to investigate and, if warranted, to prosecute. Such counsel may be removed from office by the Attorney General only for cause as prescribed in the statute.⁶⁰ The independent counsel was assuredly more free from executive supervision than other federal prosecutors. Instead of striking down the law, however, the Court undertook a careful assessment of the degree to which executive power was invaded and the degree to which the President retained sufficient powers to carry out his constitutionally assigned duties. Also considered by the Court was the issue whether in enacting the statute Congress had attempted to aggrandize itself or had attempted to enlarge the judicial power at the expense of the executive.⁶¹

TENURE

Formerly the term of four years during which the President “shall hold office” was reckoned from March 4 of the alternate odd years beginning with 1789. This came about from the circumstance

⁵⁸ *Id.*, 462 U.S., 953 n. 16.

⁵⁹ *Id.*

⁶⁰ Pub. L. 95-521, title VI, 92 Stat. 1867, as amended by Pub. L. 97-409, 96 Stat. 2039, and Pub. L. 100-191, 101 Stat. 1293, 28 U.S.C. §§ 49, 591 et seq.

⁶¹ *Id.*, 487 U.S., 693-96. See also *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 380-84, 390-91, 408-11 (1989).

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that under the act of September 13, 1788, of “the Old Congress,” the first Wednesday in March, which was March 4, 1789, was fixed as the time for commencing proceedings under the Constitution. Although as a matter of fact, Washington was not inaugurated until April 30 of that year, by an act approved March 1, 1792, it was provided that the presidential term should be reckoned from the fourth day of March next succeeding the date of election. And so things stood until the adoption of the Twentieth Amendment by which the terms of President and Vice-President end at noon on the 20th of January.⁶²

The prevailing sentiment of the Philadelphia Convention favored the indefinite eligibility of the President. It was Jefferson who raised the objection that indefinite eligibility would in fact be for life and degenerate into an inheritance. Prior to 1940, the idea that no President should hold office for more than two terms was generally thought to be a fixed tradition, although some quibbles had been raised as to the meaning of the word “term.” The voters’ departure from the tradition in electing President Franklin D. Roosevelt to third and fourth terms led to the proposal by Congress on March 24, 1947, of an amendment to the Constitution to embody the tradition in the Constitutional Document. The proposal became a part of the Constitution on February 27, 1951, in consequence of its adoption by the necessary thirty-sixth State, which was Minnesota.⁶³

Clause 2. Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress; but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

Clause 3. The Electors shall meet in their respective States and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and cer-

⁶² As to the meaning of “the fourth day of March,” see Warren, *Political Practice and the Constitution*, 89 U. Pa. L. Rev. 1003 (1941).

⁶³ E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 34-38, 331-339.

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tify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed: and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

Clause 4. The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The electoral college was one of the compromises by which the delegates were able to agree on the document finally produced. "This subject," said James Wilson, referring to the issue of the manner in which the President was to be selected, "has greatly divided the House, and will also divide people out of doors. It is in

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truth the most difficult of all on which we have had to decide.”⁶⁴ Adoption of the electoral college plan came late in the Convention, which had previously adopted on four occasions provisions for election of the executive by the Congress and had twice defeated proposals for election by the people directly.⁶⁵ Itself the product of compromise, the electoral college probably did not work as any member of the Convention could have foreseen, because the development of political parties and nomination of presidential candidates through them and designation of electors by the parties soon reduced the concept of the elector as an independent force to the vanishing point in practice if not in theory.⁶⁶ But the college remains despite numerous efforts to adopt another method, a relic perhaps but still a significant one. Clause 3 has, of course, been superseded by the Twelfth Amendment.

“Appoint”.—The word “appoint” is used in Clause 2 “as conveying the broadest power of determination.”⁶⁷ This power has been used. “Therefore, on reference to contemporaneous and subsequent action under the clause, we should expect to find, as we do, that various modes of choosing the electors were pursued, as, by the legislature itself on joint ballot; by the legislature through a concurrent vote of the two houses; by vote of the people for a general ticket; by vote of the people in districts; by choice partly by the people voting in districts and partly by legislature; by choice by the legislature from candidates voted for by the people in districts; and in other ways, as notably, by North Carolina in 1792, and Tennessee in 1796 and 1800. No question was raised as to the power of the State to appoint, in any mode its legislature saw fit to adopt, and none that a single method, applicable without exception, must be pursued in the absence of an amendment to the Constitution. The district system was largely considered the most equitable, and Madison wrote that it was that system which was contemplated by the framers of the Constitution, although it was soon seen that its adoption by some States might place them at a disadvantage by a

⁶⁴ 2 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 4, 501.

⁶⁵ 1 *id.*, 21, 68-69, 80-81, 175-176, 230, 244; 2 *id.*, 29-32, 57-59, 63-64, 95, 99-106, 108-115, 118-121, 196-197, 401-404, 497, 499-502, 511-515, 522-529.

⁶⁶ See J. CEASER, *PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION: THEORY AND DEVELOPMENT* (Princeton: 1979); N. PIERCE, *THE PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT: THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE IN AMERICAN HISTORY AND THE DIRECT-VOTE ALTERNATIVE* (New York: 1968). The second presidential election, in 1792, saw the first party influence on the electors, with the Federalists and the Jeffersonians organizing to control the selection of the Vice-President. Justice Jackson once noted: “As an institution the Electoral College suffered atrophy almost indistinguishable from *rigor mortis*.” *Ray v. Blair*, 343 U.S. 214, 232 (1952). But, of course, the electors still do actually elect the President and Vice President.

⁶⁷ *McPherson v. Blacker*, 146 U.S. 1, 27 (1892).

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division of their strength, and that a uniform rule was preferable.”⁶⁸

State Discretion in Choosing Electors.—Although Clause 2 seemingly vests complete discretion in the States, certain older cases had recognized a federal interest in protecting the integrity of the process. Thus, the Court upheld the power of Congress to protect the right of all citizens who are entitled to vote to lend aid and support in any legal manner to the election of any legally qualified person as a presidential elector.⁶⁹ Its power to protect the choice of electors from fraud or corruption was sustained.⁷⁰ “If this government is anything more than a mere aggregation of delegated agents of other States and governments, each of which is superior to the general government, it must have the power to protect the elections on which its existence depends from violence and corruption. If it has not this power it is helpless before the two great natural and historical enemies of all republics, open violence and insidious corruption.”⁷¹

More recently, substantial curbs on state discretion have been instituted by both the Court and the Congress. In *Williams v. Rhodes*,⁷² the Court struck down a complex state system which effectively limited access to the ballot to the electors of the two major parties. In the Court’s view, the system violated the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment because it favored some and disfavored others and burdened both the right of individuals to associate together to advance political beliefs and the right of qualified voters to cast ballots for electors of their choice. For the Court, Justice Black denied that the language of Clause 2 immunized such state practices from judicial scrutiny.⁷³ Then, in *Oregon v. Mitchell*,⁷⁴ the Court upheld the power of Congress to reduce the

⁶⁸ *Id.*, 28–29.

⁶⁹ *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884).

⁷⁰ *Burroughs and Cannon v. United States*, 290 U.S. 534 (1934).

⁷¹ *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651, 657–658 (1884) (quoted in *Burroughs and Cannon v. United States*, 290 U.S. 534, 546 (1934)).

⁷² 393 U.S. 23 (1968).

⁷³ “There, of course, can be no question but that this section does grant extensive power to the States to pass laws regulating the selection of electors. But the Constitution is filled with provisions that grant Congress or the States specific power to legislate in certain areas; these granted powers are always subject to the limitation that they may not be exercised in a way that violates other specific provisions of the Constitution. . . . [It cannot be] thought that the power to select electors could be exercised in such a way as to violate express constitutional commands that specifically bar States from passing certain kinds of laws. [citing the Fifteenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-fourth Amendments]. . . . Obviously we must reject the notion that Art. II, § 1, gives the States power to impose burdens on the right to vote, where such burdens are expressly prohibited in other constitutional provisions.” *Id.*, 29.

⁷⁴ 400 U.S. 112 (1970).

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voting age in presidential elections⁷⁵ and to set a thirty-day durational residency period as a qualification for voting in presidential elections.⁷⁶ Although the Justices were divided on the reasons, the rationale emerging from this case, considered with *Williams v. Rhodes*,⁷⁷ is that the Fourteenth Amendment limits state discretion in prescribing the manner of selecting electors and that Congress in enforcing the Fourteenth Amendment⁷⁸ may override state practices which violate that Amendment and substitute standards of its own.

Constitutional Status of Electors.—Dealing with the question of the constitutional status of the electors, the Court said in 1890: “The sole function of the presidential electors is to cast, certify and transmit the vote of the State for President and Vice President of the nation. Although the electors are appointed and act under and pursuant to the Constitution of the United States, they are no more officers or agents of the United States than are the members of the State legislatures when acting as electors of federal senators, or the people of the States when acting as electors of representatives in Congress. . . . In accord with the provisions of the Constitution, Congress has determined the times as of which the number of electors shall be ascertained, and the days on which they shall be appointed and shall meet and vote in the States, and on which their votes shall be counted in Congress; has provided for the filling by each State, in such manner as its legislature may prescribe, of vacancies in its college of electors; and has regulated the manner of certifying and transmitting their votes to the seat of the national government, and the course of proceeding in their opening and counting them.”⁷⁹ The truth of the matter is that the electors are not “officers” at all, by the usual tests of office.⁸⁰ They have neither tenure nor salary, and having performed their single function they cease to exist as electors.

This function is, moreover, “a federal function,”⁸¹ their capacity to perform which results from no power which was originally

⁷⁵ The Court divided five-to-four on this issue. Of the majority, four relied on Congress’ power under the Fourteenth Amendment, and Justice Black relied on implied and inherent congressional powers to create and maintain a national government. *Id.*, 119–124 (Justice Black announcing opinion of the Court).

⁷⁶ The Court divided eight-to-one on this issue. Of the majority, seven relied on Congress’ power to enforce the Fourteenth Amendment, and Justice Black on implied and inherent powers.

⁷⁷ 393 U.S. 23 (1968).

⁷⁸ Cf. Fourteenth Amendment, § 5.

⁷⁹ *In re Green*, 134 U.S. 377, 379–380 (1890).

⁸⁰ *United States v. Hartwell*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 385, 393 (1868).

⁸¹ *Hawke v. Smith*, 253 U.S. 221 (1920).

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resident in the States but which springs directly from the Constitution of the United States.⁸²

In the face of the proposition that electors are state officers, the Court has upheld the power of Congress to act to protect the integrity of the process by which they are chosen.⁸³ But in *Ray v. Blair*,⁸⁴ the Court reasserted the conception of electors as state officers with some significant consequences.

Electors as Free Agents.—“No one faithful to our history can deny that the plan originally contemplated, what is implicit in its text, that electors would be free agents, to exercise an independent and nonpartisan judgment as to the men best qualified for the Nation’s highest offices.”⁸⁵ Writing in 1826, Senator Thomas Hart Benton admitted that the framers had intended electors to be men of “superior discernment, virtue, and information,” who would select the President “according to their own will” and without reference to the immediate wishes of the people. “That this invention has failed of its objective in every election is a fact of such universal notoriety, that no one can dispute it. That it ought to have failed is equally uncontestable; for such independence in the electors was wholly incompatible with the safety of the people. [It] was, in fact, a chimerical and impractical idea in any community.”⁸⁶

Electors constitutionally remain free to cast their ballots for any person they wish and occasionally they have done so.⁸⁷ A recent instance occurred when a 1968 Republican elector in North Carolina chose to cast his vote not for Richard M. Nixon, who had won a plurality in the State, but for George Wallace, the independent candidate who had won the second greatest number of votes. Members of both the House of Representatives and of the Senate objected to counting that vote for Mr. Wallace and insisted that it should be counted for Mr. Nixon, but both bodies decided to count the vote as cast.⁸⁸

⁸² *Burroughs and Cannon v. United States*, 290 U.S. 534, 535 (1934).

⁸³ *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884); *Burroughs and Cannon v. United States*, 290 U.S. 534 (1934).

⁸⁴ 343 U.S. 214 (1952).

⁸⁵ *Id.*, 232 (Justice Jackson dissenting). See *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 68 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 458 (Hamilton); 3 J. STORY, *COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES* (Boston: 1833), 1457.

⁸⁶ S. Rept. No. 22, 19th Congress, 1st sess. (1826), 4.

⁸⁷ All but the most recent instances are summarized in N. PEIRCE, *op. cit.*, n. 66, 122–124.

⁸⁸ 115 CONG. REC. 9–11, 145–171, 197–246 (1969).

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The power of either Congress⁸⁹ or of the States to enact legislation binding electors to vote for the candidate of the party on the ticket of which they run has been the subject of much argument.⁹⁰ It remains unsettled and the Supreme Court has touched on the issue only once and then tangentially. In *Ray v. Blair*,⁹¹ the Court upheld, against a challenge of invalidity under the Twelfth Amendment, a rule of the Democratic Party of Alabama, acting under delegated power of the legislature, which required each candidate for the office of presidential elector to take a pledge to support the nominees of the party's convention for President and Vice President. The state court had determined that the Twelfth Amendment, following language of Clause 3, required that electors be absolutely free to vote for anyone of their choice. Said Justice Reed for the Court:

“It is true that the Amendment says the electors shall vote by ballot. But it is also true that the Amendment does not prohibit an elector's announcing his choice beforehand, pledging himself. The suggestion that in the early elections candidates for electors—contemporaries of the Founders—would have hesitated, because of constitutional limitations, to pledge themselves to support party nominees in the event of their selection as electors is impossible to accept. History teaches that the electors were expected to support the party nominees. Experts in the history of government recognize the longstanding practice. Indeed, more than twenty states do not print the names of the candidates for electors on the general election ballot. Instead, in one form or another, they allow a vote for the presidential candidate of the national conventions to be counted as a vote for his party's nominees for the electoral college. This long-continued practical interpretation of the constitutional propriety of an implied or oral pledge of his ballot by a candidate for elector as to his vote in the electoral college weighs heavily in considering the constitutionality of a pledge, such as the one here required, in the primary.

“However, even if such promises of candidates for the electoral college are legally unenforceable because violative of an assumed constitutional freedom of the elector under the Constitution, Art. II, § 1, to vote as he may choose in the electoral college, it would not follow that the requirement of a pledge in the primary is unconsti-

⁸⁹ Congress has so provided in the case of electors of the District of Columbia, 75 Stat. 818 (1961), D.C. Code § 1-1108(g), but the reference in the text is to the power of Congress to bind the electors of the States.

⁹⁰ At least thirteen States do have statutes binding their electors, but none has been tested in the courts.

⁹¹ 343 U.S. 214 (1952).

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tutional. A candidacy in the primary is a voluntary act of the applicant. He is not barred, discriminatorily, from participating but must comply with the rules of the party. Surely one may voluntarily assume obligations to vote for a certain candidate. The state offers him opportunity to become a candidate for elector on his own terms, although he must file his declaration before the primary. Ala. Code, Tit. 17, § 145. Even though the victory of an independent candidate for elector in Alabama cannot be anticipated, the state does offer the opportunity for the development of other strong political organizations where the need is felt for them by a sizable block of voters. Such parties may leave their electors to their own choice.

“We conclude that the Twelfth Amendment does not bar a political party from requiring the pledge to support the nominees of the National Convention. Where a state authorizes a party to choose its nominees for elector in a party primary and to fix the qualifications for the candidates, we see no federal constitutional objection to the requirement of this pledge.”⁹² Justice Jackson, with Justice Douglas, dissented: “It may be admitted that this law does no more than to make a legal obligation of what has been a voluntary general practice. If custom were sufficient authority for amendment of the Constitution by Court decree, the decision in this matter would be warranted. Usage may sometimes impart changed content to constitutional generalities, such as ‘due process of law,’ ‘equal protection,’ or ‘commerce among the states.’ But I do not think powers or discretions granted to federal officials by the Federal Constitution can be forfeited by the Court for disuse. A political practice which has its origin in custom must rely upon custom for its sanctions.”⁹³

Clause 5. No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been Fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

QUALIFICATIONS

All Presidents since and including Martin Van Buren were born in the United States subsequent to the Declaration of Inde-

⁹² Id., 228–231.

⁹³ Id., 232–233.

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pendence. The only issue with regard to the qualifications set out in this clause, which appears to be susceptible of argument, is whether a child born abroad of American parents is “a natural born citizen” in the sense of the clause. Such a child is a citizen as a consequence of statute.⁹⁴ Whatever the term “natural born” means, it no doubt does not include a person who is “naturalized.” Thus, the answer to the question might be seen to turn on the interpretation of the first sentence of the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment, providing that “[a]ll persons born or naturalized in the United States” are citizens.⁹⁵ Significantly, however, Congress, in which a number of Framers sat, provided in the Naturalization act of 1790 that “the children of citizens of the United States, that may be born beyond the sea, . . . shall be considered as *natural born citizens*. . . .”⁹⁶ This phrasing followed the literal terms of British statutes, beginning in 1350, under which persons born abroad, whose parents were both British subjects, would enjoy the same rights of inheritance as those born in England; beginning with laws in 1709 and 1731, these statutes expressly provided that such persons were natural-born subjects of the crown.⁹⁷ There is reason to believe, therefore, that the phrase includes persons who become citizens at birth by statute because of their status in being born abroad of American citizens.⁹⁸ Whether the Supreme Court would decide the issue should it ever arise in a “case or controversy” as well as how it might decide it can only be speculated about.

⁹⁴ 8 U.S.C. § 1401.

⁹⁵ Reliance on the provision of an Amendment adopted subsequent to the constitutional provision being interpreted is not precluded by but is strongly militated against by the language in *Freytag v. CIR*, 501 U.S. 868, 886–887 (1991), in which the Court declined to be bound by the language of the 25th Amendment in determining the meaning of “Heads of Departments” in the appointments clause. See also *id.*, 917 (Justice Scalia concurring). If the Fourteenth Amendment is relevant and the language is exclusive, that is, if it describes the only means by which persons can become citizens, then, anyone born outside the United States would have to be considered naturalized in order to be a citizen, and a child born abroad of American parents is to be considered “naturalized” by being statutorily made a citizen at birth. Although dictum in certain cases supports this exclusive interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment, *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, 169 U.S. 649, 702–703 (1898); cf. *Montana v. Kennedy*, 366 U.S. 308, 312 (1961), the most recent case in its holding and language rejects it. *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815 (1971).

⁹⁶ Act of March 26, 1790, 1 Stat. 103, 104 (emphasis supplied). See *Weedin v. Chin Bow*, 274 U.S. 657, 661–666 (1927); *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, 169 U.S. 649, 672–675 (1898). With minor variations, this language remained law in subsequent reenactments until an 1802 Act, which omitted the italicized words for reasons not discernable. See Act of Feb. 10, 1855, 10 Stat. 604 (enacting same provision, for offspring of American-citizen fathers, but omitting the italicized phrase).

⁹⁷ 25 Edw. 3, Stat. 2 (1350); 7 Anne, ch. 5, § 3 (1709); 4 Geo. 2, ch. 21 (1731).

⁹⁸ See, e.g., Gordon, *Who Can Be President of the United States: The Unresolved Enigma*, 28 Md. L. Rev. 1 (1968).

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Clause 6. In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION

When the President is disabled or is removed or has died, to what does the Vice President succeed: to the “powers and duties of the said office,” or to the office itself? There appears to be a reasonable amount of evidence from the proceedings of the convention from which to conclude that the Framers intended the Vice President to remain Vice President and to exercise the powers of the President until, in the words of the final clause, “a President shall be elected.” Nonetheless, when President Harrison died in 1841, Vice President Tyler, after initial hesitation, took the position that he was automatically President,⁹⁹ a precedent which has been followed subsequently and which is now permanently settled by § 1 of the Twenty-fifth Amendment. That Amendment as well settles a number of other pressing questions with regard to presidential inability and succession.

Clause 7. The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

COMPENSATION AND EMOLUMENTS

Clause 7 may be advantageously considered in the light of the rulings and learning arising out of parallel provision regarding judicial salaries.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁹E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 53–59, 344 n. 46.

¹⁰⁰Cf. 13 Ops. Atty. Gen. 161 (1869), holding that a specific tax by the United States upon the salary of an officer, to be deducted from the amount which otherwise would by law be payable as such salary, is a diminution of the compensation

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Clause 8. Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

OATH OF OFFICE

What is the time relationship between a President's assumption of office and his taking the oath? Apparently, the former comes first, this answer appearing to be the assumption of the language of the clause. The Second Congress assumed that President Washington took office on March 4, 1789,¹⁰¹ although he did not take the oath until the following April 30.

That the oath the President is required to take might be considered to add anything to the powers of the President, because of his obligation to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution," might appear to be rather a fanciful idea. But in President Jackson's message announcing his veto of the act renewing the Bank of the United States there is language which suggests that the President has the right to refuse to enforce both statutes and judicial decisions on his own independent decision that they were unwarranted by the Constitution.¹⁰² The idea next turned up in a message by President Lincoln justifying his suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* without obtaining congressional authorization.¹⁰³ And counsel to President Johnson during his impeachment trial adverted to the theory but only in passing.¹⁰⁴ Beyond these isolated instances, it does not appear to be seriously contended that the oath adds anything to the President's powers.

SECTION 2. Clause 1. The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Serv-

to be paid to him which, in the case of the President, would be unconstitutional if the act of Congress levying the tax was passed during his official term.

¹⁰¹ Act of March 1, 1792, 1 Stat. 239, § 12.

¹⁰² 2 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 576. Chief Justice Taney, who as a member of Jackson's Cabinet had drafted the message, later repudiated this possible reading of the message. 2 C. WARREN, *THE SUPREME COURT IN UNITED STATES HISTORY* (New York: 1926), 223-224.

¹⁰³ 6 J. Richardson, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 25.

¹⁰⁴ 2 TRIAL OF ANDREW JOHNSON (Washington: 1868), 200, 293, 296.

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ice of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Office, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Development of the Concept

Surprisingly little discussion of the Commander-in-Chief clause is found in the Convention or in the ratifying debates. From the evidence available, it appears that the Framers vested the duty in the President because experience in the Continental Congress had disclosed the inexpediency of vesting command in a group and because the lesson of English history was that danger lurked in vesting command in a person separate from the responsible political leaders.¹⁰⁵ But the principal concern here is the nature of the power granted by the clause.

The Limited View.—The purely military aspects of the Commander-in-Chiefship were those that were originally stressed. Hamilton said the office “would amount to nothing more than the supreme command and direction of the Military and naval forces, as first general and admiral of the confederacy.”¹⁰⁶ Story wrote in his COMMENTARIES: “The propriety of admitting the president to be commander in chief, so far as to give orders, and have a general superintendency, was admitted. But it was urged, that it would be dangerous to let him command in person, without any restraint, as he might make a bad use of it. The consent of both houses of Congress ought, therefore, to be required, before he should take the actual command. The answer then given was, that though the president might, there was no necessity that he should, take the com-

¹⁰⁵ May, *The President Shall Be Commander in Chief*, in E. MAY (ed.), *THE ULTIMATE DECISION—THE PRESIDENT AS COMMANDER IN CHIEF* (New York: 1960), 1. In the Virginia ratifying convention, Madison, replying to Patrick Henry’s objection that danger lurked in giving the President control of the military, said: “Would the honorable member say that the sword ought to be put in the hands of the representatives of the people, or in other hands independent of the government altogether?” 3 J. ELLIOT, *THE DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON THE ADOPTION OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION* (Washington: 1836), 393. In the North Carolina convention, Iredell said: “From the nature of the thing, the command of armies ought to be delegated to one person only. The secrecy, dispatch, and decision, which are necessary in military operations can only be expected from one person.” 4 *id.*, 107.

¹⁰⁶ *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 69 (J. Cooke ed., 1961), 465.

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mand in person; and there was no probability that he would do so, except in extraordinary emergencies, and when he was possessed of superior military talents.”¹⁰⁷ In 1850, Chief Justice Taney, for the Court, said: “His duty and his power are purely military. As commander-in-chief, he is authorized to direct the movements of the naval and military forces placed by law at his command, and to employ them in the manner he may deem most effectual to harass and conquer and subdue the enemy. He may invade the hostile country, and subject it to the sovereignty and authority of the United States. But his conquests do not enlarge the boundaries of this Union, nor extend the operation of our institutions and laws beyond the limits before assigned to them by the legislative power.

“. . . But in the distribution of political power between the great departments of government, there is such a wide difference between the power conferred on the President of the United States, and the authority and sovereignty which belong to the English crown, that it would be altogether unsafe to reason from any supposed resemblance between them, either as regards conquest in war, or any other subject where the rights and powers of the executive arm of the government are brought into question.”¹⁰⁸ Even after the Civil War, a powerful minority of the Court described the role of President as Commander-in-Chief simply as “the command of the forces and the conduct of campaigns.”¹⁰⁹

The Prize Cases.—The basis for a broader conception was laid in certain early acts of Congress authorizing the President to employ military force in the execution of the laws.¹¹⁰ In his famous message to Congress of July 4, 1861,¹¹¹ Lincoln advanced the claim that the “war power” was his for the purpose of suppressing rebellion, and in the *Prize Cases*¹¹² of 1863 a divided Court sustained this theory. The immediate issue was the validity of the blockade which the President, following the attack on Fort Sumter, had proclaimed of the Southern ports.¹¹³ The argument was advanced that a blockade to be valid must be an incident of a “public war” validly declared, and that only Congress could, by virtue of its power “to declare war,” constitutionally impart to a military situa-

¹⁰⁷ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1486.

¹⁰⁸ *Fleming v. Page*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 603, 615, 618 (1850).

¹⁰⁹ *Ex parte Milligan*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2, 139 (1866).

¹¹⁰ 1 Stat. 424 (1795); 2 Stat. 443 (1807), now 10 U.S.C. §§ 331–334. See also *Martin v. Mott*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 19, 32–33 (1827), asserting the finality of the President’s judgment of the existence of a state of facts requiring his exercise of the powers conferred by the act of 1795.

¹¹¹ 7 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 3221, 3232.

¹¹² Bl. (67 U.S.) 635 (1863).

¹¹³ 7 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 3215, 3216, 3481.

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tion this character and scope. Speaking for the majority of the Court, Justice Grier answered: "If a war be made by invasion of a foreign nation, the President is not only authorized but bound to resist force by force. He does not initiate the war, but is bound to accept the challenge without waiting for any special legislative authority. And whether the hostile party be a foreign invader, or States organized in rebellion, it is none the less a war, although the declaration of it be '*unilateral*.' Lord Stowell (1 Dodson, 247) observes, 'It is not the less a war on *that account*, for war may exist without a declaration on either side. It is so laid down by the best writers of the law of nations. A declaration of war by one country only is not a mere challenge to be accepted or refused at pleasure by the other.'

"The battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma had been fought before the passage of the act of Congress of May 13, 1846, which recognized '*a state of war as existing by the act of the Republic of Mexico*.' This act not only provided for the future prosecution of the war, but was itself a vindication and ratification of the Act of the President in accepting the challenge without a previous formal declaration of war by Congress.

"This greatest of civil wars was not gradually developed by popular commotion, tumultuous assemblies, or local unorganized insurrections. However long may have been its previous conception, it nevertheless sprung forth suddenly from the parent brain, a Minerva in the full panoply of *war*. The President was bound to meet it in the shape it presented itself, without waiting for Congress to baptize it with a name; and no name given to it by him or them could change the fact.

". . . Whether the President in fulfilling his duties, as Commander-in-Chief, in suppressing an insurrection, has met with such armed hostile resistance, and a civil war of such alarming proportions as will compel him to accord to them the character of belligerents, is a question to be decided by him, and this Court must be governed by the decisions and acts of the political department of the Government to which this power was entrusted. 'He must determine what degree of force the crisis demands.' The proclamation of blockade is itself official and conclusive evidence to the Court that a state of war existed which demanded and authorized a recourse to such a measure, under the circumstances peculiar to the case."¹¹⁴

Impact of the Prize Cases on World Wars I and II.—In brief, the powers claimable for the President under the Com-

¹¹⁴Id., 2 Bl. (67 U.S.), 668-670.

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mander-in-Chief clause at a time of wide-spread insurrection were equated with his powers under the clause at a time when the United States is engaged in a formally declared foreign war.¹¹⁵ And since Lincoln performed various acts especially in the early months of the Civil War which, like increasing the Army and Navy, admittedly fell within the constitutional provinces of Congress, it seems to have been assumed during World War I and II that the Commander-in-Chiefship carried with it the power to exercise like powers practically at discretion, not merely in wartime but even at a time when war became a strong possibility. No attention was given the fact that Lincoln had asked Congress to ratify and confirm his acts, which Congress promptly did,¹¹⁶ with the exception of his suspension of the *habeas corpus* privilege which was regarded by many as attributable to the President in the situation then existing, by virtue of his duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed.¹¹⁷ Nor was this the only respect in which war or the approach of war was deemed to operate to enlarge the scope of power claimable by the President as Commander-in-Chief in wartime.¹¹⁸

Presidential Theory of the Commander-in-Chiefship in World War II—And Beyond

In his message of September 7, 1942, to Congress, in which he demanded that Congress forthwith repeal certain provisions of the Emergency Price Control Act of the previous January 30th,¹¹⁹ President Roosevelt formulated his conception of his powers as “Commander in Chief in wartime” as follows:

“I ask the Congress to take this action by the first of October. Inaction on your part by that date will leave me with an inescap-

¹¹⁵ See generally, E. CORWIN, *TOTAL WAR AND THE CONSTITUTION* (New York: 1946).

¹¹⁶ 12 Stat. 326 (1861).

¹¹⁷ J. RANDALL, *CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS UNDER LINCOLN* (Urbana: rev. ed. 1951), 118–139.

¹¹⁸ E.g., Attorney General Biddle's justification of seizure of a plant during World War II: “As Chief Executive and as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, the President possesses an aggregate of powers that are derived from the Constitution and from various statutes enacted by the Congress for the purpose of carrying on the war. . . . In time of war when the existence of the nation is at stake, this aggregate of powers includes authority to take reasonable steps to prevent nation-wide labor disturbances that threaten to interfere seriously with the conduct of the war. The fact that the initial impact of these disturbances is on the production or distribution of essential civilian goods is not a reason for denying the Chief Executive and the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy the power to take steps to protect the nation's war effort.” 40 Ops. Atty. Gen. 312, 319–320 (1944). Prior to the actual beginning of hostilities, Attorney General Jackson asserted the same justification upon seizure of an aviation plant. E. CORWIN, *TOTAL WAR AND THE CONSTITUTION* (New York: 1946), 47–48.

¹¹⁹ 56 Stat. 23 (1942).

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able responsibility to the people of this country to see to it that the war effort is no longer imperiled by threat of economic chaos.

“In the event that the Congress should fail to act, and act adequately, I shall accept the responsibility, and I will act.

“At the same time that farm prices are stabilized, wages can and will be stabilized also. This I will do.

“The President has the powers, under the Constitution and under Congressional acts, to take measures necessary to avert a disaster which would interfere with the winning of the war.

“I have given the most thoughtful consideration to meeting this issue without further reference to the Congress. I have determined, however, on this vital matter to consult with the Congress. . . .

“The American people can be sure that I will use my powers with a full sense of my responsibility to the Constitution and to my country. The American people can also be sure that I shall not hesitate to use every power vested in me to accomplish the defeat of our enemies in any part of the world where our own safety demands such defeat.

“When the war is won, the powers under which I act automatically revert to the people—to whom they belong.”¹²⁰

Presidential War Agencies.—While congressional compliance with the President’s demand rendered unnecessary an effort on his part to amend the Price Control Act, there were other matters as to which he repeatedly took action within the normal field of congressional powers, not only during the war, but in some instances prior to it. Thus, in exercising both the powers which he claimed as Commander-in-Chief and those which Congress conferred upon him to meet the emergency, Mr. Roosevelt employed new emergency agencies, created by himself and responsible directly to him, rather than the established departments or existing independent regulatory agencies.¹²¹

Constitutional Status of Presidential Agencies.—The question of the legal status of the presidential agencies was dealt with judicially but once. This was in the decision of the United States Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia in *Employers Group v. National War Labor Board*,¹²² which was a suit to annul and enjoin a “directive order” of the War Labor Board. The Court

¹²⁰ 88 CONG. REC. 7044 (1942). Congress promptly complied, 56 Stat. 765 (1942), so that the President was not required to act on his own. But see E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 65–66.

¹²¹ For a listing of the agencies and an account of their creation to the close of 1942, see Vanderbilt, *War Powers and Their Administration*, in 1942 Annual Survey of American Law (New York Univ.), 106.

¹²² 143 F.2d 145 (D.C.Cir. 1944).

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refused the injunction on the ground that at the time when the directive was issued any action of the Board was “informatory,” “at most advisory.” In support of this view the Court quoted approvingly a statement by the chairman of the Board itself: “These orders are in reality mere declarations of the equities of each industrial dispute, as determined by a tripartite body in which industry, labor, and the public share equal responsibility; and the appeal of the Board is to the moral obligation of employers and workers to abide by the nonstrike, no-lock-out agreement and . . . to carry out the directives of the tribunal created under that agreement by the Commander in Chief.”¹²³ Nor, the Court continued, had the later War Labor Disputes Act vested War Labor Board orders with any greater authority, with the result that they were still judicially unenforceable and unreviewable. Following this theory, the War Labor Board was not an office wielding power, but a purely advisory body, such as Presidents have frequently created in the past without the aid or consent of Congress. Congress itself, nevertheless, both in its appropriation acts and in other legislation, treated the presidential agencies as in all respects offices.¹²⁴

Evacuation of the West Coast Japanese.—On February 19, 1942, President Roosevelt issued an executive order, “by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy,” providing, as a safeguard against subversion and sabotage, power for his military commanders to designate areas from which “any person” could be excluded or removed and to set up facilities for such persons elsewhere.¹²⁵ Pursuant to this order, more than 112,000 residents of the Western States, all of Japanese descent and more than two out of every three of whom were natural-born citizens, were removed from their homes and herded into temporary camps and later into “relocation centers” in several States.

It was apparently the original intention of the Administration to rest its measures concerning this matter on the general principle of military necessity and the power of the Commander-in-Chief in wartime. But before any action of importance was taken under the order, Congress ratified and adopted it by the Act of March 21, 1942,¹²⁶ by which it was made a misdemeanor to knowingly enter, remain in, or leave prescribed military areas contrary to the orders of the Secretary of War or of the commanding officer of the area. The cases which subsequently arose in consequence of the order

¹²³ *Id.*, 149.

¹²⁴ E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 244, 245, 459.

¹²⁵ E.O. 9066, 7 FED. REG. 1407 (1942).

¹²⁶ 56 Stat. 173 (1942).

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were decided under the order plus the Act. The question at issue, said Chief Justice Stone for the Court, “is not one of Congressional power to delegate to the President the promulgation of the Executive Order, but whether, acting in cooperation, Congress and the Executive have constitutional . . . [power] to impose the curfew restriction here complained of.”¹²⁷ This question was answered in the affirmative, as was the similar question later raised by an exclusion order.¹²⁸

Presidential Government of Labor Regulations.—The most important segment of the home front regulated by what were in effect presidential edicts was the field of labor relations. Exactly six months before Pearl Harbor, on June 7, 1941, Mr. Roosevelt, citing his proclamation thirteen days earlier of an unlimited national emergency, issued an Executive Order seizing the North American Aviation Plant at Inglewood, California, where, on account of a strike, production was at a standstill.¹²⁹ Attorney General Jackson justified the seizure as growing out of the “duty constitutionally and inherently rested upon the President to exert his civil and military as well as his moral authority to keep the defense efforts of the United States a going concern,” as well as “to obtain supplies for which Congress has appropriated the money, and which it has directed the President to obtain.”¹³⁰ Other seizures followed, and on January 12, 1942, Mr. Roosevelt, by Executive Order 9017, created the National War Labor Board. “Whereas,” the order read in part, “by reason of the state of war declared to exist by joint resolutions of Congress, . . . the national interest demands that there shall be no interruption of any work which contributes to the effective prosecution of the war; and Whereas as a result of a conference of representatives of labor and industry which met at the call of the President on December 17, 1941, it has been agreed that for the duration of the war there shall be no strikes or lockouts, and that all labor disputes shall be settled by peaceful means, and

¹²⁷ *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 320 U.S. 81, 91–92 (1943).

¹²⁸ *Korematsu v. United States*, 323 U.S. 214 (1944). Long afterward, in 1984, a federal court granted a writ of *coram nobis* and overturned *Korematsu's* conviction, *Korematsu v. United States*, 584 F.Supp. 1406 (N.D.Calif. 1984), and in 1986, a federal court vacated *Hirabayashi's* conviction for failing to register for evacuation but let stand the conviction for curfew violations. *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 627 F.Supp. 1445 (W.D.Wash. 1986). Other cases were pending, but Congress then implemented the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians by acknowledging “the fundamental injustice of the evacuation, relocation and internment,” and apologizing on behalf of the people of the United States. P. L. 100–383, 102 Stat. 903, 50 U.S.C. App. §1989 *et seq.* Reparations were approved, and each living survivor of the internment was to be compensated in an amount roughly approximating \$20,000.

¹²⁹ E.O. 8773, 6 FED. REG. 2777 (1941).

¹³⁰ E. CORWIN, *TOTAL WAR AND THE CONSTITUTION* (New York: 1946), 47–48.

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that a National War Labor Board be established for a peaceful adjustment of such disputes. Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the statutes of the United States, it is hereby ordered: 1. There is hereby created in the Office for Emergency Management a National War Labor Board. . . ."¹³¹ In this field, too, Congress intervened by means of the War Labor Disputes Act of June 25, 1943,¹³² which, however, still left ample basis for presidential activity of a legislative character.¹³³

Sanctions Implementing Presidential Directives.—To implement his directives as Commander-in-Chief in wartime, and especially those which he issued in governing labor disputes, President Roosevelt often resorted to "sanctions," which may be described as penalties lacking statutory authorization. Ultimately, the President sought to put sanctions in this field on a systematic basis. The order empowered the Director of Economic Stabilization, on receiving a report from the National War Labor Board that someone was not complying with its orders, to issue "directives" to the appropriate department or agency requiring that privileges, benefits, rights, or preferences enjoyed by the noncomplying party be withdrawn.¹³⁴

Sanctions were also occasionally employed by statutory agencies, such as OPA, to supplement the penal provisions of the Emergency Price Control Act of January 30, 1942.¹³⁵ In the case of *Stewart & Bro. v. Bowles*,¹³⁶ the Supreme Court had the opportunity to regularize this type of executive emergency legislation. Here, a retail dealer in fuel oil was charged with having violated a rationing order of OPA by obtaining large quantities of oil from its supplier without surrendering ration coupons, by delivering many thousands of gallons of fuel oil without requiring ration coupons, and so on, and was prohibited by the agency from receiving oil for resale or transfer for the ensuing year. The offender conceded the validity of the rationing order in support of which the suspension order was issued but challenged the validity of the latter as imposing a penalty that Congress had not enacted and asked the district court to enjoin it.

The court refused to do so and was sustained by the Supreme Court in its position. Said Justice Douglas, speaking for the Court: "Without rationing, the fuel tanks of a few would be full; the fuel

¹³¹ 7 FED. REG. 237 (1942).

¹³² 57 Stat. 163 (1943).

¹³³ See Vanderbilt, *War Powers and their Administration*, 1945 Annual Survey of American Law (N.Y. Univ.), 254, 271-273.

¹³⁴ E.O. 9370, 8 FED. REG. 11463 (1943).

¹³⁵ 56 Stat. 23 (1942).

¹³⁶ 322 U.S. 398 (1944).

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tanks of many would be empty. Some localities would have plenty; communities less favorably situated would suffer. Allocation or rationing is designed to eliminate such inequalities and to treat all alike who are similarly situated. . . . But middlemen—wholesalers and retailers—bent on defying the rationing system could raise havoc with it. . . . These middlemen are the chief if not the only conduits between the source of limited supplies and the consumers. From the viewpoint of a rationing system a middleman who distributes the product in violation and disregard of the prescribed quotas is an inefficient and wasteful conduit. . . . Certainly we could not say that the President would lack the power under this Act to take away from a wasteful factory and route to an efficient one a previous supply of material needed for the manufacture of articles of war. . . . From the point of view of the factory owner from whom the materials were diverted the action would be harsh. . . . But in time of war the national interest cannot wait on individual claims to preference. Yet if the President has the power to channel raw materials into the most efficient industrial units and thus save scarce materials from wastage it is difficult to see why the same principle is not applicable to the distribution of fuel oil.”¹³⁷ Sanctions were, therefore, constitutional when the deprivations they wrought were a reasonably implied amplification of the substantive power which they supported and were directly conservative of the interests which this power was created to protect and advance. It is certain, however, that sanctions not uncommonly exceeded this pattern.¹³⁸

The Postwar Period.—The end of active hostilities did not terminate either the emergency or the federal-governmental response to it. President Truman proclaimed the termination of hostilities on December 31, 1946,¹³⁹ and Congress enacted a joint resolution which repealed a great variety of wartime statutes and set termination dates for others in July, 1947.¹⁴⁰ Signing the resolution, the President said that the emergencies declared in 1939 and 1940 continued to exist and that it was “not possible at this time to provide for terminating all war and emergency powers.”¹⁴¹ The hot war was giving way to the Cold War.

Congress thereafter enacted a new Housing and Rent Act to continue the controls begun in 1942¹⁴² and continued the draft.¹⁴³

¹³⁷ Id., 404–405.

¹³⁸ E. CORWIN, op. cit., n. 44, 249–250.

¹³⁹ Proc. 2714, 12 FED. REG. 1 (1947).

¹⁴⁰ S.J. Res. 123, 61 Stat. 449 (1947).

¹⁴¹ Woods v. Cloyd W. Miller Co., 333 U.S. 138, 140 n.3 (1948).

¹⁴² 61 Stat. 193 (1947).

¹⁴³ 62 Stat. 604 (1948).

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With the outbreak of the Korean War, legislation was enacted establishing general presidential control over the economy again¹⁴⁴ and by executive order the President created agencies to exercise the power.¹⁴⁵ The Court continued to assume the existence of a state of wartime emergency prior to Korea but with misgivings. In *Woods v. Cloyd W. Miller Co.*,¹⁴⁶ the Court held constitutional the new rent control law on the ground that cessation of hostilities did not conclude the Government's powers but that the power continued to remedy the evil arising out of the emergency. Yet for the Court, Justice Douglas noted: "We recognize the force of the argument that the effects of war under modern conditions may be felt in the economy for years and years, and that if the war power can be used in days of peace to treat all the wounds which war inflicts on our society, it may not only swallow up all other powers of Congress but largely obliterate the Ninth and Tenth Amendments as well. There are no such implications in today's decision."¹⁴⁷ Justice Jackson, while concurring, noted that he found the war power "the most dangerous one to free government in the whole catalogue of powers" and cautioned that its exercise should "be scrutinized with care."¹⁴⁸ And in *Ludecke v. Watkins*,¹⁴⁹ four Justices were prepared to hold that the presumption in the statute under review of continued war with Germany was fiction and not to be utilized.

But the postwar was a time of reaction against the wartime exercise of power by President Roosevelt, and President Truman was not permitted the same liberties. The Twenty-second Amendment writing into permanent law the two-term custom, the "Great Debate" about our participation in NATO, the attempt to limit the treaty-making power, and other actions, bespoke the reaction.¹⁵⁰ The Supreme Court signaled this reaction when it struck down the President's action in seizing the steel industry while it was struck during the Korean War.¹⁵¹

Nonetheless, the long period of the Cold War and of active hostilities in Korea and Indochina, in addition to the issue of the use of troops in the absence of congressional authorization, further created conditions for consolidation of powers in the President. In particular, a string of declarations of national emergencies, most

¹⁴⁴ Defense Production Act of 1950, 64 Stat. 798.

¹⁴⁵ E.O. 10161, 15 FED. REG. 6105 (1950).

¹⁴⁶ 333 U.S. 138 (1948).

¹⁴⁷ *Id.*, 143–144.

¹⁴⁸ *Id.*, 146–147.

¹⁴⁹ 335 U.S. 160 (1948).

¹⁵⁰ See A. KELLY & W. HARBISON, *THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION—ITS ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT* (New York: 4th ed. 1970), ch. 31.

¹⁵¹ *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579 (1952).

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under, in whole or partially, the Trading with the Enemy Act,¹⁵² undergirded the exercise of much presidential power. In the storm of response to the Vietnamese conflict, here, too, Congress reasserted legislative power to curtail what it viewed as excessive executive power, repealing the Trading with the Enemy Act and enacting in its place the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA),¹⁵³ which did not alter most of the range of powers delegated to the President but which did change the scope of the power delegated to declare national emergencies.¹⁵⁴ Congress also passed the National Emergencies Act, prescribing procedures for the declaration of national emergencies, for their termination, and for presidential reporting to Congress in connection with national emergencies. To end the practice of declaring national emergencies for an indefinite duration, Congress provided that any emergency not otherwise terminated would expire one year after its declaration unless the President published in the Federal Register and transmitted to Congress a notice that the emergency would continue in effect.¹⁵⁵ Whether the balance of power between President and Congress shifted at all is not really a debatable question.

The Cold War and After: Presidential Power To Use Troops Overseas Without Congressional Authorization

Reaction after World War II did not persist, soon running its course, and the necessities, real and only perceived as such, of the United States role as world power and chief guarantor of the peace operated to expand the powers of the President and to diminish congressional powers in the foreign relations arena. President Truman did not seek congressional authorization before sending troops to Korea and subsequent Presidents similarly acted on their own in putting troops into many foreign countries, the Dominican Republic, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, and the Persian Gulf, among them, as well as most notably into Indochina.¹⁵⁶ Eventually, public opposition precipitated another constitutional debate whether the President had the authority to commit troops to foreign combat without the approval of Congress, a debate which went on inconclu-

¹⁵² § 301(1), 55 Stat. 838, 839–840 (1941).

¹⁵³ 91 Stat. 1626, 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701–1706.

¹⁵⁴ Congress authorized the declaration of a national emergency based only on “any unusual and extraordinary threat, which has its source in whole or substantial part outside the United States, to the national security, foreign policy, or the economy of the United States. . . .” 50 U.S.C. § 1701.

¹⁵⁵ P. L. 94–412, 90 Stat. 1255 (1976).

¹⁵⁶ See the discussion in *National Commitments Resolution*, Report of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, S. Rept. No. 91–129, 91st Congress, 1st sess. (1969); *U.S. Commitments to Foreign Powers*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 90th Congress, 1st sess. (1967), 16–19 (Professor Bartlett).

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sively between Congress and Executive¹⁵⁷ and one which the courts were content generally to consign to the exclusive consideration of those two bodies. The substance of the debate concerns many facets of the President's powers and responsibilities—from his obligation to protect the lives and property of United States citizens abroad, to execute the treaty obligations of the Nation, to further the national security interests of the Nation, and to deal with aggression and threats of aggression as they confront him. Defying neat summarization, the considerations nevertheless merit at least an historical survey and an attempted categorization of the arguments.

The Historic Use of Force Abroad.—In 1912, the Department of State published a memorandum prepared by its Solicitor which set out to justify the *Right to Protect Citizens in Foreign Countries by Landing Forces.*¹⁵⁸ In addition to the justification, the memorandum summarized 47 instances in which force had been used, in most of them without any congressional authorization. Twice revised and reissued, the memorandum was joined by a 1928 independent study and a 1945 work by a former government official in supporting conclusions which drifted away from the original justification of the use of United States forces abroad to the use of such forces at the discretion of the President and free from control by Congress.¹⁵⁹

New lists and revised arguments were published to support the actions of President Truman in sending troops to Korea and Presidents Kennedy and Johnson in sending troops first to Vietnam and then to Indochina generally,¹⁶⁰ and new lists have been pro-

¹⁵⁷ See under Article I, § 8, cls. 11–14.

¹⁵⁸ J. Clark, Memorandum by the Solicitor for the Department of State, *Right to Protect Citizens in Foreign Countries by Landing Forces* (Washington: 1912).

¹⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, (Washington: 1929; 1934); M. OFFUTT, *THE PROTECTION OF CITIZENS ABROAD BY THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES* (Baltimore: 1928); J. ROGERS, *WORLD POLICING AND THE CONSTITUTION* (Boston: 1945). The burden of the last cited volume was to establish that the President was empowered to participate in United Nations peacekeeping actions without having to seek congressional authorization on each occasion; it may be said to be one of the earliest, if not the earliest, propounding of the doctrine of inherent presidential powers to use troops abroad outside the narrow compass traditionally accorded those powers.

¹⁶⁰ E.g., H. Rept. No. 127, 82d Congress, 1st sess. (1951), 55–62; Corwin, *Who Has the Power to Make War?* *New York Times Magazine* (July 31, 1949), 11; *Authority of the President to Repel the Attack in Korea*, 23 Dept. State Bull. 173 (1950); Department of State, Historical Studies Division, *Armed Actions Taken by the United States Without a Declaration of War, 1789–1967* (Res. Proj. No. 806A (Washington: 1967)). That the compilation of such lists was more than a defense against public criticism can be gleaned from a revealing discussion in Secretary of State Acheson's memoirs detailing why the President did not seek congressional sanction for sending troops to Korea. "There has never, I believe, been any serious doubt—in the sense of non-politically inspired doubt—of the President's constitutional authority to do what he did. The basis for this conclusion in legal theory and historical precedent

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pounded.¹⁶¹ The great majority of the instances cited involved fights with pirates, landings of small naval contingents on barbarous or semibarbarous coasts to protect commerce, the dispatch of small bodies of troops to chase bandits across the Mexican border, and the like, and some incidents supposedly without authorization from Congress did in fact have underlying statutory or other legislation authorization. Some instances, President Polk's use of troops to precipitate war with Mexico in 1846, President Grant's attempt to annex the Dominican Republic, President McKinley's dispatch of troops into China during the Boxer Rebellion, involved considerable exercises of presidential power, but in general purposes were limited and congressional authority was sought for the use of troops against a sovereign state or in such a way as to constitute war. The early years of this century saw the expansion in the Caribbean and Latin America both of the use of troops for the furthering of what was perceived to be our national interests and of the power of the President to deploy the military force of the United States without congressional authorization.¹⁶²

The pre-war actions of Presidents Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt advanced in substantial degrees the fact of presidential initiative, although the theory did not begin to catch up with the fact

was fully set out in the State Department's memorandum of July 3, 1950, extensively published. But the wisdom of the decision not to ask for congressional approval has been doubted. . . ."

After discussing several reasons establishing the wisdom of the decision, the Secretary continued: "The President agreed, moved also, I think, by another passionately held conviction. His great office was to him a sacred and temporary trust, which he was determined to pass on unimpaired by the slightest loss of power or prestige. This attitude would incline him strongly against any attempt to divert criticism from himself by action that might establish a precedent in derogation of presidential power to send our forces into battle. The memorandum that we prepared listed eighty-seven instances in the past century in which his predecessors had done this. And thus yet another decision was made." D. ACHESON, *PRESENT AT THE CREATION* (New York: 1969), 414, 415.

¹⁶¹ *War Powers Legislation*, Hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, 92d Congress, 1st sess. (1971), 347, 354–355, 359–379 (Senator Goldwater); Emerson, *War Powers Legislation*, 74 W. Va. L. Rev. 53 (1972). The most complete list as of the time prepared is Collier, *Instances of Use of United States Armed Forces Abroad, 1798–1989*, Cong. Res. Serv. (1989), which was cited for its numerical total in *United States v. Verdugo-Urquidez*, 494 U.S. 259, 273 (1990). For an effort to reconstruct the process of development and continuation of the listings, see F. WORMUTH & E. FIRMAGE, *TO CHAIN THE DOG OF WAR: THE WAR POWER OF CONGRESS IN HISTORY AND LAW* (New York: 2d ed. 1989), 142–145.

¹⁶² Of course, considerable debate continues with respect to the meaning of the historical record. For reflections of the narrow reading, see *National Commitments Resolution*, Report of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, S. Rept. No. 91–129, 1st sess. (1969); J. ELY, *WAR AND RESPONSIBILITY: CONSTITUTIONAL LESSONS OF VIETNAM AND ITS AFTERMATH* (Princeton: 1993). On the broader reading and finding great presidential power, see A. SOFAER, *WAR, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND CONSTITUTIONAL POWER: THE ORIGINS* (New York: 1976); Emerson, *Making War Without a Declaration*, 17 J. Legis. 23 (1990).

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until the “Great Debate” over the commitment of troops by the United States to Europe under the Atlantic Pact. While congressional authorization was obtained, that debate, the debate over the United Nations charter, and the debate over Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949, declaring that “armed attack” against one signatory was to be considered as “an attack” against all signatories, provided for the occasion of the formulation of a theory of independent presidential power to use the armed forces in the national interest at his discretion.¹⁶³ Thus, Secretary of State Acheson told Congress: “Not only has the President the authority to use the armed forces in carrying out the broad foreign policy of the United States implementing treaties, but it is equally clear that this authority may not be interfered with by the Congress in the exercise of powers which it has under the Constitution.”¹⁶⁴

The Theory of Presidential Power.—The fullest expression of the presidential power proponents has been in defense of the course followed in Indochina. Thus, the Legal Adviser of the State Department, in a widely circulated document, contended: “Under the Constitution, the President, in addition to being Chief Executive, is Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy. He holds the prime responsibility for the conduct of United States foreign relations. These duties carry very broad powers, including the power to deploy American forces abroad and commit them to military operations when the President deems such action necessary to maintain the security and defense of the United States. . . .”

“In 1787 the world was a far larger place, and the framers probably had in mind attacks upon the United States. In the 20th century, the world has grown much smaller. An attack on a country far from our shores can impinge directly on the nation’s security. In the SEATO treaty, for example, it is formally declared that an armed attack against Viet Nam would endanger the peace and security of the United States.

¹⁶³ For some popular defenses of presidential power during the “Great Debate,” see Corwin, *Who Has the Power to Make War?* *New York Times Magazine* (July 31, 1949), 11; Commager, *Presidential Power: The Issue Analyzed*, *New York Times Magazine* (January 14, 1951), 11. Cf. Douglas, *The Constitutional and Legal Basis for the President’s Action in Using Armed Forces to Repel the Invasion of South Korea*, 96 CONG. REC. 9647 (1950). President Truman and Secretary Acheson utilized the argument from the U. N. Charter in defending the United States actions in Korea, and the Charter defense has been made much of since. See, e.g., Stromseth, *Rethinking War Powers: Congress, the President, and the United Nations*, 81 *Geo. L. J.* 597 (1993).

¹⁶⁴ *Assignment of Ground Forces of the United States to Duty in the European Area*, Hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees, 82d Congress, 1st sess. (1951), 92.

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“Under our Constitution it is the President who must decide when an armed attack has occurred. He has also the constitutional responsibility for determining what measures of defense are required when the peace and safety of the United States are endangered. If he considers that deployment of U.S. forces to South Viet Nam is required, and that military measures against the source of Communist aggression in North Viet Nam are necessary, he is constitutionally empowered to take those measures.”¹⁶⁵

Opponents of such expanded presidential powers have contended, however, that the authority to initiate war was not divided between the Executive and Congress but was vested exclusively in Congress. The President had the duty and the power to repeal sudden attacks and act in other emergencies, and in his role as Commander-in-Chief he was empowered to direct the armed forces for any purpose specified by Congress.¹⁶⁶ Though Congress asserted itself in some respects, it never really managed to confront the President’s power with any sort of effective limitation, until recently.

The Power of Congress to Control the President’s Discretion.—Over the President’s veto, Congress enacted the War Powers Resolution,¹⁶⁷ designed to redistribute the war powers between the President and Congress. Although ambiguous in some respects, the Resolution appears to define restrictively the President’s powers, to

¹⁶⁵ Meeker, *The Legality of United States Participation in the Defense of Viet Nam*, 54 Dept. State Bull. 474, 484–485 (1966). See also Moore, *The National Executive and the Use of the Armed Forces Abroad*, 21 Naval War College Rev. 28 (1969); Wright, *The Power of the Executive to Use Military Forces Abroad*, 10 Va. J. Int. L. 43 (1969); *Documents Relating to the War Powers of Congress, The President’s Authority as Commander-in-Chief and the War in Indochina*, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 91st Congress, 2d sess. (Comm. Print) (1970), 1 (Under Secretary of State Katzenbach), 90 (J. Stevenson, Legal Adviser, Department of State), 120 (Professor Moore), 175 (Assistant Attorney General Rehnquist).

¹⁶⁶ E.g., F. WORMUTH & E. FIRMAGE, *TO CHAIN THE DOG OF WAR: THE WAR POWER OF CONGRESS IN HISTORY AND LAW* (New York: 1986); J. ELY, *WAR AND RESPONSIBILITY: CONSTITUTIONAL LESSONS OF VIETNAM AND ITS AFTERMATH* (Princeton: 1993); *U.S. Commitments to Foreign Powers*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 90th Congress, 1st sess. (1967), 9 (Professor Bartlett); *War Powers Legislation*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 92d Cong., 1st sess. (1971), 7 (Professor Commager), 75 (Professor Morris), 251 (Professor Mason).

¹⁶⁷ P.L. 93–148, 87 Stat. 555, 50 U.S.C. §§ 1541–1548. For the congressional intent and explanation, see H. Rept. No. 93–287, S. Rept. No. 93–220, and H. Rept. No. 93–547 (Conference Report), all 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973). The President’s veto message is H. Doc. No. 93–171, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973). All this material is collected in *The War Powers Resolution—Relevant Documents, Reports, Correspondence*, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, 103d Cong., 2d sess. (Comm. Print) (GPO: 1994), 1–46. For a narrative account of passage and an assessment of the disputed compliance to date, from the congressional point of view, see *The War Powers Resolution, A Special Study of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, 102d Cong., 2d sess. (Comm. Print) (GPO: 1982).

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require him to report fully to Congress upon the introduction of troops into foreign areas, to specify a maximum time limitation on the engagement of hostilities absent affirmative congressional action, and to provide a means for Congress to require cessation of hostilities in advance of the time set. The Resolution states that the President's power to commit United States troops into hostilities, or into situations of imminent involvement in hostilities, is limited to instances of (1) a declaration of war, (2) a specific statutory authorization, or (3) a national emergency created by an attack on the United States, its territories or possessions, or its armed forces.¹⁶⁸ In the absence of a declaration of war, a President must within 48 hours report to Congress whenever he introduces troops (1) into hostilities or situations of imminent hostilities, (2) into a foreign nation while equipped for combat, except in certain nonhostile situations, or (3) in numbers which substantially enlarge United States troops equipped for combat already located in a foreign nation.¹⁶⁹ The President is required to terminate the use of troops in the reported situation within 60 days of reporting, unless Congress (1) has declared war, (2) has extended the period, or (3) is unable to meet as a result of an attack on the United States, but the period can be extended another 30 days by the President's certification to Congress of unavoidable military necessity respecting the safety of the troops.¹⁷⁰ Congress may through the passage of a concurrent resolution require the President to remove the troops sooner.¹⁷¹ The Resolution further states that no legislation, whether enacted prior to or subsequent to passage of the Resolution will be taken to empower the President to use troops abroad unless the legislation specifically does so and that no treaty may so empower the President unless it is supplemented by implementing legislation specifically addressed to the issue.¹⁷²

Aside from its use as a rhetorical device, the Resolution has been of little worth in reordering presidential-congressional relations in the years since its enactment. All Presidents operating under it have expressly or implicitly considered it to be an unconstitutional infringement on presidential powers, and on each occasion of use abroad of United States troops the President in reporting to Congress has done so "consistent[ly] with" the reporting sec-

¹⁶⁸ 87 Stat. 554, 2(c), 50 U.S.C. § 1541(c).

¹⁶⁹ *Id.*, § 1543(a).

¹⁷⁰ *Id.*, § 1544(b).

¹⁷¹ *Id.*, § 1544(c). It is the general consensus that, following *INS v. Chadha*, 462 U.S. 919 (1983), this provision of the Resolution is unconstitutional.

¹⁷² *Id.*, 50 U.S.C. § 1547(a).

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tion but not pursuant to the provision.¹⁷³ Upon the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi troops in 1990, President Bush sought not congressional authorization but a United Nations Security Council resolution authorizing the use of force by member Nations. Only at the last moment did the President seek authorization from Congress, he and his officials contending he had the power to act unilaterally.¹⁷⁴ Congress after intensive debate voted, 250 to 183 in the House of Representatives and 53 to 46 in the Senate, to authorize the President to use United States troops pursuant to the U. N. resolution and purporting to bring the act within the context of the War Powers Resolution.¹⁷⁵

Although there is recurrent talk within Congress and without with regard to amending the War Powers Resolution to strengthen it, no consensus has emerged, and there is little evidence that there exists within Congress the resolve to exercise the responsibility concomitant with strengthening it.¹⁷⁶

The President as Commander of the Armed Forces

While the President customarily delegates supreme command of the forces in active service, there is no constitutional reason why he should do so, and he has been known to resolve personally important questions of military policy. Lincoln early in 1862 issued orders for a general advance in the hopes of stimulating McClellan to action; Wilson in 1918 settled the question of an independent American command on the Western Front; Truman in 1945 ordered that the bomb be dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.¹⁷⁷ As against an enemy in the field, the President possesses all the powers which are accorded by international law to any supreme com-

¹⁷³ See the text of the reports in *The War Powers Resolution—Relevant Documents, Reports, Correspondence*, op. cit., n. 167, 47 (Pres. Ford on transport of refugees from Danang), 55 (Pres. Carter on attempted rescue of Iranian hostages), 73 (Pres. Reagan on use of troops in Lebanon), 113 (Pres. Reagan on Grenada), 144 (Pres. Bush on Panama), 147, 149 (Pres. Bush on Persian Gulf), 189 (Pres. Bush on Somalia), 262 (Pres. Clinton on Haiti).

¹⁷⁴ See *Hearings on Crisis in the Persian Gulf Region: U. S. Policy Options and Implications*, Senate Committee on Armed Services, 101st Cong., 2d sess. (1990), 701 (Secretary Chaney) (President did not require "any additional authorization from the Congress" before attacking Iraq). On the day following his request for supporting legislation from Congress, President Bush, in answer to a question about the requested action, stated: "I don't think I need it. . . . I feel that I have the authority to fully implement the United Nations resolutions." 27 WKLY. COMP. PRES. DOC. 25 (Jan. 8, 1991).

¹⁷⁵ P. L. 102-1, 105 Stat. 3.

¹⁷⁶ See, on proposals to amend and on congressional responsibility, J. ELY, *WAR AND RESPONSIBILITY: CONSTITUTIONAL LESSONS OF VIETNAM AND ITS AFTERMATH* (Princeton: 1993).

¹⁷⁷ For a review of how several wartime Presidents have operated in this sphere, see E. MAY (ed.), *THE ULTIMATE DECISION—THE PRESIDENT AS COMMANDER IN CHIEF* (New York: 1960).

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mander. "He may invade the hostile country, and subject it to the sovereignty and authority of the United States."¹⁷⁸ In the absence of attempts by Congress to limit his power, he may establish and prescribe the jurisdiction and procedure of military commissions, and of tribunals in the nature of such commissions, in territory occupied by Armed Forces of the United States, and his authority to do this sometimes survives cessation of hostilities.¹⁷⁹ He may employ secret agents to enter the enemy's lines and obtain information as to its strength, resources, and movements.¹⁸⁰ He may, at least with the assent of Congress, authorize intercourse with the enemy.¹⁸¹ He may also requisition property and compel services from American citizens and friendly aliens who are situated within the theatre of military operations when necessity requires, thereby incurring for the United States the obligation to render "just compensation."¹⁸² By the same warrant, he may bring hostilities to a conclusion by arranging an armistice, stipulating conditions which may determine to a great extent the ensuing peace.¹⁸³ He may not, however, affect a permanent acquisition of territory,¹⁸⁴ though he may govern recently acquired territory until Congress sets up a more permanent regime.¹⁸⁵

He is the ultimate tribunal for the enforcement of the rules and regulations which Congress adopts for the government of the forces, and which are enforced through courts-martial.¹⁸⁶ Indeed, until 1830, courts-martial were convened solely on his authority as Commander-in-Chief.¹⁸⁷ Such rules and regulations are, moreover, it would seem, subject in wartime to his amendment at discretion.¹⁸⁸ Similarly, the power of Congress to "make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces" (Art. I, §8, cl. 14) did not prevent President Lincoln from promulgating in

¹⁷⁸ *Fleming v. Page*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 603, 615 (1850).

¹⁷⁹ *Madsen v. Kinsella*, 343 U.S. 341, 348 (1952). See also *Johnson v. Eisentrager*, 339 U.S. 763, 789 (1950).

¹⁸⁰ *Totten v. United States*, 92 U.S. 105 (1876).

¹⁸¹ *Hamilton v. Dillin*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 73 (1875); *Haver v. Yaker*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 32 (1869).

¹⁸² *Mitchell v. Harmony*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 115 (1852); *United States v. Russell*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 623 (1871); *Totten v. United States*, 92 U.S. 105 (1876); 40 Ops. Atty. Gen. 250, 253 (1942).

¹⁸³ Cf. the Protocol of August 12, 1898, which largely foreshadowed the Peace of Paris, 30 Stat. 1742 and President Wilson's Fourteen Points, which were incorporated in the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

¹⁸⁴ *Fleming v. Page*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 603, 615 (1850).

¹⁸⁵ *Santiago v. Noguera*, 214 U.S. 260 (1909). As to temporarily occupied territory, see *Dooley v. United States*, 182 U.S. 222, 230-231 (1901).

¹⁸⁶ *Swaim v. United States*, 165 U.S. 553 (1897); and cases there reviewed. See also *Givens v. Zerbst*, 255 U.S. 11 (1921).

¹⁸⁷ 15 Ops. Atty. Gen. 297, n; cf. 1 Ops. Atty. Gen. 233, 234, where the contrary view is stated by Attorney General Wirt.

¹⁸⁸ *Ex parte Quirin*, 317 U.S. 1, 28-29 (1942).

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April, 1863, a code of rules to govern the conduct in the field of the armies of the United States which was prepared at his instance by a commission headed by Francis Lieber and which later became the basis of all similar codifications both here and abroad.¹⁸⁹ One important power he lacks, that of choosing his subordinates, whose grades and qualifications are determined by Congress and whose appointment is ordinarily made by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, though undoubtedly Congress could if it wished vest their appointment in “the President alone.”¹⁹⁰ Also, the President’s power to dismiss an officer from the service, once unlimited, is today confined by statute in time of peace to dismissal “in pursuance of the sentence of a general court-martial or in mitigation thereof.”¹⁹¹ But the provision is not regarded by the Court as preventing the President from displacing an officer of the Army or Navy by appointing with the advice and consent of the Senate another person in his place.¹⁹² The President’s power of dismissal in time of war Congress has never attempted to limit.

The Commander-in-Chief a Civilian Officer.—Is the Commander-in-Chiefship a military or civilian office in the contemplation of the Constitution? Unquestionably the latter. An opinion by a New York surrogate deals adequately, though not authoritatively, with the subject: “The President receives his compensation for his services, rendered as Chief Executive of the Nation, not for the individual parts of his duties. No part of his compensation is paid from sums appropriated for the military or naval forces; and it is equally clear under the Constitution that the President’s duties as Commander in Chief represents only a part of duties ex officio as Chief Executive [Article II, sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution] and that the latter’s office is a civil office. [Article II, section 1 of the Constitution; vol. 91, Cong. Rec. 4910–4916; Beard, *The Republic* (1943) pp. 100–103.] The President does not enlist in, and he is not inducted or drafted into, the armed forces. Nor, is he subject to court-martial or other military discipline. On the contrary, Article II, section 4 of the Constitution provides that ‘The President, [Vice President] and All Civil Officers of the United States shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of Treason, Bribery or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.’ . . . The last two War Presidents, President Wilson and President Roosevelt,

¹⁸⁹ General Orders, No. 100, Official Records, War Rebellion, ser. III, vol. III; April 24, 1863.

¹⁹⁰ See, e.g., *Mimmack v. United States*, 97 U.S. 426, 437 (1878); *United States v. Corson*, 114 U.S. 619 (1885).

¹⁹¹ 10 U.S.C. § 804.

¹⁹² *Mullan v. United States*, 140 U.S. 240 (1891); *Wallace v. United States*, 257 U.S. 541 (1922).

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both clearly recognized the civilian nature of the President's position as Commander in Chief. President Roosevelt, in his Navy Day Campaign speech at Shibe Park, Philadelphia, on October 27, 1944, pronounced this principle as follows:—'It was due to no accident and no oversight that the framers of our Constitution put the command of our armed forces under civilian authority. It is the duty of the Commander in Chief to appoint the Secretaries of War and Navy and the Chiefs of Staff.' It is also to be noted that the Secretary of War, who is the regularly constituted organ of the President for the administration of the military establishment of the Nation, has been held by the Supreme Court of the United States to be merely a civilian officer, not in military service. (*United States v. Burns*, 79 U.S. 246 (1871)). On the general principle of civilian supremacy over the military, by virtue of the Constitution, it has recently been said: 'The supremacy of the civil over the military is one of our great heritages.' *Duncan v. Kahanamoku*, 324 U.S. 833 (1945), 14 L.W. 4205 at page 4210."¹⁹³

Martial Law and Constitutional Limitations

Two theories of martial law are reflected in decisions of the Supreme Court. The first, which stems from the Petition of Right, 1628, provides that the common law knows no such thing as martial law;¹⁹⁴ that is to say, martial law is not established by official authority of any sort, but arises from the nature of things, being the law of paramount necessity, leaving the civil courts to be the final judges of necessity.¹⁹⁵ By the second theory, martial law can be validly and constitutionally established by supreme political authority in wartime. In the early years of the Supreme Court, the American judiciary embraced the latter theory as it held in *Luther v. Borden*¹⁹⁶ that state declarations of martial law were conclusive and therefore not subject to judicial review.¹⁹⁷ In this case, the Court found that the Rhode Island legislature had been within its rights in resorting to the rights and usages of war in combating insurrection in that State. The decision in the *Prize Cases*,¹⁹⁸ while

¹⁹³ Surrogate's Court, Dutchess County, New York, ruling July 25, 1950, that the estate of Franklin D. Roosevelt was not entitled to tax benefits under sections 421 and 939 of the Internal Revenue Code, which extends certain tax benefits to persons dying in the military services of the United States. *New York Times*, July 26, 1950, p. 27, col. 1.

¹⁹⁴ C. FAIRMAN, *THE LAW OF MARTIAL RULE* (Chicago: 1930), 20–22; A. DICEY, *INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF THE LAW OF THE CONSTITUTION* (New York: 5th ed. 1923), 283, 290.

¹⁹⁵ *Id.*, 539–544.

¹⁹⁶ 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1 (1849). See also *Martin v. Mott*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 19, 32–33 (1827).

¹⁹⁷ 7 How. (48 U.S.), 45.

¹⁹⁸ 2 Bl. (67 U.S.) 635 (1863).

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not dealing directly with the subject of martial law, gave national scope to the same general principle in 1863.

The Civil War being safely over, however, a divided Court, in the elaborately argued *Milligan* case,¹⁹⁹ reverting to the older doctrine, pronounced void President Lincoln's action, following his suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* in September, 1863, in ordering the trial by military commission of persons held in custody as "spies" and "abettors of the enemy." The salient passage of the Court's opinion bearing on this point is the following: "If, in foreign invasion or civil war, the courts are actually closed, and it is impossible to administer criminal justice according to law, *then*, on the theatre of active military operations, where war really prevails, there is a necessity to furnish a substitute for the civil authority, thus overthrown, to preserve the safety of the army and society; and as no power is left but the military, it is allowed to govern by martial rule until the laws can have their free course. As necessity creates the rule, so it limits its duration; for, if this government is continued *after* the courts are reinstated, it is a gross usurpation of power. Martial rule can never exist where the courts are open, and in proper and unobstructed exercise of their jurisdiction. It is also confined to the locality of actual war."²⁰⁰ Four Justices, speaking by Chief Justice Chase, while holding Milligan's trial to have been void because violative of the Act of March 3, 1863, governing the custody and trial of persons who had been deprived of the *habeas corpus* privilege, declared their belief that Congress could have authorized Milligan's trial. Said the Chief Justice: "Congress has the power not only to raise and support and govern armies but to declare war. It has, therefore, the power to provide by law for carrying on war. This power necessarily extends to all legislation essential to the prosecution of war with vigor and success, except such as interferes with the command of the forces and the conduct of campaigns. That power and duty belong to the President and Commander-in-Chief. Both these powers are derived from the Constitution, but neither is defined by that instrument. Their extent must be determined by their nature, and by the principles of our institutions.

". . . We by no means assert that Congress can establish and apply the laws of war where no war has been declared or exists.

"Where peace exists the laws of peace must prevail. What we do maintain is, that when the nation is involved in war, and some portions of the country are invaded, and all are exposed to inva-

¹⁹⁹ Ex parte Milligan, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 2 (1866).

²⁰⁰ Id., 127.

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sion, it is within the power of Congress to determine in what States or districts such great and imminent public danger exists as justifies the authorization of military tribunals for the trial of crimes and offenses against the discipline or security of the army or against the public safety.”²⁰¹ In short, only Congress can authorize the substitution of military tribunals for civil tribunals for the trial of offenses; and Congress can do so only in wartime.

At the turn of the century, however, the Court appears to have retreated from its stand in *Milligan* insofar as it held in *Moyer v. Peabody*²⁰² that “the Governor’s declaration that a state of insurrection existed is conclusive of that fact. . . . The plaintiff’s position is that he has been deprived of his liberty without due process of law. But it is familiar that what is due process of law depends on circumstances. . . . So long as such arrests are made in good faith and in honest belief that they are needed in order to head the insurrection off, the Governor is the final judge and cannot be subjected to an action after he is out of office on the ground that he had not reasonable ground for his belief.”²⁰³ The “good faith” test of *Moyer*, however, was superseded by the “direct relation” test of *Sterling v. Constantin*,²⁰⁴ where the Court made it very clear that “[i]t does not follow . . . that every sort of action the Governor may take, no matter how justified by the exigency or subversive of private right and the jurisdiction of the courts, otherwise available, is conclusively supported by mere executive fiat. . . . What are the allowable limits of military discretion, and whether or not they have been overstepped in a particular case, are judicial questions.”²⁰⁵

Martial Law in Hawaii.—The question of the constitutional status of martial law was raised again in World War II by the proclamation of Governor Poindexter of Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, suspending the writ of *habeas corpus* and conferring on the local

²⁰¹ *Id.*, 139–140. In *Ex parte Vallandigham*, 1 Wall. (68 U.S.) 243 (1864), the Court had held while war was still flagrant that it had no power to review by *certiorari* the proceedings of a military commission ordered by a general officer of the Army, commanding a military department.

²⁰² 212 U.S. 78 (1909).

²⁰³ *Id.*, 83–85.

²⁰⁴ 287 U.S. 378 (1932). “The nature of the power also necessarily implies that there is a permitted range of honest judgment as to the measures to be taken in meeting force with force, in suppressing violence and restoring order, for without such liberty to make immediate decision, the power itself would be useless. Such measures, conceived in good faith, in the face of the emergency and directly related to the quelling of the disorder or the prevention of its continuance, fall within the discretion of the Executive in the exercise of his authority to maintain peace” *Id.*, 399–400.

²⁰⁵ *Id.*, 400–401. This holding has been ignored by States on numerous occasions. E.g., *Allen v. Oklahoma City*, 175 Okla. 421, 52 P.2d 1054 (1935); *Hearon v. Calus*, 178 S.C. 381, 183 S.E. 13 (1935); and *Joyner v. Browning*, 30 F. Supp. 512 (D.C.W.D. Tenn. 1939).

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commanding General of the Army all his own powers as governor and also “all of the powers normally exercised by the judicial officers . . . of this territory . . . during the present emergency and until the danger of invasion is removed.” Two days later the Governor’s action was approved by President Roosevelt. The regime which the proclamation set up continued with certain abatements until October 24, 1944.

By section 67 of the Organic Act of April 30, 1900,²⁰⁶ the Territorial Governor was authorized “in case of rebellion or invasion, or imminent danger thereof, when the public safety requires it, [to] suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, or place the Territory, or any part thereof, under martial law until communication can be had with the President and his decision thereon made known.” By section 5 of the Organic Act, “the Constitution . . . shall have the same force and effect within the said Territory as elsewhere in the United States.” In a brace of cases which reached it in February 1945, but which it contrived to postpone deciding till February 1946,²⁰⁷ the Court, speaking by Justice Black, held that the term “martial law” as employed in the Organic Act, “while intended to authorize the military to act vigorously for the maintenance of an orderly civil government and for the defense of the Islands against actual or threatened rebellion or invasion, was not intended to authorize the supplanting of courts by military tribunals.”²⁰⁸

The Court relied on the majority opinion in *Ex parte Milligan*. Chief Justice Stone concurred in the result. “I assume also,” he said, “that there could be circumstances in which the public safety requires, and the Constitution permits, substitution of trials by military tribunals for trials in the civil courts,”²⁰⁹ but added that the military authorities themselves had failed to show justifying facts in this instance. Justice Burton, speaking for himself and Justice Frankfurter, dissented. He stressed the importance of Hawaii as a military outpost and its constant exposure to the danger of fresh invasion. He warned that “courts must guard themselves with special care against judging past military action too closely by the inapplicable standards of judicial, or even military, hindsight.”²¹⁰

Articles of War: The Nazi Saboteurs.—The saboteurs were eight youths, seven Germans and one an American, who, following

²⁰⁶ 31 Stat. 141, 153 (1900).

²⁰⁷ *Duncan v. Kahanamoku*, 327 U.S. 304 (1946).

²⁰⁸ *Id.*, 324.

²⁰⁹ *Id.*, 336.

²¹⁰ *Id.*, 343.

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a course of training in sabotage in Berlin, were brought to this country in June 1942 aboard two German submarines and put ashore, one group on the Florida coast, the other on Long Island, with the idea that they would proceed forthwith to practice their art on American factories, military equipment, and installations. Making their way inland, the saboteurs were soon picked up by the FBI, some in New York, others in Chicago, and turned over to the Provost Marshal of the District of Columbia. On July 2, the President appointed a military commission to try them for violation of the laws of war, to wit: for not wearing fixed emblems to indicate their combatant status. In the midst of the trial, the accused petitioned the Supreme Court and the United States District Court for the District of Columbia for leave to bring *habeas corpus* proceedings. Their argument embraced the contentions: (1) that the offense charged against them was not known to the laws of the United States; (2) that it was not one arising in the land and naval forces; and (3) that the tribunal trying them had not been constituted in accordance with the requirements of the Articles of War.

The first argument the Court met as follows: The act of Congress in providing for the trial before military tribunals of offenses against the law of war is sufficiently definite, although Congress has not undertaken to codify or mark the precise boundaries of the law of war, or to enumerate or define by statute all the acts which that law condemns. “. . . [T]hose who during time of war pass surreptitiously from enemy territory into . . . [that of the United States], discarding their uniforms upon entry, for the commission of hostile acts involving destruction of life or property, have the status of unlawful combatants punishable as such by military commission.”²¹¹ The second argument it disposed of by showing that petitioners’ case was of a kind that was never deemed to be within the terms of the Fifth and Sixth Amendments, citing in confirmation of this position the trial of Major Andre.²¹² The third contention the Court overruled by declining to draw the line between the powers of Congress and the President in the premises,²¹³ thereby, in effect, attributing to the latter the right to amend the Articles of War in a case of the kind before the Court *ad libitum*.

The decision might well have rested on the ground that the Constitution is without restrictive force in wartime in a situation of this sort. The saboteurs were invaders; their penetration of the boundary of the country, projected from units of a hostile fleet, was essentially a military operation, their capture was a continuation

²¹¹ *Ex parte Quirin*, 317 U.S. 1, 29–30, 35 (1942).

²¹² *Id.*, 41–42.

²¹³ *Id.*, 28–29.

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of that operation. Punishment of the saboteurs was therefore within the President's purely martial powers as Commander-in-Chief. Moreover, seven of the petitioners were enemy aliens, and so, strictly speaking, without constitutional status. Even had they been civilians properly domiciled in the United States at the outbreak of the war they would have been subject under the statutes to restraint and other disciplinary action by the President without appeals to the courts.

Articles of War: World War II Crimes.—As a matter of fact, in General Yamashita's case,²¹⁴ which was brought after the termination of hostilities for alleged "war crimes," the Court abandoned its restrictive conception altogether. In the words of Justice Rutledge's dissenting opinion in this case: "The difference between the Court's view of this proceeding and my own comes down in the end to the view, on the one hand, that there is no law restrictive upon these proceedings other than whatever rules and regulations may be prescribed for their government by the executive authority or the military and, on the other hand, that the provisions of the Articles of War, of the Geneva Convention and the Fifth Amendment apply."²¹⁵ And the adherence of the United States to the Charter of London in August 1945, under which the Nazi leaders were brought to trial, is explicable by the same theory. These individuals were charged with the crime of instigating aggressive war, which at the time of its commission was not a crime either under international law or under the laws of the prosecuting governments. It must be presumed that the President is not in his capacity as Supreme Commander bound by the prohibition in the Constitution of *ex post facto* laws, nor does international law forbid *ex post facto* laws.²¹⁶

Martial Law and Domestic Disorder.—President Washington himself took command of state militia called into federal service to quell the Whiskey Rebellion, but there were not too many occasions subsequently in which federal troops or state militia called into federal service were required.²¹⁷ Since World War II, however, the President, by virtue of his own powers and the authority vested

²¹⁴ *In re Yamashita*, 327 U.S. 1 (1946).

²¹⁵ *Id.*, 81.

²¹⁶ See Gross, *The Criminality of Aggressive War*, 41 Am. Pol. Sci. Rev. 205 (1947).

²¹⁷ United States Adjutant-General, *Federal Aid in Domestic Disturbances 1787-1903*, S. Doc. No. 209, 57th Congress, 2d sess. (1903); Pollitt, *Presidential Use of Troops to Enforce Federal Laws: A Brief History*, 36 N.C. L. Rev. 117 (1958). United States Marshals were also used on approximately 30 occasions. United States Commission on Civil Rights, *Law Enforcement—A Report on Equal Protection in the South* (Washington: 1965), 155-159.

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in him by Congress,²¹⁸ has utilized federal troops on nine occasions, five of them involving resistance to desegregation decrees in the South.²¹⁹ In 1957, Governor Faubus employed the Arkansas National Guard to resist court-ordered desegregation in Little Rock, and President Eisenhower dispatched federal soldiers and brought the Guard under federal authority.²²⁰ In 1962, President Kennedy dispatched federal troops to Oxford, Mississippi, when upon the admission of an African American student to the University of Mississippi rioting broke out, with which federal marshals originally assigned could not cope.²²¹ In June and September of 1964, President Johnson sent troops into Alabama to enforce court decrees opening schools to blacks.²²² And in 1965, the President used federal troops and federalized local Guardsmen to protect participants in a civil rights march.²²³ The President justified his action on the ground that there was a substantial likelihood of domestic violence because state authorities were refusing the marchers protection.²²⁴

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The above provisions are the meager residue from a persistent effort in the Federal Convention to impose a council on the President.²²⁵ The idea ultimately failed, partly because of the diversity of ideas concerning the council's make-up. One member wished it to consist of "members of the two houses," another wished it to comprise two representatives from each of three sections, "with a rotation and duration of office similar to those of the Senate." The proposal which had the strongest backing was that it should con-

²¹⁸ 10 U.S.C. §§ 331–334, 3500, 8500, deriving from laws of 1795, 1 Stat. 424 1861, 12 Stat. 281, and 1871 17 Stat. 14.

²¹⁹ The other instances were in domestic disturbances at the request of state Governors.

²²⁰ Proc. No. 3204, 22 FED. REG. 7628 (1957); E.O. 10730, 22 FED. REG. 7628. See 41 Ops. Atty. Gen. 313 (1957); see also, *Cooper v. Aaron*, 358 U.S. 1 (1958); *Aaron v. McKinley*, 173 F.Supp. 944 (E.D. Ark. 1959), *affd. sub nom. Faubus v. Aaron*, 361 U.S. 197 (1959); *Faubus v. United States*, 254 F.2d 797 (8th Cir. 1958), *cert. den.* 358 U.S. 829 (1958).

²²¹ Proc. No. 3497, 27 FED. REG. 9681 (1962); E.O. 11053, 27 FED. REG. 9693 (1962). See *United States v. Barnett*, 346 F.2d 99 (5th Cir. 1965).

²²² Proc. 3542, 28 FED. REG. 5707 (1963); E.O. 11111, 28 FED. REG. 5709 (1963); Proc. No. 3554, 28 FED. REG. 9861; E.O. 11118, 28 FED. REG. 9863 (1963). See *Alabama v. United States*, 373 U.S. 545 (1963).

²²³ Proc. No. 3645, 30 FED. REG. 3739 (1965); E.O. 11207, 30 FED. REG. 2743 (1965). See *Williams v. Wallace*, 240 F.Supp. 100 (M.D. Ala. 1965).

²²⁴ *Ibid.*

²²⁵ 1 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 4, 70, 97, 110; 2 *id.*, 285, 328, 335–337, 367, 537–542. Debate on the issue in the Convention is reviewed in C. THACH, *THE CREATION OF THE PRESIDENCY 1775–1789* (Baltimore: 1923), 82, 83, 84, 85, 109, 126.

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sist of the head of departments and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who should preside when the President was absent. Of this proposal the only part to survive was the above cited provision. The consultative relation here contemplated is an entirely one-sided affair, is to be conducted with each principal officer separately and in writing, and is to relate only to the duties of their respective offices.²²⁶ The *Cabinet*, as we know it today, that is to say, the Cabinet *meeting*, was brought about solely on the initiative of the first President,²²⁷ and may be dispensed with on presidential initiative at any time, being totally unknown to the Constitution. Several Presidents have in fact reduced the Cabinet meeting to little more than a ceremony with social trimmings.²²⁸

PARDONS AND REPRIEVES

The Legal Nature of a Pardon

In the first case to be decided concerning the pardoning power, Chief Justice Marshall, speaking for the Court, said: "As this power had been exercised from time immemorial by the executive of that nation whose language is our language, and to whose judicial institution ours bear a close resemblance; we adopt their principles respecting the operation and effect of a pardon, and look into their books for the rules prescribing the manner in which it is to be used by the person who would avail himself of it. A pardon is an act of grace, proceeding from the power entrusted with the execution of the laws, which exempts the individual, on whom it is bestowed, from the punishment the law inflicts for a crime he has committed. It is the private, though official act of the executive magistrate, delivered to the individual for whose benefit it is intended, and not communicated officially to the Court. . . . A pardon is a deed, to the validity of which delivery is essential, and delivery is not complete without acceptance. It may then be rejected by the person to whom it is tendered; and if it be rejected, we have discovered no power in a court to force it on him." Marshall continued to hold that to be noticed judicially this deed must be pleaded, like any private instrument.²²⁹

In the case of *Burdick v. United States*,²³⁰ Marshall's doctrine was put to a test that seems to have overtaxed it, perhaps fatally.

²²⁶ E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 82.

²²⁷ L. WHITE, *THE FEDERALISTS—A STUDY IN ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY* (New York: 1948), ch. 4.

²²⁸ E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 19, 61, 79–85, 211, 295–299, 312, 320–323, 490–493.

²²⁹ *United States v. Wilson*, 7 Pet. (32 U.S.) 150, 160–161 (1833).

²³⁰ 236 U.S. 79, 86 (1915).

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Burdick, having declined to testify before a federal grand jury on the ground that his testimony would tend to incriminate him, was proffered by President Wilson “a full and unconditional pardon for all offenses against the United States,” which he might have committed or participated in in connection with the matter he had been questioned about. Burdick, nevertheless, refused to accept the pardon and persisted in his contumacy with the unanimous support of the Supreme Court. “The grace of a pardon,” remarked Justice McKenna sententiously, “may be only a pretense . . . involving consequences of even greater disgrace than those from which it purports to relieve. Circumstances may be made to bring innocence under the penalties of the law. If so brought, escape by confession of guilt implied in the acceptance of a pardon may be rejected. . . .”²³¹ Nor did the Court give any attention to the fact that the President had accompanied his proffer to Burdick with a proclamation, although a similar procedure had been held to bring President Johnson’s amnesties to the Court’s notice.²³² In 1927, however, in sustaining the right of the President to commute a sentence of death to one of life imprisonment, against the will of the prisoner, the Court abandoned this view. “A pardon in our days,” it said, “is not a private act of grace from an individual happening to possess power. It is a part of the constitutional scheme. When granted it is the determination of the ultimate authority that the public welfare will be better served by inflicting less than what the judgment fixed.”²³³ Whether these words sound the death knell of the acceptance doctrine is perhaps doubtful.²³⁴ They seem clearly to indicate that by substituting a commutation order for a deed of pardon, a President can always have his way in such matters, provided the substituted penalty is authorized by law and does not in common understanding exceed the original penalty.²³⁵

²³¹ *Id.*, 90–91.

²³² *Armstrong v. United States*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.), 154, 156 (1872). In *Brown v. Walker*, 161 U.S. 591 (1896), the Court had said: “It is almost a necessary corollary of the above propositions that, if the witness has already received a pardon, he cannot longer set up his privilege, since he stands with respect to such offence as if it had never been committed.” *Id.*, 599, citing British cases.

²³³ *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480, 486 (1927).

²³⁴ Cf. W. HUMBERT, *THE PARDONING POWER OF THE PRESIDENT* (Washington: 1941), 73.

²³⁵ *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480, 486 (1927). In *Schick v. Reed*, 419 U.S. 256 (1976), the Court upheld the presidential commutation of a death sentence to imprisonment for life with no possibility of parole, the foreclosure of parole being contrary to the scheme of the Code of Military Justice. “The conclusion is inescapable that the pardoning power was intended to include the power to commute sentences on conditions which do not in themselves offend the Constitution, but which are not specifically provided for by statute.” *Id.*, 264.

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Scope of the Power

The power embraces all “offences against the United States,” except cases of impeachment, and includes the power to remit fines, penalties, and forfeitures, except as to money covered into the Treasury or paid an informer,²³⁶ the power to pardon absolutely or conditionally, and the power to commute sentences, which, as seen above, is effective without the convict’s consent.²³⁷ It has been held, moreover, in face of earlier English practice, that indefinite suspension of sentence by a court of the United States is an invasion of the presidential prerogative, amounting as it does to a condonation of the offense.²³⁸ It was early assumed that the power included the power to pardon specified classes or communities wholesale, in short, the power to amnesty, which is usually exercised by proclamation. General amnesties were issued by Washington in 1795, by Adams in 1800, by Madison in 1815, by Lincoln in 1863, by Johnson in 1865, 1867, and 1868, and by the first Roosevelt—to Aguinaldo’s followers—in 1902.²³⁹ Not, however, till after the Civil War was the point adjudicated, when it was decided in favor of presidential prerogative.²⁴⁰

Offenses Against the United States; Contempt of Court.—

In the first place, such offenses are not offenses against the United States. In the second place, they are completed offenses.²⁴¹ The President cannot pardon by anticipation, otherwise he would be invested with the power to dispense with the laws, his claim to which was the principal cause of James II’s forced abdication.²⁴² Lastly, the term has been held to include criminal contempts of court.

²³⁶ 23 Ops. Atty. Gen. 360, 363 (1901); *Illinois Central Railroad v. Bosworth*, 133 U.S. 92 (1890).

²³⁷ *Ex parte William Wells*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 307 (1856). For the contrary view, see some early opinions of the Attorney General, 1 Ops. Atty. Gen. 341 (1820); 2 Ops. Atty. Gen. 275 (1829); 5 Ops. Atty. Gen. 687 (1795); cf. 4 Ops. Atty. Gen. 458 (1845); *United States v. Wilson*, 7 Pet. (32 U.S.) 150, 161 (1833).

²³⁸ *Ex parte United States*, 242 U.S. 27 (1916). Amendment of sentence, however, within the same term of court, by shortening the term of imprisonment, although defendant had already been committed, is a judicial act and no infringement of the pardoning power. *United States v. Benz*, 282 U.S. 304 (1931).

²³⁹ See 1 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 173, 293; 2 *id.*, 543; 7 *id.*, 3414, 3508; 8 *id.*, 3853; 14 *id.*, 6690.

²⁴⁰ *United States v. Klein*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 128, 147 (1872). See also *United States v. Padelford*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 531 (1870).

²⁴¹ *Ex parte Garland*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333, 380 (1867).

²⁴² F. MAITLAND, *CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF ENGLAND* (London: 1920), 302–306; 1 Ops. Atty. Gen. 342 (1820). That is, the pardon may not be in anticipation of the commission of the offense. A pardon may precede the indictment or other beginning of the criminal proceeding, *Ex parte Garland*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333, 380 (1867), as indeed President Ford’s pardon of former President Nixon preceded institution of any action. On the Nixon pardon controversy, see *Pardon of Richard M. Nixon and Related Matters*, Hearings before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, 93d Congress 2d sess. (1974).

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Such was the holding in *Ex parte Grossman*,²⁴³ where Chief Justice Taft, speaking for the Court, resorted once more to English conceptions as being authoritative in construing this clause of the Constitution. Said he: "The King of England before our Revolution, in the exercise of his prerogative, had always exercised the power to pardon contempts of court, just as he did ordinary crimes and misdemeanors and as he has done to the present day. In the mind of a common law lawyer of the eighteenth century the word pardon included within its scope the ending by the King's grace of the punishment of such derelictions, whether it was imposed by the court without a jury or upon indictment, for both forms of trial for contempts were had. [Citing cases.] These cases also show that, long before our Constitution, a distinction had been recognized at common law between the effect of the King's pardon to wipe out the effect of a sentence for contempt insofar as it had been imposed to punish the contemnor for violating the dignity of the court and the King, in the public interest, and its inefficacy to halt or interfere with the remedial part of the court's order necessary to secure the rights of the injured suitor. Blackstone IV, 285, 397, 398; Hawkins Pleas of the Crown, 6th Ed. (1787), Vol. 2, 553. The same distinction, nowadays referred to as the difference between civil and criminal contempts, is still maintained in English law."²⁴⁴ Nor was any new or special danger to be apprehended from this view of the pardoning power. "If," said the Chief Justice, "we could conjure up in our minds a President willing to paralyze courts by pardoning all criminal contempts, why not a President ordering a general jail delivery?" Indeed, he queried further, in view of the peculiarities of procedure in contempt cases, "may it not be fairly said that in order to avoid possible mistake, undue prejudice or needless severity, the chance of pardon should exist at least as much in favor of a person convicted by a judge without a jury as in favor of one convicted in a jury trial?"²⁴⁵

Effects of a Pardon: *Ex parte Garland*.—The great leading case is *Ex parte Garland*,²⁴⁶ which was decided shortly after the Civil War. By an act passed in 1865, Congress had prescribed that before any person should be permitted to practice in a federal court he must take oath asserting that he had never voluntarily borne arms against the United States, had never given aid or comfort to enemies of the United States, and so on. Garland, who had been a Confederate sympathizer and so was unable to take the oath, had

²⁴³ 267 U.S. 87 (1925).

²⁴⁴ *Id.*, 110–111.

²⁴⁵ *Id.*, 121, 122.

²⁴⁶ 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333, 381 (1867).

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however received from President Johnson the same year “a full pardon ‘for all offences by him committed, arising from participation, direct or implied, in the Rebellion,’ . . .” The question before the Court was whether, armed with this pardon, Garland was entitled to practice in the federal courts despite the act of Congress just mentioned. Said Justice Field for a divided Court: “The inquiry arises as to the effect and operation of a pardon, and on this point all the authorities concur. A pardon reaches both the punishment prescribed for the offence and the guilt of the offender; and when the pardon is full, it releases the punishment and blots out of existence the guilt, so that in the eye of the law the offender is as innocent as if he had never committed the offence. If granted before conviction, it prevents any of the penalties and disabilities consequent upon conviction from attaching [thereto]; if granted after conviction, it removes the penalties and disabilities, and restores him to all his civil rights; it makes him, as it were, a new man, and gives him a new credit and capacity.”²⁴⁷

Justice Miller, speaking for the minority, protested that the act of Congress involved was not penal in character, but merely laid down an appropriate test of fitness to practice law. “The man who, by counterfeiting, by theft, by murder, or by treason, is rendered unfit to exercise the functions of an attorney or counsellor at law, may be saved by the executive pardon from the penitentiary or the gallows, but he is not thereby restored to the qualifications which are essential to admission to the bar.”²⁴⁸ Justice Field’s language must today be regarded as much too sweeping in light of a decision rendered in 1914 in the case of *Carlesi v. New York*.²⁴⁹ Carlesi had been convicted several years before of committing a federal offense. In the instant case, the prisoner was being tried for a subsequent offense committed in New York. He was convicted as a second offender, although the President had pardoned him for the earlier federal offense. In other words, the fact of prior conviction by a federal court was considered in determining the punishment for a subsequent state offense. This conviction and sentence were upheld by the Supreme Court. While this case involved offenses against different sovereignties, the Court declared by way of dictum that its decision “must not be understood as in the slightest degree intimating that a pardon would operate to limit the power of the United States in punishing crimes against its authority to provide for taking into consideration past offenses committed by the accused as a

²⁴⁷ *Id.*, 380.

²⁴⁸ *Id.*, 396–397.

²⁴⁹ 233 U.S. 51 (1914).

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circumstance of aggravation even although for such past offenses there had been a pardon granted.”²⁵⁰

Limits to the Efficacy of a Pardon.—But Justice Field’s latitudinarian view of the effect of a pardon undoubtedly still applies ordinarily where the pardon is issued *before conviction*. He is also correct in saying that a full pardon restores a convict to his “civil rights,” and this is so even though simple completion of the convict’s sentence would not have had that effect. One such right is the right to testify in court, and in *Boyd v. United States* the Court held that the disability to testify being a consequence, according to principles of the common law, of the judgment of conviction, the pardon obliterated that effect.²⁵¹ But a pardon cannot “make amends for the past. It affords no relief for what has been suffered by the offender in his person by imprisonment, forced labor, or otherwise; it does not give compensation for what has been done or suffered, nor does it impose upon the government any obligation to give it. The offence being established by judicial proceedings, that which has been done or suffered while they were in force is presumed to have been rightfully done and justly suffered, and no satisfaction for it can be required. Neither does the pardon affect any rights which have vested in others directly by the execution of the judgment for the offence, or which have been acquired by others whilst that judgment was in force. If, for example, by the judgment a sale of the offender’s property has been had, the purchaser will hold the property notwithstanding the subsequent pardon. And if the proceeds of the sale have been paid to a party to whom the law has assigned them, they cannot be subsequently reached and recovered by the offender. The rights of the parties have become vested, and are as complete as if they were acquired in any other legal way. So, also, if the proceeds have been paid into the treasury, the right to them has so far become vested in the United States that they can only be secured to the former owner of the property through an act of Congress. Moneys once in the treasury can only be withdrawn by an appropriation by law.”²⁵²

Congress and Amnesty

Congress cannot limit the effects of a presidential amnesty. Thus the act of July 12, 1870, making proof of loyalty necessary to recover property abandoned and sold by the Government during the Civil War, notwithstanding any executive proclamation, pardon, amnesty, or other act of condonation or oblivion, was pro-

²⁵⁰ *Id.*, 59.

²⁵¹ 142 U.S. 450 (1892).

²⁵² *Knote v. United States*, 95 U.S. 149, 153–154 (1877).

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nounced void. Said Chief Justice Chase for the majority: “[T]he legislature cannot change the effect of such a pardon any more than the executive can change a law. Yet this is attempted by the provision under consideration. The Court is required to receive special pardons as evidence of guilt and to treat them as null and void. It is required to disregard pardons granted by proclamation on condition, though the condition has been fulfilled, and to deny them their legal effect. This certainly impairs the executive authority and directs the Court to be instrumental to that end.”²⁵³ On the other hand, Congress itself, under the necessary and proper clause, may enact amnesty laws remitting penalties incurred under the national statutes.²⁵⁴

Clause 2. He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Court of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

THE TREATY-MAKING POWER**President and Senate**

The plan which the Committee of Detail reported to the Federal Convention on August 6, 1787 provided that “the Senate of the United States shall have power to make treaties, and to appoint Ambassadors, and Judges of the Supreme Court.”²⁵⁵ Not until September 7, ten days before the Convention’s final adjournment, was the President made a participant in these powers.²⁵⁶ The constitutional clause evidently assumes that the President and Senate will be associated throughout the entire process of making a treaty, al-

²⁵³ *United States v. Klein*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 128, 143, 148 (1872).

²⁵⁴ *The Laura*, 114 U.S. 411 (1885).

²⁵⁵ 2 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 4, 183.

²⁵⁶ *Id.*, 538–539.

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though Jay, writing in *THE FEDERALIST*, foresaw that the initiative must often be seized by the President without benefit of senatorial counsel.²⁵⁷ Yet, so late as 1818, Rufus King, Senator from New York, who had been a member of the Convention, declared on the floor of the Senate: “In these concerns the Senate are the Constitutional and the only responsible counsellors of the President. And in this capacity the Senate may, and ought to, look into and watch over every branch of the foreign affairs of the nation; they may, therefore, at any time call for full and exact information respecting the foreign affairs, and express their opinion and advice to the President respecting the same, when, and under whatever other circumstances, they may think such advice expedient.”²⁵⁸

Negotiation, a Presidential Monopoly.—Actually, the negotiation of treaties had long since been taken over by the President; the Senate’s role in relation to treaties is today essentially legislative in character.²⁵⁹ “He alone negotiates. Into the field of negotiation, the Senate cannot intrude; and Congress itself is powerless to invade it,” declared Justice Sutherland for the Court in 1936.²⁶⁰ The Senate must, moreover, content itself with such information as the President chooses to furnish it.²⁶¹ In performing the function that remains to it, however, it has several options. It may consent unconditionally to a proposed treaty, it may refuse its consent, or it may stipulate conditions in the form of amendments to the treaty, of reservations to the act of ratification, or of statements of understanding or other declarations, the formal difference between the first two and the third being that amendments and reservations, if accepted by the President must be communicated to the other parties to the treaty, and, at least with respect to amendments and often reservations as well, require reopening negotiations and changes, whereas the other actions may have more problematic results.²⁶² The act of ratification for the United States is the President’s act, but it may not be forthcoming unless the Senate has consented to it by the required two-thirds of the Senators

²⁵⁷ No. 64 (J. Cooke ed., 1961), 435–436.

²⁵⁸ 31 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 106 (1818).

²⁵⁹ Washington sought to use the Senate as a council, but the effort proved futile, principally because the Senate balked. For the details see E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 207–217.

²⁶⁰ *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corp.*, 299 U.S. 304, 319 (1936).

²⁶¹ E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 428–429.

²⁶² *Treaties and Other International Agreements: The Role of the United States Senate*, A Study Prepared for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations by the Congressional Research Service, 103d Cong., 1st sess. (Comm. Print) (1993), 96–98 (hereinafter CRS Study); see also AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE, RESTATEMENT (THIRD) OF THE LAW, THE FOREIGN RELATIONS LAW OF THE UNITED STATES (1987), §314 (hereinafter RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS). See *Fourteen Diamond Rings v. United States*, 183 U.S. 176, 183 (1901).

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present, which signifies two-thirds of a quorum, otherwise the consent rendered would not be that of the Senate as organized under the Constitution to do business.²⁶³ Conversely, the President may, if dissatisfied with amendments which have been affixed by the Senate to a proposed treaty or with the conditions stipulated by it to ratification, decide to abandon the negotiation, which he is entirely free to do.²⁶⁴

Treaties as Law of the Land

Treaty commitments of the United States are of two kinds. In the language of Chief Justice Marshall in 1829: “A treaty is, in its nature, a contract between two nations, not a legislative act. It does not generally effect, of itself, the object to be accomplished; especially, so far as its operation is intraterritorial; but is carried into execution by the sovereign power of the respective parties to the instrument.

“In the United States, a different principle is established. Our constitution declares a treaty to be the law of the land. It is, consequently, to be regarded in courts of justice as equivalent to an act of the legislature, whenever it operates of itself, without the aid of any legislative provision. But when the terms of the stipulation import a contract—when either of the parties engages to perform a particular act, the treaty addresses itself to the political, not the judicial department; and the legislature must execute the contract, before it can become a rule for the Court.”²⁶⁵ To the same effect, but more accurate, is Justice Miller’s language for the Court a half century later, in the *Head Money Cases*: “A treaty is primarily a compact between independent nations. It depends for the enforcement of its provisions on the interest and the honor of the governments which are parties of it. . . . But a treaty may also contain provisions which confer certain rights upon the citizens or subjects of one of the nations residing in the territorial limits of the other, which partake of the nature of municipal law, and which are capable of enforcement as between private parties in the courts of the country.”²⁶⁶

²⁶³ Cf. Art. I, §5, cl. 1; see also *Missouri Pac. Ry. Co. v. Kansas*, 248 U.S. 276, 283–284 (1919).

²⁶⁴ For instance, see S. CRANDALL, *TREATIES, THEIR MAKING AND ENFORCEMENT* (Washington: 2d ed. 1916), 53; CRS Study, op. cit., n. 264, 109–120.

²⁶⁵ *Foster v. Neilson*, 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 253, 314 (1829). See *THE FEDERALIST*, No. 75 (J. Cooke ed., 1961), 504–505.

²⁶⁶ 112 U.S. 580, 598 (1884). For treaty provisions operative as “law of the land” (self-executing), see S. CRANDALL, op. cit., n. 264, 36–42, 49–62, 151, 153–163, 179, 238–239, 286, 321, 338, 345–346. For treaty provisions of an “executory” character, see id., 162–163, 232, 236, 238, 493, 497, 532, 570, 589. See also CRS Study, op. cit., n. 262, 41–68; *RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS*, op. cit., n. 262, §§111–115.

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Origin of the Conception.—How did this distinctive feature of the Constitution come about, by virtue of which the treaty-making authority is enabled to stamp upon its promises the quality of municipal law, thereby rendering them enforceable by the courts without further action? The short answer is that Article VI, paragraph 2, makes treaties the supreme law of the land on the same footing with acts of Congress.²⁶⁷ The clause was a direct result of one of the major weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. Although the Articles entrusted the treaty-making power to Congress, fulfillment of Congress' promises was dependent on the state legislatures.²⁶⁸ Particularly with regard to provisions of the Treaty of Peace of 1783,²⁶⁹ in which Congress stipulated to protect the property rights of British creditors of American citizens and of the former Loyalists,²⁷⁰ the promises were not only ignored but were deliberately flouted by many legislatures.²⁷¹ Upon repeated British protests, John Jay, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, suggested to Congress that it request state legislatures to repeal all legislation repugnant to the Treaty of Peace and to authorize their courts to carry the treaty into effect.²⁷² Although seven States did comply to some extent, the impotency of Congress to effectuate its treaty guarantees was obvious to the Framers who devised Article VI, paragraph 2, to take care of the situation.²⁷³

Treaties and the States.—As it so happened, the first case in which the Supreme Court dealt with the question of the effect of treaties on state laws involved the same issue that had prompted the drafting of Article VI, paragraph 2. During the Revolutionary War, the Virginia legislature provided that the Commonwealth's paper money, which was depreciating rapidly, was to be legal cur-

²⁶⁷ See *infra*, Art. VI, par. 2 (the supremacy clause).

²⁶⁸ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, ch. 3.

²⁶⁹ *Id.*, 30–32. For the text of the Treaty, see 1 W. MALLOY (ed.), *TREATIES, CONVENTIONS, INTERNATIONAL ACTS, PROTOCOLS AND AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHER POWERS (1776–1909)*, S. Doc. No. 357, 61st Congress, 2d sess. (1910), 586.

²⁷⁰ *Id.*, 588.

²⁷¹ R. MORRIS, *JOHN JAY, THE NATION, AND THE COURT* (Boston: 1967), 73–84.

²⁷² S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 36–40.

²⁷³ The Convention at first leaned toward giving Congress a negative over state laws which were contrary to federal statutes or treaties, 1 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 4, 47, 54, and then adopted the Paterson Plan which made treaties the supreme law of the land, binding on state judges, and authorized the Executive to use force to compel observance when such treaties were resisted. *Id.*, 245, 316, 2 *id.*, 27–29. In the draft reported by the Committee on Detail, the language thus adopted was close to the present supremacy clause; the draft omitted the authorization of force from the clause, *id.*, 183, but in another clause the legislative branch was authorized to call out the militia to, *inter alia*, “enforce treaties”. *Id.*, 182. The two words were struck subsequently “as being superfluous” in view of the supremacy clause. *Id.*, 389–390.

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rency for the payment of debts and to confound creditors who would not accept the currency provided that Virginia citizens could pay into the state treasury debts owed by them to subjects of Great Britain, which money was to be used to prosecute the war, and that the auditor would give the debtor a certificate of payment which would discharge the debtor of all future obligations to the creditor.²⁷⁴ The Virginia scheme directly contradicted the assurances in the peace treaty that no bars to collection by British creditors would be raised, and in *Ware v. Hylton*²⁷⁵ the Court struck down the state law as violative of the treaty that Article VI, paragraph 2, made superior. Said Justice Chase: “A treaty cannot be the *Supreme law* of the land, that is of all the *United States*, if any act of a *State Legislature* can stand in its way. If the constitution of a State . . . must give way to a treaty, and fall before it; can it be questioned, whether the *less power*, an act of the state legislature, must not be prostrate? It is the declared will of *the people* of the *United States* that every treaty made, by the authority of the *United States* shall be superior to the *Constitution* and *laws* of *any individual State*; and their will alone is to decide.”²⁷⁶

In *Hopkirk v. Bell*,²⁷⁷ the Court further held that this same treaty provision prevented the operation of a Virginia statute of limitation to bar collection of antecedent debts. In numerous subsequent cases, the Court invariably ruled that treaty provisions superseded inconsistent state laws governing the right of aliens to inherit real estate.²⁷⁸ Such a case was *Hauenstein v. Lynham*,²⁷⁹ in which the Court upheld the right of a citizen of the Swiss Republic, under the treaty of 1850 with that country, to recover the estate of a relative dying intestate in Virginia, to sell the same, and to export the proceeds of the sale.²⁸⁰

²⁷⁴ 9 W. HENING, STATUTES OF VIRGINIA (Richmond: 1821), 377–380.

²⁷⁵ 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1796).

²⁷⁶ *Id.*, 236–237 (emphasis by Court).

²⁷⁷ 3 Cr. (7 U.S.) 454 (1806).

²⁷⁸ See the discussion and cases cited in *Hauenstein v. Lynham*, 100 U.S. 483, 489–490 (1880).

²⁷⁹ 100 U.S. 483 (1880). In *Kolovrat v. Oregon*, 366 U.S. 187, 197–198 (1961), the International Monetary Fund (Bretton Woods) Agreement of 1945, to which the United States and Yugoslavia were parties, and an Agreement of 1948 between these two nations, coupled with continued American observance of an 1881 treaty granting reciprocal rights of inheritance to Yugoslavian and American nations, were held to preclude Oregon from denying Yugoslavian aliens their treaty rights because of a fear that Yugoslavian currency laws implementing such Agreements prevented American nationals from withdrawing the proceeds from the sale of property inherited in the latter country.

²⁸⁰ See also *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258 (1890); *Sullivan v. Kidd*, 254 U.S. 433 (1921); *Nielsen v. Johnson*, 279 U.S. 47 (1929); *Kolovrat v. Oregon*, 366 U.S. 187 (1961). But a right under treaty to acquire and dispose of property does not except aliens from the operation of a state statute prohibiting conveyances of home-

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Certain more recent cases stem from California legislation, most of it directed against Japanese immigrants. A statute which excluded aliens ineligible to American citizenship from owning real estate was upheld in 1923 on the ground that the treaty in question did not secure the rights claimed.²⁸¹ But in *Oyama v. California*,²⁸² a majority of the Court indicated a strongly held opinion that this legislation conflicted with the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, a view which has since received the endorsement of the California Supreme Court by a narrow majority.²⁸³ Meantime, California was informed that the rights of German nationals, under the Treaty of December 8, 1923, between the United States and the Reich, to whom real property in the United States had descended or been devised, to dispose of it, had survived the recent war and certain war legislation, and accordingly prevailed over conflicting state legislation.²⁸⁴

Treaties and Congress.—In the Convention, a proposal to require the adoption of treaties through enactment of a law before they should be binding was rejected.²⁸⁵ But the years since have seen numerous controversies with regard to the duties and obligations of Congress, the necessity for congressional action, and the ef-

stead property by any instrument not executed by both husband and wife. *Todok v. Union State Bank*, 281 U.S. 449 (1930). Nor was a treaty stipulation guaranteeing to the citizens of each country, in the territory of the other, equality with the natives of rights and privileges in respect to protection and security of person and property, violated by a state statute which denied to a non-resident alien wife of a person killed within the State, the right to sue for wrongful death. Such right was afforded to native resident relatives. *Maiorano v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R. Co.*, 213 U.S. 268 (1909). The treaty in question having been amended in view of this decision, the question arose whether the new provision covered the case of death without fault or negligence in which, by the Pennsylvania Workmen's Compensation Act, compensation was expressly limited to resident parents; the Supreme Court held that it did not. *Liberato v. Royer*, 270 U.S. 535 (1926).

²⁸¹ *Terrace v. Thompson*, 263 U.S. 197 (1923).

²⁸² 332 U.S. 633 (1948). See also *Takahashi v. Fish Comm.*, 334 U.S. 410 (1948), in which a California statute prohibiting the issuance of fishing licenses to persons ineligible to citizenship was disallowed, both on the basis of the Fourteenth Amendment and on the ground that the statute invaded a field of power reserved to the National Government, namely, the determination of the conditions on which aliens may be admitted, naturalized, and permitted to reside in the United States. For the latter proposition, *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52, 66 (1941), was relied upon.

²⁸³ This occurred in the much advertised case of *Sei Fujii v. State*, 38 Cal. 2d 718, 242 P. 2d 617 (1952). A lower California court had held that the legislation involved was void under the United Nations Charter, but the California Supreme Court was unanimous in rejecting this view. The Charter provisions invoked in this connection [Arts. 1, 55 and 56], said Chief Justice Gibson, "we are satisfied . . . were not intended to supersede domestic legislation." That is, the Charter provisions were not self-executing. RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, op. cit., n. 262, § 701, Reporters' Note 5, pp. 155–156.

²⁸⁴ *Clark v. Allen*, 331 U.S. 503 (1947). See also *Kolovrat v. Oregon*, 366 U.S. 187 (1961).

²⁸⁵ 2 M. FARRAND, op. cit., n. 4, 392–394.

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fects of statutes, in connection with the treaty power. For purposes of this section, the question is whether entry into and ratification of a treaty is sufficient in all cases to make the treaty provisions the “law of the land” or whether there are some types of treaty provisions which only a subsequent act of Congress can put into effect? The language quoted above²⁸⁶ from *Foster v. Neilson*²⁸⁷ early established that not all treaties are self-executing, for as Marshall there said, a treaty is “to be regarded in courts of justice as equivalent to an act of the legislature, whenever it operates of itself, without the aid of any legislative provision.”²⁸⁸

Leaving aside the question when a treaty is and is not self-executing,²⁸⁹ the issue of the necessity of congressional implementation and the obligation to implement has frequently roiled congressional debates. The matter arose initially in 1796 in connection with the Jay Treaty,²⁹⁰ certain provisions of which required appropriations to carry them into effect. In view of the third clause of Article I, §9, which says that “no money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by law . . .”, it seems to have been universally conceded that Congress must be applied to if the treaty provisions were to be executed.²⁹¹ A bill was introduced into the House to appropriate the needed funds and its supporters, within and without Congress, offered the contention that inasmuch as the treaty was now the law of the land the legislative branch was bound to enact the bill without further ado; opponents led by Madison and Gallatin contended that the House had complete discretion whether or not to carry into effect treaty provisions.²⁹² At the conclusion of the debate, the House voted not only the money but a resolution offered by Madison stating that it did

²⁸⁶ *Supra*, text at n. 265.

²⁸⁷ 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 253, 314 (1829).

²⁸⁸ Cf. *Whitney v. Robertson*, 124 U.S. 190, 194 (1888): “When the stipulations are not self-executing they can only be enforced pursuant to legislation to carry them into effect. . . . If the treaty contains stipulations which are self-executing that is, require no legislation to make them operative, to that extent they have the force and effect of a legislative enactment.”; S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, chs. 11–15.

²⁸⁹ See *infra*, text at nn. 312–316.

²⁹⁰ 8 Stat. 116 (1794).

²⁹¹ The story is told in numerous sources. E.g., S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 165–171. For Washington’s message refusing to submit papers relating to the treaty to the House, see J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 123.

²⁹² Debate in the House ran for more than a month. It was excerpted from the ANNALS and separately published as DEBATES IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, DURING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FOURTH CONGRESS UPON THE CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS OF THE HOUSE WITH RESPECT TO TREATIES (Philadelphia: 1796). A source of much valuable information on the views of the Framers and those who came after them on the treaty power, the debates are analyzed in detail in E. BYRD, TREATIES AND EXECUTIVE AGREEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES (The Hague: 1960), 35–59.

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not claim any agency in the treaty-making process, “but that when a treaty stipulates regulations on any of the subjects submitted by the Constitution to the power of Congress, it must depend for its execution as to such stipulations on a law or laws to be passed by Congress, and it is the constitutional right and duty of the House of Representatives in all such cases to deliberate on the expediency or in expediency of carrying such treaty into effect, and to determine and act thereon as in their judgment may be most conducive to the public good.”²⁹³ This early precedent with regard to appropriations has apparently been uniformly adhered to.²⁹⁴

Similarly, with regard to treaties which modify and change commercial tariff arrangements, the practice has been that the House always insisted on and the Senate acquiesced in legislation to carry into effect the provisions of such treaties.²⁹⁵ The earliest congressional dispute came over an 1815 Convention with Great Britain,²⁹⁶ which provided for reciprocal reduction of duties. President Madison thereupon recommended to Congress such legislation as the convention might require for effectuation. The Senate and some members of the House were of the view that no implementing legislation was necessary because of a statute, which already permitted the President to reduce duties on goods of nations that did not discriminate against United States goods; the House majority felt otherwise and compromise legislation was finally enacted acceptable to both points of view.²⁹⁷ But subsequent cases have seen legislation enacted,²⁹⁸ the Senate once refused ratification of a treaty, which purported to reduce statutorily-determined duties,²⁹⁹ and congressional enactment of authority for the President to negotiate reciprocal trade agreements all seem to point to the necessity of some form of congressional implementation.

What other treaty provisions need congressional implementation is subject to argument. In a 1907 memorandum approved by the Secretary of State, it is said, in summary of the practice and reasoning from the text of the Constitution, that the limitation on the treaty power which necessitate legislative implementation may

²⁹³ 5 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 771, 782 (1796). A resolution similar in language was adopted by the House in 1871. CONG. GLOBE, 42d Congress, 1st sess. (1871), 835.

²⁹⁴ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 171–182; 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *THE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW OF THE UNITED STATES* (New York: 2d ed. 1929), 549–552; but see *RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS*, *op. cit.*, n. 262, § 111, Reporters’ Note 7, p. 57. See also H. Rept. 4177, 49th Congress, 2d sess. (1887). Cf. *De Lima v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 1, 198 (1901).

²⁹⁵ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 183–199.

²⁹⁶ 8 Stat. 228 (1815).

²⁹⁷ 3 Stat. 255 (1816). See S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 184–188.

²⁹⁸ *Id.*, 188–195; 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n. 294, 555–560.

²⁹⁹ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 189–190.

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“be found in the provisions of the Constitution which expressly confide in Congress or in other branches of the Federal Government the exercise of certain of the delegated powers. . . .”³⁰⁰ The same thought has been expressed in Congress³⁰¹ and by commentators.³⁰² Resolution of the issue seems particularly one for the attention of the legislative and executive branches rather than for the courts.

Congressional Repeal of Treaties.—It is in respect to his contention that, when it is asked to carry a treaty into effect, Congress has the constitutional right, and indeed the duty, to determine the matter according to its own ideas of what is expedient, that Madison has been most completely vindicated by developments. This is seen in the answer which the Court has returned to the question: What happens when a treaty provision and an act of Congress conflict? The answer is, that neither has any intrinsic superiority over the other and that therefore the one of later date will prevail *leges posteriores priores contrarias abrogant*. In short, the treaty commitments of the United States do not diminish Congress’ constitutional powers. To be sure, legislative repeal of a treaty as law of the land may amount to a violation of it as an international contract in the judgment of the other party to it. In such case, as the Court has said: “Its infraction becomes the subject of international negotiations and reclamations, so far as the injured party chooses to seek redress, which may in the end be enforced by actual war. It is obvious that with all this the judicial courts have nothing to do and can give no redress.”³⁰³

³⁰⁰ Anderson, *The Extent and Limitations of the Treaty-Making Power*, 1 Amer. J. Int. L. 636, 641 (1907).

³⁰¹ At the conclusion of the 1815 debate, the Senate conferees noted in their report that some treaties might need legislative implementation, which Congress was bound to provide, but did not indicate what in their opinion made some treaties self-executing and others not. 29 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 160 (1816). The House conferees observed that they thought, and that in their opinion the Senate conferees agreed, that legislative implementation was necessary to carry into effect all treaties which contained “stipulations requiring appropriations, or which might bind the nation to lay taxes, to raise armies, to support navies, to grant subsidies, to create States, or to cede territory. . . .” *Id.*, 1019. Much the same language was included in a later report. H. Rept. No. 37, 40th Congress, 2d sess. (1868). Controversy with respect to the sufficiency of Senate ratification of the Panama Canal treaties to dispose of United States property therein to Panama was extensive. A divided Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia reached the question and held that Senate approval of the treaty alone was sufficient. *Edwards v. Carter*, 580 F.2d 1055 (D.C.Cir.), *cert. den.*, 436 U. S. 907 (1978).

³⁰² T. COOLEY, *GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF CONSTITUTIONAL LAW* (New York: 3d ed. 1898, 175; Q. WRIGHT, *THE CONTROL OF AMERICAN FOREIGN RELATIONS* (New York: 1922), 353–356.

³⁰³ *Head Money Cases*, 112 U.S. 580, 598–599 (1884). The repealability of treaties by act of Congress was first asserted in an opinion of the Attorney General in 1854. 6 Ops. Atty. Gen. 291. The year following the doctrine was adopted judicially

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Treaties Versus Prior Acts of Congress.—The cases are numerous in which the Court has enforced statutory provisions which were recognized by it as superseding prior treaty engagements. Chief Justice Marshall early asserted that the converse would be true as well,³⁰⁴ that a treaty which is self-executing is the law of the land and prevails over an earlier inconsistent statute, a proposition repeated many times in dicta.³⁰⁵ But there is dispute whether in fact a treaty has ever been held to have repealed or superseded an inconsistent statute. Willoughby, for example, says: “In fact, however, there have been few (the writer is not certain that there has been any) instances in which a treaty inconsistent with a prior act of Congress has been given full force and effect as law in this country without the assent of Congress. There may indeed have been cases in which, by treaty, certain action has been taken without reference to existing Federal laws, as, for example, where by treaty certain populations have been collectively naturalized, but such treaty action has not operated to repeal or annul the existing law upon the subject.”³⁰⁶

The one instance that may be an exception³⁰⁷ is *Cook v. United States*.³⁰⁸ There, a divided Court held that a 1924 treaty with

in a lengthy and cogently argued opinion of Justice Curtis, speaking for a United States circuit court in *Taylor v. Morton*, 23 Fed. Cas. 784 (No. 13,799) (C.C.D. Mass 1855). See also *The Cherokee Tobacco*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 616 (1871); *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*, 108 U.S. 491, 496 (1883); *Botiller v. Dominguez*, 130 U.S. 238 (1889); *The Chinese Exclusion Case*, 130 U.S. 581, 600 (1889); *Whitney v. Robertson*, 124 U.S. 190, 194 (1888); *Fong Yue Ting v. United States*, 149 U.S. 698, 721 (1893). “Congress by legislation, and so far as the people and authorities of the United States are concerned, could abrogate a treaty made between this country and another country which had been negotiated by the President and approved by the Senate.” *La Abra Silver Mining Co. v. United States*, 175 U.S. 423, 460 (1899). Cf. *Reichart v. Felps*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 160, 165–166 (1868), wherein it is stated *obiter* that “Congress is bound to regard the public treaties, and it had no power . . . to nullify [Indian] titles confirmed many years before. . . .”

³⁰⁴ *Foster v. Neilson*, 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 253, 314–315 (1829). In a later case, it was determined in a different situation that by its terms the treaty in issue, which had been assumed to be executory in the earlier case, was self-executing. *United States v. Percheman*, 7 Pet. (32 U.S.) 51 (1833).

³⁰⁵ E.g., *United States v. Lee Yen Tai*, 185 U.S. 213, 220–221 (1902); *The Cherokee Tobacco*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 616, 621 (1871); *Johnson v. Browne*, 205 U.S. 309, 320–321 (1907); *Whitney v. Robertson*, 124 U.S. 190, 194 (1888).

³⁰⁶ 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n. 294, 555.

³⁰⁷ Other cases, which are cited in some sources, appear distinguishable. *United States v. Schooner Peggy*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 103 (1801), applied a treaty entered into subsequent to enactment of a statute abrogating all treaties then in effect between the United States and France, so that it is inaccurate to refer to the treaty as superseding a prior statute. In *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*, 93 U.S. 188 (1876), the treaty with an Indian tribe in which the tribe ceded certain territory, later included in a State, provided that a federal law restricting the sale of liquor on the reservation would continue in effect in the territory ceded; the Court found the stipulation an appropriate subject for settlement by treaty and the provision binding. And see *Charlton v. Kelly*, 229 U.S. 447 (1913).

³⁰⁸ 288 U.S. 102 (1933).

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Great Britain, allowing the inspection of English vessels for contraband liquor and seizure if any was found only if such vessels were within the distance from the coast that could be traversed in one hour by the vessel suspecting of endeavoring to violate the prohibition laws, had superseded the authority conferred by a section of the Tariff Act of 1922³⁰⁹ for Coast Guard officers to inspect and seize any vessel within four leagues—12 miles—of the coast under like circumstances. The difficulty with the case is that the Tariff Act provision had been reenacted in 1930,³¹⁰ so that a simple application of the rule of the later governing should have caused a different result. It may be suspected that the low estate to which Prohibition had fallen and a desire to avoid a diplomatic controversy should the seizure at issue have been upheld were more than slightly influential in the Court's decision.

When Is a Treaty Self-Executing.—Several references have been made above to a distinction between treaties as self-executing and as merely executory. But what is it about a treaty that makes it the law of the land and which gives a private citizen the right to rely on it in a court of law? As early as 1801, the Supreme Court took notice of a treaty and finding it applicable to the situation before gave judgment for the petitioner based on it.³¹¹ In *Foster v. Neilson*,³¹² Chief Justice Marshall explained that a treaty is to be regarded in courts “as equivalent to an act of the legislature, whenever it operates of itself, without the aid of any legislative provision.” It appears thus that the Court has had in mind two characteristics of treaties which keep them from being self-executing. First, “when the terms of the stipulation import a contract—when either of the parties engages to perform a particular act, the treaty addresses itself to the political, not the judicial department; and the legislature must execute the contract, before it can become a rule for the Court.”³¹³ In other words, the treaty itself may by its terms require implementation, as by an express stipulation for legislative execution.³¹⁴

³⁰⁹ 42 Stat. 858, 979, § 581.

³¹⁰ 46 Stat. 590, 747, § 581.

³¹¹ *United States v. Schooner Peggy*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 103 (1801).

³¹² 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 253, 314–315 (1829).

³¹³ *Ibid.*

³¹⁴ Generally, the qualifications may have been inserted in treaties out of a belief in their constitutional necessity or because of some policy reason. In regard to the former, it has always apparently been the practice to insert in treaties affecting the revenue laws of the United States a proviso that they should not be deemed effective until the necessary laws to carry them into operation should be enacted by Congress. 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n. 294, 558. Perhaps of the same nature was a qualification that cession of certain property in the Canal Zone should be dependent upon action by Congress inserted in Article V of the 1955 Treaty with Panama. TIAS 3297, 6 U.S.T. 2273, 2278. In regard to the latter, it may be noted that Article

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Second, the nature of the stipulation may require legislative execution. That is, with regard to the issue discussed above, whether the delegated powers of Congress imposes any limitation on the treaty power, it may be that a treaty provision will be incapable of execution without legislative action. As one authority says: "Practically this distinction depends upon whether or not the courts and the executive are able to enforce the provision without enabling legislation. Fundamentally it depends upon whether the obligation is imposed on private individuals or on public authorities.

...
 "Treaty provisions which define the rights and obligations of private individuals and lay down general principles for the guidance of military, naval or administrative officials in relation thereto are usually considered self-executing. Thus treaty provisions assuring aliens equal civil rights with citizens, defining the limits of national jurisdiction, and prescribing rules of prize, war and neutrality, have been so considered. . . .

"On the other hand certain treaty obligations are addressed solely to public authorities, of which may be mentioned those requiring the payment of money, the cession of territory, the guarantee of territory or independence, the conclusion of subsequent treaties on described subjects, the participation in international organizations, the collection and supplying of information, and direction of postal, telegraphic or other services, the construction of buildings, bridges, lighthouses, etc."³¹⁵ It may well be that these two characteristics merge with each other at many points and the language of the Court is not always helpful in distinguishing them.³¹⁶

Treaties and the Necessary and Proper Clause.—What power, or powers, does Congress exercise when it enacts legislation for the purpose of carrying treaties of the United States into effect? When the subject matter of the treaty falls within the ambit of Congress' enumerated powers, then it is these powers which it exercises in carrying such treaty into effect. But if the treaty deals with a subject which falls within the national jurisdiction because of its international character, then recourse is had to the necessary and proper clause. Thus, of itself, Congress would have had no power to confer judicial powers upon foreign consuls in the United

V of the Webster-Ashburton Treaty, 8 Stat. 572, 575 (1842), providing for the transfer to Canada of land in Maine and Massachusetts was conditioned upon assent by the two States and payment to them of compensation. S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 222-224.

³¹⁵ Q. WRIGHT, *op. cit.*, n. 302, 207-208. See also L. HENKIN, *FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE CONSTITUTION* (Mineola, N.Y.: 1972), 156-162.

³¹⁶ Thus, compare *Foster v. Neilson*, 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 253, 314-315 (1829), with *Cook v. United States*, 288 U.S. 102, 118-119 (1933).

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States, but the treaty-power can do this and has done it repeatedly and Congress has supplemented these treaties by appropriate legislation.³¹⁷ Congress could not confer judicial power upon American consuls abroad to be there exercised over American citizens, but the treaty-power can and has, and Congress has passed legislation perfecting such agreements and such legislation has been upheld.³¹⁸

Again, Congress of itself could not provide for the extradition of fugitives from justice, but the treaty-power can and has done so scores of times, and Congress has passed legislation carrying our extradition treaties into effect.³¹⁹ And Congress could not ordinarily penalize private acts of violence within a State, but it can punish such acts if they deprive aliens of their rights under a treaty.³²⁰ Referring to such legislation, the Court has said: "The power of Congress to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution as well the powers enumerated in section 8 of Article I of the Constitution, as all others vested in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or the officers thereof, includes the power to enact such legislation as is appropriate to give efficacy to any stipulations which it is competent for the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate to insert in a treaty with foreign power."³²¹ In a word, the treaty-power cannot purport to amend the Constitution by adding to the list of Congress' enumerated powers, but having acted, the consequence will often be that it has provided Congress with an opportunity to enact measures which independently of a treaty Congress could not pass; the only question that can be raised as to such measures will be

³¹⁷ Acts of March 2, 1829, 4 Stat. 359 and of February 24, 1855, 10 Stat. 614.

³¹⁸ See *In re Ross*, 140 U.S. 453 (1891), where the treaty provisions involved are given. The supplementary legislation, later reenacted at Rev. Stat. 4083-4091, was repealed by the Joint Res. of August 1, 1956, 70 Stat. 774. The validity of the *Ross* case was subsequently questioned. See *Reid v. Covert*, 354 U.S. 1, 12, 64, 75 (1957).

³¹⁹ 18 U.S.C. §§ 3181-3195.

³²⁰ *Baldwin v. Franks*, 120 U.S. 678, 683 (1887).

³²¹ *Neely v. Henkel*, 180 U.S. 109, 121 (1901). A different theory is offered by Justice Story in his opinion for the court in *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539 (1842), in the following words: "Treaties made between the United States and foreign powers, often contain special provisions, which do not execute themselves, but require the interposition of Congress to carry them into effect, and Congress has constantly, in such cases, legislated on the subject; yet, although the power is given to the executive, with the consent of the senate, to make treaties, the power is nowhere in positive terms conferred upon Congress to make laws to carry the stipulations of treaties into effect. It has been supposed to result from the duty of the national government to fulfill all the obligations of treaties." *Id.*, 619. Story was here in quest of arguments to prove that Congress had power to enact a fugitive slave law, which he based on its power "to carry into effect rights expressly given and duties expressly enjoined" by the Constitution. *Id.*, 618-619. However, the treaty-making power is neither a right nor a duty, but one of the powers "vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States." Art. I, § 8, cl. 18.

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whether they are “necessary and proper” measures for the carrying of the treaty in question into operation.

The foremost example of this interpretation is *Missouri v. Holland*.³²² There, the United States and Great Britain had entered into a treaty for the protection of migratory birds,³²³ and Congress had enacted legislation pursuant to the treaty to effectuate it.³²⁴ The State objected that such regulation was reserved to the States by the Tenth Amendment and that the statute infringed on this reservation, pointing to lower court decisions voiding an earlier act not based on a treaty.³²⁵ Noting that treaties “are declared the supreme law of the land,” Justice Holmes for the Court said: “If the treaty is valid there can be no dispute about the validity of the statute under Article I, §8, as a necessary and proper means to execute the powers of the Government.”³²⁶ “It is obvious,” he continued, “that there may be matters of the sharpest exigency for the national well being that an act of Congress could not deal with but that a treaty followed by such an act could, and it is not lightly to be assumed that, in matters requiring national action, ‘a power which must belong to and somewhere reside in every civilized government’ is not to be found.”³²⁷ Since the treaty and thus the statute dealt with a matter of national and international concern, the treaty was proper and the statute was one “necessary and proper” to effectuate the treaty.

Constitutional Limitations on the Treaty Power

A question growing out of the discussion above is whether the treaty power is bounded by constitutional limitations. By the supremacy clause, both statutes and treaties “are declared . . . to be the supreme law of the land, and no superior efficacy is given to either over the other.”³²⁸ As statutes may be held void because they contravene the Constitution, it should follow that treaties may be held void, the Constitution being superior to both. And indeed

³²² 252 U.S. 416 (1920).

³²³ 39 Stat. 1702 (1916).

³²⁴ 40 Stat. 755 (1918).

³²⁵ *United States v. Shauver*, 214 F. 154 (E.D.Ark. 1914); *United States v. McCullagh*, 221 F. 288 (D.Kan. 1915). The Court did not purport to decide whether those cases were correctly decided. *Missouri v. Holland*, 252 U.S. 416, 433 (1920). Today, there seems no doubt that Congress’ power under the commerce clause would be deemed more than adequate but at that time a majority of the Court had a very restrictive view of the commerce power. Cf. *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, 247 U.S. 251 (1918).

³²⁶ *Missouri v. Holland*, 252 U.S. 416, 432 (1920).

³²⁷ *Id.*, 433. The internal quotation is from *Andrews v. Andrews*, 188 U.S. 14, 33 (1903).

³²⁸ *Whitney v. Robertson*, 124 U.S. 190, 194 (1888).

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the Court has numerous times so stated.³²⁹ It does not appear that the Court has ever held a treaty unconstitutional,³³⁰ although there are examples in which decision was seemingly based on a reading compelled by constitutional considerations.³³¹ In fact, there would be little argument with regard to the general point were it not for certain dicta in Justice Holmes' opinion in *Missouri v. Holland*.³³² "Acts of Congress," he said, "are the supreme law of the land only when made in pursuance of the Constitution, while treaties are declared to be so when made under the authority of the United States. It is open to question whether the authority of the United States means more than the formal acts prescribed to make the convention." Although he immediately followed this passage with a cautionary "[w]e do not mean to imply that there are no qualifications to the treaty-making power . . .,"³³³ the Justice's language and the holding by which it appeared that the reserved rights of the States could be invaded through the treaty power led in the 1950s to an abortive effort to amend the Constitution to restrict the treaty power.³³⁴

³²⁹ "The treaty is . . . a law made by the proper authority, and the courts of justice have no right to annul or disregard any of its provisions, unless they violate the Constitution of the United States." *Doe v. Braden*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 635, 656 (1853). "It need hardly be said that a treaty cannot change the Constitution or be held valid if it be in violation of that instrument." *The Cherokee Tobacco*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.), 616, 620 (1871). See also *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258, 267 (1890); *United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, 169 U.S. 649, 700 (1898); *Asakura v. City of Seattle*, 265 U.S. 332, 341 (1924).

³³⁰ 1 *W. WILLOUGHBY*, op. cit., n.294, 561; L. HENKIN, op. cit., n.315, 137. In *Power Authority of New York v. FPC*, 247 F. 2d 538 (2d Cir. 1957), a reservation attached by the Senate to a 1950 treaty with Canada was held invalid. The court observed that the reservation was properly not a part of the treaty but that if it were it would still be void as an attempt to circumvent constitutional procedures for enacting amendments to existing federal laws. The Supreme Court vacated the judgment on mootness grounds. 355 U.S. 64 (1957). In *United States v. Guy W. Capps, Inc.*, 204 F.2d 655 (4th Cir. 1953), an executive agreement with Canada was held void as conflicting with existing legislation. The Supreme Court affirmed on nonconstitutional grounds. 348 U.S. 296 (1955).

³³¹ Cf. *City of New Orleans v. United States*, 10 Pet. (35 U.S.) 662 (1836); *Rocca v. Thompson*, 223 U.S. 317 (1912).

³³² 252 U.S. 416 (1920).

³³³ *Id.*, 433. Subsequently, he also observed: "The treaty in question does not contravene any prohibitory words to be found in the Constitution." *Ibid.*

³³⁴ The attempt, the so-called "Bricker Amendment," was aimed at the expansion into reserved state powers through treaties as well as at executive agreements. The key provision read: "A treaty shall become effective as internal law in the United States only through legislation which would be valid in the absence of treaty." S.J. Res. 43, 82d Congress, 1st sess. (1953), §2. See also S.J. Res. 1, 84th Congress, 1st sess. (1955), §2. Extensive hearings developed the issues thoroughly but not always clearly. *Hearings on S.J. Res. 130*, Before a Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, 82d Congress, 2d sess. (1952). *Hearings on S.J. Res. 1 & 43*, Before a Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, 83d Congress, 1st sess. (1953); *Hearings on S.J. Res. 1*, Before a Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, 84th Congress, 1st sess. (1955). See L. HENKIN, op. cit., n.315, 383-385.

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Controversy over the Holmes language apparently led Justice Black in *Reid v. Covert*³³⁵ to deny that the difference in language of the supremacy clause with regard to statutes and with regard to treaties was relevant to the status of treaties as inferior to the Constitution. “There is nothing in this language which intimates that treaties do not have to comply with the provisions of the Constitution. Nor is there anything in the debates which accompanied the drafting and ratification of the Constitution which even suggests such a result. These debates as well as the history that surrounds the adoption of the treaty provision in Article VI make it clear that the reason treaties were not limited to those made in ‘pursuance’ of the Constitution was so that agreements made by the United States under the Articles of Confederation, including the important treaties which concluded the Revolutionary War, would remain in effect. It would be manifestly contrary to the objectives of those who created the Constitution, as well as those who were responsible for the Bill of Rights—let alone alien to our entire constitutional history and tradition—to construe Article VI as permitting the United States to exercise power under an international agreement without observing constitutional prohibitions. In effect, such construction would permit amendment of that document in a manner not sanctioned by Article V.”³³⁶

Establishment of the general principle, however, is but the beginning; there is no readily agreed-upon standard for determining what the limitations are. The most persistently urged proposition in limitation has been that the treaty power must not invade the reserved powers of the States. In view of the sweeping language of the supremacy clause, it is hardly surprising that this argument has not prevailed.³³⁷ Nevertheless, the issue, in the context of Congress’ power under the necessary and proper clause to effectuate a treaty dealing with a subject arguably within the domain of the

³³⁵ 354 U.S. 1 (1957) (plurality opinion).

³³⁶ *Id.*, 16–17. For discussions of the issue, see AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE, *op. cit.*, n. 262, § 302; Nowak & Rotunda, *A Comment on the Creation and Resolution of a “Non-Problem:” Dames & Moore v. Regan, the Foreign Affairs Power, and the Role of the Courts*, 29 UCLA L. Rev. 1129 (1982); L. HENKIN, *op. cit.*, n. 315, 137–156.

³³⁷ *Ware v. Hylton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1796); *Fairfax’s Devisee v. Hunter’s Lessee*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 603 (1813); *Chirac v. Chirac*, 2 Wheat. (15 U.S.) 259 (1817); *Hauenstein v. Lynham*, 100 U.S. 483 (1880). Jefferson, in his list of exceptions to the treaty power, thought the Constitution “must have meant to except out of these the rights reserved to the States, for surely the President and Senate cannot do by treaty what the whole Government is interdicted from doing in any way.” JEFFERSON’S MANUAL OF PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICE, § 594, reprinted in THE RULES AND MANUAL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, H. Doc. 102–405, 102d Congress, 2d sess. (1993), 298–299. But this view has always been the minority one. Q. WRIGHT, *op. cit.*, n. 302, 92 n. 97. The nearest the Court ever came to supporting this argument appears to be *Frederickson v. Louisiana*, 23 How. (64 U.S.) 445, 448 (1860).

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States, was presented as recently as 1920, when the Court upheld a treaty and implementing statute providing for the protection of migratory birds.³³⁸ “The treaty in question does not contravene any prohibitory words to be found in the Constitution. The only question is whether it is forbidden by some invisible radiation from the general terms of the Tenth Amendment.”³³⁹ The gist of the holding followed. “Here a national interest of very nearly the first magnitude is involved. It can be protected only by national action in concert with that of another power. The subject-matter is only transitorily within the State and has no permanent habitat therein. But for the treaty and the statute there soon might be no birds for any powers to deal with. We see nothing in the Constitution that compels the Government to sit by while a food supply is cut off and the protectors of our forests and our crops are destroyed.”³⁴⁰

The doctrine which seems deducible from this case and others is “that in all that properly relates to matters of international rights and obligations, whether these rights and obligations rest upon the general principles of international law or have been conventionally created by specific treaties, the United States possesses all the powers of a constitutionally centralized sovereign State; and, therefore, that when the necessity from the international standpoint arises the treaty power may be exercised, even though thereby the rights ordinarily reserved to the States are invaded.”³⁴¹ It is not, in other words, the treaty power which enlarges either the federal power or the congressional power but the international character of the interest concerned which might be acted upon.

Dicta in some of the cases lend support to the argument that the treaty power is limited by the delegation of powers among the branches of the National Government³⁴² and especially by the delegated powers of Congress, although it is not clear what the limitation means. If it is meant that no international agreement could be constitutionally entered into by the United States within the sphere of such powers, the practice from the beginning has been to

³³⁸ *Missouri v. Holland*, 252 U.S. 416 (1920).

³³⁹ *Id.*, 433.

³⁴⁰ *Id.*, 435.

³⁴¹ 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n.294, 569. And see L. HENKIN, *op. cit.*, n.315, 143–148; RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, *op. cit.*, 262, §302, Comment d, & Reporters' Note 3, pp. 154–157.

³⁴² E.g., *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258, 266–267 (1890); *Holden v. Joy*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 211, 243 (1872). Jefferson listed as an exception from the treaty power “those subjects of legislation in which [the Constitution] gave a participation to the House of Representatives” although he admitted “that it would leave very little matter for the treaty power to work on.” JEFFERSON'S MANUAL, *op. cit.*, n.337, 299.

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the contrary;³⁴³ if it is meant that treaty provisions dealing with matters delegated to Congress must, in order to become the law of the land, receive the assent of Congress through implementing legislation, it states not a limitation on the power of making treaties as international conventions but rather a necessary procedure before certain conventions are cognizable by the courts in the enforcement of rights under them.

It has also been suggested that the prohibitions against governmental action contained in the Constitution, the Bill of Rights particularly, limit the exercise of the treaty power. No doubt this is true, though again there are no cases which so hold.³⁴⁴

One other limitation of sorts may be contained in the language of certain court decisions which seem to say that only matters of “international concern” may be the subject of treaty negotiations.³⁴⁵ While this may appear to be a limitation, it does not take account of the elasticity of the concept of “international concern” by which the subject matter of treaties has constantly expanded over the years.³⁴⁶ At best, any attempted resolution of the issue of limitations must be an uneasy one.³⁴⁷

³⁴³Q. WRIGHT, *op. cit.*, n. 302, 101–103. See also, L. HENKIN, *op. cit.*, n. 315, 148–151.

³⁴⁴Cf. *Reid v. Covert*, 354 U.S. 1 (1957). And see *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258, 267 (1890).

³⁴⁵ “[I]t must be assumed that the framers of the Constitution intended that [the treaty power] should extend to all those objects which in the intercourse of nations had usually been regarded as the proper subjects of negotiation and treaty. . . .” *Holden v. Joy* 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 211, 243 (1872). With the exceptions noted, “it is not perceived that there is any limit to the questions which can be adjusted touching any matter which is properly the subject of negotiation with a foreign country.” *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258, 267 (1890). “The treatymaking power of the United States . . . does extend to all proper subjects of negotiation between our government and other nations.” *Asakura v. City of Seattle*, 265 U.S. 332, 341 (1924).

³⁴⁶Cf. L. HENKIN, *op. cit.*, n. 315, 151–156.

³⁴⁷Other reservations which have been expressed may be briefly noted. It has been contended that the territory of a State could not be ceded without such State’s consent. *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258, 267 (1890), citing *Fort Leavenworth R.R. v. Lowe*, 114 U.S. 525, 541 (1885). Cf. the Webster-Ashburton Treaty, Article V, 8 Stat. 572, 575. But see S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 220–229; 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, 294, 572–576.

A further contention is that while foreign territory can be annexed to the United States by the treaty power, it could not be incorporated with the United States except with the consent of Congress. *Downes v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 244, 310–344 (1901) (four Justices dissenting). This argument appears to be a variation of the one in regard to the correct procedure to give domestic effect to treaties.

Another argument grew out the XII Hague Convention of 1907, proposing an International Prize Court with appellate jurisdiction from national courts in prize cases. President Taft objected that no treaty could transfer to a tribunal not known to the Constitution any part of the judicial power of the United States and a compromise was arranged. Q. WRIGHT, *op. cit.*, n. 302, 117–118; H. Rept. No. 1569, 68th Congress, 2d sess. (1925).

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In brief, the fact that all the foreign relations power is vested in the National Government and that no formal restriction is imposed on the treaty-making power in the international context³⁴⁸ leaves little room for the notion of a limited treaty-making power with regard to the reserved rights of the States or in regard to the choice of matters concerning which the Federal Government may treat with other nations; protected individual rights appear to be sheltered by specific constitutional guarantees from the domestic effects of treaties, and the separation of powers at the federal level may require legislative action to give municipal effect to international agreements.

Interpretation and Termination of Treaties as International Compacts

The repeal by Congress of the “self-executing” clauses of a treaty as “law of the land” does not of itself terminate the treaty as an international contract, although it may very well provoke the other party to the treaty to do so. Hence, the questions arise where the Constitution lodges this power and where it lodges the power to interpret the contractual provisions of treaties. The first case of outright abrogation of a treaty by the United States occurred in 1798, when Congress by the Act of July 7 of that year, pronounced the United States freed and exonerated from the stipulations of the Treaties of 1778 with France.³⁴⁹ This act was followed two days later by one authorizing limited hostilities against the same country; in the case of *Bas v. Tingy*,³⁵⁰ the Supreme Court treated the act of abrogation as simply one of a bundle of acts declaring “public war” upon the French Republic.

Termination of Treaties by Notice.—Typically, a treaty provides for its termination by notice of one of the parties, usually after a prescribed time from the date of notice. Of course, treaties may also be terminated by agreement of the parties, or by breach by one of the parties, or by some other means. But it is in the instance of termination by notice that the issue has frequently been raised: where in the Government of the United States does the Constitution lodge the power to unmake treaties?³⁵¹ Reasonable

³⁴⁸ Cf. *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corp.*, 299 U.S. 304, 318 (1936); *Holmes v. Jenison*, 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 540, 575–576 (1840).

³⁴⁹ 1 Stat. 578 (1798).

³⁵⁰ 4 Dall. (4 U. S.) 37 (1800). See also *Gray v. United States*, 21 Ct. Cl. 340 (1886), with respect to claims arising out of this situation.

³⁵¹ The matter was most extensively canvassed in the debate with respect to President Carter's termination of the Mutual Defense Treaty of 1954 with the Republic of China (Taiwan). See, e.g., the various views argued in *Treaty Termination*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979). On the issue generally, see RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, op. cit.,

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arguments may be made locating the power in the President alone, in the President-and-Senate, or in the Congress. Presidents generally have asserted the foreign relations power reposed in them under Article II and the inherent powers argument made in *Curtiss-Wright*. Because the Constitution requires the consent of the Senate for making a treaty, one can logically argue that its consent is as well required for terminating it. Finally, because treaties are, like statutes, the supreme law of the land, it may well be argued that, again like statutes, they may be undone only through law-making by the entire Congress; additionally, since Congress may be required to implement treaties and may displace them through legislation, this argument is reenforced.

Definitive resolution of this argument appears remotely possible. Historical practice provides support for all three arguments, and the judicial branch seems unlikely to essay any answer.

While abrogation of the French treaty, mentioned above, is apparently the only example of termination by Congress through a public law, many instances may be cited of congressional actions mandating terminations by notice of the President or changing the legal environment so that the President is required to terminate. The initial precedent in the instance of termination by notice pursuant to congressional action appears to have occurred in 1846,³⁵² when by joint resolution Congress authorized the President at his discretion to notify the British government of the abrogation of the Convention of August 6, 1827, relative to the joint occupation of the Oregon Territory. As the President himself had requested the resolution, the episode is often cited to support the theory that international conventions to which the United States is a party, even those terminable on notice, are terminable only through action of Congress.³⁵³ Subsequently, Congress has often passed resolutions denouncing treaties or treaty provisions, which by their own terms were terminable on notice, and Presidents have usually, though not invariably, carried out such resolutions.³⁵⁴ By the La Follette-

n. 262, § 339; CRS Study, 158–167; L. HENKIN, *op. cit.*, n. 315, 167–171; Bestor, *Respective Roles of Senate and President in the Making and Abrogation of Treaties—The Original Intent of the Framers of the Constitution Historically Examined*, 55 Wash. L. Rev. 1 (1979); Berger, *The President's Unilateral Termination of the Taiwan Treaty*, 75 Nw. U. L. Rev. 577 (1980).

³⁵² Compare the different views of the 1846 action in *Treaty Termination*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979), 160–162 (memorandum of Hon. Herbert Hansell, Legal Advisor, Department of State), and in *Taiwan*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979), 300 (memorandum of Senator Goldwater).

³⁵³ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 458–459.

³⁵⁴ *Id.*, 459–462; Q. WRIGHT, *op. cit.*, n. 302, 258.

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Furuseth Seaman's Act,³⁵⁵ President Wilson was directed, "within ninety days after the passage of the act, to give notice to foreign governments that so much of any treaties as might be in conflict with the provisions of the act would terminate on the expiration of the periods of notice provided for in such treaties," and the required notice was given.³⁵⁶ When, however, by section 34 of the Jones Merchant Marine Act of 1920, the same President was authorized and directed within ninety days to give notice to the other parties to certain treaties, with which the Act was not in conflict but which might restrict Congress in the future from enacting discriminatory tonnage duties, President Wilson refused to comply, asserting that he "did not deem the direction contained in section 34 . . . an exercise of any constitutional power possessed by Congress."³⁵⁷ The same attitude toward section 34 was continued by Presidents Harding and Coolidge.³⁵⁸

Very few precedents exist in which the President terminated a treaty after obtaining the approval of the Senate alone. The first occurred in 1854–1855, when President Pierce requested and received Senate approval to terminate a treaty with Denmark.³⁵⁹ When the validity of this action was questioned in the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations reported that the procedure was correct, that prior full-Congress actions were incorrect, and that the right to terminate resides in the treaty-making authorities, the President and the Senate.³⁶⁰

³⁵⁵ 38 Stat. 1164 (1915).

³⁵⁶ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 460. See *Van der Weyde v. Ocean Transp. Co.*, 297 U. S. 114 (1936).

³⁵⁷ 41 Stat. 1007. See Reeves, *The Jones Act and the Denunciation of Treaties*, 15 Am. J. Int'l. L. 33 (1921). In 1879, Congress passed a resolution requiring the President to abrogate a treaty with China, but President Hayes vetoed it, partly on the ground that Congress as an entity had no role to play in ending treaties, only the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. 9 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 4466, 4470–4471. For the views of President Taft on the matter in context, see W. TAFT, *THE PRESIDENCY, ITS DUTIES, ITS POWERS, ITS OPPORTUNITIES AND ITS LIMITATIONS* (New York: 1916), 112–113.

³⁵⁸ Since this time, very few instances appear in which Congress has requested or directed termination by notice, but they have resulted in compliance. E.g., 65 Stat. 72 (1951) (directing termination of most-favored-nation provisions with certain Communist countries in commercial treaties); 70 Stat. 773 (1956) (requesting renunciation of treaty rights of extraterritoriality in Morocco). The most recent example appears to be § 313 of the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, which required the Secretary of State to terminate immediately, in accordance with its terms, the tax treaty and protocol with South Africa that had been concluded on December 13, 1946. P. L. 99–440, 100 Stat. 3515, 22 U.S.C. § 5063.

³⁵⁹ 5 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 279, 334.

³⁶⁰ S. Rept. No. 97, 34th Congress, 1st sess. (1856), 6–7. The other instance was President Wilson's request, which the Senate endorsed, for termination of the International Sanitary Convention of 1903. See 61 Cong. Rec. 1793–1794 (1921). See CRS Study, *op. cit.*, n. 262, 161–162.

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Examples of treaty terminations in which the President acted alone are much disputed with respect both to facts and to the underlying legal circumstances.³⁶¹ Apparently, President Lincoln was the first to give notice of termination in the absence of prior congressional authorization or direction, and Congress shortly thereafter by joint resolution ratified his action.³⁶² The first such action by the President, with no such subsequent congressional action, appears to be that of President McKinley in 1899, in terminating an 1850 treaty with Switzerland, but the action may be explainable as the treaty being inconsistent with a subsequently enacted law.³⁶³ Other such renunciations by the President acting on his own have been similarly explained, and similarly the explanations have been controverted. While the Department of State, in setting forth legal justification for President Carter's notice of termination of the treaty with Taiwan, cited many examples of the President acting alone, many of these are ambiguous and may be explained away by, i.e., conflicts with later statutes, changed circumstances, or the like.³⁶⁴

No such ambiguity accompanied President Carter's action on the Taiwan treaty,³⁶⁵ and a somewhat lengthy Senate debate was provoked. In the end, the Senate on a preliminary vote approved a "sense of the Senate" resolution claiming for itself a consenting role in the termination of treaties, but no final vote was ever taken and the Senate thus did not place itself in conflict with the President.³⁶⁶ However, several Members of Congress went to court to contest the termination, apparently the first time a judicial resolu-

³⁶¹ Compare, e.g., *Treaty Termination*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979), 156–191 (memorandum of Hon. Herbert Hansell, Legal Advisor, Department of State), with *Taiwan*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979), 300–307 (memorandum of Senator Goldwater). See CRS Study, op. cit., n. 262, 164–166.

³⁶² 13 Stat. 568 (1865).

³⁶³ The treaty, see 11 C. BEVANS, *TREATIES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA* (Washington: 1970), 894, was probably at odds with the Tariff Act of 1897. 30 Stat. 151.

³⁶⁴ Compare the views expressed in the Hansell and Goldwater memoranda, op. cit., n. 361. For expressions of views preceding the immediate controversy, see, e.g., Riesenfeld, *The Power of Congress and the President in International Relations*, 25 Calif. L. Rev. 643, 658–665 (1937); Nelson, *The Termination of Treaties and Executive Agreements by the United States*, 42 Minn. L. Rev. 879 (1958).

³⁶⁵ Note that the President terminated the treaty in the face of an expression of the sense of Congress that prior consultation between President and Congress should occur. 92 Stat. 730, 746 (1978).

³⁶⁶ Originally, S. Res. 15 had disapproved presidential action alone, but it was amended and reported by the Foreign Relations Committee to recognize at least 14 bases of presidential termination. S. Rept. No. 119, 96th Congress, 1st sess. (1979). In turn, this resolution was amended to state the described sense of the Senate view, but the matter was never brought to final action. See 125 Cong. Rec. 13672, 13696, 13711, 15209, 15859 (1979).

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tion of the question had been sought. A divided Court of Appeals, on the merits, held that presidential action was sufficient by itself to terminate treaties, but the Supreme Court, no majority agreeing on a common ground, vacated that decision and instructed the trial court to dismiss the suit.³⁶⁷ While no opinion of the Court bars future litigation, it appears that the political question doctrine or some other rule of judicial restraint will leave such disputes to the contending forces of the political branches.³⁶⁸

Determination Whether a Treaty Has Lapsed.—At the same time, there is clear judicial recognition that the President may without consulting Congress validly determine the question whether specific treaty provisions have lapsed. The following passage from Justice Lurton's opinion in *Charlton v. Kelly*³⁶⁹ is pertinent: "If the attitude of Italy was, as contended, a violation of the obligation of the treaty, which, in international law, would have justified the United States in denouncing the treaty as no longer obligatory, it did not automatically have that effect. If the United States elected not to declare its abrogation, or come to a rupture, the treaty would remain in force. It was only voidable, not void; and if the United States should prefer, it might waive any breach which in its judgment had occurred and conform to its own obligation as if there had been no such breach. . . . That the political branch of the Government recognizes the treaty obligation as still existing is evidenced by its action in this case. . . . The executive department having thus elected to waive any right to free itself from the obligation to deliver up its own citizens, it is the plain duty of this court to recognize the obligation to surrender the appellant as one imposed by the treaty as the supreme law of the land as affording authority for the warrant of extradition."³⁷⁰ So also it is primarily for the political departments to determine whether certain provisions of a treaty have survived a war in which the other contracting state ceased to exist as a member of the international community.³⁷¹

Status of a Treaty a Political Question.—At any rate, it is clear that many questions which arise concerning a treaty are of a political nature and will not be decided by the courts. In the

³⁶⁷ *Goldwater v. Carter*, 617 F.2d 697 (D.C.Cir.) (*en banc*), *vacated and remanded*, 444 U.S. 996 (1979). Four Justices found the case nonjusticiable because of the political question doctrine, *id.*, 1002, but one other Justice in the majority and one in dissent rejected this analysis. *Id.*, 998 (Justice Powell), 1006 (Justice Brennan). The remaining three Justices were silent on the doctrine.

³⁶⁸ Cf. *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 211–213, 217 (1962).

³⁶⁹ 229 U.S. 447 (1913).

³⁷⁰ *Id.*, 473–476.

³⁷¹ *Clark v. Allen*, 331 U.S. 503 (1947).

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words of Justice Curtis in *Taylor v. Morton*:³⁷² It is not “a judicial question, whether a treaty with a foreign sovereign has been violated by him; whether the consideration of a particular stipulation in a treaty, has been voluntarily withdrawn by one party, so that it is no longer obligatory on the other; whether the views and acts of a foreign sovereign, manifested through his representative have given just occasion to the political departments of our government to withhold the execution of a promise contained in a treaty, or to act in direct contravention of such promise. . . . These powers have not been confided by the people to the judiciary, which has no suitable means to exercise them; but to the executive and the legislative departments of our government. They belong to diplomacy and legislation, and not to the administration of existing laws and it necessarily follows that if they are denied to Congress and the Executive, in the exercise of their legislative power, they can be found nowhere, in our system of government.” Chief Justice Marshall’s language in *Foster v. Neilson*³⁷³ is to the same effect.

Indian Treaties

In the early cases of *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*,³⁷⁴ and *Worcester v. Georgia*,³⁷⁵ the Court, speaking by Chief Justice Marshall, held, first, that the Cherokee Nation was not a sovereign state within the meaning of that clause of the Constitution which extends the judicial power of the United States to controversies “between a State or the citizens thereof and foreign states, citizens or subjects.” Second, it held: “The Constitution, by declaring treaties already made, as well as those to be made, to be the supreme law of the land, had adopted and sanctioned the previous treaties with the Indian nations, and consequently admits their rank among those powers who are capable of making treaties. The words ‘treaty’ and ‘nation’ are words of our own language, selected in our diplomatic and legislative proceedings, by ourselves, having each a definite and well understood meaning. We have applied them to Indians, as we have applied them to the other nations of the earth. They are applied to all in the same sense.”³⁷⁶

Later cases established that the power to make treaties with the Indian tribes was coextensive with the power to make treaties

³⁷² 23 Fed. Cas. 784 (No. 13,799) (C.C.D. Mass. 1855).

³⁷³ 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 253, 309 (1829). *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186 (1962), qualifies this certainty considerably, and *Goldwater v. Carter*, 444 U.S. 996 (1979), prolongs the uncertainty. See L. HENKIN, *op. cit.*, n. 315, 208–216; RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, *op. cit.*, n. 262, § 326.

³⁷⁴ 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 1 (1831).

³⁷⁵ 6 Pet. (31 U.S.) 515 (1832).

³⁷⁶ *Id.*, 558.

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with foreign nations,³⁷⁷ that the States were incompetent to interfere with rights created by such treaties,³⁷⁸ that as long as the United States recognized the national character of a tribe, its members were under the protection of treaties and of the laws of Congress and their property immune from taxation by a State,³⁷⁹ that a stipulation in an Indian treaty that laws forbidding the introduction, of liquors into Indian territory was operative without legislation, and binding on the courts although the territory was within an organized county of a State,³⁸⁰ and that an act of Congress contrary to a prior Indian treaty repealed it.³⁸¹

Present Status of Indian Treaties.—Today, the subject of Indian treaties is a closed account in the constitutional law ledger. By a rider inserted in the Indian Appropriation Act of March 3, 1871, it was provided “That hereafter no Indian nation or tribe within the territory of the United States shall be acknowledged or recognized as an independent nation, tribe, or power with whom the United States may contract by treaty: Provided, further, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to invalidate or impair the obligation of any treaty heretofore lawfully made and ratified with any such Indian nation or tribe.”³⁸² Subsequently, the power of Congress to withdraw or modify tribal rights previously granted by treaty has been invariably upheld. Thus the admission of Wyoming as a State was found to abrogate, *pro tanto*, a treaty guaranteeing certain Indians the right to hunt on unoccupied lands of the United States so long as game may be found thereon and to bring hunting by the Indians within the police power of the State.³⁸³ Similarly, statutes modifying rights of members in tribal lands,³⁸⁴ granting a right of way for a railroad through lands ceded by treaty to an Indian tribe,³⁸⁵ or extending the application of revenue laws respecting liquor and tobacco over Indian territories, despite an earlier treaty exemption,³⁸⁶ have been sustained.

When, on the other hand, definite property rights have been conferred upon individual Native Americans, whether by treaty or under an act of Congress, they are protected by the Constitution

³⁷⁷ *Holden v. Joy*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 211, 242 (1872); *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*, 93 U.S. 188, 192 (1876); *Dick v. United States*, 208 U.S. 340, 355–356 (1908).

³⁷⁸ *The New York Indians*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 761 (1867).

³⁷⁹ *The Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 737, 757 (1867).

³⁸⁰ *United States v. Forty-Three Gallons of Whiskey*, 93 U.S. 188, 196 (1876).

³⁸¹ *The Cherokee Tobacco*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 616 (1871). See also *Ward v. Race Horse*, 163 U.S. 504, 511 (1896); *Thomas v. Gay*, 169 U.S. 264, 270 (1898).

³⁸² 16 Stat. 566; Rev. Stat. § 2079, now contained in 25 U.S.C. § 71.

³⁸³ *Ward v. Race Horse*, 163 U.S. 504 (1896).

³⁸⁴ *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock*, 187 U.S. 553 (1903).

³⁸⁵ *Cherokee Nation v. Southern Kansas Ry. Co.*, 135 U.S. 641 (1890).

³⁸⁶ *The Cherokee Tobacco*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 616, 621 (1871).

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to the same extent and in the same way as the private rights of other residents or citizens of the United States. Hence it was held that certain Indian allottees under an agreement according to which, in part consideration of their relinquishment of all their claim to tribal property, they were to receive in severalty allotments of lands which were to be nontaxable for a specified period, acquired vested rights of exemption from State taxation which were protected by the Fifth Amendment against abrogation by Congress.³⁸⁷

A regular staple of each Term's docket of the Court is one or two cases calling for an interpretation of the rights of Native Americans under some treaty arrangement vis-a-vis the Federal Government or the States. Thus, though no treaties have been negotiated for decades and none presumably ever will again, litigation concerning old treaties seemingly will go on.

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS WITHOUT SENATE APPROVAL

The capacity of the United States to enter into agreements with other nations is not exhausted in the treaty-making power. The Constitution recognizes a distinction between "treaties" and "agreements" or "compacts" but does not indicate what the difference is.³⁸⁸ The differences, which once may have been clearer, have been seriously blurred in practice within recent decades. Once a stepchild in the family in which treaties were the preferred offspring, the executive agreement has surpassed in number and perhaps in international influence the treaty formally signed, submitted for ratification to the Senate, and proclaimed upon ratification.

During the first half-century of its independence, the United States was party to sixty treaties but to only twenty-seven published executive agreements. By the beginning of World War II, there had been concluded approximately 800 treaties and 1,200 executive agreements. In the period 1940–1989, the Nation entered into 759 treaties and into 13,016 published executive agreements. Cumulatively, in 1989, the United States was a party to 890 treaties and 5,117 executive agreements. To phrase it comparatively, in the first 50 years of its history, the United States concluded twice

³⁸⁷ Choate v. Trapp, 224 U.S. 665, 677–678 (1912); Jones v. Meehan, 175 U.S. 1 (1899). See also Hodel v. Irving, 481 U.S. 704 (1987) (section of law providing for escheat to tribe of fractionated interests in land representing less than 2% of a tract's total acreage violates Fifth Amendment's taking clause by completely abrogating rights of intestacy and devise).

³⁸⁸ Compare Article II, § 2, cl. 2, and Article VI, cl. 2, with Article I, 10, cls. 1 and 3. Cf. Holmes v. Jennison, 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 540, 570–572 (1840). And note the discussion in Weinberger v. Rossi, 456 U.S. 25, 28–32 (1982).

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as many treaties as executive agreements. In the 50-year period from 1839 to 1889, a few more executive agreements than treaties were entered into. From 1889 to 1939, almost twice as many executive agreements as treaties were concluded. In the period since 1939, executive agreements have comprised more than 90% of the international agreements concluded.³⁸⁹

One must, of course, interpret the raw figures carefully. Only a very small minority of all the executive agreements entered into were based solely on the powers of the President as Commander-in-Chief and organ of foreign relations; the remainder were authorized in advance by Congress by statute or by treaty provisions ratified by the Senate.³⁹⁰ Thus, consideration of the constitutional significance of executive agreements must begin with a differentiation among the kinds of agreements which are classed under this single heading.³⁹¹

Executive Agreements by Authorization of Congress

Congress early authorized the entry into negotiation and agreement of officers of the executive branch with foreign governments, authorizing the borrowing of money from foreign countries³⁹² and appropriating money to pay off the government of Al-

³⁸⁹ CRS Study, op. cit., n. 262, xxxiv-xxxv, 13-16. Not all such agreements, of course, are published, either because of national-security/secretcy considerations or because the subject matter is trivial. In a 1953 hearing exchange, Secretary of State Dulles estimated that about 10,000 executive agreements had been entered into in connection with the NATO treaty. "Every time we open a new privy, we have to have an executive agreement." *Hearing on S.J. Res. 1 and S.J. Res. 43*, Before a Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, 83d Congress, 1st sess. (1953), 877.

³⁹⁰ One authority concluded that of the executive agreements entered into between 1938 and 1957, only 5.9 percent were based exclusively on the President's constitutional authority. McLaughlin, *The Scope of the Treaty Power in the United States—II*, 43 Minn. L. Rev. 651, 721 (1959). Another, somewhat overlapping study found that in the period 1946-1972, 88.3% of executive agreements were based at least in part on statutory authority; 6.2% were based on treaties, and 5.5% were based solely on executive authority. *International Agreements: An Analysis of Executive Regulations and Practices*, A Study Prepared for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations by the Congressional Research Service, 95th Cong., 1st sess. (Comm. Print) (1977), 22.

³⁹¹ "[T]he distinction between so-called 'executive agreements' and 'treaties' is purely a constitutional one and has no international significance." Harvard Research in International Law, *Draft Convention on the Law of Treaties*, 29 Amer. J. Int. L. 697 (Supp.) (1935). See E. BYRD, op. cit., n. 292, 148-151. Many scholars have aggressively promoted the use of executive agreements, in contrast to treaties, as a means of enhancing the role of the United States, especially the role of the President, in the international system. See McDougal & Lans, *Treaties and Congressional-Executive or Presidential Agreements: Interchangeable Instruments of National Policy (Pts. I & II)*, 54 Yale L. J. 181, 534 (1945).

³⁹² 1 Stat. 138 (1790). See E. BYRD, op. cit., n. 292, 53 n. 146.

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giers to prevent pirate attacks on United States shipping.³⁹³ Perhaps the first formal authorization in advance of an executive agreement was enactment of a statute that permitted the Postmaster General to “make arrangements with the Postmasters in any foreign country for the reciprocal receipt and delivery of letters and packets, through the post offices.”³⁹⁴ Congress has also approved, usually by resolution, other executive agreements, such as the annexing of Texas and Hawaii and the acquisition of Samoa.³⁹⁵ A prolific source of executive agreements has been the authorization of reciprocal arrangements between the United States and other countries for the securing of protection for patents, copyrights, and trademarks.³⁹⁶

Reciprocal Trade Agreements.—But the most copious source of executive agreements has been legislation which provided authority for the entering into of reciprocal trade agreements with other nations.³⁹⁷ Such agreements in the form of treaties providing for the reciprocal reduction of duties subject to implementation by Congress were frequently entered into,³⁹⁸ but beginning with the Tariff Act of 1890³⁹⁹ Congress began to insert provisions authorizing the Executive to bargain over reciprocity with no necessity of subsequent legislative action. The authority was widened in successive acts.⁴⁰⁰ Then, in the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1934,⁴⁰¹ Congress authorized the President to enter into agreements with other nations for reductions of tariffs and other impediments to international trade and to put the reductions into effect through proclamation.⁴⁰²

The Constitutionality of Trade Agreements.—In *Field v. Clark*,⁴⁰³ this type of legislation was sustained against the objection that it attempted an unconstitutional delegation “of both legis-

³⁹³ W. McCLURE, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE AGREEMENTS (New York: 1941), 41.

³⁹⁴ *Id.*, 38–40. The statute was 1 Stat. 232, 239, 26 (1792).

³⁹⁵ *Id.*, 62–70.

³⁹⁶ *Id.*, 78–81; S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n.264, 127–131; see CRS Study, *op. cit.*, n. 262, 52–55.

³⁹⁷ *Id.*, 121–127; W. McCLURE, *op. cit.*, n. 393, 83–92, 173–189.

³⁹⁸ *Id.*, 8, 59–60.

³⁹⁹ § 3, 26 Stat. 567, 612.

⁴⁰⁰ Tariff Act of 1897, § 3, 30 Stat. 15, 203; Tariff Act of 1909, 36 Stat. 11, 82.

⁴⁰¹ 48 Stat. 943, § 350(a), 19 U.S.C. §§ 1351–1354.

⁴⁰² See the continued expansion of the authority. Trade Expansion Act of 1962, 76 Stat. 872, § 201, 19 U.S.C. § 1821; Trade Act of 1974, 88 Stat. 1982, as amended, 19 U.S.C. §§ 2111, 2115, 2131(b), 2435. Congress has, with respect to the authorization to the President to negotiate multilateral trade agreements under the auspices of GATT, constrained itself in considering implementing legislation, creating a “fast-track” procedure under which legislation is brought up under a tight timetable and without the possibility of amendment. 19 U.S.C. §§ 2191–2194.

⁴⁰³ 143 U.S. 649 (1892).

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lative and treaty-making powers.” The Court met the first objection with an extensive review of similar legislation from the inauguration of government under the Constitution. The second objection it met with a curt rejection: “What has been said is equally applicable to the objection that the third section of the act invests the President with treaty-making power. The Court is of opinion that the third section of the act of October 1, 1890, is not liable to the objection that it transfers legislative and treaty-making power to the President.”⁴⁰⁴ Although two Justices disagreed, the question has never been revived. However, in *B. Altman & Co. v. United States*,⁴⁰⁵ decided twenty years later, a collateral question was passed upon. This was whether an act of Congress which gave the federal circuit courts of appeal jurisdiction of cases in which “the validity or construction of any treaty . . . was drawn in question” embraced a case involving a trade agreement which had been made under the sanction of Tariff Act of 1897. Said the Court: “While it may be true that this commercial agreement, made under authority of the Tariff Act of 1897, § 3, was not a treaty possessing the dignity of one requiring ratification by the Senate of the United States, it was an international compact, negotiated between the representatives of two sovereign nations and made in the name and on behalf of the contracting countries, and dealing with important commercial relations between the two countries, and was proclaimed by the President. If not technically a treaty requiring ratification, nevertheless, it was a compact authorized by the Congress of the United States, negotiated and proclaimed under the authority of its President. We think such a compact is a treaty under the Circuit Court of Appeals Act, and, where its construction is directly involved, as it is here, there is a right of review by direct appeal to this court.”⁴⁰⁶

The Lend-Lease Act.—The most extensive delegation of authority ever made by Congress to the President to enter into executive agreements occurred within the field of the cognate powers of the two departments, the field of foreign relations, and took place at a time when war appeared to be in the offing and was in fact only a few months away. The legislation referred to is the Lend-

⁴⁰⁴ *Id.*, 694. See also *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654 (1981), in which the Court sustained a series of implementing actions by the President pursuant to executive agreements with Iran in order to settle the hostage crisis. The Court found that Congress had delegated to the President certain economic powers underlying the agreements and that his suspension of claims powers had been implicitly ratified over time by Congress’ failure to set aside the asserted power. Also see *Weinberger v. Rossi*, 456 U.S. 25, 29–30 n. 6 (1982).

⁴⁰⁵ 224 U.S. 583 (1912).

⁴⁰⁶ *Id.*, 601.

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Lease Act of March 11, 1941,⁴⁰⁷ by which the President was empowered for something over two years—and subsequently for additional periods whenever he deemed it in the interest of the national defense to do so—to authorize “the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, or the head of any other department or agency of the Government,” to manufacture in the government arsenals, factories, and shipyards, or “otherwise procure,” to the extent that available funds made possible, “defense articles”—later amended to include foodstuffs and industrial products—and “sell, transfer title to, exchange, lease, lend, or otherwise dispose of,” the same to the “government of any country whose defense the President deems vital to the defense of the United States,” and on any terms that he “deems satisfactory.” Under this authorization the United States entered into Mutual Aid Agreements whereby the Government furnished its allies in World War II forty billions of dollars worth of munitions of war and other supplies.

International Organizations.—Overlapping of the treaty-making power through congressional-executive cooperation in international agreements is also demonstrated by the use of resolutions approving the United States joining of international organizations⁴⁰⁸ and participating in international conventions.⁴⁰⁹

Executive Agreements Authorized by Treaties

Arbitration Agreements.—In 1904–1905, Secretary of State John Hay negotiated a series of treaties providing for the general arbitration of international disputes. Article II of the treaty with Great Britain, for example, provided as follows: “In each individual case the High Contracting Parties, before appealing to the Permanent Court of Arbitration, shall conclude a special Agreement defining clearly the matter in dispute and the scope of the powers of the Arbitrators, and fixing the periods for the formation of the Arbitral Tribunal and the several stages of the procedure.”⁴¹⁰ The Senate approved the British treaty by the constitutional majority having, however, first amended it by substituting the word “treaty” for “agreement.” President Theodore Roosevelt, characterizing the “ratification” as equivalent to rejection, sent the treaties to repose in the archives. “As a matter of historical practice,” Dr. McClure comments, “the *compromis* under which disputes have been arbitrated include both treaties and executive agreements in goodly

⁴⁰⁷ 55 Stat. 31.

⁴⁰⁸ E.g., 48 Stat. 1182 (1934), authorizing the President to accept membership for the United States in the International Labor Organization.

⁴⁰⁹ See E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 216.

⁴¹⁰ W. MCCLURE, *op. cit.*, n. 393, 13–14.

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numbers,”⁴¹¹ a statement supported by both Willoughby and Moore.⁴¹²

Agreements Under the United Nations Charter.—Article 43 of the United Nations Charter provides: “1. All Members of the United Nations, in order to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, undertake to make available to the Security Council, on its call and in accordance with a special agreement or agreements, armed forces, assistance, and facilities, including rights of passage, necessary for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security. 2. Such agreement or agreements shall govern the numbers and types of forces, their degree of readiness and general location, and the nature of the facilities and assistance to be provided. 3. The agreement or agreements shall be negotiated as soon as possible on the initiative of the Security Council. They shall be concluded between the Security Council and Members or between the Security Council and groups of Members and shall be subject to ratification by the signatory states in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.”⁴¹³ This time the Senate did not boggle over the word “agreement.”

The United Nations Participation Act of December 20, 1945, implements these provisions as follows: “The President is authorized to negotiate a special agreement or agreements with the Security Council which shall be subject to the approval of the Congress by appropriate Act or joint resolution, providing for the numbers and types of armed forces, their degree of readiness and general location, and the nature of facilities and assistance, including rights of passage, to be made available to the Security Council on its call for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security in accordance with article 43 of said Charter. The President shall not be deemed to require the authorization of the Congress to make available to the Security Council on its call in order to take action under article 42 of said Charter and pursuant to such special agreement or agreements the armed forces, facilities, or assistance provided for therein: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as an authorization to the President by the Congress to make available to the Security Council for such purpose armed forces, facilities, or assistance in addition to the forces, facilities, and assistance provided for in such special agreement or agreements.”⁴¹⁴

⁴¹¹ *Id.*, 14.

⁴¹² 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n. 294, 543.

⁴¹³ *A Decade of American Foreign Policy*, S. Doc. No. 123, 81st Cong., 1st Sess., 126 (1950).

⁴¹⁴ *Id.*, 158.

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Status of Forces Agreements.—Negotiated pursuant to authorizations contained in treaties between the United States and foreign nations in the territory of which American troops and their dependents are stationed, these Agreements afford the United States a qualified privilege, which may be waived, of trying by court martial soldiers and their dependents charged with commission of offenses normally within the exclusive, criminal jurisdiction of the foreign signatory power. When the United States, in conformity with the waiver clause in such an Agreement, consented to the trial in a Japanese court of a soldier charged with causing the death of a Japanese woman on a firing range in that country, the Court could “find no constitutional barrier” to such action.⁴¹⁵ However, at least five of the Supreme Court Justices were persuaded to reject at length the contention that such Agreements could sustain, as necessary and proper for their effectuation, implementing legislation subsequently found by the Court to contravene constitutional guaranties set forth in the Bill of Rights.⁴¹⁶

Executive Agreements on the Sole Constitutional Authority of the President

Many types of executive agreements comprise the ordinary daily grist of the diplomatic mill. Among these are such as apply to minor territorial adjustments, boundary rectifications, the policing of boundaries, the regulation of fishing rights, private pecuniary claims against another government or its nationals, in Story’s words, “the mere private rights of sovereignty.”⁴¹⁷ Crandall lists scores of such agreements entered into with other governments by the authorization of the President.⁴¹⁸ Such agreements were ordinarily directed to particular and comparatively trivial disputes and by the settlement they effect of these cease *ipso facto* to be operative. Also, there are such time-honored diplomatic devices as the “protocol” which marks a stage in the negotiation of a treaty, and the *modus vivendi*, which is designed to serve as a temporary substitute for one. Executive agreements become of constitutional significance when they constitute a determinative factor of future foreign policy and hence of the country’s destiny. In consequence particularly of our participation in World War II and our immersion in the conditions of international tension which prevailed both be-

⁴¹⁵ Wilson v. Girard, 354 U.S. 524 (1957).

⁴¹⁶ Reid v. Covert, 354 U.S. 1, 16–17 (1957) (plurality opinion); *id.*, 66 (Justice Harlan concurring).

⁴¹⁷ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1397.

⁴¹⁸ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, ch. 8; see also W. MCCLURE, *op. cit.*, n. 393, chs. 1, 2.

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fore and after the war, Presidents have entered into agreements with other governments some of which have approximated temporary alliances. It cannot be justly said, however, that in so doing they have acted without considerable support from precedent.

An early instance of executive treaty-making was the agreement by which President Monroe in 1817 brought about a delimitation of armaments on the Great Lakes. The arrangement was effected by an exchange of notes, which nearly a year later were laid before the Senate with a query as to whether it was within the President's power, or whether advice and consent of the Senate was required. The Senate approved the agreement by the required two-thirds vote, and it was forthwith proclaimed by the President without there having been a formal exchange of ratifications.⁴¹⁹ Of a kindred type, and owing much to the President's capacity as Commander-in-Chief, was a series of agreements entered into with Mexico between 1882 and 1896 according each country the right to pursue marauding Indians across the common border.⁴²⁰ Commenting on such an agreement, the Court remarked, a bit uncertainly: "While no act of Congress authorizes the executive department to permit the introduction of foreign troops, the power to give such permission without legislative assent was probably assumed to exist from the authority of the President as commander in chief of the military and naval forces of the United States. It may be doubted, however, whether such power could be extended to the apprehension of deserters [from foreign vessels] in the absence of positive legislation to that effect."⁴²¹ Justice Gray and three other Justices were of the opinion that such action by the President must rest upon express treaty or statute.⁴²²

Notable expansion of presidential power in this field first became manifest in the administration of President McKinley. At the outset of war with Spain, the President proclaimed that the United States would consider itself bound for the duration by the last three principles of the Declaration of Paris, a course which, as Professor Wright observes, "would doubtless go far toward establishing these three principles as international law obligatory upon the United States in future wars."⁴²³ Hostilities with Spain were brought to an end in August, 1898, by an armistice the conditions

⁴¹⁹ *Id.*, 49–50.

⁴²⁰ *Id.*, 81–82.

⁴²¹ *Tucker v. Alexandroff*, 183 U.S. 424, 435 (1902).

⁴²² *Id.*, 467. The first of these conventions, signed July 29, 1882, had asserted its constitutionality in very positive terms. *Q. WRIGHT*, *op. cit.*, n. 302, 239 (quoting *Watts v. United States*, 1 Wash. Terr. 288, 294 (1870)).

⁴²³ *Id.*, 245.

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of which largely determined the succeeding treaty of peace,⁴²⁴ just as did the Armistice of November 11, 1918, determine in great measure the conditions of the final peace with Germany in 1918. It was also President McKinley who in 1900, relying on his own sole authority as Commander-in-Chief, contributed a land force of 5,000 men and a naval force to cooperate with similar contingents from other Powers to rescue the legations in Peking from the Boxers; a year later, again without consulting either Congress or the Senate, he accepted for the United States the Boxer Indemnity Protocol between China and the intervening Powers.⁴²⁵ Commenting on the Peking protocol Willoughby quotes with approval the following remark: "This case is interesting, because it shows how the force of circumstances compelled us to adopt the European practice with reference to an international agreement, which, aside from the indemnity question, was almost entirely political in character . . . purely political treaties are, under constitutional practice in Europe, usually made by the executive alone. The situation in China, however, abundantly justified President McKinley in not submitting the protocol to the Senate. The remoteness of Peking, the jealousies between the allies, and the shifting evasive tactics of the Chinese Government, would have made impossible anything but an agreement on the spot."⁴²⁶

It was during this period, too, that John Hay, as McKinley's Secretary of State, initiated his "Open Door" policy, by notes to Great Britain, Germany, and Russia, which were soon followed by similar notes to France, Italy and Japan. These in substance asked the recipients to declare formally that they would not seek to enlarge their respective interests in China at the expense of any of the others; and all responded favorably.⁴²⁷ Then, in 1905, the first Roosevelt, seeking to arrive at a diplomatic understanding with Japan, instigated an exchange of opinions between Secretary of War Taft, then in the Far East, and Count Katsura, amounting to a secret treaty, by which the Roosevelt administration assented to the establishment by Japan of a military protectorate in Korea.⁴²⁸ Three years later, Secretary of State Root and the Japanese ambassador at Washington entered into the Root-Takahira Agreement to uphold the *status quo* in the Pacific and maintain the principle of equal opportunity for commerce and industry in China.⁴²⁹ Meantime, in 1907, by a "Gentleman's Agreement," the Mikado's govern-

⁴²⁴ S. CRANDALL, *op. cit.*, n. 264, 103-104.

⁴²⁵ *Id.*, 104.

⁴²⁶ I W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n. 294, 539.

⁴²⁷ W. MCCLURE, *op. cit.*, n. 393, 98.

⁴²⁸ *Id.*, 96-97.

⁴²⁹ *Id.*, 98-99.

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ment had agreed to curb the emigration of Japanese subjects to the United States, thereby relieving the Washington government from the necessity of taking action that would have cost Japan loss of face. The final result of this series of executive agreements touching American relations in and with the Far East was the product of President Wilson's diplomacy. This was the Lansing-Ishii Agreement, embodied in an exchange of letters dated November 2, 1917, by which the United States recognized Japan's "special interests" in China, and Japan assented to the principle of the Open Door in that country.⁴³⁰

The Litvinov Agreement.—The executive agreement attained its modern development as an instrument of foreign policy under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, at times threatening to replace the treaty-making power, not formally but in effect, as a determinative element in the field of foreign policy. The President's first important utilization of the executive agreement device took the form of an exchange of notes on November 16, 1933, with Maxim M. Litvinov, the USSR Commissar for Foreign Affairs, whereby American recognition was extended to the Soviet Union and certain pledges made by each official.⁴³¹

The Hull-Lothian Agreement.—With the fall of France in June, 1940, President Roosevelt entered that summer into two executive agreements the total effect of which was to transform the role of the United States from one of strict neutrality toward the European war to one of semi-belligerency. The first agreement was with Canada and provided for the creation of a Permanent Joint Board on Defense which would "consider in the broad sense the defense of the north half of the Western Hemisphere."⁴³² Second, and more important than the first, was the Hull-Lothian Agreement of September 2, 1940, under which, in return for the lease for ninety-nine years of certain sites for naval bases in the British West Atlantic, the United States handed over to the British Government fifty over-age destroyers which had been reconditioned and recommissioned.⁴³³ And on April 9, 1941, the State Department, in consideration of the just-completed German occupation of Denmark, entered into an executive agreement with the Danish min-

⁴³⁰ Id., 99–100.

⁴³¹ Id., 140–144.

⁴³² Id., 391.

⁴³³ Id., 391–393. Attorney General Jackson's defense of the presidential power to enter into the arrangement placed great reliance on the President's "inherent" powers under the Commander-in-Chief clause and as sole organ of foreign relations but ultimately found adequate statutory authority to take the steps deemed desirable. 39 Ops. Atty. Gen. 484 (1940).

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ister in Washington, whereby the United States acquired the right to occupy Greenland for purposes of defense.⁴³⁴

The Post-War Years.—Post-war diplomacy of the United States was greatly influenced by the executive agreements entered into at Cairo, Teheran, Yalta, and Potsdam.⁴³⁵ For a period, the formal treaty—the signing of the United Nations Charter and the entry into the multinational defense pacts, like NATO, SEATO, CENTRO, and the like—reestablished itself, but soon the executive agreement, as an adjunct of treaty arrangement or solely through presidential initiative, again became the principal instrument of United States foreign policy, so that it became apparent in the 1960s that the Nation was committed in one way or another to assisting over half the countries of the world protect themselves.⁴³⁶ Congressional disquietitude did not result in anything more substantial than passage of a “sense of the Senate” resolution expressing a desire that “national commitments” be made more solemnly in the future than in the past.⁴³⁷

The Domestic Obligation of Executive Agreements

When the President enters into an executive agreement, what sort of obligation is thereby imposed upon the United States? That international obligations of potentially serious consequences may be imposed is obvious and that such obligations may linger for long periods of time is equally obvious.⁴³⁸ But the question is more directly pointed to the domestic obligations imposed by such agreements; are treaties and executive agreements interchangeable insofar as domestic effect is concerned?⁴³⁹ Executive agreements entered into pursuant to congressional authorization and probably

⁴³⁴ 4 Dept. State Bull. 443 (1941).

⁴³⁵ See *A Decade of American Foreign Policy, Basic Documents 1941–1949*, S. Doc. No. 123, 81st Congress, 1st sess. (1950), pt. 1.

⁴³⁶ For a congressional attempt to evaluate the extent of such commitments, see *United States Security Agreements and Commitments Abroad*, Hearings Before a Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, 91st Congress, 1st sess. (1969), 10 pts.; see also *U.S. Commitments to Foreign Powers*, Hearings Before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on S. Res. 151, 90th Congress, 1st sess. (1967).

⁴³⁷ The “National Commitments Resolution,” S. Res. 85, 91st Congress, 1st sess., passed by the Senate June 25, 1969. See also S. Rept. No. 797, 90th Congress, 1st sess. (1967). See the discussion of these years in CRS Study, op. cit., n. 262, 169–202.

⁴³⁸ In 1918, Secretary of State Lansing assured the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the Lansing-Ishii Agreement had no binding force on the United States, that it was simply a declaration of American policy so long as the President and State Department might choose to continue it. 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, op. cit., n. 294, 547. In fact, it took the Washington Conference of 1921, two formal treaties, and an exchange of notes to eradicate it, while the “Gentlemen’s Agreement” was finally ended after 17 years only by an act of Congress. W. MCCLURE, op. cit., n. 393, 97, 100.

⁴³⁹ See E. BYRD, op. cit., n. 292, 151–157.

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through treaty obligations present little doctrinal problem; those arrangements which the President purports to bind the Nation with solely on the basis of his constitutional powers, however, do raise serious questions.

Until recently, it was the view of most judges and scholars that this type of executive agreement did not become the “law of the land” pursuant to the supremacy clause because the treaty format was not adhered to.⁴⁴⁰ A different view seemed to underlay the Supreme Court decision in *B. Altman & Co. v. United States*,⁴⁴¹ in which it was concluded that a jurisdictional statute reference to “treaty” encompassed an executive agreement. The idea flowered in *United States v. Belmont*,⁴⁴² where the Court, in an opinion by Justice Sutherland, following on his *Curtiss-Wright*⁴⁴³ opinion, gave domestic effect to the Litvinov Agreement. At issue was whether a district court of the United States was correct in dismissing an action by the United States, as assignee of the Soviet Union, for certain moneys which had once been the property of a Russian metal corporation the assets of which had been appropriated by the Soviet government. The lower court had erred, the Court ruled. The President’s act in recognizing the Soviet government, and the accompanying agreements, constituted, said the Justice, an international compact which the President, “as the sole organ” of international relations for the United States, was authorized to enter upon without consulting the Senate. Nor did state laws and policies make any difference in such a situation, for while the supremacy of treaties is established by the Constitution in express terms, yet the same rule holds “in the case of all international compacts and agreements from the very fact that complete power over international affairs is in the National Government and is not and cannot be subject to any curtailment or interference on the part of the several States.”⁴⁴⁴

In *United States v. Pink*,⁴⁴⁵ decided five years later, the same course of reasoning was reiterated with added emphasis. The question here involved was whether the United States was entitled under the Executive Agreement of 1933 to recover the assets of the New York branch of a Russian insurance company. The company

⁴⁴⁰ E.g., *United States v. One Bag of Paradise Feathers*, 256 F. 301, 306 (2d Cir., 1919); 1 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n.294, 589. The State Department held the same view. 5 G. HACKWORTH, *DIGEST OF INTERNATIONAL LAW* (Washington: 1944), 426.

⁴⁴¹ 224 U.S. 583 (1912).

⁴⁴² 301 U.S. 324 (1937).

⁴⁴³ *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corp.*, 299 U.S. 304 (1936).

⁴⁴⁴ *Id.*, 330–332.

⁴⁴⁵ 315 U.S. 203 (1942).

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argued that the decrees of confiscation of the Soviet Government did not apply to its property in New York and could not consistently with the Constitution of the United States and that of New York. The Court, speaking by Justice Douglas, brushed these arguments aside. An official declaration of the Russian government itself settled the question of the extraterritorial operation of the Russian decree of nationalization and was binding on American courts. The power to remove such obstacles to full recognition as settlement of claims of our nationals was “a modest implied power of the President who is the ‘sole organ of the Federal Government in the field of international relations’ It was the judgment of the political department that full recognition of the Soviet Government required the settlement of outstanding problems including the claims of our nationals. . . . We would usurp the executive function if we held that the decision was not final and conclusive on the courts.

“It is, of course, true that even treaties with foreign nations will be carefully construed so as not to derogate from the authority and jurisdiction of the States of this nation unless clearly necessary to effectuate the national policy. . . . But state law must yield when it is inconsistent with, or impairs the policy or provisions of, a treaty or of an international compact or agreement. . . . Then, the power of a State to refuse enforcement of rights based on foreign law which runs counter to the public policy of the forum . . . must give way before the superior Federal policy evidenced by a treaty or international compact or agreement. . . .

“The action of New York in this case amounts in substance to a rejection of a part of the policy underlying recognition by this nation of Soviet Russia. Such power is not accorded a State in our constitutional system. To permit it would be to sanction a dangerous invasion of Federal authority. For it would ‘imperil the amicable relations between governments and vex the peace of nations.’ . . . It would tend to disturb that equilibrium in our foreign relations which the political departments of our national government has diligently endeavored to establish. . . .

“No State can rewrite our foreign policy to conform to its own domestic policies. Power over external affairs is not shared by the States; it is vested in the national government exclusively. It need not be so exercised as to conform to State laws or State policies, whether they be expressed in constitutions, statutes, or judicial decrees. And the policies of the States become wholly irrelevant to judicial inquiry when the United States, acting within its constitu-

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tional sphere, seeks enforcement of its foreign policy in the courts.”⁴⁴⁶

No Supreme Court decision subsequent to *Belmont* and *Pink* is available for consideration.⁴⁴⁷ Whether the cases in fact turned on the particular fact that the executive agreement in question was incidental to the President’s right to recognize a foreign state, despite the language which equates treaties and executive agreements for purposes of domestic law, cannot be known. Certainly, executive agreements entered into solely on the authority of the President’s constitutional powers are not the law of the land because of the language of the supremacy clause, and the absence of any congressional participation denies them the political requirements they may well need to attain this position. Nonetheless, so long as *Belmont* and *Pink* remain unqualified, it must be considered that executive agreements do have a significant status in domestic law.⁴⁴⁸ This status was another element in the movement for a constitutional amendment in the 1960s to limit the President’s powers in this field, a movement that ultimately failed.⁴⁴⁹

THE EXECUTIVE ESTABLISHMENT

Office

“An office is a public station, or employment, conferred by the appointment of government. The term embraces the ideas of tenure, duration, emolument, and duties.”⁴⁵⁰

Ambassadors and Other Public Ministers.—The term “ambassadors and other public ministers,” comprehends “all officers having diplomatic functions, whatever their title or designa-

⁴⁴⁶ *Id.*, 229–234. Chief Justice Stone and Justice Roberts dissented.

⁴⁴⁷ The decision in *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654 (1981), is rich in learning on many topics involving executive agreements, but the Court’s conclusion that Congress had either authorized various presidential actions or had long acquiesced in others leaves the case standing for little on our particular issue of this section.

⁴⁴⁸ But see *United States v. Guy W. Capps, Inc.*, 204 F. 2d 655 (4th Cir., 1953), wherein Chief Judge Parker held that an executive agreement entered into by the President without congressional authorization or ratification could not displace domestic law inconsistent with such agreement. The Supreme Court affirmed on other grounds and declined to consider this matter. 348 U.S. 296 (1955).

⁴⁴⁹ There were numerous variations in language, but typical was § 3 of S.J. Res. 1, as reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee, 83d Congress, 1st sess. (1953), which provided: “Congress shall have power to regulate all executive and other agreements with any foreign power or international organization. All such agreements shall be subject to the limitations imposed on treaties by this article.” The limitation relevant on this point was in § 2, which provided: “A treaty shall become effective as internal law in the United States only through legislation which would be valid in the absence of treaty.”

⁴⁵⁰ *United States v. Hartwell*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 385, 393 (1868).

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tion.”⁴⁵¹ It was originally assumed that such offices were established by the Constitution itself, by reference to the Law of Nations, with the consequence that appointments might be made to them whenever the appointing authority—the President and Senate—deemed desirable.⁴⁵² During the first sixty-five years of the Government, Congress passed no act purporting to create any diplomatic rank, the entire question of grades being left with the President. Indeed, during the administrations of Washington, Adams and Jefferson, and the first term of Madison, no mention occurs in any appropriation, even of ministers of a specified rank at this or that place, but the provision for the diplomatic corps consisted of so much money “for the expenses of foreign intercourse,” to be expended at the discretion of the President. In Madison’s second term, the practice was introduced of allocating special sums to the several foreign missions maintained by the Government, but even then the legislative provisions did not purport to curtail the discretion of the President in any way in the choice of diplomatic agents.

In 1814, however, when President Madison appointed, during a recess of the Senate, the Commissioners who negotiated the Treaty of Ghent the theory on which the above legislation was based was drawn into question. Inasmuch, it was argued, as these offices had never been established by law, no vacancy existed to which the President could constitutionally make a recess appointment. To this argument, it was answered that the Constitution recognizes “two descriptions of offices altogether different in their nature, authorized by the constitution—one to be created by law, and the other depending for their existence and continuance upon contingencies. Of the first kind, are judicial, revenue, and similar offices. Of the second, are Ambassadors, other public Ministers, and Consuls. The first descriptions organize the Government and give it efficacy. They form the internal system, and are susceptible of precise enumeration. When and how they are created, and when and how they become vacant, may always be ascertained with perfect precision. Not so with the second description. They depend for their original existence upon the law, but are the offspring of the state of our relations with foreign nations, and must necessarily be governed by distinct rules. As an independent power, the United

⁴⁵¹ 7 Ops. Atty. Gen. 168 (1855).

⁴⁵² It was so assumed by Senator William Maclay. *THE JOURNAL OF WILLIAM MACLAY*, E. Maclay ed. (New York: 1890), 109–110.

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States have relations with all other independent powers; and the management of those relations is vested in the Executive.”⁴⁵³

By the opening section of the act of March 1, 1855, it was provided that “from and after the thirtieth day of June next, the President of the United States shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint representatives of the grade of envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary,” with a specified annual compensation for each, “to the following countries. . . .” In the body of the act was also this provision: “The President shall appoint no other than citizens of the United States, who are residents thereof, or who shall be abroad in the employment of the Government at the time of their appointment. . . .”⁴⁵⁴ The question of the interpretation of the act having been referred to Attorney General Cushing, he ruled that its total effect, aside from its salary provisions, was recommendatory only. It was “to say, that if, and whenever, the President shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint an envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Great Britain, or to Sweden, the compensation of that minister shall be so much and no more.”⁴⁵⁵

This line of reasoning is only partially descriptive of the facts. The Foreign Service Act of 1946,⁴⁵⁶ pertaining to the organization of the foreign service, diplomatic as well as consular, contains detailed provisions as to grades, salaries, promotions, and, in part, as to duties. Under the terms thereof the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoints ambassadors, ministers, foreign service officers, and consuls, but in practice the vast proportion of the selections are made in conformance to recommendations of a Board of the Foreign Service.

Presidential Diplomatic Agents

What the President may have lost in consequence of the intervention of Congress in this field, he has made good through his early conceded right to employ, in the discharge of his diplomatic function, so-called “special,” “personal,” or “secret” agents without consulting the Senate. When President Jackson’s right to resort to this practice was challenged in the Senate in 1831, it was defended by Edward Livingston, Senator from Louisiana, to such good purpose that Jackson made him Secretary of State. “The practice of appointing secret agents,” said Livingston, “is coeval with our exist-

⁴⁵³ 26 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 694–722 (1814) (quotation appearing at 699); 4 LETTERS AND OTHER WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON (Philadelphia: 1865), 350–353.

⁴⁵⁴ 10 Stat. 619, 623.

⁴⁵⁵ 7 Ops. Atty. Gen. 186, 220 (1855).

⁴⁵⁶ 60 Stat. 999, superseded by the Foreign Service Act of 1980, P. L. 96–465, 94 Stat. 2071, 22 U.S.C. § 3901 *et seq.*

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ence as a nation, and goes beyond our acknowledgement as such by other powers. All those great men who have figured in the history of our diplomacy, began their career, and performed some of their most important services in the capacity of secret agents, with full powers. Franklin, Adams, Lee, were only commissioners; and in negotiating a treaty with the Emperor of Morocco, the selection of the secret agent was left to the Ministers appointed to make the treaty; and, accordingly, in the year 1785, Mr. Adams and Mr. Jefferson appointed Thomas Barclay, who went to Morocco and made a treaty, which was ratified by the Ministers at Paris.

“These instances show that, even prior to the establishment of the Federal Government, secret plenipotentiaries were known, as well in the practice of our own country as in the general law of nations: and that these secret agents were not on a level with messengers, letter carriers, or spies, to whom it has been found necessary in argument to assimilate them. On the 30th March, 1795, in the recess of the Senate, by letters patent under the great broad seal of the United States, and the signature of their President, (that President being George Washington,) countersigned by the Secretary of State, David Humphreys was appointed commissioner plenipotentiary for negotiating a treaty of peace with Algiers. By instructions from the President, he was afterwards authorized to employ Joseph Donaldson as agent in that business. In May, of the same year, he did appoint Donaldson, who went to Algiers, and in September of the same year concluded a treaty with the Dey and Divan, which was confirmed by Humphreys, at Lisbon, on the 28th November in the same year, and afterwards ratified by the Senate, and an act passed both Houses on 6th May, 1796, appropriating a large sum, twenty-five thousand dollars annually, for carrying it into effect.”⁴⁵⁷

The precedent afforded by Humphreys' appointment without reference to the Senate has since been multiplied many times,⁴⁵⁸ as witness the mission of A. Dudley Mann to Hanover and other German states in 1846, of the same gentleman to Hungary in 1849, of Nicholas Trist to Mexico in 1848, of Commodore Perry to Japan in 1852, of J. H. Blount to Hawaii in 1893. The last named case is perhaps the most extreme of all. Blount, who was appointed while the Senate was in session but without its advice and consent, was given “paramount authority” over the American resident minister at Hawaii and was further empowered to employ the military and naval forces of the United States, if necessary to protect Amer-

⁴⁵⁷ 11 T. BENTON, ABRIDGEMENT OF THE DEBATES OF CONGRESS (Washington: 1860), 221.

⁴⁵⁸ S. Misc. Doc, 109, 50th Congress, 1st Sess. (1888), 104.

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ican lives and interests. His mission raised a vigorous storm of protest in the Senate, but the majority report of the committee which was created to investigate the constitutional question vindicated the President in the following terms: "A question has been made as to the right of the President of the United States to dispatch Mr. Blount to Hawaii as his personal representative for the purpose of seeking the further information which the President believed was necessary in order to arrive at a just conclusion regarding the state of affairs in Hawaii. Many precedents could be quoted to show that such power has been exercised by the President on various occasions, without dissent on the part of Congress or the people of the United States. . . . These precedents also show that the Senate of the United States, though in session, need not be consulted as to the appointment of such agents," ⁴⁵⁹ The continued vitality of the practice is attested by such names as Colonel House, the late Norman H. Davis, who filled the role of "ambassador at large" for a succession of administrations of both parties, Professor Philip Jessup, Mr. Averell Harriman, and other "ambassadors at large" of the Truman Administration, and Professor Henry Kissinger of the Nixon Administration.

How is the practice to be squared with the express words of the Constitution? Apparently, by stressing the fact that such appointments or designations are ordinarily merely temporary and for special tasks, and hence do not fulfill the tests of "office" in the strict sense. In the same way the not infrequent practice of Presidents of appointing Members of Congress as commissioners to negotiate treaties and agreements with foreign governments may be regularized, notwithstanding the provision of Article I, §6, clause 2 of the Constitution, which provides that "no Senator or Representative shall . . . be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created," during his term; and no officer of the United States, "shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office."⁴⁶⁰ The Treaty of Peace with Spain, the treaty to settle the Bering Sea controversy, the treaty establishing the boundary line between Canada and Alaska, were negotiated by commissions containing Senators and Representatives.

⁴⁵⁹S. Rept. No. 227, 53d Congress, 2d Sess. (1894), 25. At the outset of our entrance into World War I President Wilson dispatched a mission to "Petrograd," as it was then called, without nominating the Members of it to the Senate. It was headed by Mr. Elihu Root, with "the rank of ambassador," while some of his associates bore "the rank of envoy extraordinary."

⁴⁶⁰See 2 G. HOAR, AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF SEVENTY YEARS (New York: 1903), 48-51.

Appointments and Congressional Regulation of Offices

That the Constitution distinguishes between the creation of an office and appointment thereto for the generality of national offices has never been questioned. The former is *by law* and takes place by virtue of Congress' power to pass all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution the powers which the Constitution confers upon the government of the United States and its departments and officers.⁴⁶¹ As an incident to the establishment of an office, Congress has also the power to determine the qualifications of the officer and in so doing necessarily limits the range of choice of the appointing power. First and last, it has laid down a great variety of qualifications, depending on citizenship, residence, professional attainments, occupational experience, age, race, property, sound habits, and so on. It has required that appointees be representative of a political party, of an industry, of a geographic region, or of a particular branch of the Government. It has confined the President's selection to a small number of persons to be named by others.⁴⁶² Indeed, it has contrived at times to designate a definite eligibility, thereby virtually usurping the appointing power.⁴⁶³ De-

⁴⁶¹ However, "Congress' power . . . is inevitably bounded by the express language of Article II, cl. 2, and unless the method it provides comports with the latter, the holders of those offices will not be 'Officers of the United States.'" *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 138–139 (1976) (quoted in *Freytag v. CIR*, 501 U.S. 868, 883 (1991)).

⁴⁶² See *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52, 264–274 (1926) (Justice Brandeis dissenting). Chief Justice Taft in the opinion of the Court in *Myers* readily recognized the legislative power of Congress to establish offices, determine their functions and jurisdiction, fix the terms of office, and prescribe reasonable and relevant qualifications and rules of eligibility of appointees, always provided "that the qualifications do not so limit selection and so trench upon executive choice as to be in effect legislative designation." *Id.*, 128–129. For reiteration of Congress' general powers, see *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 134–135 (1976); *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 673–677 (1988). And see *United States v. Ferreira*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 40, 51 (1851).

⁴⁶³ See data in E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 363–365. Congress has repeatedly designated individuals, sometimes by name, more frequently by reference to a particular office, for the performance of specified acts or for posts of a nongovernmental character; e.g., to paint a picture (Jonathan Trumbull), to lay out a town, to act as Regents of Smithsonian Institution, to be managers of Howard Institute, to select a site for a post office or a prison, to restore the manuscript of the Declaration of Independence, to erect a monument at Yorktown, to erect a statue of Hamilton, and so on and so forth. Note, *Power of Appointment to Public Office under the Federal Constitution*, 42 Harv. L. Rev. 426, 430–431 (1929). In his message of April 13, 1822, President Monroe stated the thesis that, "as a general principle, . . . Congress have no right under the Constitution to impose any restraint by law on the power granted to the President so as to prevent his making a free selection of proper persons for these [newly created] offices from the whole body of his fellow-citizens." 2 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 698, 701. The statement is ambiguous, but its apparent intention is to claim for the President unrestricted power in determining who are proper persons to fill newly created offices. See the distinction drawn in *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52, 128–129 (1926), quoted, *op. cit.*, n. 462. And note that in *Public Citizen v. U. S. Dept. of Justice*, 491 U.S. 440, 482–489 (1989) (concur-

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spite the record of the past, however, it is not at all clear that Congress may cabin the President's discretion, at least for offices that he considers important, by, for example, requiring him to choose from lists compiled by others. To be sure, there are examples, but they are not free of ambiguity.⁴⁶⁴

But when Congress contrived actually to participate in the appointment and administrative process and provided for selection of the members of the Federal Election Commission, two by the President, two by the Senate, and two by the House, with confirmation of all six members vested in both the House and the Senate, the Court unanimously held the scheme to violate the appointments clause and the principles of separation of powers. The term "officers of the United States" is a substantive one requiring that any appointee exercising significant authority pursuant to the laws of the United States be appointed in the manner prescribed by the appointments clause.⁴⁶⁵ The Court did hold, however, that the Commission so appointed and confirmed could be delegated the powers Congress itself could exercise, that is, those investigative and informative functions that congressional committees carry out were properly vested in this body.

Congress is authorized by the appointments clause to vest the appointment of "inferior Officers," at its discretion, "in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments." Principal questions arising under this portion of the clause are "Who are 'inferior officers,'" and "what are the 'Departments' whose heads may be given appointing power?"⁴⁶⁶ "[A]ny appointee

ring), Justice Kennedy suggested the President has *sole* and unconfined discretion in appointing).

⁴⁶⁴The Sentencing Commission, upheld in *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361 (1989), numbered among its members three federal judges; the President was to select them "after considering a list of six judges recommended to the President by the Judicial Conference of the United States." *Id.*, 397 (quoting 28 U.S.C. §991(a)). The Comptroller General is nominated by the President from a list of three individuals recommended by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President *pro tempore* of the Senate. *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714, 727 (1986) (citing 31 U.S.C. § 703(a)(2)). In *Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority v. Citizens for the Abatement of Aircraft Noise, Inc.*, 501 U.S. 252, 268–269 (1991), the Court carefully distinguished these examples from the particular situation before it that it condemned, but see *id.*, 288 (Justice White dissenting), and in any event it never actually passed on the list devices in *Mistretta* and *Synar*. The fault in *Airports Authority* was not the validity of lists generally, the Court condemning the device there as giving Congress control of the process, in violation of *Buckley v. Valeo*.

⁴⁶⁵*Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 109–143 (1976). The Court took pains to observe that the clause was violated not only by the appointing process but by the confirming process, inclusion of the House of Representatives, as well. *Id.*, 137. See also *Metropolitan Washington Airports Auth. v. Citizens for the Abatement of Aircraft Noise, Inc.*, 501 U.S. 252 (1991).

⁴⁶⁶Concurrently, of course, although it may seem odd, the question of what is a "Court[] of Law" for purposes of the appointments clause is unsettled. See Freytag

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exercising significant authority pursuant to the laws of the United States is an ‘Officer of the United States,’ and must, therefore, be appointed in the manner prescribed by §2, cl. 2, of [Article II].”⁴⁶⁷ “The Constitution for purposes of appointment very clearly divides all its officers into two classes. The primary class requires a nomination by the President and confirmation by the Senate. But foreseeing that when offices became numerous, and sudden removals necessary, this mode might be inconvenient, it was provided that, in regard to officers inferior to those specially mentioned, Congress might by law vest their appointment in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments. That all persons who can be said to hold an office under the government about to be established under the Constitution were intended to be included within one or the other of these modes of appointment there can be but little doubt.”⁴⁶⁸

Thus, officers who are not “inferior Officers” must be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate in order to make sure that all the business of the Executive will be conducted under the supervision of officers appointed by the President with Senate approval, i.e., principal officers.⁴⁶⁹ Further, the Framers intended to limit the “diffusion” of the appointing power with respect to inferior officers in order to promote accountability. “The Framers understood . . . that by limiting the appointment power, they could ensure that those who wielded it were accountable to political force and the will of the people. . . . The Appointments Clause prevents Congress from distributing power too widely by limiting the actors in whom Congress may vest the power to appoint. The Clause reflects our Framers’ conclusion that widely distributed appointment power subverts democratic government. given the inexorable presence of the administrative state, a holding that

v. CIR, 501 U.S. 868 (1991) (Court divides 5-to-4 whether an Article I court is a court of law under the clause).

⁴⁶⁷ Freytag v. CIR, 501 U.S.868, 881 (1991) (quoting Buckley v. Valeo, 424 U.S. 1, 126 (1976)).

⁴⁶⁸ United States v. Germaine, 99 U.S. 508, 509–510 (1879) (quoted in Buckley v. Valeo, 424 U.S. 1, 125 (1976)). The constitutional definition of an “inferior” officer is wondrously imprecise. See Freytag v. CIR, 501 U.S. 868, 880–882 (1991); Morrison v. Olson, 487 U.S. 654, 670–673 (1988). And see United States v. Eaton, 169 U.S. 331 (1898). There is another category, of course, employees, but these are lesser functionaries subordinate to officers of the United States. Ordinarily, the term “employee” denotes one who stands in a contractual relationship to her employer, but here it signifies all subordinate officials of the Federal Government receiving their appointments at the hands of officials who are not specifically recognized by the Constitution as capable of being vested by Congress with the appointing power. Auffmordt v. Hedden, 137 U.S. 310, 327 (1890). See Go-Bart Importing Co. v. United States, 282 U.S. 344, 352–353 (1931); Burnap v. United States, 252 U.S. 512, 516–517 (1920); *Germaine*, supra, 511–512.

⁴⁶⁹ Freytag v. CIR, 501 U.S. 868, 919 (1991) (Justice Scalia concurring).

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every organ in the executive Branch is a department would multiply the number of actors eligible to appoint.”⁴⁷⁰

Yet, even agreed on the principle, the *Freytag* Court split 5-to-4 on the reason for the permissibility of the Chief Judge of the Tax Court to appoint special trial judges. The entire Court agreed that the Tax Court had to be either a “department” or a “court of law” in order for the authority to be exercised by the Chief Judge, and it unanimously agreed that the statutory provision was constitutional. But, there, agreement ended. The majority was of the opinion that the Tax Court could not be a department, but it was unclear what those Justices thought a department comprehended. Seemingly, it started from the premise that departments were those parts of the executive establishment called departments and headed by a cabinet officer.⁴⁷¹ Yet, the Court continued immediately to say: “Confining the term “Heads of Departments” in the Appointments Clause to executive divisions *like* the Cabinet-level departments constrains the distribution of the appointment power just as the [IRS] Commissioner’s interpretation, in contrast, would diffuse it. The Cabinet-level departments are limited in number and easily identified. The heads are subject to the exercise of political oversight and share the President’s accountability to the people.”⁴⁷² The use of the word “like” in this passage suggests that it is not just Cabinet-headed departments that are departments but as well entities that are similar to them in some way, and its reservation of the validity of investing appointing power in the heads of some named entities, as well as its observation that the term “Heads of Departments” does not embrace “inferior commissioners and bureau officers” all contribute to an amorphous conception of the term.⁴⁷³ In the end, the Court sustained the challenged provision by holding that the Tax Court as an Article I court was a “Court of Law” within the meaning of the appointments clause.⁴⁷⁴ The other four Justices concluded that the Tax Court, as an independent establishment in the executive branch, was a “department” for purposes of the appointments clause. In their view, in the context of text and practice, the term meant, not Cabinet-level departments, but “all independent executive establishments,” so that “‘Heads of Departments’ includes the heads of all agencies im-

⁴⁷⁰ *Freytag v. CIR*, 501 U.S. 868, 884–885 (1991).

⁴⁷¹ *Id.*, 886 (citing *Germaine* and *Burnap*, the opinion clause, Article II, §2, and the 25th Amendment, which, in its §4, referred to “executive departments” in a manner that reached only cabinet-level entities). But compare *id.*, 915–922 (Justice Scalia concurring).

⁴⁷² *Id.*, 886 (emphasis supplied).

⁴⁷³ *Id.*, 886–888. Compare *id.*, 915–919 (Justice Scalia concurring).

⁴⁷⁴ *Id.*, 888–892. This holding was vigorously controverted by the other four Justices. *Id.*, 901–914 (Justice Scalia concurring).

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mediately below the President in the organizational structure of the Executive Branch.”⁴⁷⁵

The *Freytag* decision must be considered a tentative rather than a settled construction. The close division of the Court means that new appointments, some of which have already occurred, could change the construction. Further guidance must be awaited.

As noted, the appointments clause also authorizes Congress to vest the power in “Courts of Law.” Must the power to appoint when lodged in courts be limited to those officers acting in the judicial branch, as the Court first suggested?⁴⁷⁶ But in *Ex parte Siebold*,⁴⁷⁷ the Court sustained Congress’ decision to vest the appointment of federal election supervisors, charged with preventing fraud and rights violations in congressional elections in the South, in courts and disavowed any thought that interbranch appointments could not be authorized under the clause. A special judicial division was authorized to appoint independent counsels to investigate and, if necessary, prosecute charges of corruption in the executive, and the Court, in near unanimity, sustained the law, denying that interbranch appointments, in and of themselves, and leaving aside more precise separation-of-powers claims, were improper under the clause.⁴⁷⁸

Congressional Regulation of Conduct in Office.—Congress has very broad powers in regulating the conduct in office of officers and employees of the United States, especially regarding their political activities. By an act passed in 1876, it prohibited “all executive officers or employees of the United States not appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, . . . from requesting, giving to, or receiving from, any other officer or employee of the Government, any money or property or other thing of value for political purposes.”⁴⁷⁹ The validity of this measure having been sustained,⁴⁸⁰ the substance of it, with some elaborations, was in-

⁴⁷⁵ *Id.*, 918, 919 (Justice Scalia concurring).

⁴⁷⁶ *Ex parte Hennen*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 230 (1839). The suggestion was that inferior officers are intended to be subordinate to those in whom their appointment is vested. *Id.*, 257–258; *United States v. Germaine*, 99 U.S. 508, 509 (1879).

⁴⁷⁷ 100 U.S. 371 (1880).

⁴⁷⁸ *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 673–677 (1988). See also *Young v. United States ex rel. Vuitton et Fils S. A.*, 481 U.S. 787 (1987) (appointment of private attorneys to act as prosecutors for judicial contempt judgments); *Freytag v. CIR*, 501 U.S. 868, 888–892 (1991) (appointment of special judges by Chief Judge of Tax Court).

⁴⁷⁹ 19 Stat. 143, 169 (1876).

⁴⁸⁰ *Ex parte Curtis*, 106 U.S. 371 (1882). Chief Justice Waite’s opinion extensively reviews early congressional legislation regulative of conduct in office. *Id.*, 372–373.

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corporated in the Civil Service Act of 1883.⁴⁸¹ The Lloyd-La Follette Act in 1912 began the process of protecting civil servants from unwarranted or abusive removal by codifying “just cause” standards previously embodied in presidential orders, defining “just causes” as those that would promote the “efficiency of the service.”⁴⁸² Substantial changes in the civil service system were instituted by the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, which abolished the Civil Service Commission, and divided its responsibilities, its management and administrative duties to the Office of Personnel Management and its review and protective functions to the Merit Systems Protection Board.⁴⁸³

By the Hatch Act,⁴⁸⁴ all persons in the executive branch of the Government, or any department or agency thereof, except the President and Vice President and certain “policy determining” officers, were forbidden to “take an active part in political management or political campaigns,” although they were still permitted to “express their opinions on all political subjects and candidates.” In *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*,⁴⁸⁵ these provisions were upheld as “reasonable” against objections based on the First, Fifth, Ninth, and Tenth Amendments.

The Loyalty Issue.—By §9A of the Hatch Act of 1939, federal employees were disqualified from accepting or holding any position in the Government or the District of Columbia, if they belonged to an organization that he knew advocated, the overthrow of our constitutional form of government.⁴⁸⁶ The 79th Congress followed up

⁴⁸¹ 22 Stat. 403 (the Pendleton Act). On this law and subsequent enactments that created the civil service as a professional cadre of bureaucrats insulated from politics, see *Developments in the Law - Public Employment*, 97 Harv. L. Rev. 1611, 1619–1676 (1984).

⁴⁸² Act of Aug. 24, 1912, §6, 37 Stat. 539, 555, codified as amended at 5 U.S.C. §7513. The protection was circumscribed by the limited enforcement mechanisms under the Civil Service Commission, which were gradually strengthened. See *id.*, n. 481, 97 Harv. L. Rev., 1630–1631.

⁴⁸³ 92 Stat. 1111 (codified in scattered sections of titles 5, 10, 15, 28, 31, 38, 39, and 42 U.S.C.). For the long development, see *id.*, n. 481, 97 Harv. L. Rev., 1632–1650.

⁴⁸⁴ 54 Stat. 767 (1940), then 5 U.S.C. §7324(a). By P. L. 103–94, §§2(a), 12, 107 Stat. 1001, 1011, to be codified at 5 U.S.C. §§7321–7325, Congress liberalized the restrictions of the Act, allowing employees to take an active part in political management or in political campaigns, subject to specific exceptions. The 1940 law, §12(a), 54 Stat. 767–768, also applied the same broad ban to employees of federally funded state and local agencies, but this provision was amended in 1974 to bar state and local government employees only from running for public office in partisan elections. Act of Oct. 15, 1974, P. L. 93–443, §401(a), 88 Stat. 1290, 5 U.S.C. §1502.

⁴⁸⁵ 330 U.S. 75 (1947). See also *CSC v. National Assn. of Letter Carriers*, 413 U.S. 548 (1973), in which the constitutional attack was renewed, in large part based on the Court’s expanding jurisprudence of First Amendment speech, but the Act was again sustained. A “little Hatch Act” of a State, applying to its employees, was sustained in *Broadrick v. Oklahoma*, 413 U.S. 601 (1973).

⁴⁸⁶ 53 Stat. 1147, 5 U.S.C. §7311.

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this provision with a rider to its appropriation acts forbidding the use of any appropriated funds to pay the salary of any person who advocated, or belonged to an organization which advocated, the overthrow of the Government by force, or of any person who engaged in a strike or who belonged to an organization which asserted the right to strike against the Government.⁴⁸⁷ These provisions ultimately wound up in permanent law requiring all government employees to take oaths disclaiming either disloyalty or strikes as a device for dealing with the Government as an employer.⁴⁸⁸ Along with the loyalty-security programs initiated by President Truman⁴⁸⁹ and carried forward by President Eisenhower,⁴⁹⁰ these measures reflected the Cold War era and the fear of subversion and espionage following the disclosures of several such instances here and abroad.⁴⁹¹

Financial Disclosure and Limitations.—By the Ethics in Government Act of 1978,⁴⁹² Congress required high-level federal personnel to make detailed, annual disclosures of their personal financial affairs.⁴⁹³ The aims of the legislation are to enhance public confidence in government, to demonstrate the high level of integrity of government employees, to deter and detect conflicts and interests, to discourage individuals with questionable sources of income from entering government, and to facilitate public appraisal of government employees' performance in light of their personal financial interests.⁴⁹⁴ Despite the assertions of some that employee privacy interests are needlessly invaded by the breadth of disclosures, to date judicial challenges have been unsuccessful, absent

⁴⁸⁷ See Report of the Special Committee on The Federal Loyalty-Security Program, The Association of the Bar of the City of New York (New York: 1956), 60.

⁴⁸⁸ 5 U.S.C. § 3333. The loyalty disclaimer oath was declared unconstitutional in *Stewart v. Washington*, 301 F. Supp. 610 (D.C.D.C. 1969), and the Government elected not to appeal. The strike disclaimer oath was voided in *National Association of Letter Carriers v. Blount*, 305 F. Supp. 546 (D.C.D.C. 1969); after noting probable jurisdiction, 397 U.S. 1062 (1970), the Court dismissed the appeal on the Government's motion. 400 U.S. 801 (1970). The actual prohibition on strikes, however, has been sustained. *United Federation of Postal Clerks v. Blount*, 325 F. Supp. 879 (D.C.D.C. 1971), *affd. per curiam*, 404 U.S. 802 (1971).

⁴⁸⁹ E.O. 9835, 12 FED. REG. 1935 (1947).

⁴⁹⁰ E.O. 10450, 18 FED. REG. 2489 (1953).

⁴⁹¹ See generally, Report of the Special Committee on The Federal Loyalty-Security Program, The Association of the Bar of the City of New York (New York: 1956).

⁴⁹² P. L. 95-521, tits. I-III, 92 Stat. 1824-1861. The Act was originally codified in three different titles, 2, 5, and 28, corresponding to legislative, executive, and judicial branch personnel, but by P. L. 101-194, title II, 103 Stat. 1725 (1989), one comprehensive title, as amended, applying to all covered federal personnel was enacted. 5 U.S.C.App. §§ 101-111.

⁴⁹³ See *op. cit.*, n. 481, 97 Harv. L. Rev., 1660-1669.

⁴⁹⁴ *Id.*, 1661 (citing S. Rept. 170, 95th Cong., 2d sess. (1978), 21-22).

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even a Supreme Court review.⁴⁹⁵ One provision, however, has generated much opposition and invalidation, so far, in the courts. Under § 501(b) of the Ethics in Government Act,⁴⁹⁶ there is imposed a ban on Members of Congress or any officer or employee of the Government, regardless of salary level, taking any “honorarium,” which is defined as “a payment of money or anything of value for an appearance, speech or article (including a series of appearances, speeches, or articles if the subject matter is directly related to the individual’s official duties or the payment is made because of the individual’s status with the Government)”⁴⁹⁷ The statute, even interpreted in accordance with the standards applicable to speech restrictions on government employees, has been held to be overbroad and not sufficiently tailored to serve the governmental interest to be promoted by it.⁴⁹⁸ Only a Supreme Court review, of course, will finally resolve the matter.

Legislation Increasing Duties of an Officer.—Finally, Congress may devolve upon one already in office additional duties which are germane to his office without thereby “rendering it necessary that the incumbent should be again nominated and appointed.” Such legislation does not constitute an attempt by Congress to seize the appointing power.⁴⁹⁹

Stages of Appointment Process

Nomination.—The Constitution appears to distinguish three stages in appointments by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. The first is the “nomination” of the candidate by the President alone; the second is the assent of the Senate to the candidate’s “appointment;” and the third is the final appointment and commissioning of the appointee, by the President.⁵⁰⁰

Senate Approval.—The fact that the power of nomination belongs to the President alone prevents the Senate from attaching

⁴⁹⁵ *Id.*, 1664–1669. The Ethics Act also expanded restrictions on postemployment by imposing bans on employment, varying from a brief period to an out-and-out lifetime ban in certain cases. *Id.*, 1669–1676. The 1989 revision enlarged and expanded on these provisions. 103 Stat. 1716–1724, amending 18 U.S.C. § 207.

⁴⁹⁶ 92 Stat. 1864 (1978), as amended, 103 Stat. 1760 (1989), as amended, 5 U.S.C.App. §§ 501–505.

⁴⁹⁷ 5 U.S.C.App. § 505(3).

⁴⁹⁸ *NTEU v. United States*, 990 F.2d 1271 (D.C.Cir.), *pet. for reh. en banc den.*, 3 F.3d 1555 (D.C.Cir. 1993).

⁴⁹⁹ *Shoemaker v. United States*, 147 U.S. 282, 301 (1893).

⁵⁰⁰ *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137, 155–156 (1803) (Chief Justice Marshall). Marshall’s statement that the appointment “is the act of the President,” conflicts with the more generally held and sensible view that when an appointment is made with its consent, the Senate shares the appointing power. 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1525; *Matter of Hennen*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 230, 259 (1839).

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conditions to its approval of an appointment, such as it may do to its approval of a treaty. In the words of an early opinion of the Attorney General: "The Senate cannot originate an appointment. Its constitutional action is confined to the simple affirmation or rejection of the President's nominations, and such nominations fail whenever it rejects them. The Senate may suggest conditions and limitations to the President, but it cannot vary those submitted by him, for no appointment can be made except on his nomination, agreed to without qualifications or alteration."⁵⁰¹ This view is borne out by early opinion,⁵⁰² as well as by the record of practice under the Constitution.

When Senate Consent Is Complete.—Early in January, 1931, the Senate requested President Hoover to return its resolution notifying him that it advised and consented to certain nominations to the Federal Power Commission. In support of its action the Senate invoked a long-standing rule permitting a motion to reconsider a resolution confirming a nomination within "the next two days of actual executive session of the Senate" and the recall of the notification to the President of the confirmation. The nominees involved having meantime taken the oath of office and entered upon the discharge of their duties, the President responded with a refusal, saying: "I cannot admit the power in the Senate to encroach upon the executive functions by removal of a duly appointed executive officer under the guise of reconsideration of his nomination." The Senate thereupon voted to reconsider the nominations in question, again approving two of the nominees, but rejecting the third, against whom it instructed the District Attorney of the District of Columbia to institute *quo warranto* proceedings in the Supreme Court of the District. In *United States v. Smith*,⁵⁰³ the Supreme Court overruled the proceedings on the ground that the Senate had never before attempted to apply its rule in the case of an appointee who had already been installed in office on the faith of the Senate's initial consent and notification to the President. In 1939, the late President Roosevelt rejected a similar demand by the Senate, an action that was unchallenged.⁵⁰⁴

SECTION 3. The President * * * shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

⁵⁰¹ 3 Ops. Atty. Gen. 188 (1837).

⁵⁰² 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1525–1526; 5 WORKS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON, P. Ford ed., (New York: 1904), 161–162; 9 WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON, G. Hunt ed. (New York: 1910), 111–113.

⁵⁰³ 286 U.S. 6 (1932).

⁵⁰⁴ E. CORWIN, op. cit., n. 44, 77.

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Commissioning the Officer.—This, as applied in practice, does not mean that he is under constitutional obligation to commission those whose appointments have reached that stage but merely that it is he and no one else who has the power to commission them, which he may do at his discretion. The sealing and delivery of the commission is, on the other hand, by the doctrine of *Marbury v. Madison*, in the case both of appointee by the President and Senate and by the President alone, a purely ministerial act which has been lodged by statute with the Secretary of State and the performance of which may be compelled by mandamus unless the appointee has been in the meantime validly removed.⁵⁰⁵ By an opinion of the Attorney General many years later, however, the President, even after he has signed a commission, still has a *locus poenitentiae* and may withhold it; nor is the appointee in office till he has this commission.⁵⁰⁶ This is probably the correct doctrine.⁵⁰⁷

Clause 3. The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

Recess Appointments

Setting out from the proposition that the very nature of the executive power requires that it shall always be “in capacity for action,” Attorneys General early came to interpret “happen” to mean “happen to exist,” and long continued practice securely establishes this construction. It results that whenever a vacancy may have occurred in the first instance, or for whatever reason, if it still continues after the Senate has ceased to sit and so cannot be consulted, the President may fill it in the way described.⁵⁰⁸ But a Senate “recess” does not include holidays, or very brief temporary adjourn-

⁵⁰⁵ *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137, 157–158, 173 (1803).

⁵⁰⁶ 12 Ops. Atty. Gen. 306 (1867).

⁵⁰⁷ It should be remembered that, for various reasons, *Marbury* got neither commission nor office. The case assumes, in fact, the necessity of possession of his commission by the appointee.

⁵⁰⁸ See the following Ops. Atty. Gen.: 1:631 (1823); 2:525 (1832); 3:673 (1841); 4:523 (1846); 10:356 (1862); 11:179 (1865); 12:32 (1866); 12:455 (1868); 14:563 (1875); 15:207 (1877); 16:523 (1880); 18:28 (1884); 19:261 (1889); 26:234 (1907); 30:314 (1914); 33:20 (1921). In 4 Ops. Atty. Gen. 361, 363 (1845), the general doctrine was held not to apply to a yet unfilled office which was created during the previous session of Congress, but this distinction was rejected in the following Ops. Atty. Gen.: 12:455 (1868); 18:28 (1884); and 19:261 (1889). In harmony with the opinions is *United States v. Allocco*, 305 F.2d 704 (2d Cir. 1962). For the early practice with reference to recess appointments, see 2 G. HAYNES, *THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES*, (Boston: 1938), 772–778.

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ments,⁵⁰⁹ while by an act of Congress, if the vacancy existed when the Senate was in session, the *ad interim* appointee, subject to certain exemptions, may receive no salary until he has been confirmed by the Senate.⁵¹⁰

Judicial Appointments.—Federal judges clearly fall within the terms of the recess-appointments clause. But, unlike with other offices, a problem exists. Article III judges are appointed “during good behavior,” subject only to removal through impeachment. A judge, however, who is given a recess appointment may be “removed” by the Senate’s failure to advise and consent to his appointment; moreover, on the bench, prior to Senate confirmation, she may be subject to influence not felt by other judges. Nonetheless, a constitutional attack upon the status of a federal district judge, given a recess appointment and then withdrawn as a nominee, was rejected by a federal court.⁵¹¹

Ad Interim Designations.—To be distinguished from the power to make recess appointments is the power of the President to make temporary or *ad interim* designations of officials to perform the duties of other absent officials. Usually such a situation is provided for in advance by a statute which designates the inferior officer who is to act in place of his immediate superior. But in the lack of such provision, both theory and practice concede the President the power to make the designation.⁵¹²

The Removal Power

The Myers Case.—Save for the provision which it makes for a power of impeachment of “civil officers of the United States,” the Constitution contains no reference to a power to remove from office, and until its decision in *Myers v. United States*,⁵¹³ on October 25, 1926, the Supreme Court had contrived to side-step every occasion

⁵⁰⁹ 23 Ops. Atty. Gen. 599 (1901); 22 Ops. Atty. Gen. 82 (1898). How long a “recess” must be to be actually a recess, a question here as in the pocket veto area, is uncertain. 3 O. L. C. 311, 314 (1979). A “recess,” however, may be merely “constructive,” as when a regular session succeeds immediately upon a special session. It was this kind of situation that gave rise to the once famous *Crum* incident. See 3 W. WILLOUGHBY, op. cit., n. 294, 1508–1509.

⁵¹⁰ 5 U.S.C. § 5503. The provision has been on the books, in somewhat stricter form, since 12 Stat. 646 (1863).

⁵¹¹ *United States v. Woodley*, 751 F.2d 1008 (9th Cir. 1985) (*en banc*), *cert. den.*, 475 U.S. 1048 (1986). The opinions in the court of appeals provide a wealth of data on the historical practice of giving recess appointments to judges, including the developments in the Eisenhower Administration, when three Justices, Warren, Brennan, and Stewart, were so appointed and later confirmed after participation on the Court. The Senate in 1960 adopted a “sense-of-the-Senate” resolution suggesting the practice was not a good idea. 106 CONG. REC. 18130–18145 (1960).

⁵¹² See the following Ops. Atty. Gen.: 6:358 (1854); 12:32, 41 (1866); 25:258 (1904); 28:95 (1909); 38:298 (1935).

⁵¹³ 272 U.S. 52 (1926).

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for a decisive pronouncement regarding the removal power, its extent, and location. The point immediately at issue in the *Myers* case was the effectiveness of an order of the Postmaster General, acting by direction of the President, to remove from office a first-class postmaster, in the face of the following provision of an act of Congress passed in 1876: "Postmasters of the first, second, and third classes shall be appointed and may be removed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall hold their offices for four years unless sooner removed or suspended according to law."⁵¹⁴

A divided Court, speaking through Chief Justice Taft, held the order of removal valid and the statutory provision just quoted void. The Chief Justice's main reliance was on the so-called "decision of 1789," the reference being to Congress' course that year in inserting in the act establishing the Department of State a proviso which was meant to imply recognition that the Secretary would be removable by the President at will. The proviso was especially urged by Madison, who invoked in support of it the opening words of Article II and the President's duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." Succeeding passages of the Chief Justice's opinion erected on this basis a highly selective account of doctrine and practice regarding the removal power down to the Civil War, which was held to yield the following results: "That article II grants to the President the executive power of the Government, i.e., the general administrative control of those executing the laws, including the power of appointment and removal of executive officers—a conclusion confirmed by his obligation to take care that the laws be faithfully executed; that article II excludes the exercise of legislative power by Congress to provide for appointments and removals, except only as granted therein to Congress in the matter of inferior offices; that Congress is only given power to provide for appointments and removals of inferior officers after it has vested, and on condition that it does vest, their appointment in other authority than the President with the Senate's consent; that the provisions of the second section of Article II, which blend action by the legislative branch, or by part of it, in the work of the executive, are limitations to be strictly construed and not to be extended by implication; that the President's power of removal is further established as an incident to his specifically enumerated function of appointment by and with the advice of the Senate, but that such incident does not by implication extend to removals the Senate's power of checking appointments; and finally that to hold otherwise would

⁵¹⁴ 19 Stat. 78, 80.

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make it impossible for the President, in case of political or other differences with the Senate or Congress, to take care that the laws be faithfully executed.”⁵¹⁵

The holding in the *Myers* case boils down to the proposition that the Constitution endows the President with an illimitable power to remove all officers in whose appointment he has participated with the exception of judges of the United States. The motivation of the holding was not, it may be assumed, any ambition on the Chief Justice’s part to set history aright—or awry.⁵¹⁶ Rather, it was the concern that he voiced in the following passage in his opinion: “There is nothing in the Constitution which permits a distinction between the removal of the head of a department or a bureau, when he discharges a political duty of the President or exercises his discretion, and the removal of executive officers engaged in the discharge of their other normal duties. The imperative reasons requiring an unrestricted power to remove the most important of his subordinates in their most important duties must, therefore, control the interpretation of the Constitution as to all appointed by him.”⁵¹⁷ Thus spoke the former President Taft, and the result of

⁵¹⁵ *Id.*, 272 U.S., 163–164.

⁵¹⁶ The reticence of the Constitution respecting removal left room for four possibilities: first, the one suggested by the common law doctrine of “estate in office,” from which the conclusion followed that the impeachment power was the only power of removal intended by the Constitution; second, that the power of removal was an incident of the power of appointment and hence belonged, at any rate in the absence of legal or other provision to the contrary, to the appointing authority; third, that Congress could, by virtue of its power “to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper,” etc., determine the location of the removal power; fourth, that the President by virtue of his “executive power” and his duty “to take care that the laws be faithfully executed,” possesses the power of removal over all officers of the United States except judges. In the course of the debate on the act to establish a Department of Foreign Affairs (later changed to Department of State) all of these views were put forward, with the final result that a clause was incorporated in the measure that implied, as pointed out above, that the head of the department would be removable by the President at his discretion. Contemporaneously, and indeed until after the Civil War, this action by Congress, in other words “the decision of 1789,” was interpreted as establishing “a practical construction of the Constitution” with respect to executive officers appointed without stated terms. However, in the dominant opinion of those best authorized to speak on the subject, the “correct interpretation” of the Constitution was that the power of removal was always an incident of the power of appointment, and that therefore in the case of officers appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate the removal power was exercisable by the President only with the advice and consent of the Senate. For an extensive review of the issue at the time of *Myers*, see Corwin, *The President’s Removal Power Under the Constitution*, in 4 SELECTED ESSAYS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (Chicago: 1938), 1467.

⁵¹⁷ *Id.*, 272 U.S., 134. Note the parallelism of the arguments from separation-of-powers and the President’s ability to enforce the laws in the decision rendered on Congress’ effort to obtain a role in the actual appointment of executive officers in *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 109–143 (1976), and in many of the subsequent separation-of-powers decisions.

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his prepossession was a rule which, as was immediately pointed out, exposed the so-called “independent agencies,” the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, and the like, to presidential domination. Unfortunately, the Chief Justice, while professing to follow Madison’s leadership, had omitted to weigh properly the very important observation which the latter had made at the time regarding the office of Comptroller of the Treasury. “The Committee,” said Madison, “has gone through the bill without making any provision respecting the tenure by which the comptroller is to hold his office. I think it is a point worthy of consideration, and shall, therefore, submit a few observations upon it. It will be necessary to consider the nature of this office, to enable us to come to a right decision on the subject; in analyzing its properties, we shall easily discover they are of a judiciary quality as well as the executive; perhaps the latter obtains in the greatest degree. The principal duty seems to be deciding upon the lawfulness and justice of the claims and accounts subsisting between the United States and particular citizens: this partakes strongly of the judicial character, and there may be strong reasons why an officer of this kind should not hold his office at the pleasure of the executive branch of the government.”⁵¹⁸ In *Humphrey’s Executor v. United States*,⁵¹⁹ the Court seized upon “the nature of the office” concept and applied it as a corrective to the overbroad *Myers* holding.

The Humphrey Case.—The material element of this case was that Humphrey, a member of the Federal Trade Commission, was on October 7, 1933, notified by President Roosevelt that he was “removed” from office, the reason being their divergent views of public policy. In due course, Humphrey sued for salary. Distinguishing the *Myers* case, Justice Sutherland, speaking for the unanimous Court, said: “A postmaster is an executive officer restricted to the performance of executive functions. He is charged with no duty at all related to either the legislative or judicial power. The actual decision in the *Myers* case finds support in the theory that such an office is merely one of the units in the executive department and, hence, inherently subject to the exclusive and illimitable power of

⁵¹⁸ ANNALS OF CONGRESS 611–612 (1789).

⁵¹⁹ 295 U.S. 602 (1935). The case is also styled *Rathbun, Executor v. United States*, Humphrey having, like Myers before him, died in the course of his suit for salary. Proponents of strong presidential powers long argued that *Humphrey’s Executor*, like *A.L.A. Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*, 295 U.S. 495 (1935), both cases argued and decided contemporaneously, reflected the anti-New Deal views of a conservative Court and wrongfully departed from *Myers*. See Scalia, *Historical Anomalies in Administrative Law*, 1985 Yearbook of the Supreme Court Historical Society 103, 106–110. Now-Justice Scalia continues to adhere to his views and to *Myers*. *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 697, 707–711, 723–727 (1988) (dissenting).

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removal by the Chief Executive, whose subordinate and aide he is. . . . It goes no farther; much less does it include an officer who occupies no place in the executive department and who exercises no part of the executive power vested by the Constitution in the President.

“The Federal Trade Commission is an administrative body created by Congress to carry into effect legislative policies embodied in the statute. . . . Such a body cannot in any proper sense be characterized as an arm or eye of the executive. Its duties are performed without executive leave and, in the contemplation of the statute, must be free from executive control. . . . We think it plain under the Constitution that illimitable power of removal is not possessed by the President in respect of officers of the character of those just named, [the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the Court of Claims]. The authority of Congress, in creating quasi-legislative or quasi-judicial agencies, to require them to act in discharge of their duties independently of executive control cannot well be doubted; and that authority includes, as an appropriate incident, power to fix the period during which they shall continue in office, and to forbid their removal except for cause in the meantime. For it is quite evident that one who holds his office only during the pleasure of another, cannot be depended upon to maintain an attitude of independence against the latter’s will. . . .

“The result of what we now have said is this: Whether the power of the President to remove an officer shall prevail over the authority of Congress to condition the power by fixing a definite term and precluding a removal except for cause, will depend upon the character of the office; the *Myers* decision, affirming the power of the President alone to make the removal, is confined to purely executive officers; and as to officers of the kind here under consideration, we hold that no removal can be made during the prescribed term for which the officer is appointed, except for one or more of the causes named in the applicable statute.”⁵²⁰

The Wiener Case.—Curtailed of the President’s power of removal, so liberally delineated in the *Myers* decision, was not to

⁵²⁰ *Id.*, 295 U.S., 627–629, 631–632. Justice Sutherland’s statement, quoted above, that a Federal Trade Commissioner “occupies no place in the executive department” was not necessary to the decision of the case, was altogether out of line with the same Justice’s reasoning in *Springer v. Philippine Islands*, 277 U.S. 189, 201–202 (1928), and seems later to have caused the author of it much perplexity. See R. CUSHMAN, *THE INDEPENDENT REGULATORY COMMISSION* (New York: 1941), 447–448. As Professor Cushman adds: “Every officer and agency created by Congress to carry laws into effect is an arm of Congress. . . . The term may be a synonym; it is not an argument.” *Id.*, 451.

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end with the *Humphrey* case. Unresolved by the latter was the question whether the President, absent a provision expressly delimiting his authority in the statute creating an agency endowed with quasi-judicial functions, remained competent to remove members serving thereon. To this query the Court supplied a negative answer in *Wiener v. United States*.⁵²¹ Emphasizing therein that the duties of the War Claims Commission were wholly adjudicatory and its determinations, final and exempt from review by any other official or judicial body, the Court unanimously concluded that inasmuch as the President was unable to supervise its activities, he lacked the power, independently of statutory authorization, to remove a commissioner serving thereon whose term expired with the life of that agency.

The Watergate Controversy.—A dispute arose regarding the discharge of the Special Prosecutor appointed to investigate and prosecute violations of law in the Watergate matter. Congress vested in the Attorney General the power to conduct the criminal litigation of the Federal Government,⁵²² and it further authorized him to appoint subordinate officers to assist him in the discharge of his duties.⁵²³ Pursuant to presidential direction, the Attorney General designated a Watergate Special Prosecutor with broad power to investigate and prosecute offenses arising out of the Watergate break-in, the 1972 presidential election, and allegations involving the President, members of the White House staff, or presidential appointees. He was to remain in office until a date mutually agreed upon between the Attorney General and himself, and the regulations provided that the Special Prosecutor “will not be removed from his duties except for extraordinary improprieties on his part.”⁵²⁴ On October 20, following the resignations of the Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General, the Solicitor General as Acting Attorney General formally dismissed the Special Prosecutor⁵²⁵ and three days later rescinded the regulation establishing the office.⁵²⁶ In subsequent litigation, it was held, by a federal district court, that the firing by the Acting Attorney General had vio-

⁵²¹ 357 U.S. 349 (1958).

⁵²² 28 U.S.C. § 516.

⁵²³ 28 U.S.C. §§ 509, 510, 515, 533.

⁵²⁴ 38 FED. REG. 14688 (1973). The Special Prosecutor's status and duties were the subject of negotiation between the Administration and the Senate Judiciary Committee. *Nomination of Elliot L. Richardson to be Attorney General*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973), 143 *passim*.

⁵²⁵ The formal documents effectuating the result are set out in 9 WKLY. COMP. OF PRES. DOCS. 1271–1272 (1973).

⁵²⁶ 38 FED. REG. 29466 (1973). The Office was shortly recreated and a new Special Prosecutor appointed. 38 FED. REG. 30739, as amended by 38 FED. REG. 32805. See *Nomination of William B. Saxbe to be Attorney General*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973).

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lated the regulations, which were in force at the time and which had to be followed until they were rescinded.⁵²⁷ The Supreme Court in *United States v. Nixon*⁵²⁸ seemed to confirm this analysis by the district court in upholding the authority of the new Special Prosecutor to take the President to court to obtain evidence in the President's possession. Left unsettled were two questions, the power of the President himself to go over the heads of his subordinates and to fire the Special Prosecutor himself, whatever the regulations said, and the power of Congress to enact legislation establishing an Office of Special Prosecutor free from direction and control of the President.⁵²⁹ When Congress acted to create an office, first called the Special Prosecutor and then the Independent Counsel, resolution of the question became necessary.

The Removal Power Rationalized.— The tension that had long been noticed between *Myers* and *Humphrey's Executor*, at least in terms of the language used in those cases but also to some extent in their holdings, appears to have been ameliorated by two decisions, which purport to reconcile the cases but, more important, purport to establish, in the latter case, a mode of analysis for resolving separation-of-powers disputes respecting the removal of persons appointed under the appointments clause.⁵³⁰ *Myers* actually struck down only a law involving the Senate in the removal of postmasters, but the broad-ranging opinion had long stood for the proposition that inherent in the President's obligation to see to the faithful execution of the laws was his right to remove any executive officer as a means of discipline. *Humphrey's Executor* had qualified this proposition by upholding "for cause" removal restrictions for members of independent regulatory agencies, at least in part on the assertion that they exercised "quasi-" legislative and adjudicative functions as well as some form of executive function. Maintaining the holding of the latter case was essential to retaining the independent agencies, but the emphasis upon the execution of the laws as a core executive function in recent cases had cast

⁵²⁷ *Nader v. Bork*, 366 F. Supp. 104 (D.D.C. 1973).

⁵²⁸ 418 U.S. 683, 692–697 (1974).

⁵²⁹ The first question remained unstated, but the second issue was extensively debated in *Special Prosecutor*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973); *Special Prosecutor and Watergate Grand Jury Legislation*, Hearings before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973).

⁵³⁰ *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714 (1986); *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654 (1988). This is not to say that the language and analytical approach of *Synar* are not in conflict with that of *Morrison*; it is to say that the results are consistent and the analytical basis of the latter case does resolve the ambiguity present in some of the reservations in *Synar*.

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considerable doubt on the continuing validity of *Humphrey's Executor*.

In *Bowsher v. Synar*,⁵³¹ the Court held that when Congress itself retains the power to remove an official it could not vest him with the exercise of executive power. Invalidated in *Synar* were provisions of the 1985 “Gramm-Rudman-Hollings” Deficit Control Act⁵³² vesting in the Comptroller General authority to prepare a detailed report on projected federal revenue and expenditures and to determine mandatory across-the-board cuts in federal expenditures necessary to reduce the projected budget deficit by statutory targets. By a 1921 statute, the Comptroller General was removable by joint congressional resolution for, *inter alia*, “inefficiency,” “neglect of duty,” or “malfeasance.” “These terms are very broad,” the Court noted, and “could sustain removal of a Comptroller General for any number of actual or perceived transgressions of the legislative will.” Consequently, the Court determined, “the removal powers over the Comptroller General’s office dictate that he will be subservient to Congress.”⁵³³

Relying expressly upon *Myers*, the Court concluded that “Congress cannot reserve for itself the power of removal of an officer charged with the execution of the laws except by impeachment.”⁵³⁴ But *Humphrey's Executor* was also cited with approval, and to the contention that invalidation of this law would cast doubt on the status of the independent agencies the Court rejoined that the statutory measure of the independence of those agencies was the assurance of “for cause” removal by the President rather than congressional involvement as in the instance of the Comptroller General.⁵³⁵ This reconciliation of *Myers* and *Humphrey's Executor* was made clear and express in *Morrison v. Olson*.⁵³⁶

⁵³¹ 478 U.S. 714 (1986).

⁵³² The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, Pub. L. 99-177, 99 Stat. 1038.

⁵³³ *Id.*, 478 U.S., 729, 730. “By placing the responsibility for execution of the . . . Act in the hands of an officer who is subject to removal only by itself, Congress in effect has retained control over the execution of the Act and has intruded into the executive function.” *Id.*, at 734. Because the Act contained contingency procedures for implementing the budget reductions in the event that the primary mechanism was invalidated, the Court rejected the suggestion that it should invalidate the 1921 removal provision rather than the Deficit Act’s conferral of executive power in the Comptroller General. To do so would frustrate congressional intention and significantly alter the Comptroller General’s office. *Id.*, 734–36.

⁵³⁴ *Id.*, 726.

⁵³⁵ *Id.*, 725 n. 4.

⁵³⁶ 487 U.S. 654 (1988).

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That case sustained the independent counsel statute.⁵³⁷ Under that law, the independent counsel, appointed by a special court upon application by the Attorney General, may be removed by the Attorney General “only for good cause, physical disability, mental incapacity, or any other condition that substantially impairs the performance of such independent counsel’s duties.” Inasmuch as the counsel was clearly exercising “purely” executive duties, in the sense that term was used in *Myers*, it was urged that *Myers* governed and required the invalidation of the statute. But, said the Court, *Myers* stood only for the proposition that Congress could not involve itself in the removal of executive officers. Its broad dicta that the President must be able to remove at will officers performing “purely” executive functions had not survived *Humphrey’s Executor*. It was true, the Court admitted, that, in the latter case, it had distinguished between “purely” executive officers and officers who exercise “quasi-legislative” and “quasi-judicial” powers in marking the line between officials who may be presidentially removed at will and officials who can be protected through some form of good cause removal limits. “[B]ut our present considered view is that the determination of whether the Constitution allows Congress to impose a ‘good cause’-type restriction on the President’s power to remove an official cannot be made to turn on whether or not that official is classified as ‘purely executive.’ The analysis contained in our removal cases is designed not to define rigid categories of those officials who may or may not be removed at will by the President, but to ensure that Congress does not interfere with the President’s exercise of the ‘executive power’ and his constitutionally appointed duty to ‘take care that the laws be faithfully executed’ under Article II. *Myers* was undoubtedly correct in its holding, and in its broader suggestion that there are some ‘purely executive’ officials who must be removable by the President at will if he is to be able to accomplish his constitutional role. . . . At the other end of the spectrum from *Myers*, the characterization of the agencies in *Humphrey’s Executor* and *Wiener* as ‘quasi-legislative’ or ‘quasi-judicial’ in large part reflected our judgment that it was not essential to the President’s proper execution of his Article II powers that these agencies be headed up by individuals who were removable at will. We do not mean to suggest that an analysis of the functions served by the officials at issue is irrelevant. But the real question is whether the removal restrictions are of such a nature that they impede the President’s ability to perform his con-

⁵³⁷ Pub. L. 95–521, title VI, 92 Stat. 1867, as amended by Pub. L. 97–409, 96 Stat. 2039, and Pub. L. 100–191, 101 Stat. 1293, 28 U.S.C. §§ 49, 591 *et seq.*

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stitutional duty, and the functions of the officials in question must be analyzed in that light.”⁵³⁸

The Court discerned no compelling reason to find the good cause limit to interfere with the President’s performance of his duties. The independent counsel did exercise executive, law-enforcement functions, but the jurisdiction and tenure of each counsel were limited in scope and policymaking or significant administrative authority was lacking. On the other hand, the removal authority did afford the President through the Attorney General power to ensure the “faithful execution” of the laws by assuring that the counsel is competently performing the statutory duties of the office.

It is now thus reaffirmed that Congress may not involve itself in the removal of officials performing executive functions. It is also established that, in creating offices in the executive branch and in creating independent agencies, Congress has considerable discretion in statutorily limiting the power to remove of the President or another appointing authority. It is evident on the face of the opinion that the discretion is not unbounded, that there are offices which may be essential to the President’s performance of his constitutionally assigned powers and duties, so that limits on removal would be impermissible. There are no bright lines marking off one office from the other, but decision requires close analysis.⁵³⁹

As a result of these cases, the long-running controversy with respect to the legitimacy of the independent agencies appears to have been settled,⁵⁴⁰ although it appears likely that the controversies with respect to congressional-presidential assertions of power in executive agency matters are only beginning.

Other Phases of Presidential Removal Power.—Congress may “limit and restrict the power of removal as it deems best for the public interest” in the case of inferior officers.⁵⁴¹ However, in the absence of specific legislative provision to the contrary, the President may remove at his discretion an inferior officer whose

⁵³⁸ *Id.*, 487 U.S., 685–93.

⁵³⁹ But notice the analysis followed by three Justices in *Public Citizen v. Department of Justice*, 491 U.S. 440, 467, 482–489 (1989) (concurring), and consider the possible meaning of the recurrence to formalist reasoning in *Granfinanciera, S.A. v. Nordberg*, 492 U.S. 33, (1989). And see Justice Scalia’s utilization of the “take care” clause in pronouncing limits on Congress’ constitutional power to confer citizen standing in *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2142–2146 (1992), although it is not clear that he had a majority of the Court with him.

⁵⁴⁰ Indeed, the Court explicitly analogized the civil enforcement powers of the independent agencies to the prosecutorial powers wielded by the independent counsel. *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 692 n. 31 (1988).

⁵⁴¹ *United States v. Perkins*, 116 U.S. 483 (1886), cited with approval in *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52, 161–163, 164 (1926), and *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 689 n. 27 (1988).

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term is limited by statute,⁵⁴² or one appointed with the consent of the Senate.⁵⁴³ He may remove an officer of the army or navy at any time by nominating to the Senate the officer's successor, provided the Senate approves the nomination.⁵⁴⁴ In 1940, the President was sustained in removing Dr. E. A. Morgan from the chairmanship of TVA for refusal to produce evidence in substantiation of charges which he had levelled at his fellow directors.⁵⁴⁵ Although no such cause of removal by the President was stated in the act creating TVA, the President's action, being reasonably required to promote the smooth functioning of TVA, was within his duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." So interpreted, it did not violate the principle of administrative independence.

The Presidential Aegis: Demands for Papers

Presidents have more than once had occasion to stand in a protective relation to their subordinates, assuming their defense in litigation brought against them⁵⁴⁶ or pressing litigation in their behalf,⁵⁴⁷ refusing a call for papers from one of the Houses of Congress which might be used, in their absence from the seat of government, to their disadvantage,⁵⁴⁸ challenging the constitutional validity of legislation which he deemed detrimental to their interests.⁵⁴⁹ One of the principal efforts throughout our history has been his efforts to spread his own official immunity to them, by resisting actions of the courts or of congressional committees to require divulgence of confidential communications from or to the President, that is, communications that Presidents choose to regard as confidential. Only recently, however, has the focus of the controversy shifted from protection of presidential or executive interests to protection of the President himself and the locus of the dispute shifted to the courts.

Following years in which claims of executive privilege were resolved one way or another on the basis of the political strengths of the parties, in primarily interbranch disputes, the issue was finally the subject of the first judicial elaboration of the doctrine to take place in our history; the doctrine of executive privilege was at once recognized as existing and having a constitutional foundation while

⁵⁴² *Parsons v. United States*, 167 U.S. 324 (1897).

⁵⁴³ *Shurtleff v. United States*, 189 U.S. 311 (1903).

⁵⁴⁴ *Blake v. United States*, 103 U.S. 227 (1881); *Quackenbush v. United States*, 177 U.S. 20 (1900); *Wallace v. United States*, 257 U.S. 541 (1922).

⁵⁴⁵ *Morgan v. TVA*, 28 F. Supp. 732 (D.E.D. Tenn. 1939), *affd.*, 115 F. 2d 990 (6th Cir. 1940), *cert. den.* 312 U.S. 701 (1941).

⁵⁴⁶ E.g., 6 Ops. Atty. Gen. 220 (1853); *In re Neagle*, 135 U.S. 1 (1890).

⁵⁴⁷ *United States v. Lovett*, 328 U.S. 303 (1946).

⁵⁴⁸ E.g., 2 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 847.

⁵⁴⁹ *United States v. Lovett*, 328 U.S. 303, 313 (1946).

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at the same time it was definitely bounded in its assertion by the principle of judicial review. Because of these cases, because of the intensified congressional-presidential dispute, and especially because of the introduction of the issue into an impeachment proceeding, a somewhat lengthy treatment of the doctrine is called for.

Conceptually, the doctrine of executive privilege may well reflect different considerations in different factual situations. Congress may seek information within the possession of the President, either in effectuation of its investigatory powers to oversee the conduct of officials of the Executive Branch or in effectuation of its power to impeach the President, Vice President, or civil officers of the Government. Private parties may seek information in the possession of the President either in civil litigation with the Government or in a criminal proceeding brought by government prosecutors. Generally, the categories of executive privilege have been the same whether it is Congress or a private individual seeking the information, but it is possible that the congressional assertion of need may over-balance the presidential claim to a greater degree than that of a private individual. The judicial precedents are so meager yet that it is not possible so to state, however.

The doctrine of executive privilege defines the authority of the President to withhold documents or information in his possession or in the possession of the executive branch from compulsory process of the legislative or judicial branch of the government. The Constitution does not expressly confer upon the Executive Branch any such privilege, but it has been claimed that the privilege derives from the constitutional provision of separation of powers and from a necessary and proper concept respecting the carrying out of the duties of the presidency imposed by the Constitution. Historically, assertion of the doctrine has been largely confined to the areas of foreign relations, military affairs, pending investigations, and intragovernmental discussions.⁵⁵⁰ The current and ongoing litiga-

⁵⁵⁰For a good statement of the basis of the doctrine, the areas in which it is asserted, and historical examples, see *Executive Privilege: The Withholding of Information by the Executive*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Separation of Powers, 92d Congress, 1st sess. (1971), 420–443, (then-Assistant Attorney General Rehnquist). Former Attorney General Rogers, in stating the position of the Eisenhower Administration, identified five categories of executive privilege: (1) military and diplomatic secrets and foreign affairs, (2) information made confidential by statute, (3) information relating to pending litigation, and investigative files and reports, (4) information relating to internal government affairs privileged from disclosure in the public interest, and (5) records incidental to the making of policy, including interdepartmental memoranda, advisory opinions, recommendations of subordinates, and informal working papers. *The Power of the President To Withhold Information from the Congress*, Memorandum of the Attorney General, Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights, 85th Congress, 2d sess. (Comm. Print) (1958), reprinted as Rogers, *Constitutional Law: The Papers of the*

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tion involved, of course, the claim of confidentiality of conversations between the President and his aides.

Private Access to Government Information.—Private parties may seek to obtain information from the Government either to assist in defense to criminal charges brought by the Government or in civil cases to use in either a plaintiff's or defendant's capacity in suits with the Government or between private parties.⁵⁵¹ In criminal cases, a defendant is guaranteed compulsory process to obtain witnesses by the Sixth Amendment and by the due process clause is guaranteed access to relevant exculpatory information in the possession of the prosecution.⁵⁵² Generally speaking, when the prosecution is confronted with a judicial order to turn over information to a defendant that it does not wish to make available, the prosecution has the option of dropping the prosecution and thus avoiding disclosure,⁵⁵³ but that alternative may not always be available; in the Watergate prosecution, only by revoking the authority of the Special Prosecutor and bringing the cases back into the confines of the Department of Justice could this possibility have been realized.⁵⁵⁴

Executive Branch, 44 A.B.A.J. 941 (1958). In the most expansive version of the doctrine, Attorney General Kleindeinst argued that the President could assert the privilege as to any employee of the Federal Government to keep secret any information at all. *Executive Privilege, Secrecy in Government, Freedom of Information*, Hearings before the Senate Government Operations Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973), I:18 passim. For a strong argument that the doctrine lacks any constitutional or other legal basis, see R. BERGER, *EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE: A CONSTITUTIONAL MYTH* (Cambridge: 1974). The book, however, precedes the Court decision in *Nixon*.

⁵⁵¹ There are also, of course, instances of claimed access for other purposes, for which the Freedom of Information Act, 80 Stat. 383 (1966), 5 U.S.C. § 552, provides generally for public access to governmental documents. In 522(b), however, nine types of information are exempted from coverage, several of which relate to the types as to which executive privilege has been asserted, such as matter classified pursuant to executive order, interagency or intra-agency memoranda or letters, and law enforcement investigatory files. See, e.g., *EPA v. Mink*, 410 U.S. 73 (1973); *FTC v. Grolier, Inc.*, 462 U.S. 19 (1983); *CIA v. Sims*, 471 U.S. 159 (1985); *John Doe Agency v. John Doe Corp.*, 493 U.S. 146 (1989); *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F. 2d 820 (D.C.Cir. 1973), *cert. den.*, 415 U.S. 977 (1974).

⁵⁵² See *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963), and Rule 16, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. The earliest judicial dispute involving what later became known as executive privilege arose in *United States v. Burr*, 25 F. Cas. 30 and 187 (C.C.D. Va. 1807), in which defendant sought certain exculpatory material from President Jefferson. Dispute continues with regard to the extent of presidential compliance, but it appears that the President was in substantial compliance with outstanding orders if not in full compliance.

⁵⁵³ E.g., *Alderman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 165 (1968).

⁵⁵⁴ Thus, defendant in *United States v. Ehrlichman*, 376 F. Supp. 29 (D.C.D.C. 1974), was held entitled to access to material in the custody of the President wherein the President's decision to dismiss the prosecution would probably have been unavailing.

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The civil type of case is illustrated in *United States v. Reynolds*,⁵⁵⁵ a tort claim brought against the United States for compensation for the deaths of civilians in the crash of an Air Force plane testing secret electronics equipment. Plaintiffs sought discovery of the Air Force's investigation report on the accident, and the Government resisted on a claim of privilege as to the nondisclosure of military secrets. The Court accepted the Government's claim, holding that courts must determine whether under the circumstances the claim of privilege was appropriate without going so far as to force disclosure of the thing the privilege is designed to protect. The showing of necessity of the private litigant for the information should govern in each case how far the trial court should probe; where the necessity is strong, the court should require a strong showing of the appropriateness of the privilege claim but once satisfied of the appropriateness no matter how compelling the need the privilege prevails.⁵⁵⁶

Prosecutorial and Grand Jury Access to Presidential Documents.—Rarely will there be situations when federal prosecutors or grand juries seek information under the control of the President, since he has ultimate direction of federal prosecuting agencies, but the Watergate Special Prosecutor, being in a unique legal situation, was held able to take the President to court to enforce subpoenas for tape recordings of presidential conversations and other documents relating to the commission of criminal actions.⁵⁵⁷ While holding that the subpoenas were valid and should be obeyed, the Supreme Court recognized the constitutional status of execu-

⁵⁵⁵ 345 U.S. 1 (1953).

⁵⁵⁶ *Id.*, 7–8, 9–10, 11. Withholding of information relating to governmental employees' clearances, disciplines, or discharges often raise claims of such privilege. E.g., *Webster v. Doe*, 486 U.S. 592 (1988); *U. S. Dept. of the Navy v. Egan*, 484 U.S. 518 (1988). After the Court approved and implemented a governmental secrecy agreement with some of its employees, *Snepp v. United States*, 444 U.S. 507 (1980), the Government expanded its secrecy program with respect to classified and "classifiable" information. When Congress sought to curb this policy, the Reagan Administration convinced a federal district judge to declare the restrictions void as invasive of the President constitutional power to manage the executive. *National Federation of Federal Employees v. United States*, 688 F.Supp. 671 (D.D.C.), *vacated and remanded sub nom.*, *American Foreign Service Assn. v. Garfinkel*, 490 U.S. 153 (1989). For similar assertions in the context of plaintiffs suing the Government for interference with their civil and political rights during the protests against the Vietnam War, in which the plaintiffs were generally denied the information in the possession of the Government under the state-secrets privilege, see *Halkin v. Helms*, 598 F.2d 1 (D.C.Cir. 1978); *Id.*, 690 F.2d 977 (D.C.Cir. 1982); *Ellsberg v. Mitchell*, 709 F.2d 51 (D.C.Cir. 1983). For review and analysis, see Quint, *The Separation of Powers Under Carter*, 62 *Tex. L. Rev.* 785, 875–880 (1984). And see *Totten v. United States*, 92 U.S. 105 (1875).

⁵⁵⁷ *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683, 692–697 (1974).

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tive privilege, insofar as the assertion of that privilege relates to presidential conversations and indirectly to other areas as well.

Presidential communications, the Court said, have “a presumptive privilege.” “The privilege is fundamental to the operation of government and inextricably rooted in the separation of powers under the Constitution.” The operation of government is furthered by the protection accorded communications between high government officials and those who advise and assist them in the performance of their duties. “A President and those who assist him must be free to explore alternatives in the process of shaping policies and making decisions and to do so in a way many would be unwilling to express except privately.” The separation-of-powers basis derives from the conferral upon each of the branches of the Federal Government of powers to be exercised by each of them in great measure independent of the other branches. The confidentiality of presidential conversations flows then from the effectuation of enumerated powers.⁵⁵⁸

However, the Court continued, the privilege is not absolute. The federal courts have the power to construe and delineate claims arising under express and implied powers. Deference is owed the constitutional decisions of the other branches, but it is the function of the courts to exercise the judicial power, “to say what the law is.” The Judicial Branch has the obligation to do justice in criminal prosecutions, which involves the employment of an adversary system of criminal justice in which all the probative facts, save those clearly privileged, are to be made available. Thus, while the President’s claim of privilege is entitled to deference, the courts must when the claim depends solely on a broad, undifferentiated claim of confidentiality balance two sets of interests.

“In this case we must weigh the importance of the general privilege of confidentiality of presidential communications in performance of his responsibilities against the inroads of such a privilege on the fair administration of criminal justice. The interest in preserving confidentiality is weighty indeed and entitled to great respect. However we cannot conclude that advisers will be moved

⁵⁵⁸ *Id.*, 707–708. Presumably, the opinion recognizes a similar power existent in the federal courts to preserve the confidentiality of judicial deliberations, cf. *New York Times Co. v. United States*, 403 U.S. 713, 752 n. 3 (1971) (Chief Justice Burger dissenting), and in each House of Congress to treat many of its papers and documents as privileged. Cf. *Soucie v. David*, 448 F. 2d 1067, 1080, 1081–1982 (C.A.D.C. 1971) (Judge Wilkey concurring); *Military Cold War Escalation and Speech Review Policies*, Hearings before the Senate Committee on Armed Services, 87th Congress, 2d sess. (1962), 512 (Senator Stennis). See *Calley v. Callaway*, 519 F. 2d 184 (5th Cir., 1975) (*en banc*), *cert. den.*, 425 U.S. 911 (1976); *United States v. Ehrlichman*, 389 F. Supp. 95 (D.D.C., 1974).

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to temper the candor of their remarks by the infrequent occasions of disclosure because of the possibility that such conversations will be called for in the context of a criminal prosecution.

“On the other hand, the allowance of the privilege to withhold evidence that is demonstrably relevant in a criminal trial would cut deeply into the guarantee of due process of law and gravely impair the basic function of the courts. A President’s acknowledged need for confidentiality in the communications of his office is general in nature, whereas the constitutional need for production of relevant evidence in a criminal proceeding is specific and central to the fair adjudication of a particular criminal case in the administration of justice. . . .

“We conclude that when the ground for asserting privilege as to subpoenaed materials sought for use in a criminal trial is based only on the generalized interest in confidentiality, it cannot prevail over the fundamental demands of due process of law in the fair administration of criminal justice.”⁵⁵⁹

Obviously, this decision leaves much unresolved. It does recognize the constitutional status of executive privilege as a doctrine. It does affirm the power of the courts to resolve disputes over claims of the privilege. But it leaves unsettled just how much power the courts have to review claims of privilege to protect what are claimed to be military, diplomatic, or sensitive national security secrets. It does not indicate what the status of the claim of confidentiality of conversations is when it is raised in civil cases; nor does it touch upon denial of information to Congress.

Neither does the Court’s decision in *Nixon v. Administrator of General Services*⁵⁶⁰ elucidate any of these or other questions that may be raised to any great degree. In upholding the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act, which directed the Government to take custody of former President Nixon’s records to be screened, catalogued, and processed by professional archivists, in GSA, the Court viewed the assertion of privilege as directed only to the facial validity of the requirement of screening by executive branch professionals and not at all to be related to the possible public disclosure of some of the records. The decision does go be-

⁵⁵⁹ 418 U.S. 683, 711–713. Essentially the same decision had been arrived at in the context of subpoenas of tapes and documentary evidence for use before a grand jury in *Nixon v. Sirica*, 487 F. 2d 700 (D.C.Cir. 1973).

⁵⁶⁰ 433 U.S. 425, 446–455 (1977). See *id.*, 504, 545 (Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist dissenting). The decision does resolve one outstanding question; assertion of the privilege is not limited to incumbent Presidents. *Id.*, 447–449. Subsequently, a court held that former-President Nixon had had such a property expectancy in his papers that he was entitled to compensation for their seizure under the Act. *Nixon v. United States*, 978 F.2d 1269 (D.C.Cir. 1992).

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yond the first decision's recognition of the overbalancing force of the necessity for disclosure in criminal trials to find "comparable" "adequate justifications" for congressional enactment of the law, including the preservation of the materials for legitimate historical and governmental purposes, the rationalization of preservation and access to public needs as well as each President's wishes, the preservation of the materials as a source for facilitating a full airing of the events leading to the former President's resignation for public and congressional understanding, and preservation for the light shed upon issues in civil or criminal litigation. While interestingly instructive, the decision may be so attuned to the narrow factual circumstances that led to the Act's passage as to leave the case of little value as precedent.

Congressional Access to Executive Branch Information.—

Presidents and Congresses have engaged in protracted disputes over provision of information from the former to the latter, but the basic thing to know is that most congressional requests for information are complied with. The disputes, however, have been colorful and varied.⁵⁶¹ The basic premise of the concept of executive privilege, as it is applied to resist requests for information from Congress as from private parties with or without the assistance of the courts, is found in the doctrine of separation of powers, the prerogative of each coequal branch to operate within its own sphere independent of control or direction of the other branches. In this context, the President then asserts that phase of the claim of privilege relevant to the moment, such as confidentiality of communications, protection of diplomatic and military secrets, preservation of investigative records. Counterpoised against this assertion of presidential privilege is the power of Congress to obtain information upon which to legislate, to oversee the carrying out of its legislation, to check and root out corruption and wrongdoing in the Executive Branch, involving both the legislating and appropriating function of Congress, and in the final analysis to impeach the President, the Vice President, and all civil officers of the Federal Government.

Until quite recently, all disputes between the President and Congress with regard to requests for information were settled in the political arena, with the result that few if any lasting precedents were created and only disputed claims were left to future argument. The Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, however, elected to seek a declaratory judgment in the

⁵⁶¹ See the extensive discussion in Shane, *Legal Disagreement and Negotiation in a Government of Laws: The Case of Executive Privilege Claims Against Congress*, 71 Minn. L. Rev. 461 (1987).

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courts with respect to the President's obligations to obey its subpoenas. The Committee lost its case, but the courts based their rulings upon prudential considerations rather than upon questions of basic power, inasmuch as by the time the case was considered impeachment proceedings were pending in the House of Representatives.⁵⁶² The House Judiciary Committee subpoenas were similarly rejected by the President, but instead of going to the courts for enforcement the Committee adopted as one of its Articles of Impeachment the refusal of the President to honor its subpoenas.⁵⁶³ Congress has considered bills by which Congress would authorize congressional committees to go to court to enforce their subpoenas; the bills did not purport to define executive privilege, although some indicate a standard by which the federal court is to determine whether the material sought is lawfully being withheld from Congress.⁵⁶⁴ The controversy gives little indication at the present time of abating, and it may be assumed that whenever the Executive and Congress are controlled by different political parties there will be persistent conflicts. One may similarly assume that the alteration of this situation would only reduce but not remove the disagreements.

SECTION 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information on the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and * * *

⁵⁶² Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities v. Nixon, 370 F. Supp. 521 (D.D.C.), *affd.*, 498 F. 2d 725 (D.C.Cir. 1974).

⁵⁶³ President Nixon's position was set out in a June 9, 1974, letter to the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. 10 WKLY. COMP. PRES. DOCS. 592 (1974). The impeachment article and supporting material are set out in H. Rept. No. 93-1305, 93d Cong., 2d sess. (1974).

⁵⁶⁴ For consideration of various proposals by which Congress might proceed, see Hamilton & Grabow, *A Legislative Proposal for Resolving Executive Privilege Disputes Precipitated by Congressional Subpoenas*, 21 Harv. J. Legis. 145 (1984); Brand & Connelly, *Constitutional Confrontations: Preserving a Prompt and Orderly Means by Which Congress May Enforce Investigative Demands Against Executive Branch Officials*, 36 Cath. U. L. Rev. 71 (1986); Note, *The Conflict Between Executive Privilege and Congressional Oversight: The Gorsuch Controversy*, 1983 Duke L. J. 1333.

LEGISLATIVE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT

This clause, which imposes a duty rather than confers a power, is the formal basis of the President's legislative leadership, which has attained great proportions since 1900. This development, however, represents the play of political and social forces rather than any pronounced change in constitutional interpretation. Especially is it the result of the rise of parties and the accompanying recognition of the President as party leader, of the appearance of the National Nominating Convention and the Party Platform, and of the introduction of the Spoils System, an ever present help to Presidents in times of troubled relations with Congress.⁵⁶⁵ It is true that certain pre-Civil War Presidents, mostly of Whig extraction, professed to entertain nice scruples on the score of "usurping" legislative powers,⁵⁶⁶ but still earlier ones, Washington, Jefferson, and Jackson among them, took a very different line, albeit less boldly and persistently than their later imitators.⁵⁶⁷ Today, there is no subject on which the President may not appropriately communicate to Congress, in as precise terms as he chooses, his conception of its duty. Conversely, the President is not obliged by this clause to impart information which, in his judgment, should in the public interest be withheld.⁵⁶⁸ The President has frequently summoned both Houses into "extra" or "special sessions" for legislative purposes, and the Senate alone for the consideration of nominations and treaties. His power to adjourn the Houses has never been exercised.

THE CONDUCT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS**The Right of Reception: Scope of the Power**

"Ambassadors and other public ministers" embraces not only "all possible diplomatic agents which any foreign power may accredit to the United States,"⁵⁶⁹ but also, as a practical construction of the Constitution, all foreign consular agents, who therefore may not exercise their functions in the United States without an *exequatur* from the President.⁵⁷⁰ The power to "receive" ambassadors, *et cetera*, includes, moreover, the right to refuse to receive them, to

⁵⁶⁵ N. SMALL, SOME PRESIDENTIAL INTERPRETATIONS OF THE PRESIDENCY (Baltimore: 1932); W. BINKLEY, THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS (New York: 2d ed. 1962); E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, chs. 1, 7.

⁵⁶⁶ The first Harrison, Polk, Taylor, and Fillmore all fathered sentiments to this general effect. See 4 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 1860, 1864; 6 *id.*, 2513-2519, 2561-2562, 2608, 2615.

⁵⁶⁷ See sources cited *supra*, n. 565.

⁵⁶⁸ Warren, *Presidential Declarations of Independence*, 10 B.U.L. Rev. 1 (1930); 3 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n. 294, 1488-1492.

⁵⁶⁹ 7 Ops. Atty. Gen. 186, 209 (1855).

⁵⁷⁰ 5 J. MOORE, INTERNATIONAL LAW DIGEST (Washington: 1906), 15-19.

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request their recall, to dismiss them, and to determine their eligibility under our laws.⁵⁷¹ Furthermore, this power makes the President the sole mouthpiece of the nation in its dealing with other nations.

The Presidential Monopoly

Wrote Jefferson in 1790: “The transaction of business with foreign nations is executive altogether. It belongs, then, to the head of that department, except as to such portions of it as are specially submitted to the Senate. Exceptions are to be construed strictly.”⁵⁷² So when Citizen Genet, envoy to the United States from the first French Republic, sought an *exequatur* for a consul whose commission was addressed to the Congress of the United States, Jefferson informed him that “as the President was the only channel of communication between the United States and foreign nations, it was from him alone ‘that foreign nations or their agents are to learn what is or has been the will of the nation’; that whatever he communicated as such, they had a right and were bound to consider ‘as the expression of the nation’; and that no foreign agent could be ‘allowed to question it,’ or ‘to interpose between him and any other branch of government, under the pretext of either’s transgressing their functions.’ Mr. Jefferson therefore declined to enter into any discussion of the question as to whether it belonged to the President under the Constitution to admit or exclude foreign agents. ‘I inform you of the fact,’ he said, ‘by authority from the President.’ Mr. Jefferson returned the consul’s commission and declared that the President would issue no *exequatur* to a consul except upon a commission correctly addressed.”⁵⁷³

The Logan Act.—When in 1798 a Philadelphia Quaker named Logan went to Paris on his own to undertake a negotiation with the French Government with a view to averting war between France and the United States, his enterprise stimulated Congress to pass “An Act to Prevent Usurpation of Executive Functions,”⁵⁷⁴ which, “more honored in the breach than the observance,” still survives on the statute books.⁵⁷⁵ The year following John Marshall,

⁵⁷¹ *Id.*, 4:473–548; 5:19–32.

⁵⁷² *Opinion on the Question Whether the Senate Has the Right to Negative the Grade of Persons Appointed by the Executive to Fill Foreign Missions, April 24, 1790*, 5 WRITINGS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON, P. Ford ed. (New York: 1895), 161, 162.

⁵⁷³ 4 J. MOORE, INTERNATIONAL LAW DIGEST (Washington: 1906), 680–681.

⁵⁷⁴ This measure is now contained in 18 U.S.C. §953.

⁵⁷⁵ See *Memorandum on the History and Scope of the Law Prohibiting Correspondence with a Foreign Government*, S. Doc. No. 696, 64th Congress, 2d Sess. (1917). The author was Mr. Charles Warren, then Assistant Attorney General. Further details concerning the observance of the “Logan Act” are given in E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 183–184, 430–431.

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then a Member of the House of Representatives, defended President John Adams for delivering a fugitive from justice to Great Britain under the 27th article of the Jay Treaty, instead of leaving the business to the courts. He said: "The President is the sole organ of the nation in its external relations, and its sole representative with foreign nations. Of consequence, the demand of a foreign nation can only be made on him. He possesses the whole Executive power. He holds and directs the force of the nation. Of consequence, any act to be performed by the force of the nation is to be performed through him."⁵⁷⁶ Ninety-nine years later, a Senate Foreign Relations Committee took occasion to reiterate Marshall's doctrine with elaboration.⁵⁷⁷

A Formal or a Formative Power.—In his attack, instigated by Jefferson, upon Washington's Proclamation of Neutrality in 1793, at the outbreak of war between France and Great Britain, Madison advanced the argument that all large questions of foreign policy fell within the ambit of Congress, by virtue of its power "to declare war," and in support of this proposition he disparaged the presidential function of reception, in the following words: "I shall not undertake to examine, what would be the precise extent and effect of this function in various cases which fancy may suggest, or which time may produce. It will be more proper to observe, in general, and every candid reader will second the observation, that little, if anything, more was intended by the clause, than to provide for a particular mode of communication, almost grown into a right among modern nations; by pointing out the department of the government, most proper for the ceremony of admitting public ministers, of examining their credentials, and of authenticating their title to the privileges annexed to their character by the law of nations. This being the apparent design of the constitution, it would be highly improper to magnify the function into an important prerogative, even when no rights of other departments could be affected by it."⁵⁷⁸

The President's Diplomatic Role.—Hamilton, although he had expressed substantially the same view in THE FEDERALIST re-

⁵⁷⁶ 10 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 596, 613-614 (1800). Marshall's statement is often cited, e.g., *United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corp.*, 299 U.S. 304, 318, 319 (1936), as if he were claiming sole or inherent executive power in foreign relations, but Marshall carefully propounded the view that Congress could provide the rules underlying the President's duty to extradite. When, in 1848, Congress did enact such a statute, the Court sustained it. *Fong Yue Ting v. United States*, 149 U.S. 698, 714 (1893).

⁵⁷⁷ S. Doc. No. 56, 54th Congress, 2d Sess. (1897).

⁵⁷⁸ 1 LETTERS AND OTHER WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON (Philadelphia: 1865), 611.

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garding the power of reception,⁵⁷⁹ adopted a very different conception of it in defense of Washington's proclamation. Writing under the pseudonym, "Pacificus," he said: "The right of the executive to receive ambassadors and other public ministers, may serve to illustrate the relative duties of the executive and legislative departments. This right includes that of judging, in the case of a revolution of government in a foreign country, whether the new rulers are competent organs of the national will, and ought to be recognized, or not; which, where a treaty antecedently exists between the United States and such nation, involves the power of continuing or suspending its operation. For until the new government is acknowledged, the treaties between the nations, so far at least as regards public rights, are of course suspended. This power of determining virtually upon the operation of national treaties, as a consequence of the power to receive public ministers, is an important instance of the right of the executive, to decide upon the obligations of the country with regard to foreign nations. To apply it to the case of France, if there had been a treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive, between the United States and that country, the unqualified acknowledgment of the new government would have put the United States in a condition to become as an associate in the war with France, and would have laid the legislature under an obligation, if required, and there was otherwise no valid excuse, of exercising its power of declaring war. This serves as an example of the right of the executive, in certain cases, to determine the condition of the nation, though it may, in its consequences, affect the exercise of the power of the legislature to declare war. Nevertheless, the executive cannot thereby control the exercise of that power. The legislature is still free to perform its duties, according to its own sense of them; though the executive, in the exercise of its constitutional powers, may establish an antecedent state of things, which ought to weigh in the legislative decision. The division of the executive power in the Constitution, creates a concurrent authority in the cases to which it relates."⁵⁸⁰

Jefferson's Real Position.—Nor did Jefferson himself officially support Madison's point of view, as the following extract from his "minutes of a Conversation," which took place July 10, 1793, between himself and Citizen Genet, show: "He asked if they [Congress] were not the sovereign. I told him no, they were sovereign in making laws only, the executive was sovereign in executing them, and the judiciary in construing them where they related to

⁵⁷⁹ No. 69 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 468.

⁵⁸⁰ *Letter of Pacificus*, No. 1, 7 WORKS OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON, J. Hamilton ed. (New York: 1851), 76, 82–83.

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their department. 'But,' said he, 'at least, Congress are bound to see that the treaties are observed.' I told him no; there were very few cases indeed arising out of treaties, which they could take notice of; that the President is to see that treaties are observed. 'If he decides against the treaty, to whom is a nation to appeal?' I told him the Constitution had made the President the last appeal. He made me a bow, and said, that indeed he would not make me his compliments on such a Constitution, expressed the utmost astonishment at it, and seemed never before to have had such an idea."⁵⁸¹

The Power of Recognition

In his endeavor in 1793 to minimize the importance of the President's power of reception, Madison denied that it involved cognizance of the question, whether those exercising the government of the accrediting State had the right along with the possession. He said: "This belongs to the nation, and to the nation alone, on whom the government operates. . . . It is evident, therefore, that if the executive has a right to reject a public minister, it must be founded on some other consideration than a change in the government, or the newness of the government; and consequently a right to refuse to acknowledge a new government cannot be implied by the right to refuse a public minister. It is not denied that there may be cases in which a respect to the general principles of liberty, the essential rights of the people, or the overruling sentiments of humanity, might require a government, whether new or old, to be treated as an illegitimate despotism. Such are in fact discussed and admitted by the most approved authorities. But they are great and extraordinary cases, by no means submitted to so limited an organ of the national will as the executive of the United States; and certainly not to be brought by any torture of words, within the right to receive ambassadors."⁵⁸²

Hamilton, with the case of Genet before him, had taken the contrary position, which history has ratified. In consequence of his power to receive and dispatch diplomatic agents, but more especially the former, the President possesses the power to recognize new states, communities claiming the status of belligerency, and changes of government in established states; also, by the same token, the power to decline recognition, and thereby decline diplomatic relations with such new states or governments. The affirmative precedents down to 1906 are succinctly summarized by John

⁵⁸¹ 4 J. MOORE, INTERNATIONAL LAW DIGEST (Washington: 1906), 680–681.

⁵⁸² *Letters of Helvidius*, 5 WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON, G. Hunt ed. (New York: 1905), 133.

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Bassett Moore in his famous DIGEST, as follows: “In the preceding review of the recognition, respectively, of the new states, new governments, and belligerency, there has been made in each case a precise statement of facts, showing how and by whom the recognition was accorded. In every case, as it appears, of a new government and of belligerency, the question of recognition was determined solely by the Executive. In the case of the Spanish-American republics, of Texas, of Haiti, and of Liberia, the President, before recognizing the new state, invoked the judgment and cooperation of Congress; and in each of these cases provision was made for the appointment of a minister, which, when made in due form, constitutes, as has been seen, according to the rules of international law, a formal recognition. In numerous other cases, the recognition was given by the Executive solely on his own responsibility.”⁵⁸³

The Case of Cuba.—The question of Congress’ right also to recognize new states was prominently raised in connection with Cuba’s final and successful struggle for independence. Beset by numerous legislative proposals of a more or less mandatory character, urging recognition upon the President, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, in 1897, made an elaborate investigation of the whole subject and came to the following conclusions as to this power: “The ‘recognition’ of independence or belligerency of a foreign power, technically speaking, is distinctly a diplomatic matter. It is properly evidenced either by sending a public minister to the Government thus recognized, or by receiving a public minister therefrom. The latter is the usual and proper course. Diplomatic relations with a new power are properly, and customarily inaugurated at the request of that power, expressed through an envoy sent for the purpose. The reception of this envoy, as pointed out, is the act of the President alone. The next step, that of sending a public minister to the nation thus recognized, is primarily the act of the President. The Senate can take no part in it at all, until the President has sent in a nomination. Then it acts in its executive capacity, and, customarily, in ‘executive session.’ The legislative branch of the Government can exercise no influence over this step except, very indirectly, by withholding appropriations. . . . Nor can the legislative branch of the Government hold any communications with foreign nations. The executive branch is the sole mouthpiece of the nation in communication with foreign sovereignties.

“Foreign nations communicate only through their respective executive departments. Resolutions of their legislative departments

⁵⁸³ 1 J. MOORE, INTERNATIONAL LAW DIGEST (Washington: 1906), 243–244. See AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE, RESTATEMENT (THIRD) OF THE LAW, THE FOREIGN RELATIONS LAW OF THE UNITED STATES (1987), §§ 204, 205.

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upon diplomatic matters have no status in international law. In the department of international law, therefore, properly speaking, a Congressional recognition of belligerency or independence would be a nullity. . . . Congress can help the Cuban insurgents by legislation in many ways, but it cannot help them legitimately by mere declarations, or by attempts to engage in diplomatic negotiations, if our interpretation of the Constitution is correct. That it is correct . . . [is] shown by the opinions of jurists and statesmen of the past.”⁵⁸⁴ Congress was able ultimately to bundle a clause recognizing the independence of Cuba, as distinguished from its government, into the declaration of war of April 11, 1898, against Spain. For the most part, the sponsors of the clause defended it by the following line of reasoning. Diplomacy, they said, was now at an end, and the President himself had appealed to Congress to provide a solution for the Cuban situation. In response, Congress was about to exercise its constitutional power of declaring war, and it has consequently the right to state the purpose of the war which it was about to declare.⁵⁸⁵ The recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1933 was an exclusively presidential act.

The Power of Nonrecognition.—The potentialities of nonrecognition were conspicuously illustrated by President Woodrow Wilson when he refused, early in 1913, to recognize Provisional President Huerta as the *de facto* government of Mexico, thereby contributing materially to Huerta’s downfall the year following. At the same time, Wilson announced a general policy of nonrecognition in the case of any government founded on acts of violence, and while he observed this rule with considerable discretion, he consistently refused to recognize the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and his successors prior to President Franklin D. Roosevelt did the same. The refusal of the Hoover administration to recognize the independence of the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo early in 1932 was based on kindred grounds. Similarly, the nonrecognition of the Chinese Communist Government from the Truman Administration to President Nixon’s *de facto* recognition through a visit in 1972—not long after the People’s Republic of China was admitted to the United Nations and the exclusion of Taiwan—proved to be

⁵⁸⁴ S. Doc. No. 56, 54th Congress, 2d Sess. (1897), 20–22.

⁵⁸⁵ Said Senator Nelson of Minnesota: “The President has asked us to give him the right to make war to expel the Spaniards from Cuba. He has asked us to put that power in his hands; and when we are asked to grant that power—the highest power given under the Constitution—we have the right, the intrinsic right, vested in us by the Constitution, to say how and under what conditions and with what allies that war-making power shall be exercised.” 31 CONG. REC. 3984 (1898).

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an important part of American foreign policy during the Cold War.⁵⁸⁶

Congressional Implementation of Presidential Policies

No President was ever more jealous of his prerogative in the realm of foreign relations than President Woodrow Wilson. When, however, strong pressure was brought to bear upon him by Great Britain respecting his Mexican Policy, he was constrained to go before Congress and ask for a modification of the Panama Tolls Act of 1911, which had also aroused British ire. Addressing Congress, he said, "I ask this of you in support of the foreign policy of the Administration. I shall not know how to deal with other matters of even greater delicacy and nearer consequence if you do not grant it to me in ungrudging measure."⁵⁸⁷

The fact is, of course, that Congress has enormous powers, the support of which is indispensable to any foreign policy. In the long run, Congress is the body that lays and collects taxes for the common defense, that creates armies and maintains navies, although it does not direct them, that pledges the public credit, that declares war, that defines offenses against the law of nations, that regulates foreign commerce; and it has the further power "to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper"—that is, which it deems to be such—for carrying into execution not only its own powers but all the powers "of the government of the United States and of any department or officer thereof." Moreover, its laws made "in pursuance" of these powers are "supreme law of the land," and the President is bound constitutionally to "take care that" they "be faithfully executed." In point of fact, congressional legislation has operated to augment presidential powers in the foreign field much more frequently than it has to curtail them. The Lend-Lease Act of March 11, 1941⁵⁸⁸ is the classic example, although it only brought to culmination a whole series of enactments with which Congress had aided and abetted the administration's foreign policy in the years between 1934 and 1941.⁵⁸⁹ Disillusionment with presidential policies in the context of the Vietnamese conflict led Congress to legislate restrictions, not only with respect to the discretion of the President to use troops abroad in the absence of a declaration of

⁵⁸⁶ President Carter's termination of the Mutual Defense Treaty with Taiwan, which precipitated a constitutional and political debate, was perhaps an example of nonrecognition or more appropriately derecognition. On recognition and nonrecognition policies in the post-World War II era, see RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, *op. cit.*, n. 262, §§202, 203.

⁵⁸⁷ 1 MESSAGES AND PAPERS OF WOODROW WILSON, A. Shaw ed. (New York: 1924), 58.

⁵⁸⁸ 55 Stat. 31 (1941).

⁵⁸⁹ E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 184–193, 423–425, 435–436.

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war, but also limiting his economic and political powers through curbs on his authority to declare national emergencies.⁵⁹⁰ The lesson of history, however, appears to be that congressional efforts to regain what is deemed to have been lost to the President is intermittent, whereas the presidential exercise of power in today's world is unremitting.⁵⁹¹

The Doctrine of Political Questions

It is not within the province of the courts to inquire into the policy underlying action taken by the “political departments”—Congress and the President—in the exercise of their conceded powers. This commonplace maxim is, however, sometimes given an enlarged application, so as to embrace questions as to the existence of facts and even questions of law, which the Court would normally regard as falling within its jurisdiction. Such questions are termed “political questions,” and are especially common in the field of foreign relations. The leading case is *Foster v. Neilson*,⁵⁹² where the matter in dispute was the validity of a grant made by the Spanish Government in 1804 of land lying to the east of the Mississippi River, and in which there was also raised the question whether the region between the Perdido and Mississippi Rivers belonged in 1804 to Spain or the United States.

Chief Justice Marshall held that the Court was bound by the action of the political departments, the President and Congress, in claiming the land for the United States. He said: “If those departments which are intrusted with the foreign intercourse of the nation, which assert and maintain its interests against foreign powers, have unequivocally asserted its right of dominion over a country of which it is in possession, and which it claims under a treaty;

⁵⁹⁰ Legislation includes the War Powers Resolution, P.L. 93-148, 87 Stat. 555 (1953), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1541-1548; the National Emergencies Act, P.L. 94-412, 90 Stat. 1255 (1976), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1601-1651 (establishing procedures for presidential declaration and continuation of national emergencies and providing for a bicameral congressional veto); the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, P.L. 95-223, 91 Stat. 1626 (1977), 50 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1706 (limiting the great economic powers conferred on the President by the Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917, 40 Stat. 415, 50 U.S.C. App. § 5(b), to times of declared war, and providing new and more limited powers, with procedural restraints, for nonwartime emergencies); and see the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976, P.L. 94-583, 90 Stat. 2891, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1330, 1602-1611 (removing from executive control decisions concerning the liability of foreign sovereigns to suit).

⁵⁹¹ “We may say that power to legislate for emergencies belongs in the hands of Congress, but only Congress itself can prevent power from slipping through its fingers.” *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579, 654 (1952) (Justice Jackson concurring). For an account of how the President usually prevails, see H. KOH, *THE NATIONAL SECURITY CONSTITUTION: SHARING POWER AFTER THE IRAN-CONTRA AFFAIRS* (New Haven: 1990).

⁵⁹² 2 Pet. (27 U. S.) 253 (1829).

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if the legislature has acted on the construction thus asserted, it is not in its own courts that this construction is to be denied. A question like this, respecting the boundaries of nations, is, as has been truly said, more a political than a legal question, and in its discussion, the courts of every country must respect the pronounced will of the legislature.”⁵⁹³ The doctrine thus clearly stated is further exemplified, with particular reference to presidential action, by *Williams v. Suffolk Ins. Co.*⁵⁹⁴ In this case, the underwriters of a vessel which had been confiscated by the Argentine Government for catching seals off the Falkland Islands, contrary to that Government’s orders, sought to escape liability by showing that the Argentinean Government was the sovereign over these islands and that, accordingly, the vessel had been condemned for willful disregard of legitimate authority. The Court decided against the company on the ground that the President had taken the position that the Falkland Islands were not a part of Argentina. “[C]an there be any doubt, that when the executive branch of the government, which is charged with our foreign relations, shall, in its correspondence with a foreign nation, assume a fact in regard to the sovereignty of any island or country, it is conclusive on the judicial department? And in this view, it is not material to inquire, nor is it the province of the court to determine, whether the executive be right or wrong. It is enough to know, that in the exercise of his constitutional functions, he had decided the question. Having done this, under the responsibilities which belong to him, it is obligatory on the people and government of the Union.

“If this were not the rule, cases might often arise, in which, on most important questions of foreign jurisdiction, there would be an irreconcilable difference between the executive and judicial departments. By one on these departments, a foreign island or country might be considered as at peace with the United States; whilst the other would consider it in a state of war. No well-regulated government has ever sanctioned a principle so unwise, and so destructive of national character.”⁵⁹⁵ Thus, the right to determine the boundaries of the country is a political function,⁵⁹⁶ as is also the right to determine what country is sovereign of a particular region,⁵⁹⁷ to determine whether a community is entitled under international law to be considered a belligerent or an independent state,⁵⁹⁸ to

⁵⁹³ *Id.*, 308.

⁵⁹⁴ 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 415 (1839).

⁵⁹⁵ *Id.*, 420.

⁵⁹⁶ *Foster v. Neilson*, 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 253 (1829).

⁵⁹⁷ *Williams v. Suffolk Ins. Co.*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 415 (1839).

⁵⁹⁸ *United States v. Palmer*, 3 Wheat. (16 U.S.) 610 (1818).

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determine whether the other party has duly ratified a treaty,⁵⁹⁹ to determine who is the *de jure* or *de facto* ruler of a country,⁶⁰⁰ to determine whether a particular person is a duly accredited diplomatic agent to the United States,⁶⁰¹ to determine how long a military occupation shall continue in fulfillment of the terms of a treaty,⁶⁰² to determine whether a treaty is in effect or not, although doubtless an extinguished treaty could be constitutionally renewed by tacit consent.⁶⁰³

Recent Statements of the Doctrine.—The assumption underlying the refusal of courts to intervene in such cases is well stated in the case of *Chicago & S. Airlines v. Waterman S.S. Corp.*⁶⁰⁴ Here, the Court refused to review orders of the Civil Aeronautics Board granting or denying applications by citizen carriers to engage in overseas and foreign air transportation, which by the then terms of the Civil Aeronautics Act were subject to approval by the President and therefore impliedly beyond those provisions of the act authorizing judicial review of board orders. Elaborating on the necessity of judicial abstinence in the conduct of foreign relations, Justice Jackson declared for the Court: “The President, both as Commander in Chief and as the Nation’s organ for foreign affairs, has available intelligence services whose reports are not and ought not be published to the world. It would be intolerable that courts, without the relevant information, should review and perhaps nullify actions of the Executive taken on information properly held secret. Nor can courts sit *in camera* in order to be taken into executive confidences. But even if courts could require full disclosure, the very nature of executive decisions as to foreign policy is political, not judicial. Such decisions are wholly confided by our Constitution on the political departments of the government, Executive and Legislative. They are delicate, complex, and involve large elements of prophecy. They are and should be undertaken only by those directly responsible to the people whose welfare they advance or imperil. They are decisions of a kind for which the Judiciary has neither aptitude, facilities nor responsibility and which has long been held to belong in the domain of political power not subject to judicial intrusion or inquiry.”⁶⁰⁵

⁵⁹⁹ *Doe v. Braden*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 635, 657 (1853).

⁶⁰⁰ *Jones v. United States*, 137 U.S. 202 (1890); *Oetjen v. Central Leather Co.*, 246 U.S. 297 (1918).

⁶⁰¹ *In re Baiz*, 135 U.S. 403 (1890).

⁶⁰² *Neely v. Henkel*, 180 U.S. 109 (1901).

⁶⁰³ *Terlinden v. Ames*, 184 U.S. 270 (1902); *Charlton v. Kelly*, 229 U.S. 447 (1913).

⁶⁰⁴ 333 U.S. 103 (1948).

⁶⁰⁵ *Id.*, 111. See also *Oetjen v. Central Leather Co.*, 246 U.S. 297 (1918); *Ricaud v. American Metal Co.*, 246 U. S. 304 (1918). Analogous to and arising out of the

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To the same effect are the Court's holding and opinion in *Ludecke v. Watkins*,⁶⁰⁶ where the question at issue was the power of the President to order the deportation under the Alien Enemy Act of 1798 of a German alien enemy after the cessation of hostilities with Germany. Said Justice Frankfurter for the Court: "War does not cease with a cease-fire order, and power to be exercised by the President such as that conferred by the Act of 1798 is a process which begins when war is declared but is not exhausted when the shooting stops. . . . The Court would be assuming the functions of the political agencies of the Government to yield to the suggestion that the unconditional surrender of Germany and the disintegration of the Nazi Reich have left Germany without a government capable of negotiating a treaty of peace. It is not for us to question a belief by the President that enemy aliens who were justifiably deemed fit subject for internment during active hostilities do not lose their potency for mischief during the period of confusion and conflict which is characteristic of a state of war even when the guns are silent but the peace of Peace has not come. These are matters of political judgment for which judges have neither technical competence nor official responsibility."⁶⁰⁷

same considerations as the political question doctrine is the "act of state" doctrine under which United States courts will not examine the validity of the public acts of foreign governments done within their own territory, typically, but not always, in disputes arising out of nationalizations. E.g., *Underhill v. Hernandez*, 168 U.S. 250 (1897); *Banco Nacional de Cuba v. Sabbatino*, 376 U.S. 398 (1964); *First National City Bank v. Banco Nacional de Cuba*, 406 U.S. 759 (1972); *Alfred Dunhill of London v. Republic of Cuba*, 425 U.S. 682 (1976). For succinct analysis of this amorphous doctrine, see RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, op. cit., n. 262, §§443–444. Congress has limited the reach of the doctrine in foreign expropriation cases by the Hickenlooper Amendments. 22 U.S.C. §2370(e)(2). Consider, also, *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654 (1981). Similar, also, is the doctrine of sovereign immunity of foreign states in United States courts, under which jurisdiction over the foreign state, at least after 1952, turned upon the suggestion of the Department of State as to the applicability of the doctrine. See *Alfred Dunhill of London v. Republic of Cuba*, supra, 698–706 (plurality opinion), but see *id.*, 725–728 (Justice Marshall dissenting). For the period prior to 1952, see *Z. & F. Assets Corp. v. Hull*, 311 U.S. 470, 487 (1941). Congress in the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976, P.L. 94–583, 90 Stat. 2891, 28 U.S.C. §§1330, 1332(a)(2)(3)(4), 1391(f), 1441(d), 1602–1611, provided for judicial determination of applicability of the doctrine but did adopt the executive position with respect to no applicability for commercial actions of a foreign state. E.g., *Verlinden B. V. v. Central Bank of Nigeria*, 461 U.S. 480 (1983); *Argentine Republic v. Amerasia Shipping Corp.*, 488 U.S. 428 (1989). See RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, op. cit., n. 262, §§451–463 (including Introductory Note, pp. 390–396.

⁶⁰⁶ 335 U.S. 160 (1948).

⁶⁰⁷ *Id.*, 167, 170. Four Justices dissented, by Justice Black, who said: "The Court . . . holds, as I understand its opinion, that the Attorney General can deport him whether he is dangerous or not. The effect of this holding is that any unnaturalized person, good or bad, loyal or disloyal to this country, if he was a citizen of Germany before coming here, can be summarily seized, interned and deported from the United States by the Attorney General, and that no court of the United States has any

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The most recent Court review of the political question doctrine is found in *Baker v. Carr*.⁶⁰⁸ There, Justice Brennan noted and elaborated the factors which go into making a question political and inappropriate for judicial decision.⁶⁰⁹ On the matter at hand, he said: “There are sweeping statements to the effect that all questions touching foreign relations are political questions. Not only does resolution of such issues frequently turn on standards that defy judicial application, or involve the exercise of a discretion demonstrably committed to the executive or legislature; but many such questions uniquely demand single-voiced statement of the Government’s views. Yet it is error to suppose that every case or controversy which touches foreign relations lies beyond judicial cognizance. Our cases in this field seem invariably to show a discriminating analysis of the particular question posed, in terms of the history of its management by the political branches, of its susceptibility to judicial handling in the light of its nature and posture in the specific case, and of the possible consequences of judicial action.”⁶¹⁰ However, recently, the Court came within one vote of creating a broad application of the political question doctrine in foreign relations disputes, at least in the context of a dispute between Congress and the President with respect to a proper allocation of

power whatever to review, modify, vacate, reverse, or in any manner affect the Attorney General’s deportation order. . . . I think the idea that we are still at war with Germany in the sense contemplated by the statute controlling here is a pure fiction. Furthermore, I think there is no act of Congress which lends the slightest basis to the claim that after hostilities with a foreign country have ended the President or the Attorney General, one or both, can deport aliens without a fair hearing reviewable in the courts. On the contrary, when this very question came before Congress after World War I in the interval between the Armistice and the conclusion of formal peace with Germany, Congress unequivocally required that enemy aliens be given a fair hearing before they could be deported.” *Id.*, 174–175. See also *Woods v. Miller Co.*, 333 U.S. 138 (1948), where the continuation of rent control under the Housing and Rent Act of 1947, enacted after the termination of hostilities, was unanimously held to be a valid exercise of the war power, but the constitutional question raised was asserted to be a proper one for the Court. Said Justice Jackson, in a concurring opinion: “Particularly when the war power is invoked to do things to the liberties of people, or to their property or economy that only indirectly affect conduct of the war and do not relate to the management of the war itself, the constitutional basis should be scrutinized with care.” *Id.*, 146–147.

⁶⁰⁸ 369 U.S. 186 (1962).

⁶⁰⁹ *Id.*, 217.

⁶¹⁰ *Id.*, 211–212. A case involving “a purely legal question of statutory interpretation” is not a political question simply because the issues have significant political and foreign relations overtones. *Japan Whaling Assn. v. American Cetacean Society*, 478 U.S. 221, 229–230 (1986) (Fisherman’s Protective Act does not completely remove Secretary of Commerce’s discretion in certifying that foreign nationals are “diminishing the effectiveness of” an international agreement by taking whales in violation of quotas set pursuant to the agreement).

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constitutional powers.⁶¹¹ In any event, the present Court, in adjudicating on the merits disputes in which the foreign relations powers are called into question, follows a policy of such deference to executive and congressional expertise that the result may not be dissimilar to a broad application of the political question doctrine.⁶¹²

THE PRESIDENT AS LAW ENFORCER**Powers Derived From This Duty**

The Constitution does not say that the President shall execute the laws, but that “he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed,” i.e., by others, who are commonly, but not always with strict accuracy, termed his subordinates. What powers are implied from this duty? In this connection, five categories of executive power should be distinguished: first, there is that executive power which the Constitution confers directly upon the President by the opening clause of article II and, in more specific terms, by succeeding clauses of the same article; secondly, there is the sum total of the powers which acts of Congress at any particular time confer upon the President; thirdly, there is the sum total of discretionary powers which acts of Congress at any particular time confer upon heads of departments and other executive (“administrative”) agencies of the National Government; fourthly, there is the power which stems from the duty to enforce the criminal statutes of the United States; finally, there are so-called “ministerial duties” which admit of no discretion as to the occasion or the manner of their discharge. Three principal questions arise: first, how does the President exercise the powers which the Constitution or the statutes confer upon him; second, in what relation does he stand by virtue of the “take care” clause to the powers of other executive or administrative

⁶¹¹ *Goldwater v. Carter*, 444 U.S. 996, 1002–1006 (Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, and Stevens and Chief Justice Burger). The doctrine was applied in just such a dispute in *Dole v. Carter*, 569 F.2d 1109 (10th Cir., 1977).

⁶¹² “Matters intimately related to foreign policy and national security are rarely proper subjects for judicial intervention.” *Haig v. Agee*, 453 U.S. 280, 292 (1981). See also *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654, 688 (1981); *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57, 64–68 (1981); *Greer v. Spock*, 424 U.S. 828, 837–838 (1976); *Parker v. Levy*, 417 U.S. 733, 756, 758 (1974); *Harisiades v. Shaughnessy*, 342 U.S. 580, 589 (1952). Neither may private claimants seek judicial review of executive actions denying constitutional rights “in such sensitive areas as national security and foreign policy” in suits for damages against offending officials, inasmuch as the President is absolutely immune, *Nixon v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 731 (1982), and the Court has strongly hinted that in these areas the immunity of presidential aides and other executive officials “entrusted with discretionary authority” will be held to be absolute rather than qualified. *Harlow v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 800, 812–813 (1982).

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agencies; third, in what relation does he stand to the enforcement of the criminal laws of the United States?⁶¹³

Whereas the British monarch is constitutionally under the necessity of acting always through agents if his acts are to receive legal recognition, the President is presumed to exercise certain of his constitutional powers personally. In the words of an opinion by Attorney General Cushing in 1855: "It may be presumed that he, the man discharging the presidential office, and he alone, grants reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States. . . . So he, and he alone, is the supreme commander in chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several States when called into the actual service of the United States. That is a power constitutionally inherent in the person of the President. No act of Congress, no act even of the President himself, can, by constitutional possibility, authorize or create any military officer not subordinate to the President."⁶¹⁴ Moreover, the obligation to act personally may be sometimes enlarged by statute, as, for example, by the act organizing the President with other designated officials into "an Establishment by name of the Smithsonian Institute."⁶¹⁵ Here, says the Attorney General, "the President's name of office is *designatio personae*." He was also of opinion that expenditures from the "secret service" fund, in order to be valid, must be vouched for by the President personally.⁶¹⁶ On like grounds the Supreme Court once held void a decree of a court martial, because, though it has been confirmed by the Secretary of War, it was not specifically stated to have received the sanction of the President as required by the 65th Article of War.⁶¹⁷ This case has, however, been virtually overruled, and at any rate such cases are exceptional.⁶¹⁸

The general rule, as stated by the Court, is that when any duty is cast by law upon the President, it may be exercised by him

⁶¹³Notice that in *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2142–2146 (1992), the Court purported to draw from the "take care" clause the principle that Congress could not authorize citizens with only generalized grievances to sue to compel governmental compliance with the law, inasmuch as permitting that would be "to permit Congress to transfer from the President to the courts the Chief Executive's most important constitutional duty, to 'take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed.'" *Id.*, 2145.

⁶¹⁴7 Ops. Atty. Gen. 453, 464–465 (1855).

⁶¹⁵9 Stat. 102 (1846), 20 U.S.C. § 41.

⁶¹⁶Cf. 2 Stat. 78. The provision has long since dropped out of the statute book.

⁶¹⁷*Runkle v. United States*, 122 U.S. 543 (1887).

⁶¹⁸Cf. *In re Chapman*, 166 U.S. 661, 670–671 (1897), where it was held that presumptions in favor of official action "preclude collateral attack on the sentences of courts-martial." See also *United States v. Fletcher*, 148 U.S. 84, 88–89 (1893); *Bishop v. United States*, 197 U.S. 334, 341–342 (1905), both of which in effect repudiate *Runkle*.

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through the head of the appropriate department, whose acts, if performed within the law, thus become the President's acts.⁶¹⁹ *Williams v. United States*⁶²⁰ involved an act of Congress, which prohibited the advance of public money in any case whatever to disbursing officers of the United States, except under special direction by the President.⁶²¹ The Supreme Court held that the act did not require the personal performance by the President of this duty. Such a practice, said the Court, if it were possible, would absorb the duties of the various departments of the government in the personal acts of one chief executive officer, and be fraught with mischief to the public service. The President's duty in general requires his superintendence of the administration; yet he cannot be required to become the administrative officer of every department and bureau, or to perform in person the numerous details incident to services which, nevertheless, he is, in a correct sense, by the Constitution and laws required and expected to perform.⁶²² As a matter of administrative practice, in fact, most orders and instructions emanating from the heads of the departments, even though in pursuance of powers conferred by statute on the President, do not even refer to the President.⁶²³

Impoundment of Appropriated Funds.—In his Third Annual Message to Congress, President Jefferson established the first faint outline of what has been in recent years a major controversy. Reporting that \$50,000 in funds which Congress had appropriated for fifteen gunboats on the Mississippi remained unexpended, the President stated that a “favorable and peaceful turn of affairs on the Mississippi rendered an immediate execution of the law unnecessary. . . .” But he was not refusing to expend the money, only de-

⁶¹⁹ The President, in the exercise of his executive power under the Constitution, “speaks and acts through the heads of the several departments in relation to subjects which appertain to their respective duties.” The heads of the departments are his authorized assistants in the performance of his executive duties, and their official acts, promulgated in the regular course of business, are presumptively his acts. *Wilcox v. McConnell*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 498, 513 (1839). See also *United States v. Eliason*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 291 (1842); *Williams v. United States*, 1 How. (42 U.S.) 290, 297 (1843); *United States v. Jones*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 92, 95 (1856); *The Confiscation Cases*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 92 (1874); *United States v. Farden*, 99 U.S. 10 (1879); *Wolsey v. Chapman*, 101 U.S. 755 (1880).

⁶²⁰ 1 How. (42 U.S.) 290 (1843).

⁶²¹ 3 Stat. 723 (1823), now covered in 31 U.S.C. § 3324.

⁶²² *Id.*, 1 How. (42 U.S.), 297–298.

⁶²³ 38 Ops. Atty. Gen. 457, 458 (1936). And, of course, if the President exercises his duty through subordinates, he must appoint them or appoint the officers who appoint them, *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U. S. 1, 109–143 (1976), and he must have the power to discharge those officers in the Executive Branch, *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52 (1926), although the Court has now greatly qualified *Myers* to permit congressional limits on the removal of some officers. *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654 (1988).

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laying action to obtain improved gunboats; a year later, he told Congress that the money was being spent and gunboats were being obtained.⁶²⁴ A few other instances of deferrals or refusals to spend occurred in the Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries, but it was only with the Administration of President Franklin Roosevelt that a President refused to spend moneys for the purposes appropriated. Succeeding Presidents expanded upon these precedents, and in the Nixon Administration a well-formulated plan of impoundments was executed in order to reduce public spending and to negate programs established by congressional legislation.⁶²⁵

Impoundment⁶²⁶ was defended by Administration spokesmen as being a power derived from the President's executive powers and particularly from his obligation to see to the faithful execution of the laws, i.e., his discretion in the manner of execution. The President, the argument went, is responsible for deciding when two conflicting goals of Congress can be harmonized and when one must give way, when, for example, congressional desire to spend certain moneys must yield to congressional wishes to see price and wage stability. In some respects, impoundment was said or implied to flow from certain inherent executive powers that repose in any President. Finally, statutory support was sought; certain laws were said to confer discretion to withhold spending, and it was argued that congressional spending programs are discretionary rather than mandatory.⁶²⁷

On the other hand, it was argued that Congress' powers under Article I, § 8, were fully adequate to support its decision to authorize certain programs, to determine the amount of funds to be spent

⁶²⁴ 1 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 348, 360.

⁶²⁵ History and law is much discussed in *Executive Impoundment of Appropriated Funds*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Separation of Powers, 92d Congress, 1st sess. (1971); *Impoundment of Appropriated Funds by the President*, Hearings before the Senate Government Operations Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Impoundment of Funds, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973). The most thorough study of the legal and constitutional issues, informed through historical analysis, is Abascal & Kramer, *Presidential Impoundment Part I: Historical Genesis and Constitutional Framework*, 62 *Geo. L. J.* 1549 (1974); Abascal & Kramer, *Presidential Impoundment Part II: Judicial and Legislative Response*, 63 *id.* 149 (1974). See generally L. FISHER, *PRESIDENTIAL SPENDING POWER* (Princeton: 1975).

⁶²⁶ There is no satisfactory definition of impoundment. Legislation enacted by Congress uses the phrase "deferral of budget authority" which is defined to include: "(A) withholding or delaying the obligation or expenditure of budget authority (whether by establishing reserves or otherwise) provided for projects or activities; or (B) any other type of Executive action or inaction which effectively precludes the obligation or expenditure of budget authority, including authority to obligate by contract in advance of appropriations as specifically authorized by law." 2 U.S.C. § 682(1).

⁶²⁷ *Impoundment of Appropriated Funds by the President*, Hearings before the Senate Government Operations Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Impoundment of Funds, 93d Congress, 1st sess. (1973), 358 (then-Deputy Attorney General Sneed).

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on them, and to mandate the Executive to execute the laws. Permitting the President to impound appropriated funds allowed him the power of item veto which he does not have and denies Congress the opportunity to override his veto of bills enacted by Congress. In particular, the power of Congress to compel the President to spend appropriated moneys was said to derive from Congress' power "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution" the enumerated powers of Congress and "all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof."⁶²⁸

The President's decision to impound large amounts of appropriated funds led to two approaches to curtail the power. First, many persons and organizations, with a reasonable expectation of receipt of the impounded funds upon their release, brought large numbers of suits; with a few exceptions, these suits resulted in decisions denying the President either constitutional or statutory power to decline to spend or obligate funds, and the Supreme Court, presented with only statutory arguments by the Administration, held that no discretion existed under the particular statute to withhold allotments of funds to the States.⁶²⁹ Second, Congress in the course of revising its own manner of appropriating funds in accordance with budgetary responsibility provided for mandatory reporting of impoundments to Congress, for congressional disapproval of impoundments, and for court actions by the Comptroller General to compel spending or obligation of funds.⁶³⁰

Generally speaking, the law recognized two types of impoundments: "routine" or "programmatic" reservations of budget authority to provide for the inevitable contingencies that arise in administering congressionally-funded programs and "policy" decisions that are ordinarily intended to advance the broader fiscal or other policy objectives of the executive branch contrary to congressional wishes in appropriating funds in the first place.

Routine reservations were to come under the terms of a revised Anti-Deficiency Act.⁶³¹ Prior to its amendment, this law had per-

⁶²⁸ *Id.*, 1–6 (Senator Ervin). Of course, it was long ago established that Congress could direct the expenditure of at least some moneys from the Treasury, even over the opposition of the President. *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524 (1838).

⁶²⁹ *Train v. City of New York*, 420 U.S. 35 (1975); *Train v. Campaign Clean Water*, 420 U.S. 136 (1975). See also *State Highway Comm. of Missouri v. Volpe*, 479 F.2d 1099 (8th Cir., 1973); *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Lynn*, 501 F.2d 848 (D.C.Cir., 1974) (the latter case finding statutory discretion not to spend).

⁶³⁰ Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act, P.L. 93-344, title X, §§ 1001–1017, 88 Stat. 332 (1974), as amended, 2 U.S.C. §§ 681–688.

⁶³¹ Originally passed as the Act of Feb. 27, 1906, ch. 510, § 3, 34 Stat. 27, 48. The provisions as described in the text were added in the General Appropriations

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mitted the President to “apportion” funds “to provide for contingencies, or to effect savings whenever savings are made possible by or through changes in requirements, greater efficiency of operations, or other developments subsequent to the date on which such appropriation was made available.” President Nixon had relied on this “other developments” language as authorization to impound, for what in essence were policy reasons.⁶³² Congress deleted the controverted clause and retained the other language to authorize reservations to maintain funds for contingencies and to effect savings made possible in carrying out the program; it added a clause permitting reserves “as specifically provided by law.”⁶³³

“Policy” impoundments were to be reported to Congress by the President as permanent rescissions and, perhaps, as temporary deferrals.⁶³⁴ Rescissions are merely recommendations or proposals of the President and must be authorized by a bill or joint resolution, or, after 45 days from the presidential message, the funds must be made available for obligation.⁶³⁵ Temporary deferrals of budget authority for less than a full fiscal year, as provided in the 1974 law, were to be effective unless either the House of Representatives or the Senate passed a resolution of disapproval.⁶³⁶ With the decision in *INS v. Chadha*,⁶³⁷ voiding as unconstitutional the one-House legislative veto, it was evident that the veto provision in the deferral section of the Impoundment Control Act was no longer viable. An Administration effort to utilize the section, minus the veto device, was thwarted by court action, in which, applying established severability analysis, the court held that Congress would not have enacted the deferral provision in the absence of power to police its exercise through the veto.⁶³⁸ Thus, the entire deferral section was inoperative. Congress, in 1987, enacted a more restricted authority,

Act of 1951, ch. 896, § 1211(c)(2), 64 Stat. 595, 765. The amendments made by the Impoundment Control Act, were § 1002, 88 Stat. 332, 31 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1512. On the Anti-Deficiency Act generally, see Stith, *Congress' Power of the Purse*, 97 Yale L. J. 1343, 1370–1377 (1988).

⁶³² L. FISHER, *PRESIDENTIAL SPENDING POWER* (Princeton: 1975), 154–157.

⁶³³ 31 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(1) (present version). Congressional intent was to prohibit the use of apportionment as an instrument of policymaking. 120 CONG. REC. 7658 (1974) (Senator Muskie); *id.*, 20472–20473 (Senators Ervin and McClellan).

⁶³⁴ §§ 1011(1), 1012, 1013, 88 Stat. 333–334, 2 U.S.C. §§ 628(1), 683, 684.

⁶³⁵ 2 U.S.C. § 683.

⁶³⁶ § 1013, 88 Stat. 334. Because the Act was a compromise between the House of Representatives and the Senate, numerous questions were left unresolved; one important one was whether the President could use the deferral avenue as a means of effectuating policy impoundments or whether rescission proposals were the sole means. The subsequent events described in the text mooted that argument.

⁶³⁷ 462 U.S. 919 (1983).

⁶³⁸ *City of New Haven v. United States*, 809 F.2d 900 (D.C.Cir. 1987).

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limited to deferrals only for those purposes set out in the Anti-Deficiency Act.⁶³⁹

With passage of the Act, the constitutional issues faded into the background; Presidents regularly reported rescission proposals, and Congress responded by enacted its own rescissions, usually topping the Presidents'. The entire field was, of course, confounded by the application of the other part of the 1974 law, the Budget Act, which restructured how budgets were received and acted on in Congress, and by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.⁶⁴⁰ This latter law was designed as a deficit-reduction forcing mechanism, so that unless President and Congress cooperates each year to reduce the deficit by prescribed amounts, a "sequestration" order would reduce funds down to a mandated figure.⁶⁴¹ Dissatisfaction with the amount of deficit reduction continues to stimulate discussion of other means, such as "expedited" rescission and the line-item veto, many of which may raise some constitutional issues.

Power and Duty of the President in Relation to Subordinate Executive Officers

Suppose, that the law casts a duty upon a head of department *eo nomine*, does the President thereupon become entitled by virtue of his duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed," to substitute his own judgment for that of the principal officer regarding the discharge of such duty? In the debate in the House in 1789 on the location of the removal power, Madison argued that it ought to be attributed to the President alone because it was "the intention of the Constitution, expressed especially in the faithful execution clause, that the first magistrate should be responsible for the executive department," and this responsibility, he held, carried with it the power to "inspect and control" the conduct of subordinate executive officers. "Vest," said he, "the power [of removal] in the Senate jointly with the President, and you abolish at once the great principle of unity and responsibility in the executive department, which was intended for the security of liberty and the public good."⁶⁴²

But this was said with respect to the office of the Secretary of State, and when shortly afterward the question arose as to the power of Congress to regulate the tenure of the Comptroller of the

⁶³⁹ P. L. 100-119, title II, §206(a), 101 Stat. 785, 2 U.S.C. §684.

⁶⁴⁰ P. L. 99-177, 99 Stat. 1037, codified as amended in titles 2, 31, and 42 U.S.C., with the relevant portions to this discussion at 2 U.S.C. §901 *et seq.*

⁶⁴¹ See Stith, *Rewriting the Fiscal Constitution: The Case of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings*, 76 Calif. L. Rev. 593 (1988).

⁶⁴² 1 ANNALS OF CONG. 495, 499 (1789).

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Treasury, Madison assumed a very different attitude, conceding in effect that this office was to be an arm of certain of Congress' own powers and should therefore be protected against the removal power.⁶⁴³ And in *Marbury v. Madison*,⁶⁴⁴ Chief Justice Marshall traced a parallel distinction between the duties of the Secretary of State under the original act which had created a "Department of Foreign Affairs" and those which had been added by the later act changing the designation of the department to its present one. The former were, he pointed out, entirely in the "political field," and hence for their discharge the Secretary was left responsible absolutely to the President. The latter, on the other hand, were exclusively of statutory origin and sprang from the powers of Congress. For these, therefore, the Secretary was "an officer of the law" and "amenable to the law for his conduct."⁶⁴⁵

Administrative Decentralization Versus Jacksonian Centralism.—An opinion rendered by Attorney General Wirt in 1823 asserted the proposition that the President's duty under the "take care" clause required of him scarcely more than that he should bring a criminally negligent official to book for his derelictions, either by removing him or by setting in motion against him the processes of impeachment or of criminal prosecutions.⁶⁴⁶ The opinion entirely overlooked the important question of the location of the power to interpret the law which is inevitably involved in any effort to enforce it. The diametrically opposed theory that Congress is unable to vest any head of an executive department, even within the field of Congress' specifically delegated powers, with any legal discretion which the President is not entitled to control was first asserted in unambiguous terms in President Jackson's Protest Message of April 15, 1834,⁶⁴⁷ defending his removal of Duane as Secretary of the Treasury, because of the latter's refusal to remove the deposits from the Bank of the United States. Here it is asserted "that the entire executive power is vested in the President;" that the power to remove those officers who are to aid him in the execution of the laws is an incident of that power; that the Secretary of the Treasury was such an officer; that the custody of the public property and money was an executive function exercised through the Secretary of the Treasury and his subordinates; that in the performance of these duties the Secretary was subject to the supervision and control of the President; and finally that the

⁶⁴³ *Id.*, 611-612.

⁶⁴⁴ 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803).

⁶⁴⁵ *Id.*, 165-166.

⁶⁴⁶ 1 Ops. Atty. Gen. 624 (1823).

⁶⁴⁷ 3 J. RICHARDSON, *op. cit.*, n. 42, 1288.

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act establishing the Bank of the United States “did not, as it could not change the relation between the President and Secretary—did not release the former from his obligation to see the law faithfully executed nor the latter from the President’s supervision and control.”⁶⁴⁸ In short, the President’s removal power, in this case unqualified, was the sanction provided by the Constitution for his power and duty to control his “subordinates” in all their official actions of public consequence.

Congressional Power Versus Presidential Duty to the Law.—Four years late the case of *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*,⁶⁴⁹ was decided. The United States owed one Stokes money, and when Postmaster General Kendall, at Jackson’s instigation, refused to pay it, Congress passed a special act ordering payment. Kendall, however, still proved noncompliant, whereupon Stokes sought and obtained a mandamus in the United States circuit court for the District of Columbia, and on appeal this decision was affirmed by the Supreme Court. While *Kendall*, like *Marbury v. Madison*, involved the question of the responsibility of a head of a department for the performance of a ministerial duty, the discussion by counsel before the Court and the Court’s own opinion covered the entire subject of the relation of the President to his subordinates in the performance by them of statutory duties. The lower court had asserted that the duty of the President under the faithful execution clause gave him no other control over the officer than to see that he acts honestly, with proper motives, but no power to construe the law and see that the executive action conforms to it. Counsel for Kendall attacked this position vigorously, relying largely upon statements by Hamilton, Marshall, James Wilson, and Story having to do with the President’s power in the field of foreign relations.

The Court rejected the implication with emphasis. There are, it pointed out, “certain political duties imposed upon many officers in the executive department, the discharge of which is under the direction of the President. But it would be an alarming doctrine, that Congress cannot impose upon any executive officer any duty they may think proper, which is not repugnant to any rights secured and protected by the Constitution; and in such cases the duty and responsibility grow out of and are subject to the control of the law, and not to the direction of the President. And this is emphatically the case, where the duty enjoined is of a mere ministerial character.”⁶⁵⁰ In short, the Court recognized the underlying ques-

⁶⁴⁸ *Id.*, 1304.

⁶⁴⁹ 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524 (1838).

⁶⁵⁰ *Id.*, 610.

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tion of the case to be whether the President's duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed" made it constitutionally impossible for Congress ever to entrust the construction of its statutes to anybody but the President, and it answered this in the negative.

Myers Versus Morrison.—How does this issue stand today? The answer to this question, so far as there is one, is to be sought in a comparison of the Court's decision in the *Myers* case, on the one hand, and its decision in the *Morrison* case, on the other.⁶⁵¹ The first decision is still valid to support the President's right to remove, and hence to control the decisions of, all officials through whom he exercises the great political powers which he derives from the Constitution and also of many but not all officials—usually heads of departments—through whom he exercises powers conferred upon him by statute. *Morrison*, however, recasts *Myers* to be about the constitutional inability of Congress to participate in removal decisions. It permits Congress to limit the removal power of the President, and those acting for him, by imposition of a "good cause" standard, subject to a balancing test. That is, the Court now regards the critical issue not as what officials do, whether they perform "purely executive" functions or "quasi" legislative or judicial functions, though the duties and functions must be considered. Rather, the Courts must "ensure that Congress does not interfere with the President's exercise of the 'executive power' and his constitutionally appointed duty to 'take care that the laws be faithfully executed' under Article II."⁶⁵² Thus, the Court continued, *Myers* was correct in its holding and in its suggestion that there are some executive officials who must be removable by the President if he is to perform his duties.⁶⁵³ On the other hand, Congress may believe that it is necessary to protect the tenure of some officials, and if it has good reasons not limited to invasion of presidential prerogatives, it will be sustained, provided the removal restrictions are not of such a nature as to impede the President's ability to perform his constitutional duties.⁶⁵⁴ The officer in *Morrison*, the independent counsel, had investigative and prosecutorial functions, purely executive ones, but there were good reasons for Congress to secure her tenure and no showing that the restriction "unduly trammels" presidential powers.⁶⁵⁵

The "bright-line" rule previously observed no longer holds. Now, Congress has a great deal more leeway in regulating execu-

⁶⁵¹ *Myers v. United States*, 272 U.S. 52 (1926); *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654 (1988).

⁶⁵² *Id.*, 689–690.

⁶⁵³ *Id.*, 690–691.

⁶⁵⁴ *Id.*, 691.

⁶⁵⁵ *Id.*, 691–692.

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tive officials, but it must articulate its reasons carefully and observe the fuzzy lines set by the Court.

Power of the President to Guide Enforcement of the Penal Law.—This matter also came to a head in “the reign of Andrew Jackson,” preceding, and indeed foreshadowing, the Duane episode by some months. “At that epoch,” Wyman relates in his *PRINCIPLES OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW*, “the first amendment of the doctrine of centralism in its entirety was set forth in an obscure opinion upon an unimportant matter—The Jewels of the Princess of Orange, 2 Opin. 482 (1831). These jewels . . . were stolen from the Princess by one Polari and were seized by the officers of the United States Customs in the hands of the thief. Representations were made to the President of the United States by the Minister of the Netherlands of the facts in the matter, which were followed by a request for return of the jewels. In the meantime the District Attorney was prosecuting condemnation proceedings in behalf of the United States which he showed no disposition to abandon. The President felt himself in a dilemma, whether if it was by statute the duty of the District Attorney to prosecute or not, the President could interfere and direct whether to proceed or not. The opinion was written by Taney, then Attorney General; it is full of pertinent illustrations as to the necessity in an administration of full power in the chief executive as the concomitant of his full responsibility. It concludes: If it should be said that, the District Attorney having the power to discontinue the prosecution, there is no necessity for inferring a right in the President to direct him to exercise it—I answer that the direction of the President is not required to communicate any new authority to the District Attorney, but to direct him in the execution of a power he is admitted to possess. The most valuable and proper measure may often be for the President to order the District Attorney to discontinue prosecution. The District Attorney might refuse to obey the President’s order; and if he did refuse, the prosecution, while he remained in office, would still go on; because the President himself could give no order to the court or to the clerk to make any particular entry. He could only act through his subordinate officer, the District Attorney, who is responsible to him and who holds his office at his pleasure. And if that officer still continues a prosecution which the President is satisfied ought not to continue, the removal of the disobedient officer and the substitution of one more worthy in his place would enable the President through him faithfully to execute the law. And it is for this among other

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reasons that the power of removing the District Attorney resides in the President.”⁶⁵⁶

The President as Law Interpreter

The power accruing to the President from his function of law interpretation preparatory to law enforcement is daily illustrated in relation to such statutes as the Anti-Trust Acts, the Taft-Hartley Act, the Internal Security Act, and many lesser statutes. Nor is this the whole story. Not only do all presidential regulations and orders based on statutes that vest power in him or on his own constitutional powers have the force of law, provided they do not transgress the Court's reading of such statutes or of the Constitution,⁶⁵⁷ but he sometimes makes law in a more special sense. In the famous *Neagle* case,⁶⁵⁸ an order of the Attorney General to a United States marshal to protect a Justice of the Supreme Court whose life has been threatened by a suitor was attributed to the President and held to be “a law of the United States” in the sense of §753 of the Revised Statutes, and as such to afford basis for a writ of *habeas corpus* transferring the marshal, who had killed the attacker, from state to national custody. Speaking for the Court, Justice Miller inquired: “Is this duty [the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed] limited to the enforcement of acts of Congress or of treaties of the United States according to their express terms, or does it include the rights, duties and obligations growing out of the Constitution itself, our international relations, and all the protection implied by the nature of the government under the Constitution?”⁶⁵⁹ Obviously, an affirmative answer is assumed to the second branch of this inquiry, an assumption which is borne out by numerous precedents. And in *United States v. Midwest Oil Company*,⁶⁶⁰ it was ruled that the President had, by dint of repeated assertion of it from an early date, acquired the right to withdraw, via the Land Department, public

⁶⁵⁶ B. WYMAN, THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW GOVERNING THE RELATIONS OF PUBLIC OFFICERS (St. Paul: 1903), 231–232.

⁶⁵⁷ *United States v. Eliason*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 291, 301–302 (1842); *Kurtz v. Moffitt*, 115 U.S. 487, 503 (1885); *Smith v. Whitney*, 116 U.S. 167, 180–181 (1886). For a recent analysis of the approach to determining the validity of presidential, or other executive, regulations and orders under purported congressional delegations or implied executive power, see *Chrysler Corp. v. Brown*, 441 U.S. 281, 301–316 (1979).

⁶⁵⁸ *In re Neagle*, 135 U.S. 1 (1890).

⁶⁵⁹ *Id.*, 64. The phrase, “a law of the United States,” came from the Act of March 2, 1833 (4 Stat. 632). However, in the Act of June 25, 1948, 62 Stat. 965, 28 U.S.C. §2241(c)(2), the phrase is replaced by the term, “an act of Congress,” thereby eliminating the basis of the holding in *Neagle*.

⁶⁶⁰ 236 U.S. 459 (1915). See also *Mason v. United States*, 260 U.S. 545 (1923).

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lands, both mineral and nonmineral, from private acquisition, Congress having never repudiated the practice.

Military Power in Law Enforcement: The Posse Comitatus

“Whenever the President considers that unlawful obstructions, combinations, or assemblages, or rebellion against the authority of the United States, make it impracticable to enforce the laws of the United States in any State or Territory by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, he may call into Federal service such of the militia of any State, and use such of the armed forces, as he considers necessary to enforce those laws or to suppress the rebellion.

“The President, by using the militia or the armed forces, or both . . . shall take such measures as he considers necessary to suppress, in a State, any insurrection, domestic violence, unlawful combination, or conspiracy, if it—(1) so hinders the execution of the laws of that State, and of the United States within the State, that any part or class of its people is deprived of a right, privilege, immunity, or protection named in the Constitution and secured by law”⁶⁶¹

These quoted provisions of the United States Code consolidate a course of legislation which began at the time of the Whiskey Rebellion of 1792.⁶⁶² In *Martin v. Mott*,⁶⁶³ which arose out of the War of 1812, it was held that the authority to decide whether the exigency had arisen belonged exclusively to the President.⁶⁶⁴ Even before that time, Jefferson had, in 1808, in the course of his efforts to enforce the Embargo Acts, issued a proclamation ordering “all officers having authority, civil or military, who shall be found in the vicinity” of an unruly combination, to aid and assist “by all means in their power, by force of arms or otherwise” the suppression of

⁶⁶¹ 10 U.S.C. §§ 332, 333. The provisions were invoked by President Eisenhower when he dispatched troops to Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957 to counter resistance to Federal District Court orders pertaining to desegregation of certain public schools in the Little Rock School District. Although the validity of his action was never expressly reviewed, the Court, in *Cooper v. Aaron*, 358 U.S. 1, 4, 18–19 (1958), rejected a contention advanced by critics of the legality of his conduct, namely, that the President’s constitutional duty to see to the faithful execution of the laws as implemented by the provisions quoted above, does not afford a sanction for the use of troops to enforce decrees of federal courts, inasmuch as the latter are not statutory enactments which alone are comprehended within the phrase, “laws of the United States.” According to the Court, a judicial decision interpreting a constitutional provision, specifically the Court’s interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment enunciated “. . . in the *Brown* Case [*Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954)] is the supreme law of the land, and Art. VI of the Constitution makes it of binding effect”

⁶⁶² 1 Stat. 264 (1792); 1 Stat. 424 (1794); 2 Stat. 443 (1807); 12 Stat. 281 (1861); now covered by 10 U.S.C. §§ 332–334.

⁶⁶³ 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 19 (1827).

⁶⁶⁴ *Id.*, 31–32.

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such combination.⁶⁶⁵ Forty-six years later, Attorney General Cushing advised President Pierce that in enforcing the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, marshals of the United States had authority when opposed by unlawful combinations to summon to their aid not only bystanders and citizens generally, but armed forces within their precincts, both state militia and United States officers, soldiers, sailors, and marines,⁶⁶⁶ a doctrine that Pierce himself improved upon two years later by asserting, with reference to the civil war then raging in Kansas, that it lay within his obligation to take care that the laws be faithfully executed to place the forces of the United States in Kansas at the disposal of the marshal there, to be used as a portion of the *posse comitatus*. Lincoln's call of April 15, 1861, for 75,000 volunteers was, on the other hand, a fresh invocation, though of course on a vastly magnified scale, of Jefferson's conception of a *posse comitatus* subject to presidential call.⁶⁶⁷ The provisions above extracted from the United States Code ratified this conception as regards the state militias and the national forces.

Suspension of Habeas Corpus by the President

See Article I, §9.

Preventive Martial Law

The question of executive power in the presence of civil disorder is dealt with in modern terms in *Moyer v. Peabody*,⁶⁶⁸ to which the *Debs* case⁶⁶⁹ may be regarded as an addendum. Moyer, a labor leader, brought suit against Peabody for having ordered his arrest during a labor dispute which occurred while Peabody was governor of Colorado. Speaking for a unanimous Court, one Justice being absent, Justice Holmes said: "Of course the plaintiff's position is that he has been deprived of his liberty without due process of law. But it is familiar that what is due process of law depends

⁶⁶⁵ Wilson, *Federal Aid in Domestic Disturbances*, S. Doc. No. 209, 57th Congress, 2d Sess. (1907), 51.

⁶⁶⁶ 6 Ops. Atty. Gen. 446 (1854). By the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878, 20 Stat. 152, 18 U.S.C. §1385, it was provided that "it shall not be lawful to employ any part of the Army of the United States, as a posse comitatus, or otherwise, for the purpose of executing the laws, except in such cases and under such circumstances as such employment of said force may be expressly authorized by the Constitution or by act of Congress. . . ." The effect of this prohibition, however, was largely nullified by a ruling of the Attorney General "that by Revised Statutes 5298 and 5300 [10 U.S.C. §§332, 334] the military forces, under the direction of the President, could be used to assist a marshal. 16 Ops. Atty. Gen. 162." B. RICH, *THE PRESIDENTS AND CIVIL DISORDER* (Washington: 1941), 196 n. 21.

⁶⁶⁷ 12 Stat. (app.) 1258.

⁶⁶⁸ 212 U.S. 78 (1909).

⁶⁶⁹ *In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564 (1895).

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on circumstances. It varies with the subject matter and the necessities of the situation. . . . The facts that we are to assume are that a state of insurrection existed and that the Governor, without sufficient reason but in good faith, in the course of putting the insurrection down held the plaintiff until he thought that he safely could release him.

“. . . In such a situation we must assume that he had a right under the state constitution and laws to call out troops, as was held by the Supreme Court of the State. . . . That means that he shall make the ordinary use of the soldiers to that end; that he may kill persons who resist and, of course, that he may use the milder measure of seizing the bodies of those whom he considers to stand in the way of restoring peace. Such arrests are not necessarily for punishment, but are by way of precaution to prevent the exercise of hostile power. So long as such arrests are made in good faith and in the honest belief that they are needed in order to head the insurrection off, the Governor is the final judge and cannot be subjected to an action after he is out of office on the ground for his belief.

“. . . When it comes to a decision by the head of the State upon a matter involving its life, the ordinary rights of individuals must yield to what he deems the necessities of the moment. Public danger warrants the substitution of executive process for judicial process.”⁶⁷⁰

The Debs Case.—The *Debs* case of 1895 arose out of a railway strike which had caused the President to dispatch troops to Chicago the previous year. Coincidentally with this move, the United States district attorney stationed there, acting upon orders from Washington, obtained an injunction from the United States circuit court forbidding the strike because of its interference with the mails and with interstate commerce. The question before the Supreme Court was whether this injunction, for violation of which Debs had been jailed for contempt of court, had been granted with jurisdiction. Conceding, in effect, that there was no statutory warrant for the injunction, the Court nevertheless validated it on the ground that the Government was entitled thus to protect its property in the mails, and on a much broader ground which is stated in the following passage of Justice Brewer's opinion for the Court: “Every government, entrusted, by the very terms of its being, with powers and duties to be exercised and discharged for the general

⁶⁷⁰ 212 U.S., 84–85. See also *Sterling v. Constantin*, 287 U.S. 378 (1932), which endorses *Moyer v. Peabody*, while emphasizing the fact that it applies only to a condition of disorder.

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welfare, has a right to apply to its own courts for any proper assistance in the exercise of the one and the discharge of the other. . . . While it is not the province of the Government to interfere in any mere matter of private controversy between individuals, or to use its granted powers to enforce the rights of one against another, yet, whenever the wrongs complained of are such as affect the public at large, and are in respect of matters which by the Constitution are entrusted to the care of the Nation and concerning which the Nation owes the duty to all the citizens of securing to them their common rights, then the mere fact that the Government has no pecuniary interest in the controversy is not sufficient to exclude it from the courts, or prevent it from taking measures therein to fully discharge those constitutional duties.”⁶⁷¹

Present Status of the Debs Case.—Insofar as the use of injunctive relief in labor disputes is concerned, enactment of the Norris-LaGuardia Act⁶⁷² placed substantial restrictions on the power of federal courts to issue injunctions in such situations. Though, in *United States v. UMW*,⁶⁷³ the Court held that the Norris-LaGuardia Act did not apply where the Government brought suit as operator of mines, language in the opinion appeared to go a good way toward repudiating the present viability of *Debs*, though more in terms of congressional limitations than of revised judicial opinion.⁶⁷⁴ It should be noted that in 1947 Congress authorized the President to seek injunctive relief in “national emergency” labor disputes, which would seem to imply absence of authority to act in situations not meeting the statutory definition.⁶⁷⁵

⁶⁷¹ 158 U.S., 584, 586. Some years earlier, in *United States v. San Jacinto Tin Co.*, 125 U.S. 273, 279 (1888), the Court sustained the right of the Attorney General and his assistants to institute suits simply by virtue of their general official powers. “If,” the Court said, “the United States in any particular case has a just cause for calling upon the judiciary of the country, in any of its courts, for relief . . . the question of appealing to them must primarily be decided by the Attorney General . . . and if restrictions are to be placed upon the exercise of this authority it is for Congress to enact them.” Cf. *Hayburn’s Case*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 409 (1792), in which the Court rejected Attorney General Randolph’s contention that he had the right *ex officio* to move for a writ of mandamus ordering the United States circuit court for Pennsylvania to put the Invalid Pension Act into effect.

⁶⁷² 47 Stat. 170 (1932), 29 U.S.C. §§ 101–115.

⁶⁷³ 330 U.S. 258 (1947). In reaching the result, Chief Justice Vinson invoked the “rule that statutes which in general terms divest preexisting rights or privileges will not be applied to the sovereign without express words to that effect.” *Id.*, 272.

⁶⁷⁴ Thus, the Chief Justice noted that “we agree” that the debates on Norris-LaGuardia “indicate that Congress, in passing the Act, did not intend to permit the United States to continue to intervene by injunction in purely private labor disputes.” Of course, he continued, “whether Congress so intended or not is a question different from the one before us now.” *Id.*, 278.

⁶⁷⁵ 61 Stat. 136, 155 (1947), 29 U.S.C. §§ 176–180. Cf. *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579 (1952), with regard to the exclusivity of proceeding.

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With regard to the power of the President to seek injunctive relief in other situations without statutory authority, there is no clear precedent. In *New York Times Co. v. United States*,⁶⁷⁶ the Government sought to enjoin two newspapers from publishing classified material given to them by a dissident former governmental employee. Though the Supreme Court rejected the Government's claim, five of the six majority Justices relied on First Amendment grounds, apparently assuming basic power to bring the action in the first place, and three dissenters were willing to uphold the constitutionality of the Government's action and its basic power on the premise that the President was authorized to protect the secrecy of governmental documents. Only one Justice denied expressly that power was lacking altogether to sue.⁶⁷⁷

The President's Duty in Cases of Domestic Violence in the States

See Article IV, § 4, pp. 892–895, and *Supra*, pp. 487–488.

The President as Executor of the Law of Nations

Illustrative of the President's duty to discharge the responsibilities of the United States in international law with a view to avoiding difficulties with other governments was the action of President Wilson in closing the Marconi Wireless Station at Siasconset, Massachusetts, on the outbreak of the European War in 1914, the company having refused assurance that it would comply with naval censorship regulations. Justifying this drastic invasion of private rights, Attorney General Gregory said: "The President of the United States is at the head of one of the three great coordinate departments of the Government. He is Commander in Chief of the Army and the Navy. . . . If the President is of the opinion that the relations of this country with foreign nations are, or are likely to be endangered by action deemed by him inconsistent with a due neutrality, it is his right and duty to protect such relations; and in doing so, in the absence of any statutory restrictions, he may act through such executive office or department as appears best adapted to effectuate the desired end. . . . I do not hesitate, in view of the extraordinary conditions existing, to advise that the President, through the Secretary of the Navy or any appropriate department, close down, or take charge of and operate, the plant . . . should he

⁶⁷⁶ 403 U.S. 713 (1971).

⁶⁷⁷ On Justice Marshall's view on the lack of authorization, see *id.*, 740–748 (concurring opinion); for the dissenters on this issue, see *id.*, 752, 755–759 (Justice Harlan, with whom Chief Justice Burger and Justice Blackmun joined); and see *id.*, 727, 729–730 (Justice Stewart, joined by Justice White, concurring).

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deem it necessary in securing obedience to his proclamation of neutrality.”⁶⁷⁸

PROTECTION OF AMERICAN RIGHTS OF PERSON AND PROPERTY ABROAD

In 1854, one Lieutenant Hollins, in command of a United States warship, bombarded the town of Greytown, Nicaragua because of the refusal of local authorities to pay reparations for an attack by a mob on the United States consul.⁶⁷⁹ Upon his return to the United States, Hollins was sued in a federal court by Durand for the value of certain property which was alleged to have been destroyed in the bombardment. His defense was based upon the orders of the President and Secretary of the Navy and was sustained by Justice Nelson, on circuit.⁶⁸⁰ “As the Executive head of the nation, the President is made the only legitimate organ of the General Government, to open and carry on correspondence or negotiations with foreign nations, in matters concerning the interests of the country or of its citizens. It is to him, also, the citizens abroad must look for protection of person and of property, and for the faithful execution of the laws existing and intended for their protection. For this purpose, the whole Executive power of the country is placed in his hands, under the Constitution, and the laws passed in pursuance thereof; and different Departments of government have been organized, through which this power may be most conveniently executed, whether by negotiation or by force—a Department of State and a Department of the Navy.

“Now, as it respects the interposition of the Executive abroad, for the protection of the lives or property of the citizen, the duty must, of necessity, rest in the discretion of the President. Acts of lawless violence, or of threatened violence to the citizen or his property, cannot be anticipated and provided for; and the protection, to be effectual or of any avail, may, not infrequently, require the most prompt and decided action. Under our system of Government, the citizen abroad is as much entitled to protection as the citizen at home. The great object and duty of Government is the protection of the lives, liberty, and property of the people composing it, whether abroad or at home; and any Government failing in the accomplishment of the object, or the performance of the duty, is not worth preserving.”⁶⁸¹

⁶⁷⁸ 30 Ops. Atty. Gen. 291 (1914).

⁶⁷⁹ 7 J. MOORE, DIGEST OF INTERNATIONAL LAW (Washington: 1906), 346–354.

⁶⁸⁰ *Durand v. Hollins*, 8 Fed. Cas. 111 (No. 4186) (C.C.S.D.N.Y. 1860).

⁶⁸¹ *Id.*, 112.

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This incident and this case were but two items in the 19th century advance of the concept that the President had the duty and the responsibility to protect American lives and property abroad through the use of armed forces if deemed necessary.⁶⁸² The duty could be said to grow out of the inherent powers of the Chief Executive⁶⁸³ or perhaps out of his obligation to “take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed.”⁶⁸⁴ Although there were efforts made at times to limit this presidential power narrowly to the protection of persons and property rather than to the promotion of broader national interests,⁶⁸⁵ no such distinction was observed in practice and so grew the concepts which have become the source of serious national controversy in the 1960s and 1970s, the power of the President to use troops abroad to observe national commitments and protect the national interest without seeking prior approval from Congress.

Congress and the President versus Foreign Expropriation.—Congress has asserted itself in one area of protection of United States property abroad, making provision against uncompensated expropriation of property belonging to United States citizens and corporations. The problem of expropriation of foreign property and the compensation to be paid therefor remains an unsettled area of international law, of increasing importance because of the changes and unsettled conditions following World War II.⁶⁸⁶ It has been the position of the Executive Branch that just compensation is owed all United States property owners dispossessed in foreign countries and the many pre-World War II disputes were carried on between the President and the Department of State and the nation involved. But commencing with the Marshall Plan in 1948, Congress has enacted programs of guaranties to American investors in specified foreign countries.⁶⁸⁷ More relevant to discussion here is that Congress has attached to United States foreign assistance programs various amendments requiring the termination of assistance and imposing other economic inducements where uncompensated expropriations have been instituted.⁶⁸⁸ And when the

⁶⁸² See United States Solicitor of the Department of State, *Right to Protect Citizens in Foreign Countries by Landing Forces* (Washington: 3d rev. ed. 1934); M. OFFUTT, *THE PROTECTION OF CITIZENS ABROAD BY THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES* (Baltimore: 1928).

⁶⁸³ *Durand v. Hollins*, 8 Fed. Cas. 111 (No. 4186) (C.C.S.D.N.Y. 1860).

⁶⁸⁴ M. OFFUTT, *op. cit.*, n. 682, 5.

⁶⁸⁵ E. CORWIN, *op. cit.*, n. 44, 198–201.

⁶⁸⁶ Cf. Metzger, *Property in International Law*, 50 Va. L. Rev. 594 (1964); Vaughn, *Finding the Law of Expropriation: Traditional v. Quantitative Research*, 2 Texas Intl. L. Forum 189 (1966).

⁶⁸⁷ 62 Stat. 143 (1948), as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 2191 et seq. See also 22 U.S.C. § 1621 et seq.

⁶⁸⁸ 76 Stat. 260 (1962), 22 U.S.C. § 2370(e)(1).

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Supreme Court in 1964 applied the “act of state” doctrine so as not to examine the validity of a taking of property by a foreign government recognized by the United States but to defer to the decision of the foreign government,⁶⁸⁹ Congress reacted by attaching another amendment to the foreign assistance act reversing the Court’s application of the doctrine, except in certain circumstances, a reversal which was applied on remand of the case.⁶⁹⁰

**PRESIDENTIAL ACTION IN THE DOMAIN OF
CONGRESS STEEL SEIZURE CASE**

To avert a nationwide strike of steel workers which he believed would jeopardize the national defense, President Truman, on April 8, 1952, issued an executive order directing the Secretary of Commerce to seize and operate most of the steel industry of the country.⁶⁹¹ The order cited no specific statutory authorization but invoked generally the powers vested in the President by the Constitution and laws of the United States. The Secretary issued the appropriate orders to steel executives. The President promptly reported his action to Congress, conceding Congress’ power to supersede his order, but Congress did not do so, either then or a few days later when the President sent up a special message.⁶⁹² On suit by the steel companies, a federal district court enjoined the seizure,⁶⁹³ and the Supreme Court brought the case up prior to decision by the court of appeals.⁶⁹⁴ Six-to-three, the Court affirmed the district court order, each member of the majority, however, contributing an individual opinion as well as joining in some degree the opinion of the Court by Justice Black.⁶⁹⁵ The holding and the multiple opinions represent a setback for the adherents of “inher-

⁶⁸⁹ *Banco Nacional de Cuba v. Sabbatino*, 376 U.S. 398 (1964).

⁶⁹⁰ 78 Stat. 1013 (1964), as amended, 22 U.S.C. §2370(e)(2), applied on remand in *Banco Nacional de Cuba v. Farr*, 243 F. Supp. 957 (S.D.N.Y. 1965), *affd.* 383 F.2d 166 (2d Cir., 1967), *cert. den.*, 390 U.S. 956 (1968).

⁶⁹¹ E.O. 10340, 17 FED. REG. 3139 (1952).

⁶⁹² H. Doc. No. 422, 82d Congress, 2d sess. (1952), 98 CONG. REC. 3912 (1952); H. Doc. No. 496, 82d Congress, 2d sess. (1952), 98 CONG. REC. 6929 (1952).

⁶⁹³ 103 F. Supp. 569 (D.D.C. 1952).

⁶⁹⁴ The court of appeals had stayed the district court’s injunction pending appeal. 197 F.2d 582 (D.C.Cir., 1952). The Supreme Court decision bringing the action up is at 343 U.S. 937 (1952). Justices Frankfurter and Burton dissented.

⁶⁹⁵ *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579 (1952). In the majority with Justice Black were Justices Frankfurter, Douglas, Jackson, Burton, and Clark. Dissenting were Chief Justice Vinson and Justices Reed and Minton. For critical consideration of the case, see Corwin, *The Steel Seizure Case: A Judicial Brick Without Straw*, 53 Colum. L. Rev. 53 (1953); Roche, *Executive Power and Domestic Emergency: The Quest for Prerogative*, 5 West. Pol. Q. 592 (1952). For a comprehensive account, see M. MARCUS, *TRUMAN AND THE STEEL SEIZURE CASE: THE LIMITS OF PRESIDENTIAL POWER* (New York: 1977).

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ent” executive powers,⁶⁹⁶ but they raise difficult conceptual and practical problems with regard to presidential powers.

The Doctrine of the Opinion of the Court.—The chief points urged in the Black opinion are the following: There was no statute that expressly or impliedly authorized the President to take possession of the property involved. On the contrary, in its consideration of the Taft-Hartley Act in 1947, Congress refused to authorize governmental seizures of property as a method of preventing work stoppages and settling labor disputes. Authority to issue such an order in the circumstances of the case was not deducible from the aggregate of the President’s executive powers under Article II of the Constitution; nor was the order maintainable as an exercise of the President’s powers as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. The power sought to be exercised was the lawmaking power, which the Constitution vests in the Congress alone. Even if it were true that other Presidents have taken possession of private business enterprises without congressional authority in order to settle labor disputes, Congress was not thereby divested of its exclusive constitutional authority to make the laws necessary and proper to carry out all powers vested by the Constitution “in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”⁶⁹⁷

The Doctrine Considered.—The pivotal proposition of the opinion of the Court is that, inasmuch as Congress could have directed the seizure of the steel mills, the President had no power to do so without prior congressional authorization. To this reasoning, not only the dissenters but Justice Clark would not concur and in fact stated baldly that the reasoning was contradicted by precedent, both judicial and presidential and congressional practice. One of the earliest pronouncements on presidential power in this area was that of Chief Justice Marshall in *Little v. Barreme*.⁶⁹⁸ There, a United States vessel under orders from the President had seized a United States merchant ship bound *from* a French port allegedly carrying contraband material; Congress had, however, provided for seizure only of such vessels bound *to* French ports.⁶⁹⁹ Said the Chief Justice: “It is by no means clear that the president of the United States whose high duty it is to ‘take care that the laws be faithfully executed,’ and who is commander in chief of the armies

⁶⁹⁶ Indeed, the breadth of the Government’s arguments in the district court may well have contributed to the defeat, despite the much more measured contentions set out in the Supreme Court. See A. WESTIN, *THE ANATOMY OF A CONSTITUTIONAL LAW CASE* (New York: 1958), 56–65 (argument in district court).

⁶⁹⁷ *Id.*, 343 U.S., 585–589.

⁶⁹⁸ 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 170 (1804).

⁶⁹⁹ 1 Stat. 613 (1799).

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and navies of the United States, might not, without any special authority for that purpose in the then existing state of things, have empowered the officers commanding the armed vessels of the United States, to seize and send into port for adjudication, American vessels which were forfeited by being engaged in this illicit commerce. But when it is observed that [an act of Congress] gives a special authority to seize on the high seas, and limits that authority to the seizure of vessels bound or sailing to a French port, the legislature seems to have prescribed that the manner in which this law shall be carried into execution, was to exclude a seizure of any vessel not bound to a French port.”⁷⁰⁰

Other examples are at hand. In 1799, President Adams, in order to execute the extradition provisions of the Jay Treaty, issued a warrant for the arrest of one Robbins and the action was challenged in Congress on the ground that no statutory authority existed by which the President could act; John Marshall defended the action in the House of Representatives, the practice continued, and it was not until 1848 that Congress enacted a statute governing this subject.⁷⁰¹ Again, in 1793, President Washington issued a neutrality proclamation; the following year, Congress enacted the first neutrality statute and since then proclamations of neutrality have been based on acts of Congress.⁷⁰² Repeatedly, acts of the President have been in areas in which Congress could act as well.⁷⁰³

Justice Frankfurter’s concurring opinion⁷⁰⁴ listed statutory authorizations for seizures of industrial property, 18 in all of which all but the first were enacted between 1916 and 1951, and summaries of seizures of industrial plants and facilities by Presidents without definite statutory warrant, eight of which occurred during World War I, justified in the presidential orders as being done pursuant to “the Constitution and laws” generally, and eleven of which occurred in World War II.⁷⁰⁵ The first such seizure in this period had been justified by then Attorney General Jackson as being based upon an “aggregate” of presidential powers stemming from his duty to see the laws faithfully executed, his commander-in-

⁷⁰⁰ *Little v. Barreme*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 170, 177–178 (1804).

⁷⁰¹ 10 ANNALS OF CONG. 596, 613–614 (1800). The argument was endorsed in *Fong Yue Ting v. United States*, 149 U.S. 698, 714 (1893). The presence of a treaty, of which this provision was self-executing, is sufficient to distinguish this example from the steel seizure situation.

⁷⁰² Cf. E. CORWIN, *THE PRESIDENT’S CONTROL OF FOREIGN RELATIONS* (New York: 1916), ch. 1.

⁷⁰³ Corwin, *The Steel Seizure Case: A Judicial Brick Without Straw*, 53 Colum. L. Rev. 53, 58–59 (1953).

⁷⁰⁴ *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579, 593 (1952).

⁷⁰⁵ *Id.*, 611–613, 620.

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chiefship, and his general executive powers.⁷⁰⁶ Chief Justice Vinson's dissent dwelt liberally upon this opinion,⁷⁰⁷ which reliance drew a disclaimer from Justice Jackson, concurring.⁷⁰⁸

The dissent was also fortunate in that chief counsel for the steel companies was the eminent John W. Davis, who, as Solicitor General of the United States, had filed a brief in defense of Presidential action in 1914, which had taken precisely the view which the dissent now presented on this issue.⁷⁰⁹ "Ours," the brief read, "is a self-sufficient Government within its sphere. (*Ex parte Siebold*, 100 U.S. 371, 395; *In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564, 578.) 'Its means are adequate to its ends' (*McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat., 316 424), and it is rational to assume that its active forces will be found equal in most things to the emergencies that confront it. While perfect flexibility is not to be expected in a Government of divided powers, and while division of power is one of the principal features of the Constitution, it is the plain duty of those who are called upon to draw the dividing lines to ascertain the essential, recognize the practical, and avoid a slavish formalism which can only serve to ossify the Government and reduce its efficiency without any compensating good. The function of making laws is peculiar to Congress, and the Executive can not exercise that function to any degree. But this is not to say that all of the *subjects* concerning which laws might be made are perforce removed from the possibility of Executive influence. The Executive may act upon things and upon men in many relations which have not, though they might have, been actually regulated by Congress. In other words, just as there are fields which are peculiar to Congress and fields which are peculiar to the Executive, so there are fields which are common to both, in the sense that the Executive may move within them until they shall have been occupied by legislative action. These are not the fields of legislative prerogative, but fields within which the lawmaking powers may enter and dominate whenever it chooses. This situation results from the fact that the President is the active agent, not of Congress, but of the Nation. As such he performs the duties which the Constitution lays upon him imme-

⁷⁰⁶ 89 CONG. REC. 3992 (1943).

⁷⁰⁷ *Id.*, 343 U.S., 695–696 (dissenting opinion).

⁷⁰⁸ Thus, Justice Jackson noted of the earlier seizure, that "[i]ts superficial similarities with the present case, upon analysis, yield to distinctions so decisive that it cannot be regarded as even a precedent, much less an authority for the present seizure." *Id.*, 648–649 (concurring opinion). His opinion opens with the sentence: "That comprehensive and undefined presidential powers hold both practical advantages and grave dangers for the country will impress anyone who has served as legal adviser to a President in time of transition and public anxiety." *Id.*, 634.

⁷⁰⁹ Brief for the United States, *United States v. Midwest Oil Co.*, 236 U.S. 459 (1915), 11, 75–77.

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diately, and as such, also, he executes the laws and regulations adopted by Congress. He is the agent of the people of the United States, deriving all his powers from them and responsible directly to them. In no sense is he the agent of Congress. He obeys and executes the laws of Congress, but because Congress is enthroned in authority over him, not because the Constitution directs him to do so.

“Therefore it follows that in ways short of making laws or disobeying them, the Executive may be under a grave constitutional duty to act for the national protection in situations not covered by the acts of Congress, and in which, even, it may not be said that his action is the direct expression of any particular one of the independent powers which are granted to him specifically by the Constitution. Instances wherein the President has felt and fulfilled such a duty have not been rare in our history, though, being for the public benefit and approved by all, his acts have seldom been challenged in the courts.”⁷¹⁰

Power Denied by Congress.—Justice Black’s opinion of the Court notes that Congress had refused to give the President seizure authority and had authorized other actions, which had not been taken.⁷¹¹ This statement led him only to conclude that since the power claimed did not stem from Congress, it had to be found in the Constitution. But four of the concurring Justices made considerably more of the fact that Congress had considered seizure and had refused to authorize it. Justice Frankfurter stated: “We must . . . put to one side consideration of what powers the President would have had if there had been no legislation whatever bearing on the authority asserted by the seizure, or if the seizure had been only for a short, explicitly temporary period, to be terminated automatically unless Congressional approval were given.”⁷¹² He then reviewed the proceedings of Congress that attended the enactment of the Taft-Hartley Act and concluded that “Congress has expressed its will to withhold this power [of seizure] from the President as though it had said so in so many words.”⁷¹³

Justice Jackson attempted a schematic representation of presidential powers, which “are not fixed but fluctuate, depending upon their disjunction or conjunction with those of Congress.” Thus, there are essentially three possibilities. “1. When the President acts pursuant to an express or implied authorization of Congress,

⁷¹⁰ Quoted in *Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579, 667, 689–691 (1952) (dissenting opinion).

⁷¹¹ *Id.*, 585–587.

⁷¹² *Id.*, 597.

⁷¹³ *Id.*, 602.

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his authority is at its maximum, for it includes all that he possess in his own right plus all that Congress can delegate. . . . 2. When the President acts in absence of either a congressional grant or denial of authority, he can only rely upon his own independent powers, but there is a zone of twilight in which he and Congress may have concurrent authority, or in which its distribution is uncertain. . . . 3. When the President takes measures incompatible with the expressed or implied will of Congress, his power is at its lowest ebb, for then he can rely only upon his own constitutional powers minus any constitutional powers of Congress over the matter. Courts can sustain exclusive presidential control in such a case only by disabling the Congress from acting upon the subject.”⁷¹⁴ The seizure in question was placed in the third category “because Congress has not left seizure of private property an open field but has covered it by three statutory policies inconsistent with this seizure.” Therefore, “we can sustain the President only by holding that seizure of such strike-bound industries is within his domain and beyond control by Congress.”⁷¹⁵ That holding was not possible.

Justice Burton, referring to the Taft-Hartley Act, said that “the most significant feature of that Act is its omission of authority to seize,” citing debate on the measure to show that the omission was a conscious decision.⁷¹⁶ Justice Clark placed his reliance on *Little v. Barreme*,⁷¹⁷ inasmuch as Congress had laid down specific procedures for the President to follow, which he had declined to follow.⁷¹⁸

Despite the opinion of the Court, therefore, it seems clear that four of the six Justices in the majority were more moved by the fact that the President had acted in a manner considered and rejected by Congress in a field in which Congress was empowered to establish the rules, rules the President is to see faithfully executed, than with the fact that the President’s action was a form of “lawmaking” in a field committed to the province of Congress. The opinion of the Court, therefore, and its doctrinal implications must be considered with care, inasmuch as it is doubtful that the opinion does lay down a constitutional rule. Whatever the implications of the opinions of the individual Justices for the doctrine of “inherent” presidential powers—and they are significant—the implications for the

⁷¹⁴Id., 635–638.

⁷¹⁵Id., 639, 640.

⁷¹⁶Id., 657.

⁷¹⁷2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 170 (1804).

⁷¹⁸Id., 343 U.S., 662, 663.

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area here under consideration are cloudy and have remained so from the time of the decision.⁷¹⁹

PRESIDENTIAL IMMUNITY FROM JUDICIAL DIRECTION

By the decision of the Court in *Mississippi v. Johnson*,⁷²⁰ in 1867, the President was placed beyond the reach of judicial direction, either affirmative or restraining, in the exercise of his powers, whether constitutional or statutory, political or otherwise, save perhaps for what must be a small class of powers that are purely ministerial.⁷²¹ An application for an injunction to forbid President Johnson to enforce the Reconstruction Acts, on the ground of their unconstitutionality, was answered by Attorney General Stanberg, who argued, *inter alia*, the absolute immunity of the President from judicial process.⁷²² The Court refused to permit the filing, using language construable as meaning that the President was not reachable by judicial process but which more fully paraded the horrible consequences were the Court to act. First noting the limited meaning of the term “ministerial,” the Court observed that “[v]ery different is the duty of the President in the exercise of the power to see that the laws are faithfully executed, and among these laws the acts named in the bill. . . . The duty thus imposed on the President is in no just sense ministerial. It is purely executive and political.

“An attempt on the part of the judicial department of the government to enforce the performance of such duties by the President might be justly characterized, in the language of Chief Justice Marshall, as ‘an absurd and excessive extravagance.’

“It is true that in the instance before us the interposition of the court is not sought to enforce action by the Executive under

⁷¹⁹In *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654, 668–669 (1981), the Court recurred to the *Youngstown* analysis for resolution of the presented questions, but one must observe that it did so saying that “the parties and the lower courts . . . have all agreed that much relevant analysis is contained in” *Youngstown*. See also *id.*, 661–662, quoting Justice Jackson’s *Youngstown* concurrence, “which both parties agree brings together as much combination of analysis and common sense as there is in this area”.

⁷²⁰4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 475 (1867).

⁷²¹The Court declined to express an opinion “whether, in any case, the President of the United States may be required, by the process of this court, to perform a purely ministerial act under a positive law, or may be held amenable, in any case, otherwise than by impeachment for crime.” *Id.*, 498. See *Franklin v. Massachusetts*, 112 S.Ct. 2767, 2788–2790 (1992) (Justice Scalia concurring). In *National Treasury Employees Union v. Nixon*, 492 F.2d 587 (D.C.Cir. 1974), the court held that a writ of mandamus could issue to compel the President to perform a ministerial act, although it said that if any other officer were available to whom the writ could run it should be applied to him.

⁷²²*Mississippi v. Johnson*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 475, 484–485 (1867) (argument of counsel).

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constitutional legislation, but to restrain such action under legislation alleged to be unconstitutional. But we are unable to perceive that this circumstance takes the case out of the general principles which forbid judicial interference with the exercise of Executive discretion.

. . .

“The Congress is the legislative department of the government; the President is the executive department. Neither can be restrained in its action by the judicial department; though the acts of both, when performed, are, in proper cases, subject to its cognizance.

“The impropriety of such interference will be clearly seen upon consideration of its possible consequences.

“Suppose the bill filed and the injunction prayed for allowed. If the President refuse obedience, it is needless to observe that the court is without power to enforce its process. If, on the other hand, the President complies with the order of the court and refuses to execute the acts of Congress, is it not clear that a collision may occur between the executive and legislative departments of the government? May not the House of Representatives impeach the President for such refusal? And in that case could this court interfere, in behalf of the President, thus endangered by compliance with its mandate, and restrain by injunction the Senate of the United States from sitting as a court of impeachment? Would the strange spectacle be offered to the public world of an attempt by this court to arrest proceedings in that court?”⁷²³

Rare has been the opportunity for the Court to elucidate its opinion in *Mississippi v. Johnson*, and, in the Watergate tapes case,⁷²⁴ it held the President amenable to subpoena to produce evidence for use in a criminal case without dealing, except obliquely,

⁷²³ *Id.*, 499, 500–501. One must be aware that the case was decided in the context of congressional predominance following the Civil War. The Court’s restraint was pronounced when it denied an effort to file a bill of injunction to enjoin enforcement of the same acts directed to cabinet officers. *Georgia v. Stanton*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 50 (1867). Before and since, however, the device to obtain review of the President’s actions has been to bring suit against the subordinate officer charged with carrying out the President’s wishes. *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524 (1838); *Panama Refining Co. v. Ryan*, 293 U.S. 388 (1935); *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579 (1952). Congress has not provided process against the President. In *Franklin v. Massachusetts*, 112 S.Ct. 2767 (1992), resolving a long-running dispute, the Court held that the President is not subject to the Administrative Procedure Act and his actions, therefore, are not reviewable in suits under the Act. Inasmuch as some agency action, the acts of the Secretary of Commerce in this case, is preliminary to presidential action, the agency action is not “final” for purposes of APA review. Constitutional claims would still be brought, however.

⁷²⁴ *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683 (1974).

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with its prior opinion. The President's counsel had argued the President was immune to judicial process, claiming "that the independence of the Executive Branch within its own sphere . . . insulates a President from a judicial subpoena in an ongoing criminal prosecution, and thereby protects confidential Presidential communications."⁷²⁵ However, the Court held, "neither the doctrine of separation of powers, nor the need for confidentiality of high-level communications, without more, can sustain an absolute, unqualified Presidential privilege of immunity from judicial process under all circumstances."⁷²⁶ The primary constitutional duty of the courts "to do justice in criminal prosecutions" was a critical counterbalance to the claim of presidential immunity and to accept the President's argument would disturb the separation-of-powers function of achieving "a workable government" as well as "gravely impair the role of the courts under Art. III."⁷²⁷

Present throughout the Watergate crisis, and unresolved by it, was the question of the amenability of the President to criminal prosecution prior to conviction upon impeachment.⁷²⁸ It was argued that the impeachment clause necessarily required indictment and trial in a criminal proceeding to follow a successful impeachment and that a President in any event was uniquely immune from indictment, and these arguments were advanced as one ground to deny enforcement of the subpoenas running to the President.⁷²⁹ Assertion of the same argument by Vice President Agnew was controverted by the Government, through the Solicitor General, but, as to the President, it was argued that for a number of constitutional

⁷²⁵ *Id.*, 706.

⁷²⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷²⁷ *Id.*, 706–707. The issue was considered more fully by the lower courts. In re Grand Jury Subpoena to Richard M. Nixon, 360 F. Supp. 1, 6–10 (D.D.C. 1973) (Judge Sirica), *affd. sub nom.*, Nixon v. Sirica, 487 F.2d 700, 708–712 (D.C.Cir. 1973) (*en banc*) (refusing to find President immune from process). Present throughout was the conflicting assessment of the result of the subpoena of President Jefferson in the *Burr* trial. United States v. Burr, 25 Fed. Cas. 187 (No. 14,694) (C.C.D.Va. 1807). For the history, see Freund, *Foreword: On Presidential Privilege, The Supreme Court, 1973 Term*, 88 Harv. L. Rev. 13, 23–30 (1974).

⁷²⁸ The impeachment clause, Article I, §3, cl. 7, provides that the party convicted upon impeachment shall nonetheless be liable to criminal proceedings. Morris in the Convention, 2 M. FARRAND, THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 500, and Hamilton in THE FEDERALIST, Nos. 65, 69 (J. Cooke ed., 1961), 442, 463, asserted that criminal trial would follow a successful impeachment.

⁷²⁹ Brief for the Respondent, United States v. Nixon, 418 U.S. 683 (1974), 95–122; Nixon v. Sirica, 487 F.2d 700, 756–758 (D.C.Cir., 1973) (*en banc*) (Judge MacKinnon dissenting). The Court had accepted the President's petition to review the propriety of the grand jury's naming him as an unindicted coconspirator, but it dismissed that petition without reaching the question. United States v. Nixon, *supra*, 687 n. 2.

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and practical reasons he was not subject to ordinary criminal process.⁷³⁰

Finally, most recently, the Court has definitively resolved one of the intertwined issues of presidential accountability. The President is absolutely immune in actions for civil damages for all acts within the “outer perimeter” of his official duties.⁷³¹ The Court’s close decision was premised on the President’s “unique position in the constitutional scheme,” that is, it was derived from the Court’s inquiry of a “kind of ‘public policy’ analysis” of the “policies and principles that may be considered implicit in the nature of the President’s office in a system structured to achieve effective government under a constitutionally mandated separation of powers.”⁷³² While the Constitution expressly afforded Members of Congress immunity in matters arising from “speech or debate,” and while it was silent with respect to presidential immunity, the Court nonetheless considered such immunity “a functionally mandated incident of the President’s unique office, rooted in the constitutional tradition of the separation of powers and supported by our history.”⁷³³ Although the Court relied in part upon its previous practice of finding immunity for officers, such as judges, as to whom the Constitution is silent, although a long common-law history exists, and in part upon historical evidence, which it admitted was fragmentary and ambiguous,⁷³⁴ the Court’s principal focus was upon the fact that the President was distinguishable from all other executive officials. He is charged with a long list of “supervisory and policy responsibilities of utmost discretion and sensitivity,”⁷³⁵ and diversion of his energies by concerns with private lawsuits would “raise unique risks to the effective functioning of government.”⁷³⁶ Moreover, the presidential privilege is rooted in the separation-of-powers doctrine, counseling courts to tread carefully before intruding. Some interests are important enough to require judicial action; “merely private suit[s] for damages based on a President’s official acts” do not serve this “broad public interest” necessitating the courts to act.⁷³⁷ Finally, qualified immunity would not adequately protect the President, because judicial inquiry into a functional

⁷³⁰ Memorandum for the United States, Application of Spiro T. Agnew, Civil No. 73-965 (D.Md., filed October 5, 1973).

⁷³¹ *Nixon v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 731 (1982).

⁷³² *Id.*, 748.

⁷³³ *Id.*, 749.

⁷³⁴ *Id.*, 750–752 n. 31.

⁷³⁵ *Id.*, 750.

⁷³⁶ *Id.*, 751.

⁷³⁷ *Id.*, 754.

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analysis of his actions would bring with it the evil immunity was to prevent; absolute immunity was required.⁷³⁸

The President's Subordinates.—While the courts may be unable to compel the President to act or to prevent him from acting, his acts, when performed, are in proper cases subject to judicial review and disallowance. Typically, the subordinates through whom he acts may be sued, in a form of legal fiction, to enjoin the commission of acts which might lead to irreparable damage⁷³⁹ or to compel by writ of mandamus the performance of a duty definitely required by law,⁷⁴⁰ such suits being usually brought in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.⁷⁴¹ In suits under the common law, a subordinate executive officer may be held personally liable in damages for any act done in excess of authority,⁷⁴² although immunity exists for anything, even malicious wrongdoing, done in the course of his duties.⁷⁴³

Different rules prevail when such an official is sued for a “constitutional tort” for wrongs allegedly in violation of our basic charter,⁷⁴⁴ although the Court has hinted that in some “sensitive”

⁷³⁸ *Id.*, 755–757. Justices White, Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun dissented. The Court reserved decision whether Congress could expressly create a damages action against the President and abrogate the immunity, *id.*, 748–749 n. 27, thus appearing to disclaim that the decision is mandated by the Constitution; Chief Justice Burger disagreed with the implication of this footnote, *id.*, 763–764 n. 7 (concurring opinion), and the dissenters noted their agreement on this point with the Chief Justice. *Id.*, 770 & n. 4.

⁷³⁹ *E.g.*, *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer*, 343 U.S. 579 (1952) (suit to enjoin Secretary of Commerce to return steel mills seized on President's order); *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654 (1981) (suit against Secretary of Treasury to nullify presidential orders on Iranian assets). See also *Noble v. Union River Logging Railroad*, 147 U.S. 165 (1893); *Philadelphia Co. v. Stimson*, 223 U.S. 605 (1912).

⁷⁴⁰ *E.g.*, *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803) (suit against Secretary of State to compel delivery of commissions of office); *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524 (1838) (suit against Postmaster General to compel payment of money owed under act of Congress); *Decatur v. Paulding*, 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 497 (1840) (suit to compel Secretary of Navy to pay a pension).

⁷⁴¹ This was originally on the theory that the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia had inherited, via the common law of Maryland, the jurisdiction of the King's Bench “over inferior jurisdictions and officers.” *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524, 614, 620–621 (1838). Congress has now authorized federal district courts outside the District of Columbia also to entertain such suits. 76 Stat. 744 (1962), 28 U.S.C. §1361.

⁷⁴² *E.g.*, *Little v. Barreme*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 170 (1804); *Bates v. Clark*, 95 U.S. 204 (1877); *United States v. Lee*, 106 U.S. 196 (1882); *Virginia Coupon Cases*, 114 U.S. 269 (1885); *Belknap v. Schild*, 161 U.S. 10 (1896).

⁷⁴³ *Spalding v. Vilas*, 161 U.S. 483 (1896); *Barr v. Mateo*, 360 U.S. 564 (1959). See *Westfall v. Erwin*, 484 U.S. 292 (1988) (action must be discretionary in nature as well as being within the scope of employment, before federal official is entitled to absolute immunity).

⁷⁴⁴ An implied cause of action against officers accused of constitutional violations was recognized in *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971). In *Butz v. Economou*, 438 U.S. 478 (1978),

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areas officials acting in the “outer perimeter” of their duties may be accorded an absolute immunity from liability.⁷⁴⁵ Jurisdiction to reach such officers for acts for which they can be held responsible must be under the general “federal question” jurisdictional statute, which, as recently amended, requires no jurisdictional amount.⁷⁴⁶

SECTION 4. The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

IMPEACHMENT⁷⁴⁷

Few provisions of the Constitution were adopted from English practice to the degree the section on impeachment was. In Eng-

a *Bivens* action, the Court distinguished between common-law torts and constitutional torts and denied high federal officials, including cabinet secretaries, absolute immunity, in favor of the qualified immunity previously accorded high state officials under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. In *Harlow v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 800 (1982), the Court denied presidential aides derivative absolute presidential immunity, but it modified the rules of qualified immunity, making it more difficult to hold such aides, other federal officials, and indeed state and local officials, liable for constitutional torts. In *Mitchell v. Forsyth*, 472 U.S. 511 (1985), the Court extended qualified immunity to the Attorney General for authorizing a warrantless wiretap in a case involving domestic national security. Although the Court later held such warrantless wiretaps violated the Fourth Amendment, at the time of the Attorney General's authorization this interpretation was not “clearly established,” and the *Harlow* immunity protected officials exercising discretion on such open questions. See also *Anderson v. Creighton*, 483 U.S. 635 (1987) (in an exceedingly opaque opinion, the Court extended similar qualified immunity to FBI agents who conducted a warrantless search).

⁷⁴⁵ *Harlow v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 800, 812 (1982).

⁷⁴⁶ See 28 U.S.C. § 1331. On deleting the jurisdictional amount, see P.L. 94–574, 90 Stat. 2721 (1976), and P.L. 96–486, 94 Stat. 2369 (1980). If such suits are brought in state courts, they can be removed to federal district courts. 28 U.S.C. § 1442(a).

⁷⁴⁷ Impeachment is the subject of several other provisions of the Constitution. Article I, § 2, cl. 5, gives to the House of Representatives “the sole power of impeachment.” Article I, § 3, cl. 6, gives to the Senate “the sole power to try all impeachments,” requires that Senators be under oath or affirmation when sitting for that purpose, stipulates that the Chief Justice of the United States is to preside when the President of the United States is tried, and provides for conviction on the vote of two-thirds of the members present. Article I, § 3, cl. 7, limits the judgment after impeachment to removal from office and disqualification from future federal office holding, but it allows criminal trial and conviction following impeachment. Article II, § 2, cl. 1, deprives the President of the power to grant pardons or reprieves in cases of impeachment. Article III, § 2, cl. 3, excepts impeachment cases from the jury trial requirement.

The word “impeachment” may be used to mean several different things. Any member of the House may “impeach” an officer of the United States by presenting a petition or memorial, which is generally referred to a committee for investigation and report. The House votes to “impeach,” the meaning used in § 4, when it adopts

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land, impeachment was a device to remove from office one who abused his office or misbehaved but who was protected by the Crown.⁷⁴⁸ It was a device that figured in the plans proposed to the Convention from the first, and the arguments went to such questions as what body was to try impeachments and what grounds were to be stated as warranting impeachment.⁷⁴⁹ The attention of the Framers was for the most part fixed on the President and his removal, and the results of this narrow frame of reference are reflected in the questions unresolved by the language of the Constitution.

Persons Subject to Impeachment

During the debate in the First Congress on the “removal” controversy, it was contended by some members that impeachment was the exclusive way to remove any officer of the Government from his post,⁷⁵⁰ but Madison and others contended that this position was destructive of sound governmental practice,⁷⁵¹ and the view did not prevail. Impeachment, said Madison, was to be used to reach a bad officer sheltered by the President and to remove him “even against the will of the President; so that the declaration in the Constitution was intended as a supplementary security for the good behavior of the public officers.”⁷⁵² The language of §4 does not leave any doubt that any officer in the executive branch is subject to the power; it does not appear that military officers are subject to it⁷⁵³ nor that members of Congress can be impeached.⁷⁵⁴

Judges.—Article III, §1, specifically provides judges with “good behavior” tenure, but the Constitution nowhere expressly vests the power to remove upon bad behavior; it has been assumed that judges are made subject to the impeachment power through

articles of impeachment. The Senate then conducts a trial on these articles and if the accused is convicted, he has been “impeached.” See 3 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES (Washington: 1907), 2469–2485, for the range of forms.

⁷⁴⁸ 1 W. HOLDSWORTH, HISTORY OF ENGLISH LAW (London: 7th ed. 1956), 379–385; Clarke, *The Origin of Impeachment*, in OXFORD ESSAYS IN MEDIEVAL HISTORY, Presented to Herbert Salter (Oxford: 1934), 164.

⁷⁴⁹ Simpson, *Federal Impeachments*, 64 U. Pa. L. Rev. 651, 653–667 (1916).

⁷⁵⁰ 1 ANNALS OF CONG. 457, 473, 536 (1789).

⁷⁵¹ *Id.*, 375, 480, 496–497, 562.

⁷⁵² *Id.*, 372.

⁷⁵³ 3 W. WILLOUGHBY, *op. cit.*, n. 294, 1448.

⁷⁵⁴ This point was established by a vote of the Senate holding a plea to this effect good in the impeachment trial of Senator William Blount in 1797. 3 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES (Washington: 1907), 2294–2318; F. WHARTON, STATE TRIALS OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE ADMINISTRATIONS OF WASHINGTON AND ADAMS (Philadelphia: 1849), 200–321.

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being labeled “civil officers.”⁷⁵⁵ The records in the Convention make this a plausible though not necessary interpretation.⁷⁵⁶ And, in fact, twelve of the fifteen impeachments reaching trial in the Senate have been directed at federal judges.⁷⁵⁷ So settled apparently is the interpretation that the major arguments, scholarly and

⁷⁵⁵ See NATIONAL COMM. ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE & REMOVAL, REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COMM. ON JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE & REMOVAL (1993), 9–11. The Commission was charged by Congress, P. L. 101–650, 104 Stat. 5124, with investigating and studying problems and issues relating to discipline and removal of federal judges, to evaluate the advisability of developing alternatives to impeachment, and to report to the three Government Branches. The report and the research papers produced for it contains a wealth of information on the subject.

⁷⁵⁶ For practically the entire Convention, the plans presented and adopted provided that the Supreme Court was to try impeachments. 1 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 4, 22, 244, 223–224, 231; 2 *id.*, 186. On August 27, it was successfully moved that the provision in the draft of the Committee on Detail giving the Supreme Court jurisdictions of trials of impeachment be postponed, *id.*, 430, 431, which was one of the issues committed to the Committee of Eleven. *Id.*, 481. That Committee reported the provision giving the Senate power to try all impeachments, *id.*, 497, which the Convention thereafter approved. *Id.*, 551. It may be assumed that so long as trial was in the Supreme Court, the Framers did not intend that the Justices, at least, were to be subject to the process.

The Committee of Five on August 20 was directed to report “a mode for trying the supreme Judges in cases of impeachment,” *id.*, 337, and it returned a provision making Supreme Court Justices triable by the Senate on impeachment by the House. *Id.*, 367. Consideration of this report was postponed. On August 27, it was proposed that all federal judges should be removable by the executive upon the application of both houses of Congress, but the motion was rejected. *Id.*, 428–429. The matter was not resolved by the report of the Committee on Style, which left in the “good behavior” tenure but contained nothing about removal. *Id.*, 575. Therefore, unless judges were included in the term “civil officers,” which had been added without comment on September 8 to the impeachment clause, *id.*, 552, they were not made removable. But see *infra*. n. 758.

⁷⁵⁷ The House of Representatives has approved articles of impeachment for thirteen judges. Two of the judges resigned before the trials in the Senate. After Senate trials, seven judges were convicted and removed. Those judges who were tried were: John Pickering, District Judge, 1803–1804, convicted, 3 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES (Washington: 1907), 2319–2341; Justice Samuel Chase, 1804–1805, acquitted, *id.*, 2342–2363; James H. Peck, District Judge, 1830, acquitted, *id.*, 2364–2384; West H. Humphreys, District Judge, 1862, convicted, *id.*, 2385–2397; Charles Swayne, District Judge, 1904–1905, acquitted, *id.*, 2469–2485; Robert W. Archbald, Judge of Commerce Court, 1912–1913, convicted, 6 C. CANNON’S PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES (Washington: 1936), 498–512; Harold Louderback, District Judge, 1932, acquitted, *id.*, 513–524; Halsted L. Ritter, 1936, District Judge, convicted, *Proceedings of the United States Senate in the Trial of Impeachment of Halsted L. Ritter*, S. Doc. No. 200, 74th Congress, 2d sess. (1936); Harry Claiborne, District Judge, 1986, convicted, *Proceedings of the United States Senate in the Impeachment Trial of Harry E. Claiborne*, S. Doc. 99–48, 99th Cong., 2d sess. (1986); Alcee Hastings, District Judge, 1989, convicted, *Proceedings of the United States Senate in the Impeachment Trial of Alcee L. Hastings*, S. Doc. 101–18, 101st Cong., 1st sess. (1989); Walter Nixon, District Judge, 1989, convicted, *Proceedings of the United States Senate in the Impeachment Trial of Walter L. Nixon, Jr.*, S. Doc. 101–22, 101st Cong., 1st sess. (1989). For discussions of these and of the four acquittals, see A. BOYAN (ED.), CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF WATERGATE: DOCUMENTS AND MATERIALS (Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: 1976) (per listings).

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political, have concerned the question whether judges, as well as others, are subject to impeachment for conduct which does not constitute an indictable offense and the question whether impeachment is the exclusive removal device with regard to judges.⁷⁵⁸

Impeachable Offenses

The Convention came to its choice of words describing the grounds for impeachment after much deliberation, but the phrasing derived directly from the English practice. The framers early adopted, on June 2, a provision that the Executive should be removable by impeachment and conviction “of mal-practice or neglect of duty.”⁷⁵⁹ The Committee of Detail reported as grounds “Treason (or) Bribery or Corruption.”⁷⁶⁰ And the Committee of Eleven reduced the phrase to “Treason, or bribery.”⁷⁶¹ On September 8, Mason objected to this limitation, observing that the term did not encompass all the conduct which should be grounds for removal; he therefore proposed to add “or maladministration” following “bribery.” Upon Madison’s objection that “[s]o vague a term will be equivalent to a tenure during pleasure of the Senate,” Mason suggested “other high crimes and misdemeanors,” which was adopted without further recorded debate.⁷⁶² The phrase in the context of impeachments has an ancient English history, first turning up in the impeachment of the Earl of Suffolk in 1388.⁷⁶³

⁷⁵⁸ Briefly, it has been argued that the impeachment clause of Article II is a limitation on the power of Congress to remove judges and that Article III is a limitation on the executive power of removal, but that it is open to Congress to define “good behavior” and establish a mechanism by which judges may be judicially removed. Shartel, *Federal Judges—Appointment, Supervision, and Removal—Some Possibilities Under the Constitution*, 28 Mich. L. Rev. 485, 723, 870 (1930). Proposals to this effect were considered in Congress in the 1930s and 1940s and revived in the late 1960s, stimulating much controversy in scholarly circles. E.g., Kramer & Barron, *The Constitutionality of Removal and Mandatory Retirement Procedures for the Federal Judiciary: The Meaning of “During Good Behavior”*, 35 G.W.L. Rev. 455 (1967); Ziskind, *Judicial Tenure in the American Constitution: English and American Precedents*, 1969 Sup. Ct. Rev. 135; Berger, *Impeachment of Judges and ‘Good Behavior’ Tenure*, 79 Yale L. J. 1475 (1970) Congress did in the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1980, P. L. 96–458, 94 Stat. 2035, 28 U.S.C. § 1 note, 331, 332, 372, 604, provide for judicial council of the circuit disciplinary powers over federal judges, but it specifically denied any removal power. The National Commission, op. cit., n. 755, 17–26, found impeachment to be the exclusive means of removal and recommended against adoption of an alternative. The issue has been obliquely before the Court as a result of a judicial conference action disciplining a district judge, but it was not reached, *Chandler v. Judicial Council*, 382 U.S. 1003 (1966); *id.*, 398 U.S. 74 (1970), except by Justices Black and Douglas in dissent, who argued that impeachment was the exclusive power.

⁷⁵⁹ 1 M. FARRAND, op. cit., n. 4, 88, 90, 230.

⁷⁶⁰ 2 *id.*, 172, 186.

⁷⁶¹ *Id.*, 499.

⁷⁶² *Id.*, 550.

⁷⁶³ 1 T. HOWELL, STATE TRIALS AND PROCEEDINGS FOR HIGH TREASON AND OTHER CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD TO THE PRESENT

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Treason is defined in the Constitution;⁷⁶⁴ bribery is not, but it had a clear common-law meaning and is now well covered by statute.⁷⁶⁵ High crimes and misdemeanors, however, is an undefined and indefinite phrase, which, in England, had comprehended conduct not constituting indictable offenses.⁷⁶⁶ In an unrelated action, the Convention had seemed to understand the term “high misdemeanor” to be quite limited in meaning,⁷⁶⁷ but debate prior to adoption of the phrase⁷⁶⁸ and comments thereafter in the ratifying conventions⁷⁶⁹ were to the effect that the President at least, and all the debate was in terms of the President, should be removable by impeachment for commissions or omissions in office which were not criminally cognizable. And in the First Congress’ “removal” debate, Madison maintained that the wanton removal from office of meritorious officers would be an act of maladministration which would render the President subject to impeachment.⁷⁷⁰ Other comments, especially in the ratifying conventions, tend toward a limitation of the term to criminal, perhaps gross criminal, behavior.⁷⁷¹ While conclusions may be drawn from the conflicting statement, it must always be recognized that a respectable case may be made for either view.

Practice over the years, however, insofar as the Senate deems itself bound by the actions of previous Senates, would appear to limit the grounds of conviction to indictable criminal offenses for all officers, with the possible exception of judges.

The Chase Impeachment.—The issue was early joined as a consequence of the Jefferson Administration’s efforts to rid itself of

TIMES (London: 1809), 90, 91; A. SIMPSON, TREATISE ON FEDERAL IMPEACHMENTS (Philadelphia: 1916), 86.

⁷⁶⁴ Article III, 3.

⁷⁶⁵ The use of a technical term known in the common law would require resort to the common law for its meaning, *United States v. Palmer*, 3 Wheat. (16 U.S.) 610, 630 (1818) (per Chief Justice Marshall); *United States v. Jones*, 26 Fed. Cas. 653, 655 (No. 15,494) (C.C.Pa. 1813) (per Justice Washington), leaving aside the issue of the cognizability of common law crimes in federal courts. See Act of April 30, 1790, §21, 1 Stat. 117.

⁷⁶⁶ Berger, *Impeachment for “High Crimes and Misdemeanors,”* 44 S. Calif. L. Rev. 395, 400–415 (1971).

⁷⁶⁷ The extradition provision reported by the Committee on Detail had provided for the delivering up of persons charged with “Treason, Felony or high Misdemeanors.” 2 M. FARRAND, op. cit., n. 4, 174. But the phrase “high Misdemeanors” was replaced with “other crimes,” “in order to comprehend all proper cases: it being doubtful whether ‘high misdemeanor’ had not a technical meaning too limited.” *Id.*, 443.

⁷⁶⁸ See *id.*, 64–69, 550–551.

⁷⁶⁹ E.g., 3 J. ELLIOT, DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION (Philadelphia: 1836), 341, 498, 500, 528 (Madison); 4 *id.*, 276, 281 (C. C. Pinckney: Rutledge); 3 *id.*, 516 (Corbin); 4 *id.*, 263 (Pendleton). Cf. *The Federalist*, No. 65 (J. Cooke ed., 1961), 439–445 (Hamilton).

⁷⁷⁰ 1 ANNALS OF CONG. 372–373 (1789).

⁷⁷¹ 4 J. ELLIOT, op. cit., n. 769, 126 (Iredell); 2 *id.*, 478 (Wilson).

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some of the Federalist judges who were propagandizing the country through grand jury charges and other means. The theory of extreme latitude was enunciated by Senator Giles of Virginia during the impeachment trial of Justice Chase. “The power of impeachment was given without limitation to the House of Representatives; and the power of trying impeachments was given equally without limitation to the Senate. . . . A trial and removal of a judge upon impeachment need not imply any criminality or corruption in him . . . [but] nothing more than a declaration of Congress to this effect: You hold dangerous opinions, and if you are suffered to carry them into effect you will work the destruction of the nation. We want your offices, for the purpose of giving them to men who will fill them better.”⁷⁷² Chase’s counsel responded that to be impeachable, conduct must constitute an indictable offense.⁷⁷³ Though Chase’s acquittal owed more to the political divisions in the Senate than to the merits of the arguments, it did go far to affix the latter reading to the phrase “high Crimes and Misdemeanors” until the turbulent period following the Civil War.⁷⁷⁴

The Johnson Impeachment.—President Johnson was impeached by the House on the ground that he had violated the “Tenure of Office” Act⁷⁷⁵ by dismissing a Cabinet chief. The theory of the proponents of impeachment was succinctly put by Representative Butler, one of the managers of the impeachment in the Senate trial. “An impeachable high crime or misdemeanor is one in its nature or consequences subversive of some fundamental or essential principle of government or highly prejudicial to the public interest, and this may consist of a violation of the Constitution, of law, of an official oath, or of duty, by an act committed or omitted, or, without violating a positive law, by the abuse of discretionary powers from improper motives or for an improper purpose.”⁷⁷⁶ Former Justice Benjamin Curtis controverted this argument, saying: “My first position is, that when the Constitution speaks of ‘treason, bribery, and other high crimes and misdemeanors,’ it refers to, and includes only, high criminal offences against the United States, made so by some law of the United States existing when the acts

⁷⁷² 1 J. Q. ADAMS, MEMOIRS (Philadelphia: 1874), 322. See also 3 A. HINDS’ PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES (Washington: 1907), 739, 753.

⁷⁷³ *Id.*, 762.

⁷⁷⁴ The full record is S. SMITH & T. LLOYD (eds.), TRIAL OF SAMUEL CHASE, AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES . . . (Washington: 1805). On the political background and the meaning of the trial and acquittal, see Lillich, *The Chase Impeachment*, 4 Amer. J. Legal Hist. 49 (1960).

⁷⁷⁵ Act of March 2, 1867, 14 Stat. 430.

⁷⁷⁶ 1 TRIAL OF ANDREW JOHNSON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES ON IMPEACHMENT (Washington: 1868), 88, 147.

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complained of were done, and I say that this is plainly to be inferred from each and every provision of the Constitution on the subject of impeachment.”⁷⁷⁷ The President’s acquittal by a single vote was no doubt not the result of a choice between the two theories, but the result may be said to have placed a gloss on the impeachment language approximating the theory of the defense.

Later Judicial Impeachments.—With regard to federal judges, however, several successful impeachments in this Century appear to establish that the constitutional requirement of “good behavior” and “high crimes and misdemeanors” may conjoin to allow the removal of judges who have engaged in seriously questionable conduct, although no specific criminal statute may have been violated. Thus, both Judge Archbald and Judge Ritter were convicted on articles of impeachment that charged questionable conduct probably not amounting to indictable offenses.⁷⁷⁸ It is possible that Members of Congress may employ different standards with regard to judges who have life tenure than they do with regard to other officers of the Government who either serve for a term of years or who serve at the pleasure of others who serve for a term of years, but such a differentiation places a substantial burden upon the language of the Constitution.

With regard to the three most recent judicial impeachments, Judges Claiborne and Nixon had previously been convicted of criminal offenses, while Judge Hastings had been acquitted of criminal charges after trial. The impeachment articles charged both the conduct for which he had been indicted and trial conduct. Clearly, he was charged and convicted with criminal offenses, it being a separate question what effect the court acquittal should have.⁷⁷⁹

The Nixon Impeachment.—For the first time in over a hundred years and for only the second time in the Nation’s history, Congress moved to impeach the President of the United States, a move forestalled only by the resignation of President Nixon on August 9, 1974. In the course of the proceedings, there recurred strenuous argument with regard to the nature of an impeachable offense, whether only criminally-indictable actions qualify for that status or whether the definition is broader, and, of course, no resolution was reached.⁷⁸⁰

⁷⁷⁷ *Id.*, 409.

⁷⁷⁸ ten Broek, *Partisan Politics and Federal Judgeship Impeachments Since 1903*, 23 *Minn. L. Rev.* 185 (1939).

⁷⁷⁹ Grimes, *Hundred-Ton-Gun Control: Preserving Impeachment as the Exclusive Removal Mechanism for Federal Judges*, 38 *UCLA L. Rev.* 1209, 1229–1233 (1991).

⁷⁸⁰ Analyses of the issue from different points of view are contained in Impeachment Inquiry Staff, House Judiciary Committee, *Constitutional Grounds for Presi-*

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A second issue arose that apparently had not been considered before: whether persons subject to impeachment could be indicted and tried prior to impeachment and conviction or whether indictment could only follow the removal from office. In fact, the argument was really directed only to the status of the President, inasmuch as it was argued that he embodied the Executive Branch itself, while lesser executive officials and judges were not of that calibre.⁷⁸¹ That issue similarly remained unsettled, the Supreme Court declining to provide some guidance in the course of deciding a case on executive privilege.⁷⁸²

Judicial Review of Impeachments.—It was long assumed that no judicial review of the impeachment process was possible, that impeachment presents a true “political question” case. That assumption was not contested until very recently, when Judges Nixon and Hastings challenged their Senate convictions.⁷⁸³ But

dential Impeachments, 93d Congress, 2d sess. (1974) (Comm. Print); J. St. Clair, et al., Legal Staff of the President, *Analysis of the Constitutional Standard for Presidential Impeachment* (Washington: 1974); Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice, *Legal Aspects of Impeachment: An Overview, and Appendix I* (Washington: 1974). And see R. BERGER, *IMPEACHMENT: THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS* (Cambridge: 1973), which preceded the instant controversy. The House Judiciary Committee recommended three articles of impeachment, for conduct at least one of which, refusal to honor the Committee’s subpoenas, was not an indictable offense, and a second that mixed indictable and nonindictable offenses. *Impeachment of Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States*, H. Rept. No. 93–1305, 93d Cong., 2d sess. (1974). Mr. Nixon’s resignation of course precluded further action on the issue, although the articles were submitted to and “accepted” by the House of Representatives. 120 CONG. REC. 29219–29362 (1974).

⁷⁸¹ The question first arose during the grand jury investigation of former Vice President Agnew, during which the United States, through the Solicitor General, argued that the Vice President and all civil officers were not immune from the judicial process and that removal need not precede indictment, but as to the President it was argued that for a number of constitutional and practical reasons the President was not subject to the ordinary criminal process. *Memorandum for the United States*, Application of Spiro T. Agnew, Civil No. 73–965 (D.Md., filed October 5, 1973). Courts have specifically held that a federal judge is indictable and may be convicted prior to removal from office. *United States v. Claiborne*, 727 F.2d 842, 847–848 (9th Cir.), *cert. den.*, 469 U.S. 829 (1984); *United States v. Hastings*, 681 F.2d 706, 710–711 (11th Cir.), *cert. den.*, 459 U.S. 1203 (1983); *United States v. Isaacs*, 493 F.2d 1124, 1142 (7th Cir.), *cert. den. sub nom.*, *Kerner v. United States*, 417 U.S. 976 (1974).

⁷⁸² The grand jury had named the President as an unindicted coconspirator in the case of *United States v. Mitchell, et al.*, No. 74–110 (D.D.C.), apparently in the belief that he was not actually indictable while in office. The Supreme Court agreed to hear the President’s claim that the grand jury acted outside its authority, but finding that resolution of the issue was unnecessary to decision of the executive privilege claim it dismissed the petition for *certiorari* of the President as improvidently granted. *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683, 687 n. 2 (1974).

⁷⁸³ Both sought to challenge the use under Rule XI of a trial committee to hear the evidence and report to the full Senate, which would then carry out the trial. The rule was adopted in the aftermath of an embarrassingly sparse attendance at the trial of Judge Louderback in 1935. NATIONAL COMM. REPORT, *op. cit.*, n. 755, 50–53, 54–57; Grimes, *op. cit.*, n. 779, 1233–1237.

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federal courts, setting the stage for Supreme Court consideration, held the challenges to be nonjusticiable, that the Constitution's conferral on the Senate of the "sole" power to try impeachments demonstrated a textually demonstrable constitutional commitment of trial procedures to the Senate to decide without court review.⁷⁸⁴

⁷⁸⁴Nixon v. United States, 744 F.Supp. 9 (D.D.C. 1990), *affd.* 938 F.2d 239 (D.C.Cir. 1991), *cert. granted*, 112 S.Ct. 1158 (1992). However, in *Hastings v. United States*, 802 F.Supp. 490 (D.D.C. 1992), the court did reach the merits and held that at least in the instance of Judge Hastings, who had been acquitted in court of the criminal charges for the conduct relied on by the Senate, he was entitled to a trial before the full Senate without the interposition of the trial committee.

ARTICLE III

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

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JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1. The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

ORGANIZATION OF COURTS, TENURE, AND COMPENSATION OF JUDGES

The Constitution is almost completely silent concerning the organization of the federal judiciary. “That there should be a national judiciary was readily accepted by all.”¹ But whether it was to consist of one high court at the apex of a federal judicial system or a high court exercising appellate jurisdiction over state courts that would initially hear all but a minor fraction of cases raising national issues was a matter of considerable controversy.² The Virginia Plan provided for a “National judiciary [to] be established to consist of one or more supreme tribunals, and of inferior tribunals to be chosen by the National Legislature. . . .”³ In the Committee of the Whole, the proposition “that a national judiciary be established” was unanimously adopted,⁴ but the clause “to consist of One supreme tribunal, and of one or more inferior tribunals”⁵ was first agreed to, then reconsidered, and the provision for inferior tribunals stricken out, it being argued that state courts could adequately adjudicate all necessary matters while the supreme tribunal would protect the national interest and assure uniformity.⁶

¹M. FARRAND, *THE FRAMING OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES* (New Haven: 1913), 79.

²The most complete account of the Convention’s consideration of the judiciary is J. GOEBEL, *ANTECEDENTS AND BEGINNINGS TO 1801, HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES*, Vol. 1 (New York: 1971), ch. 5.

³1 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 1, 21–22. That this version might not possibly be an accurate copy, see 3 *id.*, 593–594.

⁴1 *id.*, 95, 104.

⁵*Id.*, 95, 105. The words “One or more” were deleted the following day without recorded debate. *Id.*, 116, 119.

⁶*Id.*, 124–125.

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Wilson and Madison thereupon moved to authorize Congress “to appoint inferior tribunals,”⁷ which carried the implication that Congress could in its discretion either designate the state courts to hear federal cases or create federal courts. The word “appoint” was adopted and over the course of the Convention changed into phrasing that suggests something of an obligation on Congress to establish inferior federal courts.⁸ The “good behavior” clause excited no controversy,⁹ while the only substantial dispute with regard to denying Congress the power to intimidate judges through actual or threatened reduction of salaries came on Madison’s motion to bar increases as well as decreases.¹⁰

One Supreme Court

The Convention left up to Congress decision on the size and composition of the Supreme Court, the time and place for sitting, its internal organization, save for the reference to the Chief Justice in the impeachment provision,¹¹ and other matters. These details Congress filled up in the Judiciary Act of 1789, one of the seminal statutes of the United States.¹² By the Act, the Court was made to consist of a Chief Justice and five Associate Justices.¹³ The number was gradually increased until it reached a total of ten under the act of March 3, 1863.¹⁴ As one of the Reconstruction Congress’ restrictions on President Andrew Johnson, the number

⁷ Madison’s notes use the word “institute” in place of “appoint”, *id.*, 125, but the latter appears in the Convention Journal, *id.*, 118, and in Yates’ notes, *id.*, 127, and when the Convention took up the draft reported by the Committee of the Whole “appoint” is used even in Madison’s notes. 2 *id.*, 38, 45.

⁸ On offering their motion, Wilson and Madison “observed that there was a distinction between establishing such tribunals absolutely, and giving a discretion to the Legislature to establish or not establish them.” 1 *id.*, 125. The Committee on Detail provided for the vesting of judicial power in one Supreme Court “and in such inferior Courts as shall, when necessary, from time to time, be constituted by the legislature of the United States.” 2 *id.*, 186. Its draft also authorized Congress “[t]o constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court.” *Id.*, 182. No debate is recorded when the Convention approved these two clauses, *Id.* 315, 422–423, 428–430. The Committee on Style left the clause empowering Congress to “constitute” inferior tribunals as was, but it deleted “as shall, when necessary” from the Judiciary article, so that the judicial power was vested “in such inferior courts as Congress may from time to time”—and here deleted “constitute” and substituted the more forceful—“ordain and establish.” *Id.*, 600.

⁹ The provision was in the Virginia Plan and was approved throughout, 1 *id.*, 21.

¹⁰ *Id.*, 121; 2 *id.*, 44–45, 429–430.

¹¹ Article I, § 3.

¹² Act of September 24, 1789, 1 Stat. 73. The authoritative works on the Act and its working and amendments are F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, *THE BUSINESS OF THE SUPREME COURT* (New York: 1928); Warren, *New Light on the History of the Federal Judicial Act of 1789*, 37 Harv. L. Rev. 49 (1923); see also J. GOEBEL, *op. cit.*, n. 2, ch. 11.

¹³ Act of September 24, 1789, 1 Stat. 73, § 1.

¹⁴ 12 Stat. 794, § 1.

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was reduced to seven as vacancies should occur.¹⁵ The number actually never fell below eight before the end of Johnson's term, and Congress thereupon made the number nine.¹⁶

Proposals have been made at various times for an organization of the Court into sections or divisions. No authoritative judicial expression is available, although Chief Justice Hughes in a letter to Senator Wheeler in 1937 expressed doubts concerning the validity of such a device and stated that "the Constitution does not appear to authorize two or more Supreme Courts functioning in effect as separate courts."¹⁷

Congress has also determined the time and place of sessions of the Court. It utilized this power once in 1801 to change its terms so that for fourteen months the Court did not convene, so as to forestall a constitutional attack on the repeal of the Judiciary Act of 1801.¹⁸

Inferior Courts

Congress also acted in the Judiciary Act of 1789 to create inferior courts. Thirteen district courts were constituted to have four sessions annually,¹⁹ and three circuit courts were established to consist jointly of two Supreme Court justices each and one of the district judges of such districts which were to meet twice annually in the various districts comprising the circuit.²⁰ This system had substantial faults in operation, not the least of which was the burden imposed on the Justices who were required to travel thousands of miles each year under bad conditions.²¹ Despite numerous ef-

¹⁵ Act of July 23, 1866, 14 Stat. 209, § 1.

¹⁶ Act of April 10, 1869, 16 Stat. 44.

¹⁷ Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee on S. 1392, *Reorganization of the Judiciary*, 75th Congress, 1st sess. (1937), pt. 3, 491. For earlier proposals to have the Court sit in divisions, see F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, op. cit., n. 12, 74-85.

¹⁸ 1 C. WARREN, *THE SUPREME COURT IN UNITED STATES HISTORY* (Boston: rev. ed. 1926), 222-224.

¹⁹ Act of September 24, 1789, 1 Stat. 73, §§ 2-3.

²⁰ Id., 74, §§ 4-5.

²¹ Cf. F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, op. cit., n. 12, chs. 1-3; J. GOEBEL, op. cit., n. 2, 554-560, 565-569. Upon receipt of a letter from President Washington soliciting suggestions regarding the judicial system, *WRITINGS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON*, J. Fitzpatrick ed., (Washington: 1943), 31, Chief Justice Jay prepared a letter for the approval of the other Justices, declining to comment on the policy questions but raising several issues of constitutionality, that the same man should not be appointed to two offices, that the offices were incompatible, and that the act invaded the prerogatives of the President and Senate. 2 G. MCREE, *LIFE AND CORRESPONDENCE OF JAMES IREDELL* (New York: 1858), 293-296. The letter was apparently never forwarded to the President. *WRITINGS OF WASHINGTON*, op. cit., 31-32 n. 58. When the constitutional issue was raised in *Stuart v. Laird*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 299, 309 (1803), it was passed over with the observation that the practice was too established to be questioned.

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forts to change this system, it persisted, except for one brief period, until 1891.²² Since then, the federal judicial system has consisted of district courts with original jurisdiction, intermediate appellate courts, and the Supreme Court.

Abolition of Courts.—That Congress “may from time to time ordain and establish” inferior courts would seem to imply that the system may be reoriented from time to time and that Congress is not restricted to the *status quo* but may expand and contract the units of the system; but if the judges are to have life tenure what is to be done with them when the system is contracted? Unfortunately, the first exercise of the power occurred in a highly politicized situation, and no definite answer emerged. By the Judiciary Act of February 13, 1801,²³ passed in the closing weeks of the Adams Administration, the districts were reorganized, and six circuit courts consisting of three circuit judges each were created. Adams filled the positions with deserving Federalists, and upon coming to power the Jeffersonians set in motion plans to repeal the Act, which were carried out.²⁴ No provision was made for the displaced judges, apparently under the theory that if there were no courts there could be no judges to sit on them.²⁵ The validity of the repeal was questioned in *Stuart v. Laird*,²⁶ where Justice Paterson scarcely noticed the argument in rejecting it.

Not until 1913 did Congress again utilize its power to abolish a federal court, this time the unfortunate Commerce Court, which had disappointed the expectations of most of its friends.²⁷ But this time Congress provided for the redistribution of the Commerce Court judges among the circuit courts as well as a transfer of its jurisdiction to the district courts.

Compensation

Diminution of Salaries.—“The Compensation Clause has its roots in the longstanding Anglo-American tradition of an independent Judiciary. A Judiciary free from control by the Executive and the Legislature is essential if there is a right to have claims de-

²² Act of March 3, 1891, 26 Stat. 826. The temporary relief came in the Act of February 13, 1801, 2 Stat. 89, which was repealed by the Act of March 8, 1802, 2 Stat. 132.

²³ Act of February 13, 1801, 2 Stat. 89.

²⁴ Act of March 8, 1802, 2 Stat. 132. F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, *op. cit.*, n. 12, 25–32; 1 C. WARREN, *op. cit.*, n. 18, 185–215.

²⁵ This was the theory of John Taylor of Caroline, upon whom the Jeffersonians in Congress relied. W. CARPENTER, *JUDICIAL TENURE IN THE UNITED STATES* (New Haven: 1918), 63–64. The controversy is recounted fully in *id.*, 58–78.

²⁶ 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 299 (1803).

²⁷ The Court was created by the Act of June 18, 1910, 36 Stat. 539, and repealed by the Act of October 22, 1913, 38 Stat. 208, 219. See F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, *op. cit.*, n. 12, 153–174; W. CARPENTER, *op. cit.*, n. 25, 78–94.

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cided by judges who are free from potential domination by other branches of government.”²⁸ Thus, once a salary figure has gone into effect, Congress may not reduce it nor rescind any part of an increase, although prior to the time of its effectiveness Congress may repeal a promised increase. This decision was rendered in the context of a statutory salary plan for all federal officers and employees under which increases went automatically into effect on a specified date. Four years running, Congress interdicted the pay increases, but in two instances the increases had become effective, raising the barrier of this clause.²⁹

Also implicating this clause was a Depression-era appropriations act reducing “the salaries and retired pay of all judges (except judges whose compensation may not, under the Constitution, be diminished during their continuance in office),” by a fixed amount. While this provision presented no questions of its own constitutionality, it did require an interpretation of which judges the clause applied to in order to prevent the reductions. Judges in the District of Columbia were held protected by Article III,³⁰ while, on the other hand, salaries of the judges of the Court of Claims, that being a legislative court, were held subject to the reduction.³¹

In *Evans v. Gore*,³² the Court invalidated the application of the income tax law to a federal judge, over the strong dissent of Justice Holmes, who was joined by Justice Brandeis. This ruling was extended, in *Miles v. Graham*,³³ to exempt the salary of a judge of the Court of Claims appointed subsequent to the enactment of the taxing act. *Evans v. Gore* was disapproved, and *Miles v. Graham* was in effect overruled in *O'Malley v. Woodrough*,³⁴ where the Court upheld section 22 of the Revenue Act of 1932, which extended the application of the income tax to salaries of judges taking office after June 6, 1932. Such a tax was regarded neither as an unconstitutional diminution of the compensation of

²⁸United States v. Will, 449 U.S. 200, 217–218 (1980). Hamilton, writing in THE FEDERALIST, No. 79 (J. Cooke ed., 1961), 531, emphasized that “[i]n the general course of human nature, a power over a man’s subsistence amounts to a power over his will.”

²⁹United States v. Will, 449 U.S. 200, 224–230 (1980). In one year, the increase took effect of October 1, while the President signed the bill reducing the amount during the day of October 1. The Court held the increase had gone into effect by the time the reduction was signed. *Will* is also authority for the proposition that a general, nondiscriminatory reduction, affecting judges but not aimed solely at them, is covered by the clause. *Id.*, 226.

³⁰O’Donoghue v. United States, 289 U.S. 516 (1933).

³¹Williams v. United States, 289 U.S. 553 (1933). But see *Glidden Company v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530 (1962).

³²253 U.S. 245 (1920).

³³268 U.S. 501 (1925).

³⁴307 U.S. 277 (1939).

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judges nor as an encroachment on the independence of the judiciary.³⁵ To subject judges who take office after a stipulated date to a nondiscriminatory tax laid generally on an income, said the Court “is merely to recognize that judges are also citizens, and that their particular function in government does not generate an immunity from sharing with their fellow citizens the material burden of the government whose Constitution and laws they are charged with administering.”³⁶

Courts of Specialized Jurisdiction

By virtue of its power “to ordain and establish” courts, Congress has occasionally created courts under Article III to exercise a specialized jurisdiction. These tribunals are like other Article III courts in that they exercise “the judicial power of the United States,” and only that power, that their judges must be appointed by the President and the Senate and must hold office during good behavior subject to removal by impeachment only, and that the compensation of their judges cannot be diminished during their continuance in office. One example of such courts was the Commerce Court created by the Mann-Elkins Act of 1910,³⁷ which was given exclusive jurisdiction of all cases to enforce orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission except those involving money penalties and criminal punishment, of cases brought to enjoin, annul, or set aside orders of the Commission, of cases brought under the act of 1903 to prevent unjust discriminations, and of all mandamus proceedings authorized by the act of 1903. This court actually functioned for less than three years, being abolished in 1913, as was mentioned above.

Another court of specialized jurisdiction, but created for a limited time only, was the Emergency Court of Appeals organized by the Emergency Price Control Act of January 30, 1942.³⁸ By the terms of the statute, this court consisted of three or more judges designated by the Chief Justice from the judges of the United States district courts and circuit courts of appeal. The Court was vested with jurisdiction and powers of a district court to hear appeals filed within thirty days against denials of protests by the Price Administrator and with exclusive jurisdiction to set aside regulations, orders, or price schedules, in whole or in part, or to remand the proceeding, but the court was tightly constrained in its treatment of regulations. There was interplay with the district

³⁵ *Id.*, 278–282.

³⁶ *Id.*, 282.

³⁷ 36 Stat. 539.

³⁸ 56 Stat. 23, §§31–33.

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courts, which were charged with authority to enforce orders issued under the Act, although only the Emergency Court had jurisdiction to determine the validity of such orders.³⁹

Other specialized courts are the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which is in many respects like the geographic circuits. Created in 1982,⁴⁰ this court has exclusive jurisdiction to hear appeals from the United States Court of Federal Claims, from the Federal Merit System Protection Board, the Court of International Trade, the Patent Office in patent and trademark cases, and in various contract and tort cases. The Court of International Trade, which began life as the Board of General Appraisers, became the United States Customs Court in 1926, and was declared an Article III court in 1956, came to its present form and name in 1980.⁴¹ The Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, staffed by federal judges from other courts, is authorized to transfer actions pending in different districts to a single district for trial.⁴²

To facilitate the gathering of foreign intelligence information, through electronic surveillance, search and seizure, as well as other means, Congress authorized in 1978 a special court, composed of seven regular federal judges appointed by the Chief Justice, to receive applications from the United States and to issue warrants for intelligence activities.⁴³

Even greater specialization is provided by the special court created by the Ethics in Government Act;⁴⁴ the court is charged, upon

³⁹In *Lockerty v. Phillips*, 319 U.S. 182 (1943), the limitations on the use of injunctions, except the prohibition against interlocutory decrees, was unanimously sustained.

A similar court was created to be utilized in the enforcement of the economic controls imposed by President Nixon in 1971. P.L. 92-210, 85 Stat. 743, 211(b). Although controls ended in 1974, see 12 U.S.C. §1904 note, Congress continued the Temporary Emergency Court of Appeals and gave it new jurisdiction. Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act of 1973, P.L. 93-159, 87 Stat. 633, 15 U.S.C. §754, incorporating judicial review provisions of the Economic Stabilization Act. The Court was abolished, effective March 29, 1993, by P. L. 102-572, 106 Stat. 4506.

Another similar specialized court was created by §209 of the Regional Rail Reorganization Act, P. L. 93-226, 87 Stat. 999, 45 U.S.C. §719, to review the final system plan under the Act. *Regional Rail Reorganization Act Cases*(*Blanchette v. Connecticut Gen. Ins. Corp.*), 419 U.S. 102 (1974).

⁴⁰By the Federal Courts Improvement Act of 1982, P. L. 97-164, 96 Stat. 37, 28 U.S.C. §1295. Among other things, this Court assumed the appellate jurisdiction of the Court of Claims and the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals.

⁴¹Act of Oct. 10, 1980, 94 Stat. 1727.

⁴²28 U.S.C. §1407.

⁴³P. L. 95-511, 92 Stat. 1788, 50 U.S.C. §1803.

⁴⁴*Ethics in Government Act*, Title VI, P. L. 95-521, 92 Stat. 1867, as amended, 28 U.S.C. §§591-599. The court is a "Special Division" of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; composed of three regular federal judges, only one of whom may be from the D. C. Circuit, who are designated by the Chief Justice. 28 U.S. C. §49. The constitutionality of the Special Division was upheld in *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 670-685 (1988).

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the request of the Attorney General, with appointing an independent counsel to investigate and prosecute charges of illegality in the Executive Branch. The court also has certain supervisory powers over the independent counsel.

Legislative Courts: The Canter Case

Legislative courts, so-called because they are created by Congress in pursuance of its general legislative powers, have comprised a significant part of the federal judiciary.⁴⁵ The distinction between constitutional courts and legislative courts was first made in *American Ins. Co. v. Canter*,⁴⁶ which involved the question of the admiralty jurisdiction of the territorial court of Florida, the judges of which were limited to a four-year term in office. Said Chief Justice Marshall for the Court: “These courts, then, are not constitutional courts, in which the judicial power conferred by the Constitution on the general government, can be deposited. They are incapable of receiving it. They are legislative courts, created in virtue of the general right of sovereignty which exists in the government, or in virtue of that clause which enables Congress to make all needful rules and regulations, respecting the territory belonging to the United States. The jurisdiction with which they are invested, is not a part of that judicial power which is defined in the 3rd article of the Constitution, but is conferred by Congress, in the execution of those general powers which that body possesses over the territories of the United States.”⁴⁷ The Court went on to hold that admiralty jurisdiction can be exercised in the States only in those courts which are established in pursuance of Article III but that the same limitation does not apply to the territorial courts, for in legislating for them “Congress exercises the combined powers of the general, and of a state government.”⁴⁸

Canter postulated a simple proposition: “Constitutional courts exercise the judicial power described in Art. III of the Constitution; legislative courts do not and cannot.”⁴⁹ A two-fold difficulty at-

⁴⁵In *Freytag v. CIR*, 501 U.S. 868 (1991), a controverted decision held Article I courts to be “Courts of Law” for purposes of the appointments clause. Art. II, §2, cl. 2. See *id.*, 888–892 (majority opinion), and 901–914 (Justice Scalia dissenting).

⁴⁶1 Pet. (26 U.S.) 511 (1828).

⁴⁷*Id.*, 546.

⁴⁸In *Glidden Co. v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530, 544–545 (1962), Justice Harlan asserted that Chief Justice Marshall in the *Canter* case “did not mean to imply that the case heard by the Key West court was not one of admiralty jurisdiction otherwise properly justiciable in a Federal District Court sitting in one of the States. . . . All the Chief Justice meant . . . is that in the territories cases and controversies falling within the enumeration of Article III may be heard and decided in courts constituted without regard to the limitations of that article. . . .”

⁴⁹*Northern Pipeline Const. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 106 (1982) (Justice White dissenting).

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tended this proposition, however. Admiralty jurisdiction is included within the “judicial power of the United States” specifically in Article III, requiring an explanation how this territorial court could receive and exercise it. Second, if territorial courts could not exercise Article III power, how might their decisions be subjected to appellate review in the Supreme Court, or indeed in other Article III courts, which could exercise only Article III judicial power?⁵⁰ Moreover, if in fact some “judicial power” may be devolved upon courts not having the constitutional security of tenure and salary, what prevents Congress from undermining those values intended to be protected by Article III’s guarantees by giving jurisdiction to nonprotected entities that, being subjected to influence, would be bent to the popular will?

Attempts to explain or to rationalize the predicament or to provide a principled limiting point have from *Canter* to the present resulted in “frequently arcane distinctions and confusing precedents” spelled out in cases comprising “landmarks on a judicial ‘darkling plain’ where ignorant armies have clashed by night”.⁵¹ Nonetheless, Article I courts are quite usual entities in our judicial system.⁵²

Power of Congress Over Legislative Courts.—In creating legislative courts, Congress is not limited by the restrictions imposed in Article III concerning tenure during good behavior and the prohibition against diminution of salaries. Congress may limit tenure to a term of years, as it has done in acts creating territorial courts and the Tax Court, and it may subject the judges of legislative courts to removal by the President,⁵³ or it may reduce their

⁵⁰That the Supreme Court could review the judgments of territorial courts was established in *Durousseau v. United States*, 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 307 (1810). See also *Benner v. Porter*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 235, 243 (1850); *Clinton v. Englebrecht*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 434 (1872); *Balzac v. Porto Rico*, 258 U.S. 298, 312–313 (1922).

⁵¹*Northern Pipeline Const. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 90, 91 (1982) (Justice Rehnquist concurring). The “darkling plain” language is his attribution to Justice White’s historical summary.

⁵²In addition to the local courts of the District of Columbia, the bankruptcy courts, and the U. S. Court of Federal Claims, considered *infra*, these include the United States Tax Court, formerly an independent agency in the Treasury Department, but by the Tax Reform Act of 1969, §951, 83 Stat. 730, 26 U.S.C. §7441, made an Article I court of record, the Court of Veterans Appeals, Act of Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4105, 38 U.S.C. §4051, and the courts of the territories of the United States. Magistrate judges are adjuncts of the District Courts, see *infra*, n. 105, and perform a large number of functions, usually requiring the consent of the litigants. See *Gomez v. United States*, 490 U.S. 858 (1989); *Peretz v. United States*, 501 U.S. 923 (1991). The U. S. Court of Military Appeals, strictly speaking, is not part of the judiciary but is a military tribunal, 10 U.S.C. §867, although Congress designated it an Article I tribunal and has recently given the Supreme Court *certiorari* jurisdiction over its decisions.

⁵³*McAllister v. United States*, 141 U.S. 174 (1891).

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salaries during their terms.⁵⁴ Similarly, it follows that Congress can vest in legislative courts nonjudicial functions of a legislative or advisory nature and deprive their judgments of finality. Thus, in *Gordon v. United States*,⁵⁵ there was no objection to the power of the Secretary of the Treasury and Congress to revise or suspend the early judgments of the Court of Claims. Likewise, in *United States v. Ferreira*,⁵⁶ the Court sustained the act conferring powers on the Florida territorial court to examine claims rising under the Spanish treaty and to report its decisions and the evidence on which they were based to the Secretary of the Treasury for subsequent action. “A power of this description,” it was said, “may constitutionally be conferred on a Secretary as well as on a commissioner. But [it] is not judicial in either case, in the sense in which judicial power is granted by the Constitution to the courts of the United States.”⁵⁷

Review of Legislative Courts by Supreme Court.—Chief Justice Taney’s view, that would have been expressed in *Gordon*,⁵⁸ that the judgments of legislative courts could never be reviewed by the Supreme Court, was tacitly rejected in *DeGroot v. United States*,⁵⁹ in which the Court took jurisdiction from a final judgment of the Court of Claims. Since the decision in this case, the authority of the Court to exercise appellate jurisdiction over legislative courts has turned not upon the nature or status of such courts but rather upon the nature of the proceeding before the lower court and the finality of its judgment. The Supreme Court will neither review the administrative proceedings of legislative courts nor entertain appeals from the advisory or interlocutory decrees of such a body.⁶⁰ But in proceedings before a legislative court which are judicial in nature, admit of a final judgment, and involve the per-

⁵⁴ *United States v. Fisher*, 109 U.S. 143 (1883); *Williams v. United States*, 289 U.S. 553 (1933).

⁵⁵ 2 Wall. (69 U.S.) 561 (1864).

⁵⁶ 13 How. (54 U.S.) 40 (1852).

⁵⁷ *Id.*, 48.

⁵⁸ The opinion in *Gordon v. United States*, 2 Wall. (69 U.S.) 561 (1864), had originally been prepared by Chief Justice Taney, but following his death and reargument of the case the opinion cited was issued. The Court later directed the publishing of Taney’s original opinion at 117 U.S. 697. See also *United States v. Jones*, 119 U.S. 477, 478 (1886), in which the Court noted that the official report of Chief Justice Chase’s *Gordon* opinion and the Court’s own record showed differences and quoted the record.

⁵⁹ 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 419 (1867). See also *United States v. Jones*, 119 U.S. 477 (1886).

⁶⁰ E.g., *Postum Cereal Co. v. California Fig Nut Co.*, 272 U.S. 693 (1927); *Federal Radio Comm. v. General Elec. Co.*, 281 U.S. 464 (1930); *D. C. Court of Appeals v. Feldman*, 460 U.S. 462 (1983). See *Glidden Co. v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530, 576, 577–579 (1962).

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formance of judicial functions and therefore the exercise of judicial power, the Court may be vested with appellate jurisdiction.⁶¹

The “Public Rights” Distinction.—A major delineation of the distinction between Article I courts and Article III courts was attempted in *Murray’s Lessee v. Hoboken Land & Improvement Co.*⁶² In this case was challenged a summary procedure, without benefit of the courts, for the collection by the United States of moneys claimed to be due from one of its customs collectors. It was objected that the assessment and collection was a judicial act carried out by nonjudicial officers and thus invalid under Article III. Accepting that the acts complained of were judicial, the Court nonetheless sustained the act by distinguishing between any act, “which, from its nature, is the subject of a suit at the common law, or in equity, or admiralty,” which, in other words, is inherently judicial, and other acts which Congress may vest in courts or in other agencies. “[T]here are matters, involving public rights, which may be presented in such form that the judicial power is capable of acting on them, and which are susceptible of judicial determination, but which congress may or may not bring within the cognizance of the courts of the United States, as it may deem proper.”⁶³ The distinction was between those acts which historically had been determined by courts and those which historically had been resolved by executive or legislative acts and comprehended those matters that arose between the government and others. Thus, Article I courts “may be created as special tribunals to examine and determine various matters, arising between the government and others, which from their nature do not require judicial determination and yet are susceptible of it. The mode of determining matters of this class is completely within congressional control.”⁶⁴

Among the matters susceptible of judicial determination, but not requiring it, are claims against the United States,⁶⁵ the disposal of public lands and claims arising therefrom,⁶⁶ questions concerning membership in the Indian tribes,⁶⁷ and questions arising out of the administration of the customs and internal revenue

⁶¹ *Pope v. United States*, 323 U.S. 1, 14 (1944); *D. C. Court of Appeals v. Feldman*, 460 U.S. 462 (1983).

⁶² 18 How. (59 U.S.) 272 (1856).

⁶³ *Id.*, 284.

⁶⁴ *Ex parte Bakelite Corp.*, 279 U.S. 438, 451 (1929).

⁶⁵ *Gordon v. United States*, 117 U.S. 697 (1864); *McElrath v. United States*, 102 U.S. 426 (1880); *Williams v. United States*, 289 U.S. 553 (1933). On the status of the then-existing Court of Claims, see *Glidden Co. v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530 (1962).

⁶⁶ *United States v. Coe*, 155 U.S. 76 (1894) (Court of Private Land Claims).

⁶⁷ *Wallace v. Adams*, 204 U.S. 415 (1907); *Stephens v. Cherokee Nation*, 174 U.S. 445 (1899) (Choctaw and Chickasaw Citizenship Court).

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laws.⁶⁸ Other courts similar to territorial courts, such as consular courts and military courts martial, may be justified on like grounds.⁶⁹

The “public rights” distinction appears today to be a description without a significant distinction. Thus, in *Crowell v. Benson*,⁷⁰ the Court approved an administrative scheme for determination, subject to judicial review, of maritime employee compensation claims, although it acknowledged that the case involved “one of private right, that is, of the liability of one individual to another under the law as defined.”⁷¹ This scheme was permissible, the Court said, because in cases arising out of congressional statutes, an administrative tribunal could make findings of fact and render an initial decision of legal and constitutional questions, as long as there is adequate review in a constitutional court.⁷² The “essential attributes” of decision must remain in an Article III court, but so long as it does, Congress may utilize administrative decisionmakers in those private rights cases that arise in the context of a comprehensive federal statutory scheme.⁷³ That the “public rights” distinction marked a dividing line between those matters that could be assigned to legislative courts and to administrative agencies and those matters “of private right” that could not be was reasserted in *Marathon*, but there was much the Court plurality did not explain.⁷⁴

The Court continued to waver with respect to the importance to decision-making of the public rights/private rights distinction. In

⁶⁸Old Colony Trust Co. v. CIR, 279 U.S. 716 (1929); Ex Parte Bakelite Corp., 279 U.S. 438 (1929).

⁶⁹See *In re Ross*, 140 U.S. 453 (1891) (consular courts in foreign countries). Military courts may, on the other hand, be a separate entity of the military having no connection to Article III. *Dynes v. Hoover*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 65, 79 (1857).

⁷⁰285 U.S. 22 (1932).

⁷¹*Id.* 51. On the constitutional problems of assignment to an administrative agency, see *Atlas Roofing Co. v. OSHRC*, 430 U.S. 442 (1977); *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*, 301 U.S. 1, 48 (1937).

⁷²*Id.*, 51–65.

⁷³*Id.*, 50, 51, 58–63. Thus, Article III concerns were satisfied by a review of the agency fact finding upon the administrative record. *Id.*, 63–65. The plurality opinion denied the validity of this approach in *Northern Pipeline Constr. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 86 n. 39 (1982), although Justice White in dissent accepted it. *Id.*, 115. The plurality, rather, rationalized *Crowell* and subsequent cases on an analysis seeking to ascertain whether agencies or Article I tribunals were “adjuncts” of Article III courts, that is, whether Article III courts were sufficiently in charge to protect constitutional values. *Id.*, 76–87.

⁷⁴*Northern Pipeline Constr. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 67–70 (1982) (plurality opinion). Thus, Justice Brennan states that at a minimum a matter of public right must arise “between the government and others” but that the presence of the United States as a proper party to the proceeding is a necessary but not sufficient means to distinguish “private rights.” *Id.*, 69 & n. 23. *Crowell v. Benson*, however, remained an embarrassing presence.

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two cases following *Marathon*, it rejected the distinction as “a bright line test,” and instead focused on “substance”—i.e., on the extent to which the particular grant of jurisdiction to an Article I court threatened judicial integrity and separation of powers principles.⁷⁵ Nonetheless, the Court indicated that the distinction may be an appropriate starting point for analysis. Thus, the fact that private rights traditionally at the core of Article III jurisdiction are at stake leads the Court to “searching” inquiry as to whether Congress is encroaching inordinately on judicial functions, while the concern is not so great where “public” rights are involved.⁷⁶

However, in a subsequent case, the distinction was pronounced determinative not only of the issue whether a matter could be referred to a non-Article III tribunal but whether Congress could dispense with civil jury trials.⁷⁷ In so doing, however, the Court vitiated much of the core content of “private” rights as a concept and left resolution of the central issue to a balancing test. That is, “public” rights are, strictly speaking, those in which the cause of action inheres in or lies against the Federal Government in its sovereign capacity, the understanding since *Murray’s Lessee*. However, to accommodate *Crowell v. Benson*, *Atlas Roofing*, and similar cases, seemingly private causes of action between private parties will also be deemed “public” rights, when Congress, acting for a valid legislative purpose pursuant to its Article I powers, fashions a cause of action that is analogous to a common-law claim and so closely integrates it into a public regulatory scheme that it becomes a matter appropriate for agency resolution with limited involvement by the Article III judiciary.⁷⁸ Nonetheless, despite its fixing by Congress as a “core proceeding” suitable for an Article I bankruptcy court adjudication, the Court held the particular cause of ac-

⁷⁵*Thomas v. Union Carbide Agric. Products Co.*, 473 U.S. 568 (1985); *CFTC v. Schor*, 478 U.S. 833 (1986). The cases also abandoned the principle that the Federal Government must be a party for the case to fall into the “public rights” category. *Thomas*, *supra*, 586; and see *id.*, 596–599 (Justice Brennan concurring).

⁷⁶“In essence, the public rights doctrine reflects simply a pragmatic understanding that when Congress selects a quasi-judicial method of resolving matters that ‘could be conclusively determined by the Executive and Legislative Branches,’ the danger of encroaching on the judicial powers is reduced.” *Thomas v. Union Carbide Agric. Products Co.*, 473 U.S. 568, 589 (1985) (quoting *Northern Pipeline*, *supra*, 458 U.S., 68 (plurality opinion)).

⁷⁷*Granfinanciera, S.A. v. Nordberg*, 492 U.S. 33, 51–55 (1989). A seventh Amendment jury-trial case, the decision is critical to the Article III issue as well, because, as the Court makes clear what was implicit before, whether Congress can submit a legal issue to an Article I tribunal and whether it can dispense with a civil jury on that legal issue must be answered by the same analysis. *Id.*, 52–53.

⁷⁸*Id.*, 52–54. The Court reiterated that the Government need not be a party as a prerequisite to a matter being of “public right.” *Id.*, 54. Concurring, Justice Scalia argued that public rights historically were and should remain only those matters to which the Federal Government is a party. *Id.*, 65.

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tion at issue was a private issue as to which the parties were entitled to a civil jury trial (and necessarily which Congress could not commit to an Article I tribunal, save perhaps through the consent of the parties).⁷⁹

Constitutional Status of the Court of Claims and the Courts of Customs and Patent Appeals.—Though the Supreme Court for a long while accepted the Court of Claims as an Article III court,⁸⁰ it later ruled that court to be an Article I court and its judges without constitutional protection of tenure and salary.⁸¹ Then, in the 1950s, Congress statutorily declared that the Court of Claims, the Customs Court, and the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals were Article III courts,⁸² a questionable act under the standards the Court had utilized to determine whether courts were legislative or constitutional.⁸³ But in *Glidden Co. v. Zdanok*,⁸⁴ five of seven participating Justices united to find that indeed the Court of Claims and the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals, at least, were constitutional courts and their judges eligible to participate in judicial business in other constitutional courts. Three Justices would have overruled *Bakelite* and *Williams* and would have held that the courts in question were constitutional courts.⁸⁵ Whether a court is an Article III tribunal depends largely upon whether legislation establishing it is in harmony with the limitations of that Article, specifically, “whether . . . its business is the federal business there specified and its judges and judgments are allowed the independence there expressly or impliedly made requisite.” When

⁷⁹Id., 55–64. The Court reserved the question whether, a jury trial being required, a non-Article III bankruptcy judge could oversee such a jury trial. Id., 64. That question remains unresolved, both as a matter, first, of whether there is statutory authorization for bankruptcy judges to conduct jury trials, and, second, if there is, whether they may constitutionally do so. E.g., *In re Ben Cooper, Inc.*, 896 F.2d 1394 (2d Cir. 1990), cert. granted, 497 U.S. 1023, vacated and remanded for consideration of a jurisdictional issue, 498 U.S. 964 (1990), reinstated, 924 F.2d 36 (2d Cir.), cert. den., 500 U.S. 928 (1991); *In re Grabill Corp.*, 967 F.2d 1152 (7th Cir. 1991), pet. for reh. en banc den., 976 F.2d 1126 (7th Cir. 1992).

⁸⁰*De Groot v. United States*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 419 (1866); *United States v. Union Pacific Co.*, 98 U.S. 569, 603 (1878); *Miles v. Graham*, 268 U.S. 501 (1925).

⁸¹*Williams v. United States*, 289 U.S. 553 (1933); cf. *Ex Parte Bakelite Corp.*, 279 U.S. 438, 450–455 (1929).

⁸²67 Stat. 226, §1, 28 U.S.C. §171 (Court of Claims); 70 Stat. 532, §1, 28 U.S.C. §251 (Customs Court); 72 Stat. 848, §1, 28 U.S.C. §211 (Court of Customs and Patent Appeals).

⁸³In *Ex parte Bakelite Corp.*, 279 U.S. 438, 459 (1929), Justice Van Devanter refused to give any weight to the fact that Congress had bestowed life tenure on the judges of the Court of Customs Appeals because that line of thought “mistakenly assumes that whether a court is of one class or the other depends on the intention of Congress, whereas the true test lies in the power under which the court was created and in the jurisdiction conferred.”

⁸⁴370 U.S. 530 (1962).

⁸⁵*Glidden Co. v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530, 531 (1962) (Justices Harlan, Brennan, and Stewart).

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a court is created “to carry into effect [federal] powers . . . over subject matter . . . and not over localities,” a presumption arises that the status of such a tribunal is constitutional rather than legislative.⁸⁶ The other four Justices expressly declared that *Bakelite* and *Williams* should not be overruled,⁸⁷ but two of them thought the two courts had attained constitutional status by virtue of the clear manifestation of congressional intent expressed in the legislation.⁸⁸ Two Justices maintained that both courts remained legislative tribunals.⁸⁹ While the result is clear, no standard for pronouncing a court legislative rather than constitutional has obtained the adherence of a majority of the Court.⁹⁰

Status of Courts of the District of Columbia.—Through a long course of decisions, the courts of the District of Columbia were regarded as legislative courts upon which Congress could impose nonjudicial functions. In *Butterworth v. United States ex rel. Hoe*,⁹¹ the Court sustained an act of Congress which conferred revisory powers upon the Supreme Court of the District in patent appeals and made its decisions binding only upon the Commissioner of Patents. Similarly, the Court later sustained the authority of Congress to vest revisory powers in the same court over rates fixed by a public utilities commission.⁹² Not long after this, the same rule was applied to the revisory powers of the District Supreme Court over orders of the Federal Radio Commission.⁹³ These rulings were based on the assumption, express or implied, that the courts of the District were legislative courts, created by Congress in pursuance of its plenary power to govern the District of Columbia. In dictum in *Ex parte Bakelite Corp.*,⁹⁴ while reviewing the history and ana-

⁸⁶ *Id.*, 548, 552.

⁸⁷ *Id.*, 585 (Justice Clark and Chief Justice Warren concurring); 589 (Justices Douglas and Black dissenting).

⁸⁸ *Id.*, 585 (Justice Clark and Chief Justice Warren).

⁸⁹ *Id.*, 589 (Justices Douglas and Black). The concurrence thought that the rationale of *Bakelite* and *Williams* was based on a significant advisory and reference business of the two courts, which the two Justices now thought insignificant, but what there was of it they thought nonjudicial and the courts should not entertain it. Justice Harlan left that question open. *Id.*, 583.

⁹⁰ Aside from doctrinal matters, in 1982, Congress created the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, giving it, *inter alia*, the appellate jurisdiction of the Court of Claims and the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals. 96 Stat. 25, title 1, 28 U.S.C. §41. At the same time Congress, created the United States Claims Court, now the United States Court of Federal Claims, as an Article I tribunal, with the trial jurisdiction of the old Court of Claims. 96 Stat. 26, as amended, §902(a)(1), 106 Stat. 4516, 28 U.S.C. §§171–180.

⁹¹ 112 U.S. 50 (1884).

⁹² *Keller v. Potomac Elec. Co.*, 261 U.S. 428 (1923).

⁹³ *Federal Radio Comm. v. General Elec. Co.*, 281 U.S. 464 (1930).

⁹⁴ 279 U.S. 438, 450–455 (1929).

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lyzing the nature of the legislative courts, the Court stated that the courts of the District were legislative courts.

In 1933, nevertheless, the Court, abandoning all previous dicta on the subject, found the courts of the District of Columbia to be constitutional courts exercising judicial power of the United States,⁹⁵ with the result that it assumed the task of reconciling the performance of nonjudicial functions by such courts with the rule that constitutional courts can exercise only the judicial power of the United States. This task was accomplished by the argument that in establishing courts for the District, Congress is performing dual functions in pursuance of two distinct powers, the power to constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court, and its plenary and exclusive power to legislate for the District of Columbia. However, Article III, § 1, limits this latter power with respect to tenure and compensation, but not with regard to vesting legislative and administrative powers in such courts. Subject to the guarantees of personal liberty in the Constitution, “Congress has as much power to vest courts of the District with a variety of jurisdiction and powers as a State legislature has in conferring jurisdiction on its courts.”⁹⁶

In 1970, Congress formally recognized two sets of courts in the District, federal courts, district courts and a Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, created pursuant to Article III, and courts equivalent to state and territorial courts, created pursuant to Article I.⁹⁷ Congress’ action was sustained in *Palmore v. United States*.⁹⁸ When legislating for the District, the Court held, Congress has the power of a local legislature and may, pursuant to Article I, § 8, cl. 17, vest jurisdiction to hear matters of local law and local concerns in courts not having Article III characteristics. The defendant’s claim that he was denied his constitutional right to be tried before an Article III judge was denied on the basis that it was not absolutely necessary that every proceeding in which a charge, claim, or defense based on an act of Congress or a law made under its authority need be conducted in an Article III court. State courts, after all, could hear cases involving federal law as could territorial and military courts. “[T]he requirements of Article III, which are applicable where laws of national applicability and affairs of na-

⁹⁵ *O’Donoghue v. United States*, 289 U.S. 516 (1933).

⁹⁶ *Id.*, 535–546. Chief Justice Hughes in dissent argued that Congress’ power over the District was complete in itself and the power to create courts there did not derive at all from Article III. *Id.*, 551. See the discussion of this point of *O’Donoghue* in *National Mutual Ins. Co. v. Tidewater Transfer Co.*, 337 U.S. 582 (1949). Cf. *Hobson v. Hansen*, 265 F. Supp. 902 (D.C.D.C. 1967) (three-judge court).

⁹⁷ P.L. 91–358, 84 Stat. 475, D.C. Code § 11–101.

⁹⁸ 411 U.S. 389 (1973)

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tional concern are at stake, must in proper circumstances give way to accommodate plenary grants of power to Congress to legislate with respect to specialized areas having particularized needs and warranting distinctive treatment.”⁹⁹

Bankruptcy Courts.—After extended and lengthy debate, Congress in 1978 revised the bankruptcy act and created as an “adjunct” of the district courts a bankruptcy court composed of judges, vested with practically all the judicial power of the United States, serving for 14 year terms, subject to removal for cause by the judicial councils of the circuits, and with salaries subject to statutory change.¹⁰⁰ The bankruptcy courts were given jurisdiction over all civil proceedings arising under the bankruptcy code or arising in or related to bankruptcy cases, with review in Article III courts under a clearly erroneous standard. In a case in which a claim was made against a company for breaches of contract and warranty, purely state law claims, the Court held unconstitutional the conferral upon judges not having the Article III security of tenure and compensation of jurisdiction to hear state law claims of traditional common law actions of the kind existing at the time of the drafting of the Constitution.¹⁰¹ While the holding was extremely narrow, a plurality of the Court sought to rationalize and limit the Court’s jurisprudence of Article I courts. According to the plurality, as a fundamental principle of separation of powers, the judicial power of the United States must be exercised by courts having the attributes prescribed in Article III. Congress may not evade the constitutional order by allocating this judicial power to courts whose judges lack security of tenure and compensation. Only in three narrowly circumscribed instances may judicial power be distributed outside the Article III framework: in territories and the District of Columbia, that is, geographical areas in which no State operated as sovereign and Congress exercised the general powers of government; courts martial, that is, the establishment of courts under a constitutional grant of power historically understood as giving the

⁹⁹ *Id.*, 407–408. See also *Pernell v. Southall Realty Co.*, 416 U.S. 363, 365–365 (1974); *Swain v. Pressley*, 430 U.S. 372 (1977); *Key v. Doyle*, 434 U.S. 59 (1978). Under *Swain*, provision for hearing of motions for postjudgment relief by convicted persons in the District, the present equivalent of *habeas* for federal convicts, is placed in Article I courts. That there are limits to Congress’ discretion is asserted in dictum in *Territory of Guam v. Olsen*, 431 U.S. 195, 201–202, 204 (1977).

¹⁰⁰ Bankruptcy Act of 1978, P.L. 95–598, 92 Stat. 2549, codified in titles 11, 28. The bankruptcy courts were made “adjuncts” of the district courts by §201(a), 28 U.S.C. §151(a). For citation to the debate with respect to Article III versus Article I status for these courts, see *Northern Pipeline Const. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 61 n. 12 (1982) (plurality opinion).

¹⁰¹ The statement of the holding is that of the two concurring Justices, *id.*, 89 (Justices Rehnquist and O’Connor), with which the plurality agreed “at the least,” while desiring to go further. *Id.*, 87 n. 40.

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political branches extraordinary control over the precise subject matter; and the adjudication of “public rights,” that is, the litigation of certain matters that historically were reserved to the political branches of government and that were between the government and the individual.¹⁰² In bankruptcy legislation and litigation not involving any of these exceptions, the plurality would have held, the judicial power to process bankruptcy cases could not be assigned to the tribunals created by the act.¹⁰³

The dissent argued that, while on its face Article III provided for exclusivity in assigning judicial power to Article III entities, the history since *Canter* belied that simplicity. Rather, the precedents clearly indicated that there is no difference in principle between the work that Congress may assign to an Article I court and that which must be given to an Article III court. Despite this, the dissent contended that Congress did not possess plenary discretion in choosing between the two systems; rather, in evaluating whether jurisdiction was properly reposed in an Article I court, the Supreme Court must balance the values of Article III against both the strength of the interest Congress sought to further by its Article I investiture and the extent to which Article III values were undermined by the congressional action. This balancing would afford the Court, the dissent believed, the power to prevent Congress, were it moved to do so, from transferring jurisdiction in order to emasculate the constitutional courts of the United States.¹⁰⁴

Again, no majority could be marshaled behind a principled discussion of the reasons for and the limitation upon the creation of legislative courts, not that a majority opinion, or even a unanimous one, would necessarily presage the settling of the law.¹⁰⁵ But the breadth of the various opinions left unclear not only the degree of discretion left in Congress to restructure the bankruptcy courts, but placed in issue the constitutionality of other legislative efforts

¹⁰² *Id.*, 63–76 (Justice Brennan, joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens).

¹⁰³ The plurality also rejected an alternative basis, a contention that as “adjuncts” of the district courts, the bankruptcy courts were like United States magistrates or like those agencies approved in *Crowell v. Benson*, 285 U.S. 22 (1932), to which could be assigned factfinding functions subject to review in Article III courts, the fount of the administrative agency system. *Northern Pipeline Const. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 76–86 (1982). According to the plurality, the act vested too much judicial power in the bankruptcy courts to treat them like agencies, and it limited the review of Article III courts too much.

¹⁰⁴ *Id.*, 92, 105–113, 113–116 (Justice White, joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justice Powell).

¹⁰⁵ *Ex parte Bakelite Corp.*, 279 U.S. 438 (1929), was, after all, a unanimous opinion and did not long survive.

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to establish adjudicative systems outside a scheme involving the creation of life-tenured judges.¹⁰⁶

Congress responded to *Marathon* by enactment of the Bankruptcy Amendments and Federal Judgeship Act of 1984.¹⁰⁷ Bankruptcy courts were maintained as Article I entities, and overall their powers as courts were not notably diminished. However, Congress did establish a division between “core proceedings,” which bankruptcy courts could hear and determine, subject to lenient review, and other proceedings, which, though the bankruptcy courts could initially hear and decide, any party could have *de novo* review in the district court, unless the parties consented to bankruptcy-court jurisdiction in the same manner as core proceedings. A safety valve was included, permitting the district court to withdraw any proceeding from the bankruptcy court on cause shown.¹⁰⁸ Notice that in *Granfinanciera, S.A. v. Nordberg*,¹⁰⁹ the Court found that a cause of action founded on state law, though denominated a core proceeding, was a private right.

Agency Adjudication.—The Court in two decisions following *Marathon* involving legislative courts clearly suggested that the majority was now closer to the balancing approach of the *Marathon* dissenters than to the position of the *Marathon* plurality that Congress may confer judicial power on legislative courts in only very limited circumstances. Subsequently, however, *Granfinanciera, S.A. v. Nordberg*,¹¹⁰ a reversion to the fundamentality of *Marathon*, with an opinion by the same author, Justice Brennan, cast some doubt on this proposition. In *Thomas v. Union Carbide Agric. Products Co.*,¹¹¹ the Court upheld a provision of the pesticide law requiring binding arbitration, with limited judicial review, of compensation due one registrant by another for mandatory sharing of registration information, the right arising from federal statutory law. And in *CFTC v. Schor*,¹¹² the Court upheld conferral on the agency of authority, in a reparations adjudication under the Act, also to adjudicate “counterclaims” arising out of the same transaction, including those arising under state common law. Neither the fact that the pesticide case involved a dispute between two pri-

¹⁰⁶ In particular, the Federal Magistrates Act of 1968, under which judges may refer certain pretrial motions and the trial of certain matters to persons appointed to a specific term, was threatened. P.L. 90-578, 82 Stat. 1108, as amended, 28 U.S.C. §§631-639. See *United States v. Raddatz*, 447 U.S. 667 (1980); *Mathews v. Weber*, 423 U.S. 261 (1976).

¹⁰⁷ P. L. 98-353, 98 Stat. 333, judiciary provisions at 28 U.S.C. §151 *et seq.*

¹⁰⁸ See 28 U.S.C. §157.

¹⁰⁹ 492 U.S. 33 (1989).

¹¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹¹ 473 U.S. 568 (1985).

¹¹² 478 U.S. 833 (1986).

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vate parties nor the fact that the CFTC was empowered to decide claims traditionally adjudicated under state law proved decisive to the Court's analysis.

In rejecting a “formalistic” approach and analyzing the “substance” of the provision at issue in *Union Carbide*, Justice O'Connor's opinion for the Court pointed to several considerations.¹¹³ The right to compensation was not a purely private right, but “bears many of the characteristics of a ‘public’ right,” since Congress was “authoriz[ing] an agency administering a complex regulatory scheme to allocate costs and benefits among voluntary participants in the program.”¹¹⁴ Also important was not “unduly constrict[ing] Congress in its ability to take needed and innovative action pursuant to its Article I powers;”¹¹⁵ arbitration was “a pragmatic solution to [a] difficult problem.” The limited nature of judicial review was seen as a plus in the sense that “no unwilling defendant is subjected to judicial enforcement power;” on the other hand, availability of limited judicial review of the arbitrator's findings and determination for fraud, misconduct, or misrepresentation, and for due process violations, preserved the “appropriate exercise of the judicial function.”¹¹⁶ Thus, the Court concluded, Congress in exercise of Article I powers “may create a seemingly ‘private’ right that is so closely integrated into a public regulatory scheme as to be a matter appropriate for agency resolution with limited involvement by the Article III judiciary.”¹¹⁷

In *Schor*, the Court described Art. III, §1, as serving a dual purpose: to protect the role of an independent judiciary and to safeguard the right of litigants to have claims decided by judges free from potential domination by the other branches of government. A litigant's Article III right is not absolute, the Court determined, but may be waived. This the litigant had done by submitting to the administrative law judge's jurisdiction rather than independently seeking relief as he was entitled to and then objecting only after adverse rulings on the merits. But the institutional integrity claim, not being personal, could not be waived and the Court reached the merits. The threat to institutional independence was “weighed” by reference to “a number of factors.” The conferral on the CFTC of pendent jurisdiction over common law counterclaims was seen as

¹¹³ Contrast the Court's approach to Article III separation of powers issues with the more rigid approach enunciated in *INS v. Chadha* and *Bowsher v. Synar*, involving congressional incursions on executive power.

¹¹⁴ *Id.*, 473 U.S., 589.

¹¹⁵ CFTC v. *Schor*, *supra*, 478 U.S., 851 (summarizing the *Thomas* rule).

¹¹⁶ *Thomas*, *supra*, 473 U.S., 591, 592 (quoting *Crowell v. Benson*, 285 U.S. 22, 54 (1932)).

¹¹⁷ 473 U.S., 594.

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more narrowly confined than was the grant to bankruptcy courts at issue in *Marathon*, and as more closely resembling the “model” approved in *Crowell v. Benson*. The CFTC’s jurisdiction, unlike that of bankruptcy courts, was said to be confined to “a particularized area of the law;” the agency’s orders were enforceable only by order of a district court,¹¹⁸ and reviewable under a less deferential standard, with legal rulings being subject to *de novo* review; and the agency was not empowered, as had been the bankruptcy courts, to exercise “all ordinary powers of district courts.”

Granfinanciera followed analysis different from that in *Schor*, although it preserved *Union Carbide* through its concept of “public rights.” State law and other legal claims founded on private rights could not be remitted to non-Article III tribunals for adjudication unless Congress in creating an integrated public regulatory scheme has so taken up the right as to transform it. It may not simply relabel a private right and place it into the regulatory scheme. The Court is hazy with respect to whether the right must be itself a creature of federal statutory action. The general descriptive language suggests that, but in its determination whether the right at issue in the case, the recovery of preferential or fraudulent transfers in the context of a bankruptcy proceeding, the Court seemingly goes beyond this point. Though a statutory interest, the actions were identical to state-law contract claims brought by a bankrupt corporation to augment the estate.¹¹⁹ *Schor* was distinguished solely on the waiver part of the decision, relating to the individual interest, without considering the part of the opinion deciding the institutional interest on the merits and utilizing a balancing test.¹²⁰

Thus, while the Court has made some progress in reconciling its growing line of disparate cases, doctrinal harmony has not yet been achieved.

Noncourt Entities in the Judicial Branch

Passing on the constitutionality of the establishment of the Sentencing Commission as an “independent” body in the judicial branch, the Court acknowledged that the Commission is not a court and does not exercise judicial power. Rather, its function is to promulgate binding sentencing guidelines for federal courts. It acts, therefore, legislatively, and its membership of seven is composed of three judges and three nonjudges. But the standard of constitu-

¹¹⁸ Cf. *Union Carbide*, *supra*, 473 U.S., 591 (fact that “FIFRA arbitration scheme incorporates its own system of internal sanctions and relies only tangentially, if at all, on the Judicial Branch for enforcement” cited as lessening danger of encroachment on “Article III judicial powers”).

¹¹⁹ *Granfinanciera*, *supra*, 492 U.S., 51–55, 55–60.

¹²⁰ *Id.*, 59 n. 14.

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tionality, the Court held, is whether the entity exercises powers that are more appropriately performed by another branch or that undermine the integrity of the judiciary. Because the imposition of sentences is a function traditionally exercised within congressionally prescribed limits by federal judges, the Court found the functions of the Commission could be located in the judicial branch. Nor did performance of its functions contribute to a weakening of the judiciary, or an aggrandizement of power either, in any meaningful way, the Court observed.¹²¹

JUDICIAL POWER**Characteristics and Attributes of Judicial Power**

Judicial power is the power “of a court to decide and pronounce a judgment and carry it into effect between persons and parties who bring a case before it for decision.”¹²² It is “the right to determine actual controversies arising between diverse litigants, duly instituted in courts of proper jurisdiction.”¹²³ Although the terms “judicial power” and “jurisdiction” are frequently used interchangeably and jurisdiction is defined as the power to hear and determine the subject matter in controversy between parties to a suit¹²⁴ or as the “power to entertain the suit, consider the merits and render a binding decision thereon,”¹²⁵ the cases and commentary support, indeed require, a distinction between the two concepts. Jurisdiction is the authority of a court to exercise judicial power in a specific case and is, of course, a prerequisite to the exercise of judicial power, which is the totality of powers a court exercises when it assumes jurisdiction and hears and decides a case.¹²⁶ Included within the general power to decide cases are the ancillary powers of courts to punish for contempts of their authority,¹²⁷ to issue writs

¹²¹ *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 384–97 (1989). Clearly, some of the powers vested in the Special Division of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit under the Ethics in Government Act in respect to the independent counsel were administrative, but because the major nonjudicial power, the appointment of the independent counsel, was specifically authorized in the appointments clause, the additional powers were miscellaneous and could be lodged there by Congress. Implicit in the Court’s analysis was the principle that a line exists that Congress could not cross over. *Morrison v. Olson*, 487 U.S. 654, 677–685 (1988).

¹²² Justice SAMUEL MILLER, *ON THE CONSTITUTION* (New York: 1891), 314.

¹²³ *Muskrat v. United States*, 219 U.S. 346, 361 (1911).

¹²⁴ *United States v. Arrendondo*, 6 Pet. (31 U.S.) 691 (1832).

¹²⁵ *General Investment Co. v. New York Central R. Co.*, 271 U.S. 228, 230 (1926).

¹²⁶ *William v. United States*, 289 U.S. 553, 566 (1933); *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S. 414, 467–468 (1944) (Justice Rutledge dissenting).

¹²⁷ *Michaelson v. United States*, 266 U.S. 42 (1924).

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in aid of jurisdiction when authorized by statute,¹²⁸ to make rules governing their process in the absence of statutory authorizations or prohibitions,¹²⁹ to order their own process so as to prevent abuse, oppression, and injustice and to protect their own jurisdiction and officers in the protection of property in custody of law,¹³⁰ to appoint masters in chancery, referees, auditors, and other investigators,¹³¹ and to admit and disbar attorneys.¹³²

“Shall Be Vested.”—The distinction between judicial power and jurisdiction is especially pertinent to the meaning of the words “shall be vested” in § 1. Whereas all the judicial power of the United States is vested in the Supreme Court and the inferior federal courts created by Congress, neither has ever been vested with all the jurisdiction which could be granted and, Justice Story to the contrary,¹³³ the Constitution has not been read to mandate Congress to confer the entire jurisdiction it might.¹³⁴ Thus, except for the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, which flows directly from the Constitution, two prerequisites to jurisdiction must be present: first, the Constitution must have given the courts the capacity to receive it,¹³⁵ and, second, an act of Congress must have conferred it.¹³⁶ The fact that federal courts are of limited jurisdic-

¹²⁸ *McIntire v. Wood*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 504 (1813); *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75 (1807).

¹²⁹ *Wayman v. Southard*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 1 (1825).

¹³⁰ *Gumble v. Pitkin*, 124 U.S. 131 (1888).

¹³¹ *Ex parte Peterson*, 253 U.S. 300 (1920).

¹³² *Ex parte Garland*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333, 378 (1867).

¹³³ *Martin v. Hunter's Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304, 328–331 (1816). See also 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1584–1590.

¹³⁴ See, e.g., *Turner v. Bank of North America*, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 8, 10 (1799) (Justice Chase). A recent, sophisticated attempt to resurrect the core of Justice Story's argument is Amar, *A Neo-Federalist View of Article III: Separating the Two Tiers of Federal Jurisdiction*, 65 B. U. L. Rev. 205 (1985); and see *Symposium: Article III and the Judiciary Act of 1789*, 138 U. Pa. L. Rev. 1499 (1990) (with articles by Amar, Meltzer, and Redish). Briefly, the matter is discussed more fully *infra*. Professor Amar argues, in part, from the text of Article III, § 2, cl. 1, that the use of the word “all” in each of federal question, admiralty, and public ambassador subclauses means that Congress must confer the entire judicial power to cases involving those issues, whereas it has more discretion in the other six categories.

¹³⁵ Which was, of course, the point of *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803), once the power of the Court to hold legislation unconstitutional was established.

¹³⁶ *The Mayor v. Cooper*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 247, 252 (1868); *Cary v. Curtis*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 236 (1845); *Sheldon v. Sill*, 8 How. (49 U.S.) 441 (1850); *United States v. Hudson & Goodwin*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 32, 33 (1812); *Kline v. Burke Construction Co.*, 260 U.S. 226 (1922). It should be noted, however, that some judges have expressed the opinion that Congress' authority is limited to some degree by the Constitution, such as by the due process clause, so that a limitation on jurisdiction which denied a litigant access to any remedy might be unconstitutional. Cf. *Eisentrager v. Forrestal*, 174 F. 2d 961, 965–966 (D.C.Cir. 1949), *revd. on other grounds sub nom.*, *Johnson v. Eisentrager*, 339 U.S. 763 (1950); *Battaglia v. General*

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tion means that litigants in them must affirmatively establish that jurisdiction exists and may not confer nonexistent jurisdiction by consent or conduct.¹³⁷

Finality of Judgment as an Attribute of Judicial Power

Since 1792, the federal courts have emphasized finality of judgment as an essential attribute of judicial power. In that year, Congress authorized Revolutionary War veterans to file pension claims in circuit courts of the United States, directed the judges to certify to the Secretary of War the degree of a claimant's disability and their opinion with regard to the proper percentage of monthly pay to be awarded, and empowered the Secretary to withhold judicially certified claimants from the pension list if he suspected "imposition or mistake."¹³⁸ The Justices then on circuit almost immediately forwarded objections to the President, contending that the statute was unconstitutional because the judicial power was constitutionally committed to a separate department and the duties imposed by the act were not judicial and because the subsection of a court's opinions to revision or control by an officer of the executive or the legislature was not authorized by the Constitution.¹³⁹ Attorney General Randolph, upon the refusal of the circuit courts to act under the new statute, filed a motion for mandamus in the Supreme Court to direct the Circuit Court in Pennsylvania to proceed on a petition filed by one Hayburn seeking a pension. Although the Court heard argument, it put off decision until the next term, presumably because Congress was already acting to delete the objectionable features of the act, and upon enactment of a new law the Court dismissed the action.¹⁴⁰

Motors Corp., 169 F.2d 254, 257 (2d Cir.), *cert. den.*, 335 U.S. 887 (1948); Petersen v. Clark, 285 F. Supp. 700, 703 n. 5 (D.N.D. Calif. 1968); Murray v. Vaughn, 300 F. Supp. 688, 694–695 (D.R.I. 1969). The Supreme Court has had no occasion to consider the question.

¹³⁷ Turner v. Bank of North America, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 8 (1799); Bingham v. Cabot, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 382 (1798); Jackson v. Ashton, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 148 (1834); Mitchell v. Maurer, 293 U.S. 237 (1934).

¹³⁸ Act of March 23, 1792, 1 Stat. 243.

¹³⁹ 1 AMERICAN STATE PAPERS: MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS, LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE, OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES (Washington : 1832), 49, 51, 52. President Washington transmitted the remonstrances to Congress. 1 J. RICHARDSON, (comp.), MESSAGES AND PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS (Washington : 1897), 123, 133. The objections are also appended to the order of the Court in Hayburn's Case, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 409, 410 (1792). Note that some of the Justices declared their willingness to perform under the act as commissioners rather than as judges. Cf. United States v. Ferreira, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 40, 52–53 (1852). The assumption by judges that they could act in some positions as individuals while remaining judges, an assumption many times acted upon, was approved in *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 397–408 (1989).

¹⁴⁰ Hayburn's Case, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 409 (1792). The new pension law was the Act of February 28, 1793, 1 Stat. 324. The reason for the Court's inaction may, on

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Hayburn's Case has been since followed, so that the Court has rejected all efforts to give it and the lower federal courts jurisdiction over cases in which judgment would have been subject to executive or legislative revision.¹⁴¹ Thus, in a 1948 case, the Court held that an order of the Civil Aeronautics Board denying to one citizen air carrier and granting to another a certificate of convenience and necessity for an overseas and foreign air route was not reviewable. Such an order was subject to review and confirmation or revision by the President, and the Court decided it could not review the discretion exercised by him in that situation; the lower court had thought the matter could be handled by permitting presidential review of the order after judicial review, but this the Court rejected. "[I]f the President may completely disregard the judgment of the court, it would be only because it is one the courts were not authorized to render. Judgments within the powers vested in courts by the Judiciary Article of the Constitution may not lawfully be revised, overturned or refused faith and credit by another Department of Government,"¹⁴² More recently, the Court avoided a similar situation by a close construction of a statute.¹⁴³

Award of Execution.—The adherence of the Court to this proposition, however, has not extended to a rigid rule formulated by Chief Justice Taney, given its fullest expression in a posthumously-published opinion.¹⁴⁴ In *Gordon v. United States*,¹⁴⁵ the Court refused to hear an appeal from a decision of the Court of Claims; the act establishing the Court of Claims provided for ap-

the other hand, have been doubt about the proper role of the Attorney General in the matter, an issue raised in the opinion. See Marcus & Teir, *Hayburn's Case: A Misinterpretation of Precedent*, 1988 Wis. L. Rev. 4; Bloch, *The Early Role of the Attorney General in Our Constitutional Scheme: In the Beginning There was Pragmatism*, 1989 Duke L. J. 561, 590-618.

¹⁴¹ See *United States v. Ferreira*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 40 (1852); *Gordon v. United States*, 2 Wall. (69 U.S.) 561 (1865); *In re Sanborn*, 148 U.S. 222 (1893); cf. *McGrath v. Kritensen*, 340 U.S. 162, 167-168 (1950).

¹⁴² *Chicago & S. Air Lines v. Waterman S.S. Corp.*, 333 U.S. 103, 113-114 (1948).

¹⁴³ *Connor v. Johnson*, 402 U.S. 690 (1971). Under §5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C. §1973e, no State may "enact or seek to administer" any change in election law or practice different from that in effect on a particular date without obtaining the approval of the Attorney General or the district court in the District of Columbia, a requirement interpreted to reach reapportionment and redistricting. *Allen v. State Board of Elections*, 393 U.S. 544 (1969); *Perkins v. Matthews*, 400 U.S. 379 (1971). The issue in *Connor* was whether a districting plan drawn up and ordered into effect by a federal district court, after it had rejected a legislatively-drawn plan, must be submitted for approval. Unanimously, on the papers without oral argument, the Court ruled that, despite the statute's inclusive language, it did not apply to court-drawn plans.

¹⁴⁴ The opinion was published in 117 U.S. 697. See *infra*, n. 58, and text. See *United States v. Jones*, 119 U.S. 477 (1886). The Chief Justice's initial effort was in *United States v. Ferreira*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 40 (1852).

¹⁴⁵ 2 Wall. (69 U.S.) 561 (1865).

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peals to the Supreme Court, after which judgments in favor of claimants were to be referred to the Secretary of the Treasury for payments out of the general appropriation for payment of private claims. But the act also provided that no funds should be paid out of the Treasury for any claims “till after an appropriation therefor shall be estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury.”¹⁴⁶ The opinion of the Court merely stated that the implication of power in the executive officer and in Congress to revise all decisions of the Court of Claims requiring payment of money denied that court the judicial power from the exercise of which “alone” appeals could be taken to the Supreme Court.¹⁴⁷

In his posthumously-published opinion, Chief Justice Taney, because the judgment of the Court of Claims and the Supreme Court depended for execution upon future action of the Secretary and of Congress, regarded any such judgment as nothing more than a certificate of opinion and in no sense a judicial judgment. Congress could not therefore authorize appeals to the Supreme Court in a case where its judicial power could not be exercised, where its judgment would not be final and conclusive upon the parties, and where processes of execution were not awarded to carry it into effect. Taney then proceeded to enunciate a rule which was rigorously applied until 1933: the award of execution is a part and an essential part of every judgment passed by a court exercising judicial powers and no decision was a legal judgment without an award of execution.¹⁴⁸ The rule was most significant in barring the lower federal courts from hearing proceedings for declaratory judgments¹⁴⁹ and in denying appellate jurisdiction in the Supreme Court from declaratory proceedings in state courts.¹⁵⁰

¹⁴⁶ Act of February 24, 1855, 10 Stat. 612, as amended, Act of March 3, 1863, 12 Stat. 737.

¹⁴⁷ *Gordon v. United States*, 2 Wall. (69 U.S.) 561 (1865). Following congressional repeal of the objectionable section, Act of March 17, 1866, 14 Stat. 9, the Court accepted appellate jurisdiction. *United States v. Jones*, 119 U.S. 477 (1886); *De Groot v. United States*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 419 (1867). But note that execution of the judgments was still dependent upon congressional appropriations. On the effect of the requirement for appropriations at a time when appropriations had to be made for judgments over \$100,000, see *Glidden Co. v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530, 568–571 (1962). Cf. *Regional Rail Reorganization Act Cases* (*Blanchette v. Connecticut General Ins. Corp.*), 419 U.S. 102, 148–149 & n. 35 (1974).

¹⁴⁸ Published at 117 U.S. 697, 703. Subsequent cases accepted the doctrine that an award of execution as distinguished from finality of judgment was an essential attribute of judicial power. See *In re Sanborn*, 148 U.S. 122, 226, (1893); *ICC v. Brimson*, 154 U.S. 447, 483 (1894); *La Abra Silver Mining Co. v. United States*, 175 U.S. 423, 457 (1899); *Frasch v. Moore*, 211 U.S. 1 (1908); *Muskrat v. United States*, 219 U.S. 346, 355, 361–362 (1911); *Postum Cereal Co. v. California Fig Nut Co.*, 272 U.S. 693 (1927).

¹⁴⁹ *Liberty Warehouse Co. v. Grannis*, 273 U.S. 70 (1927).

¹⁵⁰ *Liberty Warehouse Co. v. Burley Tobacco Growers' Coop. Marketing Assn.*, 276 U.S. 71 (1928).

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But, in 1927, the Court began backing away from its absolute insistence upon an award of execution. Unanimously holding that a declaratory judgment in a state court was *res judicata* in a subsequent proceeding in federal court, the Court admitted that “[w]hile ordinarily a case or judicial controversy results in a judgment requiring award of process of execution to carry it into effect, such relief is not an indispensable adjunct to the exercise of the judicial function.”¹⁵¹ Then, in 1933, the Court interred the award-of-execution rule in its rigid form and accepted an appeal from a state court in a declaratory proceeding.¹⁵² Finality of judgment, however, remains the rule in determination of what is judicial power without regard to the demise of Chief Justice Taney’s formulation.

ANCILLARY POWERS OF FEDERAL COURTS**The Contempt Power**

Categories of Contempt.—Crucial to an understanding of the history of the law governing the courts’ powers of contempt is an awareness of the various kinds of contempt. With a few notable exceptions,¹⁵³ the Court has consistently distinguished between criminal and civil contempts on the basis of the vindication of the authority of the courts on the one hand and the preservation and enforcement of the rights of the parties on the other. A civil contempt has been traditionally viewed as the refusal of a person in a civil case to obey a mandatory order. It is incomplete in nature, may be purged by obedience to the court order, and does not involve a sentence for a definite period of time. The classic criminal contempt is one where the act of contempt has been completed, punishment is imposed to vindicate the authority of the court, and a person cannot by subsequent action purge himself of such contempt.¹⁵⁴ In the case of *Shillitani v. United States*,¹⁵⁵ the defendants were sentenced by their respective District Courts for two years imprisonment for contempt of court; the sentence contained a purge clause providing for the unconditional release of the contemnors upon agreeing to testify before a grand jury.

¹⁵¹ *Fidelity National Bank & Trust Co. v. Swope*, 274 U.S. 123, 132 (1927).

¹⁵² *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Wallace*, 288 U.S. 249 (1933). The decisions in *Swope* and *Wallace* removed all constitutional doubts previously shrouding a proposed federal declaratory judgment act, which was enacted in 1934, 48 Stat. 955, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201–2202, and unanimously sustained in *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Haworth*, 300 U.S. 227 (1937).

¹⁵³ E.g., *United States v. United Mine Workers*, 330 U.S. 258 (1947).

¹⁵⁴ *Gompers v. Bucks Stove & Range Co.*, 221 U.S. 418, 441–443 (1911); *Ex parte Grossman*, 267 U.S. 87 (1925). See also *Bassette v. W. B. Conkey Co.*, 194 U.S. 324, 327–328 (1904).

¹⁵⁵ 384 U.S. 364 (1966).

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Upon appeal, the Supreme Court held that the defendants were in civil contempt, notwithstanding their sentence for a definite period of time, on the grounds that the test for determining whether the contempt is civil or criminal is what the court primarily seeks to accomplish by imposing sentence.¹⁵⁶ Here, the purpose was to obtain answers to the questions for the grand jury and the court provided for the defendants' release upon compliance; whereas, "a criminal contempt proceeding would be characterized by the imposition of an unconditional sentence for punishment or deterrence."¹⁵⁷ The issue of whether a certain contempt is either civil or criminal can be of great importance as demonstrated in the dictum of *Ex parte Grossman*,¹⁵⁸ in which Chief Justice Taft, while holding for the Court on the main issue that the President may pardon a criminal contempt, noted that he may not pardon a civil contempt. Notwithstanding the importance of distinguishing between the two, there have been instances where defendants have been charged with both civil and criminal contempt for the same act.¹⁵⁹

A second but more subtle distinction, with regard to the categories of contempt, is the difference between direct and indirect contempt—albeit civil or criminal in nature. Direct contempt results when the contumacious act is committed "in the presence of the Court or so near thereto as to obstruct the administration of justice;"¹⁶⁰ indirect contempt is behavior which the Court did not itself witness.¹⁶¹ The nature of the contumacious act, i.e., whether it is direct or indirect, is important because it determines the appropriate procedure for charging the contemnor. As will be evidenced in the following discussion, the history of the contempt powers of the American judiciary is marked by two trends: a shrinking of the court's power to punish a person summarily and a multiply-

¹⁵⁶ *Id.*, 370.

¹⁵⁷ *Id.*, n. 6. See *Hicks v. Feiock*, 485 U.S. 624 (1988) (remanding for determination whether payment of child support arrearages would purge a determinate sentence, the proper characterization critical to decision on a due process claim).

¹⁵⁸ 267 U.S. 87, 119–120 (1925). In an analogous case, the Court was emphatic in a dictum that Congress cannot require a jury trial where the contemnor has failed to perform a positive act for the relief of private parties, *Michalson v. United States ex rel. Chicago, S.P., M. & Ry. Co.*, 266 U.S. 42, 65–66 (1924). But see *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194, 202 (1968).

¹⁵⁹ See *United States v. United Mine Workers*, 330 U.S. 258, 299 (1947).

¹⁶⁰ Act of March 2, 1831, ch. 99, § 1, 4 Stat. 488. Cf. Rule 42(a), FRCrP, which provides that "[a] criminal contempt may be punished summarily if the judge certifies that he saw or heard the conduct constituting the contempt and that it was committed in the actual presence of the court." See also Beale, *Contempt of Court, Civil and Criminal*, 21 Harv. L. Rev. 161, 171–172 (1908).

¹⁶¹ See Fox, *The Nature of Contempt of Court*, 37 L.Q. Rev. 191 (1921).

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ing of the due process requirements that must otherwise be met when finding an individual to be in contempt.¹⁶²

The Act of 1789.—The summary power of the courts of the United States to punish contempts of their authority had its origin in the law and practice of England where disobedience of court orders was regarded as contempt of the King himself and attachment was a prerogative process derived from presumed contempt of the sovereign.¹⁶³ By the latter part of the eighteenth century, summary power to punish was extended to all contempts whether committed in or out of court.¹⁶⁴ In the United States, the Judiciary Act of 1789 in section 17¹⁶⁵ conferred power on all courts of the United States “to punish by fine or imprisonment, at the discretion of said courts, all contempts of authority in any cause or hearing before the same.” The only limitation placed on this power was that summary attachment was made a negation of all other modes of punishment. The abuse of this extensive power led, following the unsuccessful impeachment of Judge James H. Peck of the Federal District Court of Missouri, to the passage of the Act of 1831 limiting the power of the federal courts to punish contempts to misbehavior in the presence of the courts, “or so near thereto as to obstruct the administration of justice,” to the misbehavior of officers of courts in their official capacity, and to disobedience or resistance to any lawful writ, process or order of the court.¹⁶⁶

An Inherent Power.—The validity of the act of 1831 was sustained forty-three years later in *Ex parte Robinson*,¹⁶⁷ in which Justice Field for the Court expounded principles full of potentialities for conflict. He declared: “The power to punish for contempts is inherent in all courts; its existence is essential to the preservation of order in judicial proceedings, and to the enforce-

¹⁶² Many of the limitations placed on the inferior federal courts have been issued on the basis of the Supreme Court's supervisory power over them rather than upon a constitutional foundation, while, of course, the limitations imposed on state courts necessarily are of constitutional dimensions. Indeed, it is often the case that a limitation, which is applied to an inferior federal court as a superintending measure, is then transformed into a constitutional limitation and applied to state courts. Compare *Cheff v. Schnackenberg*, 384 U.S. 373 (1966), with *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194 (1968). In the latter stage, the limitations then bind both federal and state courts alike. Therefore, in this section, Supreme Court constitutional limitations on state court contempt powers are cited without restriction for equal application to federal courts.

¹⁶³ Fox, *The King v. Almon*, 24 L.Q. Rev. 184, 194–195 (1908).

¹⁶⁴ Fox, *The Summary Power to Punish Contempt*, 25 L.Q. Rev. 238, 252 (1909).

¹⁶⁵ 1 Stat. 83 (1789).

¹⁶⁶ 18 U.S.C. §401. For a summary of the Peck impeachment and the background of the act of 1831, see Frankfurter and Landis, *Power of Congress Over Procedure in Criminal Contempts in “Inferior” Federal Courts—A Study in Separation of Powers*, 37 Harv. L. Rev. 1010, 1024–1028 (1924).

¹⁶⁷ 19 Wall. (86 U.S.) 505 (1874).

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ment of the judgments, orders, and writs of the courts, and consequently to the due administration of justice. The moment the courts of the United States were called into existence and invested with jurisdiction over any subject, they became possessed of this power.” Expressing doubts concerning the validity of the act as to the Supreme Court, he declared, however, that there could be no question of its validity as applied to the lower courts on the ground that they are created by Congress and that their “powers and duties depend upon the act calling them into existence, or subsequent acts extending or limiting their jurisdiction.”¹⁶⁸ With the passage of time, later adjudications, especially after 1890, came to place more emphasis on the inherent power of courts to punish contempts than upon the power of Congress to regulate summary attachment.

By 1911, the Court was saying that the contempt power must be exercised by a court without referring the issues of fact or law to another tribunal or to a jury in the same tribunal.¹⁶⁹ In *Michaelson v. United States*,¹⁷⁰ the Court intentionally placed a narrow interpretation upon those sections of the Clayton Act¹⁷¹ relating to punishment for contempt of court by disobedience of injunctions in labor disputes. The sections in question provided for a jury upon the demand of the accused in contempt cases in which the acts committed in violation of district court orders also constituted a crime under the laws of the United States or of those of the State where they were committed. Although Justice Sutherland reaffirmed earlier rulings establishing the authority of Congress to regulate the contempt power, he went on to qualify this authority and declared that “the attributes which inhere in the power [to punish contempt] and are inseparable from it can neither be abrogated nor rendered practically inoperative.” The Court mentioned specifically “the power to deal summarily with contempt committed in the presence of the courts or so near thereto as to obstruct the administration of justice,” and the power to enforce mandatory decrees by coercive means.¹⁷² This latter power, to enforce, the Court has held, includes the authority to appoint private counsel to prosecute a criminal contempt.¹⁷³

¹⁶⁸ *Id.*, 505–511.

¹⁶⁹ *Gompers v. Bucks Stove & Range Co.*, 221 U.S. 418, 450 (1911). See also *In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564, 595 (1895).

¹⁷⁰ 266 U.S. 42 (1924).

¹⁷¹ 38 Stat. 730, 738 (1914).

¹⁷² 266 U.S., 65–66. See, generally, Frankfurter and Landis, *Power of Congress Over Procedure in Criminal Contempts in “Inferior” Federal Courts—A Study in Separation of Powers*, 37 Harv. L. Rev. 1010 (1924).

¹⁷³ *Young v. United States ex rel. Vuitton*, 481 U.S. 787, 793–801 (1987). However, the Court, invoking its supervisory power, instructed the lower federal courts

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While the contempt power may be inherent, it is not unlimited. In *Spallone v. United States*,¹⁷⁴ the Court held that a district court had abused its discretion by imposing contempt sanctions on individual members of a city council for refusing to vote to implement a consent decree remedying housing discrimination by the city. The proper remedy, the Court indicated, was to proceed first with contempt sanctions against the city, and only if that course failed should it proceed against the council members individually.

First Amendment Limitations on the Contempt Power.—The phrase “in the presence of the Court or so near thereto as to obstruct the administration of justice” was interpreted in *Toledo Newspaper Co. v. United States*¹⁷⁵ so broadly as to uphold the action of a district court judge in punishing for contempt a newspaper for publishing spirited editorials and cartoons on questions at issue in a contest between a street railway company and the public over rates. A majority of the Court held that the test to be applied in determining the obstruction of the administration of justice is not the actual obstruction resulting from an act, but “the character of the act done and its direct tendency to prevent and obstruct the discharge of judicial duty.” Similarly, the test whether a particular act is an attempt to influence or intimidate a court is not the influence exerted upon the mind of a particular judge but “the reasonable tendency of the acts done to influence or bring about the baleful result . . . without reference to the consideration of how far they may have been without influence in a particular case.”¹⁷⁶ In *Craig v. Hecht*,¹⁷⁷ these criteria were applied to sustain the imprisonment of the comptroller of New York City for writing and publishing a letter to a public service commissioner which criticized the action of a United States district judge in receivership proceedings.

first to request the United States Attorney to prosecute a criminal contempt and only if refused should they appoint a private lawyer. *Id.*, 801–802. Still using its supervisory power, the Court held that the district court had erred in appointing counsel for a party that was the beneficiary of the court order; disinterested counsel had to be appointed. *Id.*, 802–808. Justice Scalia contended that the power to prosecute is not comprehended within Article III judicial power and that federal judges had no power, inherent or otherwise, to initiate a prosecution for contempt or to appoint counsel to pursue it. *Id.*, 815. See also *United States v. Providence Journal Co.*, 485 U.S. 693 (1988), which involved the appointment of a disinterested private attorney. The Supreme Court dismissed the writ of *certiorari* after granting it, however, holding that only the Solicitor General representing the United States could bring the petition to the Court. See 28 U.S.C. § 518.

¹⁷⁴ 493 U.S. 265 (1990). The decision was an exercise of the Court’s supervisory power. *Id.*, 276. Four Justices dissented. *Id.*, 281.

¹⁷⁵ 247 U.S. 402 (1918).

¹⁷⁶ *Id.*, 418–421.

¹⁷⁷ 263 U.S. 255 (1923).

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The decision in the *Toledo Newspaper* case, however, did not follow earlier decisions interpreting the act of 1831 and was grounded on historical error. For these reasons, it was reversed in *Nye v. United States*,¹⁷⁸ and the theory of constructive contempt based on the “reasonable tendency” rule was rejected in a proceeding wherein defendants in a civil suit, by persuasion and the use of liquor, induced a plaintiff feeble in mind and body to ask for dismissal of the suit he had brought against them. The events in the episode occurred more than 100 miles from where the court was sitting and were held not to put the persons responsible for them in contempt of court. Although *Nye v. United States* was exclusively a case of statutory construction, it was significant from a constitutional point of view because its reasoning was contrary to that of earlier cases narrowly construing the act of 1831 and asserting broad inherent powers of courts to punish contempts independently of, and contrary to, congressional regulation of this power. *Bridges v. California*¹⁷⁹ was noteworthy for the dictum of the majority that the contempt power of all courts, federal as well as state, is limited by the guaranty of the First Amendment against interference with freedom of speech or of the press.¹⁸⁰

A series of cases involving highly publicized trials and much news media attention and exploitation,¹⁸¹ however, caused the Court to suggest that the contempt and other powers of trial courts should be utilized to stem the flow of publicity before it can taint a trial. Thus, Justice Clark, speaking for the majority in *Shepard v. Maxwell*,¹⁸² noted that “[i]f publicity during the proceedings threatens the fairness of the trial, a new trial should be ordered. But we must remember that reversals are but palliatives; the cure lies in those remedial measures that will prevent the prejudice at its inception. Neither prosecutors, counsel for defense, the accused, witness, court staff nor law enforcement officers coming under the

¹⁷⁸ 313 U.S. 33, 47–53 (1941).

¹⁷⁹ 314 U.S. 252, 260 (1941).

¹⁸⁰ See also *Wood v. Georgia*, 370 U.S. 375 (1962), further clarifying the limitations imposed by the First Amendment upon this judicial power and delineating the requisite serious degree of harm to the administration of law necessary to justify exercise of the contempt power to punish the publisher of an out-of-court statement attacking a charge to the grand jury, absent any showing of actual interference with the activities of the grand jury.

It is now clearly established that courtroom conduct to be punishable as contempt “must constitute an imminent, not merely a likely, threat to the administration of justice. The danger must not be remote or even probable; it must immediately imperil.” *Craig v. Harney*, 331 U.S. 367, 376 (1947); *In re Little*, 404 U.S. 553, 555 (1972).

¹⁸¹ E.g., *Estes v. Texas*, 381 U.S. 532 (1965); *Marshall v. United States*, 360 U.S. 310 (1959); *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966).

¹⁸² 384 U.S. 333, 363 (1966).

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jurisdiction of the court should be permitted to frustrate its function. Collaboration between counsel and the press as to information affecting the fairness of a criminal trial is not only subject to regulation, but is highly censurable and worthy of disciplinary measures.” Though the regulation the Justice had in mind was presumably to be of the parties and related persons rather than of the press, the potential for conflict with the First Amendment is obvious as well as is the necessity for protection of the equally important right to a fair trial.¹⁸³

Due Process Limitations on Contempt Power: Right to Notice and to a Hearing versus Summary Punishment.—Included among the notable cases raising questions concerning the power of a trial judge to punish summarily for alleged misbehavior in the course of a trial is *Ex parte Terry*,¹⁸⁴ decided in 1888. Terry had been jailed by the United States Circuit Court of California for assaulting in its presence a United States marshal. The Supreme Court denied his petition for a writ of *habeas corpus*. In *Cooke v. United States*,¹⁸⁵ however, the Court remanded for further proceedings a judgment of the United States Circuit Court of Texas sustaining the judgment of a United States district judge sentencing to jail an attorney and his client for presenting the judge a letter which impugned his impartiality with respect to their case, still pending before him. Distinguishing the case from that of *Terry*, Chief Justice Taft, speaking for the unanimous Court, said: “The important distinction . . . is that this contempt was not in open court. . . . To preserve order in the court room for the proper conduct of business, the court must act instantly to suppress disturbance or violence or physical obstruction or disrespect to the court when occurring in open court. There is no need of evidence or assistance of counsel before punishment, because the court has seen the offense. Such summary vindication of the court’s dignity and authority is necessary. It has always been so in the courts of the common law and the punishment imposed is due process of law.”¹⁸⁶

As to the timeliness of summary punishment, the Court at first construed Rule 42(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, which was designed to afford judges clearer guidelines as to the exercise of their contempt power, in *Sacher v. United States*,¹⁸⁷ as to

¹⁸³For another approach, bar rules regulating the speech of counsel and the First Amendment standard, see *Gentile v. State Bar of Nevada*, 501 U.S. 1030 (1991).

¹⁸⁴128 U.S. 289 (1888).

¹⁸⁵267 U.S. 517 (1925).

¹⁸⁶*Id.*, 535, 534.

¹⁸⁷343 U.S. 1 (1952).

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allow “the trial judge, upon the occurrence in his presence of a contempt, immediately and summarily to punish it, if, in his opinion, delay [would] prejudice the trial. . . . [On the other hand,] if he believes the exigencies of the trial require that he defer judgment until its completion he may do so without extinguishing his power.”¹⁸⁸ However, subsequently, interpreting the due process clause and thus binding both federal and state courts, the Court held that, although the trial judge may summarily and without notice or hearing punish contemptuous conduct committed in his presence and observed by him, if he does choose to wait until the conclusion of the proceeding he must afford the alleged contemnor at least reasonable notice of the specific charge and opportunity to be heard in his own defense. Apparently, a “full scale trial” is not contemplated.¹⁸⁹

Curbing the judge’s power to consider conduct as occurring in his presence, the Court, in *Harris v. United States*,¹⁹⁰ held that summary contempt proceedings in aid of a grand jury probe, achieved through swearing the witness and repeating the grand jury’s questions in the presence of the judge, did not constitute contempt “in the actual presence of the court” for purposes of Rule 42(a); rather, the absence of a disturbance in the court’s proceedings or of the need to immediately vindicate the court’s authority makes the witness’ refusal to testify an offense punishable only after notice and a hearing.¹⁹¹ Moreover, when it is not clear the judge was fully aware of the contemptuous behavior when it occurred, notwithstanding the fact it occurred during the trial, “a fair hearing would entail the opportunity to show that the version of the event related to the judge was inaccurate, misleading, or incomplete.”¹⁹²

Due Process Limitations on Contempt Power: Right to Jury Trial.—Until recently, it was the rule that the right to a jury trial was not available in criminal contempt cases.¹⁹³ But in *Cheff*

¹⁸⁸ *Id.*, 11.

¹⁸⁹ *Taylor v. Hayes*, 418 U.S. 488 (1974). In a companion case, the Court observed that although its rule conceivably encourages a trial judge to proceed immediately rather than awaiting a calmer moment, “[s]ummary convictions during trials that are unwarranted by the facts will not be invulnerable to appellate review.” *Codispoti v. Pennsylvania*, 418 U.S. 506, 517 (1974).

¹⁹⁰ 382 U.S. 162 (1965), *overruling* *Brown v. United States*, 359 U.S. 41 (1959).

¹⁹¹ But see *Green v. United States*, 356 U.S. 165 (1958) (noncompliance with order directing defendants to surrender to marshal for execution of their sentence is an offense punishable summarily as a criminal contempt); *Reina v. United States*, 364 U.S. 507 (1960).

¹⁹² *Johnson v. Mississippi*, 403 U.S. 212, 215 (1971) (citing *In re Oliver*, 333 U.S. 257, 275–276 (1948)).

¹⁹³ See *Green v. United States*, 356 U.S. 165 (1958); *United States v. Barnett*, 376 U.S. 681 (1964), and cases cited. The dissents of Justices Black and Douglas

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v. Schnackenberg,¹⁹⁴ it was held that when the punishment in a criminal contempt case in federal court is more than the sentence for a petty offense, the Court drew the traditional line at six months, a defendant is entitled to trial by jury. Although the ruling was made pursuant to the Supreme Court's supervisory powers and was thus inapplicable to state courts and presumably subject to legislative revision, two years later the Court held that the Constitution did require jury trials in criminal contempt cases in which the offense was more than a petty one.¹⁹⁵ Whether an offense is petty or not is determined by the maximum sentence authorized by the legislature or, in the absence of a statute, by the sentence actually imposed. Again the Court drew the line between petty offenses and more serious ones at six months imprisonment. Although this case involved an indirect criminal contempt, willful petitioning to admit to probate a will known to be falsely prepared, the majority in dictum indicated that even in cases of direct contempt a jury will be required in appropriate instances. "When a serious contempt is at issue, considerations of efficiency must give way to the more fundamental interest of ensuring the even-handed exercise of judicial power."¹⁹⁶ Presumably, there is no equivalent right to a jury trial in civil contempt cases,¹⁹⁷ although one could spend much more time in jail pursuant to a judgment of civil contempt than would be the case with most criminal contempts;¹⁹⁸ however, the Court has expanded the right to jury trials in federal civil cases on nonconstitutional grounds,¹⁹⁹ so that it is possible the process followed in criminal contempts could be repeated.

Due Process Limitations on Contempt Powers: Impartial Tribunal.—In *Cooke v. United States*,²⁰⁰ Chief Justice Taft ut-

in those cases prepared the ground for the Court's later reversal. On the issue, see Frankfurter and Landis, *Power of Congress over Procedure in Criminal Contempts in 'Inferior' Federal Courts—A Study in Separation of Powers*, 37 Harv. L. Rev. 1010, 1042–1048 (1924).

¹⁹⁴ 384 U.S. 373 (1966).

¹⁹⁵ *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194 (1968).

¹⁹⁶ *Id.*, 209. In *Codispoti v. Pennsylvania*, 418 U.S. 506 (1974) the Court held required a jury trial when the trial judge awaits the conclusion of the proceeding and then imposes separate sentences in which the total aggregated more than six months. For a tentative essay at defining a petty offense when a fine is levied, see *Muniz v. Hoffman*, 422 U.S. 454, 475–477 (1975).

¹⁹⁷ The Sixth Amendment is applicable only to criminal cases and the Seventh to suits at common law, but the due process clause is available if needed.

¹⁹⁸ Note that under 28 U.S.C. § 1826 a recalcitrant witness before a grand jury may be imprisoned for the term of the grand jury, which can be 36 months. 18 U.S.C. § 3331(a).

¹⁹⁹ E.g., *Beacon Theatres v. Westover*, 359 U.S. 500 (1959); *Dairy Queen v. Wood*, 369 U.S. 469 (1962); *Ross v. Bernhard*, 396 U.S. 531 (1970). However, the Court's expansion of jury trial rights may have halted with *McKeiver v. Pennsylvania*, 403 U.S. 528 (1971).

²⁰⁰ 267 U.S. 517, 539 (1925).

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tered some cautionary words to guide trial judges in the utilization of their contempt powers. “The power of contempt which a judge must have and exercise in protecting the due and orderly administration of justice and in maintaining the authority and dignity of the court is most important and indispensable. But its exercise is a delicate one and care is needed to avoid arbitrary or oppressive conclusions. This rule of caution is more mandatory where the contempt charged has in it the element of personal criticism or attack upon the judge. The judge must banish the slightest personal impulse to reprisal, but he should not bend backward and injure the authority of the court by too great leniency. The substitution of another judge would avoid either tendency but it is not always possible. Of course, where acts of contempt are palpably aggravated by a personal attack upon the judge in order to drive the judge out of the case for ulterior reasons, the scheme should not be permitted to succeed. But attempts of this kind are rare. All of such cases, however, present difficult questions for the judge. All we can say upon the whole matter is that where conditions do not make it impracticable, or where the delay may not injure public or private right, a judge called upon to act in a case of contempt by personal attack upon him, may, without flinching from his duty, properly ask that one of his fellow judges take his place. *Cornish v. United States*, 299 F. 283, 285; *Toledo Newspaper Co. v. United States*, 237 F. 986, 988. The case before us is one in which the issue between the judge and the parties had come to involve marked personal feeling that did not make for an impartial and calm judicial consideration and conclusion, as the statement of the proceedings abundantly shows.”

*Sacher v. United States*²⁰¹ grew out of a tempestuous trial of eleven Communist Party leaders in which Sacher and others were counsel for the defense. Upon the conviction of the defendants, the trial judge at once found counsel guilty of criminal contempt and imposed jail terms of up to six months. At issue directly was whether the contempt charged was one which the judge was authorized to determine for himself or whether it was one which under Rule 42(b) could only be passed upon by another judge and after notice and hearing, but behind this issue loomed the applicability and nature of due process requirements, in particular whether the defense attorneys were constitutionally entitled to trial before a different judge. A divided Court affirmed most of the convictions, setting aside others, and denied that due process required a hearing before a different judge. “We hold that Rule 42 allows the

²⁰¹ 343 U.S. 1 (1952). See *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494 (1951).

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trial judge, upon the occurrence in his presence of a contempt, immediately and summarily to punish it, if, in his opinion, delay will prejudice the trial. We hold, on the other hand, that if he believes the exigencies of the trial require that he defer judgment until its completion, he may do so without extinguishing his power. . . . We are not unaware or unconcerned that persons identified with unpopular causes may find it difficult to enlist the counsel of their choice. But we think it must be ascribed to causes quite apart from fear of being held in contempt, for we think few effective lawyers would regard the tactics condemned here as either necessary or helpful to a successful defense. That such clients seem to have thought these tactics necessary is likely to contribute to the bar's reluctance to appear for them rather more than fear of contempt. But that there may be no misunderstanding, we make clear that this Court, if its aid be needed, will unhesitatingly protect counsel in fearless, vigorous and effective performance of every duty pertaining to the office of the advocate on behalf of any person whatsoever. But it will not equate contempt with courage or insults with independence. It will also protect the processes of orderly trial, which is the supreme object of the lawyers calling.²⁰²

In *Offutt v. United States*,²⁰³ acting under its supervisory powers over the lower federal courts, the Court set aside a criminal contempt conviction imposed on a lawyer after a trial marked by highly personal recriminations between the trial judge and the lawyer. In a situation in which the record revealed that the contumacious conduct was the product of both lack of self-restraint on the part of the contemnor and a reaction to the excessive zeal and personal animosity of the trial judge, the majority felt that any contempt trial must be held before another judge. This holding that when a judge becomes personally embroiled in the controversy with an accused he must defer trial of his contempt citation to another judge, founded on the Court's supervisory powers, was constitutionalized in *Mayberry v. Pennsylvania*,²⁰⁴ in which a defendant acting as his own counsel engaged in quite personal abuse of the trial judge. The Court appeared to leave open the option of the trial judge to act immediately and summarily to quell contempt

²⁰² *Id.*, 13–14.

²⁰³ 348 U.S. 11 (1954).

²⁰⁴ 400 U.S. 455 (1971). See also *Johnson v. Mississippi*, 403 U.S. 212 (1971); *Holt v. Virginia*, 381 U.S. 131 (1965). Even in the absence of a personal attack on a judge that would tend to impair his detachment, the judge may still be required to excuse himself and turn a citation for contempt over to another judge if the response to the alleged misconduct in his courtroom partakes of the character of "marked personal feelings" being abraded on both sides, so that it is likely the judge has felt a "sting" sufficient to impair his objectivity. *Taylor v. Hayes*, 418 U.S. 488 (1974).

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by citing and convicting an offender, thus empowering the judge to keep the trial going,²⁰⁵ but if he should wait until the conclusion of the trial he must defer to another judge.

Contempt by Disobedience of Orders.—Disobedience of injunctive orders, particularly in labor disputes, has been a fruitful source of cases dealing with contempt of court. In *United States v. United Mine Workers*,²⁰⁶ the Court held that disobedience of a temporary restraining order issued for the purpose of maintaining existing conditions, pending the determination of the court's jurisdiction, is punishable as criminal contempt where the issue is not frivolous but substantial. Second, the Court held that an order issued by a court with jurisdiction over the subject matter and person must be obeyed by the parties until it is reversed by orderly and proper proceedings, even though the statute under which the order is issued is unconstitutional.²⁰⁷ Third, on the basis of *United States v. Shipp*,²⁰⁸ it was held that violations of a court's order are punishable as criminal contempt even though the order is set aside on appeal as in excess of the court's jurisdiction or though the basic action has become moot. Finally, the Court held that conduct can amount to both civil and criminal contempt, and the same acts may justify a court in resorting to coercive and punitive measures, which may be imposed in a single proceeding.²⁰⁹

Contempt Power in Aid of Administrative Power.—Proceedings to enforce the orders of administrative agencies and subpoenas issued by them to appear and produce testimony have become increasingly common since the leading case of *ICC v. Brimson*,²¹⁰ where it was held that the contempt power of the courts might by statutory authorization be utilized in aid of the Interstate Commerce Commission in enforcing compliance with its orders. In 1947, a proceeding to enforce a *subpoena duces tecum* issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission during the course of an investigation was ruled to be civil in character on the ground that the only sanction was a penalty designed to compel obedience. The Court then enunciated the principle that where a fine or imprisonment imposed on the contemnor is designed to coerce him to do what he has refused to do, the proceeding is one for civil con-

²⁰⁵ See *Illinois v. Allen*, 397 U.S. 337 (1970), in which the Court affirmed that summary contempt or expulsion may be used to keep a trial going.

²⁰⁶ 330 U.S. 258, 293–307 (1947).

²⁰⁷ See *Walker v. City of Birmingham*, 388 U.S. 307 (1967).

²⁰⁸ 203 U.S. 563 (1906).

²⁰⁹ See *United States v. United Mine Workers*, 330 U.S. 258, 299 (1947). But see *Cheff v. Schnackenberg*, 384 U.S. 273 (1966), and *supra*, 630–631, as to due process limitations.

²¹⁰ 154 U.S. 447 (1894).

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tempt.²¹¹ Notwithstanding the power of administrative agencies to cite an individual for contempt, however, such bodies must be acting within the authority that has been lawfully delegated to them.²¹²

Sanctions Other Than Contempt

Long recognized by the courts as inherent powers are those authorities that are necessary to the administration of the judicial system itself, of which the contempt power just discussed is only the most controversial.²¹³ Courts, as an independent and coequal branch of government, once they are created and their jurisdiction established, have the authority to do what courts have traditionally done in order to accomplish their assigned tasks.²¹⁴ Of course, these inherent powers may be limited by statutes and by rules,²¹⁵ but, just as was noted in the discussion of the same issue with respect to contempt, the Court asserts both the power to act in areas not covered by statutes and rules but also the power to act unless Congress has not only provided regulation of the exercise of the power but also unmistakably enunciated its intention to limit the inherent powers.²¹⁶

Thus, in the cited *Chambers* case, the Court upheld the imposition of monetary sanctions against a litigant and his attorney for bad-faith litigation conduct in a diversity case. Some of the conduct was covered by a federal statute and several sanction provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, but some was not, and the Court held that, absent a showing that Congress had intended to limit the courts, they could utilize inherent powers to sanction for the entire course of conduct, including shifting attorney fees, ordi-

²¹¹ *Penfield Co. v. SEC*, 330 U.S. 585 (1947). Note the dissent of Justice Frankfurter. For delegations of the subpoena power to administrative agencies and the use of judicial process to enforce them, see also *McCrone v. United States*, 307 U.S. 61 (1939); *Endicott Johnson Corp. v. Perkins*, 317 U.S. 501 (1943); *Oklahoma Press Pub. Co. v. Walling*, 327 U.S. 186 (1946).

²¹² *Gojack v. United States*, 384 U.S. 702 (1966). See also *supra* for a discussion on Congress' power to cite an individual for contempt by virtue of its investigatory duties, which is applicable, at least by analogy, to administrative agencies.

²¹³ "Certain implied powers must necessarily result to our Courts of justice from the nature of their institution. . . . To fine for contempt—imprison for contumacy—inforce the observance of order, c. are powers which cannot be dispensed with in a Court, because they are necessary to the exercise of all others; and so far our Courts no doubt possess powers not immediately derived from statute. . . ." *United States v. Hudson and Goodwin*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 32, 34 (1812).

²¹⁴ See *Anderson v. Dunn*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 204, 227 (1821); *Ex parte Robinson*, 19 Wall. (86 U.S.) 505, 510 (1874); *Link v. Wabash R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626, 630–631 (1962); *Chambers v. NASCO, Inc.*, 501 U.S. 32, 43–46 (1991); and *id.*, 58 (Justice Scalia dissenting), 60, 62–67 (Justice Kennedy dissenting).

²¹⁵ *Id.*, 47.

²¹⁶ *Id.*, 46–51. But see *id.*, 62–67 (Justice Kennedy dissenting).

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narily against the American rule.²¹⁷ In another case, a party failed to comply with discovery orders and a court order concerning a schedule for filing briefs. The Supreme Court held that the attorney's fees statute did not allow assessment of such fees in that situation, but it remanded for consideration of sanctions under both the Federal Rule and the trial court's inherent powers, subject to a finding of bad faith.²¹⁸ But bad faith is not always required for the exercise of some inherent powers. Thus, courts may dismiss an action for an unexplained failure of the moving party to prosecute it.²¹⁹

Power to Issue Writs: The Act of 1789

From the beginning of government under the Constitution of 1789, Congress has assumed, under the necessary and proper clause, its power to establish inferior courts, its power to regulate the jurisdiction of federal courts and the power to regulate the issuance of writs.²²⁰ The Thirteenth section of the Judiciary Act of 1789 authorized the circuit courts to issue writs of prohibition to the district courts and the Supreme Court to issue such writs to the circuit courts. The Supreme Court was also empowered to issue writs of mandamus "in cases warranted by the principles and usages of law, to any courts appointed, or persons holding office, under the authority of the United States."²²¹ Section 14 provided that all courts of the United States should "have power to issue writs of *scire facias*, *habeas corpus*, and all other writs not specially provided for by statute, which may be necessary for the exercise of their respective jurisdiction, and agreeable to the principles and usages of law."²²² Although the Act of 1789 left the power over writs subject largely to the common law, it is significant as a reflection of the belief, in which the courts have on the whole concurred, that an act of Congress is necessary to confer judicial power to issue writs.²²³

²¹⁷ *Id.*, 49–51. On the implications of the fact that this was a diversity case, see *id.*, 51–55.

²¹⁸ *Roadway Express, Inc. v. Piper*, 447 U.S. 752, 764 (1980).

²¹⁹ *Link v. Wabash R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626 (1962).

²²⁰ Frankfurter & Landis, *Power of Congress Over Procedure in Criminal Contempts in "Inferior" Federal Courts—A Study in Separation of Powers*, 37 Harv. L. Rev. 1010, 1016–1023 (1924).

²²¹ 1 Stat. 73, §81.

²²² *Id.*, §§81–82. See also *United States v. Morgan*, 346 U.S. 502 (1954), holding that the All Writs section of the Judicial Code, 28 U.S.C. §1651(a), gives federal courts the power to employ the ancient writ of *coram nobis*.

²²³ This proposition was recently reasserted in *Pennsylvania Bureau of Correction v. United States Marshals Service*, 474 U.S. 34 (1985) (holding that a federal district court lacked authority to order U.S. marshals to transport state prisoners, such authority not being granted by the relevant statutes).

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Whether Article III itself is an independent source of the power of federal courts to fashion equitable remedies for constitutional violations or whether such remedies must fit within congressionally authorized writs or procedures is often left unexplored. In *Missouri v. Jenkins*,²²⁴ for example, the Court, rejecting a claim that a federal court exceeded judicial power under Article III by ordering local authorities to increase taxes to pay for desegregation remedies, declared that “a court order directing a local government body to levy its own taxes is plainly a judicial act within the power of a federal court.”²²⁵ In the same case, the Court refused to rule on “the difficult constitutional issues” presented by the State’s claim that the district court had exceeded its constitutional powers in a prior order directly raising taxes, instead ruling that this order had violated principles of comity.²²⁶

Common Law Powers of District of Columbia Courts.— That portion of §13 which authorized the Supreme Court to issue writs of mandamus in the exercise of its original jurisdiction was held invalid in *Marbury v. Madison*,²²⁷ as an unconstitutional enlargement of the Supreme Court’s original jurisdiction. After two more futile efforts to obtain a writ of mandamus, in cases in which the Court found that power to issue the writ had not been vested by statute in the courts of the United States except in aid of already existing jurisdiction,²²⁸ a litigant was successful in *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*,²²⁹ in finding a court that would take jurisdiction in a mandamus proceeding. This was the circuit court of the United States for the District of Columbia, which was held to have jurisdiction, on the theory that the common law, in force in Maryland when the cession of that part of the State that became the District of Columbia was made to the United States, remained in force in the District. At an early time, therefore, the federal courts established the rule that mandamus can be issued only when authorized by a constitutional statute and within the

²²⁴ 495 U.S. 33 (1990).

²²⁵ *Id.*, 55 (citing *Griffin v. Prince Edward County School Bd.*, 377 U.S. 218, 233–234 (1964) (an order that local officials “exercise the power that is theirs” to levy taxes in order to open and operate a desegregated school system “is within the court’s power if required to assure . . . petitioners that their constitutional rights will no longer be denied them”)).

²²⁶ *Id.*, 50–52.

²²⁷ 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803). Cf. *Wiscart v. D’Auchy*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 321 (1796).

²²⁸ *McIntire v. Wood*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 504 (1813); *McClung v. Silliman*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 598 (1821).

²²⁹ 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524 (1838).

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limits imposed by the common law and the separation of powers.²³⁰

Habeas Corpus: Congressional and Judicial Control.—Although the writ of *habeas corpus*²³¹ has a special status because its suspension is forbidden, except in narrow circumstances, by Article I, § 9, cl. 2, nowhere in the Constitution is the power to issue the writ vested in the federal courts. Could it be that despite the suspension clause restriction Congress could suspend *de facto* the writ simply by declining to authorize its issuance? Is a statute needed to make the writ available or does the right to *habeas corpus* stem by implication from the suspension clause or from the grant of judicial power without need of a statute?²³² Since Chief Justice Marshall's opinion in *Ex parte Bollman*,²³³ it has been generally accepted that "the power to award the writ by any of the courts of the United States, must be given by written law."²³⁴ The suspension clause, Marshall explained, was an "injunction," an "obligation" to provide "efficient means by which this great constitutional privilege should receive life and activity; for if the means be not in existence, the privilege itself would be lost, although no law for its suspension should be enacted."²³⁵ And so it has been under-

²³⁰ In 1962, Congress conferred upon all federal district courts the same power to issue writs of mandamus as was hitherto exercisable by federal courts in the District of Columbia. 76 Stat. 744, 28 U.S.C. § 1361.

²³¹ Reference to the "writ of *habeas corpus*" is to the "Great Writ," *habeas corpus ad subjiciendum*, by which a court would inquire into the lawfulness of a detention of the petitioner. *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75, 95 (1807). For other uses, see *Carbo v. United States*, 364 U.S. 611 (1961); *Price v. Johnston*, 334 U.S. 266 (1948). Technically, federal prisoners no longer utilize the writ of *habeas corpus* in seeking post-conviction relief, now the largest office of the writ, but proceed under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, on a motion to vacate judgment. Intimating that if § 2255 afforded prisoners a less adequate remedy than they would have under *habeas corpus*, it would be unconstitutional, the Court in *United States v. Hayman*, 342 U.S. 205 (1952), held the two remedies to be equivalent. Cf. *Sanders v. United States*, 373 U.S. 1, 14 (1963). The claims cognizable under one are cognizable under the other. *Kaufman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 217 (1969). Therefore, the term *habeas corpus* is used here to include the § 2255 remedy. There is a plethora of writings about the writ. See, e.g., P. BATOR, *et al.*, HART & WECHSLER'S THE FEDERAL COURTS AND THE FEDERAL SYSTEM (Westbury, N.Y.: 3d ed. 1988), Ch. XI, 1465–1597 (hereinafter HART & WECHSLER); *Developments in the Law - Federal Habeas Corpus*, 83 Harv. L. Rev. 1038 (1970).

²³² Professor Chafee contended that by the time of the Constitutional Convention the right to *habeas corpus* was so well established no affirmative authorization was needed. *The Most Important Human Right in the Constitution*, 32 B.U.L. Rev. 143, 146 (1952). But compare Collins, *Habeas Corpus for Convicts—Constitutional Right or Legislative Grace?*, 40 Calif. L. Rev. 335, 344–345 (1952).

²³³ 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75 (1807).

²³⁴ *Id.*, 94. And see *Ex parte Dorr*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 103 (1845).

²³⁵ *Id.*, 95. Note that in quoting the clause, Marshall renders "shall not be suspended" as "should not be suspended."

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stood since,²³⁶ with a few judicial voices raised to suggest that what Congress could not do directly it could not do by omission,²³⁷ but inasmuch as statutory authority has always existed authorizing the federal courts to grant the relief they deemed necessary under *habeas corpus* the Court has never had to face the question.²³⁸

Having determined that a statute was necessary before the federal courts had power to issue writs of *habeas corpus*, Chief Justice Marshall pointed to §14 of the Judiciary Act of 1789 as containing the necessary authority.²³⁹ As the Chief Justice read it, the authorization was limited to persons imprisoned under federal authority, and it was not until 1867, with two small exceptions,²⁴⁰ that legislation specifically empowered federal courts to inquire into the imprisonment of persons under state authority.²⁴¹ Pursuant to this authorization, the Court expanded the use of the writ into a major instrument to reform procedural criminal law in federal and state jurisdictions.

Habeas Corpus: The Process of the Writ.—A petition for a writ of *habeas corpus* is filed by or on behalf of a person in “custody,” a concept which has been expanded so much that it is no longer restricted to actual physical detention in jail or prison.²⁴²

²³⁶ See *Ex parte McCardle*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 506 (1869). Cf. *Carbo v. United States*, 364 U.S. 611, 614 (1961).

²³⁷ E.g., *Eisentrager v. Forrestal*, 174 F. 2d 961, 966 (D.C.Cir. 1949), *revd. on other grounds sub nom.*, *Johnson v. Eisentrager*, 339 U.S. 763 (1950); and see Justice Black’s dissent, *id.*, 791, 798: “*Habeas corpus*, as an instrument to protect against illegal imprisonment, is written into the Constitution. Its use by courts cannot in my judgment be constitutionally abridged by Executive or by Congress.” And in *Jones v. Cunningham*, 371 U.S. 236, 238 (1963), the Court said: “The *habeas corpus* jurisdictional statute implements the *constitutional command* that the writ of *habeas corpus* be made available.” (Emphasis supplied).

²³⁸ Cf. *Ex Parte McCardle*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 506 (1869).

²³⁹ *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75, 94 (1807). See *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 409 (1963).

²⁴⁰ Act of March 2, 1833, §7, 4 Stat. 634 (federal officials imprisoned for enforcing federal law); Act of August 29, 1842, 5 Stat. 539 (foreign nationals detained by a State in violation of a treaty). See also Bankruptcy Act of April 4, 1800, §38, 2 Stat. 19, 32 (*habeas corpus* for imprisoned debtor discharged in bankruptcy), repealed by Act of December 19, 1803, 2 Stat. 248.

²⁴¹ Act of February 5, 1867, 14 Stat. 385, conveyed power to federal courts “to grant writs of *habeas corpus* in all cases where any person may be restrained of his or her liberty in violation of the constitution, or of any treaty or law of the United States. . . .” On the law with respect to state prisoners prior to this statute, see *Ex Parte Dorr*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 103 (1845); cf. *Elkison v. Deliesseline*, 8 Fed. Cas. 493 (No. 4366) (C.C.D.S.C. 1823) (Justice Johnson); *Ex parte Cabrera*, 4 Fed. Cas. 964 (No. 2278) (C.C.D.Pa. 1805) (Justice Washington).

²⁴² 28 U.S.C. §§ 2241(c), 2254(a). “Custody” does not mean one must be confined; a person on parole or probation is in custody. *Jones v. Cunningham*, 371 U.S. 236 (1963). A person on bail or on his own recognizance is in custody, *Justices of Boston Mun. Court v. Lydon*, 466 U.S. 294, 300–301 (1984); *Lefkowitz v. Newsome*, 420 U.S. 283, 291 n. 8 (1975); *Hensley v. Municipal Court* 411 U.S. 345 (1973), and

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Traditionally, the proceeding could not be used to secure an adjudication of a question which if determined in the petitioner's favor would not result in his immediate release, since a discharge from custody was the only function of the writ,²⁴³ but this restraint too the Court has abandoned in an emphasis upon the statutory language directing the habeas court to "dispose of the matter as law and justice require."²⁴⁴ Thus, even if a prisoner has been released from jail, the presence of collateral consequences flowing from his conviction gives the court jurisdiction to determine the constitutional validity of the conviction.²⁴⁵

Petitioners coming into federal *habeas* must first exhaust their state remedies, a limitation long settled in the case law and codified in 1948.²⁴⁶ It is only required that prisoners once present their claims in state court, either on appeal or collateral attack, and they need not return time and again to raise their issues before coming to federal court.²⁴⁷ While they were once required to petition the Supreme Court on *certiorari* to review directly their state convictions, prisoners have been relieved of this largely pointless exercise,²⁴⁸ although if the Supreme Court has taken and decided a case its judgment is conclusive in *habeas* on all issues of fact or law actually adjudicated.²⁴⁹

Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit Court, 410 U.S. 484 (1973), held that an inmate of an Alabama prison was sufficiently in custody as well of Kentucky authorities who had lodged a detainer with Alabama to obtain the prisoner upon his release.

²⁴³ *McNally v. Hill*, 293 U.S. 131 (1934); *Parker v. Ellis*, 362 U.S. 574 (1960).

²⁴⁴ 28 U.S.C. §2243. See *Peyton v. Rowe*, 391 U.S. 54 (1968). See also *Maleng v. Cook*, 490 U.S. 488 (1989).

²⁴⁵ *Carafas v. LaVallee*, 391 U.S. 234 (1968), overruling *Parker v. Ellis*, 362 U.S. 574 (1960). In *Peyton v. Rowe*, 391 U.S. 54 (1968), the Court overruled *McNally v. Hill*, 293 U.S. 131 (1934), and held that a prisoner may attack on *habeas* the second of two consecutive sentences while still serving the first. See also *Walker v. Wainwright*, 390 U.S. 335 (1968) (prisoner may attack the first of two consecutive sentences although the only effect of a successful attack would be immediate confinement on the second sentence). *Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit Court*, 410 U.S. 484 (1973), held that one sufficiently in custody of a State could use *habeas* to challenge the State's failure to bring him to trial on pending charges.

²⁴⁶ 28 U.S.C. §2254(b). See *Preiser v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 475, 490–497 (1973), and *id.* 500, 512–524 (Justice Brennan dissenting); *Rose v. Lundy*, 455 U.S. 509, 515–521 (1982). If a prisoner submits a petition with both exhausted and unexhausted claims, the habeas court must dismiss the entire petition. *Rose v. Lundy*, *supra*, 518–519. Exhaustion first developed in cases brought by persons in state custody prior to any judgment. *Ex parte Royall*, 117 U.S. 241 (1886); *Urquhart v. Brown*, 205 U.S. 179 (1907).

²⁴⁷ *Brown v. Allen*, 344 U.S. 443, 447–450 (1953); *id.*, 502 (Justice Frankfurter concurring); *Castille v. Peoples*, 489 U.S. 346, 350 (1989).

²⁴⁸ *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 435 (1963), overruling *Darr v. Burford*, 339 U.S. 200 (1950).

²⁴⁹ 28 U.S.C. §2244(c). But an affirmance of a conviction by an equally divided Court is not an adjudication on the merits. *Neil v. Biggers*, 409 U.S. 188 (1972).

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A federal prisoner in a §2255 proceeding will file his motion in the court which sentenced him;²⁵⁰ a state prisoner in a federal *habeas* action may file either in the district of the court in which he was sentenced or in the district in which he is in custody.²⁵¹

Habeas corpus is not a substitute for an appeal.²⁵² It is not a method to test ordinary procedural errors at trial or violations of state law but only to challenge alleged errors which if established would go to make the entire detention unlawful under federal law.²⁵³ If after appropriate proceedings, the *habeas* court finds that on the facts discovered and the law applied the prisoner is entitled to relief, it must grant it, ordinarily ordering the government to release the prisoner unless he is retried within a certain period.²⁵⁴

Congressional Limitation of the Injunctive Power

Although the speculations of some publicists and some judicial dicta²⁵⁵ support the idea of an inherent power of the federal courts sitting in equity to issue injunctions independently of statutory limitations, neither the course taken by Congress nor the specific rulings of the Supreme Court support any such principle. Congress has repeatedly exercised its power to limit the use of the injunction in federal courts. The first limitation on the equity jurisdiction of the federal courts is to be found in §16 of the Judiciary Act of 1789, which provided that no equity suit should be maintained where there was a full and adequate remedy at law. Although this

²⁵⁰ 28 U.S.C. §2255.

²⁵¹ 28 U.S.C. §2241(d). Cf. *Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit Court*, 410 U.S. 484 (1973), overruling *Ahrens v. Clark*, 335 U.S. 188 (1948), and holding a petitioner may file in the district in which his custodian is located although the prisoner may be located elsewhere.

²⁵² *Glasgow v. Moyer*, 225 U.S. 420, 428 (1912); *Riddle v. Dyche*, 262 U.S. 333, 335 (1923); *Eagles v. United States ex rel. Samuels*, 329 U.S. 304, 311 (1946). But compare *Brown v. Allen*, 344 U.S. 443, 558–560 (1953) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting in part).

²⁵³ *Estelle v. McGuire*, 112 S.Ct. 475 (1991); *Lewis v. Jeffers*, 497 U.S. 764, 780 (1990); *Pulley v. Harris*, 465 U.S. 37, 41–42 (1984)

²⁵⁴ 28 U.S.C. §2244(b). See *Whiteley v. Warden*, 401 U.S. 560, 569 (1971); *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717, 729 (1961).

²⁵⁵ In *United States v. Detroit Timber Lumber Co.*, 200 U.S. 321, 339 (1906), Justice Brewer, speaking for the Court, approached a theory of inherent equity jurisdiction when he declared: “The principles of equity exist independently of and anterior to all Congressional legislation, and the statutes are either enunciations of those principles or limitations upon their application in particular cases.” It should be emphasized, however, that the Court made no suggestion that it could apply pre-existing principles of equity without jurisdiction over the subject matter. Indeed, the inference is to the contrary. In a dissenting opinion in which Justices McKenna and Van Devanter joined, in *Paine Lumber Co. v. Neal*, 244 U.S. 459, 475 (1917). Justice Pitney contended that Article III, §2, “had the effect of adopting equitable remedies in all cases arising under the Constitution and laws of the United States where such remedies are appropriate.”

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provision did no more than declare a pre-existing rule long applied in chancery courts,²⁵⁶ it did assert the power of Congress to regulate the equity powers of the federal courts. The Act of March 2, 1793,²⁵⁷ prohibited the issuance of any injunction by any court of the United States to stay proceedings in state courts except where such injunctions may be authorized by any law relating to bankruptcy proceedings. In subsequent statutes, Congress prohibited the issuance of injunctions in the federal courts to restrain the collection of taxes,²⁵⁸ provided for a three-judge court as a prerequisite to the issuance of injunctions to restrain the enforcement of state statutes for unconstitutionality,²⁵⁹ for enjoining federal statutes for unconstitutionality,²⁶⁰ and for enjoining orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission,²⁶¹ limited the power to issue injunctions restraining rate orders of state public utility commissions,²⁶² and the use of injunctions in labor disputes,²⁶³ and placed a very rigid restriction on the power to enjoin orders of the Administrator under the Emergency Price Control Act.²⁶⁴

All of these restrictions have been sustained by the Supreme Court as constitutional and applied with varying degrees of thoroughness. The Court has made exceptions to the application of the prohibition against the stay of proceedings in state courts,²⁶⁵ but it has on the whole adhered to the statute. The exceptions raise no constitutional issues, and the tendency has been alternately to contract and to expand the scope of the exceptions.²⁶⁶

In *Duplex Printing Press v. Deering*,²⁶⁷ the Supreme Court placed a narrow construction upon the labor provisions of the Clayton Act and thereby contributed in part to the more extensive restriction by Congress on the use of injunctions in labor disputes in

²⁵⁶ *Boyce's Executors v. Grundy*, 3 Pet. (28 U.S.) 210 (1830).

²⁵⁷ 1 Stat. 333, 28 U.S.C. § 2283.

²⁵⁸ 26 U.S.C. § 7421(a).

²⁵⁹ This provision was repealed in 1976, save for apportionment and districting suits and when otherwise required by an Act of Congress. P. L. 94-381, § 1, 90 Stat. 1119, and § 3, *id.*, 28 U.S.C. § 2284. Congress occasionally provides for such courts, as in the Voting Rights Act. 42 U.S.C. §§ 1971, 1973c.

²⁶⁰ Repealed by P. L. 94-381, § 2, 90 Stat. 1119. Congress occasionally provides for such courts now, in order to expedite Supreme Court consideration of constitutional challenges to critical federal laws. See *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714, 719-721 (1986) (3-judge court and direct appeal to Supreme Court in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985).

²⁶¹ Repealed by P. L. 93-584, § 7, 88 Stat. 1918.

²⁶² 28 U.S.C. § 1342.

²⁶³ 29 U.S.C. §§ 52, 101-110.

²⁶⁴ 56 Stat. 31, 204 (1942).

²⁶⁵ *Freeman v. Howe*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 450 (1861); *Gaines v. Fuentes*, 92 U.S. 10 (1876); *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123 (1908).

²⁶⁶ *Infra*, pp. 801-802.

²⁶⁷ 254 U.S. 443 (1921).

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the Norris-LaGuardia Act of 1932, which has not only been declared constitutional²⁶⁸ but has been applied liberally²⁶⁹ and in such a manner as to repudiate the notion of an inherent power to issue injunctions contrary to statutory provisions.

Injunctions Under the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942.—*Lockerty v. Phillips*²⁷⁰ justifies the same conclusion. Here the validity of the special appeals procedure of the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942 was sustained. This act provided for a special Emergency Court of Appeals, which, subject to review by the Supreme Court, was given exclusive jurisdiction to determine the validity of regulations, orders, and price schedules issued by the Office of Price Administration. The Emergency Court and the Emergency Court alone was permitted to enjoin regulations or orders of OPA, and even it could enjoin such orders only after finding that the order was not in accordance with law or was arbitrary or capricious. The Emergency Court was expressly denied power to issue temporary restraining orders or interlocutory decrees, and in addition the effectiveness of any permanent injunction it might issue was to be postponed for thirty days. If review was sought in the Supreme Court by *certiorari*, effectiveness was to be postponed until final disposition. A unanimous Court, speaking through Chief Justice Stone, declared that there “is nothing in the Constitution which requires Congress to confer equity jurisdiction on any particular inferior federal court.” All federal courts, other than the Supreme Court, it was asserted, derive their jurisdiction solely from the exercise of the authority to ordain and establish inferior courts conferred on Congress by Article III, § 1, of the Constitution. This power, which Congress is left free to exercise or not, was held to include the power “of investing them with jurisdiction either limited, concurrent, or exclusive, and of withholding jurisdiction from them in the exact degrees and character which to Congress may seem proper for the public good.”²⁷¹ Although the Court avoided passing upon the constitutionality of the prohibition against interlocutory decrees, the language of the Court was otherwise broad enough to support it, as was the language of *Yakus v. United*

²⁶⁸ *Lauf v. E. G. Shinner & Co.*, 303 U.S. 323 (1938); *New Negro Alliance v. Sanitary Grocery Co.*, 303 U.S. 552 (1938).

²⁶⁹ *Ibid.*; see also *Drivers' Union v. Valley Co.*, 311 U.S. 91, 100–103 (1940), and compare *Sinclair Refining Co. v. Atkinson*, 370 U.S. 195 (1962), with *Boys Markets v. Retail Clerks Union*, 398 U.S. 235 (1970).

²⁷⁰ 319 U.S. 182 (1943).

²⁷¹ *Id.*, 187 (quoting *Cary v. Curtis*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 236, 245 (1845)). See *South Carolina v. Katzenback*, 383 U.S. 301, 331–332 (1966), upholding a provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that made the district court for the District of Columbia the only avenue of relief for States seeking to remove the coverage of the Act.

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States,²⁷² which sustained a different phase of the special procedure for appeals under the Emergency Price Control Act.

The Rule-Making Power and Powers Over Process

Among the incidental powers of courts is that of making all necessary rules governing their process and practice and for the orderly conduct of their business.²⁷³ However, this power too is derived from the statutes and cannot go beyond them. The landmark case is *Wayman v. Southard*,²⁷⁴ which sustained the validity of the Process Acts of 1789 and 1792 as a valid exercise of authority under the necessary and proper clause. Although Chief Justice Marshall regarded the rule-making power as essentially legislative in nature, he ruled that Congress could delegate to the courts the power to vary minor regulations in the outlines marked out by the statute. Fifty-seven years later, in *Fink v. O'Neil*,²⁷⁵ in which the United States sought to enforce by summary process the payment of a debt, the Supreme Court ruled that under the process acts the law of Wisconsin was the law of the United States, and hence the Government was required to bring a suit, obtain a judgment, and cause execution to issue. Justice Matthews for a unanimous Court declared that the courts have “no inherent authority to take any one of these steps, except as it may have been conferred by the legislative department; for they can exercise no jurisdiction, except as the law confers and limits it.”²⁷⁶ Conceding, in 1934, the limited competence of legislative bodies to establish a comprehensive system of court procedure, and acknowledging the inherent power of courts to regulate the conduct of their business, Congress authorized the Supreme Court to prescribe rules for the lower federal courts not inconsistent with the Constitution and statutes.²⁷⁷ Their

²⁷² 321 U.S. 414 (1944). But compare *Adamo Wrecking Co. v. United States*, 434 U.S. 275 (1978) (construing statute in way to avoid the constitutional issue raised in *Yakus*). In *United States v. Mendoza-Lopez*, 481 U.S. 828 (1987), the Court held that, when judicial review of a deportation order had been precluded, due process required that the alien be allowed to make a collateral challenge to the use of that proceeding as an element of a subsequent criminal proceeding.

²⁷³ *Washington-Southern Co. v. Baltimore Co.*, 263 U.S. 629 (1924).

²⁷⁴ 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 1 (1825).

²⁷⁵ 106 U.S. 272, 280 (1882).

²⁷⁶ See *Miner v. Atlass*, 363 U.S. 641 (1960), holding that a federal district court, sitting in admiralty, has no inherent power, independent of any statute or the Supreme Court's Admiralty Rules, to order the taking of deposition for the purpose of discovery. See also *Harris v. Nelson*, 394 U.S. 286 (1969), in which the Court found statutory authority in the “All Writs Statute” for a *habeas corpus* court to propound interrogatories.

²⁷⁷ In the Act of June 19, 1934, 48 Stat. 1064, and contained in 28 U.S.C. §2072, Congress, in authorizing promulgation of rules of civil procedure, reserved the power to examine and override or amend rules proposed pursuant to the act which it found to be contrary to its legislative policy. See *Sibbach v. Wilson*, 312

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operation being restricted, in conformity with the proviso attached to the congressional authorization, to matters of pleading and practice, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure thus judicially promulgated neither affect the substantive rights of litigants²⁷⁸ nor alter the jurisdiction²⁷⁹ of federal courts and the venue of actions therein²⁸⁰ and, thus circumscribed, have been upheld as valid.

Limitations to This Power.—The principal function of court rules is that of regulating the practice of courts as regards forms, the operation and effect of process, and the mode and time of proceedings. However, rules are sometimes employed to state in convenient form principles of substantive law previously established by statutes or decisions. But no such rule “can enlarge or restrict jurisdiction. Nor can a rule abrogate or modify the substantive law.” This rule is applicable equally to courts of law, equity, and admiralty, to rules prescribed by the Supreme Court for the guidance of lower courts, and to rules “which lower courts make for their own guidance under authority conferred.”²⁸¹ As incident to the judicial power, courts of the United States possess inherent authority to supervise the conduct of their officers, parties, witnesses, counsel, and jurors by self-preserving rules for the protection of the rights of litigants and the orderly administration of justice.²⁸²

The courts of the United States possess inherent equitable powers over their process to prevent abuse, oppression, and injustice, and to protect their jurisdiction and officers in the protection

U.S. 1, 14–16 (1941). Congress also has authorized promulgation of rules of criminal procedure, *habeas*, evidence, admiralty, bankruptcy, and appellate procedure. Congress in the 1970s disagreed with the direction of proposed rules of evidence and of *habeas* practice, and, first postponing their effectiveness, enacted revised rules. P.L. 93–505, 88 Stat. 1926 (1974); P.L. 94–426, 90 Stat. 1334 (1976).

²⁷⁸ However, the abolition of old rights and the creation of new ones in the course of litigation conducted in conformance with these judicially prescribed federal rules has been sustained as against the contention of a violation of substantive rights. *Sibbach v. Wilson*, 312 U.S. 1, 14 (1941).

²⁷⁹ Cf. *United States v. Sherwood*, 312 U.S. 584, 589–590 (1941).

²⁸⁰ *Mississippi Pub. Corp. v. Murphree*, 326 U.S. 438 (1946).

²⁸¹ *Washington-Southern Nav. Co. v. Baltimore & P.S.B.C. Co.*, 263 U.S. 629, 635, 636 (1924). It is not for the Supreme Court to prescribe how the discretion vested in a Court of Appeals should be exercised. As long as the latter court keeps within the bounds of judicial discretion, its action is not reviewable. *In re Burwell*, 350 U.S. 521 (1956).

²⁸² *McDonald v. Pless*, 238 U.S. 264, 266 (1915); *Griffin v. Thompson*, 2 How. (43 U.S.) 244, 257 (1844). See *Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140 (1985) (court of appeal rule conditioning appeal on having filed with the district court timely objections to a master's report). In *Rea v. United States*, 350 U.S. 214, 218 (1956), the Court, citing *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332 (1943), asserted that this supervisory power extends to policing the requirements of the Court's rules with respect to the law enforcement practices of federal agents. But compare *United States v. Payner*, 447 U.S. 727 (1980).

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of property in the custody of law.²⁸³ Such powers are said to be essential to and inherent in the organization of courts of justice.²⁸⁴ The courts of the United States also possess inherent power to amend their records, correct the errors of the clerk or other court officers, and to rectify defects or omissions in their records even after the lapse of a term, subject, however, to the qualification that the power to amend records conveys no power to create a record or re-create one of which no evidence exists.²⁸⁵

Appointment of Referees, Masters, and Special Aids

The administration of insolvent enterprises, investigations into the reasonableness of public utility rates, and the performance of other judicial functions often require the special services of masters in chancery, referees, auditors, and other special aids. The practice of referring pending actions to a referee was held in *Heckers v. Fowler*²⁸⁶ to be coequal with the organization of the federal courts. In the leading case of *Ex parte Peterson*,²⁸⁷ a United States district court appointed an auditor with power to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of testimony. The court authorized him to conduct a preliminary investigation of facts and file a report thereon for the purpose of simplifying the issues for the jury. This action was neither authorized nor prohibited by statute. In sustaining the action of the district judge, Justice Brandeis, speaking for the Court, declared: "Courts have (at least in the absence of legislation to the contrary) inherent power to provide themselves with appropriate instruments required for the performance of their duties. . . . This power includes authority to appoint persons unconnected with the court to aid judges in the performance of specific judicial duties, as they may arise in the progress of a cause."²⁸⁸ The power to appoint auditors by federal courts sitting in equity has been exercised from their very beginning, and here it was held that this power is the same whether the court sits in law or equity.

Power to Admit and Disbar Attorneys

Subject to general statutory qualifications for attorneys, the power of the federal courts to admit and disbar attorneys rests on the common law from which it was originally derived. According to Chief Justice Taney, it was well settled by the common law that

²⁸³ *Gumbel v. Pitkin*, 124 U.S. 131 (1888); *Covell v. Heyman*, 111 U.S. 176 (1884); *Buck v. Colbath*, 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 334 (1866).

²⁸⁴ *Eberly v. Moore*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 147 (1861); *Arkadelphia Co. v. St. Louis S.W. Ry. Co.*, 249 U.S. 134 (1919).

²⁸⁵ *Gagnon v. United States*, 193 U.S. 451, 458 (1904).

²⁸⁶ 2 Wall. (69 U.S.) 123, 128–129 (1864).

²⁸⁷ 253 U.S. 300 (1920).

²⁸⁸ *Id.*, 312.

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“it rests exclusively with the Court to determine who is qualified to become one of its officers, as an attorney and counsellor, and for what cause he ought to be removed.” Such power, he made clear, however, “is not an arbitrary and despotic one, to be exercised at the pleasure of the Court, or from passion, prejudice, or personal hostility; but it is the duty of the Court to exercise and regulate it by a sound and just judicial discretion, whereby the rights and independence of the bar may be as scrupulously guarded and maintained by the Court, as the right and dignity of the Court itself.”²⁸⁹ The Test-Oath Act of July 2, 1862, which purported to exclude former Confederates from the practice of law in the federal courts, was invalidated in *Ex parte Garland*.²⁹⁰ In the course of his opinion for the Court, Justice Field discussed generally the power to admit and disbar attorneys. The exercise of such a power, he declared, is judicial power. The attorney is an officer of the court, and though Congress may prescribe qualifications for the practice of law in the federal courts, it may not do so in such a way as to inflict punishment contrary to the Constitution or to deprive a pardon of the President of its legal effect.²⁹¹

SECTION 2. The Judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;—to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;—to all Cases of admiralty

²⁸⁹ *Ex parte Secombe*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 9, 13 (1857). In *Frazier v. Heebe*, 482 U.S. 641 (1987), the Court exercised its supervisory power to invalidate a district court rule respecting the admission of attorneys. See *In re Sawyer*, 360 U.S. 622 (1959), with reference to the extent to which counsel of record during a pending case may attribute error to the judiciary without being subject to professional discipline.

²⁹⁰ 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333 (1867).

²⁹¹ *Id.*, 378–380. Although a lawyer is admitted to practice in a federal court by way of admission to practice in a state court, he is not automatically sent out of the federal court by the same route, when “principles of right and justice” require otherwise. A determination of a state court that an accused practitioner should be disbarred is not conclusively binding on the federal courts. *Theard v. United States*, 354 U.S. 278 (1957), citing *Selling v. Radford*, 243 U.S. 46 (1917). Cf. *In re Isserman*, 345 U.S. 286, 288 (1953), where it was acknowledged that upon disbarment by a state court, Rule 2, par. 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court imposes upon the attorney the burden of showing cause why he should not be disbarred in the latter, and upon his failure to meet that burden, the Supreme Court will “follow the finding of the state that the character requisite for membership in the bar is lacking.” In 348 U.S. 1 (1954), *Isserman’s* disbarment was set aside for reason of noncompliance with Rule 8 requiring concurrence of a majority of the Justices participating in order to sustain a disbarment. See also *In re Disbarment of Crow*, 359 U.S. 1007 (1959). For an extensive treatment of disbarment and American and English precedents thereon, see *Ex parte Wall*, 107 U.S. 265 (1883).

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and maritime Jurisdiction; to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;—to Controversies between two or more States; between a State and Citizens of another State; between Citizens of different States,—between Citizens of the same State claiming Land under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

JUDICIAL POWER AND JURISDICTION—CASES AND CONTROVERSIES

Late in the Convention, a delegate proposed to extend the judicial power to cases arising under the Constitution of the United States as well as under its laws and treaties. Madison's notes continue: "Mr. Madison doubted whether it was not going too far to extend the jurisdiction of the Court generally to cases arising under the Constitution, and whether it ought not to be limited to cases of a Judiciary Nature. The right of expounding the Constitution in cases not of this nature ought not to be given to that Department.

"The motion of Doctr. Johnson was agreed to *nem : con :* it being generally supposed that the jurisdiction given was constructively limited to cases of a Judiciary nature—".²⁹²

That the Framers did not intend for federal judges to roam at large in construing the Constitution and laws of the United States but rather preferred and provided for resolution of disputes arising in a "judicial" manner is revealed not only in the language of §2 and the passage quoted above but as well in the refusal to associate the judges in the extra-judicial functions which some members of the Convention—Madison and Wilson notably—conceived for them. Thus, four times proposals for associating the judges in a council of revision to pass on laws generally were voted down,²⁹³ and similar fates befell suggestions that the Chief Justice be a member of a privy council to assist the President²⁹⁴ and that the President or either House of Congress be able to request advisory opinions of the Supreme Court.²⁹⁵

²⁹² 2 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 1, 430.

²⁹³ The proposal was contained in the Virginia Plan. 1 *id.*, 21. For the four rejections, see *id.*, 97–104, 108–110, 138–140, 2 *id.*, 73–80, 298.

²⁹⁴ *Id.*, 328–329, 342–344. Although a truncated version of the proposal was reported by the Committee of Detail, *id.*, 367, the Convention never took it up.

²⁹⁵ *Id.*, 340–341. The proposal was referred to the Committee of Detail and never heard of again.

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This intent of the Framers was early effectuated when the Justices declined a request of President Washington to tender him advice respecting legal issues growing out of United States neutrality between England and France in 1793.²⁹⁶ Moreover, the refusal of the Justices to participate in the congressional plan for awarding veterans' pensions²⁹⁷ bespoke a similar adherence to the restricted role of courts. These restrictions have been encapsuled in a series of principles or doctrines, the application of which determines whether an issue is meet for judicial resolution and whether the parties raising it are entitled to have it judicially resolved. Constitutional restrictions are intertwined with prudential considerations in the expression of these principles and doctrines, and it is seldom easy to separate out the two strands.²⁹⁸

The Two Classes of Cases and Controversies

By the terms of the foregoing section, the judicial power extends to nine classes of cases and controversies, which fall into two general groups. In the words of Chief Justice Marshall in *Cohens v. Virginia*:²⁹⁹ "In the first, jurisdiction depends on the character of the cause, whoever may be the parties. This class comprehends 'all cases in law and equity arising under this constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority.' This cause extends the jurisdiction of the Court to all the cases described, without making in its terms any exception whatever, and without any regard to the condition of the party. If there be any exception, it is to be implied, against the express words of the article. In the second class, the jurisdiction depends entirely on the character of the parties. In this are comprehended controversies between two or more States, between a State and citizens of another State,' and 'between a State and foreign States, citizens or subjects.' If these be the parties, it is entirely unimportant, what may be the subject of controversy. Be it what it may, these parties have a constitutional right to come into the courts of the Union."³⁰⁰

Judicial power is "the power of a court to decide and pronounce a judgment and carry it into effect between persons and parties

²⁹⁶ 1 C. WARREN, *op. cit.*, n. 18, 108–111; 3 CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC PAPERS OF JOHN JAY, H. Johnston ed. (New York: 1893), 633–635; HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 65–67.

²⁹⁷ Hayburn's Case, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 409 (1792), discussed *supra*, pp. 620–621.

²⁹⁸ See, e.g., Justice Brandeis dissenting in *Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288, 341, 345–348 (1936). Cf. *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83, 97 (1968); *Rescue Army v. Municipal Court*, 331 U.S. 549, 568–575 (1947).

²⁹⁹ 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264 (1821).

³⁰⁰ *Id.*, 378.

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who bring a case before it for decision.”³⁰¹ The meaning attached to the terms “cases” and “controversies”³⁰² determines therefore the extent of the judicial power as well as the capacity of the federal courts to receive jurisdiction. According to Chief Justice Marshall, judicial power is capable of acting only when the subject is submitted in a case and a case arises only when a party asserts his rights “in a form prescribed by law.”³⁰³ “By cases and controversies are intended the claims of litigants brought before the courts for determination by such regular proceedings as are established by law or custom for the protection or enforcement of rights, or the prevention, redress, or punishment of wrongs. Whenever the claim of a party under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States takes such a form that the judicial power is capable of acting upon it, then it has become a case. The term implies the existence of present or possible adverse parties whose contentions are submitted to the Court for adjudication.”³⁰⁴

Chief Justice Hughes once essayed a definition, which, however, presents a substantial problem of labels. “A ‘controversy’ in this sense must be one that is appropriate for judicial determination. A justiciable controversy is thus distinguished from a difference or dispute of a hypothetical character; from one that is academic or moot. The controversy must be definite and concrete, touching the legal relations of parties having adverse legal interests. It must be a real and substantial controversy admitting of specific relief through a decree of a conclusive character, as distinguished from an opinion advising what the law would be upon a hypothetical state of facts.”³⁰⁵ Of the “case” and “controversy” requirement, Chief Justice Warren admitted that “those two words have an iceberg quality, containing beneath their surface simplicity submerged complexities which go to the very heart of our constitutional form of government. Embodied in the words ‘cases’ and ‘controversies’ are two complementary but somewhat different limitations. In part those words limit the business of federal courts to questions presented in an adversary context and in a form historically viewed as capable of resolution through the judicial process. And in part those words define the role assigned to the judiciary

³⁰¹ *Muskrat v. United States*, 219 U.S. 346, 356 (1911).

³⁰² The two terms may be used interchangeably, inasmuch as a “controversy,” if distinguishable from a “case” at all, is so only because it is a less comprehensive word and includes only suits of a civil nature. *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Haworth*, 300 U.S. 227, 239 (1937).

³⁰³ *Osborn v. United States Bank*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738, 819 (1824).

³⁰⁴ *In re Pacific Ry. Comm.*, 32 F. 241, 255 (C.C. Calif. 1887) (Justice Field). See also *Smith v. Adams*, 130 U.S. 167, 173–174 (1889).

³⁰⁵ *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Haworth*, 300 U.S. 229, 240–241 (1937). Cf. *Public Service Comm. v. Wycoff Co.*, 344 U.S. 237, 242 (1952).

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in a tripartite allocation of power to assure that the federal courts will not intrude into areas committed to the other branches of government. Justiciability is the term of art employed to give expression to this dual limitation placed upon federal courts by the case and controversy doctrine.”³⁰⁶ Justice Frankfurter perhaps best captured the flavor of the “case” and “controversy” requirement by noting that it takes the “expert feel of lawyers” often to note it.³⁰⁷

From these quotations may be isolated several factors which, in one degree or another, go to make up a “case” and “controversy.”

Adverse Litigants

The presence of adverse litigants with real interests to contend for is a standard which has been stressed in numerous cases,³⁰⁸ and the requirement implicates a number of complementary factors making up a justiciable suit. A concrete example of the requirement being one of the decisive factors, if not the decisive one, is *Muskrat v. United States*,³⁰⁹ a case not now deemed of great importance, in which the Court struck down a statute authorizing certain named Indians to bring a test suit against the United States to determine the validity of a law affecting the allocation of Indian lands. Attorneys’ fees of both sides were to be paid out of tribal funds deposited in the United States Treasury. “The judicial power,” said the Court, “. . . is the right to determine actual controversies arising between adverse litigants, duly instituted in courts of proper jurisdiction. . . . It is true the United States is made a defendant to this action, but it has no interest adverse to the claimants. The object is not to assert a property right as against the government, or to demand compensation for alleged wrongs because of action upon its part. The whole purpose of the law is to determine the constitutional validity of this class of legislation, in a suit not arising between parties concerning a property right necessarily involved in the decision in question, but in a proceeding against the government in its sovereign capacity, and con-

³⁰⁶ *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83, 94–95 (1968).

³⁰⁷ “The jurisdiction of the federal courts can be invoked only under circumstances which to the expert feel of lawyers constitute a ‘case or controversy.’” *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123, 149, 150 (1951).

³⁰⁸ *Lord v. Veazie*, 8 How. (49 U.S.) 251 (1850); *Chicago & G.T. Ry. Co. v. Wellman*, 143 U.S. 339 (1892); *South Spring Hill Gold Mining Co. v. Amador Medean Gold Mining Co.*, 145 U.S. 300 (1892); *California v. San Pablo & T.R.R.*, 149 U.S. 308 (1893); *Tregea v. Modesto Irrigation District*, 164 U.S. 179 (1896); *Lampasas v. Bell*, 180 U.S. 276 (1901); *Smith v. Indiana*, 191 U.S. 138 (1903); *Braxton County Court v. West Virginia*, 208 U.S. 192 (1908); *Muskrat v. United States*, 219 U.S. 346 (1911); *United States v. Johnson*, 319 U.S. 302 (1943); *Moore v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education*, 402 U.S. 47 (1971).

³⁰⁹ 219 U.S. 346 (1911).

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cerning which the only judgment required is to settle the doubtful character of the legislation in question.”³¹⁰

Collusive and Feigned Suits.—Prime among the cases in which adverse litigants are required are those suits in which two parties have gotten together to bring a friendly suit to settle a question of interest to them. Thus, in *Lord v. Veazie*,³¹¹ the latter had executed a deed to the former warranting that he had certain rights claimed by a third person and suit was instituted to decide the “dispute.” Declaring that “the whole proceeding was in contempt of the court, and highly reprehensible,” the Court observed: “The contract set out in the pleadings was made for the purpose of instituting this suit. . . . The plaintiff and defendant are attempting to procure the opinion of this court upon a question of law, in the decision of which they have a common interest opposed to that of other persons, who are not parties to the suit. . . . And their conduct is the more objectionable, because they have brought up the question upon a statement of facts agreed upon between themselves . . . and upon a judgment pro forma entered by their mutual consent, without any actual judicial decision. . . .”³¹² “Whenever,” said the Court in another case, “in pursuance of an honest and actual antagonistic assertion of rights by one individual against another, there is presented a question involving the validity of any act of any legislature, State or federal, and the decision necessarily rests on the competency of the legislature to so enact, the court must . . . determine whether the act be constitutional or not; but such an exercise of power is the ultimate and supreme function of courts. It is legitimate only in the last resort, and as a necessity in the determination of real, earnest and vital controversy between individuals. It never was the thought that, by means of a friendly suit, a party beaten in the legislature could transfer to the courts an inquiry as to the constitutionality of the legislative act.”³¹³ Yet, several widely known constitutional decisions have been rendered in cases in which friendly parties contrived to have the actions brought and in which the suits were su-

³¹⁰ *Id.*, 361–362. The Indians obtained the sought-after decision the following year by the simple expedient of suing to enjoin the Secretary of the Interior from enforcing the disputed statute. *Gritts v. Fisher*, 224 U.S. 640 (1912). Other cases have involved similar problems, but they resulted in decisions on the merits. E.g., *Cherokee Intermarriage Cases*, 203 U.S. 76 (1906); *La Abra Silver Mining Co. v. United States*, 175 U.S. 423, 455–463 (1899); *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 335 (1966); but see *id.*, 357 (Justice Black dissenting). The principal effect of *Muskra* was to put in doubt for several years the validity of any sort of declaratory judgment provision in federal law.

³¹¹ 8 How. (49 U.S.) 251 (1850).

³¹² *Id.*, 254–255.

³¹³ *Chicago & G.T. Ry. Co. v. Wellman*, 143 U.S. 339, 345 (1892).

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pervised and financed by one side.³¹⁴ And there are instances in which there may not be in fact an adverse party at certain stages, that is, some instances when the parties do not actually disagree, but in which the Court and the lower courts are empowered to adjudicate.³¹⁵

Stockholder Suits.—Moreover, adversity in parties has often been found in suits by stockholders against their corporation in which the constitutionality of a statute or a government action is drawn in question, even though one may suspect that the interests of plaintiffs and defendant are not all that dissimilar. Thus, in *Pollock v. Farmers' Loan and Trust Co.*,³¹⁶ the Court sustained the jurisdiction of a district court which had enjoined the company from paying an income tax even though the suit was brought by a stockholder against the company, thereby circumventing a statute which forbade the maintenance in any court of a suit to restrain the collection of any tax.³¹⁷ Subsequently, the Court sustained jurisdiction in cases brought by a stockholder to restrain a company from investing its funds in farm loan bonds issued by federal land banks³¹⁸ and by preferred stockholders against a utility company and the TVA to enjoin the performance of contracts between the company and TVA on the ground that the statute creating it was unconstitutional.³¹⁹ Perhaps most notorious was *Carter v. Carter Coal Co.*,³²⁰ in which the president of the company brought suit against the company and its officials, among whom was Carter's fa-

³¹⁴E.g., *Hylton v. United States*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 171 (1796); *Fletcher v. Peck*, 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 87 (1810); *Scott v. Sandford*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 393 (1857); Cf. 1 C. WARREN, *op. cit.*, n. 18, 147, 392-395; 2 *id.*, 279-282. In *Powell v. Texas*, 392 U.S. 514 (1968), the Court adjudicated on the merits a challenge to the constitutionality of criminal treatment of chronic alcoholics although the findings of the trial court, agreed to by the parties, appeared rather to be "the premises of a syllogism transparently designed to bring this case' within the confines of an earlier enunciated constitutional principle. But adversity arguably still existed.

³¹⁵Examples are naturalization cases, *Tutun v. United States*, 270 U.S. 568 (1926), entry of judgment by default or on a plea of guilty, *In re Metropolitan Ry. Receivership*, 208 U.S. 90 (1908), and consideration by the Court of cases in which the Solicitor General confesses error below. Cf. *Young v. United States*, 315 U.S. 257, 258-259 (1942); *Casey v. United States*, 343 U.S. 808 (1952); *Rosengart v. Laird*, 404 U.S. 908 (1972) (Justice White dissenting). See also *Sibron v. New York*, 392 U.S. 40, 58-59 (1968).

³¹⁶157 U.S. 429 (1895). The first injunction suit by a stockholder to restrain a corporation from paying a tax was apparently *Dodge v. Woolsey*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 331 (1856). See also *Brushaber v. Union Pacific R. Co.*, 240 U.S. 1 (1916).

³¹⁷Cf. *Cheatham v. United States*, 92 U.S. 85 (1875); *Snyder v. Marks*, 109 U.S. 189 (1883).

³¹⁸*Smith v. Kansas City Title Co.*, 255 U.S. 180 (1921).

³¹⁹*Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288 (1936). See *id.*, 341 (Justice Brandeis dissenting in part).

³²⁰298 U.S. 238 (1936).

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ther, a vice president of the company, and in which the Court entertained the suit and decided the case on the merits.³²¹

Substantial Interest: Standing

Perhaps the most important element of the requirement of adverse parties may be found in the “complexities and vagaries” of the standing doctrine. “The fundamental aspect of standing is that it focuses on the party seeking to get his complaint before a federal court and not on the issues he wishes to have adjudicated.”³²² The “gist of the question of standing” is whether the party seeking relief has “alleged such a personal stake in the outcome of the controversy as to assure that concrete adverseness which sharpens the presentation of issues upon which the court so largely depends for illumination of difficult constitutional questions.”³²³ This practical conception of standing has now given way to a primary emphasis upon separation of powers as the guide. “[T]he ‘case or controversy’ requirement defines with respect to the Judicial Branch the idea of separation of powers on which the Federal Government is founded. The several doctrines that have grown up to elaborate that requirement are ‘founded in concern about the proper - and properly limited - role of the courts in a democratic society.’”³²⁴

Standing as a doctrine is composed of both constitutional and prudential restraints on the power of the federal courts to render

³²¹ Stern, *The Commerce Clause and the National Economy*, 59 Harv. L. Rev. 645, 667–668 (1948) (detailing the framing of the suit).

³²² *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83, 99 (1968). That this characterization is not the view of the present Court, see *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 750, 752, 755–756, 759–761 (1984). In taxpayer suits, it is appropriate to look to the substantive issues to determine whether there is a logical nexus between the status asserted and the claim sought to be adjudicated. *Id.*, 102; *United States v. Richardson*, 418 U.S. 166, 174–175 (1974); *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 78–79 (1978).

³²³ *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 204 (1962). That persons or organizations have a personal, ideological interest sufficiently strong to create adverseness is not alone enough to confer standing; rather, the adverseness is the consequence of one being able to satisfy the Article III requisite of injury in fact. *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 482–486 (1982); *Schlesinger v. Reservists Com. to Stop the War*, 418 U.S. 208, 225–226 (1974). Nor is the fact that if plaintiffs have no standing to sue, no one would have standing, a sufficient basis for finding standing. *Id.*, 227.

³²⁴ *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 750 (1984) (quoting *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 498 (1975)). All the standards relating to whether a plaintiff is entitled to adjudication of his claims must be evaluated “by reference to the Art. III notion that federal courts may exercise power only in the last resort, and as a necessity, . . . and only when adjudication is ‘consistent with a system of separated powers and [the dispute is one] traditionally thought to be capable of resolution through the judicial process.’” *Id.*, 752 (quoting, respectively, *Chicago & Grand Trunk R. Co. v. Wellman*, 143 U.S. 339, 345 (1892), and *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83, 97 (1968)). For the strengthening of the separation-of-powers barrier to standing, see *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2135–2136, 2142–2146 (1992).

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decisions,³²⁵ and is almost exclusively concerned with such public law questions as determinations of constitutionality and review of administrative or other governmental action.³²⁶ As such, it is often interpreted according to the prevailing philosophies of judicial activism and restraint and narrowly or broadly in terms of the viewed desirability of access to the courts by persons seeking to challenge legislation or other governmental action. The trend in the 1960s was to broaden access; in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, it was to stiffen the requirements of standing, although Court majorities were not entirely consistent. The major difficulty in setting forth the standards is that the Court's generalizations and the results it achieves are often at variance.³²⁷

The standing rules apply to actions brought in *federal* courts, and they have no direct application to actions brought in state courts.³²⁸

Citizen Suits.—Persons do not have standing to sue to enforce a constitutional provision when all they can show or claim is that they have an interest or have suffered an injury that is shared by all members of the public. Thus, a group of persons suing as citizens to litigate a contention that membership of Members of Congress in the military reserves constituted a violation of Article I, § 6, cl. 2, was denied standing.³²⁹ “The only interest all citizens share in the claim advanced by respondents is one which presents injury in the abstract. . . . [The] claimed nonobservance [of the clause], standing alone, would adversely affect only the generalized interest of all citizens in constitutional governance.”³³⁰

³²⁵ E.g., *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 471–476 (1982); *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 750–751 (1984).

³²⁶ C. WRIGHT, *HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS* (St. Paul: 4th ed. 1983), 60.

³²⁷ “[T]he concept of ‘Art. III standing’ has not been defined with complete consistency in all of the various cases decided by this Court . . . [and] this very fact is probably proof that the concept cannot be reduced to a one-sentence or one-paragraph definition.” *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 475 (1982). “Generalizations about standing to sue are largely worthless as such.” *Assn. of Data Processing Service Org. v. Camp*, 397 U.S. 150, 151 (1970). For extensive consideration of the doctrine, see HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n.250, 107–196.

³²⁸ Thus, state courts could adjudicate a case brought by a person without standing in the federal sense. If the plaintiff lost, he would have no recourse in the United States Supreme Court, inasmuch as he lacks standing. *Tileston v. Ullman*, 318 U.S. 44 (1943); *Doremus v. Board of Education*, 342 U.S. 429 (1952), but if plaintiff prevailed, the losing defendant may be able to appeal, because he might well be able to assert sufficient injury to his federal interests. *ASARCO Inc. v. Kadish*, 490 U.S. 605 (1989).

³²⁹ *Schlesinger v. Reservists Com. to Stop the War*, 418 U.S. 208 (1974).

³³⁰ *Id.*, 217. See also *United States v. Richardson*, 418 U.S. 166, 176–177 (1974); *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 483 (1982); *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 754 (1984); *Whitmore v. Lujan*, 495 U.S. 149 (1990); *Lujan v. De-*

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Taxpayer Suits.—Save for a narrowly cabined exception, standing is also lacking when a litigant attempts to sue to contest governmental action that he claims injures him as a taxpayer. In *Frothingham v. Mellon*,³³¹ the Court denied standing to a taxpayer suing to restrain disbursements of federal money to those States that chose to participate in a program to reduce maternal and infant mortality; her claim was that Congress lacked power to appropriate funds for those purposes and that the appropriations would increase her taxes in future years in an unconstitutional manner. Noting that a federal taxpayer's "interest in the moneys of the Treasury . . . is comparatively minute and indeterminate" and that "the effect upon future taxation, of any payment out of the funds . . . [is] remote, fluctuating and uncertain," the Court ruled that plaintiff had failed to allege the type of "direct injury" necessary to confer standing.³³²

Taxpayers were found to have standing, however, in *Flast v. Cohen*,³³³ to contest the expenditure of federal moneys to assist religious-affiliated organizations. The Court asserted that the answer to the question whether taxpayers have standing depends on whether the circumstances of each case demonstrate that there is a logical nexus between the status asserted and the claim sought to be adjudicated. First, there must be a logical link between the status of taxpayer and the type of legislative enactment attacked; this means, a taxpayer must allege the unconstitutionality only of exercises of congressional power under the taxing and spending clause of Article I, §8, rather than also of incidental expenditure of funds in the administration of an essentially regulatory statute. Second, there must be a logical nexus between the status of taxpayer and the precise nature of the constitutional infringement alleged; this means, the taxpayer must show the challenged enactment exceeds specific constitutional limitations imposed upon the exercise of the congressional taxing and spending power, rather than simply to argue the enactment is generally beyond the powers delegated to Congress. Both *Frothingham* and *Flast* met the first test, because they attacked a spending program. *Flast* met the second test, because the establishment clause of the First Amendment operates as a specific limitation upon the exercise of the taxing and spending power, while *Frothingham* had alleged only that the Tenth Amendment had been exceeded. Reserved was the question

fenders of Wildlife, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2143–2145 (1992). Cf. *Ex parte Levitt*, 302 U.S. 633 (1937); *Laird v. Tatum*, 408 U.S. 1 (1972).

³³¹ Usually cited as *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U.S. 447 (1923), the two suits being consolidated.

³³² *Id.*, 487, 488.

³³³ 392 U.S. 83 (1968).

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whether other specific limitations constrained the taxing and spending clause in the same manner as the establishment clause.³³⁴

Since *Flast*, the Court has refused to expand it. Litigants seeking standing as taxpayers to challenge legislation permitting the CIA to withhold from the public detailed information about its expenditures as a violation of Article I, §9, cl. 7, and to challenge certain Members of Congress from holding commissions in the reserves as a violation of Article I, §6, cl. 2, were denied standing, in the former cases because their challenge was not to an exercise of the taxing and spending power and in the latter because their challenge was not to legislation enacted under Article I, §8, but rather was to executive action in permitting Members to maintain their reserve status.³³⁵ An organization promoting church-state separation was denied standing to challenge an executive decision to donate surplus federal property to a church-related college, both because the contest was to executive action under a valid piece of legislation and because the property transfer was not pursuant to a taxing and spending clause exercise but was taken under the property clause of Article IV, §3, cl. 2.³³⁶ It seems evident that for at least the foreseeable future taxpayer standing will be restricted to establishment clause limitations on spending programs.

Local taxpayers attacking local expenditures have generally been permitted more leeway than federal taxpayers insofar as standing is concerned. Thus, in *Everson v. Board of Education*,³³⁷ such a taxpayer was found to have standing to challenge the use of public funds for transportation of pupils to parochial schools.³³⁸ But in *Doremus v. Board of Educ.*,³³⁹ the Court refused an appeal from a state court for lack of standing of a taxpayer challenging Bible reading in the classroom. No measurable disbursement of public funds was involved in this type of activity, so that there was no direct injury to the taxpayer, a rationale similar to the spending program-regulatory program distinction of *Flast*.

³³⁴ *Id.*, 105.

³³⁵ *United States v. Richardson*, 418 U.S. 166 (1974); *Schlesinger v. Reservists Com. to Stop the War*, 418 U.S. 208, 227–228 (1974).

³³⁶ *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464 (1982).

³³⁷ 330 U.S. 1 (1947).

³³⁸ See *Bradfield v. Roberts*, 175 U.S. 291, 295 (1899); *Crampton v. Zabriskie*, 101 U.S. 601 (1880); *Heim v. McCall*, 239 U.S. 175 (1915). See also *Illinois ex rel. McCollom v. Board of Education*, 333 U.S. 203 (1948); *Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U.S. 306 (1952); *Engel v. Vitale*, 370 U.S. 421 (1962) (plaintiffs suing as parents and taxpayers).

³³⁹ 342 U.S. 429 (1952). Compare *Alder v. Board of Education*, 342 U.S. 485 (1952). See also *Richardson v. Ramirez*, 418 U.S. 24 (1974).

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Constitutional Standards: Injury in Fact, Causation, and Redressability.—While the Court has been inconsistent over time, it has now settled upon the rule that, “at an irreducible minimum,” the constitutional requisites under Article III for the existence of standing are that the party seeking to sue must personally have suffered some actual or threatened injury that can fairly be traced to the challenged action of defendant and that the injury is likely to be redressed by a favorable decision.³⁴⁰

For some time, injury alone was not sufficient; rather, the injury had to be “a wrong which directly results in the violation of a legal right,”³⁴¹ that is, “one of property, one arising out of contract, one protected against tortious invasion, or one founded in a statute which confers a privilege.”³⁴² The problem was that the “legal right” language was “demonstrably circular: if the plaintiff is given standing to assert his claims, his interest is legally protected; if he is denied standing, his interest is not legally protected.”³⁴³ The observable tendency of the Court, however, was to find standing frequently in cases distinctly not grounded in property rights.³⁴⁴

In any event, the “legal rights” language has now been dispensed with. Rejection occurred in two administrative law cases in which the Court announced that parties had standing when they suffered “injury in fact” to some interest, “economic or otherwise,” that is arguably within the zone of interest to be protected or regulated by the statute or constitutional provision in question.³⁴⁵ Now,

³⁴⁰ *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 472 (1982); *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 751 (1984); *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2136 (1992). See, however, *United States Parole Comm. v. Geraghty*, 445 U.S. 388 (1980), a class action case, in which the majority opinion appears to reduce the significance of the personal stake requirement. *Id.*, 404 n. 11, reserving full consideration of the dissent’s argument at *id.*, 401 n. 1, 420–421.

³⁴¹ *Alabama Power Co. v. Ickes*, 302 U.S. 464, 479 (1938). Cf. *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123, 151–152 (1951) (Justice Frankfurter concurring). But see *Frost v. Corporation Comm.*, 278 U.S. 515 (1929); *City of Chicago v. Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry.*, 357 U.S. 77 (1958).

³⁴² *Tennessee Power Co. v. TVA*, 306 U.S. 118, 137–138 (1939).

³⁴³ *C. WRIGHT*, *op. cit.*, n. 326, 65–66.

³⁴⁴ *E.g.*, *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123 (1951) (indirect injury to organization and members by governmental maintenance of list of subversive organizations); *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449 (1958) (same); *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 224 n. 9 (1963) (parents and school children challenging school prayers); *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420, 430–431 (1961) (merchants challenging Sunday closing laws); *Baker v. Carr* 369 U.S. 186, 204–208 (1962) (voting rights).

³⁴⁵ *Assn. of Data Processing Service Org. v. Camp*, 397 U.S. 150 (1970); *Barlow v. Collins*, 397 U.S. 159 (1970). The “zone of interest” test is a prudential rather than constitutional standard. The Court sometimes uses language characteristic of the language. Thus, in *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2136 (1992), the Court refers to injury in fact as “an invasion of a legally-protected interest,” but

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environmental, aesthetic, and social interests, when impaired, afford a basis for making constitutional attacks upon governmental action.³⁴⁶ The breadth of the injury in fact concept may be discerned in a series of cases involving the right of private parties to bring actions under the Fair Housing Act to challenge alleged discriminatory practices. The subjective and intangible interests of persons in enjoying the benefits of living in integrated communities were found sufficient to permit them to attack actions which threatened or harmed those interests even though the actions were not directed at them.³⁴⁷ Similarly, the interests of individuals and associations of individuals in using the environment afforded them the standing to challenge actions which threatened those environmental conditions.³⁴⁸ Nonetheless, the Court has also in constitutional cases been wary of granting standing to persons who alleged threats or harm to interests which they shared with the larger community of people at large, a rule against airing “generalized grievances” through the courts,³⁴⁹ although it is unclear whether this rule (or subrule) has a constitutional or a prudential basis.³⁵⁰

in context, here and in the cases cited, it is clear the reference is to any interest that the Court finds protectable under the Constitution, statutes, or regulations.

³⁴⁶ E.g., *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2137–2138 (1992); *Lujan v. National Wildlife Federation*, 497 U.S. 871, 885 (1991); *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 72–74 (1978); *Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252, 261–263 (1977); *Singleton v. Wulff*, 428 U.S. 106, 112–113 (1976); *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 498–499 (1975); *Shea v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 488, 493–494 (1974); *Linda R.S. v. Richard D.*, 410 U.S. 614, 617–618 (1973).

³⁴⁷ *Trafficante v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.*, 409 U.S. 205 (1972); *Gladstone, Realtors v. Village of Bellwood*, 441 U.S. 91 (1979); *Havens Realty Corp. v. Coleman*, 455 U.S. 363 (1982). While Congress had provided for standing in the Act, thus removing prudential considerations affecting standing, it could not abrogate constitutional constraints. *Gladstone, Realtors*, *supra*, 100. Thus, the injury alleged satisfied Article III.

³⁴⁸ *Sierra Club v. Morton*, 405 U.S. 727, 735 (1972); *United States v. SCRAP*, 412 U.S. 669, 687–688 (1973); *Duke Power Co., v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 72–74 (1978). But the Court has refused to credit general allegations of injury untied to specific governmental actions. E.g., *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130 (1992); *Lujan v. National Wildlife Federation*, 497 U.S. 871 (1990). In particular, *SCRAP*, *supra*, is disfavored as too broad. *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, *supra*, 2139–2140. Moreover, unlike the situation in taxpayer suits, there is no requirement of a nexus between the injuries claimed and the constitutional rights asserted. In *Duke Power*, *supra*, 78–81, claimed environmental and health injuries grew out of construction and operation of nuclear power plants but were not directly related to the governmental action challenged, the limitation of liability and indemnification in cases of nuclear accident. See also *Metropolitan Washington Airports Auth. v. Citizens for the Abatement of Aircraft Noise*, 501 U.S. 252, 264–265 (1991).

³⁴⁹ See *supra*, nn. 329–330.

³⁵⁰ Compare *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 499–500 (1975) (prudential), with *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 485, 490 (1982) (apparently constitutional). In *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 751 (1984), it is again prudential.

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And in a number of cases, the Court has refused standing apparently in the belief that the assertion of harm is too speculative or too remote to credit.³⁵¹

Of increasing importance are the second and third element of standing, recently developed and held to be of constitutional requisite. Thus, there must be a causal connection between the injury and the conduct complained of; that is, the Court insists that the plaintiff show that “but for” the action, she would not have been injured. And the Court has insisted that there must be a “substantial likelihood” that the relief sought from the court if granted would remedy the harm.³⁵² Thus, poor people who had been denied service at certain hospitals were held to lack standing to challenge IRS policy of extending tax benefits to hospitals that did not serve indigents, since they could not show that alteration of the tax policy would cause the hospitals to alter their policies and treat them.³⁵³ Low-income persons seeking the invalidation of a town’s restrictive zoning ordinance were held to lack standing, because they had failed to allege with sufficient particularity that the complained-of injury, inability to obtain adequate housing within their means, was fairly attributable to the ordinance instead of to other factors, so that voiding of the ordinance might not have any effect upon their ability to find affordable housing.³⁵⁴ Similarly, the link between fully integrated public schools and allegedly lax administration of tax policy permitting benefits to discriminatory private

³⁵¹ E.g. *Laird v. Tatum*, 408 U.S. 1 (1972) (“allegations of a subjective ‘chill’ are not an adequate substitute for a claim of specific present objective harm or a threat of specific future harm.”). See also *O’Shea v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 488 (1974); *California Bankers Assn. v. Schultz*, 416 U.S. 21 (1974); *Rizzo v. Goode*, 423 U.S. 262, 371–373 (1976). In *City of Los Angeles v. Lyons*, 461 U.S. 95 (1983), the Court held that victim of police chokehold seeking injunctive relief was unable to show sufficient likelihood of recurrence as to him.

³⁵² *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2136 (1992); *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 751 (1984). See also *ASARCO Inc. v. Kadish*, 490 U.S. 605, 612–617 (1989) (plurality opinion). Although the two tests were initially articulated as two facets of a single requirement, the Court now insists they are separate inquiries. *Id.*, 468 U.S., 753 n. 19. “To the extent there is a difference, it is that the former examines a causal connection between the assertedly unlawful conduct and the alleged injury, whereas the latter examines the causal connection between the alleged injury and the judicial relief requested.” *Id.*

³⁵³ *Simon v. Eastern Kentucky Welfare Rights Org.*, 426 U.S. 26 (1976). See also *Linda R.S. v. Richard D.*, 410 U.S. 614 (1973) (mother of illegitimate child lacked standing to contest prosecutorial policy of utilizing child support laws to coerce support of legitimate children only, since it was “only speculative” that prosecution of father would result in support rather than jailing).

³⁵⁴ *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490 (1975). But in *Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252, 264 (1974), a person who alleged he was seeking housing in the community and that he would qualify if the organizational plaintiff were not inhibited by allegedly racially discriminatory zoning laws from constructing housing for low-income persons like himself was held to have shown a “substantial probability” that voiding of the ordinance would benefit him.

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schools was deemed too tenuous, the harm flowing from private actors not before the courts and the speculative possibility that directing denial of benefits would result in any minority child being admitted to a school.³⁵⁵ But the Court did permit plaintiffs to attack the constitutionality of a law limiting the liability of private utilities in the event of nuclear accidents and providing for indemnification, on a showing that “but for” the passage of the law there was a “substantial likelihood,” based upon industry testimony and other material in the legislative history, that the nuclear power plants would not be constructed and that therefore the environmental and aesthetic harm alleged by plaintiffs would not occur; thus, a voiding of the law would likely relieve the plaintiffs of the complained of injuries.³⁵⁶ Operation of these requirements makes difficult but not impossible the establishment of standing by persons indirectly injured by governmental action, that is, action taken as to third parties that is alleged to have as a consequence injured the claimants.³⁵⁷

Prudential Standing Rules.—Even when Article III constitutional standing rules have been satisfied, the Court has held that principles of prudence may counsel the judiciary to refuse to adjudicate some claims.³⁵⁸ With respect to the prudential rules, it is clear that the Court feels free to disregard any of these principles in cases in which it thinks exceptionable circumstances exists,³⁵⁹ and Congress is free to legislate away prudential restraints upon the Court’s jurisdiction and confer standing to the furthest extent permitted by Article III.³⁶⁰ The Court has identified three

³⁵⁵ *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737 (1984). But compare *Heckler v. Mathews*, 465 U.S. 728 (1984), where persons denied equal treatment in conferral of benefits were held to have standing to challenge the treatment, although a judicial order could only have terminated benefits to the favored class. In that event, members would have secured relief in the form of equal treatment, even if they did not receive benefits. And see *Arkansas Writers’ Project, Inc. v. Ragland*, 481 U.S. 221 (1987); *Orr v. Orr*, 440 U.S. 268, 271–273 (1979).

³⁵⁶ *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 72–78 (1978). The likelihood of relief in some cases appears to be rather speculative at best. E.g., *Bryant v. Yellen*, 447 U.S. 352, 366–368 (1980); *Watt v. Energy Action Educational Foundation*, 454 U.S. 151, 160–162 (1981).

³⁵⁷ *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 505 (1975); *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 756–761 (1984).

³⁵⁸ *Gladstone, Realtors v. Village of Bellwood*, 441 U.S. 91, 99–100 (1979) (“a plaintiff may still lack standing under the prudential principles by which the judiciary seeks to avoid deciding questions of broad social import where no individual rights would be vindicated and to limit access to the federal courts to those litigants best suited to assert a particular claim”).

³⁵⁹ *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 500–501 (1975); *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190, 193–194 (1976).

³⁶⁰ “Congress may grant an express right of action to persons who otherwise would be barred by prudential standing rules. Of course, Art. III’s requirement remains: the plaintiff still must allege a distinct and palpable injury to himself, even

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rules as prudential ones,³⁶¹ only one of which has been a significant factor in the jurisprudence of standing. The first two rules are that the plaintiff's interest, to which she asserts an injury, must come within the "zone of interest" arguably protected by the constitutional provision or statute in question³⁶² and that plaintiffs may not air "generalized grievances" shared by all or a large class of citizens.³⁶³ The important rule concerns the ability of a plaintiff to represent the constitutional rights of third parties not before the court.

Standing to Assert the Constitutional Rights of Others.—

Usually, one may assert only one's interest in the litigation and not challenge the constitutionality of a statute or a governmental action because it infringes the protectable rights of someone else.³⁶⁴ In *Tileston v. Ullman*,³⁶⁵ an early round in the attack on a state anticontraceptive law, a doctor sued, charging that he was prevented from giving his patients needed birth control advice. The Court held he had no standing; no right of his was infringed, and he could not represent the interests of his patients. But there are

if it is an injury shared by a large class of other possible litigants." *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 501 (1975). That is, the actual or threatened injury required may exist solely by virtue of "statutes creating legal rights, the invasion of which creates standing, even though no injury would exist without the statute." *Linda R.S. v. Richard D.*, 410 U.S. 614, 617 n. 3 (1973); *O'Shea v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 488, 493 n. 2 (1974). Examples include *United States v. SCRAP*, 412 U.S. 669 (1973); *Trafficante v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.*, 409 U.S. 205 (1972); *Gladstone, Realtors v. Village of Bellwood*, 441 U.S. 91 (1979). See also *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 8 n. 4, 11–12 (1976). For a good example of the congressionally-created interest and the injury to it, see *Havens Realty Corp. v. Coleman*, 455 U.S. 363, 373–375 (1982) (Fair Housing Act created right to truthful information on availability of housing; black tester's right injured through false information, but white tester not injured because he received truthful information). It is clear, however, that the Court will impose separation-of-powers restraints on the power of Congress to create interests to which injury would give standing. *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2142–2146 (1992).

³⁶¹ *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 474–475 (1982); *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 751 (1984).

³⁶² *Assn. of Data Processing Service Orgs. v. Camp*, 397 U.S. 150, 153 (1970); *Simon v. Eastern Kentucky Welfare Rights Org.*, 426 U.S. 26, 39 n. 19 (1976); *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United*, 454 U.S. 464, 475 (1982); *Clarke v. Securities Industry Assn.*, 479 U.S. 388 (1987).

³⁶³ *United States v. Richardson*, 418 U.S. 166, 173, 174–176 (1974); *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 80 (1978); *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 751 (1984). In *United States v. SCRAP*, 412 U.S. 669, 687–688 (1973), a congressional conferral case, the Court agreed that the interest asserted was one shared by all, but the Court has disparaged *SCRAP*, asserting that it "surely went to the very outer limit of the law." *Whitmore v. Arkansas*, 495 U.S. 149, 159 (1990).

³⁶⁴ *United States v. Raines*, 362 U.S. 17, 21–23 (1960); *Yazoo & M.V.R. Co. v. Jackson Vinegar Co.*, 226 U.S. 217 (1912). Cf. *Bender v. Williamsport Area School Dist.*, 475 U.S. 534 (1986).

³⁶⁵ 318 U.S. 44 (1943). See *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 508–510 (1975) (challenged law did not adversely affect plaintiffs and did not adversely affect a relationship between them and persons they sought to represent).

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several exceptions to this part of the standing doctrine that make generalization misleading. Many cases allow standing to third parties if they demonstrate a requisite degree of injury to themselves and if under the circumstances the injured parties whom they seek to represent would likely not be able to assert their rights. Thus, in *Barrows v. Jackson*,³⁶⁶ a white defendant who was being sued for damages for breach of a restrictive covenant directed against African Americans—and therefore able to show injury in liability for damages—was held to have standing to assert the rights of the class of persons whose constitutional rights were infringed.³⁶⁷ Similarly, the Court has permitted defendants who have been convicted under state law—giving them the requisite injury—to assert the rights of those persons not before the Court whose rights would be adversely affected through enforcement of the law in question.³⁶⁸ In fact, the Court has permitted persons who would be subject to future prosecution or future legal action—thus satisfying the injury requirement—to represent the rights of third parties with whom the challenged law has interfered with a relationship.³⁶⁹ It is also possible, of course, that one's own rights can be affected by action directed at someone from another group.³⁷⁰

³⁶⁶ 346 U.S. 249 (1953).

³⁶⁷ See also *Buchanan v. Warley*, 245 U.S. 60 (1917) (white plaintiff suing for specific performance of a contract to convey property to a Negro had standing to contest constitutionality of ordinance barring sale of property to African Americans, inasmuch as black defendant was relying on ordinance as his defense); *Sullivan v. Little Hunting Park*, 396 U.S. 229 (1969) (white assignor of membership in discriminatory private club could raise rights of black assignee in seeking injunction against expulsion from club).

³⁶⁸ E.g., *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479 (1965) (persons convicted of prescribing contraceptives for married persons and as accessories to crime of using contraceptives have standing to raise constitutional rights of patients with whom they had a professional relationship; while use of contraceptives was a crime, it was doubtful any married couple would be prosecuted so that they could challenge the statute); *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438 (1972) (advocate of contraception convicted of giving device to unmarried woman had standing to assert rights of unmarried persons denied access; unmarried persons not subject to prosecution and were thus impaired in ability to obtain them or gain forum to assert rights).

³⁶⁹ E.g., *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179, 188–189 (1973) (doctors have standing to challenge abortion statute since it operates directly against them and they should not have to await criminal prosecution in order to determine their validity); *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52, 62 (1976) (same); *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190, 192–197 (1976) (licensed beer distributor could contest sex discriminatory alcohol laws because it operated on him, he suffered injury in fact, and was “obvious claimant” to raise issue); *Carey v. Population Services Intl.*, 431 U.S. 678, 682–684 (1977) (vendor of contraceptives had standing to bring action to challenge law limiting distribution). Older cases support the proposition. See, e.g., *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510 (1925); *Bantam Books v. Sullivan*, 372 U.S. 58 (1963).

³⁷⁰ *Holland v. Illinois*, 493 U.S. 474 (1990) (white defendant had standing to raise a Sixth Amendment challenge to exclusion of blacks from his jury, since defendant had a right to a jury comprised of a fair cross section of the community).

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A substantial dispute was occasioned in *Singleton v. Wulff*,³⁷¹ over the standing of doctors, who were denied Medicaid funds for the performance of abortions not “medically indicated,” to assert the rights of absent women to compensated abortions. All the Justices thought the Court should be hesitant to resolve a controversy on the basis of the rights of third parties, but they divided with respect to the standards exceptions. Four Justices favored a lenient standard, permitting third party representation when there is a close, perhaps confidential, relationship between the litigant and the third parties and when there is some genuine obstacle to third party assertion of their rights; four Justices would have permitted a litigant to assert the rights of third parties only when government directly interdicted the relationship between the litigant and the third parties through the criminal process and when litigation by the third parties is in all practicable terms impossible.³⁷²

Following *Wulff*, the Court emphasized the close attorney-client relationship in holding that a lawyer had standing to assert his client’s Sixth Amendment right to counsel in challenging application of a drug-forfeiture law to deprive the client of the means of paying counsel.³⁷³ However, a “next friend” whose stake in the outcome is only speculative must establish that the real party in interest is unable to litigate his own cause because of mental incapacity, lack of access to courts, or other disability.³⁷⁴

A variant of the general rule is that one may not assert the unconstitutionality of a statute in other respects when the statute is constitutional as to him.³⁷⁵ Again, the exceptions may be more important than the rule. Thus, an overly broad statute, especially one that regulates speech and press, may be considered on its face rather than as applied, and a defendant to whom the statute constitutionally applies may be enabled to assert its unconstitutionality thereby.³⁷⁶

³⁷¹ 428 U.S. 106 (1976).

³⁷² Compare *id.*, 112–118 (Justices Blackmun, Brennan, White, and Marshall), with *id.*, 123–131 (Justices Powell, Stewart, and Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger). Justice Stevens concurred with the former four Justices on narrower grounds limited to this case.

³⁷³ *Caplin & Drysdale v. United States*, 491 U.S. 617, 623–624 n. 3 (1989).

³⁷⁴ *Whitmore v. Arkansas*, 495 U.S. 149 (1990) (death row inmate’s challenge to death penalty imposed on a fellow inmate who knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily chose not to appeal cannot be pursued).

³⁷⁵ *United States v. Raines*, 362 U.S. 17, 21–24 (1960).

³⁷⁶ *Lanzetta v. New Jersey*, 306 U.S. 451 (1939); *Thornhill v. Alabama*, 310 U.S. 88 (1940); *Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507 (1948); *Dombrowski v. Pfister*, 380 U.S. 479, 486–487 (1965); *Gooding v. Wilson*, 405 U.S. 518 (1972); *Lewis v. City of New Orleans*, 415 U.S. 130 (1974). The Court has narrowed its overbreadth doctrine, though not consistently, in recent years. *Broadrick v. Oklahoma*, 413 U.S. 601 (1973); *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 427 U.S. 50, 59–60 (1976), and *id.*, 73

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Organizational Standing.—Organizations do not have standing as such to represent their particular concept of the public interest,³⁷⁷ but organizations have been permitted to assert the rights of their members.³⁷⁸ In *Hunt v. Washington State Apple Advertising Comm.*,³⁷⁹ the Court promulgated elaborate standards, holding that an organization or association “has standing to bring suit on behalf of its members when: (a) its members would otherwise have standing to sue in their own right; (b) the interests it seeks to protect are germane to the organization’s purpose; and (c) neither the claim asserted, nor the relief requested, requires the participation of individual members in the lawsuit.” Similar considerations arise in the context of class actions, in which the Court holds that a named representative with a justiciable claim for relief is necessary when the action is filed and when the class is certified, but that following class certification there need be only a live controversy with the class, provided the adequacy of the representation is sufficient.³⁸⁰

Standing of States to Represent Their Citizens.—The right of a State to sue as *parens patriae*, in behalf of its citizens, has long been recognized.³⁸¹ No State, however, may be *parens patriae* of her citizens “as against the Federal Government.”³⁸² But a State may sue on behalf of the economic welfare of its citizens to protect

(Justice Powell concurring); *New York v. Ferber*, 458 U.S. 747, 771–773 (1982). But the exception as stated in the text remains strong. E.g., *Secretary of State v. Joseph H. Munson Co.*, 467 U.S. 947 (1984); *Virginia v. American Booksellers Assn.*, 484 U.S. 383 (1988).

³⁷⁷ *Sierra Club v. Morton*, 401 U.S. 727 (1972). An organization may, of course, sue to redress injuries to itself. See *Havens Realty Co. v. Coleman*, 455 U.S. 363, 378–379 (1982).

³⁷⁸ E.g., *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123 (1951); *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449 (1958); *NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415 (1963); *Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen v. Virginia ex rel. Virginia State Bar*, 377 U.S. 1 (1964); *United Mine Workers v. Illinois State Bar Assn.*, 389 U.S. 217 (1967); *United Transportation Union v. State Bar of Michigan*, 401 U.S. 576 (1971).

³⁷⁹ 432 U.S. 333, 343 (1977). The organization here was not a voluntary membership entity but a state agency charged with furthering the interests of apple growers who were assessed annual sums to support the Commission. *Id.*, 341–345. See also *Warth v. Seldin*, 422 U.S. 490, 510–517 (1975); *Simon v. Eastern Kentucky Welfare Rights Org.*, 426 U.S. 26, 39–40 (1976); *Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252, 263–264 (1977); *Harris v. McRae*, 448 U.S. 297, 321 (1980); *International Union, UAW v. Brock*, 477 U.S. 274 (1986).

³⁸⁰ *United States Parole Comm. v. Geraghty*, 445 U.S. 388 (1980). *Geraghty* was a mootness case.

³⁸¹ *Louisiana v. Texas*, 176 U.S. 1 (1900) (recognizing the propriety of *parens patriae* suits but denying it in this particular suit).

³⁸² *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U.S. 447, 485–486 (1923). But see *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301 (1966) (denying such standing to raise two constitutional claims against the United States but deciding a third); *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 117 n. 1 (1970) (no question raised about standing or jurisdiction; claims adjudicated).

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them from environmental harm³⁸³ and to enjoin other States and private parties from engaging in actions harmful to the economic or other well-being of its citizens.³⁸⁴ The State must be more than a nominal party without a real interest of its own, merely representing the interests of particular citizens who cannot represent themselves;³⁸⁵ it must articulate an interest apart from those of private parties that partakes of a “quasi-sovereign interest” in the health and well-being, both physical and economic, of its residents in general, although there are suggestions that the restrictive definition grows out of the Court’s wish to constrain its original jurisdiction and may not fit such suits brought in the lower federal courts.³⁸⁶

Standing of Members of Congress.—The lower federal courts have of late developed a body of law with respect to the standing of Members of Congress, as Members, to bring court actions, usually to challenge actions of the executive branch. Most of the law has developed in the District of Columbia Circuit,³⁸⁷ and the Supreme Court has yet to consider the issue on the merits.³⁸⁸

³⁸³ *Missouri v. Illinois*, 180 U.S. 208 (1901); *Kansas v. Colorado*, 206 U.S. 46 (1907); *Georgia v. Tennessee Copper Co.*, 206 U.S. 230 (1907); *New York v. New Jersey*, 256 U.S. 296 (1921); *Pennsylvania v. West Virginia*, 262 U.S. 553 (1923); *North Dakota v. Minnesota*, 263 U.S. 365 (1923).

³⁸⁴ *Georgia v. Pennsylvania Railroad Co.*, 324 U.S. 439 (1945) (antitrust); *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725, 737–739 (1981) (discriminatory state taxation of natural gas shipped to out-of-state customers); *Alfred L. Snapp & Son v. Puerto Rico ex rel. Barez*, 458 U.S. 592 (1982) (discrimination by growers against Puerto Rican migrant workers and denial of Commonwealth’s opportunity to participate in federal employment service laws).

³⁸⁵ *New Hampshire v. Louisiana*, 108 U.S. 76 (1883); *Oklahoma ex rel. Johnson v. Cook*, 304 U.S. 387 (1938); *Oklahoma v. Atchison, T. & S.F.Ry.*, 220 U.S. 277 (1911); *North Dakota v. Minnesota*, 263 U.S. 365, 376 (1923); *Pennsylvania v. New Jersey*, 426 U.S. 660 (1976).

³⁸⁶ *Alfred L. Snapp & Son v. Puerto Rico ex rel. Barez*, 458 U.S. 592, 607–608 (1982). Justice Brennan, joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens, argued that the Court’s standards should apply only in original actions and not in actions filed in federal district courts, where, they contended, the prerogative of a State to bring suit on behalf of its citizens should be commensurate with the ability of private organizations to do so. *Id.*, 610. The Court admitted that different considerations might apply between original actions and district court suits. *Id.*, 603 n. 12.

³⁸⁷ Member standing has not fared well in other Circuits. *Holtzman v. Schlesinger*, 484 F.2d 1307 (2d Cir., 1973), *cert. den.*, 416 U.S. 936 (1974); *Harrington v. Schlesinger*, 528 F.2d 455 (4th Cir., 1975).

³⁸⁸ In *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433, 438 (1939), the Court recognized that legislators can in some instances suffer an injury in respect to the effectiveness of their votes that will confer standing. In *Pressler v. Blumenthal*, 434 U.S. 1028 (1978), *affg.* 428 F. Supp. 302 (D.D.C. 1976) (three-judge court), the Court affirmed a decision in which the lower court had found Member standing but had then decided against the Member on the merits. The “unexplicated affirmance” could have reflected disagreement with the lower court on standing or agreement with it on the merits. Note Justice Rehnquist’s appended statement. *Ibid.* In *Goldwater v. Carter*, 444 U.S. 996 (1979), the Court vacated a decision, in which the lower Court had

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It seems clear that a legislator “receives no special consideration in the standing inquiry,”³⁸⁹ and that he, along with every other person attempting to invoke the aid of a federal court, must show “injury in fact” as a predicate to standing. What that injury in fact may consist of, however, is the basis of the controversy.

A suit by Members for an injunction against continued prosecution of the Indochina war was held maintainable on the theory that if the court found the President’s actions to be beyond his constitutional authority, the holding would have a distinct and significant bearing upon the Members’ duties to vote appropriations and other supportive legislation and to consider impeachment.³⁹⁰ The breadth of this rationale was disapproved in subsequent cases. The leading decision is *Kennedy v. Sampson*,³⁹¹ in which a Member was held to have standing to contest the alleged improper use of a pocket veto to prevent from becoming law a bill the Senator had voted for. Thus, Congressmen were held to have a derivative rather than direct interest in protecting their votes, which was sufficient for standing purposes, when some “legislative disenfranchisement” occurred.³⁹² In a comprehensive assessment of its position, the Circuit distinguished between (1) a diminution in congressional influence resulting from executive action that nullifies a specific congressional vote or opportunity to vote in an objectively verifiable manner, which will constitute injury in fact, and (2) a diminution in a legislator’s effectiveness, subjectively judged by him, resulting from executive action, such a failing to obey a statute, where the plaintiff legislator has power to act through the legislative process, in which injury in fact does not exist.³⁹³ Having thus established

found Member standing, and directed dismissal, but none of the Justices who set forth reasons addressed the question of standing. The opportunity to consider Member standing was strongly pressed in *Burke v. Barnes*, 479 U.S. 361 (1987), but the expiration of the law in issue mooted the case.

³⁸⁹ *Reuss v. Balles*, 584 F.2d 461, 466 (D.C.Cir.), *cert. den.*, 439 U.S. 997 (1978).

³⁹⁰ *Mitchell v. Laird*, 488 F.2d 611 (D.C.Cir. 1973).

³⁹¹ 511 F.2d 430 (D.C.Cir. 1974). In *Barnes v. Kline*, 759 F.2d 21 (D.C.Cir. 1985), the court again found standing by Members challenging a pocket veto, but the Supreme Court dismissed the appeal as moot. *Sub nom.* *Burke v. Barnes*, 479 U.S. 361 (1987). Whether the injury was the nullification of the past vote on passage only or whether it was also the nullification of an opportunity to vote to override the veto has divided the Circuit, with the majority favoring the broader interpretation. *Goldwater v. Carter*, 617 F.2d 697, 702 n. 12 (D.C.Cir.), and *id.*, 711–712 (Judge Wright), *vacated and remanded with instructions to dismiss*, 444 U.S. 996 (1979).

³⁹² *Kennedy v. Sampson*, 511 F.2d 430, 435–436 (D.C.Cir. 1974). See *Harrington v. Bush*, 553 F.2d 190, 199 n. 41 (D.C.Cir. 1977). *Harrington* found no standing in a Member’s suit challenging CIA failure to report certain actions to Congress, in order that Members could intelligently vote on certain issues. See also *Reuss v. Balles*, 584 F.2d 461 (D.C.Cir.), *cert. den.*, 439 U.S. 997 (1978).

³⁹³ *Goldwater v. Carter*, 617 F.2d 697, 702, 703 (D.C.Cir.) (*en banc*), *vacated and remanded with instructions to dismiss*, 444 U.S. 996 (1979). The failure of the Jus-

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a fairly broad concept of Member standing, the Circuit then proceeded to curtail it by holding that the equitable discretion of the court to deny relief should be exercised in many cases in which a Member had standing but in which issues of separation of powers, political questions, and other justiciability considerations counseled restraint.³⁹⁴ The status of this issue thus remains in confusion.

Standing to Challenge Nonconstitutional Governmental Action.—Standing in this sense has a constitutional content to the degree that Article III requires a “case” or “controversy,” necessitating a litigant who has sustained or will sustain an injury so that he will be moved to present the issue “in an adversary context and in a form historically viewed as capable of judicial resolution.”³⁹⁵ Liberalization of the law of standing in this field has been notable. The “old law” required that in order to sue to contest the lawfulness of agency administrative action, one must have suffered a “legal wrong,” that is, “the right invaded must be a legal right,”³⁹⁶ requiring some resolution of the merits preliminarily. An injury-in-fact was insufficient.

A “legal right” could be established in one of two ways. It could be a common-law right, such that if the injury were administered by a private party, one could sue on it;³⁹⁷ or it could be a right created by the Constitution or a statute.³⁹⁸ The statutory right

tices to remark on standing is somewhat puzzling, since it has been stated that courts “turn initially, although not invariably, to the question of standing to sue.” *Schlesinger v. Reservists Com. to Stop the War*, 418 U.S. 208, 215 (1974). But see *Harrington v. Bush*, 553 F.2d 190, 207 (D.C.Cir. 1977). In any event, the Supreme Court’s decision vacating *Goldwater* deprives the Circuit’s language of precedential effect. *United States v. Munsingwear*, 340 U.S. 36, 39–40 (1950); *O’Connor v. Donaldson*, 422 U.S. 563, 577 n. 12 (1975).

³⁹⁴ *Riegle v. FOMC*, 656 F.2d 873 (D.C.Cir.), *cert. den.*, 454 U.S. 1082 (1981).

³⁹⁵ *Assn. of Data Processing Service Org. v. Camp*, 397 U.S. 150, 151–152 (1970), citing *Flast v. Cohen*, 392 U.S. 83, 101 (1968). “But where a dispute is otherwise justiciable, the question whether the litigant is a ‘proper party to request an adjudication of a particular issue,’ [quoting *Flast*, *supra*, 100], is one within the power of Congress to determine.” *Sierra Club v. Morton*, 405 U.S. 727, 732 n. 3 (1972).

³⁹⁶ *Tennessee Power Co. v. TVA*, 306 U.S. 118, 137–138 (1939). See also *Alabama Power Co. v. Ickes*, 302 U.S. 464 (1938); *Perkins v. Lukens Steel Co.*, 310 U.S. 113 (1940).

³⁹⁷ *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123, 152 (1951) (Justice Frankfurter concurring). This was apparently the point of the definition of “legal right” as “one of property, one arising out of contract, one protected against tortious invasion, or one founded on a statute which confers a privilege.” *Tennessee Power Co. v. TVA*, 306 U.S. 118, 137–138 (1939).

³⁹⁸ *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123, 152 (1951) (Justice Frankfurter concurring). The Court approached this concept in two inter-related ways. (1) It might be that a plaintiff had an interest that it was one of the purposes of the statute in question to protect in some degree. *Chicago Junction Case*, 264 U.S. 258 (1924); *Alexander Sprunt & Son v. United States*, 281 U.S. 249 (1930); *Alton R.R. v. United States*, 315 U.S. 15 (1942). Thus, in *Hardin v. Kentucky*

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most relied on was the judicial review section of the Administrative Procedure Act, which provided that “[a] person suffering legal wrong because of agency action, or adversely affected or aggrieved by agency action within the meaning of a relevant statute, is entitled to judicial review thereof.”³⁹⁹ Early decisions under this statute interpreted the language as adopting the “legal interest” and “legal wrong” standard then prevailing as constitutional requirements of standing, which generally had the effect of limiting the type of injury cognizable in federal court to economic ones.⁴⁰⁰

More recently, however, the Court promulgated a two-pronged standing test: if the litigant (1) has suffered injury-in-fact and if he (2) shows that the interest he seeks to protect is arguably within the zone of interests to be protected or regulated by the statutory guarantee in question, he has standing.⁴⁰¹ Of even greater importance was the expansion of the nature of the injury required beyond economic injury, which followed logically to some extent from the revision of the standard, to encompass “aesthetic, conservational, and recreational” interests as well.⁴⁰² “Aesthetic and environmental well-being, like economic well-being, are important ingredients of the quality of life in our society, and the fact that particular environmental interests are shared by the many rather than the few does not make them less deserving of legal protection

Utilities Co., 390 U.S. 1 (1968), a private utility was held to have standing to contest allegedly illegal competition by TVA on the ground that the statute was meant to give private utilities some protection from certain forms of TVA competition. (2) It might be that a plaintiff was a “person aggrieved” within the terms of a judicial review section of an administrative or regulatory statute. Injury to an economic interest was sufficient to “aggrieve” a litigant. *FCC v. Sanders Brothers Radio Station*, 309 U.S. 470 (1940); *Associated Industries v. Ickes*, 134 F.2d 694 (2d Cir.), *cert. dismd. as moot*, 320 U.S. 707 (1943).

³⁹⁹ 5 U.S.C. § 702. See also 47 U.S.C. § 202(b)(6)(FCC); 15 U.S.C. § 77i(a) (SEC); 16 U.S.C. § 825a(b)(FPC).

⁴⁰⁰ *FCC v. Sanders Brothers Radio Station*, 309 U.S. 470, 477 (1940); *City of Chicago v. Atchison, T. & S.F.R. Co.*, 357 U.S. 77, 83 (1958); *Hardin v. Kentucky Utilities Co.*, 390 U.S. 1, 7 (1968).

⁴⁰¹ *Assn. of Data Processing Service Org. v. Camp*, 397 U.S. 150 (1970); *Barlow v. Collins*, 397 U.S. 159 (1970). Justices Brennan and White argued that only injury-in-fact should be requisite for standing. *Id.*, 167. In *Clarke v. Securities Industry Assn.*, 479 U.S. 388 (1987), the Court applied a liberalized zone-of-interest test. But see *Lujan v. National Wildlife Federation*, 497 U.S. 871, 885–889 (1990); *Air Courier Conference v. American Postal Workers Union*, 498 U.S. 517 (1991). In applying these standards, the Court, once it determined that the litigant’s interests were “arguably protected” by the statute in question, proceeded to the merits without thereafter pausing to inquire whether in fact the interests asserted were among those protected. *Arnold Tours v. Camp*, 400 U.S. 45 (1970); *Investment Company Institute v. Camp*, 401 U.S. 617 (1971); *Boston Stock Exchange v. State Tax Comm.*, 429 U.S. 318, 320 n. 3 (1977). Almost contemporaneously, the Court also liberalized the ripeness requirement in review of administrative actions. *Gardner v. Toilet Goods Assn.*, 387 U.S. 167 (1967); *Abbott Laboratories v. Gardner*, 387 U.S. 136 (1967).

⁴⁰² *Assn. of Data Processing Service Org. v. Camp*, 397 U.S. 150, 154 (1970).

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through the judicial process.”⁴⁰³ Thus, plaintiffs, who had pleaded that they used the natural resources of the Washington area, that rail freight rates would deter the recycling of used goods, and that their use of natural resources would be disturbed by the adverse environmental impact caused by the nonuse of recyclable goods, had standing as “persons aggrieved” to challenge the rates set. Neither the large numbers of persons allegedly injured nor the indirect and less perceptible harm to the environment was justification to deny standing. The Court granted that the plaintiffs might never be able to establish the “attenuated line of causation” from rate setting to injury, but that was a matter for proof at trial, whereas in the instant case the Court dealt only with the pleadings.⁴⁰⁴

Much debate has occurred in recent years with respect to the validity of “citizen suit” provisions in the environmental laws, especially in light of the Court’s retrenchment in constitutional standing cases. The Court in insisting on injury in fact as well as causation and redressability has curbed access to citizen suits,⁴⁰⁵ but that Congress may expansively confer substantial degrees of standing through statutory creations of interests remains true.

The Requirement of a Real Interest

Almost inseparable from the requirements of adverse parties and substantial enough interests to confer standing is the requirement that a *real* issue be presented, as contrasted with speculative, abstract, hypothetical, or moot issues. It has long been the Court’s “considered practice not to decide abstract, hypothetical or contingent questions.”⁴⁰⁶ A party cannot maintain a suit “for a mere declaration in the air.”⁴⁰⁷ In *Texas v. ICC*,⁴⁰⁸ the State attempted to enjoin the enforcement of the Transportation Act of 1920 on the

⁴⁰³ *Sierra Club v. Morton*, 405 U.S. 727, 734 (1972). Moreover, said the Court, once a person establishes that he has standing to seek judicial review of an action because of particularized injury to him, he may argue the public interest as a “representative of the public interest,” as a “private attorney general,” so that he may contest not only the action which injures him but the entire complex of actions of which his injury-inducing action is a part. *Id.*, 737–738, noting *Scripps-Howard Radio v. FCC*, 316 U.S. 4 (1942); *FCC v. Sanders Brothers Radio Station*, 309 U.S. (1940). See also *Gladstone, Realtors v. Village of Bellwood*, 441 U.S. 91, 103 n. (1979); *Havens Realty Corp. v. Coleman*, 455 U.S. 363, 376 n.16 (1982) (noting ability of such party to represent interests of third parties).

⁴⁰⁴ *United States v. SCRAP*, 412 U.S. 669, 683–690 (1973). As was noted above, this case has been disparaged by the later Court. *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 2139–2140 (1992); *Whitmore v. Arkansas*, 495 U.S. 149, 158–160 (1990).

⁴⁰⁵ See *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 112 S.Ct. 2130 (1992); *Lujan v. National Wildlife Federation*, 497 U.S. 871 (1990).

⁴⁰⁶ *Alabama State Federation of Labor v. McAdory*, 325 U.S. 450, 461 (1945).

⁴⁰⁷ *Giles v. Harris*, 189 U.S. 475, 486 (1903).

⁴⁰⁸ 258 U.S. 158 (1922).

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ground that it invaded the reserved rights of the State. The Court dismissed the complaint as presenting no case or controversy, declaring: “It is only where rights, in themselves appropriate subjects of judicial cognizance, are being, or about to be, affected prejudicially by the application or enforcement of a statute that its validity may be called in question by a suitor and determined by an exertion of the judicial power.”⁴⁰⁹ And in *Ashwander v. TVA*,⁴¹⁰ the Court refused to decide any issue save that of the validity of the contracts between the Authority and the Company. “The pronouncements, policies and program of the Tennessee Valley Authority and its directors, their motives and desires, did not give rise to a justiciable controversy save as they had fruition in action of a definite and concrete character constituting an actual or threatened interference with the rights of the person complaining.”⁴¹¹

Concepts of real interest and abstract questions appeared prominently in *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*,⁴¹² an omnibus attack on the constitutionality of the Hatch Act prohibitions on political activities by governmental employees. With one exception, none of the plaintiffs had violated the Act, though they stated they desired to engage in forbidden political actions. The Court found no justiciable controversy except in regard to the one, calling for “concrete legal issues, presented in actual cases, not abstractions”, and seeing the suit as really an attack on the political expediency of the Act.⁴¹³

Advisory Opinion.—In 1793, the Court unanimously refused to grant the request of President Washington and Secretary of State Jefferson to construe the treaties and laws of the United States pertaining to questions of international law arising out of

⁴⁰⁹ Id., 162.

⁴¹⁰ 297 U.S. 288 (1936).

⁴¹¹ Id., 324. Chief Justice Hughes cited *New York v. Illinois*, 274 U.S. 488 (1927), in which the Court dismissed as presenting abstract questions a suit about the possible effects of the diversion of water from Lake Michigan upon hypothetical water power developments in the indefinite future, and *Arizona v. California*, 283 U.S. 423 (1931), in which it was held that claims based merely upon assumed potential invasions of rights were insufficient to warrant judicial intervention. See also *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U.S. 447, 484–485 (1923); *New Jersey v. Sargent*, 269 U.S. 328, 338–340 (1926); *Georgia v. Stanton*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 50, 76 (1868).

⁴¹² 330 U.S. 75 (1947).

⁴¹³ Id., 89–91. Justices Black and Douglas dissented, contending that the controversy was justiciable. Justice Douglas could not agree that the plaintiffs should have to violate the act and lose their jobs in order to test their rights. In *CSC v. National Assn. of Letter Carriers*, 413 U.S. 548 (1973), the concerns expressed in *Mitchell* were largely ignored as the Court reached the merits in an anticipatory attack on the Act. Compare *Epperson v. Arkansas*, 393 U.S. 97 (1968).

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the wars of the French Revolution.⁴¹⁴ Noting the constitutional separation of powers and functions in his reply, Chief Justice Jay said: “These being in certain respects checks upon each other, and our being Judges of a Court in the last resort, are considerations which afford strong arguments against the propriety of our extra-judicially deciding the questions alluded to, especially as the power given by the Constitution to the President, of calling on the heads of departments for opinions, seem to have been purposely as well as expressly united to the Executive departments.”⁴¹⁵ Although the Court has generally adhered to its refusal, Justice Jackson was not quite correct when he termed the policy a “firm and unvarying practice. . . .”⁴¹⁶ The Justices in response to a letter calling for suggestions on improvements in the operation of the courts drafted a letter suggesting that circuit duty for the Justices was unconstitutional, but they apparently never sent it;⁴¹⁷ Justice Johnson communicated to President Monroe, apparently with the knowledge and approval of the other Justices, the views of the Justices on the constitutionality of internal improvements legislation;⁴¹⁸ and Chief Justice Hughes in a letter to Senator Wheeler on President Roosevelt’s Court Plan questioned the constitutionality of a proposal to increase the membership and have the Court sit in divisions.⁴¹⁹ Other Justices have individually served as advisers and confidants of Presidents in one degree or another.⁴²⁰

Nonetheless, the Court has generally adhered to the early precedent and would no doubt have developed the rule in any event, as a logical application of the case and controversy doctrine. As stated by Justice Jackson, when the Court refused to review an order of the Civil Aeronautics Board, which in effect was a mere

⁴¹⁴ 1 C. WARREN, *op. cit.*, n. 18, 108–111. The full text of the exchange appears in 3 CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC PAPERS OF JOHN JAY, H. Johnston ed. (New York: 1893), 486–489.

⁴¹⁵ *Id.*, 488.

⁴¹⁶ *Chicago & S. Air Lines v. Waterman Steamship Corp.*, 333 U.S. 103, 113 (1948).

⁴¹⁷ See *supra*, p. 599 n. 21.

⁴¹⁸ 1 C. WARREN, *op. cit.*, n. 18, 595–597.

⁴¹⁹ Hearings Before the Senate Judiciary Committee on S. 1392, *Reorganization of the Judiciary*, 75th Congress, 1st sess. (1937), pt. 3, 491. See also Chief Justice Taney’s private advisory opinion to the Secretary of the Treasury that a tax levied on the salaries of federal judges violated the Constitution. S. TYLER, *MEMOIRS OF ROGER B. TANEY* (Baltimore: 1876), 432–435.

⁴²⁰ E.g., Acheson, *Removing the Shadow Cast on the Courts*, 55 A.B.A.J. 919 (1969); Jaffe, *Professors and Judges as Advisors to Government: Reflections on the Roosevelt-Frankfurter Relationship*, 83 Harv. L. Rev. 366 (1969). The issue has lately earned the attention of the Supreme Court, *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361, 397–408 (1989) (citing examples and detailed secondary sources), when it upheld the congressionally-authorized service of federal judges on the Sentencing Commission.

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recommendation to the President for his final action: “To revise or review an administrative decision which has only the force of a recommendation to the President would be to render an advisory opinion in its most obnoxious form—advice that the President has not asked, tendered at the demand of a private litigant, on a subject concededly within the President’s exclusive, ultimate control. This Court early and wisely determined that it would not give advisory opinions even when asked by the Chief Executive. It has also been the firm and unvarying practice of Constitutional Courts to render no judgments not binding and conclusive on the parties and none that are subject to later review or alteration by administrative action.”⁴²¹ The early refusal of the Court to render advisory opinions has discouraged direct requests for advice so that the advisory opinion has appeared only collaterally in cases where there was a lack of adverse parties,⁴²² or where the judgment of the Court was subject to later review or action by the executive or legislative branches of Government,⁴²³ or where the issues involved were abstract or contingent.⁴²⁴

Declaratory Judgments.—Rigid emphasis upon such elements of judicial power as finality of judgment and award of execution coupled with equally rigid emphasis upon adverse parties and real interests as essential elements of a case and controversy created serious doubts about the validity of any federal declaratory judgment procedure.⁴²⁵ These doubts were largely dispelled by Court decisions in the late 1920s and early 1930s,⁴²⁶ and Congress quickly responded with the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act of 1934.⁴²⁷ Quickly tested, the Act was unanimously sustained.⁴²⁸ “The principle involved in this form of procedure,” the House Report said, “is to confer upon the courts the power to exercise in some instances preventive relief; a function now performed rather clumsily by our equitable proceedings and inadequately by the law courts.”⁴²⁹ Said the Senate Report: “The declaratory judgment differs in no essential respect from any other judgment except that it is not followed by a decree for damages, injunction, specific performance, or other immediately coercive decree. It declares conclu-

⁴²¹ *Chicago & S. Air Lines v. Waterman Steamship Corp.*, 333 U.S. 103, 113–114 (1948).

⁴²² *Muskrat v. United States*, 219 U.S. 346 (1911).

⁴²³ *United States v. Ferreira*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 40 (1852).

⁴²⁴ *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*, 330 U.S. 75 (1947).

⁴²⁵ Cf. *Willing v. Chicago Auditorium Assn.*, 277 U.S. 274 (1928).

⁴²⁶ *Fidelity National Bank & Trust Co. v. Swope*, 274 U.S. 123 (1927); *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Wallace*, 288 U.S. 249 (1963).

⁴²⁷ 48 Stat. 955, as amended, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201–2202.

⁴²⁸ *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Haworth*, 300 U.S. 227 (1937).

⁴²⁹ H. Rept. No. 1264, 73d Congress, 2d sess. (1934), 2.

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sively and finally the rights of parties in litigations over a contested issue, a form of relief which often suffices to settle controversies and fully administer justice.”⁴³⁰

The 1934 Act provided that “[i]n cases of actual controversy” federal courts could “declare rights and other legal relations of any interested party petitioning for such declaration, whether or not further relief is or could be prayed. . . .”⁴³¹ Upholding the Act, the Court said: “The Declaratory Judgment Act of 1934, in its limitation to ‘cases of actual controversy,’ manifestly has regard to the constitutional provision and is operative only in respect to controversies which are such in the constitutional sense. The word ‘actual’ is one of emphasis rather than of definition. Thus the operation of the Declaratory Judgment Act is procedural only. In providing remedies and defining procedure in relation to cases and controversies in the constitutional sense the Congress is acting within its delegated power over the jurisdiction of the federal courts which the Congress is authorized to establish.”⁴³² Finding that the issue in the case presented a definite and concrete controversy, the Court held that a declaration should have been issued.⁴³³

It has insistently been maintained by the Court that “the requirements for a justiciable case or controversy are no less strict in a declaratory judgment proceeding than in any other type of suit.”⁴³⁴ As Justice Douglas has written: “The difference between an abstract question and a ‘controversy’ contemplated by the Declaratory Judgment Act is necessarily one of degree, and it would be difficult, if it would be possible, to fashion a precise test for determining in every case whether there is such a controversy. Basically, the question in each case is whether the facts alleged, under all the circumstances, show that there is a substantial controversy, between parties having adverse legal interests, of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of a declaratory judgment.”⁴³⁵ It remains, therefore, for the courts to determine in each case the degree of controversy necessary to establish a case for purposes of jurisdiction. Even then, however, the Court is under no compulsion to exercise its jurisdiction.⁴³⁶

⁴³⁰ S. Rept. No. 1005, 73d Congress, 2d sess. (1934), 2.

⁴³¹ 48 Stat. 955. The language remains quite similar. 28 U.S.C. § 2201.

⁴³² *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Haworth*, 300 U.S. 227, 239–240 (1937),

⁴³³ *Id.*, 242–244.

⁴³⁴ *Alabama State Federation of Labor v. McAdory*, 325 U.S. 450, 461 (1945).

⁴³⁵ *Maryland Casualty Co. v. Pacific Coal & Oil Co.*, 312 U.S. 270, 273 (1941).

⁴³⁶ *Brillhart v. Excess Ins. Co. of America*, 316 U.S. 491, 494 (1942); *Public Service Comm. v. Wycoff Co.*, 344 U.S. 237, 243 (1952); *Public Affairs Associates v. Rickover*, 369 U.S. 111, 112 (1962).

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Utilization of declaratory judgments to settle disputes and identify rights in many private areas, like insurance and patents in particular but extending into all areas of civil litigation, except taxes,⁴³⁷ is common. The Court has, however, at various times demonstrated a substantial reluctance to have important questions of public law, especially regarding the validity of legislation, resolved by such a procedure.⁴³⁸ In part, this has been accomplished by a strict insistence upon concreteness, ripeness, and the like.⁴³⁹ Nonetheless, even at such times, several noteworthy constitutional decisions were rendered in declaratory judgment actions.⁴⁴⁰

As part of the 1960s hospitality to greater access to courts, the Court exhibited a greater hospitality to declaratory judgments in constitutional litigation, especially cases involving civil liberties issues.⁴⁴¹ The doctrinal underpinnings of this hospitality were sketched out by Justice Brennan in his opinion for the Court in *Zwickler v. Koota*,⁴⁴² in which the relevance to declaratory judgments of the *Dombrowski v. Pfister*⁴⁴³ line of cases involving federal injunctive relief against the enforcement of state criminal statutes was in issue. First, it was held that the vesting of “federal question” jurisdiction in the federal courts by Congress following the Civil War, as well as the enactment of more specific civil rights jurisdictional statutes, “imposed the duty upon all levels of the federal judiciary to give due respect to a suitor’s choice of a federal forum for the hearing and decision of his federal constitutional claims.”⁴⁴⁴

⁴³⁷ An exception “with respect to Federal taxes” was added in 1935. 49 Stat. 1027. The Tax Injunction Act of 1937, 50 Stat. 738, U.S.C. §1341, prohibited federal injunctive relief directed at state taxes but said nothing about declaratory relief. It was held to apply, however, in *California v. Grace Brethren Church*, 457 U.S. 393 (1982). Earlier, in *Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co. v. Huffman*, 319 U.S. 293 (1943), the Court had reserved the issue but held that considerations of comity should preclude federal courts from giving declaratory relief in such cases. Cf. *Fair Assessment in Real Estate Assn. v. McNary*, 454 U.S. 100 (1981).

⁴³⁸ E.g., *Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288 (1936); *Electric Bond & Share, Co. v. SEC*, 303 U.S. 419 (1938); *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*, 330 U.S. 75 (1947); *Eccles v. Peoples Bank*, 333 U.S. 426 (1948); *Rescue Army v. Municipal Court*, 331 U.S. 549, 572–573 (1947).

⁴³⁹ *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*, 330 U.S. 75 (1947); *Poe v. Ullman*, 367 U.S. 497 (1961); *Altvater v. Freeman*, 319 U.S. 359 (1943); *International Longshoremen’s Union v. Boyd*, 347 U.S. 222 (1954); *Public Service Comm. v. Wycoff*, 344 U.S. 237 (1952).

⁴⁴⁰ E.g., *Curran v. Wallace*, 306 U.S. 1 (1939); *Perkins v. Elg*, 307 U.S. 325 (1939); *Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288 (1936); *Evers v. Dwyer*, 358 U.S. 202 (1958).

⁴⁴¹ E.g., *Baggett v. Bullitt*, 377 U.S. 360 (1964); *Keyishian v. Board of Regents*, 385 U.S. 589 (1967); *Turner v. City of Memphis*, 369 U.S. 350 (1962); *Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486 (1969). But see *Golden v. Zwickler*, 394 U.S. 103 (1969).

⁴⁴² 389 U.S. 241 (1967).

⁴⁴³ 380 U.S. 479 (1965).

⁴⁴⁴ *Zwickler v. Koota*, 389 U.S. 241, 248 (1967).

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Escape from that duty might be found only in “narrow circumstances,” such as an appropriate application of the abstention doctrine, which was not proper where a statute affecting civil liberties was so broad as to reach protected activities as well as unprotected activities. Second, the judicially-developed doctrine that a litigant must show “special circumstances” to justify the issuance of a federal injunction against the enforcement of state criminal laws is not applicable to requests for federal declaratory relief: “a federal district court has the duty to decide the appropriateness and the merits of the declaratory request irrespective of its conclusion as to the propriety of the issuance of the injunction.”⁴⁴⁵ This language was qualified subsequently, so that declaratory and injunctive relief were equated in cases in which a criminal prosecution is pending in state court at the time the federal action is filed⁴⁴⁶ or is begun in state court after the filing of the federal action but before any proceedings of substance have taken place in federal court,⁴⁴⁷ and federal courts were instructed not to issue declaratory judgments in the absence of the factors permitting issuance of injunctions under the same circumstances. But in the absence of a pending state action or the subsequent and timely filing of one, a request for a declaratory judgment that a statute or ordinance is unconstitutional does not have to meet the stricter requirements justifying the issuance of an injunction.⁴⁴⁸

Ripeness.—Just as standing historically has concerned *who* may bring an action in federal court, the ripeness doctrine concerns *when* it may be brought. Formerly, it was a wholly constitutional principle requiring a determination that the events bearing on the substantive issue have happened or are sufficiently certain to occur so as to make necessary adjudication and so as to assure that the issues are sufficiently defined to permit intelligent resolution; the focus was on the harm to the rights claimed rather than on the harm to the plaintiff that gave him standing to bring the action,⁴⁴⁹ although, to be sure, in most cases the harm is the same. But in liberalizing the doctrine of ripeness in recent years the Court sub-

⁴⁴⁵ *Zwickler v. Koota*, 389 U.S. 241, 254 (1967).

⁴⁴⁶ *Samuels v. Mackell*, 401 U.S. 66 (1971). The case and its companion, *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37 (1971), substantially undercut much of the *Dombrowski* language and much of *Zwickler* was downgraded.

⁴⁴⁷ *Hicks v. Miranda*, 422 U.S. 332, 349 (1975).

⁴⁴⁸ *Steffel v. Thompson*, 415 U.S. 452 (1974). In cases covered by *Steffel*, the federal court may issue preliminary or permanent injunctions to protect its judgments, without satisfying the *Younger* tests. *Doran v. Salem Inn*, 422 U.S. 922, 930–931 (1975); *Wooley v. Maynard*, 430 U.S. 705, 712 (1977).

⁴⁴⁹ *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*, 330 U.S. 75 (1947); *International Longshoremen's Union v. Boyd*, 347 U.S. 222 (1954).

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divided it into constitutional and prudential parts⁴⁵⁰ and conflated standing and ripeness considerations.⁴⁵¹

The early cases generally required potential plaintiffs to expose themselves to possibly irreparable injury in order to invoke federal judicial review. Thus, in *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*,⁴⁵² government employees alleged that they wished to engage in various political activities and that they were deterred from their desires by the Hatch Act prohibitions on political activities. As to all but one plaintiff, who had himself actually engaged in forbidden activity, the Court held itself unable to adjudicate because the plaintiffs were not threatened with “actual interference” with their interests. The Justices viewed the threat to plaintiffs’ rights as hypothetical and refused to speculate about the kinds of political activity they might engage in or the Government’s response to it. “No threat of interference by the Commission with rights of these appellants appears beyond that implied by the existence of the law and the regulations.”⁴⁵³ Similarly, resident aliens planning to work in the Territory of Alaska for the summer and then return to the United States were denied a request for an interpretation of the immigration laws that they would not be treated on their return as excludable aliens entering the United States for the first time, or alternatively, for a ruling that the laws so interpreted would be unconstitutional, inasmuch as they had not gone and attempted to return, although other alien workers had gone and been denied re-entry and the immigration authorities were on record as intending to enforce the laws as they construed them.⁴⁵⁴ Of course, the Court was not entirely consistent in applying the doctrine.⁴⁵⁵

⁴⁵⁰ Regional Rail Reorganization Act Cases, 419 U.S. 102, 138–148 (1974) (certainty of injury a constitutional limitation, factual adequacy element a prudential one).

⁴⁵¹ *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 81–82 (1978) (that plaintiffs suffer injury-in-fact and such injury would be redressed by granting requested relief satisfies Article III ripeness requirement; prudential element satisfied by determination that Court would not be better prepared to render a decision later than now). But compare *Renne v. Geary*, 501 U.S. 312 (1991).

⁴⁵² 330 U.S. 75 (1947).

⁴⁵³ *Id.*, 90. In *CSC v. National Assn. of Letter Carriers*, 413 U.S. 548 (1973), without discussing ripeness, the Court decided on the merits anticipatory attacks on the Hatch Act. Plaintiffs had, however, alleged a variety of more concrete infringements upon their desires and intentions than the UPW plaintiffs had.

⁴⁵⁴ *International Longshoremen’s Union v. Boyd*, 347 U.S. 222 (1954). See also *Electric Bond & Share Co. v. SEC*, 303 U.S. 419 (1938); *Alabama State Federation of Labor v. McAdory*, 325 U.S. 450 (1945); *Public Service Comm. v. Wycoff Co.*, 344 U.S. 237 (1952); *Socialist Labor Party v. Gilligan*, 406 U.S. 583 (1972).

⁴⁵⁵ In *Adler v. Board of Education*, 342 U.S. 485 (1952), without discussing ripeness, the Court decided on the merits a suit about a state law requiring dismissal of teachers advocating violent overthrow of the government, over a strong dissent arguing the case was indistinguishable from *Mitchell*. *Id.*, 504 (Justice Frankfurter dissenting). In *Cramp v. Board of Public Instruction*, 368 U.S. 278 (1961), a state

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It remains good general law that pre-enforcement challenges to criminal and regulatory legislation will often be unripe for judicial consideration because of uncertainty of enforcement,⁴⁵⁶ because the plaintiffs can allege only a subjective feeling of inhibition or fear arising from the legislation or from enforcement of it,⁴⁵⁷ or because the courts need before them the details of a concrete factual situation arising from enforcement in order to engage in a reasoned balancing of individual rights and governmental interests.⁴⁵⁸ But one who challenges a statute or possible administrative action need demonstrate only a realistic danger of sustaining an injury to his rights as a result of the statute's operation and enforcement and need not await the consummation of the threatened injury in order to obtain preventive relief, such as exposing himself to actual arrest or prosecution. When one alleges an intention to engage in conduct arguably affected with a constitutional interest but proscribed by statute and there exists a credible threat of prosecution thereunder, he may bring an action for declaratory or injunctive relief.⁴⁵⁹ Similarly, the reasonable certainty of the occurrence of the perceived threat to a constitutional interest is sufficient to afford a basis for bringing a challenge, provided the court has sufficient facts before it to enable it to intelligently adjudicate the issues.⁴⁶⁰ Of considerable uncertainty in the law of ripeness is the *Duke*

employee was permitted to attack a non-Communist oath, although he alleged he believed he could take the oath in good faith and could prevail if prosecuted, because the oath was so vague as to subject plaintiff to the "risk of unfair prosecution and the potential deterrence of constitutionally protected conduct." *Id.*, 283–284. See also *Baggett v. Bullitt*, 377 U.S. 360 (1964); *Keyishian v. Board of Regents*, 385 U.S. 589 (1967).

⁴⁵⁶ E.g., *Poe v. Ullman*, 367 U.S. 497 (1961) (no adjudication of challenge to law barring use of contraceptives because in 80 years of the statute's existence the State had never instituted a prosecution). But compare *Epperson v. Arkansas*, 393 U.S. 97 (1968) (merits reached in absence of enforcement and fair indication State would not enforce it); *Vance v. Amusement Co.*, 445 U.S. 308 (1980) (reaching merits, although State asserted law would not be used, although local prosecutor had so threatened; no discussion of ripeness, but dissent relied on *Poe*, *id.*, 317–318).

⁴⁵⁷ E.g., *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37, 41–42 (1971); *Boyle v. Landry*, 401 U.S. 77 (1971); *Golden v. Zwickler*, 394 U.S. 103 (1969); *O'Shea v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 488 (1974); *Spomer v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 514 (1974); *Rizzo v. Goode*, 423 U.S. 362 (1976).

⁴⁵⁸ E.g., *California Bankers Assn. v. Schultz*, 416 U.S. 21 (1974); *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Reclamation Assn.*, 452 U.S. 264, 294–297 (1981); *Renne v. Geary*, 501 U.S. 312, 320–323 (1991).

⁴⁵⁹ *Steffel v. Thompson*, 415 U.S. 452 (1974); *Wooley v. Maynard*, 430 U.S. 705, 707–708, 710 (1977); *Babbitt v. United Farm Workers*, 442 U.S. 289, 297–305 (1979) (finding some claims ripe, others not). Compare *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179, 188–189 (1973), with *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 127–128 (1973). See also *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52 (1976); *Colautti v. Franklin*, 439 U.S. 379 (1979).

⁴⁶⁰ *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 113–118 (1976); *Regional Rail Reorganization Act Cases*, 419 U.S. 102, 138–148 (1974) (holding some but not all the claims ripe). See also *Goldwater v. Carter*, 444 U.S. 996, 997 (Justice Powell concurring) (parties had not put themselves in opposition).

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Power case in which the Court held ripe for decision on the merits a challenge to a federal law limiting liability for nuclear accidents at nuclear power plants, on the basis that because plaintiffs had sustained injury-in-fact and had standing the Article III requisite of ripeness was satisfied and no additional facts arising out of the occurrence of the claimed harm would enable the court better to decide the issues.⁴⁶¹ Should this analysis prevail, ripeness as a limitation on justiciability will decline in importance.

Mootness.—It may be that a case presenting all the attributes necessary for federal court litigation will at some point lose some attribute of justiciability, will, in other words, become “moot.” The usual rule is that an actual controversy must exist at all stages of trial and appellate consideration and not simply at the date the action is initiated.⁴⁶² “Under Article III of the Constitution, federal courts may adjudicate only actual, ongoing cases or controversies. . . . Article III denies federal courts the power ‘to decide questions that cannot affect the rights of litigants in the case before them, . . . and confines them to resolving ‘real and substantial controvers[ies] admitting of specific relief through a decree of a conclusive character, as distinguished from an opinion advising what the law would be upon a hypothetical state of facts.’ . . . This case-or-controversy requirement subsists through all stages of federal judicial proceedings, trial and appellate. To sustain our jurisdiction in the present case, it is not enough that a dispute was very much alive when suit was filed, or when review was obtained in the Court of Appeals. . . . The parties must continue to have a ‘personal stake in the outcome’ of the lawsuit.”⁴⁶³ Since, with the ad-

⁴⁶¹ *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 81–82 (1978). The injury giving standing to plaintiffs was the environmental harm arising from the plant’s routine operation; the injury to their legal rights was alleged to be the harm caused by the limitation of liability in the event of a nuclear accident. The standing injury had occurred, the ripeness injury was conjectural and speculative and might never occur. See *id.*, 102 (Justice Stevens concurring in the result). It is evident on the face of the opinion and expressly stated by the objecting Justices that the Court utilized its standing/ripeness analyses in order to reach the merits, so as to remove the constitutional cloud cast upon the federal law by the district court decision. *Id.*, 95, 103 (Justices Rehnquist and Stevens concurring in the result).

⁴⁶² E.g., *United States v. Munsingwear*, 340 U.S. 36 (1950); *Golden v. Zwickler*, 394 U.S. 103, 108 (1969); *SEC v. Medical Committee for Human Rights*, 404 U.S. 403 (1972); *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 125 (1973); *Sosna v. Iowa*, 419 U.S. 393, 398–399 (1975); *United States Parole Comm. v. Geraghty*, 445 U.S. 388, 397 (1980), and *id.*, 411 (Justice Powell dissenting); *Burke v. Barnes*, 479 U.S. 361, 363 (1987); *Honig v. Doe*, 484 U.S. 305, 317 (1988); *Lewis v. Continental Bank Corp.*, 494 U.S. 472, 477–478 (1990).

⁴⁶³ *Lewis v. Continental Bank Corp.*, 494 U.S. 472, 477–478 (1990) (internal citations omitted). The Court’s emphasis upon mootness as a constitutional rule mandated by Article III is long stated in the cases. E.g., *Liner v. Jafco*, 375 U.S. 301, 306 n. 3 (1964); *DeFunis v. Odegaard*, 416 U.S. 312, 316 (1974); *Sibron v. New York*,

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vent of declaratory judgments, it is open to the federal courts to “declare the rights and other legal relations” of the parties with *res judicata* effect,⁴⁶⁴ the question in cases alleged to be moot now seems largely if not exclusively to be decided in terms whether an actual controversy continues to exist between the parties rather than some additional older concepts.⁴⁶⁵

Cases may become moot because of a change in the law,⁴⁶⁶ or in the status of the parties,⁴⁶⁷ or because of some act of one of the parties which dissolves the controversy.⁴⁶⁸ But the Court has developed several exceptions, which operate to prevent many of the cases in which mootness is alleged from being in law moot. Thus, in criminal cases, although the sentence of the convicted appellant has been served, the case “is moot only if it is shown that there is no possibility that any collateral legal consequences will be imposed on the basis of the challenged conviction.”⁴⁶⁹ The “mere possibility” of such a consequence, even a “remote” one, is enough to find that one who has served his sentence has retained the req-

392 U.S. 40, 57 (1968). See *Honig v. Doe*, 484 U.S. 305, 317 (1988), and *id.*, 332 (Justice Scalia dissenting). But compare *Franks v. Bowman Transp. Co.*, 424 U.S. 747, 756 n. 8 (1976) (referring to mootness as presenting policy rather than constitutional considerations). If this foundation exists, it is hard to explain the exceptions, which partake of practical reasoning. In any event, Chief Justice Rehnquist has argued that the mootness doctrine is not constitutionally based, or not sufficiently based only on Article III, so that the Court should not dismiss cases that have become moot after the Court has taken them for review. *Honig*, *supra*, 329 (concurring).

⁴⁶⁴But see *Steffel v. Thompson*, 415 U.S. 452, 470–472 (1974); *id.*, 477 (Justice White concurring), 482 n. 3 (Justice Rehnquist concurring) (on *res judicata* effect in state court in subsequent prosecution). In any event, the statute authorizes the federal court to grant “[f]urther necessary or proper relief” which could include enjoining state prosecutions.

⁴⁶⁵Award of process and execution are no longer essential to the concept of judicial power. *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Haworth*, 300 U.S. 227 (1937).

⁴⁶⁶E.g., *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & Belmont Bridge Co.*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 518 (1852); *United States v. Alaska Steamship Co.*, 253 U.S. 113 (1920); *Hall v. Beals*, 396 U.S. 45 (1969); *Sanks v. Georgia*, 401 U.S. 144 (1971); *Richardson v. Wright*, 405 U.S. 208 (1972); *Diffenderfer v. Central Baptist Church*, 404 U.S. 412 (1972); *Lewis v. Continental Bank Corp.*, 494 U.S. 481 (1990). But compare *City of Mesquite v. Aladdin’s Castle, Inc.*, 455 U.S. 283, 288–289 (1982) (case not mooted by repeal of ordinance, since City made clear its intention to reenact it if free from lower court judgment).

⁴⁶⁷*Atherton Mills v. Johnston*, 259 U.S. 13 (1922) (in challenge to laws regulating labor of youths 14 to 16, Court held case two-and-one-half years after argument and dismissed as moot since certainly none of the challengers was now in the age bracket); *Golden v. Zwickler*, 394 U.S. 103 (1969); *DeFunis v. Odegaard*, 416 U.S. 312 (1974); *Dove v. United States*, 423 U.S. 325 (1976); *Lane v. Williams*, 455 U.S. 624 (1982). Compare *County of Los Angeles v. Davis*, 440 U.S. 625 (1979), with *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480 (1980).

⁴⁶⁸E.g. *Commercial Cable Co. v. Burleson*, 250 U.S. 360 (1919); *Oil Workers Local 8–6 v. Missouri*, 361 U.S. 363 (1960); *A.L. Mechling Barge Lines v. United States*, 368 U.S. 324 (1961); *Preiser v. Newkirk*, 422 U.S. 395 (1975); *County of Los Angeles v. Davis*, 440 U.S. 625 (1979).

⁴⁶⁹*Sibron v. New York*, 395 U.S. 40, 50–58 (1968).

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uisite personal stake giving his case “an adversary cast and making it justiciable.”⁴⁷⁰ This exception has its counterpart in civil litigation in which a lower court judgment may still have certain present or future adverse effects on the challenging party.⁴⁷¹

A second exception, the “voluntary cessation” doctrine, focuses on whether challenged conduct which has lapsed or the utilization of a statute which has been superseded is likely to recur.⁴⁷² Thus, cessation of the challenged activity by the voluntary choice of the person engaging in it, especially if he contends that he was properly engaging in it, will moot the case only if it can be said with assurance “that ‘there is no reasonable expectation that the wrong will be repeated.’”⁴⁷³ Otherwise, “[t]he defendant is free to return to his old ways” and this fact would be enough to prevent mootness because of the “public interest in having the legality of the practices settled.”⁴⁷⁴

Still a third exception concerns the ability to challenge short-term conduct which may recur in the future, which has been denominated as disputes “capable of repetition, yet evading review.”⁴⁷⁵ Thus, in cases in which (1) the challenged action is too short in its duration to be fully litigated prior to its cessation or expiration, and (2) there is a reasonable expectation that the same

⁴⁷⁰ *Benton v. Maryland*, 395 U.S. 784, 790–791 (1969). The cases have progressed from leaning toward mootness to leaning strongly against. E.g., *St. Pierre v. United States*, 319 U.S. 41 (1943); *Fiswick v. United States*, 329 U.S. 211 (1946); *United States v. Morgan*, 346 U.S. 502 (1954); *Pollard v. United States*, 352 U.S. 354 (1957); *Ginsberg v. New York*, 390 U.S. 629, 633–634 n. 2 (1968); *Sibron v. New York*, 392 U.S. 40, 49–58 (1968); but see *Lane v. Williams*, 455 U.S. 624 (1982). The exception permits review at the instance of the prosecution as well as defendant. *Pennsylvania v. Mimms*, 434 U.S. 106 (1977). When a convicted defendant dies while his case is on direct review, the Court’s present practice is to dismiss the petition for certiorari. *Dove v. United States*, 423 U.S. 325 (1976), overruling *Durham v. United States*, 401 U.S. 481 (1971).

⁴⁷¹ *Southern Pacific Terminal Co. v. ICC*, 219 U.S. 433, 452 (1911); *Carroll v. President & Comrs. of Princess Anne*, 393 U.S. 175 (1968). See *Super Tire Engineering Co. v. McCorkle*, 416 U.S. 115 (1974) (holding that expiration of strike did not moot employer challenge to state regulations entitling strikers to state welfare assistance since the consequences of the regulations would continue).

⁴⁷² *United States v. Trans-Missouri Freight Assn.*, 166 U.S. 290 (1897); *Walling v. Helmerich & Payne*, 323 U.S. 37 (1944); *Porter v. Lee*, 328 U.S. 246 (1946); *United States v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 345 U.S. 629 (1953); *Gray v. Sanders*, 372 U.S. 368 (1963); *United States v. Concentrated Phosphate Export Assn.*, 393 U.S. 199, 202–204 (1969); *DeFunis v. Odegaard*, 416 U.S. 312, 318 (1974); *County of Los Angeles v. Davis*, 440 U.S. 625, 631–634 (1979), and *id.*, 641–646 (Justice Powell dissenting); *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480, 486–487 (1980), and *id.*, 500–501 (Justice Stewart dissenting); *Princeton University v. Schmidt*, 455 U.S. 100 (1982); *City of Mesquite v. Aladdin’s Castle, Inc.*, 455 U.S. 283, 288–289 (1982).

⁴⁷³ *United States v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 345 U.S. 629, 633 (1953) (quoting *United States v. Aluminum Co. of America*, 148 F.2d 416, 448 (2d Cir., 1945)).

⁴⁷⁴ *United States v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 345 U.S. 629, 632 (1953). But see *A.L. Mechling Barge Lines v. United States*, 368 U.S. 324 (1961).

⁴⁷⁵ *Southern Pacific Terminal Co. v. ICC*, 219 U.S. 498, 515 (1911).

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complaining party would be subjected to the same action again, mootness will not be found when the complained-of conduct ends.⁴⁷⁶ The imposition of short sentences in criminal cases,⁴⁷⁷ the issuance of injunctions to expire in a brief period,⁴⁷⁸ and the short-term factual context of certain events, such as elections⁴⁷⁹ or pregnancies,⁴⁸⁰ are all instances in which this exception is frequently invoked.

An interesting and potentially significant liberalization of the law of mootness, perhaps as part of a continuing circumstances exception, is occurring in the context of class action litigation. It is now clearly established that, when the controversy becomes moot as to the plaintiff in a certified class action, it still remains alive for the class he represents so long as an adversary relationship sufficient to constitute a live controversy between the class members and the other party exists.⁴⁸¹ The Court was closely divided, however, with respect to the right of the named party, when the substantive controversy became moot as to him, to appeal as error the denial of a motion to certify the class which he sought to represent and which he still sought to represent. The Court held that in the class action setting there are two aspects of the Article III mootness question, the existence of a live controversy and the existence of a personal stake in the outcome for the named class representative.⁴⁸² Finding a live controversy, the Court determined that the named plaintiff retained a sufficient interest, “a personal

⁴⁷⁶ *Weinstein v. Bradford*, 423 U.S. 147, 149 (1975); *Murphy v. Hunt*, 455 U.S. 478, 482 (1982). See *Super Tire Engineering Co. v. McCorkle*, 416 U.S. 115, 125–126 (1974), and *id.*, 130–132 (Justice Powell dissenting). The degree of expectation or likelihood that the issue will recur has frequently divided the Court. Compare *Murphy v. Hunt*, *supra*, with *Nebraska Press Assn. v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539 (1976); compare *Honig v. Doe*, 484 U.S. 305, 318–323 (1988), with *id.*, 332 (Justice Scalia dissenting).

⁴⁷⁷ *Sibron v. New York*, 392 U.S. 40, 49–58 (1968). See *Gerstein v. Pugh*, 420 U.S. 103 (1975).

⁴⁷⁸ *Carroll v. President & Comrs. of Princess Anne*, 393 U.S. 175 (1968). See *Nebraska Press Assn. v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539 (1976) (short-term court order restricting press coverage).

⁴⁷⁹ *E.g.*, *Moore v. Ogilvie*, 394 U.S. 814, 816 (1969); *Rosario v. Rockefeller*, 410 U.S. 752, 756 n. 5 (1973); *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 737 n. 8 (1974). Compare *Mills v. Green*, 159 U.S. 651 (1895); *Ray v. Blair*, 343 U.S. 154 (1952).

⁴⁸⁰ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 124–125 (1973).

⁴⁸¹ *Sosna v. Iowa*, 419 U.S. 393 (1975); *Franks v. Bowman Transp. Co.*, 424 U.S. 747, 752–757 (1976). A suit which proceeds as a class action but without formal certification may not receive the benefits of this rule. *Board of School Comrs. v. Jacobs*, 420 U.S. 128 (1975). See also *Weinstein v. Bradford*, 423 U.S. 147 (1975); *Pasadena City Bd. of Educ. v. Spangler*, 427 U.S. 424, 430 (1976). But see the characterization of these cases in *United States Parole Comm. v. Geraghty*, 445 U.S. 388, 400 n. 7 (1980). Mootness is not necessarily avoided in properly certified cases, but the standards of determination are unclear. See *Kremens v. Bartley*, 431 U.S. 119 (1977).

⁴⁸² *United States Parole Comm. v. Geraghty*, 445 U.S. 388, 396 (1980).

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stake,” in his claimed right to represent the class in order to satisfy the “imperatives of a dispute capable of judicial resolution;” that is, his continuing interest adequately assures that “sharply presented issues” are placed before the court “in a concrete factual setting” with “self-interested parties vigorously advocating opposing positions.”⁴⁸³

The immediate effect of the decision is that litigation in which class actions are properly certified or in which they should have been certified will rarely ever be mooted if the named plaintiff (or in effect his attorney) chooses to pursue the matter, even though the named plaintiff can no longer obtain any personal relief from the decision sought.⁴⁸⁴ Of much greater potential significance is the possible extension of the weakening of the “personal stake” requirement in other areas, such as the representation of third-party claims in non-class actions and the initiation of some litigation in the form of a “private attorneys general” pursuit of adjudication.⁴⁸⁵ It may be that the evolution in this area will be confined to the class action context, but cabining of a “flexible” doctrine of standing may be difficult.⁴⁸⁶

Retroactivity Versus Prospectivity.—One of the distinguishing features of an advisory opinion is that it lays down a rule to be applied to future cases, much as does legislation generally. It should therefore follow that an Article III court could not decide purely prospective cases, cases which do not govern the rights and disabilities of the parties to the cases.⁴⁸⁷ The Court asserted that this principle is true, while applying it only to give retroactive effect to the parties to the immediate case.⁴⁸⁸ Yet, occasionally, the

⁴⁸³ *Id.*, 403. Justices Powell, Stewart, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger dissented, *Id.*, 409, arguing there could be no Article III personal stake in a procedural decision separate from the outcome of the case. In *Deposit Guaranty National Bank v. Roper*, 445 U.S. 326 (1980), in an opinion by Chief Justice Burger, the Court held that a class action was not mooted when defendant tendered to the named plaintiffs the full amount of recovery they had individually asked for and could hope to retain. Plaintiffs’ interest in shifting part of the share of costs of litigation to those who would share in its benefits if the class were certified was deemed to be a sufficient “personal stake,” although the value of this interest was at best speculative.

⁴⁸⁴ The named plaintiff must still satisfy the class action requirement of adequacy of representation. *United States Parole Comm. v. Geraghty*, 445 U.S. 388, 405–407 (1980). On the implications of *Geraghty*, which the Court has not returned to, see HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 225–230.

⁴⁸⁵ *Geraghty*, *supra*, 445 U.S., 404 and n. 11.

⁴⁸⁶ *Id.*, 419–424 (Justice Powell dissenting).

⁴⁸⁷ For a masterful discussion of the issue in both criminal and civil contexts, see Fallon & Meltzer, *New Law, Non-Retroactivity, and Constitutional Remedies*, 104 Harv. L. Rev. 1731 (1991).

⁴⁸⁸ *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293, 301 (1967).

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Court did not apply its holding to the parties before it,⁴⁸⁹ and in a series of cases beginning in the mid-1960s it became embroiled in attempts to limit the retroactive effect of its—primarily but not exclusively⁴⁹⁰—constitutional-criminal law decisions. The results have been confusing and unpredictable.⁴⁹¹

Prior to 1965, “both the common law and our own decisions recognized a general rule of retrospective effect for the constitutional decisions of this Court . . . subject to [certain] limited exceptions.”⁴⁹² Statutory and judge-made law have consequences, at least to the extent that people must rely on them in making decisions and shaping their conduct. Therefore, the Court was moved to recognize that there should be a reconciling of constitutional interests reflected in a new rule of law with reliance interests founded upon the old.⁴⁹³ In both criminal and civil cases, however, the Court’s discretion to do so has been constrained by later decisions.

When in the 1960s the Court began its expansion of the Bill of Rights and applied the rulings to the States, a necessity arose to determine the application of the rulings to criminal defendants who had exhausted all direct appeals but who could still resort to *habeas corpus*, to those who had been convicted but still were on direct appeal, and to those who had allegedly engaged in conduct but who had not gone to trial. At first, the Court drew the line at cases in which judgments of conviction were not yet final, so that all persons in those situations obtained retrospective use of decisions,⁴⁹⁴ but the Court then promulgated standards for a balancing process that resulted in different degrees of retroactivity in dif-

⁴⁸⁹ *England v. Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners*, 375 U.S. 411, 422 (1964); *James v. United States*, 366 U.S. 213 (1961). See also *Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408 U.S. 471, 490 (1972).

⁴⁹⁰ Noncriminal constitutional cases included *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 411 U.S. 192 (1973); *City of Phoenix v. Kolodziejcki*, 399 U.S. 204 (1970); *Cipriano v. City of Houma*, 395 U.S. 701 (1969). Indeed, in *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1 (1976), and *Northern Pipeline Constr. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50 (1982), the Court postponed the effectiveness of its decision for a period during which Congress could repair the flaws in the statute. Noncriminal, nonconstitutional cases include *Chevron Oil Co. v. Huson*, 404 U.S. 97 (1971); *Allen v. State Board of Elections*, 393 U.S. 544 (1969); *Hanover Shoe v. United Shoe Machinery Corp.*, 392 U.S. 481 (1968); *Simpson v. Union Oil Co.*, 377 U.S. 13 (1964).

⁴⁹¹ Because of shifting coalitions of Justices, Justice Harlan complained, the course of retroactivity decisions “became almost as difficult to follow as the tracks made by a beast of prey in search of its intended victim.” *Mackey v. United States*, 401 U.S. 667, 676 (1971) (separate opinion).

⁴⁹² *Robinson v. Neil*, 409 U.S. 505, 507 (1973). The older rule of retroactivity derived from the Blackstonian notion “that the duty of the court was not to ‘pronounce a new law, but to maintain and expound the old one.’” *Linkletter v. Walker*, 381 U.S. 618, 622–623 (1965) (quoting 1 W. BLACKSTONE, COMMENTARIES *69).

⁴⁹³ *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 411 U.S. 192, 198–199 (1973).

⁴⁹⁴ *Linkletter v. Walker*, 381 U.S. 618 (1965); *Tehan v. United States ex rel. Shott*, 382 U.S. 406 (1966).

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ferent cases.⁴⁹⁵ Generally, in cases in which the Court declared a rule which was “a clear break with the past,” it denied retroactivity to all defendants, with the sometime exception of the appellant himself.⁴⁹⁶ With respect to certain cases in which a new rule was intended to overcome an impairment of the truth-finding function of a criminal trial⁴⁹⁷ or to cases in which the Court found that a constitutional doctrine barred the conviction or punishment of someone,⁴⁹⁸ full retroactivity, even to *habeas* claimants, was the rule. Justice Harlan strongly argued that the Court should sweep away its confusing balancing rules and hold that all defendants whose cases are still pending on direct appeal at the time of a law-changing decision should be entitled to invoke the new rule, but that no *habeas* claimant should be entitled to benefit.⁴⁹⁹

The Court has now drawn a sharp distinction between criminal cases pending on direct review and cases pending on collateral review. For cases on direct review, “a new rule for the conduct of criminal prosecutions is to be applied retroactively to all cases, state or federal, pending on direct review or not yet final, with no exception for cases in which the new rule constitutes a ‘clear break’ with the past.”⁵⁰⁰ Justice Harlan’s *habeas* approach was then adopted by a plurality in *Teague v. Lane*⁵⁰¹ and then by the Court in *Penry v. Lynaugh*.⁵⁰² Thus, for collateral review in federal courts of state court criminal convictions, the general rule is that “new rules” of constitutional interpretation, those that break new ground or impose a new obligation on the States or the Federal Government, announced after a defendant’s conviction has become final will not be applied. For such *habeas* cases, a “new rule” is defined very broadly to include interpretations that are a logical outgrowth or application of an earlier rule unless the result was “dic-

⁴⁹⁵ *Johnson v. New Jersey*, 384 U.S. 719 (1966); *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293 (1967); *Adams v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 278 (1972).

⁴⁹⁶ *Desist v. United States*, 394 U.S. 224, 248 (1969); *United States v. Peltier*, 422 U.S. 531 (1975); *Brown v. Louisiana*, 447 U.S. 323, 335–336 (1980) (plurality opinion); *Michigan v. Payne*, 412 U.S. 47, 55 (1973); *United States v. Johnson*, 457 U.S. 537, 549–550, 551–552 (1982).

⁴⁹⁷ *Williams v. United States*, 401 U.S. 646, 653 (1971) (plurality opinion); *Brown v. Louisiana*, 447 U.S. 323, 328–330 (1980) (plurality opinion); *Hankerson v. North Carolina*, 432 U.S. 233, 243 (1977).

⁴⁹⁸ *United States v. United States Coin & Currency*, 401 U.S. 715, 724 (1971); *Moore v. Illinois*, 408 U.S. 786, 800 (1972); *Robinson v. Neil*, 409 U.S. 505, 509 (1973).

⁴⁹⁹ *Mackey v. United States*, 401 U.S. 667, 675 (1971) (separate opinion); *Desist v. United States*, 394 U.S. 244, 256 (1969) (dissenting). Justice Powell also strongly supported the proposed rule. *Hankerson v. North Carolina*, 432 U.S. 233, 246–248 (1977) (concurring in judgment); *Brown v. Louisiana*, 447 U.S. 323, 337 (1980) (concurring in judgment).

⁵⁰⁰ *Griffith v. Kentucky*, 479 U.S. 314, 328 (1987).

⁵⁰¹ 489 U.S. 288 (1989).

⁵⁰² 492 U.S. 302 (1989).

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tated” by that precedent.⁵⁰³ The only exceptions are for decisions placing certain conduct or defendants beyond the reach of the criminal law, and for decisions recognizing a fundamental procedural right “without which the likelihood of an accurate conviction is seriously diminished.”⁵⁰⁴

What the rule is to be, and indeed if there *is* to be a rule, in civil cases has been disputed to a rough draw in recent cases. As was noted above, there is a line of civil cases, constitutional and nonconstitutional, in which the Court has declined to apply new rules, the result often of overruling older cases, retrospectively, sometimes even to the prevailing party in the case.⁵⁰⁵ As in criminal cases, the creation of new law, through overrulings or otherwise, may result in retroactivity in all instances, in pure prospectivity, or in partial prospectivity in which the prevailing party obtains the results of the new rule but no one else does. In two cases raising the question when States are required to refund taxes collected under a statute that is subsequently ruled to be unconstitutional, the Court revealed itself to be deeply divided.⁵⁰⁶ The question in *Beam* was whether the company could claim a tax refund under an earlier ruling holding unconstitutional the imposition of certain taxes upon its products. The holding of a fractionated Court was that it could seek a refund, because in the earlier ruling the Court had applied the holding to the contesting

⁵⁰³ *Perry*, supra, 492 U.S., 314. Put another way, it is not enough that a decision is “within the ‘logical compass’ of an earlier decision, or indeed that it is ‘controlled’ by a prior decision.” A decision announces a “new rule” if its result “was susceptible to debate among reasonable minds” and if it was not “an illogical or even a grudging application” of the prior decision. *Butler v. McKellar*, 494 U.S. 407, 412–415 (1990).

⁵⁰⁴ *Teague v. Lane*, 489 U.S. 288, 307, 311–313 (1989) (plurality opinion); *Butler v. McKellar*, 494 U.S. 407, 415–416 (1990). Under the second exception it is “not enough that a new rule is aimed at improving the accuracy of a trial. . . . A rule that qualifies under this exception must not only improve accuracy, but also ‘alter our understanding of the *bedrock procedural elements*’ essential to the fairness of a proceeding.” *Sawyer v. Smith*, 497 U.S. 227, 242 (1990) (emphasis in original).

⁵⁰⁵ The standard that has been applied was enunciated in *Chevron Oil Co. v. Huson*, 404 U.S. 97 (1971). Briefly, the question of retroactivity or prospectivity was to be determined by a balancing of the equities. To be limited to prospectivity, a decision must have established a new principle of law, either by overruling clear past precedent on which reliance has been had or by deciding an issue of first impression whose resolution was not clearly foreshadowed. The courts must look to the prior history of the rule in question, its purpose and effect, and whether retrospective operation will further or retard its operation. Then, the courts must look to see whether a decision to apply retroactively a decision will produce substantial inequitable results. *Id.*, 106–107. *American Trucking Assns., Inc. v. Smith*, 496 U.S. 167, 179–186 (1990) (plurality opinion).

⁵⁰⁶ *James B. Beam Distilling Co. v. Georgia*, 501 U.S. 529 (1991); *American Trucking Assns., Inc. v. Smith*, 496 U.S. 167 (1990). And, of course, the retirements since the decisions were handed down further complicate discerning the likely Court position.

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company and once a new rule has been applied retroactively to the litigants in a civil case considerations of equality and *stare decisis* compel application to all.⁵⁰⁷ While partial or selective prospectivity is thus ruled out, neither pure retroactivity or pure prospectivity is either required or forbidden.

Four Justices adhered to the principle that new law, new rules, as defined above, may be applied purely prospectively, without violating any tenet of Article III or any other constitutional value.⁵⁰⁸ Three Justices argued that all prospectivity, whether partial or total, violates Article III by expanding the jurisdiction of the federal courts beyond true cases and controversies.⁵⁰⁹ Future cases must, therefore, be awaited for resolution of this issue.

Political Questions

It may be that there will be a case assuredly within the Court's jurisdiction presented by parties with standing in which adverse-ness and ripeness will exist, a case in other words presenting all the qualifications we have considered making it a justiciable controversy, which the Court will nonetheless refuse to adjudicate. The "label" for such a case is that it presents a "political question." Although the Court has referred to the political question doctrine as "one of the rules basic of the federal system and this Court's appropriate place within that structure,"⁵¹⁰ a commentator has remarked that "[i]t is, measured by any of the normal responsibilities of a phrase of definition, one of the least satisfactory terms known to the law. The origin, scope, and purpose of the concept have eluded all attempts at precise statements."⁵¹¹ That the concept of political questions may be "more amenable to description by infinite

⁵⁰⁷ *Beam*, supra. The holding described in the text is expressly that of only a two-Justice plurality. *Id.*, 501 U.S., 534–544 (Justices Souter and Stevens). Justice White, Justice Blackmun, and Justice Scalia (with Justice Marshall joining the latter Justices) concurred, *id.*, 544, 547, 548 (respectively), but on other, and in the instance of the three latter Justices, and broader justifications. Justices O'Connor and Kennedy and Chief Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.*, 549.

⁵⁰⁸ *Beam*, supra, 501 U.S., 549 (dissenting opinion of Justices O'Connor and Kennedy and Chief Justice Rehnquist), and *id.*, 544 (Justice White concurring). And see *Smith*, supra, 496 U.S., 171 (plurality opinion of Justices O'Connor, White, Kennedy, and Chief Justice Rehnquist).

⁵⁰⁹ *Beam*, supra, 501 U.S., 547, 548 (Justices Blackmun, Scalia, and Marshall concurring). These three Justices, in *Smith*, supra, 496 U.S., 205, had joined the dissenting opinion of Justice Stevens arguing that constitutional decisions must be given retroactive effect.

⁵¹⁰ *Rescue Army v. Municipal Court*, 331 U.S. 549, 570 (1947); cf. *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 278 (1962) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting). The most successful effort at conceptualization of the doctrine is Scharpf, *Judicial Review and the Political Question: A Functional Analysis*, 75 *Yale L.J.* 517 (1966). See HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 270–294.

⁵¹¹ Frank, *Political Questions*, in E. CAHN (ed.), *SUPREME COURT AND SUPREME LAW* (Bloomington: 1954), 36.

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itemization than by generalization”⁵¹² is generally true, although the Court’s development of rationale in *Baker v. Carr*⁵¹³ has changed this fact radically, but the doctrine may be approached in two ways, by itemization of the kinds of questions that have been labeled political and by isolation of the factors that have led to the labeling.

Origins and Development.—In *Marbury v. Madison*,⁵¹⁴ Chief Justice Marshall stated: “The province of the court is, solely, to decide on the rights of individuals, not to inquire how the executive, or executive officers, perform duties in which they have a discretion. Questions in their nature political, or which are, by the constitution and laws, submitted to the executive can never be made in this court.”⁵¹⁵

But the doctrine was asserted even earlier as the Court in *Ware v. Hylton*⁵¹⁶ refused to pass on the question whether a treaty had been broken. And in *Martin v. Mott*,⁵¹⁷ the Court held that the President acting under congressional authorization had exclusive and unreviewable power to determine when the militia should be called out. But it was in *Luther v. Borden*⁵¹⁸ that the concept was first enunciated as a doctrine separate from considerations of interference with executive functions. This case presented the question of the claims of two competing factions to be the only lawful government of Rhode Island during a period of unrest in 1842.⁵¹⁹ Chief Justice Taney began by saying that the answer was primarily a matter of state law that had been decided in favor of one faction by the state courts.⁵²⁰

Insofar as the Federal Constitution had anything to say on the subject, the Chief Justice continued, that was embodied in the

⁵¹² *Ibid.*

⁵¹³ *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 208–232 (1962).

⁵¹⁴ 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137, 170 (1803).

⁵¹⁵ In *Decatur v. Paulding*, 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 497, 516 (1840), the Court, refusing an effort by mandamus to compel the Secretary of the Navy to pay a pension, said: “The interference of the courts with the performance of the ordinary duties of the executive departments of the government, would be productive of nothing but mischief; and we are quite satisfied, that such a power was never intended to be given to them.” It therefore follows that mandamus will lie against an executive official only to compel the performance of a ministerial duty, which admits of no discretion, and may not be invoked to control executive or political duties which admit of discretion. See *Georgia v. Stanton*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 50 (1867); *Mississippi v. Johnson*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 475 (1867); *Kendall v. United States ex rel. Stokes*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 524 (1838).

⁵¹⁶ 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1796).

⁵¹⁷ 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 19 (1827).

⁵¹⁸ 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1 (1849).

⁵¹⁹ Cf. *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 218–222 (1962); *id.*, 292–297 (Justice Frankfurter dissenting).

⁵²⁰ *Luther v. Borden*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1, 40 (1849).

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clause empowering the United States to guarantee to every State a republican form of government,⁵²¹ and this clause committed determination of the issue to the political branches of the Federal Government. “Under this article of the Constitution it rests with Congress to decide what government is the established one in a State. For as the United States guarantee to each State a republican government, Congress must necessarily decide what government is established in the State before it can determine whether it is republican or not. And when the senators and representatives of a State are admitted into the councils of the Union, the authority of the government under which they are appointed, as well as its republican character, is recognized by the proper constitutional authority. And its decision is binding on every other department of the government, and could not be questioned in a judicial tribunal.”⁵²² Here, the contest had not proceeded to a point where Congress had made a decision, “[y]et the right to decide is placed there, and not in the courts.”⁵²³

Moreover, in effectuating the provision in the same clause that the United States should protect them against domestic violence, Congress had vested discretion in the President to use troops to protect a state government upon the application of the legislature or the governor. Before he could act upon the application of a legislature or a governor, the President “must determine what body of men constitute the legislature, and who is the governor. . . .” No court could review the President’s exercise of discretion in this respect; no court could recognize as legitimate a group vying against the group recognized by the President as the lawful government.⁵²⁴ Although the President had not actually called out the militia in Rhode Island, he had pledged support to one of the competing governments, and this pledge of military assistance if it were needed had in fact led to the capitulation of the other faction, thus making an effectual and authoritative determination not reviewable by the Court.⁵²⁵

The Doctrine Before Baker v. Carr.—Over the years, the political question doctrine has been applied to preclude adjudication of a variety of issues. Certain factors appear more or less consistently through most but not all of these cases, and it is perhaps best to indicate the cases and issues deemed political before attempting to isolate these factors.

⁵²¹ Id., 42 (citing Article IV, § 4).

⁵²² Ibid.

⁵²³ Ibid.

⁵²⁴ Id., 43.

⁵²⁵ Id., 44.

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(1) By far the most consistent application of the doctrine has been in cases in which litigants asserted claims under the republican form of government clause,⁵²⁶ whether the attack was on the government of the State itself⁵²⁷ or on some manner in which it had acted,⁵²⁸ but there have been cases in which the Court has reached the merits.⁵²⁹

(2) Although there is language in the cases that would if applied make all questions touching on foreign affairs and foreign policy political,⁵³⁰ whether the courts have adjudicated a dispute in this area has often depended on the context in which it arises. Thus, the determination by the President whether to recognize the government of a foreign state⁵³¹ or who is the *de jure* or *de facto* ruler of a foreign state⁵³² is conclusive on the courts, but in the absence of a definitive executive action the courts will review the record to determine whether the United States has accorded a sufficient degree of recognition to allow the courts to take judicial notice of the existence of the state.⁵³³ Moreover, the courts have often determined for themselves what effect, if any, should be accorded the acts of foreign powers, recognized or unrecognized.⁵³⁴ Simi-

⁵²⁶ Article IV, § 4.

⁵²⁷ As it was on the established government of Rhode Island in *Luther v. Borden*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1 (1849). See also *Texas v. White*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 700 (1869); *Taylor v. Beckham*, 178 U.S. 548 (1900).

⁵²⁸ *Pacific States Tel. Co. v. Oregon*, 223 U.S. 118 (1912); *Kiernan v. City of Portland*, 223 U.S. 151 (1912) (attacks on initiative and referendum); *Marshall v. Dye*, 231 U.S. 250 (1913) (state constitutional amendment procedure); *O'Neill v. Leamer*, 239 U.S. 244 (1915) (delegation to court to form drainage districts); *Ohio ex rel. Davis v. Hildebrant*, 241 U.S. 565 (1916) (submission of legislation to referendum); *Mountain Timber Co. v. Washington*, 243 U.S. 219 (1917) (workmen's compensation); *Ohio ex rel. Bryant v. Akron Metropolitan Park District*, 281 U.S. 74 (1930) (concurrence of all but one justice of state high court required to invalidate statute); *Highland Farms Dairy v. Agnew*, 300 U.S. 608 (1937) (delegation of legislative powers).

⁵²⁹ All the cases, however, predate the application of the doctrine in *Pacific States Tel. Co. v. Oregon*, 223 U.S. 118 (1912). See *Attorney General of the State of Michigan ex rel. Kies v. Lowrey*, 199 U.S. 233, 239 (1905) (legislative creation and alteration of school districts "compatible" with a republican form of government); *Forsyth v. City of Hammond*, 166 U.S. 506, 519 (1897) (delegation of power to court to determine municipal boundaries does not infringe republican form of government); *Minor v. Happersett*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 162, 175–176 (1875) (denial of suffrage to women no violation of republican form of government).

⁵³⁰ *Oetjen v. Central Leather Co.*, 246 U.S. 297, 302 (1918); *Chicago & S. Air Lines v. Waterman Steamship Corp.*, 333 U.S. 103, 111 (1948).

⁵³¹ *United States v. Palmer*, 3 Wheat. (16 U.S.) 610 (1818); *Kennett v. Chambers*, 14 How. (55 U.S.) 38 (1852).

⁵³² *Jones v. United States*, 137 U.S. 202 (1890); *Oetjen v. Central Leather Co.*, 246 U.S. 297 (1918). See *Ex parte Hitz*, 111 U.S. 766 (1884).

⁵³³ *United States v. The Three Friends*, 166 U.S. 1 (1897); *In re Baiz*, 135 U.S. 403 (1890). Cf. *Banco Nacional de Cuba v. Sabbatino*, 376 U.S. 398 (1964).

⁵³⁴ *United States v. Reynes*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 127 (1850); *Garcia v. Lee*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 511 (1838); *Keene v. McDonough*, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 308 (1834). See also *Williams v. Suffolk Ins. Co.*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 415 (1839); *Underhill v. Hernandez*, 168

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larly, the Court when dealing with treaties and the treaty power has treated as political questions whether the foreign party had constitutional authority to assume a particular obligation⁵³⁵ and whether a treaty has lapsed because of the foreign state's loss of independence⁵³⁶ or because of changes in the territorial sovereignty of the foreign state,⁵³⁷ but the Court will not only interpret the domestic effects of treaties,⁵³⁸ it will at times interpret the effects bearing on international matters.⁵³⁹ The Court has deferred to the President and Congress with regard to the existence of a state of war and the dates of the beginning and ending and of states of belligerency between foreign powers, but the deference has sometimes been forced.⁵⁴⁰

(3) Ordinarily, the Court will not look behind the fact of certification that the standards requisite for the enactment of legislation⁵⁴¹ or ratification of a constitutional amendment⁵⁴² have in fact been met, although it will interpret the Constitution to deter-

U.S. 250 (1897). But see *United States v. Belmont*, 301 U.S. 324 (1937). On the "act of State" doctrine, compare *Banco Nacional de Cuba v. Sabbatino*, 376 U.S. 398 (1964), with *First National City Bank v. Banco Nacional de Cuba*, 406 U.S. 759 (1972). And see *First National City Bank v. Banco Para el Comercio de Cuba*, 462 U.S. 611 (1983); *W. S. Kirkpatrick Co. v. Environmental Tectronics Corp.*, 493 U.S. 400 (1990)

⁵³⁵ *Doe v. Braden*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 635 (1853).

⁵³⁶ *Terlinden v. Ames*, 184 U.S. 270 (1902); *Clark v. Allen*, 331 U.S. 503 (1947).

⁵³⁷ *Kennett v. Chambers*, 14 How. (55 U.S.) 38 (1852). On the effect of a violation by a foreign state on the continuing effectiveness of the treaty, see *Ware v. Hylton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1796); *Charlton v. Kelly*, 229 U.S. 447 (1913).

⁵³⁸ *Ware v. Hylton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1796). Cf. *Chinese Exclusion Cases*, 130 U.S. 581 (1889) (conflict of treaty with federal law). On the modern formulation, see *Japan Whaling Assn. v. American Cetacean Society*, 478 U.S. 221, 229–230 (1986).

⁵³⁹ *Perkins v. Elg*, 307 U.S. 325 (1939); *United States v. Rauscher*, 119 U.S. 407 (1886).

⁵⁴⁰ *Commercial Trust Co v. Miller*, 262 U.S. 51 (1923); *Woods v. Miller Co.*, 333 U.S. 138 (1948); *Chastleton Corp. v. Sinclair*, 264 U.S. 543 (1924); *Ludecke v. Watkins*, 335 U.S. 160 (1948); *Lee v. Madigan*, 358 U.S. 228 (1959); *The Divina Pastora*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 52 (1819). The cases involving the status of Indian tribes as foreign states usually have presented political questions but not always. *The Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 1 (1831); *United States v. Sandoval*, 231 U.S. 28 (1913); *Worcester v. Georgia*, 6 Pet. (31 U.S.) 515 (1832).

⁵⁴¹ *Field v. Clark*, 143 U.S. 649 (1892); *Harwood v. Wentworth*, 162 U.S. 547 (1896); cf. *Gardner v. The Collector*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 499 (1868). See, for the modern formulation, *United States v. Munoz-Flores*, 495 U.S. 385 (1990).

⁵⁴² *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433 (1939) (Congress' discretion to determine what passage of time will cause an amendment to lapse and effect of previous rejection by legislature).

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mine what the basic standards are,⁵⁴³ and it will decide certain questions if the political branches are in disagreement.⁵⁴⁴

(4) Prior to *Baker v. Carr*,⁵⁴⁵ cases challenging the distribution of political power through apportionment and districting,⁵⁴⁶ weighed voting,⁵⁴⁷ and restrictions on political action⁵⁴⁸ were held to present nonjusticiable political questions.

From this limited review of the principal areas in which the political question doctrine seemed most established, it is possible to extract some factors that seemingly convinced the courts that the issues presented went beyond the judicial responsibility. These factors, necessarily stated baldly in so summary a fashion, would appear to be the lack of requisite information and the difficulty of obtaining it,⁵⁴⁹ the necessity for uniformity of decision and deference to the wider responsibilities of the political departments,⁵⁵⁰ and the lack of adequate standards to resolve a dispute.⁵⁵¹ But present in all the political cases was (and is) the most important factor, a “prudential” attitude about the exercise of judicial review, which emphasizes that courts should be wary of deciding on the merits any issue in which claims of principle as to the issue and of expediency as to the power and prestige of courts are in sharp conflict. The political question doctrine was (and is) thus a way of avoiding a principled decision damaging to the Court or an expedient decision damaging to the principle.⁵⁵²

⁵⁴³ *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Kansas*, 248 U.S. 276 (1919); *Rainey v. United States*, 232 U.S. 310 (1914); *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*, 220 U.S. 107 (1911); *Twin City Bank v. Nebeker*, 167 U.S. 196 (1897); *Lyons v. Woods*, 153 U.S. 649 (1894); *United States v. Ballin*, 144 U.S. 1 (1892) (statutes); *United States v. Sprague*, 282 U.S. 716 (1931); *Leser v. Garnett*, 258 U.S. 130 (1922); *Dillon v. Gloss*, 256 U.S. 368 (1921); *Hawke v. Smith*, 253 U.S. 221 (1920); *National Prohibition Cases*, 253 U.S. 350 (1920); *Hollingsworth v. Virginia*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 378 (1798) (constitutional amendments).

⁵⁴⁴ *Pocket Veto Case*, 279 U.S. 655 (1929); *Wright v. United States*, 302 U.S. 583 (1938).

⁵⁴⁵ 369 U.S. 186 (1962).

⁵⁴⁶ *Colegrove v. Green*, 328 U.S. 549 (1946); *Colegrove v. Barrett*, 330 U.S. 804 (1947).

⁵⁴⁷ *South v. Peters*, 339 U.S. 276 (1950) (county unit system for election of statewide officers with vote heavily weighed in favor of rural, lightly-populated counties).

⁵⁴⁸ *MacDougall v. Green*, 335 U.S. 281 (1948) (signatures on nominating petitions must be spread among counties of unequal population).

⁵⁴⁹ Thus, see, e.g., *Chicago & S. Air Lines v. Waterman Steamship Corp.*, 333 U.S. 103, 111 (1948); *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433, 453 (1939).

⁵⁵⁰ Thus, see, e.g., *Williams v. Suffolk Ins. Co.*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 415, 420 (1839). Similar considerations underlay the opinion in *Luther v. Borden*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1 (1849), in which Chief Justice Taney wondered how a court decision in favor of one faction would be received with Congress seating the representatives of the other faction and the President supporting that faction with military force.

⁵⁵¹ *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 217, 226 (1962) (opinion of the Court); *id.*, 268, 287, 295, (Justice Frankfurter dissenting.)

⁵⁵² For a statement of the “prudential” view, see generally A. BICKEL, *THE LEAST DANGEROUS BRANCH—THE SUPREME COURT AT THE BAR OF POLITICS* (New

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Baker v. Carr.—In *Baker v. Carr*,⁵⁵³ the Court undertook a major rationalization and formulation of the political question doctrine, which has considerably narrowed its application. Following *Baker*, the whole of the apportionment-districting-election restriction controversy previously immune to federal-court adjudication was considered and decided on the merits,⁵⁵⁴ and the Court's more recent rejection of the doctrine discloses the narrowing in other areas as well.⁵⁵⁵

According to Justice Brennan, who delivered the opinion of the Court, "it is the relationship between the judiciary and the coordinate branches of the Federal Government, and not the federal judiciary's relationship to the States, which gives rise to the 'political question.'" ⁵⁵⁶ Thus, the "nonjusticiability of a political question is primarily a function of the separation of powers."⁵⁵⁷ "Deciding whether a matter has in any measure been committed by the Constitution to another branch of government, or whether the action of that branch exceeds whatever authority has been committed, is itself a delicate exercise in constitutional interpretation, and is a responsibility of this Court as ultimate interpreter of the Constitution."⁵⁵⁸ Following a discussion of several areas in which the doctrine had been used, Justice Brennan continued: "It is apparent that several formulations which vary slightly according to the settings in which the questions arise may describe a political question,

York: 1962), but see esp. 23–28, 69–71, 183–198. See also *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 267 (1962) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting.) The opposing view, which has been called the "classical" view, is that courts are duty bound to decide all cases properly before them. *Cohens v. Virginia*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264, 404 (1821). See also H. WECHSLER, *PRINCIPLES, POLITICS, AND FUNDAMENTAL LAW—SELECTED ESSAYS* (Cambridge: 1961), 11–15.

⁵⁵³ 369 U.S. 186 (1962).

⁵⁵⁴ *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1 (1964); *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533 (1964); *Hadley v. Junior College District*, 397 U.S. 50 (1970) (apportionment and districting, congressional, legislative, and local); *Gray v. Sanders*, 372 U.S. 368 (1963) (county unit system weighing statewide elections); *Moore v. Ogilvie*, 394 U.S. 814 (1969) (geographic dispersion of persons signing nominating petitions).

⁵⁵⁵ *Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486 (1969). Nonetheless, the doctrine continues to be sighted.

⁵⁵⁶ *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 210 (1962). This formulation fails to explain cases like *Moyer v. Peabody*, 212 U.S. 78 (1909), in which the conclusion of the Governor of a State that insurrection existed or was imminent justifying suspension of constitutional rights was deemed binding on the Court. Cf. *Sterling v. Constantin*, 287 U.S. 378 (1932). The political question doctrine was applied in cases challenging the regularity of enactments of territorial legislatures. *Harwood v. Wentworth*, 162 U.S. 547 (1896); *Lyons v. Woods*, 153 U.S. 649 (1894); *Clough v. Curtis*, 134 U.S. 361 (1890). See also *In re Sawyer*, 124 U.S. 200 (1888); *Walton v. House of Representatives*, 265 U.S. 487 (1924).

⁵⁵⁷ *Id.*, 369 U.S., 210.

⁵⁵⁸ *Id.*, 211.

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although each has one or more elements which identify it as essentially a function of the separation of powers.

“Prominent on the surface of any case held to involve a political question is found a textually demonstrable constitutional commitment of the issue to a coordinate political department; or a lack of judicially discoverable and manageable standards for resolving it; or the impossibility of deciding without an initial policy determination of a kind clearly for nonjudicial discretion; or the impossibility of a court’s undertaking independent resolution without expressing lack of the respect due coordinate branches of government; or an unusual need for unquestioning adherence to a political decision already made; or the potentiality of embarrassment from multifarious pronouncements by various departments on one question.”⁵⁵⁹

Powell v. McCormack.—Because *Baker* had apparently restricted the political question doctrine to intrafederal issues, there was no discussion of the doctrine when the Court held that it had power to review and overturn a state legislature’s refusal to seat a member-elect because of his expressed views.⁵⁶⁰ But in *Powell v. McCormack*,⁵⁶¹ the Court was confronted with a challenge to the exclusion of a member-elect by the United States House of Representatives. Its determination that the political question doctrine did not bar its review of the challenge indicates the narrowness of application of the doctrine in its present state. Taking Justice Brennan’s formulation in *Baker* of the factors that go to make up a political question,⁵⁶² Chief Justice Warren determined that the only critical one in this case was whether there was a “textually demonstrable constitutional commitment” to the House to determine in its sole discretion the qualifications of members.⁵⁶³ In

⁵⁵⁹Id., 217. It remains unclear after *Baker* whether the political question doctrine is applicable *solely* to intrafederal issues or only *primarily*, so that the existence of one or more of these factors in a case involving, say, a State, might still give rise to nonjusticiability. At one point, id., 210, Justice Brennan says that nonjusticiability of a political question is “primarily” a function of separation of powers but in the immediately preceding paragraph he states that “it is” the intrafederal aspect “and not the federal judiciary’s relationship to the States” that raises political questions. But subsequently, id., 226, he balances the present case, which involves a State and not a branch of the Federal Government, against each of the factors listed in the instant quotation and notes that none apply. His discussion of why guarantee clause cases are political presents much the same difficulty, id., 222–226, inasmuch as he joins the conclusion that the clause commits resolution of such issues to Congress with the assertion that the clause contains no “criteria by which a court could determine which form of government was republican,” id., 222, a factor not present when the equal protection clause is relied on. Id., 226.

⁵⁶⁰*Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116 (1966).

⁵⁶¹395 U.S. 486 (1969).

⁵⁶²*Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 217 (1962).

⁵⁶³Id., 395 U.S., 519.

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order to determine whether there was a textual commitment, the Court reviewed the Constitution, the Convention proceedings, and English and United States legislative practice to ascertain what power had been conferred on the House to judge the qualifications of its members; finding that the Constitution vested the House with power only to look at the qualifications of age, residency, and citizenship, the Court thus decided that in passing on Powell's conduct and character the House had exceeded the powers committed to it and thus judicial review was not barred by this factor of the political question doctrine.⁵⁶⁴ Although this approach accords with the "classicist" theory of judicial review,⁵⁶⁵ it circumscribes the political question doctrine severely, inasmuch as all constitutional questions turn on whether a governmental body has exceeded its specified powers, a determination the Court traditionally makes, whereas traditionally the doctrine precluded the Court from inquiring whether the governmental body had exceeded its powers. In short, the political question consideration may now be one on the merits rather than a decision not to decide.

Chief Justice Warren disposed of the other factors present in political question cases in slightly more than a page. Since resolution of the question turned on an interpretation of the Constitution, a judicial function which must sometimes be exercised "at variance with the construction given the document by another branch," there was no lack of respect shown another branch, nor, because the Court is the "ultimate interpreter of the Constitution," will there be "multifarious pronouncements by various departments on one question," nor, since the Court is merely interpreting the Constitution, is there an "initial policy determination" not suitable for courts. Finally, "judicially . . . manageable standards" are present in the text of the Constitution.⁵⁶⁶ The effect of *Powell* is to discard all the *Baker* factors inhering in a political question, with the exception of the textual commitment factor, and that was interpreted

⁵⁶⁴ *Id.*, 519–547. The Court concluded, however, by noting that even if this conclusion had not been reached from unambiguous evidence, the result would have followed from other considerations. *Id.*, 547–548.

⁵⁶⁵ *Supra*, n. 552. See H. WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 552, 11–12. Professor Wechsler believed that congressional decisions about seating members were immune to review. *Ibid.* Chief Justice Warren noted that "federal courts might still be barred by the political question doctrine from reviewing the House's factual determination that a member did not meet one of the standing qualifications. This is an issue not presented in this case and we express no view as to its resolution." *Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486, 521 n. 42 (1969). And see *id.*, 507 n. 27 (reservation on limitations that might exist on Congress' power to expel or otherwise punish a sitting member).

⁵⁶⁶ *Id.*, 395 U.S., 548–549. With the formulation of Chief Justice Warren, compare that of then-Judge Burger in the lower court. 395 F.2d 577, 591–596 (D.C.Cir. 1968).

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in such a manner as seldom if ever to preclude a judicial decision on the merits.

The Doctrine Reappears.—Reversing a lower federal court ruling subjecting the training and discipline of National Guard troops to court review and supervision, the Court held that under Article I, § 8, cl. 16, the organizing, arming, and disciplining of such troops are committed to Congress and by congressional enactment to the Executive Branch. “It would be difficult to think of a clearer example of the type of governmental action that was intended by the Constitution to be left to the political branches, directly responsible—as the Judicial Branch is not—to the elective process. Moreover, it is difficult to conceive of an area of governmental activity in which the courts have less competence. The complex, subtle, and professional decisions as to the composition, training, equipping, and control of a military force are essentially professional military judgments, subject always to civilian control of the Legislative and Executive Branches.”⁵⁶⁷ The suggestion of the infirmity of the political question doctrine was rejected, since “because this doctrine has been held inapplicable to certain carefully delineated situations, it is no reason for federal courts to assume its demise.”⁵⁶⁸ In staying a grant of remedial relief in another case, the Court strongly suggested that the actions of political parties in national nominating conventions may also present issues not meet for judicial resolution.⁵⁶⁹

Despite the occasional resort to the doctrine, the Court continues to reject its application in language that confines its scope. Thus, when parties challenged the actions of the Secretary of Commerce in declining to certify, as required by statute, that Japanese whaling practices undermined the effectiveness of international conventions, the Court rejected the Government’s argument that

⁵⁶⁷ *Gilligan v. Morgan*, 413 U.S. 1, 10 (1973). Similar prudential concerns seem to underlay, though they did not provide the formal basis for, decisions in *O’Shea v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 488 (1974), and *Mayor of Philadelphia v. Educational Equality League*, 415 U.S. 605 (1974).

⁵⁶⁸ *Id.*, 413 U.S., 11. Other considerations of justiciability, however, *id.*, 10, preclude using the case as square precedent on political questions. Notice that in *Scheuer v. Rhodes*, 416 U.S. 232, 249 (1974), the Court denied that the *Gilligan v. Morgan* holding barred adjudication of damage actions brought against state officials by the estates of students killed in the course of the conduct that gave rise to both cases.

⁵⁶⁹ *O’Brien v. Brown*, 409 U.S. 1 (1972) (granting stay). The issue was mooted by the passage of time and was not thereafter considered on the merits by the Court. *Id.*, 816 (remanding to dismiss as moot). It was also not before the Court in *Cousins v. Wigoda*, 419 U.S. 477 (1975), but it was alluded to there. See *id.*, 483 n. 4, and *id.*, 491 (Justice Rehnquist concurring). See also *Goldwater v. Carter*, 444 U.S. 996, 1002 (1979) (Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, and Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger using political question analysis to dismiss a challenge to presidential action). But see *id.* 997, 998 (Justice Powell rejecting analysis for this type of case).

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the political question doctrine precluded decision on the merits. The Court's prime responsibility, it said, is to interpret statutes, treaties, and executive agreements; the interplay of the statutes and the agreements in this case implicated the foreign relations of the Nation. "But under the Constitution, one of the Judiciary's characteristic roles is to interpret statutes, and we cannot shirk this responsibility merely because our decision may have significant political overtones."⁵⁷⁰

After requesting argument on the issue, the Court held that a challenge to a statute on the ground that it did not originate in the House of Representatives as required by the origination clause was justiciable.⁵⁷¹ Turning back reliance on the various factors set out in *Baker*, in much the same tone as in *Powell v. McCormack*, the Court continued to evidence the view that only questions textually committed to another branch are political questions. Invalidation of a statute because it did not originate in the right House would not demonstrate a "lack of respect" for the House that passed the bill. "[D]isrespect," in the sense of rejecting Congress' reading of the Constitution, "cannot be sufficient to create a political question. If it were every judicial resolution of a constitutional challenge to a congressional enactment would be impermissible."⁵⁷² That the House of Representatives has the power and incentives to protect its prerogatives by not passing a bill violating the origination clause did not make this case nonjusticiable. "[T]he fact that one institution of Government has mechanisms available to guard against incursions into its power by other governmental institutions does not require that the Judiciary remove itself from the controversy by labeling the issue a political question."⁵⁷³ The Court also rejected the contention that, because the case did not involve a matter of individual rights, it ought not be adjudicated. Political questions are not restricted to one kind of claim, but the Court frequently has decided separation-of-power cases brought by people in their individual capacities, and the allocation of powers within a branch, as is the case in interbranch dispositions, is designed to safeguard liberty.⁵⁷⁴ Finally, the Court was sanguine that it could develop "judicially manageable standards" for dispos-

⁵⁷⁰ *Japan Whaling Assn. v. American Cetacean Society*, 478 U.S. 221, 230 (1986). See also *Davis v. Bandemer*, 478 U.S. 109 (1986) (challenge to political gerrymandering is justiciable).

⁵⁷¹ *United States v. Munoz-Flores*, 495 U.S. 385 (1990).

⁵⁷² *Id.*, 390 (emphasis in original).

⁵⁷³ *Id.*, 392–393.

⁵⁷⁴ *Id.*, 393–395.

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ing of origination clause cases, and, thus, it did not view the issue as political in that context.⁵⁷⁵

In short, the political question doctrine may not be moribund, but it does seem applicable to a very narrow class of cases.

JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Establishment of Judicial Review

Judicial review is one of the distinctive features of United States constitutional law. It is no small wonder, then, to find that the power of the federal courts to test federal and state legislative enactments and other actions by the standards of what the Constitution grants and withholds is nowhere expressly conveyed. But it is hardly noteworthy that its legitimacy has been challenged from the first, and, while now accepted generally, it still has detractors and its supporters disagree about its doctrinal basis and its application.⁵⁷⁶ Although it was first asserted in *Marbury v. Madison*⁵⁷⁷ to strike down an act of Congress as inconsistent with the Constitution, judicial review did not spring full-blown from the brain of Chief Justice Marshall. The concept had been long known, having been utilized in a much more limited form by Privy Council review of colonial legislation and its validity under the colonial charters,⁵⁷⁸ and there were several instances known to the Framers of state court invalidation of state legislation as inconsistent with state constitutions.⁵⁷⁹

Practically all of the framers who expressed an opinion on the issue in the Convention appear to have assumed and welcomed the

⁵⁷⁵ *Id.*, 395–396.

⁵⁷⁶ See the richly detailed summary and citations to authority in G. GUNTHER, *CONSTITUTIONAL LAW* (Westbury, N.Y., 12th ed.: 1991), 1–38; For expositions on the legitimacy of judicial review, see L. HAND, *THE BILL OF RIGHTS* (Cambridge: 1958); H. WECHSLER, *PRINCIPLES, POLITICS, AND FUNDAMENTAL LAW—SELECTED ESSAYS* (Cambridge: 1961), 1–15; A. BICKEL, *THE LEAST DANGEROUS BRANCH—THE SUPREME COURT AT THE BAR OF POLITICS* (New York: 1962) 1–33; R. BERGER, *CONGRESS V. THE SUPREME COURT* (Cambridge: 1969). For an extensive historical attack on judicial review, see 2 W. CROSSKEY, *POLITICS AND THE CONSTITUTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES* (Chicago: 1953), chs. 27–29, with which compare Hart, *Book Review*, 67 *Harv. L. Rev.* 1456 (1954). A brief review of the ongoing debate on the subject, in a work that now is a classic attack on judicial review, is Westin, *Introduction: Charles Beard and American Debate over Judicial Review, 1790–1961*, in C. BEARD, *THE SUPREME COURT AND THE CONSTITUTION* (Englewood Cliffs: 1962 reissue of 1938 ed.), 1–34, and bibliography at 133–149. While much of the debate focuses on judicial review of acts of Congress, the similar review of state acts has occasioned much controversy as well.

⁵⁷⁷ 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803). A state act was held inconsistent with a treaty in *Ware v. Hylton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1796).

⁵⁷⁸ J. GOEBEL, *op. cit.*, n. 2, 60–95.

⁵⁷⁹ *Id.*, 96–142.

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existence of court review of the constitutionality of legislation,⁵⁸⁰

⁵⁸⁰M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 1, 97–98 (Gerry), 109 (King), 2 *id.*, 28 (Morris and perhaps Sherman), 73 (Wilson), 75 (Strong, but the remark is ambiguous), 76 (Martin), 78 (Mason), 79 (Gorham, but ambiguous), 80 (Rutledge), 92–93 (Madison), 248 (Pinckney), 299 (Morris), 376 (Williamson), 391 (Wilson), 428 (Rutledge), 430 (Madison), 440 (Madison), 589 (Madison); 3 *id.*, 220 (Martin). The only expressed opposition to judicial review came from Mercer with a weak seconding from Dickinson. “Mr. Mercer . . . disapproved of the Doctrine that the Judges as expositors of the Constitution should have authority to declare a law void. He thought laws ought to be well and cautiously made, and then to be uncontrollable.” 2 *id.*, 298. “Mr. Dickinson was strongly impressed with the remark of Mr. Mercer as to the power of the Judges to set aside the law. He thought no such power ought to exist. He was at the same time at a loss what expedient to substitute.” *Id.*, 299. Of course, the debates in the Convention were not available when the state ratifying conventions acted, so that the delegates could not have known these views about judicial review in order to have acted knowingly about them. Views, were, however, expressed in the ratifying conventions recognizing judicial review, some of them being uttered by Framers. 2 J. ELLIOT, *DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON THE ADOPTION OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION* (Philadelphia: 1836), 131 (Samuel Adams, Massachusetts), 196–197 (Ellsworth, Connecticut), 348, 362 (Hamilton, New York); 445–446, 478 (Wilson, Pennsylvania), 3 *id.*, 324–325, 539, 541 (Henry, Virginia), 480 (Mason, Virginia), 532 (Madison, Virginia), 570 (Randolph, Virginia); 4 *id.*, 71 (Steele, North Carolina), 156–157 (Davie, North Carolina). In the Virginia convention, John Marshall observed if Congress “were to make a law not warranted by any of the powers enumerated, it would be considered by the judge as an infringement of the Constitution which they are to guard . . . They would declare it void. . . . To what quarter will you look for protection from an infringement on the constitution, if you will not give the power to the judiciary? There is no other body that can afford such a protection.” 3 *id.*, 553–554. Both Madison and Hamilton similarly asserted the power of judicial review in their campaign for ratification. *THE FEDERALIST* (J. Cooke ed. 1961). See Nos. 39 and 44, at 256, 305 (Madison), Nos. 78 and 81, at 524–530, 541–552 (Hamilton). The persons supporting or at least indicating they thought judicial review existed did not constitute a majority of the Framers, but the absence of controverting statements, with the exception of the Mercer-Dickinson comments, indicates at least acquiescence if not agreements by the other Framers.

To be sure, subsequent comments of some of the Framers indicate an understanding contrary to those cited in the convention. See, e.g., Charles Pinckney in 1799: “On no subject am I more convinced, than that it is an unsafe and dangerous doctrine in a republic, ever to suppose that a judge ought to possess the right of questioning or deciding upon the constitutionality of treaties, laws, or any act of the legislature. It is placing the opinion of an individual, or of two or three, above that of both branches of Congress, a doctrine which is not warranted by the Constitution, and will not, I hope, long have many advocates in this country.” F. WHARTON (ed.), *STATE TRIALS OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE ADMINISTRATIONS OF WASHINGTON AND ADAMS* (Philadelphia: 1849), 412.

Madison’s subsequent changes of position are striking. His remarks in the Philadelphia Convention, in the Virginia ratifying convention, and in *THE FEDERALIST*, cited above, all unequivocally favor the existence of judicial review. And in Congress arguing in support of the constitutional amendments providing a bill of rights, he observed: “If they are incorporated into the Constitution, independent tribunals of justice will consider themselves in a peculiar manner the guardians of those rights; they will be an impenetrable bulwark against every assumption of power in the Legislature or Executive; they will be naturally led to resist every encroachment upon rights expressly stipulated for in the Constitution by the declaration of rights,” 1 *ANNALS OF CONGRESS* 457 (1789); 5 *WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON*, G. Hunt ed. (Philadelphia: 1904), 385. Yet, in a private letter in 1788, he wrote: “In the state constitutions and indeed in the federal one also, no provision is made for the case of a disagreement in expounding them; and as the courts are generally the last in

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and prior to *Marbury* the power seems very generally to have been assumed to exist by the Justices themselves.⁵⁸¹ In enacting the Judiciary Act of 1789, Congress explicitly made provision for the exercise of the power,⁵⁸² and in other debates questions of constitutionality and of judicial review were prominent.⁵⁸³ Nonetheless, although judicial review is consistent with several provisions of the Constitution and the argument for its existence may be derived from these provisions, they do not compel the conclusion that the Framers intended judicial review nor that it must exist. It was

making the decision, it results to them by refusing or not refusing to execute a law, to stamp it with the final character. This makes the Judiciary Department paramount in fact to the legislature, which was never intended and can never be proper." *Id.*, 294. At the height of the dispute over the Alien and Sedition Acts, Madison authored a resolution ultimately passed by the Virginia legislature which, though milder, and more restrained than one authored by Jefferson and passed by the Kentucky legislature, asserted the power of the States, though not of one State or of the state legislatures alone, to "interpose" themselves to halt the application of an unconstitutional law. 3 I. BRANT, JAMES MADISON—FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION, 1787–1800 (New York: 1950), 460–464, 467–471; *Report on the Resolutions of 1798*, 6 WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON, *op. cit.*, 341–406. Embarrassed by the claim of the nullificationists in later years that his resolution supported their position, Madison distinguished his and their positions and again asserted his belief in judicial review. 6 I. Brant, *op. cit.*, 481–485, 488–489.

The various statements made and positions taken by the Framers have been culled and categorized and argued over many times. For a recent compilation reviewing the previous efforts, see R. BERGER, *op. cit.*, n. 576, chs. 3–4.

⁵⁸¹ Thus, the Justices on circuit refused to administer a pension act on grounds of its unconstitutionality, see *Hayburn's Case*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 409 (1792), and *supra*, pp. 621–623. Chief Justice Jay and other Justices wrote that the imposition of circuit duty on Justices was unconstitutional, although they never mailed the letter, *supra*, p. 599 n.21, in *Hylton v. United States*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 171 (1796), a feigned suit, the constitutionality of a federal law was argued before the Justices and upheld on the merits, in *Ware v. Hylton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1797), a state law was overturned, and dicta in several opinions asserted the principle. See *Calder v. Bull*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 386, 399 (1798) (Justice Iredell), and several Justices on circuit, quoted in J. GOEBEL, *op. cit.*, n. 2, 589–592.

⁵⁸² In enacting the Judiciary Act of 1789, 1 Stat. 73, Congress chose not to vest "federal question" jurisdiction in the federal courts but to leave to the state courts the enforcement of claims under the Constitution and federal laws. In §25, 1 Stat. 85, Congress provided for review by the Supreme Court of final judgments in state courts (1) ". . . where is drawn in question the validity of a treaty or statute of, or an authority exercised under the United States, and the decision is against their validity;" (2) ". . . where is drawn in question the validity of a statute of, or an authority exercised under any State, on the ground of their being repugnant to the constitution, treaties or laws of the United States, and the decision is in favor of their validity;" or (3) ". . . where is drawn in question the construction of any clause of the constitution, or of a treaty, or statute of, or commission held under the United States, and the decision is against the title, right, privilege or exemption specially set up or claimed" thereunder. The ruling below was to be "re-examined and reversed or affirmed in the Supreme Court. . . ."

⁵⁸³ See in particular the debate on the President's removal powers, discussed *supra*, pp. 522–531, with statements excerpted in R. BERGER, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 144–150. Debates on the Alien and Sedition Acts and on the power of Congress to repeal the Judiciary Act of 1801 similarly saw recognition of judicial review of acts of Congress. C. WARREN, *op. cit.*, n. 12, 107–124.

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Chief Justice Marshall's achievement that, in doubtful circumstances and an awkward position, he carried the day for the device, which, though questioned, has expanded and become solidified at the core of constitutional jurisprudence.

Marbury v. Madison.—Chief Justice Marshall's argument for judicial review of congressional acts in *Marbury v. Madison*⁵⁸⁴ had been largely anticipated by Hamilton.⁵⁸⁵ For example, he had written: "The interpretation of the laws is the proper and peculiar province of the courts. A constitution, is, in fact, and must be regarded by the judges, as a fundamental law. It therefore belongs to them to ascertain its meaning, as well as the meaning of any particular act proceeding from the legislative body. If there should happen to be an irreconcilable variance between two, that which has the superior obligation and validity ought, of course, to be preferred; or, in other words, the constitution ought to be preferred to the statute, the intention of the people to the intention of their agents."⁵⁸⁶

At the time of the change of Administration from Adams to Jefferson, several commissions of appointment to office had been signed but not delivered and were withheld on Jefferson's express instruction. Marbury sought to compel the delivery of his commission by seeking a writ of mandamus in the Supreme Court in the exercise of its original jurisdiction against Secretary of State Madison. Jurisdiction was based on § 13 of the Judiciary Act of 1789,⁵⁸⁷ which Marbury, and ultimately the Supreme Court, interpreted to authorize the Court to issue writs of mandamus in suits in its original jurisdiction.⁵⁸⁸ Though deciding all the other issues in Marbury's favor, the Chief Justice wound up concluding that the § 13 authorization was an attempt by Congress to expand the Court's original jurisdiction beyond the constitutional prescription and was therefore void.⁵⁸⁹

⁵⁸⁴ 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803).

⁵⁸⁵ THE FEDERALIST, Nos. 78 and 81 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 521–530, 541–552.

⁵⁸⁶ Id., No. 78, at 525.

⁵⁸⁷ 1 Stat. 73, 80.

⁵⁸⁸ The section first denominated the original jurisdiction of the Court and then described the Court's appellate jurisdiction. Following and indeed attached to the sentence on appellate jurisdiction, being separated by a semi-colon, is the language saying "and shall have power to issue . . . writs of mandamus, in cases warranted by the principles and usages of law, to any courts appointed, or persons holding office, under the authority of the United States." The Chief Justice could easily have interpreted the authority to have been granted only in cases under appellate jurisdiction or as authority conferred in cases under both original and appellate jurisdiction when the cases are otherwise appropriate for one jurisdiction or the other. Textually, the section does not compel a reading that Congress was conferring on the Court an original jurisdiction to issue writs of mandamus *per se*.

⁵⁸⁹ *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137, 173–180 (1803). For a classic treatment of *Marbury v. Madison*, see Van Alstyne, *A Critical Guide to Marbury v. Madison*, 1969 Duke L. J. 1.

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“The question, whether an act, repugnant to the constitution, can become the law of the land, is a question deeply interesting to the United States;” Marshall began his discussion of this final phase of the case, “but, happily, not of an intricacy proportioned to its interest.”⁵⁹⁰ First, certain fundamental principles warranting judicial review were noticed. The people had come together to establish a government. They provided for its organization and assigned to its various departments their powers and established certain limits not to be transgressed by those departments. The limits were expressed in a written constitution, which would serve no purpose “if these limits may, at any time, be passed by those intended to be restrained.” Because the Constitution is “a superior paramount law,” it is unchangeable by ordinary legislative means and “a legislative act contrary to the constitution is not law.”⁵⁹¹ “If an act of the legislature, repugnant to the constitution, is void, does it notwithstanding its invalidity, bind the courts, and oblige them to give it effect?” The answer, thought the Chief Justice, was obvious. “It is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is. . . . If two laws conflict with each other, the courts must decide on the operation of each.

“So if a law be in opposition to the constitution; if both the law and the constitution apply to a particular case, so that the court must either decide that case conformably to the law, disregarding the constitution; or conformably to the constitution, disregarding the law; the court must determine which of these conflicting rules governs the case. This is of the very essence of judicial duty.

“If, then, the courts are to regard the constitution, and the constitution is superior to any ordinary act of the legislature, the constitution, and not such ordinary act, must govern the case to which they both apply.”⁵⁹² To declare otherwise, Chief Justice Marshall said, would be to permit a legislative body to pass at pleasure the limits imposed on its powers by the Constitution.⁵⁹³

Turning, then, from the philosophical justification for judicial review as arising from the very concept of a written constitution, the Chief Justice turned to specific clauses of the Constitution. The judicial power, he observed, was extended to “all cases arising

⁵⁹⁰ *Id.*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.), 176. One critic has written that by this question Marshall “had already begged the question-in-chief, which was not whether an act repugnant to the Constitution could stand, but who should be empowered to decide that the act is repugnant.” A BICKEL, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 3. Marshall, however, soon reached this question, though more by way of assertion than argument. *Id.*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.), 177–178.

⁵⁹¹ *Id.*, 176–177.

⁵⁹² *Id.*, 177–178.

⁵⁹³ *Id.*, 178.

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under the constitution.”⁵⁹⁴ It was “too extravagant to be maintained that the Framers had intended that a case arising under the constitution should be decided without examining the instrument under which it arises.”⁵⁹⁵ Suppose, he said, that Congress laid a duty on an article exported from a State or passed a bill of attainder or an *ex post facto* law or provided that treason should be proved by the testimony of one witness. Would the courts enforce such a law in the face of an express constitutional provision? They would not, he continued, because their oath required by the Constitution obligated them to support the Constitution and to enforce such laws would violate the oath.⁵⁹⁶ Finally, the Chief Justice noticed the supremacy clause, which gave the Constitution precedence over laws and treaties and provided that only laws “which shall be made in pursuance of the constitution” are to be the supreme laws of the land.⁵⁹⁷

The decision in *Marbury v. Madison* has never been disturbed, although it has been criticized and has had opponents throughout our history. It not only carried the day in the federal courts, but from its announcement judicial review by state courts of local legislation under local constitutions made rapid progress and was securely established in all States by 1850.⁵⁹⁸

Judicial Review and National Supremacy.—Even many persons who have criticized the concept of judicial review of congressional acts by the federal courts have thought that review of state acts under federal constitutional standards is soundly based in the supremacy clause, which makes the Constitution and constitutional laws and treaties the supreme law of the land,⁵⁹⁹ to effectuate which Congress enacted the famous §25 of the Judiciary Act of 1789.⁶⁰⁰ Five years before *Marbury v. Madison*, the Court

⁵⁹⁴ *Ibid.* The reference is, of course, to the first part of clause 1, §2, Art. III: “The judicial power shall extend to all Cases . . . arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority. . . .” Compare A. BICKEL, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 5–6, with R. BERGER, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 189–222.

⁵⁹⁵ *Id.*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.), 179.

⁵⁹⁶ *Id.*, 179–180. The oath provision is contained in Art. VI, cl. 3. Compare A. BICKEL, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 7–8, with R. BERGER, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 237–244.

⁵⁹⁷ *Id.*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.), 180. Compare A. BICKEL, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 8–12, with R. BERGER, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 223–284.

⁵⁹⁸ E. CORWIN, *THE DOCTRINE OF JUDICIAL REVIEW* (Princeton: 1914), 75–78; Nelson, *Changing Conceptions of Judicial Review: The Evolution of Constitution Theory in the State, 1790–1860*, 120 U. Pa. L. Rev. 1166 (1972).

⁵⁹⁹ 2. W. CROSSKEY, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 989. See the famous remark of Holmes: “I do not think the United States would come to an end if we lost our power to declare an Act of Congress void. I do think the Union would be imperiled if we could not make that declaration as the laws of the several States.” O. HOLMES, *COLLECTED LEGAL PAPERS* (Boston: 1921), 295–296.

⁶⁰⁰ 1 Stat. 73, 85, quoted *supra*, n. 582.

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held invalid a state law as conflicting with the terms of a treaty,⁶⁰¹ and seven years after Chief Justice Marshall's opinion a state law was voided as conflicting with the Constitution.⁶⁰²

Virginia provided a states' rights challenge to a broad reading of the supremacy clause and to the validity of §25 in *Martin v. Hunter's Lessee*⁶⁰³ and in *Cohens v. Virginia*.⁶⁰⁴ In both cases, it was argued that while the courts of Virginia were constitutionally obliged to prefer "the supreme law of the land," as set out in the supremacy clause, over conflicting state constitutional provisions and laws, it was only by their own interpretation of the supreme law that they as courts of a sovereign State were bound. Furthermore, it was contended that cases did not "arise" under the Constitution unless they were brought in the first instance by someone claiming such a right, from which it followed that "the judicial power of the United States" did not "extend" to such cases unless they were brought in the first instance in the courts of the United States. But answered Chief Justice Marshall: "A case in law or equity consists of the right of the one party, as well as of the other, and may truly be said to arise under the Constitution or a law of the United States, whenever its correct decision depends upon the construction of either."⁶⁰⁵ Passing on to the power of the Supreme Court to review such decisions of the state courts, he said: "Let the nature and objects of our Union be considered: let the great fundamental principles on which the fabric stands, be examined: and we think, the result must be, that there is nothing so extravagantly absurd, in giving to the Court of the nation the power of revising the decisions of local tribunals, on questions which affect the nation, as to require that words which import this power should be restricted by a forced construction."⁶⁰⁶

⁶⁰¹ *Ware v. Hylton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 190 (1796).

⁶⁰² *Fletcher v. Peck*, 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 87 (1810). The case came to the Court by appeal from a circuit court and not from a state court under §25. Famous early cases coming to the Court under §25 in which state laws were voided included *Sturges v. Crowninshield*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 122 (1819); *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316 (1819).

⁶⁰³ 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304 (1816).

⁶⁰⁴ 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264 (1821).

⁶⁰⁵ *Id.*, 379.

⁶⁰⁶ *Id.*, 422–423. Justice Story traversed much of the same ground in *Martin v. Hunter's Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304 (1816). In *Ableman v. Booth*, 21 How. (62 U.S.) 506 (1859), the Wisconsin Supreme Court had declared an act of Congress invalid and disregarded a writ of error from the Supreme Court, raising again the Virginia arguments. Chief Justice Taney emphatically rebuked the assertions on grounds both of dual sovereignty and national supremacy. His emphasis on the indispensability of the federal judicial power to maintain national supremacy, to protect the States from national encroachments, and to make the Constitution and laws of the United States uniform all combine to enhance the federal judicial power to a degree perhaps beyond that envisaged even by Story and Marshall. As late as Wil-

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Limitations on the Exercise of Judicial Review

Constitutional Interpretation.—In a system such as the one in the United States in which there is a written constitution, which is law and is binding on government, the practice of judicial review inherently raises questions of the relationship between constitutional interpretation or construction and the Constitution—the law—which is construed. The legitimacy of construction by an unelected entity in a republican or democratic system becomes an issue whenever the construction is controversial, as it was most recently in the 1960s to the present. Full consideration would carry us far afield, in view of the immense corpus of writing with respect to the proper mode of interpretation during this period.

Scholarly writing has identified six forms of constitutional argument or construction that may be used by courts or others in deciding a constitutional issue.⁶⁰⁷ These are (1) historical, (2) textual, (3) structural, (4) doctrinal, (5) ethical, and (6) prudential. The historical argument is largely, though not exclusively, associated with the theory of original intent or original understanding, under which constitutional and legal interpretation is limited to attempting to discern the original meaning of the words being construed as that meaning is revealed in the intentions of those who created the law or the constitutional provision in question. The textual argument, closely associated in many ways to the doctrine of original intent, concerns whether the judiciary or another is bound by the text of the Constitution and the intentions revealed by that language or whether it may go beyond the four corners of the constitutional document to ascertain the meaning, a dispute encumbered by the awkward constructions, interpretivism and noninterpretivism.⁶⁰⁸

liams v. Bruffy, 102 U.S. 248 (1880), the concepts were again thrashed out with the refusal of a Virginia court to enforce a mandate of the Supreme Court. And see Cooper v. Aaron, 358 U.S. 1 (1958).

⁶⁰⁷The six forms, or “modalities” as he refers to them, are drawn from P. BOBBITT, CONSTITUTIONAL FATE—THEORY OF THE CONSTITUTION (1982); P. BOBBITT, CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION (1991). Of course, other scholars may have different categories, but these largely overlap these six forms. E.g., Fallon, *A Constructivist Coherence Theory of Constitutional Interpretation*, 100 HARV. L. REV. 1189 (1987); Post, *Theories of Constitutional Interpretation*, in R. POST (ed.), LAW AND THE ORDER OF CULTURE (1991), 13–41.

⁶⁰⁸Among the vast writing, see, e.g., R. BORK, THE TEMPTING OF AMERICA (1990); J. ELY, DEMOCRACY AND DISTRUST: A THEORY OF JUDICIAL REVIEW (1980); L. TRIBE & M. DORF, ON READING THE CONSTITUTION (1991); H. WELLINGTON, INTERPRETING THE CONSTITUTION (1990); Symposium, *Constitutional Adjudication and Democratic Theory*, 56 N. Y. U. L. REV. 259 (1981); Symposium, *Judicial Review and the Constitution—The Text and Beyond*, 8 U. DAYTON L. REV. 443 (1983); Symposium, *Judicial Review Versus Democracy*, 42 OHIO ST. L. J. 1 (1981); Symposium, *Democracy and Distrust: Ten Years Later*, 77 VA. L. REV. 631 (1991). See also Farber, *The Originalism Debate: A Guide for the Perplexed*, 49 OHIO ST. L. J. 1085 (1989).

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Using a structural argument, one seeks to infer structural rules from the relationships that the Constitution mandates.⁶⁰⁹ The remaining three modes sound in reasoning not necessarily tied to original intent, text, or structure, though they may have some relationship. Doctrinal arguments proceed from the application of precedents. Prudential arguments seek to balance the costs and benefits of a particular rule. Ethical arguments derive rules from those moral commitments of the American ethos that are reflected in the Constitution.

Although the scholarly writing ranges widely, a much more narrow scope is seen in the actual political-judicial debate. Rare is the judge who will proclaim a devotion to ethical guidelines, such, for example, as natural-law precepts. The usual debate ranges from those adherents of strict construction and original intent to those with loose construction and adaptation of text to modern-day conditions.⁶¹⁰ However, it is with regard to more general rules of prudence and self-restraint that one usually finds the enunciation and application of limitations on the exercise of constitutional judicial review.

Prudential Considerations.—Implicit in the argument of *Marbury v. Madison*⁶¹¹ is the thought that with regard to cases meeting jurisdictional standards, the Court is obligated to take and decide them. Chief Justice Marshall expressly spelled the thought out in *Cohens v. Virginia*:⁶¹² “It is most true that this Court will not take jurisdiction if it should not: but it is equally true, that it must take jurisdiction if it should. The judiciary cannot, as the legislature may, avoid a measure because it approaches the confines of the constitution. We cannot pass it by because it is doubtful. With whatever doubts, with whatever difficulties, a case may be attended, we must decide it, if it be brought before us. We have no more right to decline the exercise of jurisdiction which is given, than to usurp that which is not given. The one or the other would be treason to the constitution.” As the comment recognizes, because judicial review grows out of the fiction that courts only declare

⁶⁰⁹ This mode is most strongly associated with C. BLACK, *STRUCTURE AND RELATIONSHIP IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW* (1969).

⁶¹⁰ E.g., Meese, *The Attorney General's View of the Supreme Court: Toward a Jurisprudence of Original Intention*, 45 PUB. ADMIN. REV. 701 (1985); *Addresses—Constructing the Constitution*, 19 U. C. DAVIS L. REV. 1 (1985), containing addresses by Justice Brennan, id., 2, Justice Stevens, id., 15, and Attorney General Meese. Id., 22. See also Rehnquist, *The Notion of a Living Constitution*, 54 TEX. L. REV. 693 (1976).

⁶¹¹ 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803).

⁶¹² 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264, 404, (1821).

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what the law is in specific cases⁶¹³ and are without will or discretion,⁶¹⁴ its exercise is surrounded by the inherent limitations of the judicial process, most basically, of course, by the necessity of a case or controversy and the strands of the doctrine comprising the concept of justiciability.⁶¹⁵ But, although there are hints of Chief Justice Marshall's activism in recent cases,⁶¹⁶ the Court has always adhered, at times more strictly than at other times, to several discretionary rules or concepts of restraint in the exercise of judicial review, the practice of which is very much contrary to the quoted dicta from *Cohens*. These rules, it should be noted, are in addition to the vast discretionary power which the Supreme Court has to grant or deny review of judgements in lower courts, a discretion fully authorized with *certiorari* jurisdiction but in effect in practice as well with regard to what remains of appeals.⁶¹⁷

At various times, the Court has followed more strictly than other times the prudential theorems for avoidance of decisionmaking when it deemed restraint to be more desirable than activism.⁶¹⁸

The Doctrine of "Strict Necessity."—The Court has repeatedly declared that it will decide constitutional issues only if strict

⁶¹³See, e.g., Justice Sutherland in *Adkins v. Children's Hospital*, 261 U.S. 525, 544 (1923), and Justice Roberts in *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1, 62 (1936).

⁶¹⁴"Judicial power, as contradistinguished from the powers of the law, has no existence. Courts are the mere instruments of the law, and can will nothing." *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738, 866 (1824) (Chief Justice Marshall). See also Justice Roberts in *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1, 62-63 (1936).

⁶¹⁵The political question doctrine is another limitation arising in part out of inherent restrictions and in part from prudential considerations. For a discussion of limitations utilizing both stands, see *Ashwander v. TVA* 297 U.S. 288, 346-356 (1936) (Justice Brandeis concurring).

⁶¹⁶*Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486, 548-549 (1969); *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 211 (1962); *Zwickler v. Koota*, 389 U.S. 241, 248 (1967).

⁶¹⁷28 U.S.C. §§ 1254-1257. See F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, *op. cit.*, n. 12, ch. 7. "The Supreme Court is not, and never has been, primarily concerned with the correction of errors in lower court decisions. In almost all cases within the Court's appellate jurisdiction, the petitioner has already received one appellate review of his case. . . . If we took every case in which an interesting legal question is raised, or our prima facie impression is that the decision below is erroneous, we could not fulfill the Constitutional and statutory responsibilities placed upon the Court. To remain effective, the Supreme Court must continue to decide only those cases which present questions whose resolution will have immediate importance far beyond the particular facts and parties involved." Chief Justice Vinson, *Address on the Work of the Federal Court*, in 69 Sup. Ct. v. vi. It "is only accurate to a degree to say that our jurisdiction in cases on appeal is obligatory as distinguished from discretionary on *certiorari*." Chief Justice Warren, quoted in Wiener, *The Supreme Court's New Rules*, 68 Harv. L. Rev. 20, 51 (1954).

⁶¹⁸See Justice Brandeis' concurring opinion in *Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288, 346 (1936). And contrast A. BICKEL, *op. cit.*, n. 576, 111-198, with Gunther, *The Subtle Vices of the "Passive Virtues"—A Comment on Principle and Expediency in Judicial Review*, 64 Colum. L. Rev. 1 (1964).

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necessity compels it to do so. Thus, constitutional questions will not be decided in broader terms than are required by the precise state of facts to which the ruling is to be applied, nor if the record presents some other ground upon which to decide the case, nor at the instance of one who has availed himself of the benefit of a statute or who fails to show he is injured by its operation, nor if a construction of the statute is fairly possible by which the question may be fairly avoided.⁶¹⁹

Speaking of the policy of avoiding the decision of constitutional issues except when necessary, Justice Rutledge wrote: “The policy’s ultimate foundations, some if not all of which also sustain the jurisdictional limitation, lie in all that goes to make up the unique place and character, in our scheme, of judicial review of governmental action for constitutionality. They are found in the delicacy of that function, particularly in view of possible consequences for others stemming also from constitutional roots; the comparative finality of those consequences; the consideration due to the judgment of other repositories of constitutional power concerning the scope of their authority; the necessity, if government is to function constitutionally, for each to keep within its power, including the courts; the inherent limitations of the judicial process, arising especially from its largely negative character and limited resources of enforcement; withal in the paramount importance of constitutional adjudication in our system.”⁶²⁰

The Doctrine of Clear Mistake.—A precautionary rule early formulated and at the base of the traditional concept of judicial restraint was expressed by Professor James Bradley Thayer to the effect that a statute could be voided as unconstitutional only “when those who have the right to make laws have not merely made a mistake, but have made a very clear one,—so clear that it is not open to rational question.”⁶²¹ Whether phrased this way or phrased so that a statute is not to be voided unless it is unconstitutional beyond all reasonable doubt, the rule is of ancient origin⁶²²

⁶¹⁹ *Rescue Army v. Municipal Court*, 331 U.S. 549, 568–575 (1947). See also *Berea College v. Kentucky*, 211 U.S. 45, 53 (1908); *Siler v. Louisville & N.R.R. Co.*, 213 U.S. 175, 191 (1909); *Carter v. Carter Coal Co.*, 298 U.S. 238, 325 (1936); *Coffman v. Breeze Corp.*, 323 U.S. 316, 324–325 (1945); *Spector Motor Service v. McLaughlin*, 323 U.S. 101, 105 (1944); *Alma Motor v. Timken Co.*, 329 U.S. 129 (1946). Judicial restraint as well as considerations of comity underlie the Court’s abstention doctrine when the constitutionality of state laws is challenged.

⁶²⁰ *Rescue Army v. Municipal Court*, 331 U.S. 549, 571 (1947).

⁶²¹ *The Origin and Scope of the American Doctrine of Constitutional Law*, in J. THAYER, *LEGAL ESSAYS* (Boston: 1908), 1, 21.

⁶²² See *Justices Chase and Iredell in Calder v. Bull*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 386, 395, 399 (1798).

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and of modern adherence.⁶²³ In operation, however, the rule is subject to two influences, which seriously impair its efficacy as a limitation. First, the conclusion that there has been a clear mistake or that there is no reasonable doubt is that drawn by five Justices if a full Court sits. If five Justices of learning and detachment to the Constitution are convinced that a statute is invalid and if four others of equal learning and attachment are convinced it is valid, the convictions of the five prevail over the convictions or doubts of the four. Second, the Court has at times made exceptions to the rule in certain categories of cases. Statutory interferences with “liberty of contract” were once presumed to be unconstitutional until proved to be valid;⁶²⁴ more recently, presumptions of invalidity have expressly or impliedly been applied against statutes alleged to interfere with freedom of expression and of religious freedom, which have been said to occupy a preferred position in the constitutional scheme of things.⁶²⁵

Exclusion of Extra-Constitutional Tests.—Another maxim of constitutional interpretation is that courts are concerned only with the constitutionality of legislation and not with its motives, policy, or wisdom,⁶²⁶ or with its concurrence with natural justice, fundamental principles of government, or the spirit of the Constitu-

⁶²³ E.g., *Flemming v. Nestor*, 363 U.S. 603, 611 (1960).

⁶²⁴ “But freedom of contract is, nevertheless, the general rule and restraint the exception; and the exercise of legislative authority to abridge it can be justified only by the existence of exceptional circumstances.” *Adkins v. Children’s Hospital*, 261 U.S. 525, 546 (1923).

⁶²⁵ *Kovacs v. Cooper*, 336 U.S. 77, 88 (1949). Justice Frankfurter’s concurrence, *id.*, 89–97, is a lengthy critique and review of the “preferred position” cases up to that time. The Court has not used the expression in recent years but the worth it attributes to the values of free expression probably approaches the same result. Today, the Court’s insistence on a “compelling state interest” to justify a governmental decision to classify persons by “suspect” categories, such as race, *Loving v. Virginia*, 388 U.S. 1 (1967), or to restrict the exercise of a “fundamental” interest, such as the right to vote, *Kramer v. Union Free School District*, 395 U.S. 621 (1969), or the right to travel, *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618 (1969), clearly imports presumption of unconstitutionality.

⁶²⁶ “We fully understand . . . the powerful argument that can be made against the wisdom of this legislation, but on that point we have no concern.” *Noble State Bank v. Haskell*, 219 U.S. 575, 580 (1911) (Justice Holmes for the Court). See also *Trop v. Dulles*, 356 U.S. 86, 120 (1958) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting).

A supposedly hallowed tenet is that the Court will not look to the motives of legislators in determining the validity of a statute. *Fletcher v. Peck*, 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 87 (1810); *United States v. O’Brien*, 391 U.S. 367 (1968); *Palmer v. Thompson*, 403 U.S. 217 (1971). Yet an intent to discriminate is a requisite to finding at least some equal protection violations, *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229 (1976); *Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252 (1977), and a secular or religious purpose is one of the parts of the tripartite test under the establishment clause. *Committee for Public Education and Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 653 (1980), and *id.*, 665 (dissent). Other constitutional decisions as well have turned upon the Court’s assessment of purpose or motive. E.g., *Gomillion v. Lightfoot*, 364 U.S. 339 (1960); *Child Labor Tax Case*, 259 U.S. 20 (1922).

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tion.⁶²⁷ In various forms this maxim has been repeated to such an extent that it has become trite and has increasingly come to be incorporated in cases in which a finding of unconstitutionality has been made as a reassurance of the Court's limited review. And it should be noted that at times the Court has absorbed natural rights doctrines into the text of the Constitution, so that it was able to reject natural law *per se* and still partake of its fruits and the same thing is true of the *laissez faire* principles incorporated in judicial decisions from about 1890 to 1937.⁶²⁸

Presumption of Constitutionality.—“It is but a decent respect to the wisdom, integrity, and patriotism of the legislative body, by which any law is passed,” wrote Justice Bushrod Washington, “to presume in favor of its validity, until its violation of the Constitution is proved beyond a reasonable doubt.”⁶²⁹ A corollary of this maxim is that if the constitutional question turns upon circumstances, courts will presume the existence of a state of facts which would justify the legislation that is challenged.⁶³⁰ It seems apparent, however, that with regard to laws which trench upon First Amendment freedoms and perhaps other rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights such deference is far less than it would be toward statutory regulation of economic matters.⁶³¹

Disallowance by Statutory Interpretation.—If it is possible to construe a statute so that its validity can be sustained against a constitutional attack, a rule of prudence is that it should be so construed,⁶³² even though in some instances this maxim has caused the Court to read a statute in a manner which defeats or impairs the legislative purpose.⁶³³ Of course, the Court stresses

⁶²⁷ Cf. *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479, 522 (1965) (Justice Black dissenting). But note above the reference to the ethical mode of constitutional argument.

⁶²⁸ E.g., *Lochner v. New York*, 198 U.S. 45 (1905); *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1 (1936).

⁶²⁹ *Ogden v. Saunders*, 12 Wheat. (25 U.S.) 213, 270 (1827). See also *Fletcher v. Peck*, 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 87, 128 (1810); *Legal Tender Cases*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 457, 531 (1871).

⁶³⁰ *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113, 132 (1877); *Lindsley v. Natural Carbonic Gas Co.*, 220 U.S. 61, 78–79 (1911); *Metropolitan Cas. Ins. Co. v. Brownell*, 294 U.S. 580, 584 (1935).

⁶³¹ E.g., *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967); *United Mine Workers v. Illinois State Bar Assn.*, 389 U.S. 217 (1967). But see *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420, 426 (1961). The development of the “compelling state interest” test in certain areas of equal protection litigation also bespeaks less deference to the legislative judgment.

⁶³² *Rust v. Sullivan*, 500 U.S. 173, 190–191 (1991); *Public Citizen v. United States Dept. of Justice*, 491 U.S. 440, 465–467 (1989) (quoting *Crowell v. Benson*, 285 U.S. 22, 62 (1932)); *Edward J. DeBartolo Corp. v. Florida Gulf Coast Building & Constr. Trades Council*, 485 U.S. 568, 575 (1988).

⁶³³ E.g., *Michaelson v. United States*, 266 U.S. 42 (1924) (narrow construction of Clayton Act contempt provisions to avoid constitutional questions); *United States v. Harriss*, 347 U.S. 612 (1954) (lobbying act); *United States v. Seeger*, 380 U.S. 163

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that “[w]e cannot press statutory construction ‘to the point of disingenuous evasion’ even to avoid a constitutional question.”⁶³⁴ The maxim is not followed if the provision would survive constitutional attack or if the text is clear.⁶³⁵ Closely related to this principle is the maxim that when part of a statute is valid and part is void, the courts will separate the valid from the invalid and save as much as possible.⁶³⁶ Statutes today ordinarily expressly provide for separability, but it remains for the courts in the last resort to determine whether the provisions are separable.⁶³⁷

Stare Decisis in Constitutional Law.—Adherence to precedent ordinarily limits and shapes the approach of courts to decision of a presented question. “Stare decisis is usually the wise policy, because in most matters it is more important that the applicable rule of law be settled than that it be settled right. . . . This is commonly true even where the error is a matter of serious concern, provided correction can be had by legislation. But in cases involving the Federal Constitution, where correction through legislative action is practically impossible, this Court has often overruled its earlier decisions. The Court bows to the lessons of experience and the force of better reasoning, recognizing that the process of trial and error so fruitful in the physical sciences, is appropriate also in the judicial function.”⁶³⁸ *Stare decisis* is a principle of policy, not a mechanical formula of adherence to the latest decision “however

(1965): *Welsh v. United States*, 398 U.S. 333 (1970) (both involving conscientious objection statute).

⁶³⁴ *United States v. Locke*, 471 U.S. 84, 96 (1985) (quoting *Moore Ice Cream Co. v. Rose*, 289 U.S. 373, 379 (1933)).

⁶³⁵ *Rust v. Sullivan*, 500 U.S. 173, 191 (1991); but compare *id.*, 204–207 (Justice Blackmun dissenting), and 223–225 (Justice O’Connor dissenting). See also *Peretz v. United States*, 501 U.S. 923, 929–930 (1991).

⁶³⁶ *Alaska Airlines, Inc. v. Brock*, 480 U.S. 678, 684 (1987); *Pollock v. Farmers’ Loan & Trust Co.*, 158 U.S. 601, 635 (1895); but see *Baldwin v. Franks*, 120 U.S. 678, 685 (1887), now repudiated. *Griffin v. Breckenridge*, 403 U.S. 88, 104 (1971).

⁶³⁷ *Carter v. Carter Coal Co.*, 298 U.S. 238, 312–316 (1936). See also, *id.*, 321–324 (Chief Justice Hughes dissenting).

⁶³⁸ *Burnet v. Coronado Oil & Gas Co.*, 285 U.S. 393, 406–408 (1932) (Justice Brandeis dissenting). For recent arguments with respect to overruling or not overruling previous decisions, see the self-consciously elaborate opinion for a plurality in *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, 112 S.Ct. 2791, 2808–2816 (1992) (Justices O’Connor, Kennedy, and Souter) (acknowledging that as an original matter they would not have decided *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), as the Court did and that they might consider it wrongly decided, nonetheless applying the principles of *stare decisis*—they stressed the workability of the case’s holding, the fact that no other line of precedent had undermined *Roe*, the vitality of that case’s factual underpinnings, the reliance on the precedent in society, and the effect upon the Court’s legitimacy of maintaining or overruling the case). See *id.*, 2860–2867 (Chief Justice Rehnquist concurring in part and dissenting in part), 2880–2885 (Justice Scalia concurring in part and dissenting in part). See also *Payne v. Tennessee*, 501 U.S. 808, 827–830 (1991) (suggesting, *inter alia*, that reliance is relevant in contract and property cases), and *id.*, 835, 842–844 (Justice Souter concurring), 844, 848–856 (Justice Marshall dissenting).

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recent and questionable, when such adherence involves collision with a prior doctrine more embracing in its scope, intrinsically sounder, and verified by experience.”⁶³⁹ The limitation of *stare decisis* seems to have been progressively weakened since the Court proceeded to correct “a century of error” in *Pollock v. Farmers’ Loan & Trust Co.*⁶⁴⁰ Since then, more than 200 decisions have seen one or more earlier decisions overturned,⁶⁴¹ and the merits of *stare decisis* seems more often celebrated in dissents than in majority opinions.⁶⁴² Of lesser formal effect than outright overruling but with roughly the same result is a Court practice of “distinguishing” precedents which often leads to an overturning of the principle enunciated in the case while leaving the actual case more or less alive.⁶⁴³

Conclusion.—The common denominator of all these maxims of prudence is the concept of judicial restraint, of judge’s restraint. “We do not sit,” said Justice Frankfurter, “like kadi under a tree, dispensing justice according to considerations of individual expediency.”⁶⁴⁴ “[A] jurist is not to innovate at pleasure,” wrote Justice Cardozo. “He is not a knight-errant, roaming at will in pursuit of his own ideal of beauty or of goodness. He is to draw his inspiration from consecrated principles. He is not to yield to spasmodic sentiment, to vague and unregulated benevolence. He is to exercise a discretion informed by tradition, methodized by analogy, disciplined by system, and subordinated to the primordial necessity of

⁶³⁹ *Helvering v. Hallock*, 309 U.S. 106, 110 (1940) (Justice Frankfurter for Court). See also *Coleman v. Alabama*, 399 U.S. 1, 22 (1970) (Chief Justice Burger dissenting). But see *id.*, 19 (Justice Harlan concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 117–119 (1970) (Justice Harlan concurring in part and dissenting in part).

⁶⁴⁰ 157 U.S. 429, 574–579 (1895).

⁶⁴¹ See Appendix. The list encompasses both constitutional and statutory interpretation decisions. The Court adheres, at least formally, to the principle that *stare decisis* is a stricter rule for statutory interpretation, *Patterson v. McLean Credit Union*, 491 U.S. 164, 171–175 (1989), at least in part since Congress may much more easily revise those decisions, but compare *id.*, 175 n. 1, with *id.*, 190–205 (Justice Brennan concurring in the judgment in part and dissenting in part). See also *Flood v. Kuhn*, 407 U.S. 258 (1972).

⁶⁴² E.g., *United States v. Rabinowitz*, 339 U.S. 56, 86 (1950) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting); *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 339–340 (1962) (Justice Harlan dissenting); *Gray v. Sanders*, 372 U.S. 368, 383 (1963) (Justice Harlan dissenting). But see *Green v. United States*, 356 U.S. 165, 195 (1958) (Justice Black dissenting). And compare Justice Harlan’s views in *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 674–675 (1961) (dissenting), with *Glidden v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530, 543 (1962) (opinion of the Court).

⁶⁴³ Notice that in *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, 112 S.Ct. 2791 (1992), while the Court purported to uphold and retain the “central meaning” of *Roe v. Wade*, it overruled several aspects of that case’s requirements. And see, e.g., the Court’s treatment of *Pope v. Williams*, 193 U.S. 621 (1904), in *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330, 337, n. 7 (1972). And see *id.*, 361 (Justice Blackmun concurring.)

⁶⁴⁴ *Terminiello v. City of Chicago*, 337 U.S. 1, 11 (1949) (dissenting).

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order in the social life.”⁶⁴⁵ All Justices will, of course, claim adherence to proper restraint,⁶⁴⁶ but in some cases at least, such as Justice Frankfurter’s dissent in the *Flag Salute Case*,⁶⁴⁷ the practice can be readily observed. The degree, however, of restraint, the degree to which legislative enactments should be subjected to judicial scrutiny, is a matter of uncertain and shifting opinion.

JURISDICTION OF SUPREME COURT AND INFERIOR FEDERAL COURTS

Cases Arising Under the Constitution, Laws, and Treaties of the United States

Cases arising under the Constitution are cases that require an interpretation of the Constitution for their correct decision.⁶⁴⁸ They arise when a litigant claims an actual or threatened invasion of his constitutional rights by the enforcement of some act of public authority, usually an act of Congress or of a state legislature, and asks for judicial relief. The clause furnishes the principal textual basis for the implied power of judicial review of the constitutionality of legislation and other official acts.

Development of Federal Question Jurisdiction.—Almost from the beginning, the Convention demonstrated an intent to create “federal question” jurisdiction in the federal courts with regard to federal laws;⁶⁴⁹ such cases involving the Constitution and treaties were added fairly late in the Convention as floor amendments.⁶⁵⁰ But when Congress enacted the Judiciary Act of 1789, it did not confer general federal question jurisdiction on the inferior federal courts but left litigants to remedies in state courts with appeals to the United States Supreme Court if judgment went against federal constitutional claims.⁶⁵¹ Although there were a few juris-

⁶⁴⁵ B. CARDOZO, *THE NATURE OF THE JUDICIAL PROCESS* (New Haven: 1921), 141.

⁶⁴⁶ Compare *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479, 482 (1965) (Justice Douglas), with *id.*, 507 (Justice Black).

⁶⁴⁷ *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 646 (1943) (dissenting).

⁶⁴⁸ *Cohens v. Virginia*, 6 Wheat, (19 U.S.) 264, 378 (1821).

⁶⁴⁹ M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 1, 22, 211–212, 220, 244; 2 *id.*, 146–147, 186–187.

⁶⁵⁰ *Id.*, 423–424, 430, 431.

⁶⁵¹ 1 Stat. 73. The district courts were given cognizance of “suits for penalties and forfeitures incurred, under the laws of the United States” and “of all causes where an alien sues for a tort only in violation of the law of nations or a treaty of the United States. . . .” *Id.*, 77. Plenary federal question jurisdiction was conferred by the Act of February 13, 1801, § 11, 2 Stat. 92, but this law was repealed by the Act of March 8, 1802, 2 Stat. 132. On § 25 of the 1789 Act, providing for appeals to the Supreme Court from state court constitutional decisions, see *supra*, n. 582.

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dictional provisions enacted in the early years,⁶⁵² it was not until the period following the Civil War that Congress, in order to protect newly created federal civil rights and in the flush of nationalist sentiment, first created federal jurisdiction in civil rights cases⁶⁵³ and then in 1875 conferred general federal question jurisdiction on the lower federal courts.⁶⁵⁴ Since that time, the trend generally has been toward conferral of ever-increasing grants of jurisdiction to enforce the guarantees recognized and enacted by Congress.⁶⁵⁵

When a Case Arises Under.—The 1875 statute and its present form both speak of civil suits “arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States,”⁶⁵⁶ the language of the Constitution. Thus, many of the early cases relied heavily upon Chief Justice Marshall’s construction of the constitutional language to interpret the statutory language.⁶⁵⁷ The result was probably to accept more jurisdiction than Congress had intended to convey.⁶⁵⁸ Later cases take a somewhat more restrictive course.

Determination whether there is federal question jurisdiction is made on the basis of the plaintiff’s pleadings and not upon the response or the facts as they may develop.⁶⁵⁹ Plaintiffs seeking access to federal courts on this ground must set out a federal claim which is “well-pleaded” and the claim must be real and substantial and may not be without color of merit.⁶⁶⁰ Plaintiffs may not anticipate that defendants will raise a federal question in answer to the

⁶⁵² Act of April 10, 1790, § 5, 1 Stat. 111, as amended, Act of February 21, 1793, § 6, 1 Stat. 322 (suits relating to patents). Limited removal provisions were also enacted.

⁶⁵³ Act of April 9, 1866, § 3, 14 Stat. 27; Act of May 31, 1870, § 8, 16 Stat. 142; Act of February 28, 1871, § 15, 16 Stat. 438; Act of April 20, 1871, §§ 2, 6, 17 Stat. 14, 15.

⁶⁵⁴ Act of March 3, 1875, § 1, 18 Stat. 470, now 28 U.S.C. § 1331(a). The classic treatment of the subject and its history is F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, *op. cit.*, n. 12.

⁶⁵⁵ For a brief summary, see HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 960–966.

⁶⁵⁶ 28 U.S.C. § 1331(a). The original Act was worded slightly differently.

⁶⁵⁷ *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738 (1824). See also *Cohens v. Virginia*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264, 379 (1821).

⁶⁵⁸ C. WRIGHT, *HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS* (St. Paul: 4th ed. 1983), § 17.

⁶⁵⁹ See generally *Merrill Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc. v. Thompson*, 478 U.S. 804 (1986); *Franchise Tax Board v. Construction Laborers Vacation Trust*, 463 U.S. 1 (1983).

⁶⁶⁰ *Newburyport Water Co. v. City of Newburyport*, 193 U.S. 561, 576 (1904); *Levering & Garrigues Co. v. Morrin*, 289 U.S. 103, 105 (1933); *Binderup v. Pathe Exchange*, 263 U.S. 291, 305–308 (1923). If the complaint states a case arising under the Constitution or federal law, federal jurisdiction exists even though on the merits the party may have no federal right. In such a case, the proper course for the court is to dismiss for failure to state a claim on which relief can be granted rather than for want of jurisdiction. *Bell v. Hood*, 327 U.S. 678 (1946). Of course, dismissal for lack of jurisdiction is proper if the federal claim is frivolous or obviously insubstantial. *Levering & Garrigues Co. v. Morrin*, 289 U.S. 103, 105 (1933).

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action.⁶⁶¹ But what exactly must be pleaded to establish a federal question is a matter of considerable uncertainty in many cases. It is no longer the rule that when federal law is an ingredient of the claim, there is a federal question.⁶⁶²

Many suits will present federal questions because a federal law creates the action.⁶⁶³ Perhaps Justice Cardozo presented the most understandable line of definition, while cautioning that “[t]o define broadly and in the abstract ‘a case arising under the Constitution or laws of the United States’ has hazards [approaching futility].”⁶⁶⁴ “How and when a case arises ‘under the Constitution or laws of the United States’ has been much considered in the books. Some tests are well established. To bring a case within the statute, a right or immunity created by the Constitution or laws of the United States must be an element, and an essential one, of the plaintiff’s cause of action. . . . The right or immunity must be such that it will be supported if the Constitution or laws of the United States are given one construction or effect, and defeated if they receive another. . . . A genuine and present controversy, not merely a possible or conjectural one, must exist with reference thereto. . . .”⁶⁶⁵

It was long evident, though the courts were not very specific about it, that the federal question jurisdictional statute is and always was narrower than the constitutional “arising under” jurisdictional standard.⁶⁶⁶ Chief Justice Marshall in *Osborn* was interpreting the Article III language to its utmost extent, but the courts sometimes construed the statute equivalently, with doubtful results.⁶⁶⁷

⁶⁶¹ *Louisville & N.R. Co. v. Mottley*, 211 U.S. 149 (1908). See *Skelly Oil Co. v. Phillips Petroleum Co.*, 339 U.S. 667 (1950); *Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Texaco, Inc.*, 415 U.S. 125 (1974).

⁶⁶² Such was the rule derived from *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738 (1824). See *Franchise Tax Board v. Construction Laborers Vacation Trust*, 463 U.S. 1 (1983); *Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc. v. Thompson*, 478 U.S. 804 (1986).

⁶⁶³ *American Well Works Co. v. Layne & Bowler Co.*, 241 U.S. 257, 260 (1916). Compare *Albright v. Teas*, 106 U.S. 613 (1883), and *People of Puerto Rico v. Russell & Co.*, 288 U.S. 476 (1933), with *Feibelman v. Packard*, 109 U.S. 421 (1883), and *The Fair v. Kohler Die & Specialty Co.*, 228 U.S. 22 (1913).

⁶⁶⁴ *Gully v. First National Bank in Meridian*, 299 U.S. 109, 117 (1936).

⁶⁶⁵ *Id.*, 112–113. Compare *Wheeldin v. Wheeler*, 373 U.S. 647 (1963), with *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of Federal Bureau of Narcotics*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971). See also *J. I. Case Co. v. Borak*, 377 U.S. 426 (1964); *Smith v. Kansas City Title & Trust Co.*, 255 U.S. 180 (1921).

⁶⁶⁶ For an express acknowledgment, see *Verlinden B. V. v. Central Bank of Nigeria*, 461 U.S. 480, 495 (1983). See also *Shoshone Mining Co. v. Rutter*, 177 U.S. 505 (1900); *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354, 379 n. 51 (1959).

⁶⁶⁷ E.g., *Pacific Railroad Removal Cases*, 115 U.S. 1 (1885), and see *id.*, 24 (Chief Justice Waite dissenting).

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Removal From State Court to Federal Court.—A limited right to “remove” certain cases from state courts to federal courts was granted to defendants in the Judiciary Act of 1789,⁶⁶⁸ and from then to 1872 Congress enacted several specific removal statutes, most of them prompted by instances of state resistance to the enforcement of federal laws through harassment of federal officers.⁶⁶⁹ The 1875 Act conferring general federal question jurisdiction on the federal courts provided for removal of such cases by either party, subject only to the jurisdictional amount limitation.⁶⁷⁰ The present statute provides for the removal by a defendant of any civil action which could have been brought originally in a federal district court, with no diversity of citizenship required in “federal question” cases.⁶⁷¹ A special civil rights removal statute permits removal of any civil or criminal action by a defendant who is denied or cannot enforce in the state court a right under any law providing for equal civil rights of persons or who is being proceeded against for any act under color of authority derived from any law providing for equal rights.⁶⁷²

The constitutionality of congressional provisions for removal was challenged and readily sustained. Justice Story analogized removal to a form of exercise of appellate jurisdiction,⁶⁷³ and a later Court saw it as an indirect mode of exercising original jurisdiction and upheld its constitutionality.⁶⁷⁴ In *Tennessee v. Davis*,⁶⁷⁵ which involved a state attempt to prosecute a federal internal revenue agent who had killed a man while seeking to seize an illicit distilling apparatus, the Court invoked the right of the National Government to defend itself against state harassment and restraint. The power to provide for removal was discerned in the necessary and proper clause authorization to Congress to pass laws to carry into execution the powers vested in any other department or officer,

⁶⁶⁸ § 12, 1 Stat. 79.

⁶⁶⁹ The first was the Act of February 4, 1815, 8, 3 Stat. 198. The series of statutes is briefly reviewed in *Willingham v. Morgan*, 395 U.S. 402, 405–406 (1969), and in H. HART & H. WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 1192–1194. See 28 U.S.C. §§ 1442, 1442a.

⁶⁷⁰ Act of March 3, 1875, § 2, 18 Stat. 471. The present pattern of removal jurisdiction was established by the Act of March 3, 1887, 24 Stat. 552, as amended, 25 Stat. 433.

⁶⁷¹ 28 U.S.C. § 1441.

⁶⁷² 28 U.S.C. § 1443.

⁶⁷³ *Martin v. Hunter's Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304, 347–351 (1816). Story was not here concerned with the constitutionality of removal but with the constitutionality of Supreme Court review of state judgments.

⁶⁷⁴ *Chicago & Nw. Ry. Co. v. Whitton's Administrator*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 270 (1872). Removal here was based on diversity of citizenship. See also *The Moses Taylor*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 411, 429–430 (1867); *The Mayor v. Cooper*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 247 (1868).

⁶⁷⁵ 100 U.S. 257 (1880).

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here the judiciary.⁶⁷⁶ The judicial power of the United States, said the Court, embraces alike civil and criminal cases arising under the Constitution and laws and the power asserted in civil cases may be asserted in criminal cases. A case arising under the Constitution and laws “is not merely one where a party comes into court to demand something conferred upon him by the Constitution or by a law or treaty. A case consists of the right of one party as well as the other, and may truly be said to arise under the Constitution or a law or a treaty of the United States whenever its correct decision depends upon the construction of either. Cases arising under the laws of the United States are such as grow out of the legislation of Congress, whether they constitute the right or privilege, or claim or protection, or defence of the party, in whole or in part, by whom they are asserted. . . .

“The constitutional right of Congress to authorize the removal before trial of civil cases arising under the laws of the United States has long since passed beyond doubt. It was exercised almost contemporaneously with the adoption of the Constitution, and the power has been in constant use ever since. The Judiciary Act of September 24, 1789, was passed by the first Congress, many members of which had assisted in framing the Constitution; and though some doubts were soon after suggested whether cases could be removed from State courts before trial, those doubts soon disappeared.”⁶⁷⁷ The Court has broadly construed the modern version of the removal statute at issue in this case so that it covers all cases where federal officers can raise a colorable defense arising out of their duty to enforce federal law.⁶⁷⁸ Other removal statutes, notably the civil rights removal statute, have not been so broadly interpreted.⁶⁷⁹

Corporations Chartered by Congress.—In *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*,⁶⁸⁰ Chief Justice Marshall seized upon the authorization for the Bank to sue and be sued as a grant by Congress to the federal courts of jurisdiction in all cases to which the bank

⁶⁷⁶ Id., 263–264.

⁶⁷⁷ Id., 264–265.

⁶⁷⁸ *Willingham v. Morgan*, 395 U.S. 402 (1969). See also *Maryland v. Soper*, 270 U.S. 9 (1926). Removal by a federal officer must be predicated on the allegation of a colorable federal defense. *Mesa v. California*, 489 U.S. 121 (1989). However, a federal agency is not permitted to remove under the statute’s plain meaning. *International Primate Protection League v. Administrators of Tulane Educational Fund*, 500 U.S. 72 (1991).

⁶⁷⁹ *Georgia v. Rachel*, 384 U.S. 780 (1966); *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808 (1966); *Johnson v. Mississippi*, 421 U.S. 213 (1975).

⁶⁸⁰ 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738 (1824).

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was a party.⁶⁸¹ Consequently, upon enactment of the 1875 law, the door was open to other federally chartered corporations to seek relief in federal courts. This opportunity was made actual when the Court in the *Pacific Railroad Removal Cases*⁶⁸² held that tort actions against railroads with federal charters could be removed to federal courts solely on the basis of federal incorporation. In a series of acts, Congress deprived national banks of the right to sue in federal court solely on the basis of federal incorporation in 1882,⁶⁸³ deprived railroads holding federal charters of this right in 1915,⁶⁸⁴ and finally in 1925 removed from federal jurisdiction all suits brought by federally chartered corporations on the sole basis of such incorporation, except where the United States holds at least half of the stock.⁶⁸⁵

Federal Questions Resulting from Special Jurisdictional Grants.—In the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947, Congress authorized federal courts to entertain suits for violation of collective bargaining agreements without respect to the amount in controversy or the citizenship of the parties.⁶⁸⁶ Although it is likely that Congress meant no more than that labor unions could be suable in law or equity, in distinction from the usual rule, the Court construed the grant of jurisdiction to be more than procedural and to empower federal courts to apply substantive federal law, divined and fashioned from the policy of national labor laws, in such suits.⁶⁸⁷ State courts are not disabled from hearing actions brought

⁶⁸¹ The First Bank could not sue because it was not so authorized. *Bank of the United States v. Deveaux*, 5 Cr. (9 U.S.) 61 (1809). The language, which Marshall interpreted as conveying jurisdiction, was long construed simply to give a party the right to sue and be sued without itself creating jurisdiction. *Bankers Trust Co. v. Texas & P. Ry. Co.*, 241 U.S. 295 (1916), but in *American National Red Cross v. S. G.*, 112 S.Ct. 2465 (1992), a 5-to-4 decision, the Court held that when a federal statutory charter expressly mentions the federal courts in its “sue and be sued” provision the charter creates original federal-question jurisdiction as well, although a general authorization to sue and be sued in courts of general jurisdiction, including federal courts, without expressly mentioning them, does not confer jurisdiction.

⁶⁸² 115 U.S. 1 (1885).

⁶⁸³ § 4, 22 Stat. 162.

⁶⁸⁴ § 5, 38 Stat. 803.

⁶⁸⁵ See 28 U.S.C. § 1349.

⁶⁸⁶ § 301, 61 Stat. 156 (1947), 29 U.S.C. § 185.

⁶⁸⁷ *Textile Workers Union v. Lincoln Mills*, 353 U.S. 448 (1957). Earlier the Court had given the section a restricted reading in *Assn. of Westinghouse Salaried Employees v. Westinghouse Electric Corp.*, 348 U.S. 437 (1955), at least in part because of constitutional doubts that § 301 cases in the absence of diversity of citizenship presented a federal question sufficient for federal jurisdiction. *Id.*, 449–452, 459–461 (opinion of Justice Frankfurter). In *Lincoln Mills*, *supra*, the Court resolved this difficulty by ruling that federal law was at issue in § 301 suits and thus cases arising under § 301 presented federal questions. 353 U.S., 457. The particular holding of *Westinghouse*, that no jurisdiction exists under § 301 for suits to enforce personal rights of employees claiming unpaid wages, was overturned in *Smith v. Evening News Assn.*, 371 U.S. 195 (1962).

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under the section,⁶⁸⁸ but they must apply federal law.⁶⁸⁹ Developments under this section illustrate the substantive importance of many jurisdictional grants and indicate how the workload of the federal courts may be increased by unexpected interpretations of such grants.⁶⁹⁰

Civil Rights Act Jurisdiction.—Perhaps the most important of the special federal question jurisdictional statutes is that conferring jurisdiction on federal district courts to hear suits challenging the deprivation under color of state law or custom of any right, privilege, or immunity secured by the Constitution or by any act of Congress providing for equal rights.⁶⁹¹ Because it contains no

⁶⁸⁸ Charles Dowd Box Co. v. Courtney, 368 U.S. 502 (1962).

⁶⁸⁹ Local 174, Teamsters v. Lucas Flour Co., 369 U.S. 95 (1962). State law is not, however, to be totally disregarded. “State law, if compatible with the purpose of §301, may be resorted to in order to find the rule that will best effectuate the federal policy. . . . Any state law applied, however, will be absorbed as federal law and will not be an independent source of private rights.” Textile Workers Union v. Lincoln Mills, 353 U.S. 448, 457 (1957).

⁶⁹⁰ For example, when federal regulatory statutes create new duties without explicitly creating private federal remedies for their violation, the readiness or unreadiness of the federal courts to infer private causes of action is highly significant. While inference is an acceptable means of judicial enforcement of statutes, e.g., Texas & Pacific R. Co. v. Rigsby, 241 U.S. 33 (1916), the Court began broadly to construe statutes to infer private actions only with J.I. Case Co. v. Boak, 377 U.S. 426 (1964). See Cort v. Ash, 422 U.S. 66 (1975). More recently, influenced by a separation of powers critique of implication by Justice Powell, the Court drew back and asserted it will imply an action only in instances of fairly clear congressional intent. Cannon v. University of Chicago, 441 U.S. 677 (1979); California v. Sierra Club, 451 U.S. 287 (1981); Middlesex County Sewerage Auth. v. National Sea Clammers Assn., 453 U.S. 1 (1981); Merrill, Lynch v. Curran, 456 U.S. 353 (1982); Thompson v. Thompson, 484 U.S. 174 (1988); Karahalios v. National Federation of Federal Employees, 489 U.S. 527 (1989).

The Court appeared more ready to infer private causes of action for constitutional violations, Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971); Davis v. Passman, 442 U.S. 228 (1979); Carlson v. Green, 446 U.S. 14 (1980), but it has retreated here as well, hesitating to find implied actions. E.g., Chappell v. Wallace, 462 U.S. 296 (1983); Bush v. Lucas, 462 U.S. 367 (1983); Schweiker v. Chilicki, 487 U.S. 412 (1988). “Federal common law” may exist in a number of areas where federal interests are involved and federal courts may take cognizance of such suits under their “arising under” jurisdiction. E.g., Illinois v. Milwaukee, 406 U.S. 91 (1972); International Paper Co. v. Ouellette, 479 U.S. 481 (1987). And see County of Oneida v. Oneida Indian Nation, 470 U.S. 226, 236–240 (1985); National Farmers Union Ins. Cos. v. Crow Tribe, 471 U.S. 845 (1985). The Court is, however, somewhat wary of finding “federal common law” in the absence of some congressional authorization to formulate substantive rules, Texas Industries v. Radcliff Materials, 451 U.S. 630 (1981), and Congress may always statutorily displace the judicially created law. City of Milwaukee v. Illinois, 451 U.S. 304 (1981). Finally, federal courts have federal question jurisdiction of claims created by state law if there exists an important necessity for an interpretation of an act of Congress. Smith v. Kansas City Title & Trust Co., 255 U.S. 180 (1921).

⁶⁹¹ 28 U.S.C. §1343(3). The cause of action to which this jurisdictional grant applies is 42 U.S.C. §1983, making liable and subject to other redress any person who, acting under color of state law, deprives any person of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution and laws of the United States. For discussion

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jurisdictional amount provision⁶⁹² (while the general federal question statute until recently did)⁶⁹³ and because the Court has held inapplicable the judicially-created requirement that a litigant exhaust his state remedies before bringing federal action,⁶⁹⁴ the statute has been heavily utilized, resulting in a formidable caseload, by plaintiffs attacking racial discrimination, malapportionment and suffrage restrictions, illegal and unconstitutional police practices, state restrictions on access to welfare and other public assistance, and a variety of other state and local governmental practices.⁶⁹⁵ Congress has encouraged utilization of the two statutes by providing for attorneys' fees under § 1983⁶⁹⁶ and by enacting related and specialized complementary statutes.⁶⁹⁷ The Court in recent years has generally interpreted § 1983 and its jurisdictional statute broadly, but it has also sought to restrict to some extent the kinds

of the history and development of these two statutes, see *Monroe v. Pape*, 365 U.S. 167 (1961); *Lynch v. Household Finance Corp.*, 405 U.S. 538 (1972); *Monell v. New York City Dept. of Social Services*, 436 U.S. 658 (1978), *Chapman v. Houston Welfare Rights Org.*, 441 U.S. 600 (1979); *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980). Although the two statutes originally had the same wording in respect to "the Constitution and laws of the United States," when the substantive and jurisdictional aspects were separated and codified, § 1983 retained the all-inclusive "laws" provision, while § 1343(3) read "any Act of Congress providing for equal rights." The Court has interpreted the language of the two statutes literally, so that while claims under laws of the United States need not relate to equal rights but may encompass welfare and regulatory laws, *Maine v. Thiboutot*, *supra*; but see *Middlesex County Sewerage Auth. v. National Sea Clammers Assn.*, 453 U.S. 1 (1981), such suits if they do not spring from an act providing for equal rights may not be brought under § 1343(3). *Chapman v. Houston Welfare Rights Org.*, *supra*. This was important when there was a jurisdictional amount provision in the federal question statute but is of little significance today.

⁶⁹² See *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496 (1939). Following *Hague*, it was argued that only cases involving personal rights, that could not be valued in dollars, could be brought under § 1343(3), and that cases involving property rights, which could be so valued, had to be brought under the federal question statute. This attempted distinction was rejected in *Lynch v. Household Finance Corp.*, 405 U.S. 538, 546–548 (1972). On the valuation of constitutional rights, see *Carey v. Piphus*, 435 U.S. 247 (1978). And see *Memphis Community School Dist. v. Stachura*, 477 U.S. 299 (1986) (compensatory damages must be based on injury to the plaintiff, not on some abstract valuation of constitutional rights).

⁶⁹³ 28 U.S.C. § 1331 was amended in 1976 and 1980 to eliminate the jurisdictional amount requirement. P.L. 94–574, 90 Stat. 2721; P.L. 96–486, 94 Stat. 2369.

⁶⁹⁴ *Patsy v. Board of Regents*, 457 U.S. 496 (1982). This had been the rule since at least *McNeese v. Board of Education*, 373 U.S. 668 (1963). See also *Felder v. Casey*, 487 U.S. 131 (1988) (state notice of claim statute, requiring notice and waiting period before bringing suit in state court under § 1983, is preempted).

⁶⁹⁵ Thus, such notable cases as *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), and *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186 (1962), arose under the statutes.

⁶⁹⁶ Civil Rights Attorneys' Fees Award Act of 1976, P.L. 94–559, 90 Stat. 2641, amending 42 U.S.C. § 1988. See *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678 (1978); *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980).

⁶⁹⁷ Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, P.L. 96–247, 94 Stat. 349 (1980), 42 U.S.C. § 1997 *et seq.*

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of claims that may be brought in federal courts.⁶⁹⁸ It should be noted that § 1983 and § 1343(3) need not always go together, inasmuch as § 1983 actions may be brought in state courts.⁶⁹⁹

Pendent Jurisdiction.—Once jurisdiction has been acquired through allegation of a federal question not plainly wanting in substance,⁷⁰⁰ a federal court may decide any issue necessary to the disposition of a case, notwithstanding that other non-federal questions of fact and law may be involved therein.⁷⁰¹ “Pendent jurisdiction,” as this form is commonly called, exists whenever the state and federal claims “derive from a common nucleus of operative fact” and are such that a plaintiff “would ordinarily be expected to try them all in one judicial proceeding.”⁷⁰² Ordinarily, it is a rule of prudence that federal courts should not pass on federal constitutional claims if they may avoid it and should rest their conclusions upon principles of state law where possible.⁷⁰³ But the federal court has discretion whether to hear the pendent state claims in the proper case. Thus, the trial court should look to “considerations of judicial economy, convenience and fairness to litigants” in exercising its discretion and should avoid needless decisions of state law. If the federal claim, though substantial enough to confer jurisdiction, was dismissed before trial, or if the state claim was substantially predominate, the court would be justified in dismissing the state claim.⁷⁰⁴

A variant of pendent jurisdiction, sometimes called “ancillary jurisdiction,” is the doctrine allowing federal courts to acquire jurisdiction entirely of a case presenting two federal issues, although it might properly not have had jurisdiction of one of the issues if it

⁶⁹⁸ E.g., *Parratt v. Taylor*, 451 U.S. 527 (1981); *Ingraham v. Wright*, 430 U.S. 651 (1977).

⁶⁹⁹ *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980).

⁷⁰⁰ *Levering & Garrigues Co. v. Morrin*, 289 U.S. 103, 105 (1933); *Hagans v. Lavine*, 415 U.S. 528, 534–543 (1974).

⁷⁰¹ *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738, 822–828 (1824); *Siler v. Louisville & Nashville R.R. Co.*, 213 U.S. 175 (1909); *Hurn v. Oursler*, 289 U.S. 238 (1933); *United Mine Workers v. Gibbs*, 383 U.S. 715 (1966).

⁷⁰² *Id.*, 725. This test replaced a difficult-to-apply test of *Hurn v. Oursler*, 289 U.S. 238, 245–246 (1933).

⁷⁰³ *Siler v. Louisville & Nashville R. Co.*, 213 U.S. 175 (1909); *Greene v. Louisville & Interurban R. Co.*, 244 U.S. 499 (1917); *Hagans v. Lavine*, 415 U.S. 528, 546–550 (1974). In fact, it may be an abuse of discretion for a federal court to fail to decide on an available state law ground instead of reaching the federal constitutional question. *Schmidt v. Oakland Unified School Dist.*, 457 U.S. 594 (1982) (*per curiam*). However, narrowing previous law, the Court held in *Pennhurst State School & Hospital v. Halderman*, 465 U.S. 89 (1984), held that when a pendent claim of state law involves a claim that is against a State for purposes of the Eleventh Amendment federal courts may not adjudicate it.

⁷⁰⁴ *United Mine Workers v. Gibbs*, 383 U.S. 715, 726–727 (1966).

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had been independently presented.⁷⁰⁵ Thus, in an action under a federal statute, a compulsory counterclaim not involving a federal question is properly before the court and should be decided.⁷⁰⁶ The concept has been applied to a claim otherwise cognizable only in admiralty when joined with a related claim on the law side of the federal court and in this way to give an injured seaman a right to jury trial on all of his claims when ordinarily the claim cognizable only in admiralty would be tried without a jury.⁷⁰⁷ And a colorable constitutional claim has been held to support jurisdiction over a federal statutory claim arguably not within federal jurisdiction.⁷⁰⁸

Still another variant is the doctrine of “pendent parties,” under which a federal court could take jurisdiction of a state claim against one party if it were related closely enough to a federal claim against another party, even though there was no independent jurisdictional base for the state claim.⁷⁰⁹ While the Supreme Court at first tentatively found some merit in the idea,⁷¹⁰ in *Finley v. United States*,⁷¹¹ by a 5-to-4 vote the Court firmly disapproved of the pendent party concept and cast considerable doubt on the other prongs of pendent jurisdiction as well. Pendent party jurisdiction, Justice Scalia wrote for the Court, was within the constitutional grant of judicial power, but to be operable it must be affirmatively granted by congressional enactment.⁷¹² Within the year, Congress supplied the affirmative grant, adopting not only pendent party jurisdiction but codifying as well pendent jurisdiction and ancillary jurisdiction under the name of “supplemental jurisdiction.”⁷¹³

Thus, these interrelated doctrinal standards seem now well-grounded.

Protective Jurisdiction.—A conceptually difficult doctrine, which approaches the verge of a serious constitutional gap, is the concept of protective jurisdiction. Under this doctrine, it is argued that in instances in which Congress has legislative jurisdiction, it can confer federal jurisdiction, with the jurisdictional statute itself

⁷⁰⁵ The initial decision was *Freeman v. Howe*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 450 (1861), in which federal jurisdiction was founded on diversity of citizenship.

⁷⁰⁶ *Moore v. New York Cotton Exchange*, 270 U.S. 593 (1926).

⁷⁰⁷ *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354, 380–381 (1959); *Fitzgerald v. United States Lines Co.*, 374 U.S. 16 (1963).

⁷⁰⁸ *Rosado v. Wyman*, 397 U.S. 397, 400–405 (1970).

⁷⁰⁹ Judge Friendly originated the concept in *Astor-Honor, Inc. v. Grosset & Dunlap, Inc.*, 441 F.2d 627 (2d Cir. 1971); *Leather’s Best, Inc. v. S. S. Mormaclynx*, 451 F.2d 800 (2d Cir. 1971).

⁷¹⁰ *Aldinger v. Howard*, 427 U.S. 1 (1976).

⁷¹¹ 490 U.S. 545 (1989).

⁷¹² *Id.*, 553, 556.

⁷¹³ Act of Dec. 1, 1990, P. L. 101–650, 104 Stat. 5089, §310, 28 U.S.C. §1367.

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being the “law of the United States” within the meaning of Article III, even though Congress has enacted no substantive rule of decision and state law is to be applied. Put forward in controversial cases,⁷¹⁴ the doctrine has neither been rejected nor accepted by the Supreme Court. In *Verlinden B. V. v. Central Bank of Nigeria*,⁷¹⁵ the Court reviewed a congressional grant of jurisdiction to federal courts to hear suits by an alien against a foreign state, jurisdiction not within the “arising under” provision of article III. Federal substantive law was not applicable, that resting either on state or international law. Refusing to consider protective jurisdiction, the Court found that the statute regulated foreign commerce by promulgating rules governing sovereign immunity from suit and was a law requiring interpretation as a federal-question matter. That the doctrine does raise constitutional doubts is perhaps grounds enough to avoid reaching it.⁷¹⁶

Supreme Court Review of State Court Decisions.—In addition to the constitutional issues presented by 25 of the Judiciary Act of 1789 and subsequent enactments,⁷¹⁷ questions have continued to arise concerning review of state court judgments which go directly to the nature and extent of the Supreme Court’s appellate jurisdiction. Because of the sensitivity of federal-state relations and the delicate nature of the matters presented in litigation touching upon them, jurisdiction to review decisions of a state court is dependent in its exercise not only upon ascertainment of the existence of a federal question but upon a showing of exhaustion of state remedies and of the finality of the state judgment. Because the application of these standards to concrete facts is neither mechanical nor nondiscretionary, the Justices have often been divided

⁷¹⁴ *National Mutual Ins. Co. v. Tidewater Transfer Co.*, 337 U.S. 582 (1949); *Tetile Workers v. Lincoln Mills*, 353 U.S. 448 (1957); and see the bankruptcy cases, *Schumacher v. Beeler*, 293 U.S. 367 (1934); *Williams v. Austrian*, 331 U.S. 642 (1947).

⁷¹⁵ 461 U.S. 480 (1983).

⁷¹⁶ E.g., *Mesa v. California*, 489 U.S. 121, 136–137 (1989) (would “present grave constitutional problems”).

⁷¹⁷ On § 25, see *supra*. The present statute is 28 U.S.C. § 1257(a), which provides that review by writ of *certiorari* is available where the validity of a treaty or statute of the United States is drawn in question or where the validity of a statute of any State is drawn in question on the ground of its being repugnant to the Constitution, treaties, or laws of the United States, or where any title, right, privilege, or immunity is specially set up or claimed under the Constitution or the treaties or statutes of, or any commission held or authority exercised under, the United States. Prior to 1988, there was a right to mandatory appeal in cases in which a state court had found invalid a federal statute or treaty or in which a state court had upheld a state statute contested under the Constitution, a treaty, or a statute of the United States. See the Act of June 25, 1948, 62 Stat. 929. The distinction between *certiorari* and appeal was abolished by the Act of June 27, 1988, P.L. 100–352, § 3, 102 Stat. 662.

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whether these requisites to the exercise of jurisdiction have been met in specific cases submitted for review by the Court.

The Court is empowered to review the judgments of “the highest court of a State in which a decision could be had.”⁷¹⁸ This will ordinarily be the State’s court of last resort, but it could well be an intermediate appellate court or even a trial court if its judgment is final under state law and cannot be reviewed by any state appellate court.⁷¹⁹ The review is of a final judgment below. “It must be subject to no further review or correction in any other state tribunal; it must also be final as an effective determination of the litigation and not of merely interlocutory or intermediate steps therein. It must be the final word of a final court.”⁷²⁰ The object of this rule is to avoid piecemeal interference with state court proceedings; it promotes harmony by preventing federal assumption of a role in a controversy until the state court efforts are finally resolved.⁷²¹ For similar reasons, the Court requires that a party seeking to litigate a federal constitutional issue on appeal of a state court judgment must have raised that issue with sufficient precision to have enabled the state court to have considered it and she must have raised the issue at the appropriate time below.⁷²²

When the judgment of a state court rests on an adequate, independent determination of state law, the Court will not review the resolution of the federal questions decided, even though the resolution may be in error.⁷²³ “The reason is so obvious that it has rarely been thought to warrant statement. It is found in the partitioning

⁷¹⁸ 28 U.S.C. §1257(a). See R. STERN & E. GRESSMAN, SUPREME COURT PRACTICE (Washington; 6th ed. 1986), ch. 3.

⁷¹⁹ *Grovey v. Townsend*, 295 U.S. 45, 47 (1935); *Talley v. California*, 362 U.S. 60, 62 (1960); *Thompson v. City of Louisville*, 362 U.S. 199, 202 (1960); *Metlakatla Indian Community v. Egan*, 363 U.S. 555 (1960); *Powell v. Texas*, 392 U.S. 516, 517 (1968); *Koon v. Aiken*, 480 U.S. 943 (1987). In *Cohens v. Virginia*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264 (1821), the judgment reviewed was that of the Quarterly Session Court for the Borough of Norfolk, Virginia.

⁷²⁰ *Market Street R. Co., v. Railroad Comm.*, 324 U.S. 548, 551 (1945). See also *San Diego Gas & Electric Co. v. City of San Diego*, 450 U.S. 621 (1981); *Flynt v. Ohio*, 451 U.S. 619 (1981); *Minnick v. California Dept. of Corrections*, 452 U.S. 105 (1981). In recent years, however, the Court has developed a series of exceptions permitting review when the federal issue in the case has been finally determined but there are still proceedings in the lower state courts to come. *Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469, 476–487 (1975). See also *Fort Wayne Books v. Indiana*, 489 U.S. 46, 53–57 (1989); *Duquesne Light Co. v. Barasch*, 488 U.S. 299, 304 (1989); *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886, 907 n. 42 (1982).

⁷²¹ *Republic Natural Gas Co. v. Oklahoma*, 334 U.S. 62, 67–69 (1948); *Radio Station WOW v. Johnson*, 326 U.S. 120, 123–124 (1945).

⁷²² *New York ex rel. Bryant v. Zimmerman*, 278 U.S. 63, 67 (1928); See also *Bankers Life & Casualty Co. v. Crenshaw*, 486 U.S. 71, 77 (1988); *Webb v. Webb*, 451 U.S. 493, 501 (1981). The same rule applies on *habeas corpus* petitions. E.g., *Picard v. Connor*, 404 U.S. 270 (1972).

⁷²³ *Murdock v. City of Memphis*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 590 (1874); *Black v. Cutter Laboratories*, 351 U.S. 292 (1956); *Wilson v. Loew’s, Inc.*, 355 U.S. 597 (1958).

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of power between the state and Federal judicial systems and in the limitations of our own jurisdiction. Our only power over state judgments is to correct them to the extent that they incorrectly adjudge federal rights. And our power is to correct wrong judgments, not to revise opinions. We are not permitted to render an advisory opinion, and if the same judgment would be rendered by the state court after we corrected its views of Federal laws, our review could amount to nothing more than an advisory opinion.”⁷²⁴ The Court is faced with two interrelated decisions: whether the state court judgment is based upon a nonfederal ground and whether the nonfederal ground is adequate to support the state court judgment. It is, of course, the responsibility of the Court to determine for itself the answer to both questions.⁷²⁵

The first question may be raised by several factual situations. A state court may have based its decision on two grounds, one federal, one nonfederal.⁷²⁶ It may have based its decision solely on a nonfederal ground but the federal ground may have been clearly raised.⁷²⁷ Both federal and nonfederal grounds may have been raised but the state court judgment is ambiguous or is without written opinion stating the ground relied on.⁷²⁸ Or the state court may have decided the federal question although it could have based its ruling on an adequate, independent nonfederal ground.⁷²⁹ In any event, it is essential for purposes of review by the Supreme Court that it appear from the record that a federal question was presented, that the disposition of that question was necessary to the determination of the case, that the federal question was actually decided or that the judgment could not have been rendered without deciding it.⁷³⁰

⁷²⁴ *Herb v. Pitcairn*, 324 U.S. 117, 125–126 (1945).

⁷²⁵ E.g., *Howlett by Howlett v. Rose*, 496 U.S. 356, 366 (1990); *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 455 (1958).

⁷²⁶ *Fox Film Corp. v. Muller*, 296 U.S. 207 (1935); *Cramp v. Board of Public Instruction*, 368 U.S. 278 (1961).

⁷²⁷ *Wood v. Chesborough*, 228 U.S. 672, 676–680 (1913).

⁷²⁸ *Lynch v. New York ex rel. Pierson*, 293 U.S. 52, 54–55 (1934); *Williams v. Kaiser*, 323 U.S. 471, 477 (1945); *Durley v. Mayo*, 351 U.S. 277, 281 (1956); *Klinger v. Missouri*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 257, 263 (1872); cf. *Department of Mental Hygiene v. Kirchner*, 380 U.S. 194 (1965).

⁷²⁹ *Poafpybitty v. Skelly Oil Co.*, U.S. 365, 375–376 (1968).

⁷³⁰ *Southwestern Bell Tel. Co. v. Oklahoma*, 303 U.S. 206 (1938); *Raley v. Ohio*, 360 U.S. 423, 434–437 (1959). When there is uncertainty about what the state court did, the usual practice was to remand for clarification. *Minnesota v. National Tea Co.*, 309 U.S. 551 (1940); *California v. Krivda*, 409 U.S. 33 (1972). See *California Dept. of Motor Vehicles v. Rios*, 410 U.S. 425 (1973). Now, however, in a controversial decision, the Court has adopted a presumption that when a state court decision fairly appears to rest on federal law or to be interwoven with federal law, and when the adequacy and independence of any possible state law ground is not clear from the face of the opinion the Court will accept as the most reasonable explanation that the state court decided the case as it did because it believed that federal law re-

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With regard to the second question, in order to preclude Supreme Court review, the nonfederal ground must be broad enough, without reference to the federal question, to sustain the state court judgment,⁷³¹ the nonfederal ground must be independent of the federal question,⁷³² and the nonfederal ground must be a tenable one.⁷³³ Rejection of a litigant's federal claim by the state court on state procedural grounds, such as failure to tender the issue at the appropriate time, will ordinarily preclude Supreme Court review as an adequate independent state ground,⁷³⁴ so long as the local procedure does not discriminate against the raising of federal claims and has not been used to stifle a federal claim or to evade vindication of federal rights.⁷³⁵

Suits Affecting Ambassadors, Other Public Ministers, and Consuls

The earliest interpretation of the grant of original jurisdiction to the Supreme Court came in the Judiciary Act of 1789, which conferred on the federal district courts jurisdiction of suits to which a consul might be a party. This legislative interpretation was sustained in 1793 in a circuit court case in which the judges held the Congress might vest concurrent jurisdiction involving consuls in the inferior courts and sustained an indictment against a consul.⁷³⁶ Many years later, the Supreme Court held that consuls could be sued in the federal courts,⁷³⁷ and in another case in the same year declared sweepingly that Congress could grant concur-

quired it to do so. If the state court wishes to avoid the presumption it must make clear by a plain statement in its judgment or opinion that discussed federal law did not compel the result, that state law was dispositive. *Michigan v. Long*, 463 U.S. 1032 (1983). See *Harris v. Reed*, 489 U.S. 255, 261 n. 7 (1989) (collecting cases); *Coleman v. Thompson*, 501 U.S. 722 (1991) (applying the rule in a *habeas* case).

⁷³¹ *Murdock v. City of Memphis*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 590, 636 (1874). A new state rule cannot be invented for the occasion in order to defeat the federal claim. E.g., *Ford v. Georgia*, 498 U.S. 411, 420–425 (1991)

⁷³² *Enterprise Irrigation District v. Farmers' Mutual Canal Co.*, 243 U.S. 157, 164 (1917); *Ivanhoe Irrigation District v. McCracken*, 357 U.S. 275, 290 (1958).

⁷³³ *Enterprise Irrigation District v. Farmers' Mutual Canal Co.*, 243 U.S. 157, 164 (1917); *Ward v. Love County*, 253 U.S. 17, 22 (1920); *Staub v. Baxley*, 355 U.S. 313, 319–320 (1958).

⁷³⁴ *Nickel v. Cole*, 256 U.S. 222, 225 (1921); *Wolfe v. North Carolina*, 364 U.S. 177, 195 (1960). But see *Davis v. Wechsler*, 263 U.S. 22 (1923); *Brown v. Western Ry. of Alabama*, 338 U.S. 294 (1949).

⁷³⁵ *Davis v. Wechsler*, 263 U.S. 22, 24–25 (1923); *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 455–458 (1958); *Barr v. City of Columbia*, 378 U.S. 146, 149 (1964). This rationale probably explains *Henry v. Mississippi*, 379 U.S. 443 (1965). See also in the criminal area, *Edelman v. California*, 344 U.S. 357, 362 (1953) (dissenting opinion); *Brown v. Allen*, 344 U.S. 443, 554 (1953) (dissenting opinion); *Williams v. Georgia*, 349 U.S. 375, 383 (1955); *Monger v. Florida*, 405 U.S. 958 (1972) (dissenting opinion).

⁷³⁶ *United States v. Ravara*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 297 (C.C. Pa. 1793).

⁷³⁷ *Bors v. Preston*, 111 U.S. 252 (1884).

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rent jurisdiction to the inferior courts in cases where Supreme Court has been invested with original jurisdiction.⁷³⁸ Nor does the grant of original jurisdiction to the Supreme Court in cases affecting ambassadors and consuls of itself preclude suits in state courts against consular officials. The leading case is *Ohio ex rel. Popovici v. Agler*,⁷³⁹ in which a Rumanian vice-consul contested an Ohio judgment against him for divorce and alimony.

A number of incidental questions arise in connection with the phrase “affecting ambassadors and consuls.” Does the ambassador or consul to be affected have to be a party in interest, or is a mere indirect interest in the outcome of the proceeding sufficient? In *United States v. Ortega*,⁷⁴⁰ the Court ruled that a prosecution of a person for violating international law and the laws of the United States by offering violence to the person of a foreign minister was not a suit “affecting” the minister but a public prosecution for vindication of the laws of nations and the United States. Another question concerns the official status of a person claiming to be an ambassador or consul.

The Court has refused to review the decision of the Executive with respect to the public character of a person claiming to be a public minister and has laid down the rule that it has the right to accept a certificate from the Department of State on such a question.⁷⁴¹ A third question was whether the clause included ambassadors and consuls accredited by the United States to foreign governments. The Court held that it includes only persons accredited to the United States by foreign governments.⁷⁴² However, in matters of especial delicacy, such as suits against ambassadors and public ministers or their servants, where the law of nations permits such suits, and in all controversies of a civil nature in which a State is a party, Congress until recently made the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court exclusive of that of other courts.⁷⁴³ By its compliance with the congressional distribution of exclusive and concurrent original jurisdiction, the Court has tacitly sanctioned the power of Congress to make such jurisdiction exclusive or concurrent as it may choose.

⁷³⁸ *Ames v. Kansas ex rel. Johnston*, 111 U.S. 449, 469 (1884).

⁷³⁹ 280 U.S. 379, 383, 384 (1930). Now precluded by 28 U.S.C. § 1351.

⁷⁴⁰ 11 Wheat. (24 U.S.) 467 (1826).

⁷⁴¹ *In re Baiz*, 135 U.S. 403, 432 (1890).

⁷⁴² *Ex parte Gruber*, 269 U.S. 302 (1925).

⁷⁴³ 1 Stat. 80–81 (1789). Jurisdiction in the Supreme Court since 1978 has been original but not exclusive. P.L. 95–393, § 8(b), 92 Stat. 810, 28 U.S.C. § 1251(b)(1).

Cases of Admiralty and Maritime Jurisdiction

The admiralty and maritime jurisdiction of the federal courts had its origins in the jurisdiction vested in the courts of the Admiral of the English Navy. Prior to independence, vice-admiralty courts were created in the Colonies by commissions from the English High Court of Admiralty. After independence, the States established admiralty courts, from which at a later date appeals could be taken to a court of appeals set up by Congress under the Articles of Confederation.⁷⁴⁴ Since one of the objectives of the Philadelphia Convention was the promotion of commerce through removal of obstacles occasioned by the diverse local rules of the States, it was only logical that it should contribute to the development of a uniform body of maritime law by establishing a system of federal courts and granting to these tribunals jurisdiction over admiralty and maritime cases.⁷⁴⁵

The Constitution uses the terms “admiralty and maritime jurisdiction” without defining them. Though closely related, the words are not synonyms. In England the word “maritime” referred to the cases arising upon the high seas, whereas “admiralty” meant primarily cases of a local nature involving police regulations of shipping, harbors, fishing, and the like. A long struggle between the admiralty and common law courts had, however, in the course of time resulted in a considerable curtailment of English admiralty jurisdiction. A much broader conception of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction existed in the United States at the time of the framing of the Constitution than in the Mother Country.⁷⁴⁶ At the very beginning of government under the Constitution, Congress conferred on the federal district courts exclusive original cognizance “of all civil causes of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, including all seizures under laws of impost, navigation or trade of the United States, where the seizures are made, on waters which are navigable from the sea by vessels of ten or more tons burthen, within their respective districts as well as upon the high seas; saving to

⁷⁴⁴ G. GILMORE & C. BLACK, *THE LAW OF ADMIRALTY* (Brooklyn: 1957), ch. 1.

⁷⁴⁵ Nothing really appears in the records of the Convention which sheds light on the Framers' views about admiralty. The present clause was contained in the draft of the Committee on Detail. 2 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 1, 186–187. None of the plans presented to the Convention, with the exception of an apparently authentic Charles Pinckney plan. 3 *id.*, 601–604, 608, had mentioned an admiralty jurisdiction in national courts. See Putnam, *How the Federal Courts Were Given Admiralty Jurisdiction*, 10 *CORN. L.Q.* 460 (1925).

⁷⁴⁶ G. GILMORE AND C. BLACK, *op. cit.* n. 744, ch 1. In *DeLovio v. Boit*, 7 Fed. Cas. 418 (No. 3776) (C.C.D. Mass 1815), Justice Story delivered a powerful historical and jurisprudential argument against the then-restrictive English system. See also *Waring v. Clarke*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 441, 451–459 (1847); *New Jersey Steam Navigation Co. v. Merchants' Bank of Boston*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 34, 385–390 (1848).

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suitors, in all cases, the right of a common law remedy, where the common law is competent to give it; . . .”⁷⁴⁷ This broad legislative interpretation of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction soon won the approval of the federal circuit courts, which ruled that the extent of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction was not to be determined by English law but by the principles of maritime law as respected by maritime courts of all nations and adopted by most, if not by all, of them on the continent of Europe.⁷⁴⁸

Although a number of Supreme Court decisions had earlier sustained the broader admiralty jurisdiction on specific issues,⁷⁴⁹ it was not until 1848 that the Court ruled squarely in its favor, which it did by declaring that “whatever may have been the doubt, originally, as to the true construction of the grant, whether it had reference to the jurisdiction in England, or to the more enlarged one that existed in other maritime countries, the question has become settled by legislative and judicial interpretation, which ought not now to be disturbed.”⁷⁵⁰ The Court thereupon proceeded to hold that admiralty had jurisdiction *in personam* as well as *in rem* over controversies arising out of contracts of affreightment between New York and Providence.

Power of Congress To Modify Maritime Law.—The Constitution does not identify the source of the substantive law to be applied in the federal courts in cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction. Nevertheless, the grant of power to the federal courts in Article III necessarily implies the existence of a substantive maritime law which, if they are required to do so, the federal courts can fashion for themselves.⁷⁵¹ But what of the power of Congress in

⁷⁴⁷ § 9, 1 Stat. 77 (1789), now 28 U.S.C. § 1333 in only slightly changed fashion. For the classic exposition, see Black, *Admiralty Jurisdiction: Critique and Suggestions*, 50 COLUM. L. REV. 259 (1950).

⁷⁴⁸ E.g., *DeLovio v. Boit*, 7 Fed. Cas. 418 (No. 3776) (C.C.D. Mass. 1815) (Justice Story); *The Seneca*, 21 Fed. Cas. 1801 (No. 12670) C.C.E.D.Pa. 1829 (Justice Washington).

⁷⁴⁹ *The Vengeance*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 297 (1796); *The Schooner Sally*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 406 (1805); *The Schooner Betsy*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 443 (1808); *The Samuel*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 9 (1816); *The Octavig*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 20 (1816).

⁷⁵⁰ *New Jersey Steam Navigation Co. v. Merchants' Bank of Boston*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 334, 386 (1848); see also *Waring v. Clarke*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 441 (1847).

⁷⁵¹ *Swift & Co. Packers v. Compania Columbiana Del Caribe*, 339 U.S. 684, 690, 691 (1950); *Halcyon Lines v. Haenn Ship Ceiling & Refitting Corp.*, 342 U.S. 282, 285 (1952); *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354, 360–361 (1959). For a recent example, see *Moragne v. States Marine Lines*, 398 U.S. 375 (1970); *United States v. Reliable Transfer Co.*, 421 U.S. 397 (1975). Compare *The Lottawanna*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 558, 576–577 (1875) (“But we must always remember that the court cannot make the law, it can only declare it. If, within its proper scope, any change is desired in its rules, other than those of procedure, it must be made by the legislative department”). States can no more override rules of judicial origin than they can override acts of Congress. *Wilburn Boat Co. v. Firemen's Fund Ins. Co.*, 348 U.S. 310, 314 (1955).

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this area? In *The Lottawanna*,⁷⁵² Justice Bradley undertook a definitive exposition of the subject. No doubt, the opinion of the Court notes, there exists “a great mass of maritime law which is the same in all commercial countries,” still “the maritime law is only so far operative as law in any country as it is adopted by the laws and usages of that country.”⁷⁵³ “The general system of maritime law which was familiar to the lawyers and statesmen of the country when the Constitution was adopted, was most certainly intended and referred to when it was declared in that instrument that the judicial power of the United States shall extend ‘to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction.’ But by what criterion are we to ascertain the precise limits of the law thus adopted? The Constitution does not define it. . . .

“One thing, however, is unquestionable; the Constitution must have referred to a system of law coextensive with, and operating uniformly in, the whole country. It certainly could not have been the intention to place the rules and limits of maritime law under the disposal and regulation of the several States, as that would have defeated the uniformity and consistency at which the Constitution aimed on all subjects of a commercial character affecting the intercourse of the States with each other or with foreign states.”⁷⁵⁴

“It cannot be supposed that the framers of the Constitution contemplated that the law should forever remain unalterable. Congress undoubtedly has authority under the commercial power, if no other, to introduce such changes as are likely to be needed.”⁷⁵⁵ That Congress’ power to enact substantive maritime law was conferred by the commerce clause was assumed in numerous opinions,⁷⁵⁶ but later opinions by Justice Bradley firmly established that the source of power was the admiralty grant itself, as supplemented by the second prong of the necessary and proper clause.⁷⁵⁷ Thus, “[a]s the Constitution extends the judicial power of the United States to ‘all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction,’ and as this jurisdiction is held to be exclusive, the power of legislation

⁷⁵² 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 558 (1875).

⁷⁵³ *Id.*, 572.

⁷⁵⁴ *Id.*, 574–575.

⁷⁵⁵ *Id.*, 577.

⁷⁵⁶ E.g., *The Daniel Ball*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 557, 564 (1871); *Moore v. American Transp. Co.*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 1, 39 (1861); *Providence & N.Y. S.S. Co. v. Hill Mfg. Co.*, 109 U.S. 578 (1883); *The Robert W. Parsons*, 191 U.S. 17 (1903).

⁷⁵⁷ *Butler v. Boston & S. S.S. Co.*, 130 U.S. 527 (1889); *In re Garnett*, 141 U.S. 1 (1891). The second prong of the necessary and proper clause is the authorization to Congress to enact laws to carry into execution the powers vested in other departments of the Federal Government. See *Detroit Trust Co. v. The Thomas Barlum*, 293 U.S. 21, 42 (1934).

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on the same subject must necessarily be in the national legislature and not in the state legislatures.”⁷⁵⁸ Rejecting an attack on a maritime statute as an infringement of intrastate commerce, Justice Bradley wrote: “It is unnecessary to invoke the power given the Congress to regulate commerce in order to find authority to pass the law in question. The act was passed in amendment of the maritime law of the country, and the power to make such amendments is coextensive with that law. It is not confined to the boundaries or class of subjects which limit and characterize the power to regulate commerce; but, in maritime matters, it extends to all matters and places to which the maritime law extends.”⁷⁵⁹

The law administered by federal courts in admiralty is therefore an amalgam of the general maritime law insofar as it is acceptable to the courts, modifications of that law by congressional amendment, the common law of torts and contracts as modified to the extent constitutionally possible by state legislation, and international prize law. This body of law is at all times subject to modification by the paramount authority of Congress acting in pursuance of its powers under the admiralty and maritime clause and the necessary and proper clause and, no doubt, the commerce clause, now that the Court’s interpretation of that clause has become so expansive. Of this power there has been uniform agreement among the Justices of the Court.⁷⁶⁰

⁷⁵⁸ *Butler v. Boston & S. S.S. Co.*, 130 U.S. 527, 557 (1889).

⁷⁵⁹ *In re Garnett*, 141 U.S. 1, 12 (1891). See also *Southern Pacific Co. v. Jensen*, 244 U.S. 205, 215 (1917); *Knickerbocker Ice Co. v. Stewart*, 253 U.S. 149, 160 (1920); *Crowell v. Benson*, 285 U.S. 22, 55 (1932). The Jones Act, under which injured seamen may maintain an action at law for damages, has been reviewed as an exercise of legislative power deducible from the admiralty clause. *Panama R.R. Co. v. Johnson*, 264 U.S. 375, 386, 388, 391 (1924); *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354, 360–361 (1959). On the limits to the congressional power, see *Panama R.R. Co. v. Johnson*, *supra*, 386–387; *Detroit Trust Co. v. The Thomas Barlum*, 293 U.S. 21, 43–44 (1934).

⁷⁶⁰ Thus, Justice McReynolds’ assertion of the paramountcy of congressional power in *Southern Pacific Co. v. Jensen*, 244 U.S. 205, 215 (1917), was not disputed by the four dissenters in that case and is confirmed in subsequent cases critical of *Jensen* which in effect invite congressional modification of maritime law. E.g., *Davis v. Dept. of Labor and Industries*, 317 U.S. 249 (1942). The nature of maritime law has excited some relevant controversy. In *American Ins. Co. v. Canter*, 1 Pet. (26 U.S.) 516, 545 (1828), Chief Justice Marshall declared that admiralty cases do not “arise under the Constitution or laws of the United States” but “are as old as navigation itself; and the law, admiralty and maritime as it has existed for ages, is applied by our Courts to the cases as they arise.” In *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354 (1959), the plaintiff sought a jury trial in federal court on a seaman’s suit for personal injury on an admiralty claim, contending that cases arising under the general maritime law are “civil actions” that arise “under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States,” 28 U.S.C. §1331. Five Justices in an opinion by Justice Frankfurter disagreed. Maritime cases do not arise under the Constitution or laws of the United States for federal question purposes and must, absent diversity, be instituted in admiralty where there is no jury trial. The dissent-

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Admiralty and Maritime Cases.—Admiralty and maritime jurisdiction comprises two types of cases: (1) those involving acts committed on the high seas or other navigable waters, and (2) those involving contracts and transactions connected with shipping employed on the seas or navigable waters. In the first category, which includes prize cases and torts, injuries, and crimes committed on the high seas, jurisdiction is determined by the locality of the act, while in the second category subject matter is the primary determinative factor.⁷⁶¹ Specifically, contract cases include suits by seamen for wages,⁷⁶² cases arising out of marine insurance policies,⁷⁶³ actions for towage⁷⁶⁴ or pilotage⁷⁶⁵ charges, actions on bottomry or respondentia bonds,⁷⁶⁶ actions for repairs on a vessel

ing four, Justice Brennan for himself and Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black and Douglas, contended that maritime law, although originally derived from international sources, is operative within the United States only by virtue of having been accepted and adopted pursuant to Article III, and accordingly judicially originated rules formulated under authority derived from that Article are “laws” of the United States to the same extent as those enacted by Congress.

⁷⁶¹ DeLovio v. Boit, 7 Fed. Cas. 418, 444 (No. 3776) (C.C.D. Mass. 1815) (Justice Story); Waring v. Clarke, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 441 (1847).

⁷⁶² Sheppard v. Taylor, 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 675, 710 (1831). A seaman employed by the Government making a claim for wages cannot proceed in admiralty but must bring his action under the Tucker Act in the Court of Claims or in the district court if his claim does not exceed \$10,000. Amell v. United States, 384 U.S. 158 (1966). In Kossick v. United Fruit Co., 365 U.S. 731 (1961), an oral agreement between a seaman and a shipowner whereby the latter in consideration of the seaman’s forbearance to press his maritime right to maintenance and cure promised to assume the consequences of improper treatment of the seaman at a Public Health Service Hospital was held to be a maritime contract. See also Archawski v. Hanioti, 350 U.S. 532 (1956).

⁷⁶³ Insurance Co. v. Dunham, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 1, 31 (1871); Wilburn Boat Co. v. Fireman’s Fund Ins. Co., 348 U.S. 310 (1955). Whether admiralty jurisdiction exists if the vessel is not engaged in navigation or commerce when the insurance claim arises is open to question. Jeffcott v. Aetna Ins. Co., 129 F. 2d 582 (2d Cir.), cert. den., 317 U.S. 663 (1942). Contracts and agreements to procure marine insurance are outside the admiralty jurisdiction. Compagnie Francaise De Navigation A Vapeur v. Bonnasse, 19 F. 2d 777 (2d Cir., 1927).

⁷⁶⁴ Knapp, Stout & Co. v. McCaffrey, 177 U.S. 638 (1900). For recent Court difficulties with exculpatory features of such contracts, see Bisso v. Inland Waterways Corp., 349 U.S. 85 (1955); Boston Metals Co. v. The Winding Gulf, 349 U.S. 122 (1955); United States v. Nielson, 349 U.S. 129 (1955); Southwestern Sugar & Molasses Co. v. River Terminals Corp., 360 U.S. 411 (1959); Dixilyn Drilling Corp. v. Crescent Towage & Salvage Co., 372 U.S. 697 (1963).

⁷⁶⁵ Atlee v. Packet Co., 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 389 (1875); Ex parte McNiel, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 236 (1872). See also Sun Oil v. Dalzell Towing Co., 287 U.S. 291 (1932).

⁷⁶⁶ The Grapeshot, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 129 (1870); O’Brien v. Miller, 168 U.S. 287 (1897); The Aurora, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 94 (1816); Delaware Mut. Safety Ins. Co. v. Gossler, 96 U.S. 645 (1877). But ordinary mortgages even though the securing property is a vessel, its gear, or cargo are not considered maritime contracts. Bogart v. The Steamboat John Jay, 17 How. (58 U.S.) 399 (1854); Detroit Trust Co. v. The Thomas Barlum, 293 U.S. 21, 32 (1934).

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already used in navigation,⁷⁶⁷ contracts of affreightment,⁷⁶⁸ compensation for temporary wharfage,⁷⁶⁹ agreements of consortium between the masters of two vessels engaged in wrecking,⁷⁷⁰ and surveys of damaged vessels.⁷⁷¹ That is, admiralty jurisdiction “extends to all contracts, claims and services essentially maritime.”⁷⁷² But the courts have never enunciated an unambiguous test which would enable one to determine in advance whether a given case is a maritime one or not.⁷⁷³ “The boundaries of admiralty jurisdiction over contracts—as opposed to torts or crimes—being conceptual rather than spatial, have always been difficult to draw. Precedent and usage are helpful insofar as they exclude or include certain common types of contract. . . .”⁷⁷⁴

Maritime torts include injuries to persons,⁷⁷⁵ damages to property arising out of collisions or other negligent acts,⁷⁷⁶ and violent dispossession of property.⁷⁷⁷ The Court has expressed a willingness to “recogniz[e] products liability, including strict liability, as part of the general maritime law.”⁷⁷⁸ Unlike contract cases, maritime tort jurisdiction historically depended exclusively upon the commission

⁷⁶⁷ *New Bedford Dry Dock Co. v. Purdy*, 258 U.S. 96 (1922); *The General Smith*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 438 (1819). There is admiralty jurisdiction even though the repairs are not to be made in navigable waters but, perhaps, in dry dock. *North Pacific S.S. Co. v. Hall Brothers Marine R. & S. Co.*, 249 U.S. 119 (1919). But contracts and agreements pertaining to the original construction of vessels are not within admiralty jurisdiction. *Peoples Ferry Co. v. Joseph Beers*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 393 (1858); *North Pacific S.S. Co. v. Hall Brothers Marine R. & S. Co.*, *supra*, 127.

⁷⁶⁸ *New Jersey Steam Navigation Co. v. Merchants' Bank of Boston*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 344 (1848).

⁷⁶⁹ *Ex Parte Easton*, 95 U.S. 68 (1877).

⁷⁷⁰ *Andrews v. Wall*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 568 (1845).

⁷⁷¹ *Janney v. Columbia Ins. Co.*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 411, 412, 415, 418 (1825); *The Tilton*, 23 Fed. Cas. 1277 (No. 14054) (C.C.D. Mass. 1830) (Justice Story).

⁷⁷² *Ex parte Easton*, 95 U.S. 68, 72 (1877). See, for a clearing away of some conceptual obstructions to the principle, *Exxon Corp. v. Central Gulf Lines, Inc.*, 500 U.S. 603 (1991).

⁷⁷³ E.g., *DeLovio v. Boit*, 7 Fed. Cas. 418, 444 (No. 3776) (C.C.D. Mass. 1815) (Justice Story); *The Steamboat Orleans v. Phoebus*, 11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 175, 183 (1837); *The People's Ferry Co. v. Joseph Beers*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 393, 401 (1858); *New England Marine Ins. Co. v. Dunham*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 1, 26 (1870); *Detriot Trust Co. v. The Thomas Barlum*, 293 U.S. 21, 48 (1934).

⁷⁷⁴ *Kossick v. United Fruit Co.*, 365 U.S. 731, 735 (1961).

⁷⁷⁵ *The City of Panama*, 101 U.S. 453 (1880). Reversing a long-standing rule, the Court allowed recovery under general maritime law for the wrongful death of a seaman. *Moragne v. States Marine Lines*, 398 U.S. 375 (1970); *Miles v. Apex Marine Corp.*, 498 U.S. 19 (1991).

⁷⁷⁶ *The Raithmoor*, 241 U.S. 166 (1916); *Erie R.R. Co. v. Erie Transportation Co.*, 204 U.S. 220 (1907).

⁷⁷⁷ *L'Invincible*, 1 Wheat (14 U.S.) 238 (1816); *In re Fassett*, 142 U.S. 479 (1892).

⁷⁷⁸ *East River Steamship Corp. v. Transamerica Delaval*, 476 U.S. 858 (1986) (holding, however, that there is no products liability action in admiralty for purely economic injury to the product itself, unaccompanied by personal injury, and that such actions should be based on the contract law of warranty).

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of the wrongful act upon navigable waters, regardless of any connection or lack of connection with shipping or commerce.⁷⁷⁹ The Court has now held, however, that in addition to the requisite situs a significant relationship to traditional maritime activity must exist in order for the admiralty jurisdiction of the federal courts to be invoked.⁷⁸⁰ Both the Court and Congress have created exceptions to the situs test for maritime tort jurisdiction to extend landward the occasions for certain connected persons or events to come within admiralty, not without a little controversy.⁷⁸¹

From the earliest days of the Republic, the federal courts sitting in admiralty have been held to have exclusive jurisdiction of prize cases.⁷⁸² Also, in contrast to other phases of admiralty jurisdiction, prize law as applied by the British courts continued to provide the basis of American law so far as practicable,⁷⁸³ and so far

⁷⁷⁹ *DeLovio v. Boit*, 7 Fed. Cas. 418, 444 (No. 3776) (C.C.D. Mass. 1815) (Justice Story); *Philadelphia, W. & B. R.R. v. Philadelphia & Havre De Grace Steam Towboat Co.*, 23 How. (64 U.S.) 209, 215 (1859); *The Plymouth*, 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 20, 33–34 (1865); *Grant Smith-Porter Ship Co. v. Rohde*, 257 U.S. 469, 476 (1922).

⁷⁸⁰ *Executive Jet Aviation v. City of Cleveland*, 409 U.S. 249 (1972) (plane crash in which plane landed wholly fortuitously in navigable waters off the airport runway not in admiralty jurisdiction). However, so long as there is maritime activity and a general maritime commercial nexus, admiralty jurisdiction exists. *Foremost Ins. Co. v. Richardson*, 457 U.S. 668 (1982) (collision of two pleasure boats on navigable waters is within admiralty jurisdiction); *Sisson v. Ruby*, 497 U.S. 358 (1990) (fire on pleasure boat docked at marina on navigable water).

⁷⁸¹ Thus, the courts have enforced seamen's claims for maintenance and cure for injuries incurred on land. *O'Donnell v. Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co.*, 318 U.S. 36, 41–42 (1943). The Court has applied the doctrine of seaworthiness to permit claims by longshoremen injured on land because of some condition of the vessel or its cargo. *Gutierrez v. Waterman S.S. Corp.*, 373 U.S. 206 (1963); *Seas Shipping Co. v. Sieracki*, 328 U.S. 85 (1946); *Mahnich v. Southern S.S. Co.*, 321 U.S. 96 (1944). But see *Victory Carriers v. Law*, 404 U.S. 202 (1971). In the Jones Act, 41 Stat. 1007, 46 U.S.C. §688, Congress gave seamen, or their personal representatives, the right to seek compensation from their employers for personal injuries arising out of their maritime employment. Respecting who is a seaman for Jones Act purposes, see *Southwest Marine, Inc. v. Gizoni*, 112 S.Ct. 486 (1991); *McDermott International, Inc. v. Wilander*, 498 U.S. 337 (1991). The rights exist even if the injury occurred on land. *O'Donnell v. Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co.*, supra, 43; *Swanson v. Mara Brothers*, 328 U.S. 1, 4 (1946). In the Extension of Admiralty Jurisdiction Act, 62 Stat. 496, 46 U.S.C. §740, Congress provided an avenue of relief for persons injured in themselves or their property by action of a vessel on navigable water which is consummated on land, as by the collision of a ship with a bridge. By the 1972 amendments to the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, 86 Stat. 1251, amending 33 U.S.C. §§901–950, Congress broadened the definition of "navigable waters" to include in certain cases adjoining piers, wharfs, etc., and modified the definition of "employee" to mean any worker "engaged in maritime employment" within the prescribed meanings, thus extending the Act shoreward and changing the test of eligibility from "situs" alone to the "situs" of the injury and the "status" of the injured.

⁷⁸² *Jennings v. Carson*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 2 (1807); *Taylor v. Carryl*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 583 (1858).

⁷⁸³ *Thirty Hogsheads of Sugar v. Boyle*, 9 Cr. (13 U.S.) 191 (1815); *The Siren*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 389, 393 (1871).

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as it was not modified by subsequent legislation, treaties, or executive proclamations. Finally, admiralty and maritime jurisdiction comprises the seizure and forfeiture of vessels engaged in activities in violation of the laws of nations or municipal law, such as illicit trade,⁷⁸⁴ infraction of revenue laws,⁷⁸⁵ and the like.⁷⁸⁶

Admiralty Proceedings.—Procedure in admiralty jurisdiction differs in few respects from procedure in actions at law, but the differences that do exist are significant.⁷⁸⁷ Suits in admiralty traditionally took the form of a proceeding *in rem* against the vessel, and, with exceptions to be noted, such proceedings *in rem* are confined exclusively to federal admiralty courts, because the grant of exclusive jurisdiction to the federal courts by the Judiciary Act of 1789 has been interpreted as referring to the traditional admiralty action, the *in rem* action, which was unknown to the common law.⁷⁸⁸ The savings clause in that Act under which a state court may entertain actions by suitors seeking a common-law remedy preserves to the state tribunals the right to hear actions at law where a common-law remedy or a new remedy analogous to a common-law remedy exists.⁷⁸⁹ Concurrent jurisdiction thus exists for the adjudication of *in personam* maritime causes of action against the owner of the vessel, and a plaintiff may ordinarily choose whether to bring his action in a state court or a federal court.

Forfeiture to the crown for violation of the laws of the sovereign was in English law an exception to the rule that admiralty has exclusive jurisdiction over *in rem* maritime actions and was

⁷⁸⁴ *Hudson v. Guestier*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 293 (1808).

⁷⁸⁵ *The Vengeance*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 297 (1796); *Church v. Hubbard*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 187 (1804); *The Schooner Sally*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 406 (1805).

⁷⁸⁶ *The Brig Ann*, 9 Cr. (13 U.S.) 289 (1815); *The Sarah*, 8 Wheat. (21 U.S.) 391 (1823); *Maul v. United States*, 274 U.S. 501 (1927).

⁷⁸⁷ G. GILMORE AND C. BLACK, *op. cit.*, n. 744, 30–33. There are no longer separate rules of procedure governing admiralty, unification of civil admiralty procedures being achieved in 1966. 7A J. MOORE'S FEDERAL PRACTICE (New York: 1971), §.01 *et seq.*

⁷⁸⁸ *The Moses Taylor*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 411 (1866); *The Hine v. Trevor*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 555 (1867). But see *Taylor v. Carryl*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 583 (1858). In *Madruga v. Superior Court*, 346 U.S. 556 (1954), the jurisdiction of a state court over a partition suit at the instance of the majority shipowners was upheld on the ground that the cause of action affected only the interest of the defendant minority shipowners and therefore was *in personam*. Justice Frankfurter's dissent argued: "If this is not an action against the thing, in the sense which that has meaning in the law, then the concepts of a *res* and an *in rem* proceeding have an esoteric meaning that I do not understand." *Id.*, 564.

⁷⁸⁹ After conferring "exclusive" jurisdiction in admiralty and maritime cases on the federal courts, §9 of the Judiciary Act of 1789, 1 Stat. 77, added "saving to suitors, in all cases the right of a common law remedy, where the common law is competent to give it; . . ." Fixing the concurrent federal-state line has frequently been a source of conflict within the court. *Southern Pacific Co. v. Jensen*, 244 U.S. 205 (1917).

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thus considered a common-law remedy. Although the Supreme Court sometimes has used language that would confine all proceedings *in rem* to admiralty courts,⁷⁹⁰ such actions in state courts have been sustained in cases of forfeiture arising out of violations of state law.⁷⁹¹

Perhaps the most significant admiralty court difference in procedure from civil courts is the absence of a jury trial in admiralty actions, with the admiralty judge trying issues of fact as well as of law.⁷⁹² Indeed, the absence of a jury in admiralty proceedings appears to have been one of the principal reasons why the English government vested a broad admiralty jurisdiction in the colonial vice-admiralty courts, since they provided a forum where the English authorities could enforce the Navigation Laws without “the obstinate resistance of American juries.”⁷⁹³

Territorial Extent of Admiralty and Maritime Jurisdiction.—Although he was a vigorous exponent of the expansion of admiralty jurisdiction, Justice Story for the Court in *The Steamboat Thomas Jefferson*⁷⁹⁴ adopted a restrictive English rule confining admiralty jurisdiction to the high seas and upon rivers as far as the ebb and flow of the tide extended.⁷⁹⁵ The demands of commerce on western waters led Congress to enact a statute extending admiralty jurisdiction over the Great Lakes and connecting waters,⁷⁹⁶ and in *The Genessee Chief v. Fitzhugh*⁷⁹⁷ Chief Justice Taney overruled *The Thomas Jefferson* and dropped the tidal ebb and flow requirement. This ruling laid the basis for subsequent judicial extension of jurisdiction over all waters, salt or fresh, tidal

⁷⁹⁰ *The Moses Taylor*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 411, 431 (1867).

⁷⁹¹ *C. J. Henry Co. v. Moore*, 318 U.S. 133 (1943).

⁷⁹² *The Vengeance*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 297 (1796); *The Schooner Sally*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 406 (1805); *The Schooner Betsy*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 443 (1808); *The Whelan*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 112 (1812); *The Samuel*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 9 (1816). If diversity of citizenship and the requisite jurisdictional amounts are present, a suitor may sue on the “law side” of the federal court and obtain a jury. *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.* 358 U.S. 354, 362–363 (1959). Jones Act claims, 41 Stat. 1007 (1920), 46 U.S.C. §688, may be brought on the “law side” with a jury, *Panama R.R. Co. v. Johnson*, 264 U.S. 375 (1924), and other admiralty claims joined with a Jones Act claim may be submitted to a jury. *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, supra; *Fitzgerald v. United States Lines Co.*, 374 U.S. 16 (1963). There is no constitutional barrier to congressional provision of jury trials in admiralty. *Genessee Chief v. Fitzhugh*, 12 How. (53 U.S.) 443 (1851); *Fitzgerald v. United States Lines Co.*, supra, 20.

⁷⁹³ *C. J. Henry Co. v. Moore*, 318 U.S. 133, 141 (1943).

⁷⁹⁴ 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 428 (1825). On the political background of this decision, see 1 C. WARREN, op. cit., n. 18, 633–635.

⁷⁹⁵ The tidal ebb and flow limitation was strained in some of its applications. *Peyroux v. Howard*, 7, Pet. (32 U.S.) 324 (1833); *Waring v. Clarke*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 441 (1847).

⁷⁹⁶ 5 Stat. 726 (1845).

⁷⁹⁷ 12 How. (53 U.S.) 443 (1851).

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or not, which are navigable in fact.⁷⁹⁸ Some of the older cases contain language limiting jurisdiction to navigable waters which form some link in an interstate or international waterway or some link in commerce,⁷⁹⁹ but these date from the time when it was thought the commerce power furnished the support for congressional legislation in this field.

Admiralty and Federalism.—Extension of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction to navigable waters within a State does not, however, of its own force include general or political powers of government. Thus, in the absence of legislation by Congress, the States through their courts may punish offenses upon their navigable waters and upon the sea within one marine league of the shore.⁸⁰⁰

Determination of the boundaries of admiralty jurisdiction is a judicial function, and “no State law can enlarge it, nor can an act of Congress or a rule of court make it broader than the judicial power may determine to be its true limits.”⁸⁰¹ But, as with other jurisdictions of the federal courts, admiralty jurisdiction can only be exercised under acts of Congress vesting it in federal courts.⁸⁰²

The boundaries of federal and state competence, both legislative and judicial, in this area remain imprecise, and federal judicial determinations have notably failed to supply definiteness. During the last century, the Supreme Court generally permitted two overlapping systems of law to coexist in an uneasy relationship. The federal courts in admiralty applied the general maritime law,⁸⁰³ supplemented in some instances by state law which created and defined certain causes of action.⁸⁰⁴ Because the Judiciary Act of 1789

⁷⁹⁸ Some of the early cases include *The Magnolia*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 296 (1857); *The Eagle*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 15 (1868); *The Daniel Ball*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 557 (1871). The fact that the body of water is artificial presents no barrier to admiralty jurisdiction. *Ex parte Boyer*, 109 U.S. 629 (1884); *The Robert W. Parsons*, 191 U.S. 17 (1903). In *United States v. Apalachian Power Co.*, 311 U.S. 377 (1940), it was made clear that maritime jurisdiction extends to include waterways which by reasonable improvement can be made navigable. “It has long been settled that the admiralty and maritime jurisdiction of the United States includes all navigable waters within the country.” *Southern S.S. Co. v. NLRB*, 316 U.S. 31, 41 (1942).

⁷⁹⁹ E.g., *The Daniel Ball*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 557, 563 (1870); *The Montello*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 430, 441–442 (1874).

⁸⁰⁰ *United States v. Bevens*, 3 Wheat. (16 U.S.) 336 (1818); *Manchester v. Massachusetts*, 139 U.S. 240 (1891).

⁸⁰¹ *The Steamer St. Lawrence*, 1 Bl. (66 U.S.) 522, 527 (1862).

⁸⁰² *Janney v. Columbia Ins. Co.*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 411, 418 (1825); *The Lottawanna*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 558, 576 (1875).

⁸⁰³ E.g., *New Jersey Steam Navigation Co. v. Merchants' Bank of Boston*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 344 (1848); *The Steamboat New York v. Rea*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 223 (1856); *The China*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 53 (1868); *Ex parte McNeil*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 236 (1872); *La Bourgogne*, 210 U.S. 95 (1908).

⁸⁰⁴ *The General Smith*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 438 (1819); *The Lottawanna*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 558 (1875) (enforcing state laws giving suppliers and repairmen liens on

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saved to suitors common-law remedies, persons suing in state courts or in federal courts in diversity of citizenship actions could look to common-law and statutory doctrines for relief in maritime-related cases in which the actions were noticeable.⁸⁰⁵ In *Southern Pacific Co. v. Jensen*,⁸⁰⁶ a sharply divided Court held that New York could not constitutionally apply its workmen's compensation system to employees injured or killed on navigable waters. For the Court, Justice McReynolds reasoned "that the general maritime law, as accepted by the federal courts, constituted part of our national law, applicable to matters within the admiralty and maritime jurisdiction."⁸⁰⁷ Recognizing that "it would be difficult, if not impossible, to define with exactness just how far the general maritime law may be changed, modified or affected by state legislation," still it was certain that "no such legislation is valid if it works material prejudice to the characteristic features of the general maritime law, or interferes with the proper harmony or uniformity of that law in its international and interstate relations."⁸⁰⁸ The "savings to suitors" clause was unavailing because the workmen's compensation statute created a remedy "of a character wholly unknown to the common law, incapable of enforcement by the ordinary process of any court, and is not saved to suitors from the grant of exclusive jurisdiction."⁸⁰⁹

Congress required three opportunities to legislate to meet the problem created by the decision, the lack of remedy for maritime workers to recover for injuries resulting from the negligence of their employers. First, Congress enacted a statute saving to claim-

ships supplied and repaired). Another example concerns state created wrongful death actions. *The Hamilton*, 207 U.S. 398 (1907).

⁸⁰⁵ E.g., *Hazard's Administrator v. New England Marine Ins. Co.*, 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 557 (1834); *The Belfast*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 624 (1869); *American Steamboat Co. v. Chase*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 522 (1872); *Quebec Steamship Co. v. Merchant*, 133 U.S. 375 (1890); *Belden v. Chase*, 150 U.S. 674 (1893); *Homer Ramsdell Transp. Co. v. La Compagnie Gen. Transatlantique*, 182 U.S. 406 (1901).

⁸⁰⁶ 244 U.S. 205 (1917). The worker here had been killed, but the same result was reached in a case of nonfatal injury. *Clyde S.S. Co., v. Walker*, 244 U.S. 255 (1917). In *Chelentis v. Luckenbach S.S. Co.*, 247 U.S. 372 (1918), the *Jensen* holding was applied to preclude recovery in a negligence action against the injured party's employer under state law. Under *The Osceola*, 189 U.S. 158 (1903), the employee had a maritime right to wages, maintenance, and cure.

⁸⁰⁷ *Southern Pacific Co. v. Jensen*, 244 U.S. 205, 215 (1917).

⁸⁰⁸ *Id.*, 216.

⁸⁰⁹ *Id.*, 218. There were four dissenters, Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Clarke, and Pitney. The *Jensen* dissent featured such Holmesian epigrams as: "Judges do and must legislate, but they can do so only interstitially: they are confined from molar to molecular motions," *id.*, 221, and the famous statement supporting the assertion that supplementation of maritime law had to come from state law inasmuch as "the common law is not a brooding omnipresence in the sky, but the articulate voice of some sovereign or quasi-sovereign that can be identified. It always is the law of some state." *Id.*, 222.

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ants their rights and remedies under state workmen's compensation laws.⁸¹⁰ The Court invalidated it as an unconstitutional delegation of legislative power to the States. "The Constitution itself adopted and established, as part of the laws of the United States, approved rules of the general maritime law and empowered Congress to legislate in respect of them and other matters within the admiralty and maritime jurisdiction. Moreover, it took from the States all power, by legislation or judicial decision, to contravene the essential purposes of, or to work material injury to, characteristic features of such law or to interfere with its proper harmony and uniformity in its international and interstate relations."⁸¹¹ Second, Congress reenacted the law but excluded masters and crew members of vessels from those who might claim compensation for maritime injuries.⁸¹²

The Court found this effort unconstitutional as well, since "the manifest purpose [of the statute] was to permit any state to alter the maritime law, and thereby introduce conflicting requirements."⁸¹³ Finally, Congress passed the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, which provided accident compensation for injuries, including those resulting in death, sustained on navigable waters by employees, other than members of the crew, whenever "recovery . . . may not validly be provided by State law."⁸¹⁴

With certain exceptions,⁸¹⁵ the federal-state conflict since *Jensen* has taken place with regard to three areas: (1) the interpretation of federal and state bases of relief for injuries and death as affected by the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act; (2) the interpretation of federal and state bases of relief for personal injuries by maritime workers as affected by the Jones Act; and (3) the application of state law to permit recovery in mari-

⁸¹⁰ 40 Stat. 395 (1917).

⁸¹¹ *Knickerbocker Ice Co. v. Stewart*, 253 U.S. 149, 160 (1920). The decision was again five-to-four with the same dissenters.

⁸¹² 42 Stat. 634 (1922).

⁸¹³ *Washington v. Dawson & Co.*, 264 U.S. 219, 228 (1924). Holmes and Brandeis remained of the four dissenters and again dissented.

⁸¹⁴ 44 Stat. 1424 (1927), as amended, 33 U.S.C. §§901–950.

⁸¹⁵ E.g. *Maryland Casualty Co. v. Cushing*, 347 U.S. 409 (1954) (state direct action statute applies against insurers implicated in a marine accident); *Wilburn Boat Co. v. Fireman's Fund Ins. Co.*, 348 U.S. 310 (1955) (state statute determines effect of breach of warranty in marine insurance contract); *Southwestern Sugar & Molasses Co. v. River Terminals Corp.*, 360 U.S. 411 (1959); *Bisso v. Inland Waterways Corp.*, 349 U.S. 85 (1955) (federal rather than state law determines effect of exculpatory provisions in towage contracts); *Kossick v. United Fruit Co.*, 365 U.S. 731 (1961) (state statute of frauds inapplicable to oral contract for medical care between seaman and employer).

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time wrongful death cases in which until recently there was no federal maritime right to recover.⁸¹⁶

(1) The principal difficulty here was that after *Jensen* the Supreme Court did not maintain the line between permissible and impermissible state-authorized recovery at the water's edge but created a "maritime but local" exception, by which some injuries incurred in or on navigable waters could be compensated under state workmen's compensation laws or state negligence laws.⁸¹⁷ "The application of the State Workmen's Compensation Acts has been sustained where the work of the employee has been deemed to have no direct relation to navigation or commerce and the operation of the local law 'would work no material prejudice to the essential features of the general maritime law.'"⁸¹⁸ Because Congress provided in the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act for recovery under the Act "if recovery . . . may not validly be provided by State law,"⁸¹⁹ it was held that the "maritime but local" exception had been statutorily perpetuated,⁸²⁰ thus creating the danger for injured workers or their survivors that they might choose to seek relief by the wrong avenue to their prejudice. This danger was subsequently removed by the Court when it recognized that there was a "twilight zone," a "shadowy area," in which recovery under either the federal law or a state law could be justified and forthwith held that in such a "twilight zone" the injured party should be enabled to recover under either.⁸²¹ Then, in *Calbeck v. Travel-*

⁸¹⁶ *Jensen*, though much criticized, is still the touchstone of the decisional process in this area with its emphasis on the general maritime law. E.g., *Pope & Talbot v. Hawn*, 346 U.S. 406 (1953); *Kermarec v. Compagnie Generale Transatlantique*, 358 U.S. 625 (1959). In *Askew v. American Waterways Operators*, 411 U.S. 325, 337-344 (1973), the Court, in holding that the States may constitutionally exercise their police powers respecting maritime activities concurrently with the Federal Government, such as by providing for liability for oil spill damages, noted that *Jensen* and its progeny, while still possessing vitality, have been confined to their facts; thus, it is only with regard "to suits relating to the relationship of vessels, plying the high seas and our navigable waters, and to their crews" that state law is proscribed. *Id.*, 344. See also *Sun Ship v. Pennsylvania*, 447 U.S. 715 (1980).

⁸¹⁷ *Western Fuel Co. v. Garcia*, 257 U.S. 233 (1921); *Grant-Smith-Porter Ship Co. v. Rohde*, 257 U.S. 469 (1922); *State Industrial Comm. v. Nordenholt Corp.*, 259 U.S. 263 (1922); *Miller's Indemnity Underwriters v. Braud*, 270 U.S. 59 (1926). The exception continued to be applied following enactment of the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act. See cases cited in *Davis v. Dept. of Labor and Industries*, 317 U.S. 249, 253-254 (1942).

⁸¹⁸ *Crowell v. Benson*, 285 U.S. 22, 39 n. 3 (1932). The internal quotation is from *Western Fuel Co. v. Garcia*, 257 U.S. 233, 242 (1921).

⁸¹⁹ § 3(a), 44 Stat. 1424 (1927), 33 U.S.C. § 903(a).

⁸²⁰ *Crowell v. Benson*, 284 U.S. 22, 39, (1932); *Davis v. Dept. of Labor and Industries*, 317 U.S. 249, 252-253 (1942).

⁸²¹ *Davis v. Dept. of Labor and Industries*, 317 U.S. 249 (1942). The quoted phrases appear at *id.*, 253, 256. See also *Hahn v. Ross Island Sand & Gravel Co.*, 358 U.S. 272 (1959).

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ers Ins. Co.,⁸²² the Court virtually read out of the Act its inapplicability when compensation would be afforded by state law and held that Congress' intent in enacting the statute was to extend coverage to all workers who sustain injuries while on navigable waters of the United States whether or not a particular injury was also within the constitutional reach of a state workmen's compensation law or other law. By the 1972 amendments to the LHWCA, Congress extended the law shoreward by refining the tests of "employee" and "navigable waters," so as to reach piers, wharfs, and the like in certain circumstances.⁸²³

(2) The passage of the Jones Act⁸²⁴ gave seamen a statutory right of recovery for negligently inflicted injuries on which they could sue in state or federal courts. Because injured parties could obtain a jury trial in Jones Act suits, there was little attempted recourse under the savings clause⁸²⁵ to state law claims and thus no need to explore the line between applicable and inapplicable state law. But in the 1940s personal injury actions based on unseaworthiness⁸²⁶ were given new life by Court decisions for seamen,⁸²⁷ and the right was soon extended to longshoremen who were injured while on board ship or while working on the dock if the injury could be attributed either to the ship's gear or its cargo.⁸²⁸ While these actions could have been brought in state court, federal law supplanted state law even with regard to injuries

⁸²² 370 U.S. 114 (1962). In the 1972 amendments, §2, 86 Stat. 1251, amending 33 U.S.C. §903(a), Congress ratified *Calbeck* by striking out "if recovery . . . may not validly be provided by State law."

⁸²³ 86 Stat. 1251, §2, amending 33 U.S.C. §902. The Court had narrowly turned back an effort to achieve this result through construction in *Nacierema Operating Co. v. Johnson*, 396 U.S. 212 (1969). See also *Victory Carriers v. Law*, 404 U.S. 202 (1971). On the interpretation of the amendments, see *Northeast Marine Terminal Co. v. Caputo*, 432 U.S. 249 (1977); *Director, Office of Workers Compensation Programs v. Perini*, 459 U.S. 297 (1983).

⁸²⁴ 41 Stat. 1007 (1920), 46 U.S.C. §688. For the prior-Jones Act law, see *The Osceola*, 189 U.S. 158 (1903).

⁸²⁵ *Supra*, pp. 728–729; p. 735, n. 789.

⁸²⁶ Unseaworthiness "is essentially a species of liability without fault, analogous to other well known instances in our law. Derived from and shaped to meet the hazards which performing the service imposes, the liability is neither limited by conceptions of negligence nor contractual in character. . . . [T]he owner's duty to furnish a seaworthy ship is absolute and completely independent of his duty under the Jones Act to exercise reasonable care." *Mitchell v. Trawler Racer*, 362 U.S. 539, 549 (1960).

⁸²⁷ *Mahnich v. Southern S.S. Co.*, 321 U.S. 96 (1944). See also *Mitchell v. Trawler Racer*, 362 U.S. 539 (1960); *Michalic v. Cleveland Tankers*, 364 U.S. 325 (1960); *Waldron v. Moore-McCormack Lines*, 386 U.S. 724 (1967).

⁸²⁸ *Seas Shipping Co. v. Sieracki*, 328 U.S. 85 (1946); *Pope & Talbot v. Hawn*, 346 U.S. 406 (1953); *Alaska S.S. Co. v. Patterson*, 347 U.S. 396 (1954); *Gutierrez v. Waterman S.S. Corp.*, 373 U.S. 206 (1963); But see *Usner v. Luckenback Overseas Corp.*, 400 U.S. 494 (1971); *Victory Carriers v. Law*, 404 U.S. 202 (1971).

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sustained in state territorial waters.⁸²⁹ The 1972 LHWCA amendments, however, eliminated unseaworthiness recoveries by persons covered by the Act and substituted a recovery for injuries caused by negligence under the LHWCA itself.⁸³⁰

(3) In *The Harrisburg*,⁸³¹ the Court held that maritime law did not afford an action for wrongful death, a position to which the Court adhered until quite recently.⁸³² The Jones Act,⁸³³ the Death on the High Seas Act,⁸³⁴ and the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act⁸³⁵ created causes of action for wrongful death, but for cases not falling within one of these laws the federal courts looked to state wrongful death and survival statutes.⁸³⁶ Thus, in *The Tungus v. Skovgaard*,⁸³⁷ the Court held that a state wrongful death statute encompassed claims both for negligence and unseaworthiness in the instance of a land-based worker killed when on board ship in navigable water; the Court divided five-to-four, however, in holding that the standards of the duties to furnish a seaworthy vessel and to use due care were created by the state law as well and not furnished by general maritime con-

⁸²⁹ *Garrett v. Moore-McCormack Co.*, 317 U.S. 239 (1942); *McAllister v. Magnolia Petroleum Co.*, 357 U.S. 221 (1958); *Kermarec v. Compagnie Generale Transatlantique*, 338 U.S. 625 (1959).

⁸³⁰ 86 Stat. 1263, §18, amending 33 U.S.C. §905. On the negligence standards under the amendment, see *Scindia Steam Navigation Co., v. De Los Santos*, 451 U.S. 156 (1981).

⁸³¹ 119 U.S. 199 (1886). Subsequent cases are collected in *Moragne v. States Marine Lines*, 398 U.S. 375 (1970).

⁸³² *Moragne v. States Marine Lines*, 398 U.S. 375 (1970).

⁸³³ 41 Stat. 1007 (1920). 46 U.S.C. §688. Recovery could be had if death resulted from injuries because of negligence but not from unseaworthiness.

⁸³⁴ 41 Stat. 537 (1920), 46 U.S.C. §761 et seq. The Act applies to deaths caused by negligence occurring on the high seas beyond a marine league from the shore of any State. In *Rodrique v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 395 U.S. 352 (1969), a unanimous Court held that this Act did not apply in cases of deaths on the artificial islands created on the continental shelf for oil drilling purposes but that the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, 67 Stat. 462 (1953), 43 U.S.C. §1331 et seq., incorporated the laws of the adjacent State, so that Louisiana law governed. See also *Chevron Oil Co. v. Huson*, 404 U.S. 97 (1971); *Gulf Offshore Co. v. Mobil Oil Corp.*, 453 U.S. 473 (1981). However, in *Offshore Logistics, Inc. v. Tallentire*, 477 U.S. 207 (1986), the Court held that the Act is the exclusive wrongful death remedy in the case of OCS platform workers killed in a helicopter crash 35 miles off shore en route to shore from a platform.

⁸³⁵ 44 Stat. 1424 (1927), as amended, 33 U.S.C. §§901-950.

⁸³⁶ *Western Fuel Co. v. Garcia*, 257 U.S. 233 (1921); *Just v. Chambers*, 312 U.S. 383 (1941); *Levinson v. Deupree*, 345 U.S. 648 (1953).

⁸³⁷ 358 U.S. 588 (1959).

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cepts.⁸³⁸ And in *Hess v. United States*,⁸³⁹ embracing a suit under the Federal Tort Claims Act for recovery for a death by drowning in a navigable Oregon river of an employee of a contractor engaged in repairing the federally-owned Bonneville Dam, a divided Court held that liability was to be measured by the standard of care expressed in state law, notwithstanding that the standard was higher than that required by maritime law. One area existed, however, in which beneficiaries of a deceased seaman were denied recovery.

The Jones Act provided a remedy for wrongful death resulting from negligence but not for one caused by unseaworthiness alone; in *Gillespie v. United States Steel Corp.*,⁸⁴⁰ the Court held that the survivors of a seaman drowned while working on a ship docked in an Ohio port could not recover under the state wrongful death statute even though the act recognized unseaworthiness as a basis for recovery, the Jones Act having superseded state laws.

Thus did matters stand until 1970 when the Court, in a unanimous opinion in *Moragne v. States Marine Lines*⁸⁴¹ overruled its earlier cases and held that a right of recovery for wrongful death is sanctioned by general maritime law and that no statute is needed to bring the right into being. The Court was careful to note that the cause of action created in *Moragne* would not, like the state wrongful death statutes in *Gillespie*, be held precluded by the Jones Act, so that the survivor of a seaman killed in navigable waters within a State would have a cause of action for negligence under the Jones Act or for unseaworthiness under the general maritime law.⁸⁴²

Cases to Which the United States Is a Party

Right of the United States to Sue.—In the first edition of his *Treatise*, Justice Story noted that while “an express power is nowhere given in the constitution,” the right of the United States to

⁸³⁸ Justice Brennan, joined by Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black and Douglas, argued that the extent of the duties owed the decedent while on board ship should be governed by federal maritime law, though the cause of action originated in a state statute, just as would have been the result had decedent survived his injuries. See also *United N.Y. & N.J. Sandy Hooks Pilot Assn. v. Halecki*, 358 U.S. 613 (1959).

⁸³⁹ 361 U.S. 314 (1960). The four *Tungus* dissenters joined two of the *Tungus* majority solely “under compulsion” of the *Tungus* ruling; the other three majority Justices dissented on the ground that application of the state statute unacceptably disrupted the uniformity of maritime law.

⁸⁴⁰ 379 U.S. 148 (1964). The decision was based on dictum in *Lindgren v. United States*, 281 U.S. 38 (1930), to the effect that the Jones Act remedy was exclusive.

⁸⁴¹ 398 U.S. 375 (1970).

⁸⁴² *Id.*, 396 n. 12. For development of the law under *Moragne*, see *Sea-Land Services v. Gaudet*, 414 U.S. 573 (1974); *Miles v. Apex Marine Corp.*, 498 U.S. 19 (1990).

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sue in its own courts “is clearly implied in that part respecting the judicial power. . . . Indeed, all the usual incidents appertaining to a *personal* sovereign, in relation to contracts, and suing, and enforcing rights, so far as they are within the scope of the powers of the government, belong to the United States, as they do to other sovereigns.”⁸⁴³ As early as 1818, the Supreme Court ruled that the United States could sue in its own name in all cases of contract without congressional authorization of such suits.⁸⁴⁴ Later, this rule was extended to other types of actions. In the absence of statutory provisions to the contrary, such suits are initiated by the Attorney General in the name of the United States.⁸⁴⁵

By the Judiciary Act of 1789, and subsequent amendments thereof, Congress has vested in the federal district courts jurisdiction to hear all suits of a civil nature at law or in equity brought by the United States as party plaintiff.⁸⁴⁶ As in other judicial proceedings, the United States, like any party plaintiff, must have an interest in the subject matter and a legal right to the remedy sought.⁸⁴⁷ Under the long settled principle that the courts have the power to abate public nuisances at the suit of the Government, the provision in §208(2) of the Labor Management Relations Act of 1949, authorizing federal courts to enjoin strikes which imperil national health or safety was upheld for the reason that the statute entrusts the courts with the determination of a “case or controversy” on which the judicial power can operate and does not impose any legislative, executive, or non-judicial function. Moreover, the fact that the rights sought to be protected were those of the public in unimpeded production in industries vital to public health, as distinguished from the private rights of labor and management,

⁸⁴³ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES (Boston: 1833), 1274 (emphasis in original).

⁸⁴⁴ *Dugan v. United States*, 3 Wheat. (16 U.S.) 172 (1818).

⁸⁴⁵ *United States v. San Jacinto Tin Co.*, 125 U.S. 273 (1888); *United States v. Beebe*, 127 U.S. 338 (1888); *United States v. Bell Telephone Co.*, 128 U.S. 315 (1888). Whether without statutory authorization the United States may sue to protect the constitutional rights of its citizens has occasioned conflict. Compare *United States v. Brand Jewelers*, 318 F. Supp. 1293 (S.D.N.Y. 1970), and *United States v. Brittain*, 319 F. Supp. 1658 (S.D. Ala. 1970), with *United States v. Mattson*, 600 F.2d 1295 (9th Cir. 1979), and *United States v. Solomon*, 563 F.2d 1121 (4th Cir. 1977). The result in *Mattson* and *Solomon* was altered by specific authorization in the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, P.L. 96-247, 94 Stat. 349 (1980), 42 U.S.C. §1997 *et seq.* And see *United States v. City of Philadelphia*, 644 F.2d 187 (3d Cir. 1980) (no standing to sue to correct allegedly unconstitutional police practices).

⁸⁴⁶ 28 U.S.C. §1345. By virtue of the fact that the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court extends only to those cases enumerated in the Constitution, jurisdiction over suits brought by the United States against persons or corporation is vested in the lower federal courts. But suits by the United States against a State may be brought in the Supreme Court’s original jurisdiction, 28 U.S.C. §1251(b)(2), but may as well be brought in the district court. *Case v. Bowles*, 327 U.S. 92, 97 (1946).

⁸⁴⁷ *United States v. San Jacinto Tin Co.*, 125 U.S. 273 (1888).

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was held not to alter the adversary (“case or controversy”) nature of the litigation instituted by the United States as the guardian of the aforementioned rights.⁸⁴⁸ Also, by reason of the highest public interest in the fulfillment of all constitutional guarantees, “including those that bear . . . directly on private rights, . . . it [is] perfectly competent for Congress to authorize the United States to be the guardian of that public interest in a suit for injunctive relief.”⁸⁴⁹

Suits Against States.—Controversies to which the United States is a party include suits brought against States as party defendants. The first such suit occurred in *United States v. North Carolina*,⁸⁵⁰ which was an action by the United States to recover upon bonds issued by North Carolina. Although no question of jurisdiction was raised, in deciding the case on its merits in favor of the State, the Court tacitly assumed that it had jurisdiction of such cases. The issue of jurisdiction was directly raised by Texas a few years later in a bill in equity brought by the United States to determine the boundary between Texas and the Territory of Oklahoma, and the Court sustained its jurisdiction over strong arguments by Texas to the effect that it could not be sued by the United States without its consent and that the Supreme Court’s original jurisdiction did not extend to cases to which the United States is a party.⁸⁵¹ Stressing the inclusion within the judicial power of cases to which the United States and a State are parties, the elder Justice Harlan pointed out that the Constitution made no exception of suits brought by the United States. In effect, therefore, consent to be sued by the United States “was given by Texas when admitted to the Union upon an equal footing in all respects with the other States.”⁸⁵²

Suits brought by the United States have, however, been infrequent. All of them have arisen since 1889, and they have become somewhat more common since 1926. That year the Supreme Court decided a dispute between the United States and Minnesota over

⁸⁴⁸ *United Steelworkers v. United States*, 361 U.S. 39, 43–44 (1960), citing *In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564 (1895).

⁸⁴⁹ *United States v. Raines*, 362 U.S. 17, 27 (1960), upholding jurisdiction of the federal court as to an action to enjoin state officials from discriminating against African-American citizens seeking to vote in state elections. See also *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112 (1970), in which two of the four cases considered were actions by the United States to enjoin state compliance with the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1970.

⁸⁵⁰ 136 U.S. 211 (1890).

⁸⁵¹ *United States v. Texas*, 143 U.S. 621 (1892).

⁸⁵² *Id.*, 642–646. This suit, it may be noted, was specifically authorized by the Act of Congress of May 2, 1890, providing for a temporary government for the Oklahoma territory to determine the ownership of Greer County. 26 Stat. 81, 92, §25. See also *United States v. Louisiana*, 339 U.S. 699, 701–702 (1950).

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land patents issued to the State by the United States in breach of its trust obligations to the Indian.⁸⁵³ In *United States v. West Virginia*,⁸⁵⁴ the Court refused to take jurisdiction of a suit in equity brought by the United States to determine the navigability of the New and Kanawha Rivers on the ground that the jurisdiction in such suits is limited to cases and controversies and does not extend to the adjudication of mere differences of opinion between the officials of the two governments. A few years earlier, however, it had taken jurisdiction of a suit by the United States against Utah to quiet title to land forming the beds of certain sections of the Colorado River and its tributaries with the States.⁸⁵⁵ Similarly, it took jurisdiction of a suit brought by the United States against California to determine the ownership of and paramount rights over the submerged land and the oil and gas thereunder off the coast of California between the low-water mark and the three-mile limit.⁸⁵⁶ Like suits were decided against Louisiana and Texas in 1950.⁸⁵⁷

Immunity of the United States From Suit.—Pursuant to the general rule that a sovereign cannot be sued in its own courts, it follows that the judicial power does not extend to suits against the United States unless Congress by general or special enactment consents to suits against the Government. This rule first emanated in embryo form in an *obiter dictum* by Chief Justice Jay in *Chisholm v. Georgia*, where he indicated that a suit would not lie against the United States because “there is no power which the courts can call to their aid.”⁸⁵⁸ In *Cohens v. Virginia*,⁸⁵⁹ also by way of dictum, Chief Justice Marshall asserted, “the universally received opinion is that no suit can be commenced or prosecuted against the United States.” The issue was more directly in question in *United States v. Clarke*,⁸⁶⁰ where Chief Justice Marshall stated that as the United States is “not suable of common right, the party who institutes such suit must bring his case within the authority of some act of Congress, or the court cannot exercise jurisdiction over it.” He thereupon ruled that the act of May 26, 1830, for the final settlement of land claims in Florida condoned the suit. The doctrine of the exemption of the United States from suit was repeated in various subsequent cases, without discussion or examina-

⁸⁵³ *United States v. Minnesota*, 270 U.S. 181 (1926). For an earlier suit against a State by the United States, see *United States v. Michigan*, 190 U.S. 379 (1903).

⁸⁵⁴ 295 U.S. 463 (1935).

⁸⁵⁵ *United States v. Utah*, 283 U.S. 64 (1931).

⁸⁵⁶ *United States v. California*, 332 U.S. 19 (1947).

⁸⁵⁷ *United States v. Louisiana*, 339 U.S. 699 (1950); *United States v. Texas*, 339 U.S. 707 (1950). See also *United States v. Maine*, 420 U.S. 515 (1975).

⁸⁵⁸ 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 419, 478 (1793).

⁸⁵⁹ 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264, 412 (1821).

⁸⁶⁰ 8 Pet. (33 U.S.) 436, 444 (1834).

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tion.⁸⁶¹ Indeed, it was not until *United States v. Lee*⁸⁶² that the Court examined the rule and the reasons for it, and limited its application accordingly.

Since suits against the United States can be maintained only by permission, it follows that they can be brought only in the manner prescribed by Congress and subject to the restrictions imposed.⁸⁶³ Only Congress can take the necessary steps to waive the immunity of the United States from liability for claims, and hence officers of the United States are powerless by their actions either to waive such immunity or to confer jurisdiction on a federal court.⁸⁶⁴ Even when authorized, suits can be brought only in designated courts.⁸⁶⁵ These rules apply equally to suits by States

⁸⁶¹ *United States v. McLemore*, 4 How. (45 U.S.) 286 (1846); *Hill v. United States*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 386, 389 (1850); *De Groot v. United States*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 419, 431 (1867); *United States v. Eckford*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 484, 488 (1868); *The Siren*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 152, 154 (1869); *Nichols v. United States*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 122, 126 (1869); *The Davis*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 15, 20 (1870); *Carr v. United States*, 98 U.S. 433, 437–439 (1879). “It is also clear that the Federal Government, in the absence of its consent, is not liable in tort for the negligence of its agents or employee. *Gibbons v. United States*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 269, 275 (1869); *Peabody v. United States*, 231 U.S. 530, 539 (1913); *Koekuk & Hamilton Bridge Co. v. United States*, 260 U.S. 125, 127 (1922). The reason for such immunity as stated by Mr. Justice Holmes in *Kawananakoa v. Polyblank*, 205 U.S. 349, 353 (1907), is because ‘there can be no legal right as against the authority that makes the law on which the right depends.’ See also the *Western Maid*, 257 U.S. 419, 433 (1922). As the *Housing Act* does not purport to authorize suits against the United States as such, the question is whether the Authority—which is clearly an agency of the United States—partakes of this sovereign immunity. The answer must be sought in the intention of the Congress. *Sloan Shipyards v. United States Fleet Corp.*, 258 U.S. 549, 570 (1922). *Federal Land Bank v. Priddy*, 295 U.S. 229, 231 (1935). This involves a consideration of the extent to which other Government-owned corporations have been held liable for their wrongful acts.” 39 Ops. Atty. Gen. 559, 562 (1938).

⁸⁶² 106 U.S. 196 (1882).

⁸⁶³ *Loneragan v. United States*, 303 U.S. 33 (1938). Waivers of immunity must be express. *Library of Congress v. Shaw*, 461 U.S. 273 (1983) (Civil Rights Act provision that “the United States shall be liable for costs the same as a private person” insufficient to waive immunity from awards of interest). The result in *Shaw* was overturned by a specific waiver. Civil Rights Act of 1991, P.L. 102–166, 106 Stat. 1079, § 113, amending 42 U.S.C. § 2000e–16. Immunity was waived, with limitations, for contracts and takings claims in the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1346(a)(2). Immunity of the United States for the negligence of its employees was waived, again with limitations, in the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1346(b). For recent waivers of sovereign immunity, see P.L. 94–574, § 1, 90 Stat. 2721 (1976), amending 5 U.S.C. § 702 (waiver for nonstatutory review in all cases save for suits for money damages); P.L. 87–748, § 1(a), 76 Stat. 744 (1962), 28 U.S.C. § 1361 (giving district courts jurisdiction of mandamus actions to compel an officer or employee of the United States to perform a duty owed to plaintiff); Westfall Act, 102 Stat. 4563, 28 U.S.C. § 2679(d) (torts of federal employees acting officially).

⁸⁶⁴ *United States v. New York Rayon Co.*, 329 U.S. 654 (1947).

⁸⁶⁵ *United States v. Shaw*, 309 U.S. 495 (1940). Any consent to be sued will not be held to embrace action in the federal courts unless the language giving consent is clear. *Great Northern Life Ins. Co. v. Read*, 322 U.S. 47 (1944).

The earlier narrow interpretation of the exceptions to the waiver of immunity set forth in the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1346(b), gradually has given

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against the United States.⁸⁶⁶ Although an officer acting as a public instrumentality is liable for his own torts, Congress may grant or withhold immunity from suit on behalf of government corporations.⁸⁶⁷

Suits Against United States Officials.—*United States v. Lee*, a five-to-four decision, qualified earlier holdings to the effect that where a judgment affected the property of the United States the suit was in effect against the United States, by ruling that title to the Arlington estate of the Lee family, then being used as a national cemetery, was not legally vested in the United States but was being held illegally by army officers under an unlawful order of the President. In its examination of the sources and application of the rule of sovereign immunity, the Court concluded that the rule “if not absolutely limited to cases in which the United States are made defendants by name, is not permitted to interfere with the judicial enforcement of the rights of plaintiff when the United States is not a defendant or a necessary party to the suit.”⁸⁶⁸ Except, nevertheless, for an occasional case like *Kansas v. United States*,⁸⁶⁹ which held that a State cannot sue the United States, most of the cases involving sovereign immunity from suit since 1883 have been cases against officers, agencies, or corporations of the United States where the United States has not been named as a party defendant. Thus, it has been held that a suit against the Secretary of the Treasury to review his decision on the rate of duty to be exacted on imported sugar would disturb the whole revenue system of the Government and would in effect be a suit against the United States.⁸⁷⁰ Even more significant is *Stanley v. Schwalby*,⁸⁷¹ which resembled without paralleling *United States v. Lee*, where it was held that an action of trespass against an army officer to try title in a parcel of land occupied by the United States as a military reservation was a suit against the United States because a judg-

way to a liberal construction. Compare *Dalehite v. United States*, 346 U.S. 15 (1953), with *Indian Towing Co. v. United States*, 350 U.S. 61 (1955).

⁸⁶⁶ *Minnesota v. United States*, 305 U.S. 382 (1939). The United States was held here to be an indispensable party defendant in a condemnation proceeding brought by a State to acquire a right of way over lands owned by the United States and held in trust for Indian allottees. See also *Block v. North Dakota*, 461 U.S. 273 (1983).

⁸⁶⁷ *Brady v. Roosevelt S.S. Co.*, 317 U.S. 575 (1943).

⁸⁶⁸ *United States v. Lee*, 106 U.S. 196, 207–208 (1882). The Tucker Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1346(a)(2), now displaces the specific rule of the case, inasmuch as it provides jurisdiction against the United States for takings claims.

⁸⁶⁹ 204 U.S. 331 (1907).

⁸⁷⁰ *Louisiana v. McAdoo*, 234 U.S. 627, 628 (1914).

⁸⁷¹ 162 U.S. 255 (1896). Justice Gray endeavored to distinguish between this case and *Lee*. *Id.*, 271. It was Justice Gray who spoke for the dissenters in *Lee*.

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ment in favor of the plaintiffs would have been a judgment against the United States.

Subsequent cases repeat and reaffirm the rule of *United States v. Lee* that where the right to possession or enjoyment of property under general law is in issue, the fact that defendants claim the property as officers or agents of the United States does not make the action one against the United States until it is determined that they were acting within the scope of their lawful authority.⁸⁷² Contrariwise, the rule that a suit in which the judgment would affect the United States or its property is a suit against the United States has also been repeatedly approved and reaffirmed.⁸⁷³ But, as the Court has pointed out, it is not “an easy matter to reconcile all of the decisions of the court in this class of cases,”⁸⁷⁴ and, as Justice Frankfurter quite justifiably stated in a dissent, “the subject is not free from casuistry.”⁸⁷⁵ Justice Douglas’ characterization of *Land v. Dollar*, “this is the type of case where the question of jurisdiction is dependent on decision of the merits,”⁸⁷⁶ is frequently applicable.

The case of *Larson v. Domestic & Foreign Corp.*,⁸⁷⁷ illuminates these obscurities somewhat. A private company sought to enjoin the Administrator of the War Assets in his official capacity from selling surplus coal to others than the plaintiff who had originally bought the coal, only to have the sale cancelled by the Administrator because of the company’s failure to make an advance payment. Chief Justice Vinson and a majority of the Court looked upon the suit as one brought against the Administrator in his official capacity, acting under a valid statute and therefore a suit against the United States. It held that although an officer in such a situation is not immune from suits for his own torts, yet his official action, though tortious, cannot be enjoined or diverted, since it is also the action of the sovereign.⁸⁷⁸ The Court then proceeded to repeat the rule that “the action of an officer of the sovereign (be it holding, taking, or otherwise legally affecting the plaintiff’s property) can be

⁸⁷² *Land v. Dollar*, 330 U.S. 731, 737 (1947).

⁸⁷³ *Oregon v. Hitchcock*, 202 U.S. 60 (1906); *Louisiana v. Garfield*, 211 U.S. 70 (1908); *New Mexico v. Lane*, 243 U.S. 52 (1917); *Wells v. Roper*, 246 U.S. 335 (1918); *Morrison v. Work*, 266 U.S. 481 (1925); *Minnesota v. United States*, 305 U.S. 382 (1939); *Mine Safety Co. v. Forrestal*, 326 U.S. 371 (1945). See also *Minnesota v. Hitchcock*, 185 U.S. 373 (1902).

⁸⁷⁴ *Cunningham v. Macon & Brunswick R.R. Co.*, 109 U.S. 446, 451 (1883), quoted by Chief Justice Vinson in the opinion of the Court in *Larson v. Domestic & Foreign Corp.*, 337 U.S. 682, 698 (1949).

⁸⁷⁵ *Id.*, 708. Justice Frankfurter’s dissent also contains a useful classification of immunity cases and an appendix listing them.

⁸⁷⁶ 330 U.S. 731, 735 (1947) (emphasis added).

⁸⁷⁷ 337 U.S. 682 (1949).

⁸⁷⁸ *Id.*, 689–697.

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regarded as so individual only if it is not within the officer's statutory powers, or, if within those powers, only if the powers or their exercise in the particular case, are constitutionally void."⁸⁷⁹ The Court rejected the contention that the doctrine of sovereign immunity should be relaxed as inapplicable to suits for specific relief as distinguished from damage suits, saying: "The Government, as representative of the community as a whole, cannot be stopped in its tracks by any plaintiff who presents a disputed question of property or contract right."⁸⁸⁰

Suits against officers involving the doctrine of sovereign immunity have been classified by Justice Frankfurter in a dissenting opinion into four general groups. First, there are those cases in which the plaintiff seeks an interest in property which belongs to the Government or calls "for an assertion of what is unquestionably official authority."⁸⁸¹ Such suits, of course, cannot be maintained.⁸⁸² Second, cases in which action adverse to the interests of

⁸⁷⁹Id., 701–702. This rule was applied in *Goldberg v. Daniels*, 231 U.S. 218 (1913), which also involved a sale of government surplus property. After the Secretary of the Navy rejected the highest bid, plaintiff sought mandamus to compel delivery. This suit was held to be against the United States. See also *Perkins v. Lukens Steel Co.*, 310 U.S. 113 (1940), which held that prospective bidders for contracts derive no enforceable rights against a federal official for an alleged misinterpretation of his government's authority on the ground that an agent is answerable only to his principal for misconstruction of instructions, given for the sole benefit of the principal. In the *Larson* case, the Court not only refused to follow *Goltra v. Weeks*, 271 U.S. 536 (1926), but in effect overruled it. The *Goltra* case involved an attempt of the Government to repossess barges which it had leased under a contract reserving the right to repossess in certain circumstances. A suit to enjoin repossession was held not to be a suit against the United States on the ground that the actions were personal and in the nature of a trespass.

Also decided in harmony with the *Larson* decision are the following, wherein the suit was barred as being against the United States: (1) *Malone v. Bowdoin*, 369 U.S. 643 (1962), a suit to eject a Forest Service Officer from land occupied by him in his official capacity under a claim of title from the United States; and (2) *Hawaii v. Gordon*, 373 U.S. 57 (1963), an original action by Hawaii against the Director of the Budget for an order directing him to determine whether a parcel of federal land could be conveyed to that State. In *Dugan v. Rank*, 372 U.S. 609 (1963), the Court ruled that inasmuch as the storing and diverting of water at the Friant Dam resulted, not in a trespass, but in a partial, although a casual day-by-day, taking of water rights of claimants along the San Joaquin River below the dam, a suit to enjoin such diversion by Federal Bureau of Reclamation officers was an action against the United States, for grant of the remedy sought would force abandonment of a portion of a project authorized and financed by Congress, and would prevent fulfillment of contracts between the United States and local Water Utility Districts. Damages were recoverable in a suit under the Tucker Act. 28 U.S.C. § 1346.

⁸⁸⁰Id., 337 U.S., 703–704. Justice Frankfurter, dissenting, would have applied the rule of the *Lee* case. See P.L. 94–574, 1, 90 Stat. 2721 (1976), amending 5 U.S.C. § 702 (action seeking relief, except for money damages, against officer, employee, or agency not to be dismissed as action against United States).

⁸⁸¹*Larson v. Domestic & Foreign Corp.*, 337 U.S. 682, 709–710 (1949).

⁸⁸²*Oregon v. Hitchcock*, 202 U.S. 60 (1906); *Louisiana v. McAdoo*, 234 U.S. 627 (1914); *Wells v. Roper*, 246 U.S. 335 (1918). See also *Belknap v. Schild*, 161 U.S. 10 (1896); *International Postal Supply Co. v. Bruce*, 194 U.S. 601 (1904).

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a plaintiff is taken under an unconstitutional statute or one alleged to be so. In general these suits are maintainable.⁸⁸³ Third, cases involving injury to a plaintiff because the official has exceeded his statutory authority. In general these suits are maintainable.⁸⁸⁴ Fourth, cases in which an officer seeks immunity behind statutory authority or some other sovereign command for the commission of a common law tort.⁸⁸⁵ This category of cases presents the greatest difficulties since these suits can as readily be classified as falling into the first group if the action directly or indirectly is one for specific performance or if the judgment would affect the United States.

Suits Against Government Corporations.—The multiplication of government corporations during periods of war and depression has provided one motivation for limiting the doctrine of sovereign immunity. In *Keifer & Keifer v. RFC*,⁸⁸⁶ the Court held that the Government does not become a conduit of its immunity in suits against its agents or instrumentalities merely because they do its work. Nor does the creation of a government corporation confer upon it legal immunity. Whether Congress endows a public corporation with governmental immunity in a specific instance is a matter of ascertaining the congressional will. Moreover, it has been held that waivers of governmental immunity in the case of federal instrumentalities and corporations should be construed liberally.⁸⁸⁷ On the other hand, Indian nations are exempt from suit without further congressional authorization; it is as though their former immunity as sovereigns passed to the United States for their benefit, as did their tribal properties.⁸⁸⁸

⁸⁸³ *Rickert Rice Mills v. Fontenot*, 297 U.S. 110 (1936); *Tennessee Power Co. v. TVA*, 306 U.S. 118 (1939) (holding that one threatened with direct and special injury by the act of an agent of the Government under a statute may challenge the constitutionality of the statute in a suit against the agent).

⁸⁸⁴ *Philadelphia Co. v. Stimson*, 223 U.S. 605 (1912); *Waite v. Macy*, 246 U.S. 606 (1918).

⁸⁸⁵ *United States v. Lee*, 106 U.S. 196 (1882); *Goltra v. Weeks*, 271 U.S. 536 (1926); *Ickes v. Fox*, 300 U.S. 82 (1937); *Land v. Dollar*, 330 U.S. 731 (1947). See also *Barr v. Matteo*, 360 U.S. 564 (1959); *Howard v. Lyons*, 360 U.S. 593 (1959). An emerging variant is the constitutional tort case, which springs from *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971), and which involves different standards of immunity for officers. *Butz v. Economou*, 438 U.S. 478 (1978); *Carlson v. Green*, 446 U.S. 14 (1980); *Harlow v. Fitzgerald*, 457 U.S. 800 (1982).

⁸⁸⁶ 306 U.S. 381 (1939).

⁸⁸⁷ *FHA v. Burr*, 309 U.S. 242 (1940). Nonetheless, the Court held that a congressional waiver of immunity in the case of a governmental corporation did not mean that funds or property of the United States can be levied on to pay a judgment obtained against such a corporation as the result of waiver of immunity.

⁸⁸⁸ *United States v. United States Fidelity Co.*, 309 U.S. 506 (1940).

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Suits Between Two or More States

The extension of federal judicial power to controversies between States and the vesting of original jurisdiction in the Supreme Court of suits to which a State is a party had its origin in experience. Prior to independence, disputes between colonies claiming charter rights to territory were settled by the Privy Council. Under the Articles of Confederation, Congress was made “the last resort on appeal” to resolve “all disputes and differences . . . between two or more States concerning boundary, jurisdiction, or any other cause whatever,” and to constitute what in effect were *ad hoc* arbitral courts for determining such disputes and rendering a final judgment therein. When the Philadelphia Convention met in 1787, serious disputes over boundaries, lands, and river rights involved ten States.⁸⁸⁹ It is hardly surprising, therefore, that during its first sixty years the only state disputes coming to the Supreme Court were boundary disputes⁸⁹⁰ or that such disputes constitute the largest single number of suits between States. Since 1900, however, as the result of the increasing mobility of population and wealth and the effects of technology and industrialization, other types of cases have occurred with increasing frequency.

Boundary Disputes: The Law Applied.—Of the earlier examples of suits between States, that between New Jersey and New York⁸⁹¹ is significant for the application of the rule laid down earlier in *Chisholm v. Georgia* that the Supreme Court may proceed *ex parte* if a State refuses to appear when duly summoned. The long drawn out litigation between Rhode Island and Massachusetts is of even greater significance for its rulings, after the case had been pending for seven years, that though the Constitution does not extend the judicial power to all controversies between States, yet it does not exclude any,⁸⁹² that a boundary dispute is a justiciable and not a political question,⁸⁹³ and that a prescribed rule of decision is unnecessary in such cases. On the last point, Justice Baldwin stated: “The submission by the sovereigns, or states, to a court of law or equity, of a controversy between them, without prescribing any rule of decision, gives power to decide according to the

⁸⁸⁹ Warren, *The Supreme Court and Disputes Between States*, 34 Bull. of William and Mary, No. 4 (1940), 7–11. For a more comprehensive treatment of background as well as the general subject, see C. WARREN, *THE SUPREME COURT AND THE SOVEREIGN STATES* (Boston: 1924).

⁸⁹⁰ *Id.*, 13. However, only three such suits were brought in this period, 1789–1849. During the next 90 years, 1849–1939, at least twenty-nine such suits were brought. *Id.*, 13, 14.

⁸⁹¹ *New Jersey v. New York*, 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 284 (1931).

⁸⁹² *Rhode Island v. Massachusetts*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 657, 721 (1838).

⁸⁹³ *Id.*, 736–737.

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appropriate law of the case (11 Ves. 294); which depends on the subject-matter, the source and nature of the claims of the parties, and the law which governs them. From the time of such submission, the question ceases to be a political one, to be decided by the *sic volo, sic jubeo*, of political power; it comes to the court, to be decided by its judgment, legal discretion and solemn consideration of the rules of law appropriate to its nature as a judicial question depending on the exercise of judicial power; as it is bound to act by known and settled principles of national or municipal jurisprudence, as the case requires.”⁸⁹⁴

Modern Types of Suits Between States.—Beginning with *Missouri v. Illinois & Chicago District*,⁸⁹⁵ which sustained jurisdiction to entertain an injunction suit to restrain the discharge of sewage into the Mississippi River, water rights, the use of water resources, and the like, have become an increasing source of suits between States. Such suits have been especially frequent in the western States, where water is even more of a treasure than elsewhere, but they have not been confined to any one region. In *Kansas v. Colorado*,⁸⁹⁶ the Court established the principle of the equitable division of river or water resources between conflicting state interests. In *New Jersey v. New York*,⁸⁹⁷ where New Jersey sought to enjoin the diversion of waters into the Hudson River watershed for New York in such a way as to diminish the flow of the Delaware River in New Jersey, injure its shad fisheries, and increase harmfully the saline contents of the Delaware, Justice Holmes stated for the Court: “A river is more than an amenity, it is a treasure. It offers a necessity of life that must be rationed among those who have power over it. New York has the physical power to cut off all the water within its jurisdiction. But clearly the exercise of such a power to the destruction of the interest of lower States could not be tolerated. And, on the other hand, equally little could New Jersey be permitted to require New York to give up its power altogether in order that the river might come down to it undiminished.

⁸⁹⁴ *Id.*, 737. Chief Justice Taney dissented because of his belief that the issue was not one of property in the soil, but of sovereignty and jurisdiction, and hence political. *Id.*, 752–753. For different reasons, it should be noted, a suit between private parties respecting soil or jurisdiction of two States, to which neither State is a party does not come within the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. *Fowler v. Lindsey*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 411 (1799). For recent boundary cases, see *United States v. Maine (Rhode Island and New York Boundary Case)*, 469 U.S. 504 (1985); *United States v. Louisiana (Alabama and Mississippi Boundary Case)*, 470 U.S. 93 (1985); *United States v. Maine*, 475 U.S. 89 (1986); *Georgia v. South Carolina*, 497 U.S. 336 (1990); *Mississippi v. Louisiana*, 113 S.Ct. 549 (1992).

⁸⁹⁵ 180 U.S. 208 (1901).

⁸⁹⁶ 206 U.S. 46 (1907). See also *Idaho ex rel. Evans v. Oregon and Washington*, 444 U.S. 380 (1980).

⁸⁹⁷ 283 U.S. 336 (1931).

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Both States have real and substantial interests in the river that must be reconciled as best they may be.”⁸⁹⁸

Other types of interstate disputes of which the Court has taken jurisdiction include suits by a State as the donee of the bonds of another to collect thereon,⁸⁹⁹ by Virginia against West Virginia to determine the proportion of the public debt of the original State of Virginia which the latter owed the former,⁹⁰⁰ by Arkansas to enjoin Texas from interfering with the performance of a contract by a Texas foundation to contribute to the construction of a new hospital in the medical center of the University of Arkansas,⁹⁰¹ of one State against another to enforce a contract between the two,⁹⁰² of a suit in equity between States for the determination of a decedent’s domicile for inheritance tax purposes,⁹⁰³ and of a suit by two States to restrain a third from enforcing a natural gas measure which purported to restrict the interstate flow of natural gas from the State in the event of a shortage.⁹⁰⁴

In *Texas v. New Jersey*,⁹⁰⁵ the Court adjudicated a multistate dispute about which State should be allowed to escheat intangible property consisting of uncollected small debts held by a corporation. Emphasizing that the States could not constitutionally provide a rule of settlement and that no federal statute governed the

⁸⁹⁸ *Id.*, 342. See also *Nebraska v. Wyoming*, 325 U.S. 589 (1945); *Idaho ex rel. Evans v. Oregon*, 462 U.S. 1017 (1983). In *Ohio v. Wyandotte Chemicals Corp.*, 401 U.S. 493 (1971), the Court held it had jurisdiction of a suit by a State against citizens of other States to abate a nuisance allegedly caused by the dumping of mercury into streams that ultimately run into Lake Erie, but it declined to permit the filing because the presence of complex scientific issues made the case more appropriate for first resolution in a district court. See also *Texas v. New Mexico*, 462 U.S. 554 (1983); *Nevada v. United States*, 463 U.S. 110 (1983).

⁸⁹⁹ *South Dakota v. North Carolina*, 192 U.S. 286 (1904).

⁹⁰⁰ *Virginia v. West Virginia*, 220 U.S. 1 (1911).

⁹⁰¹ *Arkansas v. Texas*, 346 U.S. 368 (1953).

⁹⁰² *Kentucky v. Indiana*, 281 U.S. 163 (1930).

⁹⁰³ *Texas v. Florida*, 306 U.S. 398 (1939). In *California v. Texas*, 437 U.S. 601 (1978), the Court denied a State leave to file an original action against another State to determine the contested domicile of a decedent for death tax purposes, with several Justices of the view that *Texas v. Florida* had either been wrongly decided or was questionable. But after determining that an interpleader action by the administrator of the estate for a determination of domicile was barred by the Eleventh Amendment, *Cory v. White*, 457 U.S. 85 (1982), the Court over dissent permitted filing of the original action. *California v. Texas*, 457 U.S. 164 (1982).

⁹⁰⁴ *Pennsylvania v. West Virginia*, 262 U.S. 553 (1923). The Court, in *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725 (1981), over strong dissent, relied on this case in permitting suit contesting a tax imposed on natural gas, the incidence of which fell on the suing State’s consuming citizens. And in *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 112 S.Ct. 789 (1992), the Court permitted a State to sue another to contest a law requiring that all in-state utilities burn a mixture containing at least 10% in-state coal, the plaintiff State having previously supplied 100% of the coal to those utilities and thus suffering a loss of coal-severance tax revenues.

⁹⁰⁵ 379 U.S. 674 (1965). See also *Pennsylvania v. New York*, 406 U.S. 206 (1972).

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matter, the Court evaluated the possible rules and chose the one easiest to apply and least likely to lead to continuing disputes.

In general, in taking jurisdiction of these suits, along with those involving boundaries and the diversion or pollution of water resources, the Supreme Court proceeded upon the liberal construction of the term “controversies between two or more States” enunciated in *Rhode Island v. Massachusetts*,⁹⁰⁶ and fortified by Chief Justice Marshall’s dictum in *Cohens v. Virginia*,⁹⁰⁷ concerning jurisdiction because of the parties to a case, that “it is entirely unimportant, what may be the subject of controversy. Be it what it may, these parties have a constitutional right to come into the Courts of the Union.”⁹⁰⁸

Cases of Which the Court Has Declined Jurisdiction.—In other cases, however, the Court, centering its attention upon the elements of a case or controversy, has declined jurisdiction. Thus, in *Alabama v. Arizona*,⁹⁰⁹ where Alabama sought to enjoin nineteen States from regulating or prohibiting the sale of convict-made goods, the Court went far beyond holding that it had no jurisdiction, and indicated that jurisdiction of suits between States will be exercised only when absolutely necessary, that the equity requirements in a suit between States are more exacting than in a suit between private persons, that the threatened injury to a plaintiff State must be of great magnitude and imminent, and that the burden on the plaintiff State to establish all the elements of a case is greater than that generally required by a petitioner seeking an injunction suit in cases between private parties.

Pursuing a similar line of reasoning, the Court declined to take jurisdiction of a suit brought by Massachusetts against Missouri and certain of its citizens to prevent Missouri from levying inheritance taxes upon intangibles held in trust in Missouri by resident trustees. In holding that the complaint presented no justiciable controversy, the Court declared that to constitute such a controversy, the complainant State must show that it “has suffered a wrong through the action of the other State, furnishing ground for judicial redress, or is asserting a right against the other State

⁹⁰⁶ 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 657 (1838).

⁹⁰⁷ 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264 (1821).

⁹⁰⁸ *Id.*, 378. See *Western Union Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 368 U.S. 71, 79–80 (1961); *Texas v. New Jersey*, 379 U.S. 674, 677 (1965); *Pennsylvania v. New York*, 407 U.S. 206 (1972).

⁹⁰⁹ 291 U.S. 286 (1934). The Court in recent years, with a significant caseload problem, has been loath to permit filings of original actions where the parties might be able to resolve their disputes in other courts, even in cases in which the jurisdiction over the particular dispute is exclusively original. *Arizona v. New Mexico*, 425 U.S. 794 (1976) (dispute subject of state court case brought by private parties); *California v. West Virginia*, 454 U.S. 1027 (1981).

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which is susceptible of judicial enforcement according to . . . the common law or equity systems of jurisprudence.”⁹¹⁰ The fact that the trust property was sufficient to satisfy the claims of both States and that recovery by either would not impair any rights of the other distinguished the case from *Texas v. Florida*,⁹¹¹ where the contrary situation obtained. Furthermore, the Missouri statute providing for reciprocal privileges in levying inheritance taxes did not confer upon Massachusetts any contractual right. The Court then proceeded to reiterate its earlier rule that a State may not invoke the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for the benefit of its residents or to enforce the individual rights of its citizens.⁹¹² Moreover, Massachusetts could not invoke the original jurisdiction of the Court by the expedient of making citizens of Missouri parties to a suit not otherwise maintainable.⁹¹³ Accordingly, Massachusetts was held not to be without an adequate remedy in Missouri’s courts or in a federal district court in Missouri.

The Problem of Enforcement: Virginia v. West Virginia.—

A very important issue that presents itself in interstate litigation is the enforcement of the Court’s decree, once it has been entered. In some types of suits, this issue may not arise, and if it does, it may be easily met. Thus, a judgment putting a State in possession of disputed territory is ordinarily self-executing. But if the losing State should oppose execution, refractory state officials, as individuals, would be liable to civil suits or criminal prosecutions in the federal courts. Likewise an injunction may be enforced against state officials as individuals by civil or criminal proceedings. Those judgments, on the other hand, which require a State in its governmental capacity to perform some positive act present the issue of enforcement in more serious form. The issue arose directly in the long and much litigated case between Virginia and West Virginia over the proportion of the state debt of original Virginia owed by West Virginia after its separate admission to the Union under a compact which provided that West Virginia assume a share of the debt.

⁹¹⁰ *Massachusetts v. Missouri*, 308 U.S. 1, 15–16, (1939), citing *Florida v. Mellon*, 273 U.S. 12 (1927).

⁹¹¹ 306 U.S. 398 (1939).

⁹¹² *Id.*, 308 U.S., 17, citing *Oklahoma v. Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry.*, 220 U.S. 277 286, (1911), and *Oklahoma ex rel Johnson v. Cook*, 304 U.S. 387, 394 (1938). See also *New Hampshire v. Louisiana* and *New York v. Louisiana*, 108 U.S. 76 (1883), which held that a State cannot bring a suit on behalf of its citizens to collect on bonds issued by another State, and *Louisiana v. Texas*, 176 U.S. 1 (1900), which held that a State cannot sue another to prevent maladministration of quarantine laws.

⁹¹³ *Id.*, 308 U.S., 17, 19.

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The suit was begun in 1906, and a judgment was rendered against West Virginia in 1915. Finally, in 1917, Virginia filed a suit against West Virginia to show cause why, in default of payment of the judgment, an order should not be entered directing the West Virginia legislature to levy a tax for payment of the judgment.⁹¹⁴ Starting with the rule that the judicial power essentially involves the right to enforce the results of its exertion,⁹¹⁵ the Court proceeded to hold that it applied with the same force to States as to other litigants⁹¹⁶ and to consider appropriate remedies for the enforcement of its authority. In this connection, Chief Justice White declared: "As the powers to render the judgment and to enforce it arise from the grant in the Constitution on that subject, looked at from a generic point of view, both are federal powers and, comprehensively considered, are sustained by every authority of the federal government, judicial, legislative, or executive, which may be appropriately exercised."⁹¹⁷ The Court, however, left open the question of its power to enforce the judgment under existing legislation and scheduled the case for reargument at the next term, but in the meantime West Virginia accepted the Court's judgment and entered into an agreement with Virginia to pay it.⁹¹⁸

Controversies Between a State and Citizens of Another State

The decision in *Chisholm v. Georgia*⁹¹⁹ that this category of cases included equally those where a State was a party defendant provoked the proposal and ratification of the Eleventh Amendment, and since then controversies between a State and citizens of another State have included only those cases where the State has been a party plaintiff or has consented to be sued.⁹²⁰ As a party plaintiff, a State may bring actions against citizens of other States to protect its legal rights or in some instances as *parens patriae* to protect the health and welfare of its citizens. In general, the Court has tended to construe strictly this grant of judicial power, which simultaneously comes within its original jurisdiction, by perhaps an even more rigorous application of the concepts of cases and con-

⁹¹⁴The various litigations of Virginia v. West Virginia are to be found in 206 U.S. 290 (1907); 209 U.S. 514 (1908); 220 U.S. 1 (1911); 222 U.S. 17 (1911); 231 U.S. 89 (1913); 234 U.S. 117 (1914); 238 U.S. 202 (1915); 241 U.S.C. §531 (1916); 246 U.S. 565 (1918).

⁹¹⁵*Id.*, 246 U.S., 591.

⁹¹⁶*Id.*, 600.

⁹¹⁷*Id.*, 601.

⁹¹⁸C. WARREN, *THE SUPREME COURT AND SOVEREIGN STATES* (Boston: 1924), 78-79.

⁹¹⁹2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 419 (1793).

⁹²⁰See the discussion under the Eleventh Amendment.

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trousers than that in cases between private parties.⁹²¹ This it does by holding rigorously to the rule that all the party defendants be citizens of other States⁹²² and by adhering to congressional distribution of its original jurisdiction concurrently with that of other federal courts.⁹²³

Jurisdiction Confined to Civil Cases.—In *Cohens v. Virginia*,⁹²⁴ there is a dictum to the effect that the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court does not include suits between a State and its own citizens. Long afterwards, the Supreme Court dismissed an action for want of jurisdiction because the record did not show the corporation against which the suit was brought was chartered in another State.⁹²⁵ Subsequently, the Court has ruled that it will not entertain an action by a State to which its citizens are either parties of record or would have to be joined because of the effect of a judgment upon them.⁹²⁶ In his dictum in *Cohens v. Virginia*, Chief Justice Marshall also indicated that perhaps no jurisdiction existed over suits by States to enforce their penal laws.⁹²⁷ Sixty-seven years later, the Court wrote this dictum into law in *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*⁹²⁸ Wisconsin sued a Louisiana corporation to recover a judgment rendered in its favor by one of its own courts. Relying partly on the rule of international law that the courts of no country execute the penal laws of another, partly upon the 13th section of the Judiciary Act of 1789 which vested the Supreme Court with exclusive jurisdiction of controversies of a civil nature where a State is a party, and partly on Justice Iredell's dissent in *Chisholm v. Georgia*,⁹²⁹ where he confined the term "controversies" to civil suits, Justice Gray ruled for the Court that for purposes of original jurisdiction, "controversies between a State and citizens of another State" are confined to civil suits.⁹³⁰

The State's Real Interest.—Ordinarily, a State may not sue in its name unless it is the real party in interest with real inter-

⁹²¹ *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U.S. 447 (1923); *Florida v. Mellon*, 273 U.S. 12 (1927); *New Jersey v. Sargent*, 269 U.S. 328 (1926).

⁹²² *Pennsylvania v. Quicksilver Company*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 553 (1871); *California v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 157 U.S. 229 (1895); *Minnesota v. Northern Securities Co.*, 184 U.S. 199 (1902).

⁹²³ *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*, 127 U.S. 265 (1888).

⁹²⁴ 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264, 398–399 (1821).

⁹²⁵ *Pennsylvania v. Quicksilver Mining Co.*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 553 (1871).

⁹²⁶ *California v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 157 U.S. 229 (1895); *Minnesota v. Northern Securities Co.*, 184 U.S. 199 (1902).

⁹²⁷ *Id.*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.), 398–399.

⁹²⁸ 127 U.S. 265 (1888).

⁹²⁹ 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 419, 431–432 (1793).

⁹³⁰ *Id.*, 127 U.S., 289–300.

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ests. It can sue to protect its own property interests,⁹³¹ and if it sues for its own interest as owner of another State's bonds, rather than as an assignee for collection, jurisdiction exists.⁹³² Where a State in order to avoid the limitation of the Eleventh Amendment by statute provided for suit in the name of the State to collect on the bonds of another State held by one of its citizens, it was refused the right to sue.⁹³³ Nor can a State sue on behalf of its own citizens the citizens of other States to collect claims.⁹³⁴

The State as Parens Patriae.—The distinction between suits brought by States to protect the welfare of its citizens as a whole and suits to protect the private interests of individual citizens is not easily drawn. Thus, in *Oklahoma v. Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry.*,⁹³⁵ the State was refused permission to sue to enjoin unreasonable rate charges by a railroad on the shipment of specified commodities, inasmuch as the State was not engaged in shipping these commodities and had no proprietary interest in them. But in *Georgia v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*,⁹³⁶ a closely divided Court accepted a suit by the State, suing as *parens patriae* and in its proprietary capacity, the latter being treated by the Court as something of a makeweight, seeking injunctive relief against twenty railroads on allegations that the rates were discriminatory against the State and its citizens and their economic interests and that the rates had been fixed through coercive action by the northern roads against the southern lines in violation of the Clayton Antitrust Act. For the Court, Justice Douglas observed that the interests of a State for purposes of invoking the original jurisdiction of the Court were not to be confined to those which are proprietary but to “embrace the so called ‘quasi-sovereign’ interests which . . . are ‘independent of and behind the titles of its citizens, in all the earth and air within its domain.’”⁹³⁷

Discriminatory freight rates, the Justice continued, may cause a blight no less serious than noxious gases in that they may arrest

⁹³¹ *Pennsylvania v. Wheeling & B. Bridge Co.*, 13 How. (54 U.S.) 518, 559 (1852); *Oklahoma ex rel. Johnson v. Cook*, 304 U.S. 387 (1938); *Georgia v. Evans*, 316 U.S. 159 (1942).

⁹³² *South Dakota v. North Carolina*, 192 U.S. 286 (1904).

⁹³³ *New Hampshire v. Louisiana*, 108 U.S. 76 (1883).

⁹³⁴ *Oklahoma ex rel. Johnson v. Cook*, 304 U.S. 387 (1938).

⁹³⁵ 220 U.S. 277 (1911).

⁹³⁶ 324 U.S. 439 (1945).

⁹³⁷ *Id.*, 447–448 (quoting from *Georgia v. Tennessee Copper Co.*, 206 U.S. 230, 237 (1907), in which the State was permitted to sue *parens patriae* to enjoin defendant from emitting noxious gases from its works in Tennessee which caused substantial damage in nearby areas of Georgia) In *Alfred L. Snapp & Son v. Puerto Rico ex rel. Barez*, 458 U.S. 592, 607–608 (1982), the Court attempted to enunciate the standards by which to recognize permissible *parens patriae* assertions. See also *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725, 737–739 (1981).

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the development of a State and put it at a competitive disadvantage. “Georgia as a representative of the public is complaining of a wrong which, if proven, limits the opportunities of her people, shackles her industries, retards her development, and relegates her to an inferior economic position among her sister States. These are matters of grave public concern in which Georgia has an interest apart from that of particular individuals who may be affected. Georgia’s interest is not remote; it is immediate. If we denied Georgia as *parens patriae* the right to invoke the original jurisdiction of the Court in a matter of that gravity, we would whittle the concept of justiciability down to the stature of minor or conventional controversies. There is no warrant for such a restriction.”⁹³⁸

The continuing vitality of this case is in some doubt, inasmuch as the Court has limited it in a similar case.⁹³⁹ But the ability of States to act as *parens patriae* for their citizens in environmental pollution cases seems established, although as a matter of the Supreme Court’s original jurisdiction such suits are not in favor.⁹⁴⁰

One clear limitation had seemed to be solidly established until recent litigation cast doubt on its foundation. It is no part of a State’s “duty or power,” said the Court in *Massachusetts v. Mellon*,⁹⁴¹ “to enforce [her citizens’] rights in respect to their relations with the Federal Government. In that field, it is the United States and not the State which represents them as *parens patriae* when such representation becomes appropriate; and to the former, and not to the latter, they must look for such protective measures as

⁹³⁸ *Georgia v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 324 U.S. 439, 468 (1945). Chief Justice Stone and Justices Roberts, Frankfurter, and Jackson dissented.

⁹³⁹ In *Hawaii v. Standard Oil Co.*, 405 U.S. 251 (1972), the Court, five-to-two, held that the State could not maintain an action for damages *parens patriae* under the Clayton Act and limited the previous case to instances in which injunctive relief is sought. Hawaii had brought its action in federal district court. The result in *Hawaii* was altered by P.L. 94-435, 90 Stat. 1383 (1976), 15 U.S.C. §15c *et seq.*, but the decision in *Illinois Brick Co. v. Illinois*, 431 U.S. 720 (1977), reduced in importance the significance of the law.

⁹⁴⁰ Most of the cases, but see *Georgia v. Tennessee Copper Co.*, 206 U.S. 230 (1907), concern suits by one State against another. *Missouri v. Illinois*, 180 U.S. 208 (1901); *New York v. New Jersey*, 256 U.S. 296 (1921); *North Dakota v. Minnesota*, 263 U.S. 365 (1923). While recognizing that original jurisdiction exists when a State sues a political subdivision of another State or a private party as *parens patriae* for its citizens and on its own proprietary interests to abate environmental pollution, the Court has held that because of the technical complexities of the issues and the inconvenience of adjudicating them on its original docket the cases should be brought in the federal district court under federal question jurisdiction founded on the federal common law. *Illinois v. City of Milwaukee*, 406 U.S. 91 (1972); *Washington v. General Motors Corp.*, 406 U.S. 109 (1972). The Court had earlier thought the cases must be brought in state court. *Ohio v. Wyandotte Chemicals Corp.*, 401 U.S. 493 (1971).

⁹⁴¹ 262 U.S. 447, 486 (1923).

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flow from that status.” But in *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*,⁹⁴² while holding that the State lacked standing under *Massachusetts v. Mellon* to attack the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act of 1965⁹⁴³ under the Fifth Amendment’s due-process clause and under the bill-of-attainder clause of Article I,⁹⁴⁴ the Court proceeded to decide on the merits the State’s claim that Congress had exceeded its powers under the Fifteenth Amendment.⁹⁴⁵ Was the Court here *sub silentio* permitting it to assert its interest in the execution of its own laws, rather than those enacted by Congress, or its interest in having Congress enact only constitutional laws for application to its citizens, an assertion which is contrary to a number of supposedly venerated cases.⁹⁴⁶ Either alternative possibility would be significant in a number of respects.⁹⁴⁷

Controversies Between Citizens of Different States

The records of the Federal Convention are silent with regard to the reasons the Framers included in the judiciary article jurisdiction in the federal courts of controversies between citizens of dif-

⁹⁴² 383 U.S. 301 (1966). The State sued the Attorney General of the United States as a citizen of New Jersey, thus creating the requisite jurisdiction, and avoiding the problem that the States may not sue the United States without its consent. *Minnesota v. Hitchcock*, 185 U.S. 373 (1902); *Oregon v. Hitchcock*, 202 U.S. 60 (1906); *Kansas v. United States*, 204 U.S. 331 (1907). The expedient is, of course, the same device as is used to avoid the Eleventh Amendment prohibition against suing a State by suing its officers. *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123 (1908).

⁹⁴³ 79 Stat. 437 (1965), 42 U.S.C. § 1973 *et seq.*

⁹⁴⁴ The Court first held that neither of these provisions were restraints on what the Federal Government might do with regard to a State. It then added: “Nor does a State have standing as the parent of its citizens to invoke these constitutional provisions against the Federal Government, the ultimate parents patriae of every American citizen.” *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 324 (1966).

⁹⁴⁵ The Court did not indicate on what basis South Carolina could raise the issue. At the beginning of its opinion, the Court did note the “[o]riginal jurisdiction is founded on the presence of a controversy between a State and a citizen of another State under Art. III, § 2, of the constitution. See *Georgia v. Pennsylvania R. Co.*, 324 U.S. 439.” *Id.*, 307 But surely this did not have reference to that case’s *parens patriae* holding.

⁹⁴⁶ See *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U.S. 447 (1923); *Florida v. Mellon*, 273 U.S. 12 (1927); *Jones ex rel. Louisiana v. Bowles*, 322 U.S. 707 (1944). See especially *Georgia v. Stanton*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 50 (1867); *Mississippi v. Johnson*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 475 (1867). In *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112 (1970), four original actions were consolidated and decided. Two were actions by the United States against States, but the other two were suits by States against the Attorney General, as a citizen of New York, seeking to have the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1970 voided as unconstitutional. *South Carolina v. Katzenbach* was uniformly relied on by all parties as decisive of the jurisdictional question, and in announcing the judgment of the Court Justice Black simply noted that no one raised jurisdictional or justiciability questions. *Id.*, 117 n. 1. And see *id.*, 152 n. 1 (Justice Harlan concurring in part and dissenting in part). See also *South Carolina v. Baker*, 485 U.S. 505 (1988); *South Carolina v. Regan*, 465 U.S. 367 (1984).

⁹⁴⁷ Bickel, *The Voting Rights Cases*, 1966 SUP. CT. REV. 79, 80–93.

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ferent States,⁹⁴⁸ but since the Judiciary Act of 1789 “diversity jurisdiction” has been bestowed statutorily on the federal courts.⁹⁴⁹ The traditional explanation remains that offered by Chief Justice Marshall. “However true the fact may be, that the tribunals of the states will administer justice as impartially as those of the nation, to parties of every description, it is not less true that the Constitution itself either entertains apprehensions on this subject, or views with such indulgence the possible fears and apprehensions of suitors, that it has established national tribunals for the decision of controversies between aliens and a citizen, or between citizens of different states.”⁹⁵⁰ Other explanations have been offered and controverted,⁹⁵¹ but diversity cases constitute a large bulk of cases on the dockets of the federal courts today, though serious proposals for restricting access to federal courts in such cases have been before Congress for some time.⁹⁵² The essential difficulty with this type of jurisdiction is that it requires federal judges to decide issues of local import on the basis of their reading of how state judges would decide them, an oftentimes laborious process, which detracts from the time and labor needed to resolve issues of federal import.

The Meaning of “State” and the District of Columbia Problem.—In *Hepburn v. Ellzey*,⁹⁵³ Chief Justice Marshall for the Court confined the meaning of the word “State” as used in the Constitution to “the members of the American confederacy” and ruled that a citizen of the District of Columbia could not sue a citizen of Virginia on the basis of diversity of citizenship. Marshall noted

⁹⁴⁸ Friendly, *The Historic Basis of Diversity Jurisdiction*, 41 Harv. L. Rev. 483 (1928).

⁹⁴⁹ 1 Stat. 78, §11. The statute also created alienage jurisdiction of suits between a citizen of a State and an alien. See Holt, *The Origins of Alienage Jurisdiction*, 14 Okla. City L. Rev. 547 (1989). Subject to a jurisdictional amount, now \$50,000, 28 U.S.C. §1332, the statute conferred diversity jurisdiction when the suit was between a citizen of the State in which the suit was brought and a citizen of another State. The Act of March 3, 1875, §1. 18 Stat. 470, first established the language in the present statute, 28 U.S.C. §1332(a)(1), merely requiring diverse citizenship, so that a citizen of Maryland could sue a citizen of Delaware in federal court in New Jersey. *Snyder v. Harris*, 394 U.S. 332 (1969), held that in a class action in diversity the individual claims could not be aggregated to meet the jurisdictional amount. *Zahn v. International Paper Co.*, 414 U.S. 291 (1974), extended *Snyder* in holding that even though the named plaintiffs had claims of more than \$10,000 they could not represent a class in which many of the members had claims for less than \$10,000.

⁹⁵⁰ *Bank of the United States v. Deveaux*, 5 Cr. (9 U.S.) 61, 87 (1809).

⁹⁵¹ Summarized and discussed in C. WRIGHT, *HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS* (St. Paul: 4th ed. 1983), 23; AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE, *STUDY OF THE DIVISION OF JURISDICTION BETWEEN STATE AND FEDERAL COURTS* (Philadelphia: 1969), 99–110, 458–464.

⁹⁵² The principal proposals are those of the American Law Institute. *Id.*, 123–134.

⁹⁵³ 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 445 (1805).

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that it was “extraordinary that the courts of the United States, which are open to aliens, and to the citizens of every state in the union, should be closed upon them. But this is a subject for legislative, not for judicial consideration.”⁹⁵⁴ The same rule was subsequently applied to citizens of the territories of the United States.⁹⁵⁵

Whether the Chief Justice had in mind a constitutional amendment or a statute when he spoke of legislative consideration remains unclear. Not until 1940, however, did Congress attempt to meet the problem by statutorily conferring on federal district courts jurisdiction of civil actions, not involving federal questions, “between citizens of different States, or citizens of the District of Columbia, the Territory of Hawaii, or Alaska and any State or Territory.”⁹⁵⁶ In *National Mutual Ins. Co. v. Tidewater Transfer Co.*,⁹⁵⁷ this act was upheld in a five-to-four decision but for widely divergent reasons by a coalition of Justices. Two Justices thought that Chief Justice Marshall’s 1804 decision should be overruled, but the other seven Justices disagreed; however, three of the seven thought the statute could be sustained under Congress’ power to enact legislation for the inhabitants of the District of Columbia, but the remaining four plus the other two rejected this theory. The statute was upheld because a total of five Justices voted to sustain it, although of the two theories relied on, seven Justices rejected one and six the other. The result, attributable to “conflicting minorities in combination,”⁹⁵⁸ means that *Hepburn v. Ellzey* is still good law insofar as it holds that the District of Columbia is not a State, but is overruled insofar as it holds that District citizens may not utilize federal diversity jurisdiction.⁹⁵⁹

Citizenship of Natural Persons.—For purposes of diversity jurisdiction, state citizenship is determined by the concept of domicile⁹⁶⁰ rather than of mere residence.⁹⁶¹ That is, while the Court’s definition has varied throughout the cases,⁹⁶² a person is a citizen of the State in which he has his true, fixed, and permanent home

⁹⁵⁴ *Id.*, 453.

⁹⁵⁵ *City of New Orleans v. Winter*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 91 (1816).

⁹⁵⁶ 54 Stat. 143 (1940), as revised, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d).

⁹⁵⁷ 337 U.S. 582 (1948).

⁹⁵⁸ *Id.*, 655 (Justice Frankfurter dissenting).

⁹⁵⁹ The statute’s provision allowing citizens of Puerto Rico to sue in diversity was sustained in *Americana of Puerto Rico v. Kaplus*, 368 F. 2d 431 (3d Cir., 1966), *cert. den.*, 386 U.S. 943 (1967), under Congress’ power to make rules and regulations for United States territories. Cf. *Examining Board v. Flores de Otero*, 426 U.S. 572, 580–597 (1976) (discussing congressional acts with respect to Puerto Rico).

⁹⁶⁰ *Chicago & N.W.R. Co. v. Ohle*, 117 U.S. 123 (1886).

⁹⁶¹ *Sun Printing & Pub. Assn. v. Edwards*, 194 U.S. 377 (1904).

⁹⁶² *Knox v. Greenleaf*, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 360 (1802); *Shelton v. Tiffin*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 163 (1848); *Williamson v. Osenton*, 232 U.S. 619 (1914).

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and principal establishment and to which he intends to return whenever he is absent from it.⁹⁶³ Acts may disclose intention more clearly and decisively than declarations.⁹⁶⁴ One may change his domicile in an instant by taking up residence in the new place and by intending to remain there indefinitely and one may obtain the benefit of diversity jurisdiction by so changing for that reason alone,⁹⁶⁵ provided the change is more than a temporary expedient.⁹⁶⁶

If the plaintiff and the defendant are citizens of different States, diversity jurisdiction exists regardless of the State in which suit is brought.⁹⁶⁷ Chief Justice Marshall early established that in multiparty litigation, there must be complete diversity, that is, that no party on one side could be a citizen of any State of which any party on the other side was a citizen.⁹⁶⁸ It has now apparently been decided that this requirement flows from the statute on diversity rather than from the constitutional grant and that therefore minimal diversity is sufficient.⁹⁶⁹ The Court has also placed some issues beyond litigation in federal courts in diversity cases, apparently solely on policy grounds.⁹⁷⁰

Citizenship of Corporations.—In *Bank of the United States v. Deveaux*,⁹⁷¹ Chief Justice Marshall declared: “That invisible, intangible, and artificial being, that mere legal entity, a corporation aggregate, is certainly not a citizen; and consequently cannot sue or be sued in the courts of the United States, unless the rights of

⁹⁶³ *Stine v. Moore*, 213 F. 2d 446, 448 (5th Cir. 1954).

⁹⁶⁴ *Shelton v. Tiffin*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 163 (1848).

⁹⁶⁵ *Williamson v. Osenton*, 232 U.S. 619 (1914).

⁹⁶⁶ *Jones v. League*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 76 (1855).

⁹⁶⁷ 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1).

⁹⁶⁸ *Strawbridge v. Curtiss*, 3 Cr. (7 U.S.) 267 (1806).

⁹⁶⁹ In *State Farm Fire & Casualty Co. v. Tashire*, 386 U.S. 523, 530–531 (1967), holding that congressional provision in the interpleader statute of minimal diversity, 28 U.S.C. § 1335(a)(1), was valid, the Court said of *Strawbridge*. “Chief Justice Marshall there purported to construe only ‘The words of the act of Congress,’ not the Constitution itself. And in a variety of contexts this Court and the lower courts have concluded that Article III poses no obstacle to the legislative extension of federal jurisdiction, founded on diversity, so long as any two adverse parties are not co-citizens.” Of course, the diversity jurisdictional statute not having been changed, complete diversity of citizenship, outside the interpleader situation, is still required. In class actions, only the citizenship of the named representatives is considered and other members of the class can be citizens of the same State as one or more of the parties on the other side. *Supreme Tribe of Ben-Hur v. Cauble*, 255 U.S. 356 (1921); *Snyder v. Harris*, 394 U.S. 332, 340 (1969).

⁹⁷⁰ In domestic relations cases and probate matters, the federal courts will not act, though diversity exists. *Barber v. Barber*, 21 How. (62 U.S.) 582 (1858); *Ex parte Burrus*, 136 U.S. 586 (1890); *In re Broderick’s Will*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 503 (1875). These cases merely enunciated the rule, without justifying it; when the Court squarely faced the issue quite recently, it adhered to the rule, citing justifications. *Ankenbrandt v. Richards*, 112 S.Ct. 2206 (1992).

⁹⁷¹ 5 Cr. (9 U.S.) 61, 86 (1809).

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the members, in this respect, can be exercised in their corporate name.” The Court upheld diversity jurisdiction because the members of the bank as a corporation were citizens of one State and *Deveaux* was a citizen of another. The holding was reaffirmed a generation later,⁹⁷² but the pressures were building for change, because of the increased economic role of the corporation and because the *Strawbridge* rule⁹⁷³ would have soon closed the doors of the federal courts to the larger corporations with stockholders in many States.

Deveaux was overruled in 1844, when after elaborate argument a divided Court held that “a corporation created by and doing business in a particular State, is to be deemed to all intents and purposes as a person, although an artificial person, an inhabitant of the same State, for the purposes of its incorporation, capable of being treated as a citizen of that State, as much as a natural person.”⁹⁷⁴ Ten years later, the Court abandoned this rationale, but it achieved the same result by creating a conclusive presumption that all of the stockholders of a corporation are citizens of the State of incorporation.⁹⁷⁵ Through this fiction, substantially unchanged today,⁹⁷⁶ the Court was able to hold that a corporation cannot be a citizen for diversity purposes and that the citizenship of its stockholders controls but to provide corporations access to federal courts in diversity in every State except the one in which it is incorporated.⁹⁷⁷ The right of foreign corporations to resort to federal courts in diversity is not one which the States may condition as a qualification for doing business in the State.⁹⁷⁸

Unincorporated associations, such as partnerships, joint stock companies, labor unions, governing boards of institutions, and the like, do not enjoy the same privilege as a corporation; the actual

⁹⁷² *Commercial & Railroad Bank v. Slocomb*, 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 60 (1840).

⁹⁷³ *Strawbridge v. Curtiss*, 3 Cr. (7 U.S.) 267 (1806).

⁹⁷⁴ *Louisville, C. & C.R. Co. v. Letson*, 2 How. (43 U.S.) 497, 558 (1844).

⁹⁷⁵ *Marshall v. Baltimore & Ohio R. Co.*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 314 (1854). See *Muller v. Dows*, 94 U.S. 444 (1877); *St. Louis & S.F. Ry. Co. v. James*, 161 U.S. 545 (1896). The Court has more than once pronounced that the *Marshall* position is settled. E.g., *United Steelworkers of America v. R. H. Bouligny, Inc.*, 382 U.S. 272, 273 (1965); *Carden v. Arkoma Associates*, 494 U.S. 185, 189 (1990).

⁹⁷⁶ §2, 72 Stat. 415 (1958), amending 28 U.S.C. §1332(c), provided that a corporation is to be deemed a citizen of any State in which it has been incorporated and of the State in which it has its principal place of business. 78 Stat. 445 (1964), amending 28 U.S.C. §1332(c), was enacted to correct the problem revealed by *Lumbermen's Mutual Casualty Co. v. Elbert*, 348 U.S. 48 (1954).

⁹⁷⁷ See *United Steelworkers v. R.H. Bouligny*, 382 U.S. 145, 148 (1965).

⁹⁷⁸ In *Terral v. Burke Construction Co.*, 257 U.S. 529 (1922), the Court resolved two conflicting lines of cases and voided a state statute which required the cancellation of the license of a foreign corporation to do business in the State upon notice that the corporation had removed a case to a federal court.

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citizenship of each of its members must be considered in determining whether diversity exists.⁹⁷⁹

Manufactured Diversity.—One who because of diversity of citizenship can choose whether to sue in state or federal court will properly consider where the advantages and disadvantages balance; one who perceives the balance clearly favoring the federal forum where no diversity exists will no doubt often attempt to create diversity. In the Judiciary Act of 1789, Congress exempted from diversity jurisdiction suits on choses of action in favor of an assignee unless the suit could have been brought in federal court if no assignment had been made.⁹⁸⁰ One could create diversity by a *bona fide* change of domicile even with the sole motive of creating domicile.⁹⁸¹ Similarly, one could create diversity, or defeat it, by choosing a personal representative of the requisite citizenship.⁹⁸² By far, the greatest number of attempts to manufacture or create diversity has concerned corporations. A corporation cannot get into federal court by transferring its claim to a subsidiary incorporated in another State,⁹⁸³ and for a time the Supreme Court tended to look askance at collusory incorporations and the creation of dummy corporations for purposes of creating diversity.⁹⁸⁴ But in *Black & White Taxicab & Transfer Co. v. Brown & Yellow Taxicab & Transfer Co.*,⁹⁸⁵ it became highly important to the plaintiff company to bring its suit in federal court rather than in a state court. Thus, Black & White, a Kentucky corporation, dissolved itself and obtained a charter as a Tennessee corporation; the only change made was the State of incorporation, the name, officers, shareholders, and location of the business remaining the same. A majority of the Court, over a strong dissent by Justice Holmes,⁹⁸⁶ saw no collusion

⁹⁷⁹ *Great Southern Fire Proof Hotel Co. v. Jones*, 177 U.S. 449 (1900); *Chapman v. Barney*, 129 U.S. 677 (1889); *Thomas v. Board of Trustees*, 195 U.S. 207 (1904); *United Steelworkers v. R.H. Bouligny*, 382 U.S. 145 (1965); *Carden v. Arkoma Associates*, 494 U.S. 185 (1990). But compare *Navarro Savings Assn. v. Lee*, 446 U.S. 458 (1980), distinguished in *Carden*, supra, 195–197.

⁹⁸⁰ § 11, 1 Stat. 78, sustained in *Turner v. Bank of North America*, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 8 (1799), and *Sheldon v. Sill*, 8 How. (49 U.S.) 441 (1850). The present statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1359, provides that no jurisdiction exists in a civil action “in which any party, by assignment or otherwise, has been improperly or collusively made or joined to invoke the jurisdiction of such court.” See *Kramer v. Carribbean Mills*, 394 U.S. 823 (1969).

⁹⁸¹ *Williamson v. Osenton*, 232 U.S. 619 (1914); *Morris v. Gilmer*, 129 U.S. 315 (1889).

⁹⁸² *Mecom v. Fitzsimmons Drilling Co.*, 284 U.S. 183 (1931).

⁹⁸³ *Miller & Lux v. East Side Canal & Irrigation Co.*, 211 U.S. 293 (1908).

⁹⁸⁴ E.g., *Southern Realty Co. v. Walker*, 211 U.S. 603 (1909).

⁹⁸⁵ 276 U.S. 518 (1928).

⁹⁸⁶ *Id.*, 276 U.S., 532 (joined by Justices Brandeis and Stone). Justice Holmes here presented his view that *Swift v. Tyson*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 1 (1842), had been wrongly decided, but he preferred not to overrule it, merely “not allow it to spread . . . into new fields.” *Id.* 535.

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and upheld diversity, meaning that the company won whereas it would have lost had it sued in the state court. *Black & White Taxicab* probably more than anything led to a reexamination of the decision on the choice of law to be applied in diversity litigation.

The Law Applied in Diversity Cases.—By virtue of § 34 of the Judiciary Act of 1789,⁹⁸⁷ state law expressed in constitutional and statutory form was regularly applied in federal courts in diversity actions to govern the disposition of such cases. But in *Swift v. Tyson*,⁹⁸⁸ Justice Story for the Court ruled that state court decisions were not laws within the meaning of § 34 and though entitled to respect were not binding on federal judges, except with regard to matters of a “local nature,” such as statutes and interpretations thereof pertaining to real estate and other immovables, in contrast to questions of general commercial law as to which the answers were dependent not on “the decisions of the local tribunals, but in the general principles and doctrines of commercial jurisprudence.”⁹⁸⁹ The course of decision over the period of almost one hundred years was toward an expansion of the areas in which federal judges were free to construct a federal common law and a concomitant contraction of the definition of “local” laws.⁹⁹⁰ Although

⁹⁸⁷ The section provided that “the laws of the several states, except where the constitution, treaties, or statutes of the United States shall otherwise require or provide, shall be regarded as rules of decision in trials at common law in the courts of the United States in cases where they apply.” 1 Stat. 92. With only insubstantial changes, the section now appears as 28 U.S.C. §1652. For a concise review of the entire issue, see C. WRIGHT, HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS (St. Paul: 4th ed. 1983), ch. 9.

⁹⁸⁸ 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 1 (1842). The issue in the case was whether a pre-existing debt was good consideration for an indorsement of a bill of exchange so that the endorsee would be a holder in due course.

⁹⁸⁹ *Id.*, 19. The Justice concluded this portion of the opinion: “The law respecting negotiable instruments may be truly declared in the language of Cicero, adopted by Lord Mansfield in *Luke v. Lyde*, 2 Burr. R. 883, 887, to be in great measure, not the law of a single country only, but of the commercial world. *Nun erit alia lex Romae, alia Athenis; alia nunc, alia posthac, sed et apud omnes gentes, et omni tempore una eademque lex obtenebit.*” *Ibid.* The thought that the same law should prevail in Rome as in Athens was used by Justice Story in *DeLovia v. Boit*, 7 Fed. Cas. 418, 443 (No. 3776) (C.C.D. Mass. 1815). For a modern utilization, see *United States v. Jefferson County Board of Education*, 372 F. 2d 836, 861 (5th Cir. 1966); *id.*, 380 F. 2d 385, 398 (5th Cir. 1967) (dissenting opinion).

⁹⁹⁰ The expansions included: *Lane v. Vick*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 464 (1845) (wills); *City of Chicago v. Robbins*, 2 Bl. (67 U.S.) 418 (1862), and *Baltimore & Ohio R. Co. v. Baugh* 149 U.S. 368 (1893) (torts); *Yates v. City of Milwaukee*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 497 (1870) (real estate titles and rights of riparian owners); *Kuhn v. Fairmont Coal Co.*, 215 U.S. 349 (1910) (mineral conveyances); *Rowan v. Runnels*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 134 (1847) (contracts); *Lake Shore & M.S. Ry. Co. v. Prentice*, 147 U.S. 101 (1893). It was strongly contended that uniformity, the goal of Justice Story’s formulation, was not being achieved, in great part because state courts followed their own rules of decision even when prior federal decisions were contrary. Frankfurter, *Distribution of Judicial Power Between Federal and State Courts*, 13 Corn. L.Q. 499, 529 n. 150 (1928). Moreover, the Court held that while state court interpretations of

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dissatisfaction with *Swift v. Tyson* was almost always present, within and without the Court,⁹⁹¹ it was the Court's decision in *Black & White Taxicab & Transfer Co. v. Brown & Yellow Taxicab & Transfer Co.*,⁹⁹² which brought disagreement to the strongest point and perhaps precipitated the overruling of *Swift v. Tyson* in *Erie Railroad Co. v. Tompkins*.⁹⁹³

"It is impossible to overstate the importance of the *Erie* decision. It announces no technical doctrine of procedure or jurisdiction, but goes to the heart of the relations between the federal government and the states, and returns to the states a power that had for nearly a century been exercised by the federal government."⁹⁹⁴ *Erie* was remarkable in a number of ways aside from the doctrine it announced. It reversed a 96-year-old precedent, which counsel had specifically not questioned, it reached a constitutional

state statutes or constitutions were to be followed, federal courts could ignore them if they conflicted with earlier federal constructions of the same statute or constitutional provision, *Rowan v. Runnels*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 134 (1847), or if they had been rendered after the case had been tried in federal court, *Burgess v. Seligman*, 107 U.S. 20 (1883), thus promoting lack of uniformity. See also *Gelpcke v. City of Debuque*, 1 Wall. (68 U.S.) 175 (1865); *Williamson v. Berry*, 8 How. (49 U.S.) 495 (1850); *Pease v. Peck*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 595 (1856); *Watson v. Tarpley*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 517 (1856).

⁹⁹¹ Extensions of the scope of *Tyson* frequently were rendered by a divided Court over the strong protests of dissenters. E.g., *Gelpcke v. City of Debuque*, 1 Wall. (68 U.S.) 175 (1865); *Lane v. Vick*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 463 (1845); *Kuhn v. Fairmont Coal Co.*, 215 U.S. 349 (1910). In *Baltimore & Ohio R. Co. v. Baugh*, 149 U.S. 368, 401–404 (1893), Justice Field dissented in an opinion in which he expressed the view that Supreme Court disregarding of state court decisions was unconstitutional, a view endorsed by Justice Holmes in *Black & White Taxicab & Transfer Co. v. Brown & Yellow Taxicab & Transfer Co.*, 276 U.S. 518, 533 (1928) (dissenting opinion), and adopted by the Court in *Erie Railroad Co. v. Tompkins*, 304 U.S. 64 (1938). Numerous proposals were introduced in Congress to change the rule.

⁹⁹² 276 U.S. 518 (1928). B. & W. had contracted with a railroad to provide exclusive taxi service at its station. B. & Y. began operating taxis at the same station and B. & W. wanted to enjoin the operation, but it was a settled rule by judicial decision in Kentucky courts that such exclusive contracts were contrary to public policy and were unenforceable in court. Therefore, B. & W. dissolved itself in Kentucky and reincorporated in Tennessee, solely in order to create diversity of citizenship and enable itself to sue in federal court. It was successful and the Supreme Court ruled that diversity was present and that the injunction should issue. In *Mutual Life Ins. Co. v. Johnson*, 293 U.S. 335 (1934), the Court, in an opinion by Justice Cardozo, appeared to retreat somewhat from its extensions of *Tyson*, holding that state law should be applied, through a "benign and prudent comity," in a case "balanced with doubt," a concept first used by Justice Bradley in *Burgess v. Seligman*, 107 U.S. 20 (1883).

⁹⁹³ 304 U.S. 64 (1938). Judge Friendly has written: "Having served as the Justice's [Brandeis's] law clerk the year *Black & White Taxicab & Transfer Co. v. Brown & Yellow Taxicab & Transfer Co.* came before the Court, I have little doubt he was waiting for an opportunity to give *Swift v. Tyson* the happy dispatch he thought it deserved." H. FRIENDLY, *BENCHMARKS* (Chicago: 1967), 20.

⁹⁹⁴ C. WRIGHT, *HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS* (4th ed. 1983), 355. See Judge Friendly's exposition, *In Praise of Erie—And of the New Federal Common Law*, in H. FRIENDLY, *BENCHMARKS* (Chicago: 1967), 155.

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decision when a statutory interpretation was available though perhaps less desirable, and it marked the only time in United States constitutional history when the Court has held that it had undertaken an unconstitutional action.⁹⁹⁵

Tompkins was injured by defendant's train while he was walking along the tracks. He was a citizen of Pennsylvania, and the railroad was incorporated in New York. Had he sued in a Pennsylvania court, state decisional law was to the effect that inasmuch as he was a trespasser, the defendant owed him only a duty not to injure him through wanton or willful misconduct;⁹⁹⁶ the general federal law treated him as a licensee who could recover for negligence. Tompkins sued and recovered in federal court in New York and the railroad presented the issue to the Supreme Court as one covered by "local" law within the meaning of *Swift v. Tyson*. Justice Brandeis for himself and four other Justices, however, choose to overrule the early case.

First, it was argued that *Tyson* had failed to bring uniformity of decision about and that its application discriminated against citizens of a State by noncitizens. Justice Brandeis cited recent researches⁹⁹⁷ indicating that § 34 of the 1789 Act included court decisions in the phrase "laws of the several States." "If only a question of statutory construction were involved we should not be prepared to abandon a doctrine so widely applied throughout nearly a century. But the unconstitutionality of the course pursued has now been made clear, and compels us to do so."⁹⁹⁸ For a number of reasons, it would not have been wise to have overruled *Tyson* on the basis of arguable new discoveries.⁹⁹⁹ Second, then, the decision

⁹⁹⁵ *Id.*, 304 U.S., 157–164, 171 n. 71.

⁹⁹⁶ This result was obtained in retrial in federal court on the basis of Pennsylvania law. *Tompkins v. Erie Railroad Co.*, 98 F. 49 (3d Cir.), *cert. den.* 305 U.S. 637 (1938).

⁹⁹⁷ *Erie Railroad Co. v. Tompkins*, 304 U.S. 64, 72–73 (1938), citing Warren, *New Light on the History of the Federal Judiciary Act of 1789*, 37 HARV. L. REV. 49 84–88 (1923). See C. WRIGHT, HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS (4th ed. 1983), 353.

⁹⁹⁸ *Id.*, 304 U.S., 77–78 (footnote citations omitted).

⁹⁹⁹ Congress had re-enacted § 34 as § 721 of the Revised Statutes, citing *Swift v. Tyson* in its annotation, thus presumably accepting the gloss placed on the words by that ruling. But note that Justice Brandeis did not think even the re-enacted statute was unconstitutional. *Infra*, text at n. 1001. See H. FRIENDLY, BENCHMARKS (Chicago: 1967), 161–163. Perhaps a more compelling reason of policy was that stated by Justice Frankfurter rejecting for the Court a claim that the general grant of federal question jurisdiction to the federal courts in 1875 made maritime suits cognizable on the law side of the federal courts. "Petitioner now asks us to hold that no student of the jurisdiction of the federal courts or of admiralty, no judge, and none of the learned and alert members of the admiralty bar were able, for seventy-five years, to discern the drastic change now asserted to have been contrived in admiralty jurisdiction by the Act of 1875. In light of such impressive testimony from

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turned on the lack of power vested in Congress to have prescribed rules for federal courts in state cases. “There is no federal general common law. Congress has no power to declare substantive rules of common law applicable in a State whether they be local in their nature or ‘general,’ be they commercial law or a part of the law of torts. No clause in the Constitution purports to confer such a power upon the federal courts.”¹⁰⁰⁰ But having said this, Justice Brandeis made it clear that the unconstitutional assumption of power had been made not by Congress but by the Court itself. “[W]e do not hold unconstitutional §34 of the Federal Judiciary Act of 1789 or any other Act of Congress. We merely declare that in applying the doctrine this Court and the lower courts have invaded rights which in our opinion are reserved by the Constitution to the several States.”¹⁰⁰¹

Third, the rule of *Erie* replacing *Tyson* is that “[e]xcept in matters governed by the Federal Constitution or by Acts of Congress, the law to be applied in any case is the law of the State. Whether the law of the State shall be declared by its Legislature in a statute or by its highest court in a decision is not a matter of federal concern.”¹⁰⁰²

Since 1938, the effect of *Erie* has first increased and then diminished, as the nature of the problems presented changed. Thus, the Court at first indicated that not only the decision of the highest court of a State were binding on a federal court in diversity but as well intermediate appellate courts¹⁰⁰³ and courts of first in-

the past the claim of a sudden discovery of a hidden latent meaning in an old technical phrase is surely suspect.

“The history of archeology is replete with the unearthing of riches buried for centuries. Our legal history does not, however, offer a single archeological discovery of new, revolutionary meaning in reading an old judiciary enactment. [Here, the Justice footnotes: ‘For reasons that would take us too far afield to discuss, *Erie R. Co. v. Tompkins*, 304 U.S. 64, is no exception.’] The presumption is powerful that such a far-reaching, dislocating construction as petitioner would now have us find in the Act of 1875 was not uncovered by judges, lawyers or scholars for seventy-five years because it is not there.” *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354, 370–371 (1959).

¹⁰⁰⁰ *Id.*, 304 U.S., 78. Justice Brandeis does not argue the constitutional issue and does not cite either provisions of the Constitution or precedent beyond the views of Justices Holmes and Field. *Id.*, 78–79. Justice Reed thought that Article III and the necessary and proper clause might contain authority. *Id.*, 91–92 (Justice Reed concurring in the result). For a formulation of the constitutional argument in favor of the Brandeis position, see H. FRIENDLY, *BENCHMARKS* (Chicago: 1967), 167–171. See also *Bernhardt v. Polygraphic Co. of America*, 350 U.S. 198, 202, 208 (1956); *Hanna v. Plumer*, 380 U.S. 460, 471–472 (1965).

¹⁰⁰¹ *Id.*, 304 U.S., 79–80.

¹⁰⁰² *Id.*, 78. *Erie* applies in equity as well as in law. *Ruhlin v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 304 U.S. 202 (1938).

¹⁰⁰³ *West v. American Tel. & Tel. Co.*, 311 U.S. 223 (1940); *Six Companies of California v. Joint Highway District*, 311 U.S. 180 (1940); *Stoner v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 311 U.S. 464 (1940).

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stance,¹⁰⁰⁴ even where the decisions bound no other state judge except as they were persuasive on their merits. It has now retreated from this position to the extent that federal judges are to give careful consideration to lower state court decisions and to old, perhaps outmoded decisions, but they must find for themselves the state law where the State's highest court has not spoken definitively and within a period which would raise no questions about the continued viability of the decision.¹⁰⁰⁵ In the event of a state supreme court reversal of an earlier decision, the federal courts are, of course, bound by the later decision, and a judgment of a federal district court, correct when rendered, must be reversed on appeal if the State's highest court in the meantime has changed the applicable law.¹⁰⁰⁶ In diversity cases which present conflicts of law problems, the Court has reiterated that the district court is to apply the law of the State in which it sits, so that in a case in State A in which the law of State B is applicable, perhaps because a contract was made there or a tort was committed there, the federal court is to apply State A's conception of State B's law.¹⁰⁰⁷

The greatest difficulty in applying the *Erie* doctrine has been in cases in which issues of procedure were important.¹⁰⁰⁸ The process was initiated in 1945 when the Court held that a state statute of limitations, which would have barred suit in state court, would bar it in federal court, although as a matter of federal law the case still could have been brought in federal court.¹⁰⁰⁹ The Court regarded the substance-procedure distinction as immaterial. “[S]ince a federal court adjudicating a state-created right solely because of

¹⁰⁰⁴ *Fidelity Union Trust Co., v. Field*, 311 U.S. 169 (1940).

¹⁰⁰⁵ *King v. Order of Commercial Travelers of America*, 333 U.S. 153 (1948); *Bernhardt v. Polygraphic Co. of America*, 350 U.S. 198, 205 (1956) (1910 decision must be followed in absence of confusion in state decisions since, “no developing line of authorities that cast a shadow over established ones, no dicta, doubts or ambiguities . . . , no legislative development that promises to undermine the judicial rule”). See also *Commissioner v. Estate of Bosch*, 387 U.S. 456, 465 (1967).

¹⁰⁰⁶ *Vanderbark v. Owens-Illinois Glass Co.*, 311 U.S. 538 (1941); *Huddleston v. Dwyer*, 322 U.S. 232 (1944); *Nolan v. Transocean Air Lines*, 365 U.S. 293 (1961).

¹⁰⁰⁷ *Klaxon Co. v. Stentor Manufacturing Co.*, 313 U.S. 487 (1941); *Griffin v. McCoach*, 313 U.S. 498 (1941); *Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Co.*, 345 U.S. 514 (1953); *Nolan v. Transocean Air Lines*, 365 U.S. 293 (1961).

¹⁰⁰⁸ Interestingly enough, 1938 marked what seemed to be a switching of positions *vis-a-vis* federal and state courts of substantive law and procedural law. Under *Tyson*, federal courts in diversity actions were free to formulate a federal common law, while they were required by the Conformity Act, §5, 17 Stat. 196 (1872), to conform their procedure to that of the State in which the court sat. *Erie* then ruled that state substantive law was to control in federal court diversity actions, while by implication matters of procedure in federal court were subject to congressional governance. Congress authorized the Court to promulgate rules of civil procedure, 48 Stat. 1064 (1934), which it did in 1938, a few months after *Erie* was decided. 302 U.S. 783.

¹⁰⁰⁹ *Guaranty Trust Co. v. York*, 326 U.S. 99 (1945).

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the diversity of citizenship of the parties is for that purpose, in effect, only another court of the State, it cannot afford recovery if the right to recover is made unavailable by the State nor can it substantially affect the enforcement of the right as given by the State.”¹⁰¹⁰ The standard to be applied was compelled by the “intent” of the *Erie* decision, which “was to insure that, in all cases where a federal court is exercising jurisdiction solely because of the diversity of citizenship of the parties, the outcome of the litigation in the federal court should be substantially the same, so far as legal rules determine the outcome of a litigation, as it would be if tried in a State court.”¹⁰¹¹ The Court’s application of this standard created substantial doubt that the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure had any validity in diversity cases.¹⁰¹²

But in two later cases, the Court contracted the application of *Erie* in matters governed by the Federal Rules. Thus, in the earlier case, the Court said that “outcome” was no longer the sole determinant and countervailing considerations expressed in federal policy on the conduct of federal trials should be considered; a state rule making it a question for the judge rather than a jury of a particular defense in a tort action had to yield to a federal policy enunciated through the Seventh Amendment of favoring juries.¹⁰¹³ The latter ruling simplified the matter greatly. *Erie* is not to be the proper test when the question is the application of one of the Rules of Civil Procedure; if the rule is valid when measured against the Enabling Act and the Constitution, it is to be applied regardless of state law to the contrary.¹⁰¹⁴

Although it seems clear that *Erie* applies in nondiversity cases in which the source of the right sued upon is state law,¹⁰¹⁵ it is equally clear that *Erie* is not applicable always in diversity cases whether the nature of the issue be substantive or procedural. Thus,

¹⁰¹⁰Id., 108–109.

¹⁰¹¹Id., 109.

¹⁰¹²*Cohen v. Beneficial Industrial Loan Corp.*, 337 U.S. 541 (1949) (state rule making unsuccessful plaintiffs liable for all expenses and requiring security for such expenses as a condition of proceeding applicable in federal court); *Woods v. Interstate Realty Co.*, 337 U.S. 535 (1949) (state statute barring foreign corporation not qualified to do business in State applicable in federal court); *Ragan v. Merchants Transfer & Warehouse Co.*, 337 U.S. 530 (1949) (state rule determinative when an action is begun for purposes of statute of limitations applicable in federal court although a Federal Rule of Civil Procedure states a different rule).

¹⁰¹³*Byrd v. Blue Ridge Rural Electric Cooperative*, 356 U.S. 525 (1958).

¹⁰¹⁴*Hanna v. Plumer*, 380 U.S. 460 (1965).

¹⁰¹⁵*Maternally Yours v. Your Maternity Shop*, 234 F. 2d 538, 540 n. 1 (2d Cir. 1956). The contrary view was implied in *Levinson v. Deupree*, 345 U.S. 648, 651 (1953), and by Justice Jackson in *D’Oench, Duhme & Co. v. FDIC*, 315 U.S. 447, 466–467, 471–472 (1942) (concurring opinion). See *Wichita Royalty Co. v. City National Bank*, 306 U.S. 103 (1939).

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it may be that there is an overriding federal interest which compels national uniformity of rules, such as a case in which the issue is the appropriate rule for determining the liability of a bank which had guaranteed a forged federal check,¹⁰¹⁶ in which the issue is the appropriate rule for determining whether a tortfeasor is liable to the United States for hospitalization of a soldier and loss of his services,¹⁰¹⁷ and in which the issue is the appropriate rule for determining the validity of a defense raised by a federal officer sued for having libeled one in the course of his official duties.¹⁰¹⁸ In such cases, when the issue is found to be controlled by federal law, common or otherwise, the result is binding on state courts as well as on federal.¹⁰¹⁹ Despite, then, Justice Brandeis' assurance that there is no "federal general common law," there is a common law existing and developing in the federal courts, even in diversity cases, which will sometimes control decision.¹⁰²⁰

Controversies Between Citizens of the Same State Claiming Land Under Grants of Different States

The genesis of this clause was in the report of the Committee of Detail which vested the power to resolve such land disputes in the Senate,¹⁰²¹ but this proposal was defeated in the Convention,¹⁰²² which then added this clause to the jurisdiction of the federal judiciary without reported debate.¹⁰²³ The motivation for this clause was the existence of boundary disputes affecting ten States at the time the Convention met. With the adoption of the North-

¹⁰¹⁶Clearfield Trust Co. v. United States, 318 U.S. 363 (1943). See also National Metropolitan Bank v. United States, 323 U.S. 454 (1945); D'Oench, Duhme & Co. v. FDIC, 315 U.S. 447 (1942); United States v. Standard Rice Co., 323 U.S. 106 (1944); United States v. Acri, 348 U.S. 211 (1955); Ivanhoe Irrigation District v. McCracken, 357 U.S. 275 (1958); Bank of America National Trust & Savings Assn. v. Parnell, 352 U.S. 29 (1956). But see United States v. Yazell, 382 U.S. 341 (1966).

¹⁰¹⁷United States v. Standard Oil Co., 332 U.S. 301 (1947). Federal law applies in maritime tort cases brought on the "law side" of the federal courts in diversity cases. Pope & Talbot v. Hawn, 346 U.S. 406 (1953).

¹⁰¹⁸Howard v. Lyons, 360 U.S. 593 (1959). Matters concerned with our foreign relations also are governed by federal law in diversity. Banco Nacional de Cuba v. Sabbatino, 376 U.S. 398 (1964). Federal common law also governs a government contractor defense in certain cases. Boyle v. United Technologies Corp., 487 U.S. 500 (1988).

¹⁰¹⁹Free v. Bland, 369 U.S. 663 (1962); Yiatchos v. Yiatchos, 376 U.S. 306 (1964).

¹⁰²⁰The quoted Brandeis phrase is in *Erie Railroad Co. v. Tompkins* 304 U.S. 64, 78 (1938). On the same day *Erie* was decided, the Court, in an opinion by Justice Brandeis, held that the issue of apportionment of the waters of an interstate stream between two States "is a question of 'federal common law.'" *Hinderlider v. La Plata River & Cherry Creek Ditch Co.*, 304 U.S. 92, 110 (1938). On the matter, see *Illinois v. City of Milwaukee*, 406 U.S. 91 (1972).

¹⁰²¹2 M. FARRAND, op. cit., n. 1, 162, 171, 184.

¹⁰²²Id., 400-401.

¹⁰²³Id., 431.

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west Ordinance of 1787, the ultimate settlement of the boundary disputes, and the passing of land grants by the States, this clause, never productive of many cases, became obsolete.¹⁰²⁴

Controversies Between a State, or the Citizens Thereof, and Foreign States, Citizens, or Subjects

The scope of this jurisdiction has been limited both by judicial decisions and the Eleventh Amendment. By judicial application of the law of nations, a foreign state is immune from suit in the federal courts without its consent,¹⁰²⁵ an immunity which extends to suits brought by States of the American Union.¹⁰²⁶ Conversely, the Eleventh Amendment has been construed to bar suits by foreign states against a State of the United States.¹⁰²⁷ Consequently, the jurisdiction conferred by this clause comprehends only suits brought by a State against citizens or subjects of foreign states, by foreign states against American citizens, citizens of a State against the citizens or subjects of a foreign state, and by aliens against citizens of a State.¹⁰²⁸

Suits by Foreign States.—The privilege of a recognized foreign state to sue in the courts of another state upon the principle of comity is recognized by both international law and American constitutional law.¹⁰²⁹ To deny a sovereign this privilege “would manifest a want of comity and friendly feeling.”¹⁰³⁰ Although national sovereignty is continuous, a suit in behalf of a national sovereign can be maintained in the courts of the United States only by a government which has been recognized by the political branches of our own government as the authorized government of

¹⁰²⁴ See *Pawlet v. Clark*, 9 Cr. (13 U.S.) 292 (1815). Cf. *City of Trenton v. New Jersey*, 262 U.S. 182 (1923).

¹⁰²⁵ *The Schooner Exchange v. McFaddon*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 116 (1812); *Berizzi Bros. Co. v. S.S. Pesaro*, 271 U.S. 562 (1926); *Compania Espanola v. The Navemar*, 303 U.S. 68 (1938); *Guaranty Trust Co. v. United States*, 304 U.S. 126, 134 (1938).

¹⁰²⁶ *Principality of Monaco v. Mississippi*, 292 U.S. 313, 330 (1934).

¹⁰²⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰²⁸ But in the absence of a federal question, there is no basis for jurisdiction between the subjects of a foreign State. *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354 (1959). The Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976, P.L. 94-538, 90 Stat. 2891, amending various sections of title 28 U.S.C., comprehensively provided jurisdictional bases for suits by and against foreign states and appears as well to comprehend suits by an alien against a foreign state which would be beyond the constitutional grant. However, in the only case in which that matter has been an issue before it, the Court has construed the Act as creating a species of federal question jurisdiction. *Verlinden B. V. v. Central Bank of Nigeria*, 461 U.S. 480 (1983).

¹⁰²⁹ *The Sapphire*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 164, 167 (1871).

¹⁰³⁰ *Ibid.* This case also held that a change in the person of the sovereign does not affect the continuity or rights of national sovereignty, including the right to bring suit or to continue one that has been brought.

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the foreign state.¹⁰³¹ As the responsible agency for the conduct of foreign affairs, the State Department is the normal means of suggesting to the courts that a sovereign be granted immunity from a particular suit.¹⁰³² Once a foreign government avails itself of the privilege of suing in the courts of the United States, it subjects itself to the procedure and rules of decision governing those courts and accepts whatever liabilities the court may decide to be a reasonable incident of bringing the suit.¹⁰³³ The rule that a foreign nation instituting a suit in a federal district court cannot invoke sovereign immunity as a defense to a counterclaim growing out of the same transaction has been extended to deny a claim of immunity as a defense to a counterclaim extrinsic to the subject matter of the suit but limited to the amount of the sovereign's claim.¹⁰³⁴ Moreover, certain of the benefits extending to a domestic sovereign do not extend to a foreign sovereign suing in the courts of the United States. A foreign state does not receive the benefit of the rule which exempts the United States and its member States from the operation of the statute of limitations, because those considerations of public policy back of the rule are regarded as absent in the case of the foreign sovereign.¹⁰³⁵

Indian Tribes.—Within the terms of Article III, an Indian tribe is not a foreign state and hence cannot sue in the courts of the United States. This rule was applied in the case of *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*,¹⁰³⁶ where Chief Justice Marshall conceded that the Cherokee Nation was a state, but not a foreign state, being a part of the United States and dependent upon it. Other passages

¹⁰³¹ *Guaranty Trust Co. v. United States*, 304 U.S. 126, 137 (1938), citing *Jones v. United States*, 137 U.S. 202, 212 (1890); *Matter of Lehigh Valley Railroad Company*, 265 U.S. 573 (1924). Whether a government is to be regarded as the legal representative of a foreign state is, of course, a political question.

¹⁰³² *Ex parte Peru*, 318 U.S. 578, 589 (1943), distinguishing *Compania Espanola v. The Navemar*, 303 U.S. 68 (1938), which held that where the Executive Department neither recognizes nor disallows the claim of immunity, the court is free to examine that question for itself. Under the latter circumstances, however, a claim that a foreign vessel is a public ship and immune from suit must be substantiated to the satisfaction of the federal court.

¹⁰³³ *Guaranty Trust Co. v. United States*, 304 U.S. 126, 134 (1938). Among other benefits which the Court cited as not extending to foreign states as litigant included exemption from costs and from giving discovery. Decisions were also cited to the effect that a sovereign plaintiff "should so far as the thing can be done, be put in the same position as a body corporate."

¹⁰³⁴ *National Bank v. Republic of China*, 348 U.S. 356, 361 (1955), citing 26 Dept. State Bull. 984 (1952), wherein the Department "has pronounced broadly against recognizing sovereign immunity for the commercial operations of a foreign government."

¹⁰³⁵ *Guaranty Trust Co. v. United States*, 304 U.S. 126, 135, 137 (1938), citing precedents to the effect that a sovereign plaintiff "should be put in the same position as a body corporate."

¹⁰³⁶ 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 1, 16–20 (1831).

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of the opinion specify the elements essential of a foreign state for purposes of jurisdiction, such as sovereignty and independence.

Narrow Construction of the Jurisdiction.—As in cases of diversity jurisdiction, suits brought to the federal courts under this category must clearly state in the record the nature of the parties. As early as 1809, the Supreme Court ruled that a federal court could not take jurisdiction of a cause where the defendants were described in the record as “late of the district of Maryland,” but were not designated as citizens of Maryland, and plaintiffs were described as aliens and subjects of the United Kingdom.¹⁰³⁷ The meticulous care manifested in this case appeared twenty years later when the Court narrowly construed §11 of the Judiciary Act of 1789, vesting the federal courts with jurisdiction when an alien was a party, in order to keep it within the limits of this clause. The judicial power was further held not to extend to private suits in which an alien is a party, unless a citizen is the adverse party.¹⁰³⁸ This interpretation was extended in 1870 by a holding that if there is more than one plaintiff or defendant, each plaintiff or defendant must be competent to sue or liable to suit.¹⁰³⁹ These rules, however, do not preclude a suit between citizens of the same State if the plaintiffs are merely nominal parties and are suing on behalf of an alien.¹⁰⁴⁰

Clause 2. In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be a Party, the Supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all other Cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

THE ORIGINAL JURISDICTION OF THE SUPREME COURT

From the beginning, the Supreme Court has assumed that its original jurisdiction flows directly from the Constitution and is

¹⁰³⁷Hodgson & Thompson v. Bowerbank, 5 Cr. (9 U.S.) 303 (1809).

¹⁰³⁸Jackson v. Twentyman, 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 136 (1829); Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co., 358 U.S. 354 (1959).

¹⁰³⁹Coal Co. v. Blatchford, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 172 (1871). See, however, Lacassagne v. Chapuis, 144 U.S. 119 (1892), which held that a lower federal court had jurisdiction over a proceeding to impeach its former decree, although the parties were new and were both aliens.

¹⁰⁴⁰Browne v. Strode, 5 Cr. (9 U.S.) 303 (1809).

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therefore self-executing without further action by Congress.¹⁰⁴¹ In *Chisholm v. Georgia*,¹⁰⁴² the Court entertained an action of assumpsit against Georgia by a citizen of another State. Congress in § 3 of the Judiciary Act of 1789¹⁰⁴³ purported to invest the Court with original jurisdiction in suits between a State and citizens of another State, but it did not authorize actions of assumpsit in such cases nor did it prescribe forms of process for the exercise of original jurisdiction. Over the dissent of Justice Iredell, the Court, in opinions by Chief Justice Jay and Justices Blair, Wilson, and Cushing, sustained its jurisdiction and its power to provide forms of process and rules of procedure in the absence of congressional enactments. The backlash of state sovereignty sentiment resulted in the proposal and ratification of the Eleventh Amendment, which did not, however, affect the direct flow of original jurisdiction to the Court, although those cases to which States were parties were now limited to States as party plaintiffs, to two or more States disputing, or to United States suits against States.¹⁰⁴⁴

By 1861, Chief Justice Taney could confidently enunciate, after review of the precedents, that in all cases where original jurisdiction is given by the Constitution, the Supreme Court has authority “to exercise it without further act of Congress to regulate its powers or confer jurisdiction, and that the court may regulate and mould the process it uses in such manner as in its judgment will best promote the purposes of justice.”¹⁰⁴⁵

Although Chief Justice Marshall apparently assumed the Court had exclusive jurisdiction of cases within its original jurisdiction,¹⁰⁴⁶ Congress from 1789 on gave the inferior federal courts concurrent jurisdiction in some classes of such cases.¹⁰⁴⁷ Sustained in the early years on circuit,¹⁰⁴⁸ this concurrent jurisdiction was finally approved by the Court itself.¹⁰⁴⁹ The Court has also relied on the first Congress’ interpretation of the meaning of Article III

¹⁰⁴¹ But in § 13 of the Judiciary Act of 1789, 1 Stat. 80, Congress did so purport to convey the jurisdiction and the statutory conveyance exists today. 28 U.S.C. § 1251. It does not, however, exhaust the listing of the Constitution.

¹⁰⁴² Dall. (2 U.S.) 419 (1793). In an earlier case, the point of jurisdiction was not raised. *Georgia v. Brailsford*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 402 (1792).

¹⁰⁴³ 1 Stat. 80.

¹⁰⁴⁴ On the Eleventh Amendment, see *infra*. On suits involving States as parties, see *supra*.

¹⁰⁴⁵ *Kentucky v. Dennison*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66, 98 (1861).

¹⁰⁴⁶ *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137, 174 (1803).

¹⁰⁴⁷ In § 3 of the 1789 Act. The present division is in 28 U.S.C. § 1251.

¹⁰⁴⁸ *United States v. Ravara*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 297 (C.C.Pa. 1793).

¹⁰⁴⁹ *Rhode Island v. Massachusetts*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 657 (1838); *Bors v. Preston*, 111 U.S. 252 (1884); *Ames v. Kansas ex rel. Johnson*, 111 U.S. 449 (1884). Such suits could be brought and maintained in state courts as well, the parties willing. *Plaquemines Tropical Fruit Co. v. Henderson*, 170 U.S. 511 (1898); *Ohio ex rel. Poporici v. Alger*, 280 U.S. 379 (1930).

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in declining original jurisdiction of an action by a State to enforce a judgment for a precuniary penalty awarded by one of its own courts.¹⁰⁵⁰ Noting that § 13 of the Judiciary Act had referred to “controversies of a civil nature,” Justice Gray declared that it “was passed by the first Congress assembled under the Constitution, many of whose members had taken part in framing that instrument, and is contemporaneous and weighty evidence of its true meaning.”¹⁰⁵¹

However, another clause of § 13 of the Judiciary Act of 1789 was not accorded the same presumption by Chief Justice Marshall, who, interpreting it as giving the Court power to issue a writ of mandamus on an original proceeding, declared that as Congress could not restrict the original jurisdiction neither could it enlarge it and pronounced the clause void.¹⁰⁵² While the Chief Justice’s interpretation of the meaning of the clause may be questioned, no one has questioned the constitutional principle thereby proclaimed. Although the rule deprives Congress of power to expand or contract the jurisdiction, it allows a considerable latitude of interpretation to the Court itself. In some cases, as in *Missouri v. Holland*,¹⁰⁵³ the Court has manifested a tendency toward a liberal construction of its original jurisdiction, but the more usual view is that “our original jurisdiction should be invoked sparingly.”¹⁰⁵⁴ Original jurisdiction “is limited and manifestly to be sparingly exercised, and should not be expanded by construction.”¹⁰⁵⁵ Exercise of its original jurisdiction is not obligatory on the Court but discretionary, to be determined on a case-by-case basis on grounds of practical necessity.¹⁰⁵⁶ It is to be honored “only in appropriate cases. And the

¹⁰⁵⁰ *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*, 127 U.S. 265 (1888).

¹⁰⁵¹ *Id.*, 297. See also the dictum in *Cohens v. Virginia*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264, 398–399 (1821); *Chisholm v. Georgia*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 419, 431–432 (1793).

¹⁰⁵² *Marbury v. Madison*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 137 (1803). The Chief Justice declared that “a negative or exclusive sense” had to be given to the affirmative enunciation of the cases to which original jurisdiction extends. *Id.*, 174. This exclusive interpretation has been since followed. *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75 (1807); *New Jersey v. New York*, 5 Pet. (30 U.S.) 284 (1831); *Ex parte Barry*, 2 How. (43 U.S.) 65 (1844); *Ex parte Vallandigham*, 1 Wall. (68 U.S.) 243, 252 (1864); *Ex parte Yerger*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 85, 98 (1869). In the curious case of *Ex parte Levitt*, 302 U.S. 633 (1937), the Court was asked to unseat Justice Black on the ground that his appointment violated Article I, § 6, cl. 2. Although it rejected petitioner’s application, the Court did not point out that it was being asked to assume original jurisdiction in violation of *Marbury v. Madison*.

¹⁰⁵³ 252 U.S. 416 (1920). See also *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301 (1966), and *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112 (1970).

¹⁰⁵⁴ *Utah v. United States*, 394 U.S. 89, 95 (1968).

¹⁰⁵⁵ *California v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 157 U.S. 229, 261 (1895). Indeed, the use of the word “sparingly” in this context is all but ubiquitous. E.g., *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 112 S.Ct. 789, 798–800 (1992); *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725, 739 (1981); *United States v. Nevada*, 412 U.S. 534, 538 (1973).

¹⁰⁵⁶ *Texas v. New Mexico*, 462 U.S. 554, 570 (1983).

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question of what is appropriate concerns of course the seriousness and dignity of the claim; yet beyond that it necessarily involves the availability of another forum where there is jurisdiction over the named parties, where the issues tendered may be litigated, and where appropriate relief may be had. We incline to a sparing use of our original jurisdiction so that our increasing duties with the appellate docket will not suffer.”¹⁰⁵⁷ But where claims are of sufficient “seriousness and dignity,” in which resolution by the judiciary is of substantial concern, the Court will hear them.¹⁰⁵⁸

POWER OF CONGRESS TO CONTROL THE FEDERAL COURTS

The Theory of Plenary Congressional Control

Unlike its original jurisdiction, the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is subject to “exceptions and regulations” prescribed by Congress, and the jurisdiction of the inferior federal courts is subject to congressional prescription. Additionally, Congress has power to regulate modes and practices of proceeding on the part of the inferior federal courts. Whether there are limitations to the exercise of these congressional powers, and what the limitations may be, are matters that have vexed scholarly and judicial interpretation over the years, inasmuch as congressional displeasure with judicial decisions has sometimes led to successful efforts to “curb” the courts and more frequently to proposed but unsuccessful curbs.¹⁰⁵⁹ Supreme Court holdings establish clearly the

¹⁰⁵⁷ *Illinois v. City of Milwaukee*, 406 U.S. 91, 93–94 (1972). In this case, and in *Washington v. General Motors Corp.*, 406 U.S. 109 (1972), and *Ohio v. Wyandotte Chemicals Corp.*, 401 U.S. 493 (1971), the Court declined to permit adjudication of environmental pollution cases manifestly within its original jurisdiction because the nature of the cases required the resolution of complex, novel, and technical factual questions not suitable for resolution at the Court’s level as a matter of initial decision but which could be brought in the lower federal courts. Not all such cases, however, were barred. *Vermont v. New York* 406 U.S. 186 (1972) (granting leave to file complaint). In other instances, notably involving “political questions,” cf. *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U.S. 447 (1923), the Court has simply refused permission for parties to file bills of complaint without hearing them on the issue or producing an opinion. E.g., *Massachusetts v. Laird*, 400 U.S. 886 (1970) (constitutionality of United States action in Indochina); *Delaware v. New York*, 385 U.S. 895 (1966) (constitutionality of electoral college under one-man, one-vote rule).

¹⁰⁵⁸ *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 112 S.Ct. 789, 798–799 (1982). The principles are the same whether the Court’s jurisdiction is exclusive or concurrent. *Texas v. New Mexico*, 462 U.S. 554 (1983); *California v. West Virginia*, 454 U.S. 1027 (1981); *Arizona v. New Mexico*, 425 U.S. 794 (1976).

¹⁰⁵⁹ A classic but now dated study is Warren, *Legislative and Judicial Attacks on the Supreme Court of the United States—A History of the Twenty-Fifth Section of the Judiciary Act*, 47 Am. L. Rev. 1, 161 (1913). The most comprehensive consideration of the constitutional issue is Hart, *The Power of Congress to Limit the Jurisdiction of Federal Courts: An Exercise in Dialectic*, 66 Harv. L. Rev. 1362 (1953), reprinted in HART & WECHSLER, op. cit., n. 250, 393.

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breadth of congressional power, and numerous dicta assert an even broader power, but that Congress may through the exercise of its powers vitiate and overturn constitutional decisions and restrain the exercise of constitutional rights is an assertion often made but not sustained by any decision of the Court.

Appellate Jurisdiction.—In *Wiscart v. D'Auchy*,¹⁰⁶⁰ the issue was whether the statutory authorization for the Supreme Court to review on writ of error circuit court decisions in “civil actions” gave it power to review admiralty cases.¹⁰⁶¹ A majority of the Court decided that admiralty cases were “civil actions” and thus reviewable; in the course of decision, it was said that “[i]f Congress had provided no rule to regulate our proceedings, we cannot exercise an appellate jurisdiction; and if the rule is provided, we cannot depart from it.”¹⁰⁶² Much the same thought was soon to be expressed by Chief Justice Marshall, although he seems to have felt that in the absence of congressional authorization, the Court’s appellate jurisdiction would have been measured by the constitutional grant. “Had the judicial act created the supreme court, without defining or limiting its jurisdiction, it must have been considered as possessing all the jurisdiction which the constitution assigns to it. The legislature would have exercised the power it possessed of creating a supreme court, as ordained by the constitution; and in omitting to exercise the right of excepting from its constitutional powers, would have necessarily left those powers undiminished.

“The appellate powers of this court are not given by the judicial act. They are given by the constitution. But they are limited and regulated by the judicial act, and by such other acts as have been passed on the subject.”¹⁰⁶³ Later Justices viewed the matter differently than had Marshall. “By the constitution of the United States,” it was said in one opinion, “the Supreme Court possesses no appellate power in any case, unless conferred upon it by act of Congress.”¹⁰⁶⁴ In order for a case to come within its appellate jurisdiction, the Court has said, “two things must concur: the Con-

¹⁰⁶⁰ 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 321 (1796).

¹⁰⁶¹ Judiciary Act of 1789, §22, 1 Stat. 84.

¹⁰⁶² *Wiscart v. D'Auchy*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 321, 327 (1796). The dissent thought that admiralty cases were not “civil actions” and thus that there was no appellate review. *Id.*, 326–327. See also *Clarke v. Bazadone*, 1 Cr. (5 U.S.) 212 (1803); *Turner v. Bank of North America*, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 8 (1799).

¹⁰⁶³ *Durousseau v. United States*, 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 307, 313–314 (1810). “Courts which are created by written law, and whose jurisdiction is defined by written law, cannot transcend that jurisdiction.” *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (4 U.S.) 75, 93 (1807) (Chief Justice Marshall). Marshall had earlier expressed his *Durousseau* thoughts in *United States v. More*, 3 Cr. (7 U.S.) 159 (1805).

¹⁰⁶⁴ *Barry v. Mercein*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 103, 119 (1847) (case held nonreviewable because minimum jurisdictional amount not alleged).

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stitution must give the capacity to take it, and an act of Congress must supply the requisite authority.” Moreover, “it is for Congress to determine how far, within the limits of the capacity of this court to take, appellate jurisdiction shall be given, and when conferred, it can be exercised only to the extent and in the manner prescribed by law. In these respects it is wholly the creature of legislation.”¹⁰⁶⁵

This congressional power, conferred by the language of Article III, § 2, cl. 2, which provides that all jurisdiction not original is to be appellate, “with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make,” has been utilized to forestall a decision which the congressional majority assumed would be adverse to its course of action. In *Ex parte McCardle*,¹⁰⁶⁶ the Court accepted review on *certiorari* of a denial of a petition for a writ of *habeas corpus* by the circuit court; the petition was by a civilian convicted by a military commission of acts obstructing Reconstruction. Anticipating that the Court might void, or at least undermine, congressional reconstruction of the Confederate States, Congress enacted over the President’s veto a provision repealing the act which authorized the appeal McCardle had taken.¹⁰⁶⁷ Although the Court had already heard argument on the merits, it then dismissed for want of jurisdiction.¹⁰⁶⁸ “We are not at liberty to inquire into the motives of the legislature. We can only examine into its power under the Constitution; and the power to make exceptions to the appellate jurisdiction of this court is given by express words.

“What, then, is the effect of the repealing act upon the case before us? We cannot doubt as to this. Without jurisdiction the court cannot proceed at all in any cause. Jurisdiction is power to declare the law, and when it ceases to exist, the only function remaining to the court is that of announcing the fact and dismissing the

¹⁰⁶⁵ *Daniels v. Railroad Co.*, 3 Wall. (70 U.S.) 250, 254 (1865) (case held nonreviewable because certificate of division in circuit did not set forth questions in dispute as provided by statute.)

¹⁰⁶⁶ 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 318 (1868). That Congress’ apprehensions might have had a basis in fact, see C. FAIRMAN, *HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES: VOL. VI, PT. I—RECONSTRUCTION AND REUNION 1864–88* (New York: 1971), 493–495. *McCardle* is fully reviewed in *id.*, 433–514.

¹⁰⁶⁷ By the Act of February 5, 1867, § 1, 14 Stat. 386, Congress had authorized appeals to the Supreme Court from circuit court decisions denying *habeas corpus*. Previous to this statute, the Court’s jurisdiction to review *habeas corpus* decisions, based in § 14 of the Judiciary Act of 1789, 1 Stat. 81, was somewhat fuzzily conceived. Compare *United States v. Hamilton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 17 (1795), and *Ex parte Burford*, 3 Cr. (7 U.S.) 448 (1806), with *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75 (1807). The repealing statute was the Act of March 27, 1868, 15 Stat. 44. The repealed act was reenacted March 3, 1885, 23 Stat. 437.

¹⁰⁶⁸ *Ex parte McCardle*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 506 (1869). In the course of the opinion, Chief Justice Chase speculated about the Court’s power in the absence of any legislation in tones reminiscent of Marshall’s comments. *Id.*, 513.

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cause.”¹⁰⁶⁹ Although *McCardle* grew out of the stresses of Reconstruction, the principle there applied has been similarly affirmed and applied in later cases.¹⁰⁷⁰

Jurisdiction of the Inferior Federal Courts.—The Framers, as we have seen,¹⁰⁷¹ divided with regard to the necessity of courts inferior to the Supreme Court, simply authorized Congress to create such courts, in which, then, judicial power “shall be vested” and to which nine classes of cases and controversies “shall extend.”¹⁰⁷² While Justice Story deemed it imperative of Congress to create inferior federal courts and, when they had been created, to vest them with all the jurisdiction they were capable of receiving,¹⁰⁷³ the First Congress acted upon a wholly different theory. Inferior courts were created, but jurisdiction generally over cases involving the Constitution, laws, and treaties of the United States was not given them, diversity jurisdiction was limited by a minimal jurisdictional

¹⁰⁶⁹ *Id.*, 514.

¹⁰⁷⁰ Thus, see Justice Frankfurter’s remarks in *National Mutual Ins. Co. v. Tidewater Transfer Co.*, 337 U.S. 582, 655 (1948) (dissenting): “Congress need not give this Court any appellate power; it may withdraw appellate jurisdiction once conferred and it may do so even while a case is *sub judice*.” In *The Francis Wright*, 105 U.S. 381, 385–386 (1882), upholding Congress’ power to confine Supreme Court review in admiralty cases to questions of law, the Court said: “[W]hile the appellate power of this court under the Constitution extends to all cases within the judicial power of the United States, actual jurisdiction under the power is confined within such limits as Congress sees fit to prescribe. . . . What those powers shall be, and to what extent they shall be exercised, are, and always have been, proper subjects of legislative control. Authority to limit the jurisdiction necessarily carries with it authority to limit the use of the jurisdiction. Not only may whole classes of cases be kept out of the jurisdiction altogether, but particular classes of questions may be subjected to reexamination and review, while others are not.” See also *Luckenbach S. S. Co. v. United States*, 272 U.S. 533, 537 (1926); *American Construction Co. v. Jacksonville, T. & K.W. Ry.*, 148 U.S. 372, 378 (1893); *United States v. Bitty*, 208 U.S. 393 (1908); *United States v. Young*, 94 U.S. 258 (1876). Numerous restrictions on the exercise of appellate jurisdiction have been upheld. E.g., Congress for a hundred years did not provide for a right of appeal to the Supreme Court in criminal cases, except upon a certification of division by the circuit court: at first appeal was provided in capital cases and then in others. F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, *op. cit.*, n. 12, 79, 109–120. Other limitations noted heretofore include minimum jurisdictional amounts, restrictions of review to questions of law and to questions certified from the circuits, and the scope of review of state court decisions of federal constitutional questions. See *Walker v. Taylor*, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 64 (1847). Though *McCardle* is the only case in which Congress successfully forestalled an expected decision by shutting off jurisdiction, other cases have been cut off while pending on appeal, either inadvertently, *Insurance Co. v. Ritchie*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 541 (1866), or intentionally, *Railroad Co. v. Grant*, 98 U.S. 398 (1878), by raising the requirements for jurisdiction without a reservation for pending cases. See also *Bruner v. United States*, 343 U.S. 112 (1952); *District of Columbia v. Eslin*, 183 U.S. 62 (1901).

¹⁰⁷¹ *Supra*, pp. 597–598, 599–600.

¹⁰⁷² Article III, § 1, 2.

¹⁰⁷³ *Martin v. Hunter’s Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304, 374 (1816). For an effort to reframe Justice Story’s position in modern analytical terms, see the writings of Professors Amar and Clinton, *supra*, n. 134; *infra*, n. 1098.

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amount requirement and by a prohibition on creation of diversity through assignments, equity jurisdiction was limited to those cases where a “plain, adequate, and complete remedy” could not be had at law.¹⁰⁷⁴ This care for detail in conferring jurisdiction upon the inferior federal courts bespoke a conviction by Members of Congress that it was within their power to confer or to withhold jurisdiction at their discretion. The cases have generally sustained this view.

Thus, in *Turner v. Bank of North America*,¹⁰⁷⁵ the issue was the jurisdiction of the federal courts in a suit to recover on a promissory note between two citizens of the same State but in which the note had been assigned to a citizen of a second State so that suit could be brought in federal court under its diversity jurisdiction, a course of action prohibited by § 11 of the Judiciary Act of 1789.¹⁰⁷⁶ Counsel for the bank argued that the grant of judicial power by the Constitution was a direct grant of jurisdiction, provoking from Chief Justice Ellsworth a considered doubt¹⁰⁷⁷ and from Justice Chase a firm rejection. “The notion has frequently been entertained, that the federal courts derive their judicial power immediately from the constitution: but the political truth is, that the disposal of the judicial power (except in a few specified instances) belongs to Congress. If Congress has given the power to this Court, we possess it, not otherwise: and if Congress has not given the power to us, or to any other Court, it still remains at the legislative disposal. Besides, Congress is not bound, and it would, perhaps, be inexpedient, to enlarge the jurisdiction of the federal courts, to every subject, in every form, which the constitution might warrant.”¹⁰⁷⁸ Applying § 11, the Court held that the circuit court had lacked jurisdiction.

Chief Justice Marshall himself soon made similar assertions,¹⁰⁷⁹ and the early decisions of the Court continued to be

¹⁰⁷⁴ Judiciary Act of 1789, 1 Stat. 73. See Warren, *New Light on the History of the Judiciary Act of 1789*, 37 Harv. L. Rev. 49 (1923). A modern study of the first Judiciary Act that demonstrates the congressional belief in discretion to structure jurisdiction is Casto, *The First Congress's Understanding of Its Authority over the Federal Courts' Jurisdiction*, 26 B. C. L. Rev. 1101 (1985).

¹⁰⁷⁵ 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 8 (1799).

¹⁰⁷⁶ “N]or shall any district or circuit court have cognizance of any suit to recover the contents of any promissory note or other chose in action in favour of an assignee, unless a suit might have been prosecuted in such court to recover the said contents if no assignment had been made, except in cases of foreign bills of exchange.” 1 Stat. 79.

¹⁰⁷⁷ *Turner v. Bank of North America*, 4 Dall. (4 U.S.) 8, 10 (1799).

¹⁰⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁷⁹ In *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75, 93 (1807), Marshall observed that “courts which are created by written law, and whose jurisdiction is defined by written law, cannot transcend that jurisdiction.”

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sprinkled with assumptions that the power of Congress to create inferior federal courts necessarily implied “the power to limit jurisdiction of those Courts to particular objects.”¹⁰⁸⁰ In *Cary v. Curtis*,¹⁰⁸¹ a statute making final the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury in certain tax disputes was challenged as an unconstitutional deprivation of the judicial power of the courts. The Court decided otherwise. “[T]he judicial power of the United States, although it has its origin in the Constitution, is (except in enumerated instances applicable exclusively to this court), dependent for its distribution and organization, and for the modes of its exercise, entirely upon the action of Congress, who possess the sole power of creating tribunals (inferior to the Supreme Court), for the exercise of the judicial power, and of investing them with jurisdiction either limited, concurrent, or exclusive, and of withholding jurisdiction from them in the exact degrees and character which to Congress may seem proper for the public good.”¹⁰⁸² Five years later, the validity of the assignee clause of the Judiciary Act of 1789¹⁰⁸³ was placed in issue in *Sheldon v. Sill*,¹⁰⁸⁴ in which diversity of citizenship had been created by assignment of a negotiable instrument. It was argued that inasmuch as the right of a citizen of any State to sue citizens of another flowed directly from Article III, Congress could not restrict that right. Unanimously, the Court rejected these contentions and held that because the Constitution did not create inferior federal courts but rather authorized Congress to create them, Congress was also empowered to define their jurisdiction and to withhold jurisdiction of any of the enumerated cases and controversies in Article III. The case and the principle has been cited and reaffirmed numerous times,¹⁰⁸⁵ and has been quite recently applied.¹⁰⁸⁶

¹⁰⁸⁰ *United States v. Hudson & Goodwin*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 32, 33 (1812). Justice Johnson continued: “All other Courts [beside the Supreme Court] created by the general Government possess no jurisdiction but what is given them by the power that creates them, and can be vested with none but what the power ceded to the general Government will authorize them to confer.” See also *Rhode Island v. Massachusetts*, 12 Pet. (37 U.S.) 657, 721–722 (1838).

¹⁰⁸¹ 3 How. (44 U.S.) 236 (1845).

¹⁰⁸² *Id.*, 244–245. Justices McLean and Story dissented, arguing that the right to construe the law in all matters of controversy is of the essence of judicial power, *Id.*, 264.

¹⁰⁸³ *Supra*, n. 1076.

¹⁰⁸⁴ 8 How. (49 U.S.) 441 (1850).

¹⁰⁸⁵ E.g., *Kline v. Burke Construction Co.*, 260 U.S. 226, 233–234 (1922); *Ladew v. Tennessee Copper Co.*, 218 U.S. 357, 358 (1910); *Venner v. Great Northern R. Co.*, 209 U.S. 24, 35 (1908); *Kentucky v. Powers*, 201 U.S. 1, 24 (1906); *Stevenson v. Fain*, 195 U.S. 165, 167 (1904); *Plaquemines Fruit Co. v. Henderson*, 170 U.S. 511, 513–521 (1898); *The Mayor v. Cooper*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 247, 251–252 (1868).

¹⁰⁸⁶ By the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Congress required covered States that wished to be relieved of coverage to bring actions to this effect in the District Court

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Congressional Control Over Writs and Processes.—The Judiciary Act of 1789 contained numerous provisions relating to the times and places for holding court, even of the Supreme Court, to times of adjournment, appointment of officers, issuance of writs, citations for contempt, and many other matters which it might be supposed courts had some authority of their own to regulate.¹⁰⁸⁷ The power to enjoin governmental and private action has frequently been curbed by Congress, especially as the action has involved the power of taxation at either the federal or state level.¹⁰⁸⁸ Though the courts have variously interpreted these restrictions,¹⁰⁸⁹ they have not denied the power to impose them.

Reacting to judicial abuse of injunctions in labor disputes,¹⁰⁹⁰ Congress in 1932 enacted the Norris-La Guardia Act which forbade the issuance of injunctions in labor disputes except through compliance with a lengthy hearing and fact-finding process which required the district judge to determine that only through the injunctive process could irreparable harm through illegal conduct be prevented.¹⁰⁹¹ The Court seemingly experienced no difficulty upholding the Act,¹⁰⁹² and it has liberally applied it through the years.¹⁰⁹³

Congress' power to confer, withhold, and restrict jurisdiction is clearly revealed in the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942¹⁰⁹⁴ and in the cases arising from it. Fearful that the price control pro-

of the District of Columbia. In *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 331 (1966), Chief Justice Warren for the Court said: "Despite South Carolina's argument to the contrary, Congress might appropriately limit litigation under this provision to a single court in the District of Columbia, pursuant to its constitutional power under Art. III, §1, to 'ordain and establish' inferior federal tribunals." See also *Palmore v. United States*, 411 U.S. 389, 400-402 (1973); *Swain v. Pressley*, 430 U.S. 372 (1977). And see *Taylor v. St. Vincent's Hosp.*, 369 F. Supp. 948 (D. Mont. 1973), *aff'd*, 523 F.2d 75 (9th Cir.), CERT. DEN., 424 U.S. 948 (1976).

¹⁰⁸⁷ 1 Stat. 73. For a comprehensive discussion with itemization, see Frankfurter & Landis, *Power of Congress over Procedure in Criminal Contempts in 'Inferior' Federal Courts—A Study in Separation of Powers*, 37 Harv. L. Rev. 1010 (1924).

¹⁰⁸⁸ The Act of March 2, 1867, 10, 14 Stat. 475, as amended, now 26 U.S.C. § 7421 (federal taxes); Act of August 21, 1937, 50 Stat. 738, 28 U.S.C. § 1341 (state taxes). See also Act of May 14, 1934, 48 Stat. 775, 28 U.S.C. § 1342 (state rate-making).

¹⁰⁸⁹ Compare *Snyder v. Marks*, 109 U.S. 189 (1883), with *Dodge v. Brady*, 240 U.S. 122 (1916); with *Allen v. Regents*, 304 U.S. 439 (1938).

¹⁰⁹⁰ F. FRANKFURTER & I. GREENE, *THE LABOR INJUNCTION* (New York: 1930).

¹⁰⁹¹ 47 Stat. 70 (1932), 29 U.S.C. §§ 101-115.

¹⁰⁹² In *Lauf v. E.G. Shinner & Co.*, 303 U.S. 323, 330 (1938), the Court simply declared: "There can be no question of the power of Congress thus to define and limit the jurisdiction of the inferior courts of the United States."

¹⁰⁹³ E.g., *New Negro Alliance v. Sanitary Grocery Co.*, 303 U.S. 552 (1938); *Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen v. Chicago River & Indiana R.R. Co.*, 353 U.S. 30 (1957); *Boys Market v. Retail Clerks Union*, 398 U.S. 235 (1970).

¹⁰⁹⁴ 56 Stat. 23 (1942).

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gram might be nullified by injunctions, Congress provided for a special court in which persons could challenge the validity of price regulations issued by the Government with appeal from the Emergency Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court. The basic constitutionality of the Act was sustained in *Lockerty v. Phillips*.¹⁰⁹⁵ In *Yakus v. United States*,¹⁰⁹⁶ the Court upheld the provision of the Act which conferred exclusive jurisdiction on the special court to hear challenges to any order or regulation and foreclosed a plea of invalidity of any such regulation or order as a defense to a criminal proceeding under the Act in the regular district courts. Although Justice Rutledge protested in dissent that this provision conferred jurisdiction on district courts from which essential elements of the judicial power had been abstracted,¹⁰⁹⁷ Chief Justice Stone for the Court declared that the provision presented no novel constitutional issue.

The Theory Reconsidered

Despite the breadth of the language of many of the previously cited cases, the actual holdings constitute something less than an affirmance of plenary congressional power to do anything desired by manipulation of jurisdiction and indeed the cases reflect certain limitations. Setting to one side various formulations, such as mandatory vesting of jurisdiction,¹⁰⁹⁸ inherent judicial power,¹⁰⁹⁹ and

¹⁰⁹⁵ 319 U.S. 182 (1943).

¹⁰⁹⁶ 321 U.S. 414 (1944).

¹⁰⁹⁷ *Id.*, 468. In *United States v. Mendoza-Lopez*, 481 U.S. 828 (1987), purportedly in reliance on *Yakus* and other cases, the Court held that a collateral challenge must be permitted to the use of a deportation proceeding as an element of a criminal offense where effective judicial review of the deportation order had been denied. A statutory scheme similar to that in *Yakus* was before the Court in *Adamo Wrecking Co. v. United States*, 434 U.S. 275 (1978), but statutory construction enabled the Court to pass by constitutional issues that were not perceived to be insignificant. See esp. *id.*, 289 (Justice Powell concurring). See also *Harrison v. PPG Industries*, 446 U.S. 578 (1980), and *id.*, 594 (Justice Powell concurring).

¹⁰⁹⁸ This was Justice Story's theory propounded in *Martin v. Hunter's Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304, 329–336 (1816). Nevertheless, Story apparently did not believe that the constitutional bestowal of jurisdiction was self-executing and accepted the necessity of statutory conferral. *White v. Fenner*, 29 Fed. Cas. 1015 (No. 17,547) (C.C.D.R.I. 1818) (Justice Story). In the present day, it has been argued that the presence in the jurisdictional-grant provisions of Article III of the word "all" before the subject-matter grants - federal question, admiralty, public ambassadors - mandates federal court review at some level of these cases, whereas congressional discretion exists with respect to party-defined jurisdiction - such as diversity. Amar, *A Neo-Federalist View of Article III: Separating the Two-Tiers of Federal Jurisdiction*, 65 B. U. L. Rev. 205 (1985); Amar, *The Two-Tiered Structure of the Judiciary Act of 1789*, 138 U. Pa. L. Rev. 1499 (1990). Rebuttal articles include Meltzer, *The History and Structure of Article III*, *id.*, 1569; Redish, *Text, Structure, and Common Sense in the Interpretation of Article III*, *id.*, 1633; and a response by Amar, *id.*, 1651. An approach similar to Professor Amar's is Clinton, *A Mandatory View of Federal Jurisdiction: A Guided Quest for the Original Understanding of Article III*, 132

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a theory, variously expressed, that the Supreme Court has “essential constitutional functions” of judicial review that Congress may not impair through jurisdictional limitations,¹¹⁰⁰ which lack textual and subsequent judicial support, one can see nonetheless the possibilities of restrictions on congressional power flowing from such basic constitutional underpinnings as express prohibitions, separation of powers, and the nature of the judicial function.¹¹⁰¹ Whether because of the plethora of scholarly writing contesting the existence of unlimited congressional power or because of another reason, the Court of late has taken to noting constitutional reservations about legislative denials of jurisdiction for judicial review of constitutional issues and construing statutes so as not to deny jurisdiction.¹¹⁰²

*Ex parte McCardle*¹¹⁰³ marks the furthest advance of congressional imposition of its will on the federal courts, and it is significant because the curb related to the availability of the writ of *habeas corpus*, which is marked out with special recognition by the Constitution.¹¹⁰⁴

But how far did *McCardle* actually reach? In concluding its opinion, the Court carefully observed: “Counsel seem to have supposed, if effect be given to the repealing act in question, that the whole appellate power of the court, in cases of *habeas corpus*, is de-

U. Pa. L. Rev. 741 (1984); Clinton, *Early Implementation and Departures from the Constitutional Plan*, 86 Colum. L. Rev. 1515 (1986). Though perhaps persuasive as an original interpretation, both theories confront a large number of holdings and dicta as well as the understandings of the early Congresses revealed in their actions. See Casto, *supra*, n. 1074.

¹⁰⁹⁹ Justice Brewer in his opinion for the Court in *United States v. Detroit Timber & Lumber Co.*, 200 U.S. 321, 339 (1906), came close to asserting an independent, inherent power of the federal courts, at least in equity. See also *Paine Lumber Co. v. Neal*, 244 U.S. 459, 473, 475–476 (1917) (Justice Pitney dissenting). The acceptance by the Court of the limitations of the Norris-LaGuardia Act, among other decisions, contradicts these assertions.

¹¹⁰⁰ The theory was apparently first developed in Ratner, *Congressional Power Over the Appellate Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court*, 109 U. Pa. L. rev. 157 (1960). See also Ratner, *Majoritarian Constraints on Judicial Review: Congressional Control of Supreme Court Jurisdiction*, 27 Vill. L. Rev. 929 (1981–82). The theory was endorsed by Attorney General William French Smith as the view of the Department of Justice. 128 CONG. REC. 9093–9097 (1982) (Letter to Hon. Strom Thurmond).

¹¹⁰¹ An extraordinary amount of writing has been addressed to the issue, only a fraction of which is touched on here. See HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 362–424.

¹¹⁰² *Johnson v. Robison*, 415 U.S. 361, 366–367 (1974); *Weinberger v. Salfi*, 422 U.S. 749, 762 (1975); *Bowen v. Michigan Academy of Family Physicians*, 476 U.S. 667, 681 n. 12 (1986); *Webster v. Doe*, 486 U.S. 592, 603 (1988). In the last cited case, Justice Scalia attacked the reservation and argued for nearly complete congressional discretion. *Id.*, 611–615 (concurring).

¹¹⁰³ 7 Wall (74 U.S.) 506 (1869). For the definitive analysis of the case, see Van Alstyne, *A Critical Guide to Ex Parte McCardle*, 15 Ariz. L. Rev. 229 (1973).

¹¹⁰⁴ Article I, §9, cl. 2.

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nied. But this is an error. The act of 1868 does not exempt from that jurisdiction any cases but appeals from Circuit Courts under the act of 1867. It does not affect the jurisdiction which was previously exercised."¹¹⁰⁵ A year later, in *Ex parte Yerger*,¹¹⁰⁶ the Court held that it did have authority under the Judiciary Act of 1789 to review on *certiorari* a denial by a circuit court of a petition for writ of *habeas corpus* on behalf of one held by the military in the South. It thus remains unclear whether the Court would have followed its language suggesting plenary congressional control if the effect had been to deny absolutely an appeal from a denial of a writ of *habeas corpus*.¹¹⁰⁷

Another Reconstruction Congress attempt to curb the judiciary failed in *United States v. Klein*,¹¹⁰⁸ in which a statute, couched in jurisdictional terms, which attempted to set aside both the effect of a presidential pardon and the judicial effectuation of such a pardon was voided.¹¹⁰⁹ The statute declared that no pardon was to be admissible in evidence in support of any claim against the United States in the Court of Claims for the return of confiscated property of Confederates nor, if already put in evidence in a pending case, should it be considered on behalf of the claimant by the Court of

¹¹⁰⁵ *Ex parte McCardle*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 506, 515 (1869).

¹¹⁰⁶ 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 85 (1869). *Yerger* is fully reviewed in C. FAIRMAN, HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES: VOL. VI, PT. I—RECONSTRUCTION AND REUNION, 1864–88 (New York: 1971), 558–618.

¹¹⁰⁷ Cf. *Eisentrager v. Forrester*, 174 F. 2d 961, 966 (D.C.Cir. 1949), *revd. on other grounds sub nom. Johnson v. Eisentrager*, 339 U.S. 763 (1950). Justice Douglas, with whom Justice Black joined, said in *Glidden Co. v. Zdanok*, 370 U.S. 530, 605 n. 11 (1962) (dissenting opinion): "There is a serious question whether the *McCardle* case could command a majority view today." Justice Harlan, however, cited *McCardle* with apparent approval of its holding, *id.*, 567–568, while noting that Congress' "authority is not, of course, unlimited." *Id.*, 568. *McCardle* was cited approvingly in *Bruner v. United States*, 343 U.S. 112, 117 n. 8 (1952), as illustrating the rule "that when a law conferring jurisdiction is repealed without any reservation as to pending cases, all cases fall with the law. . . ."

¹¹⁰⁸ 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 128 (1872). See C. FAIRMAN, HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES: VOL. VI, PT. I—RECONSTRUCTION AND REUNION 1864–88 (New York: 1971), 558–618. The seminal discussion of *Klein* may be found in Young, *Congressional Regulation of Federal Courts' Jurisdiction and Processes: United States v. Klein Revisited*, 1981 Wisc. L. Rev. 1189. While he granted that *Klein* is limited insofar as its bearing on jurisdictional limitation *per se* is concerned, he cited an ambiguous holding in *Armstrong v. United States*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 154 (1872), as in fact a judicial invalidation of a jurisdictional limitation. Young, *id.*, 1222–1223 n. 179.

¹¹⁰⁹ Congress by the Act of July 17, 1862, §§ 5, 13, authorized the confiscation of property of those persons in rebellion and authorized the President to issue pardons on such conditions as he deemed expedient, the latter provision being unnecessary in light of Article II, § 2, cl. 1. The President's pardons all provided for restoration of property, except slaves, and in *United States v. Padelford*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 531 (1870), the Court held the claimant entitled to the return of his property on the basis of his pardon. Congress thereupon enacted the legislation in question. 16 Stat. 235 (1870).

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Claims or by the Supreme Court on appeal. Proof of loyalty was required to be made according to provisions of certain congressional enactments and when judgment had already been rendered on other proof of loyalty the Supreme Court on appeal should have no further jurisdiction and should dismiss for want of jurisdiction. Moreover, it was provided that the recitation in any pardon which had been received that the claimant had taken part in the rebellion was to be taken as conclusive evidence that the claimant had been disloyal and was not entitled to regain his property.

The Court began by reaffirming that Congress controlled the existence of the inferior federal courts and the jurisdiction vested in them and the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. “But the language of this provision shows plainly that it does not intend to withhold appellate jurisdiction except as a means to an end. . . . It is evident . . . that the denial of jurisdiction to this court, as well as to the Court of Claims, is founded solely on the application of a rule of decision, in causes pending, prescribed by Congress. The Court has jurisdiction of the cause to a given point; but when it ascertains that a certain state of things exists, its jurisdiction is to cease and it is required to dismiss the cause for want of jurisdiction.

“It seems to us that this is not an exercise of the acknowledged power of Congress to make exceptions and prescribe regulations to the appellate power.”¹¹¹⁰ The statute was void for two reasons; it “infring[ed] the constitutional power of the Executive,”¹¹¹¹ and it “prescrib[ed] a rule for the decision of a cause in a particular way.”¹¹¹² *Klein* thus stands for the proposition that Congress may not violate the principle of separation of powers¹¹¹³ and that it may not accomplish certain forbidden substantive acts by casting them in jurisdictional terms.¹¹¹⁴

Other restraints on congressional power over the federal courts may be gleaned from the opinion in the much-disputed *Crowell v.*

¹¹¹⁰United States v. Klein, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 128, 145–146 (1872).

¹¹¹¹Id., 147.

¹¹¹²Id., 146.

¹¹¹³Id., 147. For an extensive discussion of *Klein*, see United States v. Sioux Nation, 448 U.S. 371, 391–405 (1980), and id., 424, 427–434 (Justice Rehnquist dissenting). See also Pope v. United States, 323 U.S. 1, 8–9 (1944); Glidden Co. v. Zdanok, 370 U.S. 530, 568 (1962) (Justice Harlan). In *Robertson v. Seattle Audubon Society*, 112 S.Ct. 1407 (1992), the 9th Circuit had held unconstitutional under *Klein* a statute that it construed to deny the federal courts power to construe the law, but the Supreme Court held that Congress had *changed* the law that the courts were to apply. The Court declined to consider whether *Klein* was properly to be read as voiding a law “because it directed decisions in pending cases without amending any law.” Id., 1414.

¹¹¹⁴United States v. Klein, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 128, 147 (1872).

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Benson.¹¹¹⁵ In an 1856 case, the Court distinguished between matters of private right which from their nature were the subject of a suit at the common law, equity, or admiralty and which cannot be withdrawn from judicial cognizance and those matters of public right which, though susceptible of judicial determination, did not require it and which might or might not be brought within judicial cognizance.¹¹¹⁶ What this might mean was elaborated in *Crowell v. Benson*,¹¹¹⁷ involving the finality to be accorded administrative findings of jurisdictional facts in compensation cases. In holding that an employer was entitled to a trial *de novo* of the constitutional jurisdictional facts of the matter of the employer-employee relationship and of the occurrence of the injury in interstate commerce, Chief Justice Hughes fused the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment and Article III but emphasized that the issue ultimately was “rather a question of the appropriate maintenance of the Federal judicial power” and “whether the Congress may substitute for constitutional courts, in which the judicial power of the United States is vested, an administrative agency . . . for the final determination of the existence of the facts upon which the enforcement of the constitutional rights of the citizen depend.” The answer was stated broadly. “In cases brought to enforce constitutional rights, the judicial power of the United States necessarily extends to the independent determination of all questions, both of law and fact, necessary to the performance of that supreme function. . . . We think that the essential independence of the exercise of the judicial power of the United States in the enforcement of constitutional rights requires that the Federal court should determine such an issue upon its own record and the facts elicited before it.”¹¹¹⁸

It is not at all clear that, in this respect, *Crowell v. Benson* remains good law. It has never been overruled, and it has been cited

¹¹¹⁵285 U.S. 22 (1932). See also *Ng Fung Ho v. White*, 259 U.S. 276 (1922); *Ohio Valley Water Co. v. Ben Avon Borough*, 253 U.S. 287 (1920); *St. Joseph Stock Yard Co. v. United States*, 298 U.S. 38 (1936).

¹¹¹⁶*Murray's Lessee v. Hoboken Land & Improvement Co.*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 272 (1856).

¹¹¹⁷285 U.S. 22 (1932). Justices Brandeis, Stone, and Roberts dissented.

¹¹¹⁸*Id.*, 56, 60, 64.

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by several Justices approvingly,¹¹¹⁹ but the Court has never applied the principle to control another case.¹¹²⁰

Express Constitutional Restrictions on Congress.—“[T]he Constitution is filled with provisions that grant Congress or the States specific power to legislate in certain areas;” Justice Black said in a different context, “these granted powers are always subject to the limitations that they may not be exercised in a way that violates other specific provisions of the Constitution.”¹¹²¹ The Supreme Court has had no occasion to deal with this principle in the context of Congress’ power over its jurisdiction and the jurisdiction of the inferior federal courts, but the passage of the Portal-to-Portal Act¹¹²² presented the lower courts such an opportunity. The Act extinguished back-pay claims growing out of several Supreme Court interpretations of the Fair Labor Standards Act; it also provided that no court should have jurisdiction to enforce any claim arising from these decisions. While some district courts sustained the Act on the basis of the withdrawal of jurisdiction, this action was disapproved by the Courts of Appeals which indicated that the withdrawal of jurisdiction would be ineffective if the extinguishment of the claims as a substantive matter was invalid. “We think . . . that the exercise by Congress of its control over jurisdiction is subject to compliance with at least the requirements of the Fifth Amendment. That is to say, while Congress has the undoubted power to give, withhold, and restrict the jurisdiction of the courts other than the Supreme Court, it must not so exercise that power as to deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due

¹¹¹⁹ See *Northern Pipeline Const. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co.*, 458 U.S. 50, 76–87 (1982) (plurality opinion), and *id.*, 100–103, 109–111 (Justice White dissenting) (discussing the due process/Article III basis of *Crowell*). Both the plurality and the dissent agreed that later cases had “undermined” the constitutional/jurisdictional fact analysis. *Id.*, 82, n. 34; 110 n. 12. For other discussions, see *Jacobellis v. Ohio*, 378 U.S. 184, 190 (1964) (Justice Brennan announcing judgment of the Court, joined by Justice Goldberg); *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563, 578–579 (1968); *Agosto v. INS*, 436 U.S. 748, 753 (1978); *United States v. Raddatz*, 447 U.S. 667, 682–684 (1980), and *id.*, 707–712 (Justice Marshall dissenting).

¹¹²⁰ Compare *Permian Basin Area Rate Cases*, 390 U.S. 747, 767, 792 (1968); *Cordillo v. Liberty Mutual Ins. Co.*, 330 U.S. 469 (1947); *South Chicago Coal & Dock Co. v. Bassett*, 309 U.S. 251 (1940). Justice Frankfurter was extremely critical of *Crowell*. *Estep v. United States*, 327 U.S. 114, 142 (1946); *City of Yonkers v. United States*, 320 U.S. 685 (1944).

¹¹²¹ *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23, 29 (1968) (opinion of the Court.) The elder Justice Harlan perhaps had the same thought in mind when he said that, with regard to Congress’ power over jurisdiction, “what such exceptions and regulations should be it is for Congress, in its wisdom to establish, having of course due regard to all the Constitution.” *United States v. Bitty*, 208 U.S. 393, 399–400 (1908).

¹¹²² 52 Stat. 1060, 29 U.S.C. § 201.

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process of law or to take private property without just compensation.”¹¹²³

Conclusion.—There thus remains a measure of doubt that Congress’ power over the federal courts is as plenary as some of the Court’s language suggests it is. Congress has a vast amount of discretion in conferring and withdrawing and structuring the original and appellate jurisdiction of the inferior federal courts and the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; so much is clear from the practice since 1789 and the holdings of many Court decisions. That its power extends to accomplishing by means of its control over jurisdiction actions which it could not do directly by substantive enactment is by no means clear from the text of the Constitution nor from the cases.

FEDERAL-STATE COURT RELATIONS

Problems Raised by Concurrency

The Constitution established a system of government in which total power, sovereignty, was not unequivocally lodged in one level of government. In Chief Justice Marshall’s words, “our complex system [presents] the rare and difficult scheme of one general government, whose actions extend over the whole, but which possesses only certain enumerated powers, and of numerous state governments, which retain and exercise all powers not delegated to the Union. . . .” Naturally, in such a system, “contests respecting power must arise.”¹¹²⁴ Contests respecting power may frequently arise in a federal system with dual structures of courts exercising concurrent jurisdiction in a number of classes of cases. Too, the possibilities of frictions grow out of the facts that one set of courts may interfere directly or indirectly with the other through injunctive and declaratory processes, through the use of *habeas corpus* and removal to release persons from the custody of the other set, and through the refusal by state courts to be bound by decisions of the United States Supreme Court. The relations between federal and state courts are governed in part by constitutional law, with respect, say, to state court interference with federal courts and

¹¹²³ *Battaglia v. General Motors Corp.*, 169 F. 2d 254, 257 (2d Cir.), *cert. den.* 335 U.S. 887 (1948) (Judge Chase). See also *Seese v. Bethlehem Steel Co.*, 168 F. 2d 58, 65 (4th Cir. 1948) (Chief Judge Parker). For recent dicta, see *Johnson v. Robison*, 415 U.S. 361, 366–367 (1974); *Weinberger v. Salfi*, 422 U.S. 749, 761–762 (1975); *Territory of Guam v. Olsen*, 431 U.S. 195, 201–202, 204 (1977); *Adamo Wrecking Co. v. United States*, 434 U.S. 275 (1978); *Bowen v. Michigan Academy of Family Physicians*, 476 U.S. 667, 681 n. 12 (1986); *Webster v. Doe*, 486 U.S. 592, 603 (1988); but see *id.*, 611–615 (Justice Scalia dissenting). Note the relevance of *United States v. Mendoza-Lopez*, 481 U.S. 828 (1987).

¹¹²⁴ *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1.204–205 (1824).

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state court refusal to comply with the judgments of federal tribunals, in part by statutes, with respect to the federal law generally enjoining federal-court interference with pending state court proceedings, and in part by self-imposed rules of comity and restraint, such as the abstention doctrine, all applied to avoid unseemly conflicts, which, however, have at times occurred.

Subject to congressional provision to the contrary, state courts have concurrent jurisdiction over all the classes of cases and controversies enumerated in Article III, except suits between States, those to which the United States is a party, those to which a foreign state is a party, and those within the traditional admiralty jurisdiction.¹¹²⁵ Even within this last category, however, state courts, though unable to prejudice the harmonious operation and uniformity of general maritime law,¹¹²⁶ have concurrent jurisdiction over cases that occur within the maritime jurisdiction when such litigation assumes the form of a suit at common law.¹¹²⁷ Review of state court decisions by the United States Supreme Court is intended to protect the federal interest and promote uniformity of law and decision relating to the federal interest.¹¹²⁸ The first category of conflict surfaces here. The second broader category arises from the fact that state interests, actions, and wishes, all of which may at times be effectuated through state courts, are variously subject to restraint by federal courts. Although the possibility always existed,¹¹²⁹ it became much more significant and likely when, in the wake of the Civil War, Congress bestowed general fed-

¹¹²⁵ See 28 U.S.C. §§1251, 1331 *et seq.* Indeed, the presumption is that states courts enjoy concurrent jurisdiction, and Congress must explicitly or implicitly confine jurisdiction to the federal courts to oust the state courts. See *Gulf Offshore Co. v. Mobil Oil Corp.*, 453 U.S. 473, 477–484 (1981); *Tafflin v. Levitt*, 493 U.S. 455 (1990); *Yellow Freight System, Inc. v. Donnelly*, 494 U.S. 820 (1990). Federal courts have exclusive jurisdiction of the federal antitrust laws, even though Congress has not spoken expressly or impliedly. See *General Investment Co. v. Lake Shore & Michigan Southern R. Co.*, 260 U.S. 261, 287 (1922). Justice Scalia has argued that, inasmuch as state courts have jurisdiction generally because federal law *is* law for them, Congress can provide exclusive federal jurisdiction only by explicit and affirmative statement in the text of the statute, *Tafflin v. Levitt*, *supra*, 469, but as can be seen that is not now the rule.

¹¹²⁶ *Southern Pacific Co. v. Jensen*, 244 U.S. 205 (1917).

¹¹²⁷ Through the “saving to suitors” clause. 28 U.S.C. §1333(1). See *Madruga v. Superior Court*, 346 U.S. 556, 560–561 (1954).

¹¹²⁸ *Supra*, pp. 597–598, 701–703. See 28 U.S.C. §1257.

¹¹²⁹ E.g., by a suit against a State by a citizen of another State directly in the Supreme Court, *Chisholm v. Georgia*, 2 Dall. (2 U.S.) 419 (1793), which was overturned by the Eleventh Amendment; by suits in diversity or removal from state courts where diversity existed, 1 Stat. 78, 79; by suits by aliens on treaties, 1 Stat. 77, and, subsequently, by removal from state courts of certain actions. 3 Stat. 198. And for some unknown reason, Congress passed in 1793 a statute prohibiting federal court injunctions against state court proceedings. See *Toucey v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 314 U.S. 118, 120–132 (1941).

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eral question jurisdiction on the federal courts,¹¹³⁰ enacted a series of civil rights statutes and conferred jurisdiction on the federal courts to enforce them,¹¹³¹ and most important of all proposed and saw to the ratification of the three constitutional amendments, especially the Fourteenth, which made subject to federal scrutiny an ever-increasing number of state actions.¹¹³²

The Autonomy of State Courts

Noncompliance With and Disobedience of Supreme Court Orders by State Courts.—The United States Supreme Court when deciding cases on review from the state courts usually remands the case to the state court when it reverses for “proceedings not inconsistent” with the Court’s opinion. This disposition leaves open the possibility that unresolved issues of state law will be decided adversely to the party prevailing in the Supreme Court or that the state court will so interpret the facts or the Court’s opinion to the detriment of the party prevailing in the Supreme Court.¹¹³³ When it is alleged that the state court has deviated from the Supreme Court’s mandate, the party losing below may appeal again¹¹³⁴ or she may presumably apply for mandamus to compel compliance.¹¹³⁵ Statutorily, the Court may attempt to overcome state recalcitrance by a variety of specific forms of judgment.¹¹³⁶

¹¹³⁰ Act of March 3, 1875, 18 Stat. 470.

¹¹³¹ Civil Rights Act of 1871, § 1, 17 Stat. 13. The authorization for equitable relief is now 42 U.S.C. § 1983, while jurisdiction is granted by 28 U.S.C. § 1343.

¹¹³² See H. WECHSLER, *THE NATIONALIZATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND CIVIL RIGHTS* (Austin: 1969).

¹¹³³ HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 518–521. Notable examples include *Martin v. Hunter’s Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304 (1816); *Cohens v. Virginia*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 264 (1821); *Ableman v. Booth*, 21 How. (62 U.S.) 506 (1859). For studies, see Note, *Final Disposition of State Court Decisions Reversed and Remanded by the Supreme Court, October Term 1931 to October Term 1940*, 55 Harv. L. Rev. 1357 (1942); Note, *Evasion of Supreme Court Mandates in Cases Remanded to State Courts Since 1941*, 67 Harv. L. Rev. 1251 (1954); Schneider, *State Court Evasion of United States Supreme Court Mandates: A Reconsideration of the Evidence*, 7 Valp. L. Rev. 191 (1973).

¹¹³⁴ *Martin v. Hunter’s Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304 (1816). See 2 W. CROSSKEY, *POLITICS AND THE CONSTITUTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES* (Chicago: 1953), 785–817; 1 C. WARREN, *THE SUPREME COURT IN UNITED STATES HISTORY* (Boston: 1926), 442–453. For recent examples, see *NAACP v. Alabama*, 360 U.S. 240, 245 (1959); *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Flowers*, 377 U.S. 288 (1964), after remand, 277 Ala. 89, 167 So. 2d 171 (1964); *Stanton v. Stanton*, 429 U.S. 501 (1977); *General Atomic Co. v. Felter*, 436 U.S. 493 (1978).

¹¹³⁵ It does not appear that mandamus has ever actually issued. See *In re Blake*, 175 U.S. 114 (1899); *Ex parte Texas*, 315 U.S. 8 (1942); *Fisher v. Hurst*, 333 U.S. 147 (1948); *Lavender v. Clark*, 329 U.S. 674 (1946); *General Atomic Co. v. Felter*, 436 U.S. 493 (1978).

¹¹³⁶ *Martin v. Hunter’s Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304 (1816); *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 437 (1819); *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 239 (1824); *Williams v. Bruffy*, 102 U.S. 248 (1880) (entry of judgment); *Tyler v. Maguire*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 253 (1873) (award of execution); *Stanley v. Schwalby*,

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If, however, the state courts simply defy the mandate of the Court, difficult problems face the Court, extending to the possibility of contempt citations.¹¹³⁷

The most spectacular disobedience of federal authority arose out of the conflict between the Cherokees and the State of Georgia, which was seeking to remove them and seize their lands, with the active support of President Jackson.¹¹³⁸ In the first instance, after the Court had issued a writ of error to the Georgia Supreme Court to review the murder conviction of a Cherokee, Corn Tassel, and after the writ was served, Corn Tassel was executed on the day set for the event, contrary to the federal law that a writ of error superseded sentence until the appeal was decided.¹¹³⁹ Two years later, Georgia again defied the Court when in *Worcester v. Georgia*,¹¹⁴⁰ it set aside the conviction of two missionaries for residing among the Indians without a license. Despite the issuance of a special mandate to a local court to discharge the missionaries, they were not released, and the State's governor loudly proclaimed resistance. Consequently, the two remained in jail until they agreed to abandon further efforts for their discharge by federal authority and to leave the State, whereupon the governor pardoned them.

Use of State Courts in Enforcement of Federal Law.—Although the states-rights proponents in the Convention and in the First Congress wished to leave to the state courts the enforcement of federal law and rights rather than to create inferior federal courts,¹¹⁴¹ it was not long before they or their successors began to argue that state courts could not be required to adjudicate cases based on federal law. The practice in the early years was to make the jurisdiction of federal courts generally concurrent with that of state courts,¹¹⁴² and early Congresses imposed positive duties on

162 U.S. 255 (1896); *Poindexter v. Greenhow*, 114 U.S. 270 (1885) (remand with direction to enter a specific judgment). See 28 U.S.C. §1651(a), 2106.

¹¹³⁷ See 18 U.S.C. §401. In *United States v. Shipp*, 203 U.S. 563 (1906), 214 U.S. 386 (1909); 215 U.S. 580 (1909), on action by the Attorney General, the Court appointed a commissioner to take testimony, rendered judgment of conviction, and imposed sentence on a state sheriff who had conspired with others to cause the lynching of a prisoner in his custody after the Court had allowed an appeal from a circuit court's denial of a petition for a writ of *habeas corpus*. A question whether a probate judge was guilty of contempt of an order of the Court in failing to place certain candidates on the ballot was certified to the district court, over the objections of Justices Douglas and Harlan, who wished to follow the *Shipp* practice. In *re Herndon*, 394 U.S. 399 (1969). See *In re Herndon*, 325 F. Supp. 779 (M.D. Ala. 1971).

¹¹³⁸ 1 C. WARREN, *THE SUPREME COURT IN UNITED STATES HISTORY* (Boston: 1926), 729–779.

¹¹³⁹ *Id.*, 732–736.

¹¹⁴⁰ 6 Pet. (31 U.S.) 515 (1832).

¹¹⁴¹ *Supra*, pp. 597–598.

¹¹⁴² Judiciary Act of 1789, §§9, 11, 1 Stat. 76, 78, and see *id.*, §25, 1 Stat. 85.

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state courts to enforce federal laws.¹¹⁴³ Reaction set in out of hostility to the Embargo Acts, the Fugitive Slave Law, and other measures,¹¹⁴⁴ and in *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*,¹¹⁴⁵ involving the Fugitive Slave Law, the Court indicated that the States could not be compelled to enforce federal law. After a long period, however, Congress resumed its former practice,¹¹⁴⁶ which the Court sustained,¹¹⁴⁷ and it went even further in the Federal Employers' Liability Act by not only giving state courts concurrent jurisdiction but also by prohibiting the removal of cases begun in state courts to the federal courts.¹¹⁴⁸

When Connecticut courts refused to enforce an FELA claim on the ground that to do so was contrary to the public policy of the State, the Court held on the basis of the supremacy clause that when Congress enacts a law and declares a national policy, that policy is as much Connecticut's and every other State's as it is of the collective United States.¹¹⁴⁹ The Court's suggestion that the Act could be enforced "as of right, in the courts of the States when their jurisdiction, as prescribed by local laws, is adequate to the occasion,"¹¹⁵⁰ leaving the impression that state practice might in some instances preclude enforcement in state courts, was given body when the Court upheld New York's refusal to adjudicate an FELA claim which fell in a class of cases in which claims under state law would not be entertained.¹¹⁵¹ "[T]here is nothing in the Act of Congress that purports to force a duty upon such Courts as against an otherwise valid excuse."¹¹⁵² However, "[a]n excuse that

¹¹⁴³ E.g., Carriage Tax Act, 1 Stat. 373 (1794); License Tax on Wine & Spirits Act, 1 Stat. 376 (1794); Fugitive Slave Act, 1 Stat. 302 (1794); Naturalization Act of 1795, 1 Stat. 414; Alien Enemies Act of 1798, 1 Stat. 577. State courts in 1799 were vested with jurisdiction to try criminal offenses against the postal laws. 1 Stat. 733, 28. The Act of March 3, 1815, 3 Stat. 244, vested state courts with jurisdiction of complaints, suits, and prosecutions for taxes, duties, fines, penalties, and forfeitures. See Warren, *Federal Criminal Laws and State Courts*, 38 Harv. L. Rev. 545, 577-581 (1925).

¹¹⁴⁴ Embargo Acts, 2 Stat. 453, 473, 499, 506, 528, 550, 605, 707 (1808-1812); 3 Stat. 88 (1813); Fugitive Slave Act, 1 Stat. 302 (1793).

¹¹⁴⁵ 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539, 615 (1842). See also *Houston v. Moore*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 1, 69 (1820) (Justice Story dissenting); *United States v. Bailey*, 9 Pet. (34 U.S.) 238, 259 (1835) (Justice McLean dissenting). However, it was held that States could exercise concurrent jurisdiction if they wished. *Clafin v. Houseman*, 93 U.S. 130 (1876), and cases cited.

¹¹⁴⁶ E.g., Act of June 8, 1872, 17 Stat. 323.

¹¹⁴⁷ *Clafin v. Houseman*, 93 U.S. 130 (1876).

¹¹⁴⁸ 35 Stat. 65 (1908), as amended, 45 U.S.C. §§51-60.

¹¹⁴⁹ Second Employers' Liability Cases (*Mondou v. New York, N.H. & H. R. Co.*), 223 U.S. 1 (1912).

¹¹⁵⁰ *Id.*, 59.

¹¹⁵¹ *Douglas v. New York, N.H. & H.R. Co.*, 279 U.S. 377 (1929).

¹¹⁵² *Id.*, 388. For what constitutes a valid excuse, compare *Missouri ex rel. Southern Ry. v. Mayfield*, 340 U.S. 1 (1950), with *McKnett v. St. Louis & S.F. Ry. Co.*, 292 U.S. 230 (1934). It appears that generally state procedure must yield to

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is inconsistent with or violates federal law is not a valid excuse.
 . . .”¹¹⁵³

In *Testa v. Katt*,¹¹⁵⁴ the Court unanimously held that state courts, at least in regard to claims and cases analogous to claims and cases enforceable in those courts under state law, are as required to enforce penal laws of the United States as they are to enforce remedial laws. Respecting Rhode Island’s claim that one sovereign cannot enforce the penal laws of another, Justice Black observed that the assumption underlying this claim flew “in the face of the fact that the States of the Union constitute a nation” and the fact of the existence of the supremacy clause.¹¹⁵⁵

State Interference with Federal Jurisdiction.—It seems settled, though not without dissent, that state courts have no power to enjoin proceedings¹¹⁵⁶ or effectuation of judgments¹¹⁵⁷ of the federal courts, with the exception of cases in which a state court has custody of property in proceedings *in rem* or *quasi in rem*, where the state court has exclusive jurisdiction to proceed and may enjoin parties from further action in federal court.¹¹⁵⁸

federal when it would make a difference in outcome. Compare *Brown v. Western Ry. of Alabama*, 338 U.S. 294 (1949), and *Dice v. Akron, C. & Y. R. Co.*, 342 U.S. 359 (1952), with *Minneapolis & St. L. R. Co. v. Bombolis*, 241 U.S. 211 (1916).

¹¹⁵³Howlett by Howlett v. Rose, 496 U.S. 356, 371 (1990). See also *Felder v. Casey*, 487 U.S. 131 (1988).

¹¹⁵⁴330 U.S. 386 (1947).

¹¹⁵⁵*Id.*, 389. See, for a discussion as well as an extension of *Testa*, *FERC v. Mississippi*, 456 U.S. 742 (1982). Cases since *Testa* requiring state court enforcement of federal rights have generally concerned federal remedial laws. E.g., *Charles Dowd Box Co. v. Courtney*, 368 U.S. 502 (1962); *Sullivan v. Little Hunting Park*, 396 U.S. 229 (1969). The Court has approved state court adjudication under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1, 3 n. 1 (1980), but curiously in *Martinez v. California*, 444 U.S. 277, 283 n. 7 (1980) (emphasis by Court), it noted that it has “never considered . . . the question whether a State *must* entertain a claim under 1983.” See also *Arkansas Writers’ Project, inc. v. Ragland*, 481 U.S. 221, 234 n. 7 (1987) (continuing to reserve question). But with *Felder v. Casey*, 487 U.S. 131 (1988), and *Howlett by Howlett v. Rose*, 496 U.S. 356 (1990), it seems dubious that state courts could refuse. Enforcement is not limited to federal statutory law; federal common law must similarly be enforced. *Free v. Brand*, 369 U.S. 663 (1962).

¹¹⁵⁶*Donovan v. City of Dallas*, 377 U.S. 408 (1964), and cases cited. Justices Harlan, Clark, and Stewart dissented, arguing that a State should have power to enjoin vexatious, duplicative litigation which would have the effect of thwarting a state-court judgment already entered. See also *Baltimore & Ohio R. Co. v. Kepner*, 314 U.S. 44, 56 (1941) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting). In *Riggs v. Johnson County*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 166 (1868), the general rule was attributed to the complete independence of state and federal courts in their spheres of action, but federal courts, of course may under certain circumstances enjoin actions in state courts.

¹¹⁵⁷*McKim v. Voorhies*, 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 279 (1812); *Riggs v. Johnson County*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 166 (1868).

¹¹⁵⁸*Princess Lida v. Thompson*, 305 U.S. 456 (1939). Nor do state courts have any power to release by *habeas corpus* persons in custody pursuant to federal authority. *Ableman v. Booth*, 21 How. (62 U.S.) 506 (1859); *Tarble’s Case*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 397 (1872).

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Conflicts of Jurisdiction: Rules of Accommodation

Federal courts primarily interfere with state courts in three ways: by enjoining proceedings in them, by issuing writs of *habeas corpus* to set aside convictions obtained in them, and by adjudicating cases removed from them. With regard to all three but particularly with regard to the first, there have been developed certain rules plus a statutory limitation designed to minimize needless conflict.

Comity.—“[T]he notion of ‘comity,’” Justice Black asserted, is composed of “a proper respect for state functions, a recognition of the fact that the entire country is made up of a Union of separate state governments, and a continuance of the belief that the National Government will fare best if the States and their institutions are left free to perform their separate functions in their separate ways. This, perhaps for lack of a better and clearer way to describe it, is referred to by many as ‘Our Federalism’. . . .”¹¹⁵⁹ Comity is a self-imposed rule of judicial restraint whereby independent tribunals of concurrent or coordinate jurisdiction act to moderate the stresses of coexistence and to avoid collisions of authority. It is not a rule of law but “one of practice, convenience, and expediency”¹¹⁶⁰ which persuades but does not command.

Abstention.—Perhaps the fullest expression of the concept of comity may be found in the abstention doctrine. The abstention doctrine instructs federal courts to abstain from exercising jurisdiction if applicable state law, which would be dispositive of the controversy, is unclear and a state court interpretation of the state law question might obviate the necessity of deciding a federal constitutional issue.¹¹⁶¹ Abstention is not proper, however, where the rel-

¹¹⁵⁹Younger v. Harris, 401 U.S. 37, 44 (1971). Compare Fair Assessment in Real Estate Assn. v. McNary, 454 U.S. 100 (1981), with id., 119–125 (Justice Brennan concurring, joined by three other Justices).

¹¹⁶⁰Mast, Foos & Co. v. Stover Manufacturing Co., 177 U.S. 458, 488 (1900). Recent decisions emphasize comity as the primary reason for restraint in federal court actions tending to interfere with state courts. E.g., O’Shea v. Littleton, 414 U.S. 488, 499–504 (1974); Huffman v. Pursue, Ltd., 420 U.S. 592, 599–603 (1975); Trainor v. Hernandez, 431 U.S. 434, 441 (1977); Moore v. Sims, 442 U.S. 415, 430 (1979). The Court has also cited comity as a reason to restrict access to federal *habeas corpus*. Francis v. Henderson, 425 U.S. 536, 541 and n. 31 (1976); Wainwright v. Sykes, 433 U.S. 72, 83, 88, 90 (1977); Engle v. Isaac, 456 U.S. 107, 128–129 (1982). See also Rosewell v. LaSalle National Bank, 450 U.S. 503 (1981); Fair Assessment in Real Estate Assn. v. McNary, 454 U.S. 100 (1981) (comity limits federal court interference with state tax systems). And see Missouri v. Jenkins, 495 U.S. 33 (1990).

¹¹⁶¹C. WRIGHT, HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS (St. Paul: 4th ed. 1983), 13. The basic doctrine was formulated by Justice Frankfurter for the Court in Railroad Comm. v. Pullman Co., 312 U.S. 496 (1941). Other strands of the doctrine are that a federal court should refrain from exercising jurisdiction in order to avoid needless conflict with the administration by a State of its own affairs, Burford

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evant state law is settled,¹¹⁶² nor where it is clear that the state statute or action challenged is unconstitutional no matter how the state court construes state law.¹¹⁶³ Federal jurisdiction is not ousted by abstention; rather it is postponed.¹¹⁶⁴ Federal-state tensions would be ameliorated through federal-court deference to the concept that state courts are as adequate a protector of constitutional liberties as the federal courts and through the minimization of the likelihood that state programs would be thwarted by federal intercession. Federal courts would benefit because time and effort would not be expended in decision of difficult constitutional issues which might not require decision.¹¹⁶⁵

During the 1960s, the abstention doctrine was in disfavor with the Supreme Court, suffering rejection in numerous cases, most of them civil rights and civil liberties cases.¹¹⁶⁶ Time-consuming

v. Sun Oil Co., 319 U.S. 315 (1943); Alabama Pubic Service Comm. v. Southern Ry., 341 U.S. 341 (1951); Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co. v. Huffman, 319 U.S. 293 (1943); Martin v. Creasy, 360 U.S. 219 (1959); Moses H. Cone Hosp. v. Mercury Constr. Corp., 460 U.S. 1 (1983); New Orleans Public Service, Inc. v. Council of the City of New Orleans, 491 U.S. 350 (1989) (carefully reviewing the scope of the doctrine), especially where state law is unsettled. Meredith v. City of Winter Haven, 320 U.S. 228 (1943); County of Allegheny v. Frank Mashuda Co., 360 U.S. 185 (1959); Louisiana Power & Light Co. v. City of Thibodaux, 360 U.S. 25 (1959). See also Clay v. Sun Insurance Office Ltd., 363 U.S. 207 (1960). Also, while pendency of an action in state court will not ordinarily cause a federal court to abstain, there are "exceptional" circumstances in which it should. Colorado River Water Conservation Dist. v. United States, 424 U.S. 800 (1976); Will v. Calvert Fire Insurance Co., 437 U.S. 655 (1978); Arizona v. San Carlos Apache Tribe, 463 U.S. 545 (1983).

¹¹⁶²City of Chicago v. Atchison, T. & S.F.R. Co., 357 U.S. 77 (1958); Zwicker v. Koota, 389 U.S. 241, 249–251 (1967). See Babbitt v. United Farm Workers Nat. Union, 442 U.S. 289, 306 (1979) (quoting Harman v. Forssenius, 380 U.S. 528, 534–535 (1965)).

¹¹⁶³Harman v. Forssenius, 380 U.S. 528, 534–535 (1965); Babbitt v. United Farm Workers, 442 U.S. 289, 305–312 (1979). Abstention is not proper simply to afford a state court the opportunity to hold that a state law violates the federal Constitution. Wisconsin v. Constantineau, 400 U.S. 433 (1971); Zablocki v. Redhail, 434 U.S. 374, 379 n. 5 (1978); Douglas v. Seacoast Products, 431 U.S. 265, 271 n. 4 (1977); City of Houston v. Hill, 482 U.S. 451 (1987) ("A federal court may not properly ask a state court if it would care in effect to rewrite a statute"). But if the statute is clear and there is a reasonable possibility that the state court would find it in violation of a distinct or specialized state constitutional provision, abstention may be proper, Harris County Comrs. Court v. Moore, 420 U.S. 77 (1975); Reetz v. Bozanich, 397 U.S. 82 (1970), although not if the state and federal constitutional provisions are alike. Examining Bd. v. Flores de Otero, 426 U.S. 572, 598 (1976).

¹¹⁶⁴American Trial Lawyers Assn. v. New Jersey Supreme Court, 409 U.S. 467, 469 (1973); Harrison v. NAACP, 360 U.S. 167 (1959). Dismissal may be necessary if the state court will not accept jurisdiction while the case is pending in federal court. Harris County Comrs. v. Moore, 420 U.S. 77, 88 n. 14 (1975).

¹¹⁶⁵E.g., Spector Motor Service v. McLaughlin, 323 U.S. 101 (1944); Louisiana Power & Light Co. v. City of Thibodaux, 360 U.S. 25 (1959); Harrison v. NAACP, 360 U.S. 167 (1959).

¹¹⁶⁶McNeese v. Board of Education, 373 U.S. 668 (1963); Griffin v. School Board, 377 U.S. 218 (1964); Hostetter v. Idlewild Bon Voyage Liquor Corp., 377 U.S. 324 (1964); Baggett v. Bullitt, 377 U.S. 360 (1964); Davis v. Mann, 377 U.S. 678

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delays¹¹⁶⁷ and piecemeal resolution of important questions¹¹⁶⁸ were cited as a too-costly consequence of the doctrine. Actions brought under the civil rights statutes seem not to have been wholly subject to the doctrine,¹¹⁶⁹ and for awhile cases involving First Amendment expression guarantees seemed to be sheltered as well, but this is no longer the rule.¹¹⁷⁰ Abstention developed robustly with *Younger v. Harris*,¹¹⁷¹ and its progeny.

Exhaustion of State Remedies.—A complainant will ordinarily be required, as a matter of comity, to exhaust all his state legislative and administrative remedies before seeking relief in federal court where such remedies are, of course, available.¹¹⁷² To do so may make unnecessary federal-court adjudication. The complainant will ordinarily not be required, however, to exhaust his state judicial remedies, inasmuch as it is a litigant's choice to proceed in either state or federal courts when the alternatives exist and a question for judicial adjudication is present.¹¹⁷³ But when a litigant is suing for protection of federally-guaranteed civil rights, he need not exhaust any kind of state remedy.¹¹⁷⁴

(1964); *Dombrowski v. Pfister*, 380 U.S. 479 (1965); *Harman v. Forssenius*, 380 U.S. 528 (1965); *Zwickler v. Koota*, 389 U.S. 241 (1967); *Wisconsin v. Constantineau*, 400 U.S. 433 (1971).

¹¹⁶⁷ *England v. Louisiana State Bd. of Medical Examiners*, 375 U.S. 411, 426 (1964) (Justice Douglas concurring). See C. WRIGHT, HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS (St. Paul: 4th ed. 1983), 305.

¹¹⁶⁸ *Baggett v. Bullitt*, 377 U.S. 360, 378–379 (1964). Both consequences may be alleviated substantially by state adoption of procedures by which federal courts may certify to the State's highest court questions of unsettled state law which would be dispositive of the federal court action. The Supreme Court has actively encouraged resort to certification where it exists. *Clay v. Sun Insurance Office Ltd.*, 363 U.S. 207 (1960); *Lehman Brothers v. Schein*, 416 U.S. 386 (1974); *Bellotti v. Baird*, 428 U.S. 132, 151 (1976).

¹¹⁶⁹ Compare *Harrison v. NAACP*, 360 U.S. 167 (1959), with *McNeese v. Board of Education*, 373 U.S. 668 (1963).

¹¹⁷⁰ Compare *Baggett v. Bullitt*, 377 U.S. 360 (1964), and *Dombrowski v. Pfister*, 380 U.S. 479 (1965), with *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37 (1971), and *Samuels v. Mackell*, 401 U.S. 66 (1971). See *Babbitt v. United Farm Workers*, 442 U.S. 289, 305–312 (1979).

¹¹⁷¹ 401 U.S. 37 (1971). There is room to argue whether the *Younger* line of cases represents the abstention doctrine at all, but the Court continues to refer to it in those terms. E.g., *Ankenbrandt v. Richards*, 112 S.Ct. 2206, 2215 (1992).

¹¹⁷² The rule was formulated in *Prentis v. Atlantic Coast Line Co.*, 211 U.S. 210 (1908), and *Bacon v. Rutland R. Co.*, 232 U.S. 134 (1914).

¹¹⁷³ *City Bank Farmers' Trust Co. v. Schnader*, 291 U.S. 24 (1934); *Lane v. Wilson*, 307 U.S. 268 (1939). But see *Alabama Public Service Comm. v. Southern Ry. Co.*, 341 U.S. 341 (1951). Exhaustion of state court remedies is required in *habeas corpus* cases and usually in suits to restrain state court proceedings.

¹¹⁷⁴ *Patsy v. Board of Regents*, 457 U.S. 496 (1982). Where there are pending administrative proceedings that fall within the *Younger* rule, a litigant must exhaust. *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37 (1971), as explicated in *Ohio Civil Rights Comm. v. Dayton Christian School, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 619, 627 n. 2 (1986). Under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, barring employment discrimination on racial and other specified grounds, the EEOC may not consider a claim until a state agency

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Anti-Injunction Statute.—For reasons unknown,¹¹⁷⁵ Congress in 1793 enacted a statute to prohibit the issuance of injunctions by federal courts to stay state court proceedings.¹¹⁷⁶ Over time, a long list of exceptions to the statutory bar was created by judicial decision,¹¹⁷⁷ but in *Toucey v. New York Life Ins. Co.*,¹¹⁷⁸ the Court in a lengthy opinion by Justice Frankfurter announced a very liberal interpretation of the anti-junction statute so as to do away with practically all the exceptions that had been created. Congress' response was to redraft the statute and to indicate that it was restoring the pre-*Toucey* interpretation.¹¹⁷⁹ Considerable disagreement exists over the application of the statute, however, and especially with regard to the exceptions permissible under its language. The present tendency appears to be to read the law expansively and the exceptions restrictively in the interest of preventing conflict with state courts.¹¹⁸⁰ Nonetheless, some exceptions do exist, either expressly or implicitly in statutory language¹¹⁸¹ or

having jurisdiction over employment discrimination complaints has had at least 60 days to resolve the matter. 42 U.S.C. §§2000e–5(c). See *Love v. Pullman Co.*, 404 U.S. 522 (1972). And under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, there is a requirement of exhaustion, where States have federally-approved procedures. See *Patsy*, supra, 507–513.

¹¹⁷⁵*Toucey v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 314 U.S. 118, 130–132 (1941).

¹¹⁷⁶ “[N]or shall a writ of injunction be granted to stay proceedings in any court of a state; . . .” §5, 1 Stat. 334 (1793), now, as amended, 28 U.S.C. §2283.

¹¹⁷⁷Durfee & Sloss, *Federal Injunctions Against Proceedings in State Courts: The Life History of a Statute*, 30 Mich. L. Rev. 1145 (1932).

¹¹⁷⁸314 U.S. 118 (1941).

¹¹⁷⁹“A Court of the United States may not grant an injunction to stay proceedings in a State court except as expressly authorized by Act of Congress, or where necessary in aid of its jurisdiction, or to protect or effectuate its judgments.” 28 U.S.C. §2283. The Reviser’s Note is appended to the statute, stating intent.

¹¹⁸⁰*Amalgamated Clothing Workers v. Richman Bros.*, 348 U.S. 511 (1955); *Atlantic Coast Line R. Co. v. Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers*, 398 U.S. 281 (1970). See M. REDISH, *FEDERAL JURISDICTION: TENSIONS IN THE ALLOCATION OF JUDICIAL POWER* (Charlottesville: 1980), ch. 10.

¹¹⁸¹The greatest difficulty is with the “expressly authorized by Act of Congress” exception. No other Act of Congress expressly refers to §2283 and the Court has indicated that no such reference is necessary to create a statutory exception. *Amalgamated Clothing Workers v. Richman Bros.*, 348 U.S. 511, 516 (1955). Compare *Capital Serv. Inc. v. NLRB*, 347 U.S. 501 (1954). Rather, “in order to qualify as an ‘expressly authorized’ exception to the anti-injunction statute, an Act of Congress must have created a specific and uniquely federal right or remedy, enforceable in a federal court of equity, that could be frustrated if the federal court were not empowered to enjoin a state court proceeding.” *Mitchum v. Foster*, 407 U.S. 225, 237 (1972). Applying this test, the Court in *Mitchum* held that a 42 U.S.C. §1983 suit is an exception to §2283 and that persons suing under this authority may, if they satisfy the requirements of comity, obtain an injunction against state court proceedings. The exception is, of course, highly constrained by the comity principle. On the difficulty of applying the test, see *Vendo Co. v. Lektco-Vend Corp.*, 433 U.S. 623 (1977) (fragmented Court on whether Clayton Act authorization of private suits for injunctive relief is an “expressly authorized” exception to §2283).

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through Court interpretation.¹¹⁸² The Court's general policy of application, however, seems to a considerable degree to effectuate what is now at least the major rationale of the statute, deference to state court adjudication of issues presented to them for decision.¹¹⁸³

Res Judicata.—Both the Constitution and a contemporaneously-enacted statute require federal courts to give “full faith and credit” to state court judgments, to give, that is, preclusive effect to state court judgments when those judgments would be given preclusive effect by the courts of that State.¹¹⁸⁴ The present Court views the interpretation of “full faith and credit” in the overall context of deference to state courts running throughout this section. “Thus, *res judicata* and collateral estoppel not only reduce unnecessary litigation and foster reliance on adjudication, but also promote the comity between state and federal courts that has been recognized as a bulwark of the federal system.”¹¹⁸⁵ The Court in this case, after reviewing enactment of the statute that is now 42 U.S.C. § 1983, held that § 1983 is not an exception to the mandate of the *res judicata* statute.¹¹⁸⁶ An exception to § 1738 “will not be recognized unless a later statute contains an express or implied partial repeal.”¹¹⁸⁷ Thus, a claimant who pursued his employment discrimination remedies through state administrative procedures, as the federal law requires her to do (within limits), and then appealed an adverse state agency decision to state court will be precluded from bringing her federal claim to federal court, since the

On the interpretation of the § 2283 exception for injunctions to protect or effectuate a federal-court judgment, see *Chick Kam Choo v. Exxon Corp.*, 486 U.S. 140 (1988).

¹¹⁸² Thus, the Act bars federal court restraint of pending state court proceedings but not restraint of the institution of such proceedings. *Dombrowski v. Pfister*, 380 U.S. 479, 484 n. 2 (1965). Restraint is not barred if sought by the United States or an officer or agency of the United States. *Leiter Minerals v. United States*, 352 U.S. 220 (1957); *NLRB v. Nash-Finch Co.*, 404 U.S. 138 (1971). Restraint is not barred if the state court proceeding is not judicial but rather administrative. *Prentis v. Atlantic Coast Line Co.*, 211 U.S. 210 (1908); *Roudebush v. Hartke*, 405 U.S. 15 (1972). Compare *Hill v. Martin*, 296 U.S. 393, 403 (1935), with *Lynch v. Household Finance Corp.*, 405 U.S. 538, 552–556 (1972).

¹¹⁸³ The statute is to be applied “to prevent needless friction between state and federal courts.” *Oklahoma Packing Co. v. Oklahoma Gas & Electric Co.*, 309 U.S. 4, 9 (1940); *Atlantic Coast Line R. Co. v. Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers*, 398 U.S. 281, 285–286 (1970).

¹¹⁸⁴ Article IV, § 1, of the Constitution; 28 U.S.C. § 1738.

¹¹⁸⁵ *Allen v. McCurry*, 449 U.S. 90, 95–96 (1980).

¹¹⁸⁶ *Id.*, 96–105. There were three dissenters. *Id.*, 105 (Justices Blackmun, Brennan, and Marshall). In *England v. Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners*, 375 U.S. 411 (1964), the Court held that when parties are compelled to go to state court under *Pullman* abstention, either party may reserve the federal issue and thus be enabled to return to federal court without being barred by *res judicata*.

¹¹⁸⁷ *Kramer v. Chemical Construction Corp.*, 456 U.S. 461, 468 (1982).

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federal court is obligated to give the state court decision “full faith and credit.”¹¹⁸⁸

Three-Judge Court Act.—When the Court in *Ex parte Young*¹¹⁸⁹ held that federal courts were not precluded by the Eleventh Amendment from restraining state officers from enforcing state laws determined to be in violation of the federal Constitution, serious efforts were made in Congress to take away the authority thus asserted, but the result instead was legislation providing that suits in which an interlocutory injunction was sought against the enforcement of state statutes by state officers were to be heard by a panel of three federal judges, rather than by a single district judge, with appeal direct to the Supreme Court.¹¹⁹⁰ The provision was designed to assuage state feeling by vesting such determinations in a court more prestigious than a single-judge district court, to assure a more authoritative determination, and to prevent the assertion of individual predilections in sensitive and emotional areas.¹¹⁹¹ Because, however, of the heavy burden that convening a three-judge court placed on the judiciary and that the direct appeals placed on the Supreme Court, the provisions for such courts, save in cases “when otherwise required by an Act of Congress”¹¹⁹² or in cases involving state legislative or congressional districting, were repealed in Congress in 1976.¹¹⁹³

Conflicts of Jurisdiction; Federal Court Interference with State Courts

One challenging the constitutionality, under the United States Constitution, of state actions, statutory or otherwise, could, of course, bring suit in state court; indeed, in the time before conferral of federal-question jurisdiction on lower federal courts plaintiffs had to bring actions in state courts, and on some occasions now, this has been done.¹¹⁹⁴ But the usual course is to sue in federal

¹¹⁸⁸Id., 468–476. There were four dissents. Id., 486 (Justices Blackmun, Brennan, and Marshall), 508 (Stevens).

¹¹⁸⁹209 U.S. 123 (1908).

¹¹⁹⁰36 Stat. 557 (1910). The statute was amended in 1925 to apply to requests for permanent injunctions, 43 Stat. 936, and again in 1937 to apply to constitutional attacks on federal statutes. 50 Stat. 752.

¹¹⁹¹*Swift & Co. v. Wickham*, 382 U.S. 111, 119 (1965); *Ex parte Collins*, 277 U.S. 565, 567 (1928).

¹¹⁹²These now are primarily limited to suits under the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §§1973b(a), 1973c, 1973h(c), and to certain suits by the Attorney General under public accommodations and equal employment provisions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §§2000a–5(b), 2000e–6(b).

¹¹⁹³Pub. L. 94–381, 90 Stat. 1119, 28 U.S.C. §2284. In actions still required to be heard by three-judge courts, direct appeals are still available to the Supreme Court. 28 U.S.C. §1253.

¹¹⁹⁴For example, one of the cases decided in *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), came from the Supreme Court of Delaware. In *Scott v. Germano*,

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court for either an injunction or a declaratory judgment or both. In an era in which landmark decisions of the Supreme Court and of inferior federal courts have been handed down voiding racial segregation requirements, legislative apportionment and congressional districting, abortion regulations, and many other state laws and policies, it is difficult to imagine a situation in which it might be impossible to obtain such rulings because no one required as a defendant could be sued. Yet, the adoption of the Eleventh Amendment in 1798 resulted in the immunity of the State,¹¹⁹⁵ and the immunity of state officers if the action upon which they were being sued was state action,¹¹⁹⁶ from suit without the State's consent. *Ex parte Young*¹¹⁹⁷ is a seminal case in American constitutional law because it created a fiction by which the validity of state statutes and other actions could be challenged by suits against state officers as individuals.¹¹⁹⁸

Conflict between federal and state courts is inevitable when the federal courts are open to persons complaining about unconstitutional or unlawful state action which could as well be brought in the state courts and perhaps is so brought by other persons, but the various rules of restraint flowing from the concept of comity reduce federal interference here some considerable degree. It is rather in three fairly well defined areas that institutional conflict is most pronounced.

Federal Restraint of State Courts by Injunctions.—Even where the federal anti-injunction law is inapplicable, or where the question of application is not reached,¹¹⁹⁹ those seeking to enjoin state court proceedings must overcome substantial prudential barriers, among them the abstention doctrine¹²⁰⁰ and more important

381 U.S. 407 (1965), the Court set aside an order of the district court refusing to defer to the state court which was hearing an apportionment suit and said: "The power of the judiciary of a State to require valid reapportionment or to formulate a valid redistricting plan has not only been recognized by this Court but appropriate action by the States has been specifically encouraged." See also *Scranton v. Drew*, 379 U.S. 40 (1964).

¹¹⁹⁵By its terms, the Eleventh Amendment bars only suits against a State by citizens of other States, but in *Hans v. Louisiana*, 134 U.S. 1 (1890), the Court deemed it to embody principles of sovereign immunity which applied to unconsented suits by its own citizens.

¹¹⁹⁶*In re Ayers*, 123 U.S. 443 (1887).

¹¹⁹⁷209 U.S. 123 (1908).

¹¹⁹⁸The fiction is that while the official is a state actor for purposes of suit against him, the claim that his action is unconstitutional removes the imprimatur of the State that would shield him under the Eleventh Amendment. *Id.*, 159–160.

¹¹⁹⁹28 U.S.C. § 2283 may be inapplicable because no state court proceeding is pending or because the action is brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Its application may never be reached because a court may decide that equitable principles do not justify injunctive relief. *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37, 54 (1971).

¹²⁰⁰*Supra*, pp. 798–800.

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than that the equity doctrine that suits in equity are to be withheld “in any case where plain, adequate and complete remedy may be had at law.”¹²⁰¹ The application of this latter principle has been most pronounced in the reluctance of federal courts to interfere with a State’s good faith enforcement of its criminal law. Here, the Court has required of a litigant seeking to bar threatened state prosecution not only a showing of irreparable injury which is both great and immediate but an inability to defend his constitutional right in the state proceeding. Certain types of injury, such as the cost, anxiety, and inconvenience of having to defend against a single criminal prosecution, are insufficient to be considered irreparable in this sense. Even if a state criminal statute *is* unconstitutional, a person charged under it usually has an adequate remedy at law by raising his constitutional defense in the state trial.¹²⁰² The policy has never been stated as an absolute, recognizing that in exceptional and limited circumstances, such as the existence of factors making it impossible for a litigant to protect his federal constitutional rights through a defense of the state criminal charges or the bringing of multiple criminal charges, a federal court injunction could properly issue.¹²⁰³

In *Dombrowski v. Pfister*,¹²⁰⁴ the Court appeared to change the policy somewhat. The case on its face contained allegations and offers of proof that may have been sufficient alone to establish the “irreparable injury” justifying federal injunctive relief.¹²⁰⁵ But the

¹²⁰¹ The quoted phrase setting out the general principle is from the Judiciary Act of 1789, § 16, 1 Stat. 82.

¹²⁰² The older cases are *Fenner v. Boykin* 271 U.S. 240 (1926); *Spielman Motor Sales Co. v. Dodge*, 295 U.S. 89 (1935); *Beal v. Missouri Pac. R. Co.*, 312 U.S. 45 (1941); *Watson v. Buck*, 313 U.S. 387 (1941); *Williams v. Miller*, 317 U.S. 599 (1942); *Douglas v. City of Jeannette*, 319 U.S. 157 (1943). There is a stricter rule against federal restraint of the use of evidence in state criminal trials. *Stefanelli v. Minard*, 342 U.S. 117 (1951); *Pugach v. Dollinger*, 365 U.S. 458 (1961). The Court reaffirmed the rule in *Perez v. Ledesma*, 401 U.S. 82 (1971). State officers may not be enjoined from testifying or using evidence gathered in violation of federal constitutional restrictions, *Cleary v. Bolger*, 371 U.S. 392 (1963), but the rule is unclear with regard to federal officers and state trials. Compare *Rea v. United States*, 350 U.S. 214 (1956), with *Wilson v. Schnettler*, 365 U.S. 381 (1961).

¹²⁰³ E.g., *Douglas v. City of Jeannette*, 319 U.S. 157, 163–164 (1943); *Stefanelli v. Minard*, 342 U.S. 117, 122 (1951). See also *Terrace v. Thompson*, 263 U.S. 197, 214 (1923). Future criminal proceedings were sometimes enjoined. E.g., *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496 (1939).

¹²⁰⁴ 380 U.S. 479 (1965). Grand jury indictments had been returned after the district court had dissolved a preliminary injunction, erroneously in the Supreme Court’s view, so that it took the view that no state proceedings were pending as of the appropriate time. For a detailed analysis of the case, see Fiss, *Dombrowski*, 86 *Yale L. J.* 1103 (1977).

¹²⁰⁵ “[T]he allegations in this complaint depict a situation in which defense of the State’s criminal prosecution will not assure adequate vindication of constitutional rights. They suggest that a substantial loss of or impairment of freedoms of expression will occur if appellants must await the state court’s disposition and ulti-

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formulation of standards by Justice Brennan for the majority placed great emphasis upon the fact that the state criminal statute in issue regulated expression. Any criminal prosecution under a statute regulating expression might of itself inhibit the exercise of First Amendment rights, it was said, and prosecution under an overbroad¹²⁰⁶ statute like the one in this case might critically impair exercise of those rights. The mere threat of prosecution under such an overbroad statute “may deter . . . almost as potently as the actual application of sanctions.”

In such cases, courts could no longer embrace the assumption that defense of the criminal prosecution “will generally assure ample vindication of constitutional rights,” because either the mere threat of prosecution or the long wait between prosecution and final vindication could result in a “chilling effect” upon First Amendment rights.¹²⁰⁷ The principle apparently established by the Court was two-phased: a federal court should not abstain when there is a facially unconstitutional statute infringing upon speech and application of that statute to discourage protected activities, and the court should further enjoin the state proceedings when there is prosecution or threat of prosecution under an overbroad statute regulating expression if the prosecution or threat of prosecution chills the exercise of freedom of expression.¹²⁰⁸ These formulations were reaffirmed in *Zwickler v. Koota*,¹²⁰⁹ in which a declaratory judgment was sought with regard to a statute prohibiting anonymous election literature. Abstention was deemed improper,¹²¹⁰ and further it was held that adjudication for purposes of declaratory judgment is not hemmed in by considerations attendant upon injunctive relief.¹²¹¹

The aftermath of the *Dombrowski-Zwickler* decisions was a considerable expansion of federal-court adjudication of constitutional attack through requests for injunctive and declaratory relief, which gradually spread out from First Amendment areas to other constitutionally-protected activities.¹²¹² However, these develop-

mate review in this Court of any adverse determination. These allegations, if true, clearly show irreparable injury.” *Id.*, 380 U.S., 485–486.

¹²⁰⁶That is, a statute which reaches both protected and unprotected expression and conduct.

¹²⁰⁷*Id.*, 486–487.

¹²⁰⁸See *Cameron v. Johnson*, 381 U.S. 741 (1965); *Cameron v. Johnson*, 390 U.S. 611 (1968.)

¹²⁰⁹389 U.S. 241 (1967). The state criminal conviction had been reversed by a state court on state law grounds and no new charge had been instituted.

¹²¹⁰It was clear that the statute could not be construed by a state court and thus a federal constitutional decision rendered unnecessary. *Id.*, 248–252.

¹²¹¹*Id.*, 254.

¹²¹²*Maraist, Federal Injunctive Relief Against State Court Proceedings: The Significance of Dombrowski*, 48 *Tex. L. Rev.* 535 (1970).

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ments were highly controversial and after three arguments on the issue, the Court in a series of cases receded from its position and circumscribed the discretion of the lower federal courts to a considerable and ever-broadening degree.¹²¹³ The important difference between this series of cases and *Dombrowski-Zwickler* was that in the latter for particular reasons there were no prosecutions pending whereas in the former there were. Nevertheless, the care with which Justice Black for the majority undertook to distinguish and limit *Dombrowski* signified a limitation of its doctrine, which proved partially true in later cases.

Justice Black reviewed and reaffirmed the traditional rule of reluctance to interfere with state court proceedings except in extraordinary circumstances. The holding in *Dombrowski*, as distinguished from some of the language, did not change the general rule, because extraordinary circumstances had existed. Thus, Justice Black, with considerable support from the other Justices,¹²¹⁴ went on to affirm that where a criminal proceeding is already pending in a state court, if it is a single prosecution about which there is no allegation that it was brought in bad faith or that it was one of a series of repeated prosecutions which would be brought, and the defendant may put in issue his federal-constitutional defense at the trial, federal injunctive relief is improper, even if it is alleged that the statute on which the prosecution was based regulated expression and was overbroad.

Many statutes regulating expression were valid and some overbroad statutes could be validly applied and attacks on facial unconstitutionality abstracted from concrete factual situations was not a sound judicial method. "It is sufficient for purposes of the present case to hold, as we do, that the possible unconstitutionality of a statute 'on its face' does not in itself justify an injunction against good faith attempts to enforce it, and that appellee Harris has failed to make any showing of bad faith, harassment, or any other unusual circumstances that would call for equitable relief."¹²¹⁵

¹²¹³ *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37 (1971); *Samuels v. Mackell*, 401 U.S. 66 (1971); *Boyle v. Landry*, 401 U.S. 77 (1971); *Perez v. Ledesma*, 401 U.S. 82 (1971); *Dyson v. Stein*, 401 U.S. 200 (1971); *Byrne v. Karalexis*, 401 U.S. 216 (1971).

¹²¹⁴ Only Justice Douglas dissented. *Id.*, 58. Justices Brennan, White, and Marshall generally concurred in somewhat restrained fashion. *Id.*, 56, 75, 93.

¹²¹⁵ *Id.*, 54. On bad faith enforcement, see *id.*, 56 (Justices Stewart and Harlan concurring); 97 (Justices Brennan, White, and Marshall concurring in part and dissenting in part). For an example, see *Universal Amusement Co. v. Vance*, 559 F. 2d 1286, 1293–1301 (5th Cir. 1977), *affd.* per curiam sub nom., *Dexter v. Butler*, 587 F. 2d 176 (5th Cir. (*en banc*), *cert. den.*, 442 U.S. 929 (1979)).

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The reason for the principle, said Justice Black, flows from “Our Federalism,” which requires federal courts to defer to state courts when there are proceedings pending in them.¹²¹⁶

Moreover, in a companion case, the Court held that when prosecutions are pending in state court, ordinarily the propriety of injunctive and declaratory relief should be judged by the same standards.¹²¹⁷ A declaratory judgment is as likely to interfere with state proceedings as an injunction, whether the federal decision be treated as *res judicata* or whether it is viewed as a strong precedent guiding the state court. Additionally, “the Declaratory Judgment Act provides that after a declaratory judgment is issued the district court may enforce it by granting ‘further necessary or proper relief’ and therefore a declaratory judgment issued while state proceedings are pending might serve as the basis for a subsequent injunction against those proceedings to ‘protect or effectuate’ the declaratory judgment, 28 U.S.C. §2283, and thus result in a clearly improper interference with the state proceedings.”¹²¹⁸

When, however, there is no pending state prosecution, the Court is clear, “Our Federalism” is not offended if a plaintiff in a federal court is able to demonstrate a genuine threat of enforcement of a disputed criminal statute, whether the statute is attacked on its face or as applied, and becomes entitled to a federal declaratory judgment.¹²¹⁹ And, in fact, when no state prosecution is pending, a federal plaintiff need not demonstrate the existence of the *Younger* factors to justify the issuance of a preliminary or permanent injunction against prosecution under a disputed state statute.¹²²⁰

Of much greater significance is the extension of *Younger* to civil proceedings in state courts¹²²¹ and to state administrative

¹²¹⁶Id., 44.

¹²¹⁷*Samuels v. Mackell*, 401 U.S. 66 (1971). The holding was in line with *Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co. v. Huffman*, 319 U.S. 293 (1943).

¹²¹⁸*Samuels v. Mackell*, 401 U.S. 66, 72 (1971).

¹²¹⁹*Steffel v. Thompson*, 415 U.S. 452 (1974).

¹²²⁰*Doran v. Salem Inn*, 422 U.S. 922 (1975) (preliminary injunction may issue to preserve *status quo* while court considers whether to grant declaratory relief); *Wooley v. Maynard*, 430 U.S. 705 (1977) (when declaratory relief is given, permanent injunction may be issued if necessary to protect constitutional rights). However, it may not be easy to discern when state proceedings will be deemed to have been instituted prior to the federal proceeding. E.g., *Hicks v. Miranda*, 422 U.S. 332 (1975); *Huffman v. Pursue, Ltd.*, 420 U.S. 592 (1975); see also *Hawaii Housing Authority v. Midkiff*, 467 U.S. 229, 238 (1984).

¹²²¹*Huffman v. Pursue, Ltd.*, 420 U.S. 592 (1975); *Judice v. Vail*, 430 U.S. 327 (1977); *Trainor v. Hernandez*, 431 U.S. 434 (1977); *Moore v. Sims*, 442 U.S. 415 (1979); *Middlesex County Ethics Committee v. Garden State Bar Assn*, 457 U.S. 423 (1982).

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proceedings of a judicial nature.¹²²² The principle is that the *Younger* principle applies whenever in civil or administrative proceedings important state interests are involved which the State, or its officers or agency, is seeking to promote. Indeed, the presence of important state interests in state proceedings has been held to raise the *Younger* bar to federal relief in proceedings which are entirely between private parties.¹²²³ *Comity*, the Court said, requires abstention when States have “important” interests in pending civil proceedings between private parties,¹²²⁴ as long as litigants are not precluded from asserting federal rights. Thus, the Court explained, “proper respect for the ability of state courts to resolve federal questions presented in state court litigation mandates that the federal court stay its hand.”¹²²⁵

Habeas Corpus: Scope of the Writ.—At the English common law, *habeas corpus* was available to attack pretrial detention and confinement by executive order; it could not be used to question the conviction of a person pursuant to the judgment of a court with jurisdiction over the person. That common law meaning was applied in the federal courts.¹²²⁶ Expansion began after the Civil War through more liberal court interpretation of “jurisdiction.” Thus, one who had already completed one sentence on a conviction was released from custody on a second sentence on the ground that the court had lost jurisdiction upon completion of the first sentence.¹²²⁷ Then, the Court held that the constitutionality of the statute upon which a charge was based could be examined on *habeas*, because an unconstitutional statute was said to deprive the trial court of its jurisdiction.¹²²⁸ Other cases expanded the want-of-jurisdiction rationale.¹²²⁹ But the present status of the writ of

¹²²² *Ohio Civil Rights Comm. v. Dayton Christian Schools, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 619 (1986). The “judicial in nature” requirement is more fully explicated in *New Orleans Public Service, Inc. v. Council of City of New Orleans*, 491 U.S. 350, 366–373 (1989).

¹²²³ *Pennzoil Co. v. Texaco, Inc.*, 481 U.S. 1 (1987).

¹²²⁴ “[T]he State’s interest in protecting ‘the authority of the judicial system, so that its orders and judgments are not rendered nugatory’” was deemed sufficient. *Id.*, 14 n. 12 (quoting *Judice v. Vail*, 430 U.S. 327, 336 n. 12 (1977)).

¹²²⁵ *Id.*, 14.

¹²²⁶ *Ex parte Watkins*, 3 Pet. (28 U.S.) 193 (1830) (Chief Justice Marshall); cf. *Ex parte Parks*, 93 U.S. 18 (1876). But see *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 404–415 (1963). It should be noted that the expansive language used when Congress in 1867 extended the *habeas* power of federal courts to state prisoners “restrained of . . . liberty in violation of the constitution, or of any treaty or law of the United States. . . .”, 14 Stat. 385, could have encouraged an expansion of the writ to persons convicted after trial.

¹²²⁷ *Ex parte Lange*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 163 (1874).

¹²²⁸ *Ex parte Siebold*, 100 U.S. 371 (1880); *Ex parte Royall*, 117 U.S. 241 (1886); *Crowley v. Christensen*, 137 U.S. 86 (1890); *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356 (1886).

¹²²⁹ *Ex parte Wilson*, 114 U.S. 417 (1885); *Nielsen, Petitioner*, 131 U.S. 176 (1889); *In re Snow*, 120 U.S. 274 (1887); but see *Ex parte Parks*, 93 U.S. 18 (1876);

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habeas corpus may be said to have been started in its development in *Frank v. Mangum*,¹²³⁰ in which the Court reviewed on *habeas* a murder conviction in a trial in which there was substantial evidence of mob domination of the judicial process. This issue had been considered and rejected by the state appeals court. The Supreme Court indicated that, though it might initially have had jurisdiction, the trial court could have lost it if mob domination rendered the proceedings lacking in due process.

Further, in order to determine if there had been a denial of due process, a *habeas* court should examine the totality of the process, including the appellate proceedings. Since Frank's claim of mob domination was reviewed fully and rejected by the state appellate court, he had been afforded an adequate corrective process for any denial of rights, and his custody was not in violation of the Constitution. Then, eight years later, in *Moore v. Dempsey*,¹²³¹ involving another conviction in a trial in which the court was alleged to have been influenced by a mob and in which the state appellate court had heard and rejected Moore's contentions, the Court directed that the federal district judge himself determine the merits of the petitioner's allegations.

Moreover, the Court shortly abandoned its emphasis upon want of jurisdiction and held that the writ was available to consider constitutional claims as well as questions of jurisdiction.¹²³² The landmark case was *Brown v. Allen*,¹²³³ in which the Court laid

Ex parte Bigelow, 113 U.S. 328 (1885). It is possible that the Court expanded the office of the writ because its reviewing power over federal convictions was closely limited. F. FRANKFURTER & J. LANDIS, *op. cit.*, n. 12, 109–113. Once such review was granted, the Court began to restrict the use of the writ. E.g., *Glasgow v. Moyer*, 225 U.S. 420 (1912); *In re Lincoln*, 202 U.S. 178 (1906); *In re Morgan*, 203 U.S. 96 (1906).

¹²³⁰ 237 U.S. 309 (1915).

¹²³¹ 261 U.S. 86 (1923).

¹²³² *Waley v. Johnston*, 316 U.S. 101 (1942). See also *Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458 (1938); *Walker v. Johnson*, 312 U.S. 275 (1941). The way one reads the history of the developments is inevitably a product of the philosophy one brings to the subject. In addition to the recitations cited in other notes, compare *Wright v. West*, 112 S.Ct. 2482, 2486–2487 & n. 3 (1992) (Justice Thomas for a plurality of the Court), with *id.*, 2493–2495 (Justice O'Connor concurring).

¹²³³ 344 U.S. 443 (1953). *Brown* is commonly thought to rest on the assumption that federal constitutional rights cannot be adequately protected only by direct Supreme Court review of state court judgments but that independent review, on *habeas*, must rest with federal judges. It is, of course, true that *Brown* coincided with the extension of most of the Bill of Rights to the States by way of incorporation and expansive interpretation of federal constitutional rights; previously, there was not a substantial corpus of federal rights to protect through *habeas*. See *Wright v. West*, 112 S.Ct. 2482, 2493–2494 (1992) (Justice O'Connor concurring). In *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391 (1963), Justice Brennan, for the Court, and Justice Harlan, in dissent, engaged in a lengthy, informed historical debate about the legitimacy of *Brown* and its premises. Compare *id.*, 401–424, with *id.*, 450–461. See the material gathered and cited in HART & WECHSLER, *op. cit.*, n. 250, 1487–1505.

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down several principles of statutory construction of the *habeas* statute. First, all federal constitutional questions raised by state prisoners are cognizable in federal *habeas*. Second, a federal court is not bound by state court judgments on federal questions, even though the state courts may have fully and fairly considered the issues. Third, a federal *habeas* court may inquire into issues of fact as well as of law, although the federal court may defer to the state court if the prisoner received an adequate hearing. Fourth, new evidentiary hearings must be held when there are unusual circumstances, when there is a “vital flaw” in the state proceedings, or when the state court record is incomplete or otherwise inadequate.

Almost plenary federal *habeas* review of state court convictions was authorized and rationalized in the Court’s famous “1963 trilogy.”¹²³⁴ First, the Court dealt with the established principle that a federal *habeas* court is empowered, where a prisoner alleges facts which if proved would entitle him to relief, to relitigate facts, to receive evidence and try the facts anew, and sought to lay down broad guidelines in order to guide district courts as to when they must hold a hearing and find facts.¹²³⁵ “Where the facts are in dispute, the federal court in *habeas corpus* must hold an evidentiary hearing if the *habeas* applicant did not receive a full and fair evidentiary hearing in a state court, either at the time of the trial or

¹²³⁴ *Sanders v. United States*, 373 U.S. 1 (1963); *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391 (1963); *Townsend v. Sain*, 372 U.S. 293 (1963). These cases dealt, respectively, with the treatment to be accorded a *habeas* petition in the three principal categories in which they come to the federal court: when a state court has rejected petitioner’s claims on the merits, when a state court has refused to hear petitioner’s claims on the merits because she has failed properly or timely to present them, or when the petition is a second or later petition raising either old or new, or mixed, claims. Of course, as will be demonstrated *infra*, these cases have now been largely drained of their force.

¹²³⁵ *Townsend v. Sain*, 372 U.S. 293, 310–312 (1963). If the district judge concluded that the *habeas* applicant was afforded a full and fair hearing by the state court resulting in reliable findings, the Court said, he may, and ordinarily should, defer to the state factfinding. *Id.*, 318. Under the 1966 statutory revision, a *habeas* court must generally presume correct a state court’s written findings of fact from a hearing to which the petitioner was a party. A state finding cannot be set aside merely on a preponderance of the evidence and the federal court granting the writ must include in its opinion the reason it found the state findings not fairly supported by the record or the existence of one or more listed factors justifying disregard of the factfinding. P.L. 89–711, 80 Stat. 1105, 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d). See *Sumner v. Mata*, 449 U.S. 539 (1981); *Sumner v. Mata*, 455 U.S. 591 (1982); *Marshall v. Lonberger*, 459 U.S. 422 (1983); *Patton v. Yount*, 467 U.S. 1025 (1984); *Parker v. Dugger*, 498 U.S. 308 (1991); *Burden v. Zant*, 498 U.S. 433 (1991). The presumption of correctness does not apply to questions of law or to mixed questions of law and fact. *Miller v. Fenton*, 474 U.S. 104, 110–116 (1985). However, in *Wright v. West*, 112 S.Ct. 2482 (1992), the Justices argued inconclusively whether deferential review of questions of law or especially of law and fact should be adopted.

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in a collateral proceeding.”¹²³⁶ To “particularize” this general test, the Court went on to hold that an evidentiary hearing must take place when (1) the merits of the factual dispute were not resolved in the state hearing; (2) the state factual determination is not fairly supported by the record as a whole; (3) the fact finding procedure employed was not adequate to afford a full and fair hearing; (4) there is a substantial allegation of newly discovered evidence; (5) the material facts were not adequately developed at the state hearing; or (6) for any reason it appears that the state trier of fact did not afford the *habeas* applicant a full and fair fact hearing.¹²³⁷

Second, *Sanders v. United States*¹²³⁸ dealt with two inter-related questions: the effects to be given successive petitions for the writ, when the second or subsequent application presented grounds previously asserted or grounds not theretofore raised. Emphasizing that “[c]onventional notions of finality of litigation have no place where life or liberty is at stake and infringement of constitutional rights is alleged,”¹²³⁹ the Court set out generous standards for consideration of successive claims. As to previously asserted grounds, the Court held that controlling weight may be given to a prior denial of relief if (1) the same ground presented was determined adversely to the applicant before, (2) the prior determination was on the merits, and (3) the ends of justice would not be served by reaching the merits of the subsequent application, so that the *habeas* court might but was not obligated to deny relief without considering the claim on the merits.¹²⁴⁰ With respect to grounds not

¹²³⁶ *Townsend v. Sain*, 372 U.S. 293, 312 (1963). The Court was unanimous on the statement, but it divided 5-to-4 on application.

¹²³⁷ *Id.*, 313–318. Congress in 1966 codified the factors in somewhat different form but essentially codified *Townsend*. P.L. 89–711, 80 Stat. 1105, 28 U.S.C. §2254. The present Court is of the view that Congress neither codified *Townsend* nor precluded the Court from altering the *Townsend* standards. *Keeney v. Tamayo-Reyes*, 112 S.Ct. 1715, 1720 n. 5 (1992). Compare *id.*, 1725–1727 (Justice O’Connor dissenting). *Keeney* formally overruled part of *Townsend*. *Id.*, 1717.

¹²³⁸ 373 U.S. 1 (1963). *Sanders* was a §2255 case, a federal prisoner petitioning for postconviction relief. The Court applied the same liberal rules with respect to federal prisoners as it did for state. See *Kaufman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 217 (1969). As such, the case has also been eroded by subsequent cases. E.g., *Davis v. United States*, 411 U.S. 233 (1973); *United States v. Frady*, 456 U.S. 152 (1982).

¹²³⁹ *Id.*, 373 U.S., 8. The statement accorded with the established view that principles of *res judicata* were not applicable in *habeas*. E.g., *Price v. Johnston*, 334 U.S. 266 (1948); *Wong Doo v. United States*, 265 U.S. 239 (1924); *Salinger v. Loisel*, 265 U.S. 224 (1924). Congress in 1948 had appeared to adopt some limited version of *res judicata* for federal prisoners but not for state prisoners, Act of June 25, 1948, 62 Stat. 965, 967, 28 U.S.C. §§2244, 2255, but the Court in *Sanders* held the same standards applicable and denied the statute changed existing caselaw. *Id.*, 373 U.S., 11–14. But see *id.*, 27–28 (Justice Harlan dissenting).

¹²⁴⁰ *Id.*, 15. In codifying the *Sanders* standards in 1966, P.L. 89–711, 80 Stat. 1104, 28 U.S.C. §2244(b), Congress omitted the “ends of justice” language. Although it was long thought that the omission probably had no substantive effect, this may not be the case. *Kuhlmann v. Wilson*, 477 U.S. 436 (1986).

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previously asserted, a federal court considering a successive petition could refuse to hear the new claim only if it decided the petitioner had deliberately bypassed the opportunity in the prior proceeding to raise it; if not, “[n]o matter how many prior applications for federal collateral relief a prisoner has made,” the court must consider the merits of the new claim.¹²⁴¹

Third, the most controversial of the 1963 cases, *Fay v. Noia*,¹²⁴² dealt with the important issue of state defaults, of, that is, what the effect on *habeas* is when a defendant in a state criminal trial has failed to raise in a manner in accordance with state procedure a claim which he subsequently wants to raise on *habeas*. If, for example, a defendant fails to object to the admission of certain evidence on federal constitutional grounds in accordance with state procedure and within state time constraints, the state courts may therefore simply refuse to address the merits of the claim, and the State’s “independent and adequate state ground” bars direct federal review of the claim.¹²⁴³ Whether a similar result prevailed upon *habeas* divided the Court in *Brown v. Allen*,¹²⁴⁴ in which the majority held that a prisoner, refused consideration of his appeal in state court because his papers had been filed a day late, could not be heard on *habeas* because of his state procedural default. The result was changed in *Fay v. Noia*, in which the Court held that the adequate and independent state ground doctrine was a limitation only upon the Court’s appellate review, but that it had no place in *habeas*. A federal court has power to consider any claim that has been procedurally defaulted in state courts.¹²⁴⁵

Still, the Court recognized that the States had legitimate interests that were served by their procedural rules, and that it was important that state courts have the opportunity to afford a claimant relief to which he might be entitled. Thus, a federal court had discretion to deny a *habeas* petitioner relief if it found that he had deliberately bypassed state procedure; the discretion could be exercised only if the court found that the prisoner had intentionally waived his right to pursue his state remedy.¹²⁴⁶

¹²⁴¹ *Id.*, 373 U.S., 17–19.

¹²⁴² 372 U.S. 391 (1963). *Fay* was largely obliterated over the years, beginning with *Davis v. United States*, 411 U.S. 233 (1973), a federal-prisoner postconviction relief case, and *Wainwright v. Sykes*, 433 U.S. 72 (1977), but it was not formally overruled until *Coleman v. Thompson*, 501 U.S. 722, 744–751 (1991).

¹²⁴³ E.g., *Murdock v. City of Memphis*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 590 (1875); *Herb v. Pitcairn*, 324 U.S. 117 (1945). In the *habeas* context, the procedural-bar rules are ultimately a function of the requirement that petitioners first exhaust state avenues of relief before coming to federal court.

¹²⁴⁴ 344 U.S. 443 (1953).

¹²⁴⁵ *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 424–434 (1963).

¹²⁴⁶ *Id.*, 438–440.

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Liberalization of the writ thus made it possible for convicted persons who had fully litigated their claims at state trials and on appeal, who had because of some procedural default been denied the opportunity to have their claims reviewed, or who had been at least once heard on federal *habeas*, to have the chance to present their grounds for relief to a federal *habeas* judge. In addition to opportunities to relitigate the facts and the law relating to their convictions, prisoners could as well take advantage of new constitutional decisions that were retroactive. The filings in federal courts increased year by year, but the numbers of prisoners who in fact obtained either release or retrial remained quite small. A major effect, however, was to exacerbate the feelings of state judges and state law enforcement officials and to stimulate many efforts in Congress to enact restrictive *habeas* amendments.¹²⁴⁷ While the efforts were unsuccessful, complaints were received more sympathetically in a newly-constituted Supreme Court and more restrictive rulings ensued.

The discretion afforded the Court was sounded by Justice Rehnquist, who, after reviewing the case law on the 1867 statute, remarked that the history “illustrates this Court’s historic willingness to overturn or modify its earlier views of the scope of the writ, even where the statutory language authorizing judicial action has remained unchanged.”¹²⁴⁸ The emphasis from early on has been upon the equitable nature of the *habeas* remedy and the judiciary’s responsibility to guide the exercise of that remedy in accordance with equitable principles; thus, the Court time and again underscores that the federal courts have plenary *power* under the statute

¹²⁴⁷In 1961, state prisoner *habeas* filings totaled 1,020, in 1965, 4,845, in 1970, a high (to date) of 9,063, in 1975, 7,843 in 1980, 8,534 in 1985, 9,045 in 1986. On relief afforded, no reliable figures are available, but estimates indicate that at most 4% of the filings result in either release or retrial. C. WRIGHT, A. MILLER, & E. COOPER, FEDERAL PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE (1988 & supps.), § 4261, at 284–291.

¹²⁴⁸*Wainwright v. Sykes*, 433 U.S. 72, 81 (1977). The present Court’s emphasis in *habeas* cases is, of course, quite different from that of the Court in the 1963 trilogy. Now, the Court favors decisions that promote finality, comity, judicial economy, and channeling the resolution of claims into the most appropriate forum. *Keeney v. Tamayo-Reyes*, 112 S.Ct. 1715, 1719–1720 (1992). Overall, federalism concerns are critical. See *Coleman v. Thompson*, 501 U.S. 722, 726 (1991) (“This is a case about federalism.” First sentence of opinion). The seminal opinion on which subsequent cases have drawn is Justice Powell’s concurrence in *Schneekloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218, 250 (1973). He suggested that *habeas* courts should entertain only those claims that go to the integrity of the fact-finding process, thus raising questions of the value of a guilty verdict, or, more radically, that only those prisoners able to make a credible showing of “factual innocence” could be heard on *habeas*. *Id.*, 256–258, 274–275. As will be evident *infra*, some form of innocence standard now is pervasive in much of the Court’s *habeas* jurisprudence.

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to implement it to the fullest while the Court's decisions may deny them the discretion to exercise the power.¹²⁴⁹

Change has occurred in several respects in regard to access to and the scope of the writ. It is sufficient to say that the more recent rulings have eviscerated the content of the 1963 trilogy and that *Brown v. Allen* itself is threatened with extinction.

First, the Court in search and seizure cases has returned to the standard of *Frank v. Mangum*, holding that where the state courts afford a criminal defendant the opportunity for a full and adequate hearing on his Fourth Amendment claim, his only avenue of relief in the federal courts is to petition the Supreme Court for review and that he cannot raise those claims again in a *habeas* petition.¹²⁵⁰ Grounded as it is in the Court's dissatisfaction with the exclusionary rule, the case has not since been extended to other constitutional grounds,¹²⁵¹ but the rationale of the opinion suggests the likelihood of reaching other exclusion questions.¹²⁵²

Second, the Court has formulated a "new rule" exception to *habeas* cognizance. That is, subject to two exceptions,¹²⁵³ a case decided after a petitioner's conviction and sentence became final may not be the predicate for federal *habeas* relief if the case announces

¹²⁴⁹Id., 83; *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465, 495 n. 37 (1976); *Francis v. Henderson*, 425 U.S. 536, 538 (1976); *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 438 (1963). The dichotomy between power and discretion goes all the way back to the case imposing the rule of exhaustion of state remedies. *Ex parte Royall*, 117 U.S. 241, 251 (1886).

¹²⁵⁰*Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465 (1976). The decision is based as much on the Court's dissatisfaction with the exclusionary rule as with its desire to curb *habeas*. Holding that the purpose of the exclusionary rule is to deter unconstitutional searches and seizures rather than to redress individual injuries, the Court reasoned that no deterrent purpose was advanced by applying the rule on *habeas*, except to encourage state courts to give claimants a full and fair hearing. Id., 493–495.

¹²⁵¹*Stone* does not apply to a Sixth Amendment claim of ineffective assistance of counsel in litigating a search and seizure claim. *Kimmelman v. Morrison*, 477 U.S. 365, 382–383 (1986). See also *Rose v. Mitchell*, 443 U.S. 545 (1979) (racial discrimination in selection of grand jury foreman); *Jackson v. Virginia*, 443 U.S. 307 (1979) (insufficient evidence to satisfy reasonable doubt standard).

¹²⁵²Issues of admissibility of confessions (*Miranda* violations) and eyewitness identifications are obvious candidates. See, e.g., *Duckworth v. Eagan*, 492 U.S. 195, 205 (1989) (Justice O'Connor concurring); *Brewer v. Williams*, 430 U.S. 387, 413–414 (1977) (Justice Powell concurring), and id., 415 (Chief Justice Burger dissenting); *Wainwright v. Sykes*, 433 U.S. 72, 87 n. 11 (1977) (reserving *Miranda*).

¹²⁵³The first exception permits the retroactive application on *habeas* of a new rule if the rule places a class of private conduct beyond the power of the State to proscribe or addresses a substantive categorical guarantee accorded by the Constitution. The rule must, to say it differently, either decriminalize a class of conduct or prohibit the imposition of a particular punishment on a particular class of persons. The second exception would permit the application of "watershed rules of criminal procedure" implicating the fundamental fairness and accuracy of the criminal proceeding. *Saffle v. Parks*, 494 U.S. 484, 494–495 (1990) (citing cases); *Sawyer v. Smith*, 497 U.S. 227, 241–245 (1990).

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or applies a “new rule.”¹²⁵⁴ A decision announces a new rule “if the result was not *dictated* by precedent existing at the time the defendant’s conviction became final.”¹²⁵⁵ If a rule “was susceptible to debate among reasonable minds,” it could not have been dictated by precedent, and therefore it must be classified as a “new rule.”¹²⁵⁶

Third, the Court has largely maintained the standards of *Townsend v. Sain*, as embodied in somewhat modified form in statute, with respect to when federal judges must conduct an evidentiary hearing.¹²⁵⁷ However, one *Townsend* factor, not expressly set out in the statute, has been overturned, in order to bring the case law into line with other decisions. *Townsend* had held that a hearing was required if the material facts were not adequately developed at the state-court hearing. If the defendant had failed to develop the material facts in the state court, however, the Court held that unless he had “deliberately bypass[ed]” that procedural outlet he was still entitled to the hearing.¹²⁵⁸ The Court overruled that point and substituted a much-stricter “cause-and-prejudice” standard.¹²⁵⁹

Fourth, the Court has significantly stiffened the standards governing when a federal *habeas* court should entertain a second or successive *petition* filed by a state prisoner, which was dealt with by *Sanders v. United States*.¹²⁶⁰ A successive petition may be dismissed if the same ground was determined adversely to petitioner previously, the prior determination was on the merits, and “the ends of justice” would not be served by reconsideration. It is with the latter element that the Court has become more restrictive. A plurality in *Kuhlmann v. Wilson*¹²⁶¹ argued that the “ends of justice” standard would be met only if a petitioner supplemented her constitutional claim with a colorable showing of factual innocence. While the Court has not expressly adopted this standard, a later

¹²⁵⁴ *Teague v. Lane*, 489 U.S. 288 (1989) (plurality opinion); *Penry v. Lynaugh*, 492 U.S. 302, 313–319 (1989).

¹²⁵⁵ *Butler v. McKellar*, 494 U.S. 407, 412 (1990) (quoting *Penry v. Lynaugh*, 492 U.S. 302, 314 (1989) (quoting *Teague v. Lane*, 489 U.S. 288, 314 (1989) (plurality opinion) (emphasis in original)).

¹²⁵⁶ *Id.*, 415. See also *Stringer v. Black*, 112 S.Ct. 1130, 1135 (1992). This latter case found that two decisions relied on by petitioner merely drew on existing precedent and so did not establish a new rule.

¹²⁵⁷ *Supra*, nn. 1235–1237.

¹²⁵⁸ *Townsend v. Sain*, 372 U.S. 293, 313, 317 (1963), imported the “deliberate bypass” standard from *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 438 (1963).

¹²⁵⁹ *Keeney v. Tamayo-Reyes*, 112 S.Ct. 1715 (1992). This standard is imported from the cases abandoning *Fay v. Noia* and is discussed *infra*, nn. 1266–1270.

¹²⁶⁰ 373 U.S. 1, 15–18 (1963). The standards are embodied in 28 U.S.C. §2244(b).

¹²⁶¹ 477 U.S. 436 (1986).

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capital case utilized it, holding that a petitioner sentenced to death could escape the bar on successive petitions by demonstrating “actual innocence” of the death penalty by showing by clear and convincing evidence that no reasonable juror would have found the prisoner eligible for the death penalty under applicable state law.¹²⁶²

Even if the subsequent petition alleges new and different grounds, a *habeas* court may dismiss the petition if the prisoner’s failure to assert those grounds in the prior, or first, petition constitutes “an abuse of the writ.”¹²⁶³ Following the 1963 trilogy and especially *Sanders*, the federal courts had generally followed a rule excusing the failure to raise claims in earlier petitions unless the failure was a result of “inexcusable neglect” or of deliberate relinquishment. In *McClesky v. Zant*,¹²⁶⁴ the Court construed the “abuse of the writ” language to require a showing of both “cause and prejudice” before a petitioner may allege in a second or later petition a ground or grounds not alleged in the first. In other words, to avoid subsequent dismissal, a petitioner must allege in his first application all the grounds he may have, unless he can show cause, some external impediment, for his failure and some actual prejudice from the error alleged. If he cannot show cause and prejudice, the petitioner may be heard only if she shows that a “fundamental miscarriage of justice” will occur, which means she must make a “colorable showing of factual innocence.”¹²⁶⁵

Fifth, the Court abandoned the rules of *Fay v. Noia*, although it was only very recently that it expressly overruled the case.¹²⁶⁶ *Fay*, it will be recalled, dealt with so-called procedural-bar circumstances; that is, if a defendant fails to assert a claim at the proper time or in accordance with proper procedure under valid state rules, and if the State then refuses to reach the merits of his claim and holds against him solely because of the noncompliance with state procedure, when may a petitioner present the claim in federal *habeas*? The answer in *Fay* was that the federal court always had power to review the claim but that it had discretion to deny relief to a *habeas* claimant if it found that the prisoner had

¹²⁶² *Sawyer v. Whitley*, 112 S.Ct. 2514 (1992). Language in the opinion suggests that the standard is not limited to capital cases. *Id.*, 2519.

¹²⁶³ The standard is in 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b), along with the standard that if a petitioner “deliberately withheld” a claim, the petition can be dismissed. See also 28 U.S.C. § 2254 Rule 9(b) (judge may dismiss successive petition raising new claims if failure to assert them previously was an abuse of the writ).

¹²⁶⁴ 499 U.S. 467 (1991).

¹²⁶⁵ *Id.*, 489–497. On “cause and prejudice,” see *infra*, nn.1267–1270. The “actual innocence” element runs through the cases under all the headings.

¹²⁶⁶ *Coleman v. Thompson*, 501 U.S. 722, 744–751 (1991).

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intentionally waived his right to pursue his state remedy through a “deliberate bypass” of state procedure.

That is no longer the law. “In all cases in which a state prisoner has defaulted his federal claims in state court pursuant to an independent and adequate state procedural rule, federal habeas review of the claims is barred unless the prisoner can demonstrate cause for the default and actual prejudice as a result of the alleged violation of federal law, or demonstrate that failure to consider the claims will result in a fundamental miscarriage of justice. *Fay* was based on a conception of federal/state relations that undervalued the importance of state procedural rules.”¹²⁶⁷ The “miscarriage-of-justice” element is probably limited to cases in which actual innocence or actual impairment of a guilty verdict can be shown.¹²⁶⁸ The concept of “cause” excusing failure to observe a state rule is extremely narrow; “the existence of cause for procedural default must ordinarily turn on whether the prisoner can show that some objective factor external to the defense impeded counsel’s efforts to comply with the State’s procedural rule.”¹²⁶⁹ As for the “prejudice” factor, it is an undeveloped concept, but the Court’s only case establishes a high barrier.¹²⁷⁰

For the future, barring changes in Court membership, other curtailing of *habeas* jurisdiction can be expected. Perhaps the Court will impose some form of showing of innocence as a predicate to obtaining a hearing. More far reaching would be, as the Court continues to emphasize broad federalism concerns, rather than simply comity and respect for state courts, an overturning of *Brown v. Allen* itself and the renunciation of any oversight, save for the ex-

¹²⁶⁷ *Coleman v. Thompson*, 501 U.S. 722, 750 (1991). The standard has been developed in a long line of cases. *Davis v. United States*, 411 U.S. 233 (1973) (under federal rules); *Francis v. Henderson*, 425 U.S. 536 (1976); *Engle v. Isaac*, 456 U.S. 107 (1982); *Murray v. Carrier*, 477 U.S. 478 (1986); *Harris v. Reed*, 489 U.S. 255 (1989). *Coleman* arose because the defendant’s attorney had filed his appeal in state court three days late. *Wainwright v. Sykes* involved the failure of defendant to object to the admission of inculpatory statements at the time of trial. *Engle v. Isaac* involved a failure to object at trial to jury instructions.

¹²⁶⁸ E.g., *Smith v. Murray*, 477 U.S. 527, 538–539 (1986); *Murray v. Carrier*, 477 U.S. 478, 496 (1986).

¹²⁶⁹ *Id.*, 488. This case held that ineffective assistance of counsel is not “cause” unless it rises to the level of a Sixth Amendment violation. See also *Coleman v. Thompson*, 501 U.S. 722, 752–757 (1991) (because petitioner had no right to counsel in state postconviction proceeding where error occurred, he could not claim constitutionally ineffective assistance of counsel). The actual novelty of a constitutional claim at the time of the state court proceeding is “cause” excusing the petitioner’s failure to raise it then, *Reed v. Ross*, 468 U.S. 1 (1984), although the failure of counsel to anticipate a line of constitutional argument then foreshadowed in Supreme Court precedent is insufficient “cause.” *Engle v. Isaac*, 456 U.S. 107 (1982).

¹²⁷⁰ *United States v. Frady*, 456 U.S. 152, 169 (1982) (under federal rules) (with respect to erroneous jury instruction, inquiring whether the error “so infected the entire trial that the resulting conviction violates due process”).

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tremely limited direct review of state court convictions in the Supreme Court.

Removal.—In the Judiciary Act of 1789, Congress provided that civil actions commenced in the state courts which could have been brought in the original jurisdiction of the inferior federal courts could be removed by the defendant from the state court to the federal court.¹²⁷¹ Generally, as Congress expanded the original jurisdiction of the inferior federal courts, it similarly expanded removal jurisdiction.¹²⁷² Although there is potentiality for intra-court conflict here, of course, in the implied mistrust of state courts' willingness or ability to protect federal interests, it is rather with regard to the limited areas of removal that do not correspond to federal court original jurisdiction that the greatest amount of conflict is likely to arise.

If a federal officer is sued or prosecuted in a state court for acts done under color of law¹²⁷³ or if a federal employee is sued for a wrongful or negligent act that the Attorney General certifies was done while she was acting within the scope of her employment,¹²⁷⁴ the actions may be removed. But the statute most open to federal-state court dispute is the civil rights removal law, which authorizes removal of any action, civil or criminal, which is commenced in a state court “[a]gainst any person who is denied or cannot enforce in the courts of such State a right under any law providing for the equal civil rights of citizens of the United States, or of all persons within the jurisdiction thereof.”¹²⁷⁵ In the years after

¹²⁷¹ §12, 1 Stat. 79. The removal provision contained the same jurisdictional amount requirement as the original jurisdictional statute. It applied in the main to aliens and defendants not residents of the State in which suit was brought.

¹²⁷² Thus the Act of March 3, 1875, §2, 18 Stat. 470, conferring federal question jurisdiction on the inferior federal courts, provided for removal of such actions. The constitutionality of congressional authorization for removal is well-established. *Chicago & N.W. Ry. Co. v. Whitton's Administrator*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 270 (1871); *Tennessee v. Davis*, 100 U.S. 257 (1879); *Ames v. Kansas ex rel. Johnston*, 111 U.S. 449 (1884). See *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808, 833 (1966).

¹²⁷³ See 28 U.S.C. §1442. This statute had its origins in the Act of February 4, 1815, §8, 3 Stat. 198 (removal of civil and criminal actions against federal customs officers for official acts), and the Act of March 2, 1833, §3, 4 Stat. 633 (removal of civil and criminal actions against federal officers on account of acts done under the revenue laws), both of which grew out of disputes arising when certain States attempted to nullify federal laws, and the Act of March 3, 1863, §5, 12 Stat. 756 (removal of civil and criminal actions against federal officers for acts done during the existence of the Civil War under color of federal authority). In *Mesa v. California*, 489 U.S. 121 (1989), the Court held that the statute authorized federal officer removal only when the defendant avers a federal defense. See *Willingham v. Morgan*, 395 U.S. 402 (1969).

¹²⁷⁴ 28 U.S.C. §2679(d), enacted after *Westfall v. Erwin*, 484 U.S. 292 (1988).

¹²⁷⁵ 28 U.S.C. §1443(1). Subsection (2) provides for the removal of state court actions “[f]or any act under color of authority derived from any law providing for equal rights, or for refusing to do any act on the ground that it would be inconsis-

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enactment of this statute, however, the court narrowly construed the removal privilege granted,¹²⁷⁶ and recent decisions for the most part confirm this restrictive interpretation,¹²⁷⁷ so that instances of successful resort to the statute are fairly rare.

Thus, the Court's position holds, one may not obtain removal simply by an assertion that he is being denied equal rights or that he cannot enforce the law granting equal rights. Because the removal statute requires the denial to be "in the courts of such State," the pretrial conduct of police and prosecutors was deemed irrelevant, because it afforded no basis for predicting that state courts would not vindicate the federal rights of defendants.¹²⁷⁸ Moreover, in predicting a denial of rights, only an assertion founded on a facially unconstitutional state statute denying the right in question would suffice. From the existence of such a law, it could be predicted that defendant's rights would be denied.¹²⁷⁹ Furthermore, the removal statute's reference to "any law providing for . . . equal rights" covered only laws "providing for specific civil rights

ent with such law." This subsection "is available only to federal officers and to persons assisting such officers in the performance of their official duties." *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808, 815 (1966).

¹²⁷⁶ *Strauder v. West Virginia*, 100 U.S. 303 (1880); *Virginia v. Rives*, 100 U.S. 313 (1880); *Neal v. Delaware*, 103 U.S. 370 (1880); *Bush v. Kentucky*, 107 U.S. 110 (1883); *Gibson v. Mississippi*, 162 U.S. 565 (1896); *Smith v. Mississippi*, 162 U.S. 592 (1896); *Murray v. Louisiana*, 163 U.S. 101 (1896); *Williams v. Mississippi*, 170 U.S. 213 (1898); *Kentucky v. Powers*, 201 U.S. 1 (1906).

¹²⁷⁷ *Georgia v. Rachel*, 384 U.S. 780 (1966); *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808 (1966). There was a hiatus of cases reviewing removal from 1906 to 1966 because from 1887 to 1964 there was no provision for an appeal of an order of a federal court remanding a removed case to the state courts. §901 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 266, 28 U.S.C. §1447(d).

¹²⁷⁸ *Georgia v. Rachel*, 384 U.S. 780, 803 (1966); *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808, 827 (1966). Justice Douglas in dissent, joined by Justices Black, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren, argued that "in the courts of such State" modified only "cannot enforce," so that one could be denied rights prior to as well as during a trial and police and prosecutorial conduct would be relevant. Alternately, he argued that state courts could be implicated in the denial prior to trial by certain actions. *Id.*, 844–855.

¹²⁷⁹ *Georgia v. Rachel*, 384 U.S. 780, 797–802 (1966). Thus, in *Strauder v. West Virginia*, 100 U.S. 303 (1880), African-Americans were excluded by statute from service on grand and petit juries, and it was held that a black defendant's criminal indictment should have been removed because federal law secured nondiscriminatory jury service and it could be predicted that he would be denied his rights before a discriminatorily-selected state jury. In *Virginia v. Rives*, 100 U.S. 313 (1880), there was no state statute, but there was exclusion of Negroes from juries pursuant to custom and removal was denied. In *Neal v. Delaware*, 103 U.S. 370 (1880), the state provision authorizing discrimination in jury selection had been held invalid under federal law by a state court, and a similar situation existed in *Bush v. Kentucky*, 107 U.S. 110 (1882). Removal was denied in both cases. The dissenters in *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808, 848–852 (1966), argued that federal courts should consider facially valid statutes which might be applied unconstitutionally and state court enforcement of custom as well in evaluating whether a removal petitioner could enforce his federal rights in state court.

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stated in terms of racial equality.”¹²⁸⁰ Thus, apparently federal constitutional provisions and many general federal laws do not qualify as a basis for such removal.¹²⁸¹

Clause 3. The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.¹²⁸²

SECTION 3. Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open court.

TREASON

The treason clause is a product of the awareness of the Framers of the “numerous and dangerous excrescences” which had disfigured the English law of treason and was therefore intended to put it beyond the power of Congress to “extend the crime and punishment of treason.”¹²⁸³ The debate in the Convention, remarks in the ratifying conventions, and contemporaneous public comment make clear that a restrictive concept of the crime was imposed and that ordinary partisan divisions within political society were not to be escalated by the stronger into capital charges of treason, as so often had happened in England.¹²⁸⁴

¹²⁸⁰ *Georgia v. Rachel*, 384 U.S. 780, 788–794 (1966); *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808, 824–827 (1966). See also *id.*, 847–848 (Justice Douglas dissenting).

¹²⁸¹ *Id.*, 824–827. See also *Johnson v. Mississippi*, 421 U.S. 213 (1975).

¹²⁸² See the Sixth Amendment.

¹²⁸³ 2 J. ELLIOT, *DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION* (Philadelphia: 1836), 469 (James Wilson). Wilson was apparently the author of the clause in the Committee of Detail and had some first hand knowledge of the abuse of treason charges. J. HURST, *THE LAW OF TREASON IN THE UNITED STATES—SELECTED ESSAYS* (Westport, Conn.: 1971), 90–91, 129–136.

¹²⁸⁴ 2 M. FARRAND, *op. cit.*, n. 1, 345–350; 2 J. ELLIOT, *op. cit.*, n. 1283, 469, 487 (James Wilson); 3 *id.*, 102–103, 447, 451, 466; 4 *id.*, 209, 219, 220; *THE FEDERALIST* No. 43 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 290 (Madison); *id.*, No. 84, 576–577 (Hamilton); *THE WORKS OF JAMES WILSON*, R. McCloskey ed. (Cambridge: 1967 ed), 663–669. The matter is comprehensively studied in J. HURST, *op. cit.*, n. 1283, chs. 3, 4.

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Thus, the Framers adopted two of the three formulations and the phraseology of the English Statute of Treason enacted in 1350,¹²⁸⁵ but they conspicuously omitted the phrase defining as treason the “compass[ing] or imagin[ing] the death of our lord the King,”¹²⁸⁶ under which most of the English law of “constructive treason” had been developed.¹²⁸⁷ Beyond limiting the power of Congress to define treason,¹²⁸⁸ the clause also prescribes limitations upon Congress’ ability to make proof of the offense easy to establish¹²⁸⁹ and its ability to define punishment.¹²⁹⁰

Levying War

Early judicial interpretation of the meaning of treason in terms of levying war was conditioned by the partisan struggles of the early nineteenth century, in which were involved the treason trials of Aaron Burr and his associates. In *Ex parte Bollman*,¹²⁹¹ which involved two of Burr’s confederates, Chief Justice Marshall, speaking for himself and three other Justices, confined the meaning of levying war to the actual waging of war. “However flagitious may be the crime of conspiring to subvert by force the government of our country, such conspiracy is not treason. To conspire to levy war, and actually to levy war, are distinct offences. The first must be brought into open action by the assemblage of men for a purpose treasonable in itself, or the fact of levying war cannot have been committed. So far has this principle been carried, that . . . it has been determined that the actual enlistment of men to serve against

¹²⁸⁵ 25 Edward III, Stat. 5, ch. 2. See J. HURST, *op. cit.*, n. 1283, ch 2.

¹²⁸⁶ *Id.*, 15, 31–37, 41–49, 51–55.

¹²⁸⁷ *Ibid.* “[T]he record does suggest that the clause was intended to guarantee nonviolent political processes against prosecution under any theory or charge, the burden of which was the allegedly seditious character of the conduct in question. The most obviously restrictive feature of the constitutional definition is its omission of any provision analogous to that branch of the Statute of Edward III which punished treason by compassing the death of the king. In a narrow sense, this provision perhaps had no proper analogue in a republic. However, to interpret the silence of the treason clause in this way alone does justice neither to the technical proficiency of the Philadelphia draftsmen nor to the practical statecraft and knowledge of English political history among the Framers and proponents of the Constitution. The charge of compassing the king’s death had been the principal instrument by which ‘treason’ had been used to suppress a wide range of political opposition, from acts obviously dangerous to order and likely in fact to lead to the king’s death to the mere speaking or writing of views restrictive of the royal authority.” *Id.*, 152–153.

¹²⁸⁸ The clause does not, however, prevent Congress from specifying other crimes of a subversive nature and prescribing punishment, so long as Congress is not merely attempting to evade the restrictions of the treason clause. E.g., *Ex parte Bollman*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75, 126 (1807); *Wimmer v. United States*, 264 Fed. 11, 12–13 (6th Cir. 1920), *cert den.*, 253 U.S. 494 (1920).

¹²⁸⁹ By the requirement of two witnesses to the same overt act or a confession in open court.

¹²⁹⁰ Cl. 2, *infra*, pp. 827–828.

¹²⁹¹ 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75 (1807).

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the government does not amount to levying of war.” Chief Justice Marshall was careful, however, to state that the Court did not mean that no person could be guilty of this crime who had not appeared in arms against the country. “On the contrary, if it be actually levied, that is, if a body of men be actually assembled for the purpose of effecting by force a treasonable purpose, all those who perform any part, however minute, or however remote from the scene of action, and who are actually leagued in the general conspiracy, are to be considered as traitors. But there must be an actual assembling of men, for the treasonable purpose, to constitute a levying of war.”

On the basis of these considerations and due to the fact that no part of the crime charged had been committed in the District of Columbia, the Court held that Bollman and Swartwout could not be tried in the District and ordered their discharge. He continued by saying that “the crime of treason should not be extended by construction to doubtful cases” and concluded that no conspiracy for overturning the Government and “no enlisting of men to effect it, would be an actual levying of war.”¹²⁹²

The Burr Trial.—Not long afterward, the Chief Justice went to Richmond to preside over the trial of Burr himself. His ruling¹²⁹³ denying a motion to introduce certain collateral evidence bearing on Burr’s activities is significant both for rendering the latter’s acquittal inevitable and for the qualifications and exceptions made to the *Bollman* decision. In brief, this ruling held that Burr, who had not been present at the assemblage on Blennerhassett’s Island, could be convicted of advising or procuring a levying of war only upon the testimony of two witnesses to his having procured the assemblage. This operation having been covert, such testimony was naturally unobtainable. The net effect of Marshall’s pronouncements was to make it extremely difficult to convict one of levying war against the United States short of the conduct of or personal participation in actual hostilities.¹²⁹⁴

¹²⁹² *Id.*, 126–127.

¹²⁹³ *United States v. Burr*, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.), 469, Appx. (1807).

¹²⁹⁴ There have been a number of lower court cases in some of which convictions were obtained. As a result of the Whiskey Rebellion, convictions of treason were obtained on the basis of the ruling that forcible resistance to the enforcement of the revenue laws was a constructive levying of war. *United States v. Vigol*, 29 Fed. Cas. 376 (No. 16621) (C.C.D. Pa. 1795); *United States v. Mitchell*, 26 Fed. Cas. 1277 (No. 15788) (C.C.D. Pa. 1795). After conviction, the defendants were pardoned. See also for the same ruling in a different situation the Case of Fries, 9 Fed. Cas. 826, 924 (Nos. 5126, 5127) (C.C.D. Pa. 1799, 1800). The defendant was again pardoned after conviction. About a half century later participation in forcible resistance to the Fugitive Slave Law was held not to be a constructive levying of war. *United States v. Hanway*, 26 Fed. Cas. 105 (No. 15299) (C.C.E.D. Pa. 1851). Although the United States Government regarded the activities of the Confederate States as a levying

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Aid and Comfort to the Enemy

The Cramer Case.—Since the *Bollman* case, the few treason cases which have reached the Supreme Court were outgrowths of World War II and have charged adherence to enemies of the United States and the giving of aid and comfort. In the first of these, *Cramer v. United States*,¹²⁹⁵ the issue was whether the “overt act” had to be “openly manifest treason” or if it was enough if, when supported by the proper evidence, it showed the required treasonable intention.¹²⁹⁶ The Court in a five-to-four opinion by Justice Jackson in effect took the former view holding that “the two-witness principle” interdicted “imputation of *incriminating* acts to the accused by circumstantial evidence or by the testimony of a single witness,”¹²⁹⁷ even though the single witness in question was the accused himself. “Every act, movement, deed, and word of the defendant charged to constitute treason must be supported by the testimony of two witnesses,”¹²⁹⁸ Justice Jackson asserted. Justice Douglas in a dissent, in which Chief Justice Stone and Justices Black and Reed concurred, contended that Cramer’s treasonable intention was sufficiently shown by overt acts as attested to by two witnesses each, plus statements made by Cramer on the witness stand.

The Haupt Case.—The Supreme Court sustained a conviction of treason, for the first time in its history, in 1947 in *Haupt v. United States*.¹²⁹⁹ Here it was held that although the overt acts relied upon to support the charge of treason—defendant’s harboring

of war, the President by Amnesty Proclamation of December 25, 1868, pardoned all those who had participated on the southern side in the Civil War. In applying the Captured and Abandoned Property Act of 1863 (12 Stat. 820) in a civil proceeding, the Court declared that the foundation of the Confederacy was treason against the United States. *Sprott v. United States*, 20 Wall. (87 U.S.) 459 (1875). See also *Hanauer v. Doane*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 342 (1871); *Thorington v. Smith*, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 1 (1869); *Young v. United States*, 97 U.S. 39 (1878). These four cases bring in the concept of adhering to the enemy and giving him aid and comfort, but these are not criminal cases and deal with attempts to recover property under the Captured and Abandoned Property Act by persons who claimed that they had given no aid or comfort to the enemy. These cases are not, therefore, an interpretation of the Constitution.

¹²⁹⁵ 325 U.S. 1 (1945).

¹²⁹⁶ 89 Law. Ed. 1443–1444 (Argument of Counsel).

¹²⁹⁷ *Id.*, 325 U.S., 35.

¹²⁹⁸ *Id.*, 34–35. Earlier, Justice Jackson had declared that this phase of treason consists of two elements: “adherence to the enemy; and rendering him aid and comfort.” A citizen, it was said, may take actions “which do aid and comfort the enemy . . . but if there is no adherence to the enemy in this, if there is no intent to betray, there is no treason.” *Id.*, 29, Justice Jackson states erroneously that the requirement of two witnesses to the same overt act was an original invention of the Convention of 1787. Actually it comes from the British Treason Trials Act of 1695. 7 Wm. III, c.3.

¹²⁹⁹ 330 U.S. 631 (1947).

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and sheltering in his home his son who was an enemy spy and saboteur, assisting him in purchasing an automobile, and in obtaining employment in a defense plant—were all acts which a father would naturally perform for a son, this fact did not necessarily relieve them of the treasonable purpose of giving aid and comfort to the enemy. Speaking for the Court, Justice Jackson said: “No matter whether young Haupt’s mission was benign or traitorous, known or unknown to the defendant, these acts were aid and comfort to him. In the light of this mission and his instructions, they were more than casually useful; they were aids in steps essential to his design for treason. If proof be added that the defendant knew of his son’s instruction, preparation and plans, the purpose to aid and comfort the enemy becomes clear.”¹³⁰⁰

The Court held that conversation and occurrences long prior to the indictment were admissible evidence on the question of defendant’s intent. And more important, it held that the constitutional requirement of two witnesses to the same overt act or confession in open court does not operate to exclude confessions or admissions made out of court, where a legal basis for the conviction has been laid by the testimony of two witnesses of which such confessions or admissions are merely corroborative. This relaxation of restrictions surrounding the definition of treason evoked obvious satisfaction from Justice Douglas who saw in the *Haupt* decision a vindication of his position in the *Cramer* case. His concurring opinion contains what may be called a restatement of the law of treason and merits quotation at length:

“As the *Cramer* case makes plain, the overt act and the intent with which it is done are separate and distinct elements of the crime. Intent need not be proved by two witnesses but may be inferred from all the circumstances surrounding the overt act. But if two witnesses are not required to prove treasonable intent, two witnesses need not be required to show the treasonable character of the overt act. For proof of treasonable intent in the doing of the overt act necessarily involves proof that the accused committed the overt act with the knowledge or understanding of its treasonable character.

“The requirement of an overt act is to make certain a treasonable project has moved from the realm of thought into the realm of action. That requirement is undeniably met in the present case, as it was in the case of *Cramer*.

“The *Cramer* case departed from those rules when it held that ‘The two-witness principle is to interdict imputation of incriminat-

¹³⁰⁰Id., 635–636

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ing acts to the accused by circumstantial evidence or by the testimony of a single witness.’ 325 U.S. p. 35. The present decision is truer to the constitutional definition of treason when it forsakes that test and holds that an act, quite innocent on its face, does not need two witnesses to be transformed into a incriminating one.”¹³⁰¹

The Kawakita Case.—*Kawakita v. United States*¹³⁰² was decided on June 2, 1952. The facts are sufficiently stated in the following headnote: “At petitioner’s trial for treason, it appeared that originally he was a native-born citizen of the United States and also a national of Japan by reason of Japanese parentage and law. While a minor, he took the oath of allegiance to the United States; went to Japan for a visit on an American passport; and was prevented by the outbreak of war from returning to this country. During the war, he reached his majority in Japan; changed his registration from American to Japanese, showed sympathy with Japan and hostility to the United States; served as a civilian employee of a private corporation producing war materials for Japan; and brutally abused American prisoners of war who were forced to work there. After Japan’s surrender, he registered as an American citizen; swore that he was an American citizen and had not done various acts amounting to expatriation; and returned to this country on an American passport.” The question whether, on this record Kawakita had intended to renounce American citizenship, said the Court, in sustaining conviction, was peculiarly one for the jury and their verdict that he had not so intended was based on sufficient evidence. An American citizen, it continued, owes allegiance to the United States wherever he may reside, and dual nationality does not alter the situation.¹³⁰³

¹³⁰¹ Id., 645–646, Justice Douglas cites no cases for these propositions. Justice Murphy in a solitary dissent stated: “But the act of providing shelter was of the type that might naturally arise out of petitioner’s relationship to his son, as the Court recognizes. By its very nature, therefore, it is a non-treasonous act. That is true even when the act is viewed in light of all the surrounding circumstances. All that can be said is that the problem of whether it was motivated by treasonous or non-treasonous factors is left in doubt. It is therefore not an overt act of treason, regardless of how unlawful it might otherwise be.” Id., 649.

¹³⁰² 343 U.S. 717 (1952).

¹³⁰³ Id., 732. For citations in the subject of dual nationality, see id., 723 n. 2. Three dissenters asserted that Kawakita’s conduct in Japan clearly showed he was consistently demonstrating his allegiance to Japan. “As a matter of law, he expatriated himself as well as that can be done.” Id., 746.

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Cl. 2—Punishment

Doubtful State of the Law of Treason Today

The vacillation of Chief Justice Marshall between the *Bollman*¹³⁰⁴ and *Burr*¹³⁰⁵ cases and the vacillation of the Court in the *Cramer*¹³⁰⁶ and *Haupt*¹³⁰⁷ cases leave the law of treason in a somewhat doubtful condition. The difficulties created by the *Burr* case have been obviated to a considerable extent through the punishment of acts ordinarily treasonable in nature under a different label,¹³⁰⁸ within a formula provided by Chief Justice Marshall himself in the *Bollman* case. The passage reads: "Crimes so atrocious as those which have for their object the subversion by violence of those laws and those institutions which have been ordained in order to secure the peace and happiness of society, are not to escape punishment, because they have not ripened into treason. The wisdom of the legislature is competent to provide for the case; and the framers of our Constitution . . . must have conceived it more safe that punishment in such cases should be ordained by general laws, formed upon deliberation, under the influence of no resentments, and without knowing on whom they were to operate, than that it should be inflicted under the influence of those passions which the occasion seldom fails to excite, and which a flexible definition of the crime, or a construction which would render it flexible, might bring into operation."¹³⁰⁹

Clause 2. The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attained.

CORRUPTION OF THE BLOOD AND FORFEITURE

The Confiscation Act of 1862 "to suppress Insurrection, to punish Treason and Rebellion, to seize and confiscate the Property of

¹³⁰⁴ Ex parte Bollman, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 75 (1807).

¹³⁰⁵ United States v. Burr, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 469 (1807).

¹³⁰⁶ Cramer v. United States, 325 U.S. 1 (1945).

¹³⁰⁷ Haupt v. United States, 330 U.S. 631 (1947).

¹³⁰⁸ Cf. United States v. Rosenberg, 195 F.2d 583 (2d. Cir.), cert den., 344 U.S. 889 (1952), holding that in a prosecution under the Espionage Act for giving aid to a country, not an enemy, an offense distinct from treason, neither the two-witness rule nor the requirement as to the overt act is applicable.

¹³⁰⁹ Ex parte Bollman, 4 Cr. (8 U.S.) 126, 127 (1807). Justice Frankfurter appended to his opinion in Cramer v. United States, 325 U.S. 1, 25 n. 38 (1945), a list taken from the Government's brief of all the cases prior to *Cramer* in which construction of the treason clause was involved. The same list, updated, appears in J. HURST, op. cit., n. 1283, 260–267. Professor Hurst was responsible for the historical research underlying the Government's brief in *Cramer*.

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Rebels”¹³¹⁰ raised issues under Article III, §3, cl.2. Because of the constitutional doubts of the President, the act was accompanied by an explanatory joint resolution which stipulated that only a life estate terminating with the death of the offender could be sold and that at his death his children could take the fee simple by descent as his heirs without deriving any title from the United States. In applying this act, passed in pursuance of the war power and not the power to punish treason,¹³¹¹ the Court in one case¹³¹² quoted with approval the English distinction between a disability absolute and perpetual and one personal or temporary. Corruption of blood as a result of attainder of treason was cited as an example of the former and was defined as the disability of any of the posterity of the attained person “to claim any inheritance in fee simple, either as heir to him, or to any ancestor above him.”¹³¹³

¹³¹⁰ 12 Stat. 589. This act incidentally did not designate rebellion as treason.

¹³¹¹ *Miller v. United States*, 11 Wall. (78 U.S.) 268, 305 (1871).

¹³¹² *Wallach v. Van Riswick*, 92 U.S. 202, 213 (1876).

¹³¹³ *Lord de la Warre's Case*, 11 Coke Rept. 1a, 77 Eng. Rept. 1145 (1597). A number of cases dealt with the effect of a full pardon by the President of owners of property confiscated under this act. They held that a full pardon relieved the owner of forfeiture as far as the Government was concerned but did not divide the interest acquired by third persons from the Government during the lifetime of the offender. *Ill. Central Railroad v. Bosworth*, 133 U.S. 92, 101 (1890); *Knote v. United States*, 95 U.S. 149 (1877); *Wallach v. Van Riswick*, 92 U.S. 202, 203 (1876); *Armstrong's Foundry*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 766, 769 (1868). There is no direct ruling on the question of whether only citizens can commit treason. In *Carlisle v. United States*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 147, 154–155 (1873), the Court declared that aliens while domiciled in this country owe a temporary allegiance to it and may be punished for treason equally with a native-born citizen in the absence of a treaty stipulation to the contrary. This case involved the attempt of certain British subjects to recover claims for property seized under the Captured and Abandoned Property Act, 12 Stat. 820 (1863), which provided for the recovery of property or its value in suits in the Court of Claims by persons who had not rendered aid and comfort to the enemy. Earlier in *United States v. Wiltberger*, 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 76, 97 (1820), which involved a conviction for manslaughter under an act punishing manslaughter and treason on the high seas, Chief Justice Marshall going beyond the necessities of the case stated that treason “is a breach of allegiance, and can be committed by him only who owes allegiance either perpetual or temporary.” However, see *In re Shinohara*, Court Martial Orders, No. 19, September 8, 1949, p. 4, Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy, reported in 17 Geo. Wash. L. Rev. 283 (1949). In the latter, an enemy alien resident in United States territory (Guam) was held guilty of treason for acts done while the enemy nation of which he was a citizen occupied such territory. Under English precedents, an alien residing in British territory is open to conviction for high treason on the theory that his allegiance to the Crown is not suspended by foreign occupation of the territory. *DeJager v. Attorney General of Natal* (1907), A.C., 96 L.T.R. 857. See also 18 U.S.C. §2381.

ARTICLE IV

STATES' RELATIONS

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STATES' RELATIONS

ARTICLE IV

SECTION 1. Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records, and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

SOURCES AND EFFECT OF THIS PROVISION

Private International Law

The historical background of this section is furnished by that branch of private law which is variously termed "private international law," "conflict of laws," "comity," This comprises a body of rules, based largely on the writings of jurists and judicial decisions, in accordance with which the courts of one country, or "jurisdiction," will ordinarily, in the absence of a local policy to the contrary, extend recognition and enforcement to rights claimed by individuals by virtue of the laws or judicial decisions of another country or "jurisdiction." Most frequently applied examples of these rules include the following: the rule that a marriage which is good in the country where performed (*lex loci*) is good elsewhere; the rule that contracts are to be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the country where entered into (*lex loci contractus*) unless the parties clearly intended otherwise; the rule that immovables may be disposed of only in accordance with the law of the country where situated (*lex rei sitae*);¹ the converse rule that chattels adhere to the person of their owner and hence are disposable by him, even when located elsewhere, in accordance with the law of his domicile (*lex domicilii*); the rule that regardless of where the cause arose, the courts of any country where personal service of the defendant can be effected will take jurisdiction of certain types of personal actions, hence termed "transitory," and accord such remedy as the *lex fori* affords. Still other rules, of first importance in the present connection, determine the recognition which the judg-

¹ *Clark v. Graham*, 6 Wheat. (19 U.S.) 577 (1821), is an early case in which the Supreme Court enforced this rule.

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ments of the courts of one country shall receive from those of another country.

So even had the States of the Union remained in a mutual relationship of entire independence, private claims originating in one often would have been assured recognition and enforcement in the others. The Framers felt, however, that the rules of private international law should not be left among the States altogether on a basis of comity and hence subject always to the overruling local policy of the *lex fori* but ought to be in some measure at least placed on the higher plane of constitutional obligation. In fulfillment of this intent the section now under consideration was inserted, and Congress was empowered to enact supplementary and enforcing legislation.²

JUDGMENTS: EFFECT TO BE GIVEN IN FORUM STATE**In General**

Article IV, § 1, has had its principal operation in relation to judgments. Embraced within the relevant discussions are two principal classes of judgments. First, those in which the judgment involved was offered as a basis of proceedings for its own enforcement outside the State where rendered, as for example, when an action for debt is brought in the courts of State B on a judgment for money damages rendered in State A; second, those in which the judgment involved was offered, in conformance with the principle of *res judicata*, in defense in a new or collateral proceeding growing out of the same facts as the original suit, as for example, when a decree of divorce granted in State A is offered as barring a suit for divorce by the other party to the marriage in the courts of State B.

The English courts and the different state courts in the United States, while recognizing “foreign judgments *in personam*” which were reducible to money terms as affording a basis for actions in debt, originally accorded them generally only the status of *prima facie* evidence in support thereof, so that the merits of the original controversy could always be opened. When offered in defense, on the other hand, “foreign judgments *in personam*” were regarded as conclusive upon everybody on the theory that, as stated by Chief Justice Marshall, “it is a proceeding *in rem*, to which all the world are parties.”³

² Congressional legislation under the full faith and credit clause, so far as it is pertinent to adjudication hereunder, is today embraced in 28 U.S.C. §§ 1738–1739. See also 28 U.S.C. §§ 1740–1742.

³ *Mankin v. Chandler*, 16 Fed Cas. 625, 626 (No. 9030) (C.C.D. Va. 1823).

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The pioneer case was *Mills v. Duryee*,⁴ decided in 1813. In an action brought in the circuit court of the District of Columbia, the equivalent of a state court for this purpose, on a judgment from a New York court, the defendant endeavored to reopen the whole question of the merits of the original case by a plea of “*nil debet*.” It was answered in the words of the first implementing statute of 1790⁵ that such records and proceedings were entitled in each State to the same faith and credit as in the State of origin, and that inasmuch as they were records of a court in the State of origin, and so conclusive of the merits of the case there, they were equally so in the forum State. The Court adopted the latter view, saying that it had not been the intention of the Constitution merely to reenact the common law—that is, the principles of private international law—with regard to the reception of foreign judgments but to amplify and fortify these.⁶ And in *Hampton v. McConnell*,⁷ some years later, Chief Justice Marshall went even further, using language which seems to show that he regarded the judgment of a state court as constitutionally entitled to be accorded in the courts of sister States not simply the faith and credit on conclusive evidence but the validity of final judgment.

When, however, the next important case arose, the Court had come under new influences. This was *McElmoyle v. Cohen*,⁸ in which the issue was whether a statute of limitations of the State of Georgia, which applied only to judgments obtained in courts other than those of Georgia, could constitutionally bar an action in Georgia on a judgment rendered by a court of record of South Carolina. Declining to follow Marshall's lead in *Hampton v. McConnell*,

⁴ 7 Cr. (11 U.S.) 481 (1813). See also *Everett v. Everett*, 215 U.S. 203 (1909); *Insurance Company v. Harris*, 97 U.S. 331 (1878).

⁵ 1 Stat. 122.

⁶ On the same basis, a judgment cannot be impeached either in, or out of, the State by showing that it was based on a mistake of law. *American Express Co. v. Mullins*, 212 U.S. 311, 312 (1909). *Fauntleroy v. Lum*, 210 U.S. 230 (1908); *Hartford Life Ins. Co. v. Ibs*, 237 U.S. 662 (1915); *Hartford Life Ins. Co. v. Barber*, 245 U.S. 146 (1917).

⁷ 3 Wheat. (16 U.S.) 234 (1818).

⁸ 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 312 (1839). See also *Townsend v. Jemison*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 407, 413–420 (1850); *Bank of Alabama v. Dalton*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 522, 528 (1850); *Bacon v. Howard*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 22, 25 (1858); *Christmas v. Russell*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 290, 301 (1866); *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*, 127 U.S. 265, 292 (1888); *Great Western Telegraph Co. v. Purdy*, 162 U.S. 329 (1896); *Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Co.*, 345 U.S. 514, 516–518 (1953). Recently, the Court reconsidered and adhered to the rule of these cases, although the Justices divided with respect to rationales. *Sun oil Co. v. Wortman*, 486 U.S. 717 (1988). Acknowledging that in some areas it had treated statutes of limitations as substantive rules, such as in diversity cases to insure uniformity with state law in federal courts, the Court ruled that such rules are procedural for full-faith-and-credit purposes, since “[t]he purpose . . . of the Full Faith and Credit Clause . . . is . . . to delimit spheres of state legislative competence.” *Id.*, 727.

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the Court held that the Constitution was not intended “materially to interfere with the essential attributes of the *lex fori*,” that the act of Congress only established a rule of evidence, of conclusive evidence to be sure, but still of evidence only; and that it was necessary, in order to carry into effect in a State the judgment of a court of a sister State, to institute a fresh action in the court of the former, in strict compliance with its laws; and that, consequently, when remedies were sought in support of the rights accruing in another jurisdiction, they were governed by the *lex fori*. In accord with this holding, it has been further held that foreign judgments enjoy, not the right of priority or privilege or lien which they have in the State where they are pronounced but only that which the *lex fori* gives them by its own laws, in their character of foreign judgments.⁹ A judgment of a state court, in a cause within its jurisdiction, and against a defendant lawfully summoned, or against lawfully attached property of an absent defendant, is entitled to as much force and effect against the person summoned or the property attached, when the question is presented for decision in a court in another State, as it has in the State in which it was rendered.¹⁰

A judgment enforceable in the State where rendered must be given effect in another State, notwithstanding that the modes of procedure to enforce its collection may not be the same in both States.¹¹ If the initial court acquired jurisdiction, its judgment is entitled to full faith and credit elsewhere even though the former, by reason of the departure of the defendant with all his property, after having been served, has lost its capacity to enforce it by execution in the State of origin.¹² “A cause of action on a judgment is different from that upon which the judgment was entered. In a suit upon a money judgment for a civil cause of action, the validity of the claim upon which it was founded is not open to inquiry, whatever its genesis. Regardless of the nature of the right which gave rise to it, the judgment is an obligation to pay money in the nature of a debt upon a specialty. Recovery upon it can be resisted only on the grounds that the court which rendered it was without jurisdiction, . . . or that it has ceased to be obligatory because of

⁹ *Cole v. Cunningham*, 133 U.S. 107, 112 (1890). See also *Stacy v. Thrasher*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 44, 61 (1848); *Milwaukee County v. White Co.*, 296 U.S. 268 (1935).

¹⁰ *Chicago & Alton R. R. v. Wiggins Ferry Co.*, 119 U.S. 615, 622 (1887); *Hanley v. Donoghue*, 116 U.S. 1, 3 (1885). See also *Green v. Van Buskirk*, 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 139, 140 (1869); *Bigelow v. Old Dominion Copper Co.*, 225 U.S. 111 (1912); *Roche v. McDonald*, 275 U.S. 449 (1928); *Ohio v. Chattanooga Boiler Co.*, 289 U.S. 439 (1933).

¹¹ *Sistare v. Sistare*, 218 U.S. 1 (1910).

¹² *Michigan Trust Co. v. Ferry*, 228 U.S. 346 (1913). See also *Fall v. Eastin*, 215 U.S. 1 (1909).

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payment or other discharge . . . or that it is a cause of action for which the State of the forum has not provided a court.”¹³

On the other hand, the clause is not violated when a judgment is disregarded because it is not conclusive of the issues before a court of the forum. Conversely, no greater effect can be given than is given in the State where rendered. Thus, an interlocutory judgment may not be given the effect of a final judgment.¹⁴ Likewise, when a federal court does not attempt to foreclose the state court from hearing all matters of personal defense which landowners might plead, a state court may refuse to accept the former's judgment as determinative of the landowners' liabilities.¹⁵ Similarly, though a confession of judgment upon a note, with a warrant of attorney annexed, in favor of the holder, is in conformity with a state law and usage as declared by the highest court of the State in which the judgment is rendered, the judgement may be collaterally impeached upon the ground that the party in whose behalf it was rendered was not in fact the holder.¹⁶ But a consent decree, which under the law of the State has the same force and effect as a decree *in invitum*, must be given the same effect in the courts of another State.¹⁷

Subsequent to its departure from *Hampton v. McConnell*,¹⁸ the Court does not appear to have formulated, by way of substitution, any clear-cut principles for disposing of the contention that a State need not provide a forum for a particular type of judgment of a sister State. Thus, in one case it held that a New York statute forbidding foreign corporations doing a domestic business to sue on causes originating outside the State was constitutionally applicable to prevent such a corporation from suing on a judgment obtained in a sister State.¹⁹ But in a later case it ruled that a Mississippi statute forbidding contracts in cotton futures could not validly close the courts of the State to an action on a judgment obtained in a sister State on such a contract, although the contract in question had been entered into in the forum State and between its citizens.²⁰

¹³ *Milwaukee County v. White Co.*, 296 U.S. 268, 275–276 (1935).

¹⁴ *Board of Public Works v. Columbia College*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 521 (1873); *Robertson v. Pickrell*, 109 U.S. 608, 610 (1883).

¹⁵ *Kersh Lake Dist. v. Johnson*, 309 U.S. 485 (1940). See also *Texas & Pac. Ry. Co. v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 137 U.S. 48 (1890).

¹⁶ *National Exchange Bank v. Wiley*, 195 U.S. 257, 265 (1904). See also *Grover & Baker Machine Co. v. Radcliffe*, 137 U.S. 287 (1890).

¹⁷ *Harding v. Harding*, 198 U.S. 317 (1905).

¹⁸ *3 Wheat.* (16 U.S.) 234 (1818).

¹⁹ *Anglo-Am. Prov. Co. v. Davis Prov. Co.*, No. 1, 191 U.S. 373 (1903).

²⁰ *Fauntleroy v. Lum*, 210 U.S. 230 (1908). Justice Holmes who spoke for the Court in both cases, asserted in his opinion in the latter that the New York statute

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Following the later rather than the earlier precedent, subsequent cases²¹ have held: (1) that a State may adopt such system of courts and form of remedy as it sees fit but cannot, under the guise of merely affecting the remedy, deny enforcement of claims otherwise within the protection of the full faith and credit clause when its courts have general jurisdiction of the subject matter and the parties;²² (2) that, accordingly, a forum State, which has a shorter period of limitations than the State in which a judgment was granted and later revived, erred in concluding that, whatever the effect of the revivor under the law of the State of origin, it could refuse enforcement of the revived judgment;²³ (3) that the courts of one State have no jurisdiction to enjoin the enforcement of judgments at law obtained in another State, when the same reasons assigned for granting the restraining order were passed upon on a motion for new trial in the action at law and the motion denied;²⁴ (4) that the constitutional mandate requires credit to be given to a money judgment rendered in a civil cause of action in another State, even though the forum State would have been under no duty to entertain the suit on which the judgment was founded, inasmuch as a State cannot, by the adoption of a particular rule of liability or of procedure, exclude from its courts a suit on a judgment;²⁵ and (5) that, similarly, tort claimants in State A, who obtain a judgment against a foreign insurance company, notwithstanding that, prior to judgment, domiciliary State B appointed a liquidator for the company, vested company assets in him, and ordered suits against the company stayed, are entitled to have such judgment recognized in State B for purposes of determining the amount of the claim, although not for determination of what priority, if any, their claim should have.²⁶

was "directed to jurisdiction," the Mississippi statute to "merits," but four Justices could not grasp the distinction.

²¹ *Kenney v. Supreme Lodge*, 252 U.S. 411 (1920), and cases there cited. Holmes again spoke for the Court. See also Cook, "The Powers of Congress under the Full Faith and Credit Clause," 28 *Yale L.J.* 421, 434 (1919).

²² *Broderick v. Rosner*, 294 U.S. 629 (1935), approved in *Hughes v. Fetter*, 341 U.S. 609 (1951).

²³ *Union National Bank v. Lamb*, 337 U.S. 38 (1949); see also *Roche v. McDonald*, 275 U.S. 449 (1928).

²⁴ *Embry v. Palmer*, 107 U.S. 3, 13 (1883).

²⁵ *Titus v. Wallick*, 306 U.S. 282, 291–292 (1939).

²⁶ *Morris v. Jones*, 329 U.S. 545 (1947). Moreover, there is no apparent reason why Congress, acting on the implications of Marshall's words in *Hampton v. McConnell*, 3 *Wheat.* (16 U.S.) 234 (1818), should not clothe extrastate judgments of any particular type with the full status of domestic judgments of the same type in the several States. Thus, why should not a judgment for alimony be made directly enforceable in sister States instead of merely furnishing the basis of an action in debt?

Sec. 1—Full Faith and Credit: Judicial Proceedings**Jurisdiction: A Prerequisite to Enforcement of Judgments**

The jurisdictional question arises both in connection with judgments *in personam* against nonresident defendants to whom it is alleged personal service was not obtained in the State originating the judgment and in relation to judgments *in rem* against property or a status alleged not to have been within the jurisdiction of the court which handed down the original decree.²⁷ Records and proceedings of courts wanting jurisdiction are not entitled to credit.²⁸

Judgments in Personam.—When the subject matter of a suit is merely the defendant's liability, it is necessary that it should appear from the record that the defendant has been brought within the jurisdiction of the court by personal service of process, or by his voluntary appearance, or that he had in some manner authorized the proceeding.²⁹ Thus, when a state court endeavored to acquire jurisdiction of a nonresident defendant by an attachment of his property within the State and constructive notice to him, its judgment was defective for want of jurisdiction and hence could not afford the basis of an action against the defendant in the court of another State, although it bound him so far as the property attached by virtue of the inherent right of a State to assist its own citizens in obtaining satisfaction of their just claims.³⁰

The fact that a nonresident defendant was only temporarily in the State when he was served in the original action does not vitiate the judgment thus obtained and later relied upon as the basis of an action in his home State.³¹ Also a judgment rendered in the State of his domicile against a defendant who, pursuant to the stat-

²⁷ *Cooper v. Reynolds*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 308 (1870); *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 368 U.S. 71 (1961). Full faith and credit extends to the issue of the original court's jurisdiction, when the second court's inquiry discloses that the question of jurisdiction had been fully and fairly litigated and finally decided in the court which rendered the original judgment. *Durfee v. Duke*, 375 U.S. 106 (1963); *Underwriters Natl. Assur. Co. v. North Carolina Life & Accident & Health Ins. Guar. Assn.*, 455 U.S. 691 (1982).

²⁸ *Board of Public Works v. Columbia College*, 17 Wall. (84 U.S.) 521, 528 (1873). See also *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*, 127 U.S. 265, 291 (1888); *Huntington v. Attrill*, 146 U.S. 657, 685 (1892); *Brown v. Fletcher's Estate*, 210 U.S. 82 (1908); *Bigelow v. Old Dominion Copper Co.*, 225 U.S. 111 (1912); *Spokane Inland R.R. v. Whitley*, 237 U.S. 487 (1915). However, a denial of credit, founded upon a mere suggestion of want of jurisdiction and unsupported by evidence, violates the clause. *Rogers v. Alabama*, 192 U.S. 226, 231 (1904); *Wells Fargo & Co. v. Ford*, 238 U.S. 503 (1915).

²⁹ *Grover & Baker Machine Co. v. Radcliffe*, 137 U.S. 287 (1890). See also *Galpin v. Page*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 350 (1874); *Old Wayne Life Ass'n v. McDonough*, 204 U.S. 8 (1907); *Brown v. Fletcher's Estate*, 210 U.S. 82 (1908).

³⁰ *Pennoyer v. Neff*, 95 U.S. 714 (1878). See, for a reformulation of this case's due process foundation, *Shaffer v. Heitner*, 433 U.S. 186 (1977).

³¹ *Renaud v. Abbot*, 116 U.S. 277 (1886); *Jaster v. Currie*, 198 U.S. 144 (1905); *Reynolds v. Stockton*, 140 U.S. 254 (1891).

Sec. 1—Full Faith and Credit: Judicial Proceedings

ute thereof providing for the service of process on absent defendants, was personally served in another State is entitled to full faith and credit.³² When the matter of fact or law on which jurisdiction depends was not litigated in the original suit, it is a matter to be adjudicated in the suit founded upon the judgment.³³

Inasmuch as the principle of *res judicata* applies only to proceedings between the same parties and privies, the plea by defendant in an action based on a judgment that he was not party or privy to the original action raises the question of jurisdiction; while a judgment against a corporation in one State may validly bind a stockholder in another State to the extent of the par value of his holdings,³⁴ an administrator acting under a grant of administration in one State stands in no sort of relation of privity to an administrator of the same estate in another State.³⁵ But where a judgment of dismissal was entered in a federal court in an action against one of two joint tortfeasors, in a State in which such a judgment would constitute an estoppel in another action in the same State against the other tortfeasor, such judgment is not entitled to full faith and credit in an action brought against the tortfeasor in another State.³⁶

Service on Foreign Corporations.—In 1856, the Court decided *Lafayette Ins. Co. v. French*,³⁷ a pioneer case in its general class. Here it was held that “where a corporation chartered by the State of Indiana was allowed by a law of Ohio to transact business in the latter State upon the condition that service of process upon the agent of the corporation should be considered as service upon the corporation itself, a judgment obtained against the corporation by means of such process” ought to receive in Indiana the same

³² *Milliken v. Meyer*, 311 U.S. 457, 463 (1940). In the pioneer case of *D'Arcy v. Ketchum*, 1 How. (52 U.S.) 165 (1851), the question presented was whether a judgment rendered by a New York court, under a statute which provided that, when joint debtors were sued and one of them was brought into court on a process, a judgment in favor of the plaintiff would entitle him to execute against all, must be accorded full faith and credit in Louisiana when offered as a basis of an action in debt against a resident of that State who had not been served by process in the New York action. The Court ruled that the original implementing statute, 1 Stat. 122 (1790), did not reach this type of case, and hence the New York judgment was not enforceable in Louisiana against defendant. Had the Louisiana defendant thereafter ventured to New York, however, he could, as the Constitution then stood, have been subjected to the judgment to the same extent as the New York defendant who had been personally served. Subsequently, the disparity between operation of personal judgment in the home State has been eliminated, because of the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment. In divorce cases, however, it still persists in some measure. See *infra*.

³³ *Adam v. Saenger*, 303 U.S. 59, 62 (1938).

³⁴ *Hancock Nat. Bank v. Farnum*, 176 U.S. 640 (1900).

³⁵ *Stacy v. Thrasher*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 44, 58 (1848).

³⁶ *Bigelow v. Old Dominion Copper Co.*, 225 U.S. 111 (1912).

³⁷ 18 How. (59 U.S.) 404 (1856).

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faith and credit as it was entitled to in Ohio.³⁸ Later cases establish under both the Fourteenth Amendment and Article IV, § 1, that the cause of action must have arisen within the State obtaining service in this way,³⁹ that service on an officer of a corporation, not its resident agent and not present in the State in an official capacity, will not confer jurisdiction over the corporation,⁴⁰ that the question whether the corporation was actually “doing business” in the State may be raised.⁴¹ On the other hand, the fact that the business was interstate is no objection.⁴²

Service on Nonresident Motor Vehicle Owners.—By analogy to the above cases, it has been held that a State may require nonresident owners of motor vehicles to designate an official within the State as an agent upon whom process may be served in any legal proceedings growing out of their operation of a motor vehicle within the State.⁴³ While these cases arose under the Fourteenth Amendment alone, unquestionably a judgment validly obtained upon this species of service could be enforced upon the owner of a car through the courts of his home State.

Judgments in Rem.—In sustaining the challenge to jurisdiction in cases involving judgments *in personam*, the Court in the main was making only a somewhat more extended application of recognized principles. In order to sustain the same kind of challenge in cases involving judgments *in rem* it has had to make law outright. The leading case is *Thompson v. Whitman*.⁴⁴ Thompson, sheriff of Monmouth County, New Jersey, acting under a New Jersey statute, had seized a sloop belonging to Whitman and by a proceeding *in rem* had obtained its condemnation and forfeiture in a local court. Later, Whitman, a citizen of New York, brought an action for trespass against Thompson in the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, and Thompson answered by producing a record of the proceedings before the New Jersey tribunal. Whitman thereupon set up the contention that the New Jersey court had acted without jurisdiction, inasmuch as the sloop which was the subject matter of the proceedings had been

³⁸To the same effect is *Connecticut Mutual Life Ins. Co. v. Spratley*, 172 U.S. 602 (1899).

³⁹*Simon v. Southern Railway*, 236 U.S. 115 (1915).

⁴⁰*Goldey v. Morning News*, 156 U.S. 518 (1895); *Riverside Mills v. Menfee*, 237 U.S. 189 (1915).

⁴¹*International Harvester v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 579 (1914). *Riverside Mills v. Menefee*, 237 U.S. 189 (1915).

⁴²*International Harvester v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 579 (1914).

⁴³*Kane v. New Jersey*, 242 U.S. 160 (1916); *Hess v. Pawloski*, 274 U.S. 352 (1927), limited in *Wuchter v. Pizzutti*, 276 U.S. 13 (1928).

⁴⁴18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 457 (1874).

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seized outside the county to which, by the statute under which it had acted, its jurisdiction was confined.

As previously explained, the plea of lack of privity cannot be set up in defense in a sister State against a judgment *in rem*. In a proceeding *in rem*, however, the presence of the *res* within the court's jurisdiction is a prerequisite, and this, it was urged, had not been the case in *Thompson v. Whitman*. Could, then, the Court consider this challenge with respect to a judgment which was offered, not as the basis for an action for enforcement through the courts of a sister State but merely as a defense in a collateral action? As the law stood in 1873, it apparently could not.⁴⁵ All difficulties, nevertheless, to its consideration of the challenge to jurisdiction in the case were brushed aside by the Court. Whenever, it said, the record of a judgment rendered in a state court is offered "in evidence" by either of the parties to an action in another State, it may be contradicted as to the facts necessary to sustain the former court's jurisdiction; "and if it be shown that such facts did not exist, the record will be a nullity, notwithstanding the claim that they did exist."⁴⁶

Divorce Decrees: Domicile as the Jurisdictional Prerequisite

This, however, was only the beginning of the Court's lawmaking in cases *in rem*. The most important class of such cases is that in which the respondent to a suit for divorce offers in defense an earlier decree from the courts of a sister State. By the almost universally accepted view prior to 1906, a proceeding in divorce was one against the marriage status, i.e., *in rem*, and hence might be validly brought by either party in any State where he or she was *bona fide* domiciled;⁴⁷ and, conversely, when the plaintiff did not have a *bona fide* domicile in the State, a court could not render a decree binding in other States even if the nonresident defendant entered a personal appearance.⁴⁸

⁴⁵ 1 H. BLACK, A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF JUDGMENTS (St Paul: 1891), §246.

⁴⁶ See also *Simmons v. Saul*, 138 U.S. 439, 448 (1891). In other words, the challenge to jurisdiction is treated as equivalent to the plea nul tiel record, a plea which was recognized even in *Mills v. Duryee* as available against an attempted invocation of the full faith and credit clause. What is not pointed out by the Court is that it was also assumed in the earlier case that such a plea could always be rebutted by producing a transcript, properly authenticated in accordance with the act of Congress, of the judgment in the original case. See also *Brown v. Fletcher's Estate*, 210, U.S. 82 (1908); *German Savings Society v. Dormitzer*, 192 U.S. 125, 128 (1904); *Grover & Baker Machine Co. v. Radcliffe*, 137 U.S. 287, 294 (1890).

⁴⁷ *Cheever v. Wilson*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 108 (1870).

⁴⁸ *Andrews v. Andrews*, 188 U.S. 14 (1903). See also *German Savings Society v. Dormitzer*, 192 U.S. 125 (1904).

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Divorce Suit: In Rem or in Personam; Judicial Indecision.—In 1906, however, by a vote of five to four, the Court departed from its earlier ruling, rendered five years previously in *Atherton v. Atherton*,⁴⁹ and in *Haddock v. Haddock*,⁵⁰ it announced that a divorce proceeding might be viewed as one *in personam*. In the former it was held, in the latter denied, that a divorce granted a husband without personal service upon the wife, who at the time was residing in another State, was entitled to recognition under the full faith and credit clause and the acts of Congress; the difference between the cases consisted solely in the fact that in the *Atherton* case the husband had driven the wife from their joint home by his conduct, while in the *Haddock* case he had deserted her. The court which granted the divorce in *Atherton v. Atherton* was held to have had jurisdiction of the marriage status, with the result that the proceeding was one *in rem* and hence required only service by publication upon the respondent. Haddock's suit, on the contrary, was held to be as to the wife *in personam* and so to require personal service upon her or her voluntary appearance, neither of which had been had; although, notwithstanding this, the decree in the latter case was held to be valid in the State where obtained because of the State's inherent power to determine the status of its own citizens. The upshot was a situation in which a man and a woman, when both were in Connecticut, were divorced; when both were in New York, were married; and when the one was in Connecticut and the other in New York, the former was divorced and the latter married. In *Atherton v. Atherton* the Court had earlier acknowledged that "a husband without a wife, or a wife without a husband, is unknown to the law."

The practical difficulties and distresses likely to result from such anomalies were pointed out by critics of the decision at the time. In point of fact, they have been largely avoided, because most of the state courts have continued to give judicial recognition and full faith and credit to one another's divorce proceedings on the basis of the older idea that a divorce proceeding is one *in rem*, and that if the applicant is *bona fide* domiciled in the State the court has jurisdiction in this respect. Moreover, until the second of the *Williams v. North Carolina* cases⁵¹ was decided in 1945, there had not been manifested the slightest disposition to challenge judicially the power of the States to determine what shall constitute domicile for divorce purposes. Shortly prior thereto, the Court in *Davis v.*

⁴⁹ 181 U.S. 155, 162 (1901).

⁵⁰ 201 U.S. 562 (1906).

⁵¹ 317 U.S. 287 (1942); 325 U.S. 226 (1945).

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*Davis*⁵² rejected contentions adverse to the validity of a Virginia decree of which enforcement was sought in the District of Columbia. In this case, a husband, after having obtained in the District a decree of separation subject to payment of alimony, established years later a residence in Virginia and sued there for a divorce. Personally served in the District, where she continued to reside, the wife filed a plea denying that her husband was a resident of Virginia and averred that he was guilty of a fraud on the court in seeking to establish a residence for purposes of jurisdiction. In ruling that the Virginia decree, granting to the husband an absolute divorce minus any alimony payment, was enforceable in the District, the Court stated that in view of the wife's failure, while in Virginia litigating her husband's status to sue, to answer the husband's charges of willful desertion, it would be unreasonable to hold that the husband's domicile in Virginia was not sufficient to entitle him to a divorce effective in the District. The finding of the Virginia court on domicile and jurisdiction was declared to bind the wife. *Davis v. Davis* is distinguishable from the *Williams v. North Carolina* decisions in that in the former determination of the jurisdictional prerequisite of domicile was made in a contested proceeding while in the *Williams* cases it was not.

Williams I and Williams II.—In the *Williams I* and *Williams II* cases, the husband of one marriage and the wife of another left North Carolina, obtained six-week divorce decrees in Nevada, married there, and resumed their residence in North Carolina where both previously had been married and domiciled. Prosecuted for bigamy, the defendants relied upon their Nevada decrees and won the preliminary round of this litigation, that is, in *Williams I*,⁵³ when a majority of the Justices, overruling *Haddock v. Haddock*, declaring that in this case, the Court must assume that the petitioners for divorce had a *bona fide* domicile in Nevada and not that their Nevada domicile was a sham. “[E]ach State, by virtue of its command over the domiciliaries and its large interest in the institution of marriage, can alter within its own borders the marriage status of the spouse domiciled there, even though the other spouse is absent. There is no constitutional barrier if the form and nature of substituted service meet the requirements of due process.” Accordingly, a decree granted by Nevada to one, who, it is assumed, is at the time *bona fide* domiciled therein, is binding upon the courts of other States, including North Carolina in which the marriage was performed and where the other party to the marriage is still domiciled when the divorce was decreed. In view of its as-

⁵² 305 U.S. 32 (1938).

⁵³ 317 U.S. 287, 298–299 (1942).

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sumptions, which it justified on the basis of an inadequate record, the Court did not here pass upon the question whether North Carolina had the power to refuse full faith and credit to a Nevada decree because it was based on residence rather than domicile or because, contrary to the findings of the Nevada court, North Carolina found that no *bona fide* domicile had been acquired in Nevada.⁵⁴

Presaging what ruling the Court would make when it did get around to passing upon the latter question, Justice Jackson, dissenting in *Williams I*, protested that “this decision repeals the divorce laws of all the States and substitutes the law of Nevada as to all marriages one of the parties to which can afford a short trip there. . . . While a State can no doubt set up its own standards of domicile as to its internal concerns, I do not think it can require us to accept and in the name of the Constitution impose them on other States. . . . The effect of the Court’s decision today—that we must give extra-territorial effect to any judgment that a state honors for its own purposes—is to deprive this Court of control over the operation of the full faith and credit and the due process clauses of the Federal Constitution in cases of contested jurisdiction and to vest it in the first State to pass on the facts necessary to jurisdiction.”⁵⁵

Notwithstanding that one of the deserted spouses had died since the initial trial and that another had remarried, North Carolina, without calling into question the status of the latter marriage, began a new prosecution for bigamy; when the defendants appealed the conviction resulting therefrom, the Supreme Court, in *Williams II*,⁵⁶ sustained the adjudication of guilt as not denying full faith and credit to the Nevada divorce decree. Reiterating the doctrine that jurisdiction to grant divorce is founded on domicile,⁵⁷ a majority of the Court held that a decree of divorce rendered in one State may be collaterally impeached in another by proof that the court which rendered the decree lacked jurisdiction (the parties not having been domiciled therein), even though the record of proceedings in that court purports to show jurisdiction.⁵⁸

⁵⁴ *Id.*, 302.

⁵⁵ *Id.*, 311.

⁵⁶ 325 U.S. 226, 229 (1945).

⁵⁷ *Bell v. Bell*, 181 U.S. 175 (1901); *Andrews v. Andrews*, 188 U.S. 14 (1903).

⁵⁸ Strong dissents were filed which have influenced subsequent holdings. Among these was that of Justice Rutledge which attacked both the consequences of the decision as well as the concept of jurisdictional domicile on which it was founded.

“Unless ‘matrimonial domicil,’ banished in *Williams I* [by the overruling of *Haddock v. Haddock*], has returned renamed [‘domicil of origin’] in *Williams II*, every decree becomes vulnerable in every State. Every divorce, wherever granted . . . may now be reexamined by every other State, upon the same or different evidence, to redetermine the ‘jurisdiction fact,’ always the ultimate conclusion of ‘domicil.’ . . .

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Cases Following *Williams II*.—Fears registered by the dissenters in the second *Williams* case that the stability of all divorces might be undermined thereby and that thereafter the court of each forum State, by its own independent determination of domicile, might refuse recognition of foreign decrees were temporarily set at rest by the holding in *Sherrer v. Sherrer*,⁵⁹ wherein Massachusetts, a State of domiciliary origin, was required to accord full faith and credit to a 90-day Florida decree which had been contested by the husband. The latter, upon receiving notice by mail, retained Florida counsel who entered a general appearance and denied all allegations in the complaint, including the wife's residence. At the hearing, the husband, though present in person and by counsel, did not offer evidence in rebuttal of the wife's proof of her Florida residence, and when the Florida court ruled that she was a *bona fide* resident, the husband did not appeal. Inasmuch as the findings of the requisite jurisdictional facts, unlike those in the second *Williams* case, were made in proceedings in which the defendant appeared and participated, the requirements of full faith and credit were held to bar him from collaterally attacking such findings in a suit instituted by him in his home State of Massachusetts, particularly in the absence of proof that the divorce decree was subject to such collateral attack in a Florida court. Having failed to take advantage of the opportunities afforded him by his appearance in

"The Constitution does not mention domicil. Nowhere does it posit the powers of the states or the nation upon that amorphous, highly variable common law conception. . . . No legal conception, save possibly 'jurisdiction' . . . afford such possibilities for uncertain application. . . . Apart from the necessity for travel, [to effect a change of domicile, the latter], criterion comes down to a purely subjective mental state, related to remaining for a length of time never yet defined with clarity. . . . When what must be proved is a variable, the proof and the conclusion which follows upon it inevitably take on that character. . . . [The majority have not held] that denial of credit will be allowed, only if the evidence [as to the place of domicile] is different or depending in any way upon the character or the weight of the difference. The test is not different evidence. It is evidence, whether the same or different and, if different, without regard to the quality of the difference, from which an opposing set of inferences can be drawn by the trier of fact 'not unreasonably.' . . . But . . . [the Court] does not define 'not unreasonably.' It vaguely suggests a supervisory function, to be exercised when the denial [of credit] strikes its sensibilities as wrong, by some not stated standard. . . . There will be no 'weighing' [of evidence], . . . only examination for sufficiency." 325 U.S., 248, 251, 255, 258-259.

No less disposed to prophesy undesirable results from this decision was Justice Black in whose dissenting opinion Justice Douglas concurred.

"The full faith and credit clause, as now interpreted, has become a disrupting influence. The Court in effect states that the clause does not apply to divorce actions, and that States alone have the right to determine what effect shall be given to the decrees of other States. If the Court is abandoning the principle that a marriage [valid where made is valid everywhere], a consequence is to subject people to bigamy or adultery prosecutions because they exercise their constitutional right to pass from a State in which they were validly married on to another which refuses to recognize their marriage. Such a consequence violates basic guarantees." *Id.*, 262.

⁵⁹ 334 U.S. 343 (1948).

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the Florida proceeding, the husband was thereafter precluded from relitigating in another State the issue of his wife's domicile already passed upon by the Florida court.

In *Coe v. Coe*,⁶⁰ embracing a similar set of facts, the Court applied like reasoning to reach a similar result. Massachusetts again was compelled to recognize the validity of a six-week Nevada decree obtained by a husband who had left Massachusetts after a court of that State had refused him a divorce and had granted his wife separate support. In the Nevada proceeding, the wife appeared personally and by counsel filed a cross-complaint for divorce, admitted the husband's residence, and participated personally in the proceedings. After finding that it had jurisdiction of the plaintiff, defendant, and the subject matter involved, the Nevada court granted the wife a divorce, which was valid, final, and not subject to collateral attack under Nevada law. The husband married again, and on his return to Massachusetts, his ex-wife petitioned the Massachusetts court to adjudge him in contempt for failing to make payments for her separate support under the earlier Massachusetts decree. Inasmuch as there was no intimation that under Massachusetts law a decree of separate support would survive a divorce, recognition of the Nevada decree as valid accordingly necessitated a rejection of the ex-wife's contention.

Appearing to review *Williams II*, and significant for the social consequences produced by the result decreed therein, is the case of *Rice v. Rice*.⁶¹ To determine the widowhood status of the party litigants in relation to inheritance of property of a husband who had deserted his first wife in Connecticut, had obtained an *ex parte* divorce in Nevada, and after remarriage, had died without ever returning to Connecticut, the first wife, joining the second wife and

⁶⁰ 334 U.S. 378 (1948). In a dissenting opinion filed in the case of *Sherrer v. Sherrer*, but applicable also to the case of *Coe v. Coe*, Justice Frankfurter, with Justice Murphy concurring, asserted his inability to accept the proposition advanced by the majority that "regardless of how overwhelming the evidence may have been that the asserted domicile in the State offering bargain-counter divorces was a sham, the home State of the parties is not permitted to question the matter if the form of a controversy had been gone through." 334 U.S., 343, 377.

⁶¹ 336 U.S. 674 (1949). Of four justices dissenting, Black, Douglas, Rutledge, and Jackson, Justice Jackson alone filed a written opinion. To him the decision was "an example of the manner in which, in the law of domestic relations, 'confusion now hath made his masterpiece,' but for the first *Williams* case and its progeny, the judgment of the Connecticut court might properly have held that the *Rice* divorce decree was void for every purpose because it was rendered by a State court which never obtained jurisdiction of the nonresident defendant. But if we adhere to the holdings that the Nevada court had power over her for the purpose of blasting her marriage and opening the way to a successor, I do not see the justice of inventing a compensating confusion in the device of divisible divorce by which the parties are half-bound and half-free and which permits Rice to have a wife who cannot become his widow and to leave a widow who was no longer his wife." *Id.*, 676, 679, 680.

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the administrator of his estate as defendants, petitioned a Connecticut court for a declaratory judgment. After having placed upon the first wife the burden of proving that the decedent had not acquired a *bona fide* domicile in Nevada, and after giving proper weight to the claims of power by the Nevada court, the Connecticut court concluded that the evidence sustained the contentions of the first wife, and in so doing, it was upheld by the Supreme Court. The cases of *Sherrer v. Sherrer*, and *Coe v. Coe*, previously discussed, were declared not to be in point, inasmuch as no personal service was made upon the first wife, nor did she in any way participate in the Nevada proceedings. She was not, therefore, precluded from challenging the findings of the Nevada court that the decedent was, at the time of the divorce, domiciled in that State.⁶²

Claims for Alimony or Property in Forum State.—In *Esenwein v. Commonwealth*,⁶³ decided on the same day as the second *Williams* case, the Supreme Court also sustained a Pennsylvania court in its refusal to recognize an *ex parte* Nevada decree on the ground that the husband who obtained it never acquired a *bona fide* domicile in the latter State. In this instance, the husband and wife had separated in Pennsylvania, where the wife was granted a support order; after two unsuccessful attempts to win a divorce in that State, the husband departed for Nevada. Upon the receipt of a Nevada decree, the husband thereafter established a residence in Ohio and filed an action in Pennsylvania for total relief from the support order. In a concurring opinion, in which he was joined by Justices Black and Rutledge, Justice Douglas stressed the “basic difference between the problem of marital capacity and the problem of support,” and stated that it was “not apparent that the spouse who obtained the decree can defeat an action for maintenance or support in another State by showing that he was domiciled in the State which awarded him the divorce decree,” unless the other spouse appeared or was personally served. “The State where the deserted wife is domiciled has a concern in the welfare

⁶² Vermont violated the clause in sustaining a collateral attack on a Florida divorce decree, the presumption of Florida's jurisdiction over the cause and the parties not having been overcome by extrinsic evidence or the record of the case. *Cook v. Cook*, 342 U.S. 126 (1951). The *Sherrer* and *Coe* cases were relied upon. There seems, therefore, to be no doubt of their continued vitality.

A Florida divorce decree was also at the bottom of another case in which the daughter of a divorced man by his first wife and his legatee under his will sought to attack his divorce in the New York courts and thereby indirectly his third marriage. The Court held that inasmuch as the attack would not have been permitted in Florida under the doctrine of *res judicata*, it was not permissible under the full faith and credit clause in New York. On the whole, it appears that the principle of *res judicata* is slowly winning out against the principle of domicile. *Johnson v. Muelberger*, 340 U.S. 581 (1951).

⁶³ 325 U.S. 279 (1945).

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of the family deserted by the head of the household. If he is required to support his former wife, he is not made a bigamist and the offspring of his second marriage are not bastardized." Or, as succinctly stated by Justice Rutledge, "the jurisdictional foundation for a decree in one State capable of foreclosing an action for maintenance or support in another may be different from that required to alter the marital status with extraterritorial effect."⁶⁴

Three years later, but on this occasion as spokesman for a majority of the Court, Justice Douglas reiterated these views in the case of *Estin v. Estin*.⁶⁵ Even though it acknowledged the validity of an *ex parte* Nevada decree obtained by a husband, New York was held not to have denied full faith and credit to the decree when, subsequently thereto, it granted the wife a judgment for arrears in alimony founded upon a decree of separation previously awarded to her when both she and her husband after he had resided there a year and upon constructive notice to the wife in New York who entered no appearance, was held to be effective only to change the marital status of both parties in all States of the Union but ineffective on the issue of alimony. Divorce, in other words, was viewed as being divisible; Nevada, in the absence of acquiring jurisdiction over the wife, was held incapable of adjudicating the rights of the wife in the prior New York judgment awarding her alimony. Accordingly, the Nevada decree could not prevent New York from applying its own rule of law which, unlike that of Pennsylvania,⁶⁶ does permit a support order to survive a divorce decree.⁶⁷

Such a result was justified as accommodating the interests of both New York and Nevada in the broken marriage by restricting each State to matters of her dominant concern, the concern of New York being that of protecting the abandoned wife against impoverishment. In *Simons v. Miami National Bank*,⁶⁸ the Court held that

⁶⁴ *Id.*, 281–283.

⁶⁵ 334 U.S. 541 (1948). See also the companion case of *Kreiger v. Kreiger*, 334 U.S. 555 (1948).

⁶⁶ *Esenwein v. Commonwealth*, 325 U.S. 279, 280 (1945).

⁶⁷ Because the record, in his opinion, did not make it clear whether New York "law" held that no "*ex parte*" divorce decree could terminate a prior New York separate maintenance decree, or merely that no "*ex parte*" decree of divorce of another State could, Justice Frankfurter dissented and recommended that the case be remanded for clarification. Justice Jackson dissented on the ground that under New York law, a New York divorce would terminate the wife's right to alimony, and if the Nevada decree is good, it was entitled to no less effect in New York than a local decree. However, for reasons stated in his dissent in the first *Williams* case, 317 U.S. 287, he would have preferred not to give standing to constructive service divorces obtained on short residence. 334 U.S. 541, 549–554 (1948). These two Justices filed similar dissents in the companion case of *Kreiger v. Kreiger*, 334 U.S. 555, 557 (1948).

⁶⁸ 381 U.S. 81 (1965).

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a dower right in the deceased husband's estate is extinguished even though a divorce decree was obtained in a proceeding in which the nonresident wife was served by publication only and did not make a personal appearance.⁶⁹ The Court found the principle of *Estin v. Estin*⁷⁰ was not applicable. In *Simons*, the Court rejected the contention that the forum court, in giving recognition to the foreign court's separation decree providing for maintenance and support, has to allow for dower rights in the deceased husband's estate in the forum State.⁷¹ Full faith and credit is not denied to a sister State's separation decree, including an award of monthly alimony, where nothing in the foreign State's separation decree could be construed as creating or preserving any interest in the nature of or in lieu of dower in any property of the decedent, wherever located and where the law of the forum State did not treat such a decree as having such effect nor indicate such an effect irrespective of the existence of the foreign State's decree.⁷²

Decrees Awarding Alimony, Custody of Children.—Resulting as a by-product of divorce litigation are decrees for the payment of alimony, judgments for accrued and unpaid installments of alimony, and judicial awards of the custody of children, all of which necessitate application of the full faith and credit clause when extrastate enforcement is sought for them. Thus, a judgment in State A for alimony in arrears and payable under a prior judgment of separation which is not by its terms conditional nor subject by the law of State A to modification or recall, and on which execution was directed to issue, is entitled to recognition in the forum State. Although an obligation for accrued alimony could have been modified or set aside in State A prior to its merger in the judgment, such a judgment, by the law of State A, is not lacking in finality.⁷³ As to the finality of alimony decrees in general, the Court had previously ruled that where such a decree is rendered, payable in future installments, the right to such installments becomes absolute and vested on becoming due, provided no modification of the decree has been made prior to the maturity of the installments.⁷⁴ However, a judicial order requiring the payment of arrearages in alimony, which exceeded the alimony previously decreed, is invalid for want of due process, the respondent having been given no oppor-

⁶⁹ *Id.*, 84–85.

⁷⁰ 334 U.S. 541 (1948).

⁷¹ 381 U.S., 84–85.

⁷² *Id.*, 85.

⁷³ *Barber v. Barber*, 323 U.S. 77, 84 (1944).

⁷⁴ *Sistare v. Sistare*, 218 U.S. 1, 11 (1910). See also *Barber v. Barber*, 21 How. (62 U.S.) 582 (1859); *Lynde v. Lynde*, 181 U.S. 183, 186–187 (1901); *Audubon v. Shufeldt*, 181 U.S. 575, 577 (1901); *Bates v. Bodie*, 245 U.S. 520 (1918); *Yarborough v. Yarborough*, 290 U.S. 202 (1933); *Loughran v. Loughran*, 292 U.S. 216 (1934).

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tunity to contest it.⁷⁵ “A judgment obtained in violation of procedural due process,” said Chief Justice Stone, “is not entitled to full faith and credit when sued upon in another jurisdiction.”⁷⁶

An example of a custody case was one involving a Florida divorce decree which was granted *ex parte* to a wife who had left her husband in New York, where he was served by publication. The decree carried with it an award of the exclusive custody of the child, whom the day before the husband had secretly seized and brought back to New York. The Court ruled that the decree was adequately honored by a New York court when, in *habeas corpus* proceedings, it gave the father rights of visitation and custody of the child during stated periods and exacted a surety bond of the wife conditioned on her delivery of the child to the father at the proper times,⁷⁷ it having not been “shown that the New York court in modifying the Florida decree exceeded the limits permitted under Florida laws. There is therefore a failure of proof that the Florida decree received less credit in New York than it had in Florida.”

Answering a question left open in the preceding holding as to the binding effect of the *ex parte* award, the Court more recently acknowledged that in a proceeding challenging a mother's right to retain custody of her children, a State is not required to give effect to the decree of another State's court, which never acquired personal jurisdiction over the mother of her children, and which awarded custody to the father as the result of an *ex parte* divorce action instituted by him.⁷⁸ In *Kovacs v. Brewer*,⁷⁹ however, the Court indicated that a finding of changed circumstances rendering observance of an absentee foreign custody decree inimical to the

⁷⁵ *Griffin v. Griffin*, 327 U.S. 220 (1946).

⁷⁶ *Id.*, 228. An alimony case of a quite extraordinary pattern was that of *Sutton v. Leib*. Because of the diverse citizenship of the parties, who had once been husband and wife, the case was brought by the latter in a federal court in Illinois. Her suit was to recover unpaid alimony which was to continue until her remarriage. To be sure, she had, as she confessed, remarried in Nevada, but the marriage had been annulled in New York on the ground that the man was already married, inasmuch as his divorce from his previous wife was null and void, she having neither entered a personal appearance nor been personally served. The Court, speaking by Justice Reed, held that the New York annulment of the Nevada marriage must be given full faith and credit in Illinois but left Illinois to decide for itself the effect of the annulment upon the obligations of petitioner's first husband. *Sutton v. Leib*, 342 U.S. 402 (1952).

⁷⁷ *Halvey v. Halvey*, 330 U.S. 610, 615 (1947).

⁷⁸ *May v. Anderson*, 345 U.S. 528 (1953). Justices Jackson, Reed, and Minton dissented.

⁷⁹ 356 U.S. 604 (1958). Rejecting the implication that recognition must be accorded unless the circumstances have changed, Justice Frankfurter dissented on the ground that in determining what is best for the welfare of the child, the forum court cannot be bound by an absentee, foreign custody decree, “irrespective of whether changes in circumstances are objectively provable.”

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best interests of the child is essential to sustain the validity of the forum court's refusal to enforce a foreign decree, rendered with jurisdiction over all the parties but the child, and revising an initial decree by transferring custody from the paternal grandfather to the mother. However, when, as is true in Virginia, agreements by parents as to shared custody of a child do not bind the State's courts, the dismissal by a Virginia court of a *habeas corpus* petition instituted by a father to obtain custody was not *res judicata* in that State; therefore even if the full faith and credit clause were applicable to child custody decrees, it would not require a South Carolina court, in a custody suit instituted by the wife, to recognize a court order not binding in Virginia.⁸⁰

Status of the Law.—Upon summation, one may speculate as to whether the doctrine of divisible divorce, as developed by Justice Douglas in *Estin v. Estin*,⁸¹ has not become the prevailing standard for determining the enforceability of foreign divorce decrees. If such be the case, it may be tenable to assert that an *ex parte* divorce, founded upon acquisition of domicile by one spouse in the State which granted it, is as effective to destroy the marital status of both parties in the State of domiciliary origin and probably in all other States and therefore to preclude subsequent prosecutions for bigamy but not to alter rights as to property, alimony, or custody of children in the State of domiciliary origin of a spouse who neither was served nor appeared personally.

In any event the accuracy of these conclusions has not been impaired by any decision rendered by the Court since 1948. Thus, in *Armstrong v. Armstrong*,⁸² an *ex parte* divorce decree obtained by the husband in Florida was deemed to have been adequately recognized by an Ohio court when, with both of the parties before it, it disposed of the wife's suit for divorce and alimony with a decree limited solely to an award of alimony.⁸³ Similarly, a New York court was held not bound by an *ex parte* Nevada divorce decree, rendered without personal jurisdiction over the wife, to the extent that it relieved the husband of all marital obligations, and in an *ex parte* action for separation and alimony instituted by the wife,

⁸⁰ *Ford v. Ford*, 371 U.S. 187, 192–194 (1962). As part of a law dealing with parental kidnapping, Congress, in P.L. 96–611, 8(a), 94 Stat. 3569, 28 U.S.C. §1738A, required States to give full faith and credit to state court custody decrees provided the original court had jurisdiction and is the home State of the child.

⁸¹ 334 U.S. 541 (1948).

⁸² 350 U.S. 568 (1956).

⁸³ Four Justices, Black, Douglas, Clark, and Chief Justice Warren, disputed the Court's contention that the Florida decree contained no ruling on the wife's entitlement to alimony and mentioned that for want of personal jurisdiction over the wife, the Florida court was not competent to dispose of that issue. *Id.*, 575

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it was competent to sequester the husband's property in New York to satisfy his obligations to the wife.⁸⁴

Other Types of Decrees

Probate Decrees.—Many judgments, enforcement of which has given rise to litigation, embrace decrees of courts of probate respecting the distribution of estates. In order that a court have jurisdiction of such a proceeding, the decedent must have been domiciled in the state, and the question whether he was so domiciled at the time of his death may be raised in the court of a sister State.⁸⁵ Thus, when a court of State A, in probating a will and issuing letters, in a proceeding to which all distributees were parties, expressly found that the testator's domicile at the time of death was in State A, such adjudication of domicile was held not to bind one subsequently appointed as domiciliary administrator c.t.a. in State B, in which he was liable to be called upon to deal with claims of local creditors and that of the State itself for taxes, he having not been a party to the proceeding in State A. In this situation, it was held, a court of State C, when disposing of local assets claimed by both personal representatives, was free to determine domicile in accordance with the law of State C.⁸⁶

Similarly, there is no such relation of privity between an executor appointed in one State and an administrator c.t.a. appointed in another State as will make a decree against the latter binding upon the former.⁸⁷ On the other hand, judicial proceedings in one State, under which inheritance taxes have been paid and the administration upon the estate has been closed, are denied full faith and credit by the action of a probate court in another State in assuming jurisdiction and assessing inheritance taxes against the beneficiaries of the estate, when under the law of the former State the order of the probate court barring all creditors who had failed to bring in their demand from any further claim against the executors was binding upon all.⁸⁸

⁸⁴ *Vanderbilt v. Vanderbilt*, 354 U.S. 416 (1957). Two Justices dissented. Justice Frankfurter was unable to perceive "why dissolution of the marital relation is not so personal as to require personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse, while the denial of alimony . . . is." Justice Harlan maintained that inasmuch as the wife did not become a domiciliary of New York until after the Nevada decree, she had no pre-divorce rights in New York which the latter was obligated to protect.

⁸⁵ *Tilt v. Kelsey*, 207 U.S. 43 (1907); *Burbank v. Ernst*, 232 U.S. 162 (1914).

⁸⁶ *Riley v. New York Trust Co.*, 315 U.S. 343 (1942).

⁸⁷ *Brown v. Fletcher's Estate*, 210 U.S. 82, 90 (1908). See also *Stacy v. Thrasher*, 6 How. (47 U.S.) 44, 58 (1848); *McLean v. Meek*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 16, 18 (1856).

⁸⁸ *Tilt v. Kelsey*, 207 U.S. 43 (1907). In the case of *Borer v. Chapman*, 119 U.S. 587, 599 (1887), involving a complicated set of facts, it was held that a judgment in a probate proceeding, which was merely ancillary to proceedings in another State and which ordered the residue of the estate to be assigned to the legatee and dis-

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What is more important, however, is that the *res* in such a proceeding, that is, the estate, in order to entitle the judgment to recognition under Article IV, 1, must have been located in the State or legally attached to the person of the decedent. Such a judgment is accordingly valid, generally speaking, to distribute the intangible property of the decedent, though the evidences thereof were actually located elsewhere.⁸⁹ This is not so, on the other hand, as to tangibles and realty. In order that the judgment of a probate court distributing these be entitled to recognition under the Constitution, they must have been located in the State; as to tangibles and realty outside the State, the decree of the probate court is entirely at the mercy of the *lex rei sitae*.⁹⁰ So, the probate of a will in one State, while conclusive therein, does not displace legal provisions necessary to its validity as a will of real property in other States.⁹¹

Adoption Decrees.—That a statute legitimizing children born out of wedlock does not entitle them by the aid of the full faith and credit clause to share in the property located in another State is not surprising, in view of the general principle, to which, however, there are exceptions, that statutes do not have extraterritorial operation.⁹² For the same reason, adoption proceedings in one State are not denied full faith and credit by the law of the sister State which excludes children adopted by proceedings in other States from the right to inherit land therein.⁹³

Garnishment Decrees.—A proceeding which combines some of the elements of both an *in rem* and an *in personam* action is the proceeding in garnishment cases. Suppose that A owes B and B owes C, and that the two former live in a different State than C. A, while on a brief visit to C's State, is presented with a writ attaching his debt to B and also a summons to appear in court on a named day. The result of the proceedings thus instituted is that a judgment is entered in C's favor against A to the amount of his indebtedness to B. Subsequently A is sued by B in their home State and offers the judgment, which he has in the meantime paid, in de-

charged the executor from further liability, did not prevent a creditor, who was not a resident of the State in which the ancillary judgment was rendered, from setting up his claim in the state probate court which had the primary administration of the estate.

⁸⁹ *Blodgett v. Silberman*, 277 U.S. 1 (1928).

⁹⁰ *Kerr v. Moon*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 565 (1824); *McCormick v. Sullivant*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 192 (1825); *Clarke v. Clarke*, 178 U.S. 186 (1900). The controlling principle of these cases is not confined to proceedings in probate. A court of equity "not having jurisdiction of the *res* cannot affect it by its decree nor by a deed made by a master in accordance with the decree." *Fall v. Eastin*, 215 U.S. 1, 11 (1909).

⁹¹ *Robertson v. Pickrell*, 109 U.S. 608, 611 (1883). See also *Darby v. Mayer*, 10 Wheat. (23 U.S.) 465 (1825); *Gasquet v. Fenner*, 247 U.S. 16 (1918).

⁹² *Olmstead v. Olmstead*, 216 U.S. 386 (1910).

⁹³ *Hood v. McGehee*, 237 U.S. 611 (1915).

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fense. It was argued in behalf of B that A's debt to him had a *situs* in their home State and furthermore that C could not have sued B in this same State without formally acquiring a domicile there. Both propositions were, however, rejected by the Court, which held that the judgment in the garnishment proceedings was entitled to full faith and credit as against B's action.⁹⁴

Penal Judgments: Types Entitled to Recognition

Finally, the clause has been interpreted in the light of the "incontrovertible maxim" that "the courts of no country execute the penal laws of another."⁹⁵ In the leading case of *Huntington v. Attrill*,⁹⁶ however, the Court so narrowly defined "penal" in this connection as to make it substantially synonymous with "criminal" and on this basis held a judgment which had been recovered under a state statute making the officers of a corporation who signed and recorded a false certificate of the amount of its capital stock liable for all of its debts to be entitled under Article IV, § 1, to recognition and enforcement in the courts of sister States. Nor, in general, is a judgment for taxes to be denied full faith and credit in state and federal courts merely because it is for taxes. In *Nelson v. George*,⁹⁷ in which a prisoner was tried in California and North Carolina and convicted and sentenced in both states for various felonies, the Court determined that the full faith and credit clause did not require California to enforce a penal judgment handed down by North Carolina; California was free to consider what effect if any it would give to the North Carolina detainer.⁹⁸ Until the obligation to extradite matured, the full faith and credit clause did not require California to enforce the North Carolina penal judgment in any way.

Fraud as a Defense to Suits on Foreign Judgments

With regard to whether recognition of a state judgment can be refused by the forum State on other than jurisdictional grounds, there are dicta to the effect that judgments for which extraterritorial operation is demanded under Article IV, § 1 and

⁹⁴ *Harris v. Balk*, 198 U.S. 215 (1905). See also *Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry. v. Sturm*, 174 U.S. 710 (1899); *King v. Cross*, 175 U.S. 396, 399 (1899); *Louisville & Nashville Railroad v. Deer*, 200 U.S. 176 (1906); *Baltimore & Ohio R.R. v. Hostetter*, 240 U.S. 620 (1916). *Harris* itself has not survived the due process reformulation of *Shaffer v. Heitner*, 433 U.S. 186 (1977). See *Rush v. Savchuk*, 444 U.S. 320 (1980).

⁹⁵ *The Antelope, 10 Wheat.* (23 U.S.) 66, 123 (1825). See also *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*, 127 U.S. 265 (1888).

⁹⁶ 146 U.S. 657 (1892). See also *Dennick v. Railroad Co.*, 103 U.S. 11 (1881); *Moore v. Mitchell*, 281 U.S. 18 (1930); *Milwaukee County v. White Co.*, 296 U.S. 268 (1935).

⁹⁷ 399 U.S. 224 (1970).

⁹⁸ *Id.*, 229.

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acts of Congress are “impeachable for manifest fraud.” But unless the fraud affected the jurisdiction of the court, the vast weight of authority is against the proposition. Also, it is universally agreed that a judgment may not be impeached for alleged error or irregularity,⁹⁹ or as contrary to the public policy of the State where recognition is sought for it under the full faith and credit clauses.¹⁰⁰ Previously listed cases indicate, however, that the Court in fact has permitted local policy to determine the merits of a judgment under the pretext of regulating jurisdiction.¹⁰¹ Thus in one case, *Cole v. Cunningham*,¹⁰² the Court sustained a Massachusetts court in enjoining, in connection with insolvency proceedings instituted in that State, a Massachusetts creditor from continuing in New York courts an action which had been commenced there before the insolvency suit was brought. This was done on the theory that a party within the jurisdiction of a court may be restrained from doing something in another jurisdiction opposed to principles of equity, it having been shown that the creditor was aware of the debtor’s embarrassed condition when the New York action was instituted. The injunction unquestionably denied full faith and credit and commanded the assent of only five Justices.

**RECOGNITION OF RIGHTS BASED UPON
CONSTITUTIONS, STATUTES, COMMON LAW**

Development of the Modern Rule

With regard to the extrastate protection of rights which have not matured into final judgments, the full faith and credit clause has never abolished the general principle of the dominance of local policy over the rules of comity.¹⁰³ This was stated by Justice Nelson in the *Dred Scott* case, as follows: “No State . . . can enact laws to operate beyond its own dominions . . . Nations, from convenience and comity . . . recognizes [sic] and administer the laws of other countries. But, of the nature, extent, and utility, of them, respecting property, or the state and condition of persons within her territories, each nation judges for itself.” He added that it was the same with the States of the Union in relation to another. It followed that even though *Dred Scott* had become a free man in con-

⁹⁹ *Christmas v. Russell*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 290 (1866); *Maxwell v. Stewart*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 71 (1875); *Hanley v. Donoghue*, 116 U.S. 1 (1885); *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*, 127 U.S. 265 (1888); *Simmons v. Saul*, 138 U.S. 439 (1891); *American Express Co. v. Mullins*, 212 U.S. 311 (1909).

¹⁰⁰ *Fauntleroy v. Lum*, 210 U.S. 230 (1908).

¹⁰¹ *Anglo-American Prov. Co. v. Davis Prov. Co. No. 1*, 191 U.S. 373 (1903).

¹⁰² 133 U.S. 107 (1890).

¹⁰³ *Bank of Augusta v. Earle*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 519, 589–596 (1839). See *Kryger v. Wilson*, 242 U.S. 171 (1916); *Bond v. Hume*, 243 U.S. 15 (1917).

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sequence of his having resided in the “free” State of Illinois, he had nevertheless upon his return to Missouri, which had the same power as Illinois to determine its local policy respecting rights acquired extraterritorially, reverted to servitude under the laws and judicial decisions of that State.¹⁰⁴

In a case decided in 1887, however, the Court remarked: “Without doubt the constitutional requirement, Art. IV, §1, that ‘full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State,’ implies that the public acts of every State shall be given the same effect by the courts of another State that they have by law and usage at home.”¹⁰⁵ And this proposition was later held to extend to state constitutional provisions.¹⁰⁶ More recently this doctrine has been stated in a very mitigated form, the Court saying that where statute or policy of the forum State is set up as a defense to a suit brought under the statute of another State or territory, or where a foreign statute is set up as a defense to a suit or proceedings under a local statute, the conflict is to be resolved, not by giving automatic effect to the full faith and credit clause and thus compelling courts of each State to subordinate its own statutes to those of others but by appraising the governmental interest of each jurisdiction and deciding accordingly.¹⁰⁷ That is, the full faith and credit clause, in its design to transform the States from independent sovereigns into a single unified Nation, directs that a State, when acting as the forum for litigation having multistate aspects or implications, respect the legitimate interests of other States and avoid infringement upon their sovereignty, but because the forum State is also a sovereign in its own right, in appropriate cases it may attach paramount importance to its own legitimate interests.¹⁰⁸ The

¹⁰⁴ *Scott v. Sandford*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 393, 460 (1857); *Bonaparte v. Tax Court*, 104 U.S. 592 (1882), where it was held that a law exempting from taxation certain bonds of the enacting State did not operate extraterritorially by virtue of the full faith and credit clause.

¹⁰⁵ *Chicago & Alton R.R. v. Wiggins Ferry Co.*, 119 U.S. 615, 622 (1887).

¹⁰⁶ *Smithsonian Institution v. St. John*, 214 U.S. 19 (1909). When, in a state court, the validity of an act of the legislature of another State is not in question, and the controversy turns merely upon its interpretation or construction, no question arises under the full faith and credit clause. See also *Western Life Indemnity Co. v. Rupp*, 235 U.S. 261 (1914), citing *Glenn v. Garth*, 147 U.S. 360 (1893), *Lloyd v. Matthews*, 155 U.S. 222, 227 (1894); *Banholzer v. New York Life Insurance Co.*, 178 U.S. 402 (1900); *Allen v. Alleghany Co.*, 196 U.S. 458, 465 (1905); *Texas & N.O.R.R. Co. v. Miller*, 221 U.S. 408 (1911). See also *National Mutual B. & L. Assn. v. Brahan*, 193 U.S. 635 (1904); *Johnson v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 187 U.S. 491, 495 (1903); *Pennsylvania Fire Ins. Co. v. Gold Issue Mining Co.* 243 U.S. 93 (1917).

¹⁰⁷ *Alaska Packers Assn. v. Comm.* 294 U.S. 532 (1935); *Bradford Elec. Co. v. Clapper*, 286 U.S. 145 (1932).

¹⁰⁸ E.g., *Allstate Insurance Co. v. Hague*, 449 U.S. 302 (1981); *Nevada v. Hall*, 440 U.S. 410 (1979); *Carroll v. Lanza*, 349 U.S. 408 (1955); *Pacific Employers Ins.*

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clause (and the comparable due process clause standards) obligate the forum State to take jurisdiction and to apply foreign law, subject to the forum's own interest in furthering its public policy. In order "for a State's substantive law to be selected in a constitutionally permissible manner, that State must have a significant contact or significant aggregation of contacts, creating state interests, such that choice of its law is neither arbitrary nor fundamentally unfair."¹⁰⁹ Obviously this doctrine endows the Court with something akin to an arbitral function in the decision of cases to which it is applied.

Transitory Actions: Death Statutes.—The initial effort in this direction was made in connection with transitory actions based on statute. Earlier, such actions had rested upon the common law, which was fairly uniform throughout the States, so that there was usually little discrepancy between the law under which the plaintiff from another jurisdiction brought his action (*lex loci*) and the law under which the defendant responded (*lex fori*). In the late seventies, however, the States, abandoning the common law rule on the subject, began passing laws which authorized the representatives of a decedent whose death had resulted from injury to bring an action for damages.¹¹⁰ The question at once presented itself whether, if such an action was brought in a State other than that in which the injury occurred, it was governed by the statute under which it arose or by the law of the forum State, which might be less favorable to the defendant. Nor was it long before the same question presented itself with respect to transitory action *ex contractu*, where the contract involved had been made under laws peculiar to the State where made, and with those laws in view.

Co. v. Industrial Accident Comm., 306 U.S. 493 (1939); Alaska Packers Assn. v. Industrial Accident Comm., 294 U.S. 532 (1935).

¹⁰⁹Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Shutts, 472 U.S. 797, 818 (1985) (quoting Allstate Insurance Co. v. Hague, 449 U.S. 302, 312–313 (1981) (plurality opinion)).

¹¹⁰Dennick v. Railroad Co., 103 U.S. 11 (1881), was the first so-called "Death Act" case to reach the Supreme Court. See also Stewart v. Baltimore & Ohio R. Co., 168 U.S. 445 (1897). Even today the obligation of a State to furnish a forum for the determination of death claims arising in another State under the laws thereof appears to rest on a rather precarious basis. In Hughes v. Fetter, 341 U.S. 609 (1951), the Court, by a narrow majority, held invalid under the full faith and credit clause a statute of Wisconsin which, as locally interpreted, forbade its courts to entertain suits of this nature; in First Nat. Bank v. United Airlines, 342 U.S. 396 (1952), a like result was reached under an Illinois statute. More recently, the Court has acknowledged that the full faith and credit clause does not compel the forum state, in an action for wrongful death occurring in another jurisdiction, to apply a longer period of limitations set out in the Wrongful Death Statute of the State in which the fatal injury was sustained. Wells v. Simonds Abrasive Co., 345 U.S. 514 (1953). Justices Jackson, Black, and Minton, in dissenting, advanced the contrary principle that the clause requires that the law where the tort action arose should follow said action in whatever forum it is pursued.

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Actions Upon Contract.—In *Chicago & Alton R.R. v. Wiggins Ferry Co.*,¹¹¹ the Court indicated that it was the law under which the contract was made, not the law of the forum State, which should govern. Its utterance on the point was, however, not merely *obiter*, it was based on an error, namely, the false supposition that the Constitution gives “acts” the same extraterritorial operation as the Act of 1790 does “judicial records and proceedings.” Notwithstanding which, this *dictum* is today the basis of “the settled rule” that the defendant in a transitory action is entitled to all the benefits resulting from whatever material restrictions the statute under which plaintiff’s rights of action originated sets thereto, except that courts of sister States cannot be thus prevented from taking jurisdiction in such cases.¹¹²

However, the modern doctrine permits a forum State with sufficient contacts with the parties or the matter in dispute to follow its own law. In *Allstate Insurance Co. v. Hague*,¹¹³ the decedent was a Wisconsin resident, who had died in an automobile accident within Wisconsin near the Minnesota border, in the course of his daily employment commute to Wisconsin. He had three automobile insurance policies on three automobiles, each limited to \$15,000. Following his death, his widow and personal representative moved to Minnesota, and she sued in that State. She sought to apply Minnesota law, under which she could “stack” or aggregate all three policies, permissible under Minnesota law but not allowed under Wisconsin law, where the insurance contracts had been made. The Court, in a divided opinion, permitted resort to Minnesota law, because of the number of contacts the State had with the matter. On the other hand, an earlier decision is in considerable conflict with *Hague*. There, a life insurance policy was executed in New York, on a New York insured, with a New York beneficiary. The insured died in New York, and his beneficiary moved to Georgia and sued to recover on the policy. The insurance company defended on the ground that the insured, in the application for the policy, had made materially false statements that rendered it void under New York law. The defense was good under New York law, impermissible under Georgia law, and Georgia’s decision to apply its own law was overturned, the Court stressing the surprise to the parties of the resort to the law of another State and the absence of any occurrence in Georgia to which its law could apply.¹¹⁴

¹¹¹ 119 U.S. 615 (1887).

¹¹² *Northern Pacific Railroad v. Babcock*, 154 U.S. 190 (1894); *Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry. v. Sowers*, 213 U.S. 55,67 (1909).

¹¹³ 449 U.S. 302 (1981). See also *Clay v. Sun Insurance Office, Ltd.*, 377 U.S. 179 (1964).

¹¹⁴ *John Hancock Mutual Life Ins. Co. v. Yates*, 299 U.S. 178 (1936).

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Stockholder Corporation Relationship.—Nor is it alone to defendants in transitory actions that the full faith and credit clause is today a shield and a buckler. Some legal relationships are so complex, the Court holds, that the law under which they were formed ought always to govern them as long as they persist.¹¹⁵ One such relationship is that of a stockholder and his corporation. Hence, if a question arises as to the liability of the stockholders of a corporation, the courts of the forum State are required by the full faith and credit clause to determine the question in accordance with the constitution, laws and judicial decisions of the corporation's home States.¹¹⁶ Illustrative applications of the latter rule are to be found in the following cases. A New Jersey statute forbidding an action at law to enforce a stockholder's liability arising under the laws of another State and providing that such liability may be enforced only in equity, and that in such a case the corporation, its legal representatives, all its creditors, and stockholders, should be necessary parties, was held not to preclude an action at law in New Jersey by the New York superintendent of banks against 557 New Jersey stockholders in an insolvent New York bank to recover assessments made under the laws of New York.¹¹⁷ Also, in a suit to enforce double liability, brought in Rhode Island against a stockholder in a Kansas trust company, the courts of Rhode Island were held to be obligated to extend recognition to the statutes and court decisions of Kansas whereunder it is established that a Kansas judgment recovered by a creditor against the trust company is not only conclusive as to the liability of the corporation but also an adjudication binding each stockholder therein. The only defenses available to the stockholder are those which he could make in a suit in Kansas.¹¹⁸

Fraternal Benefit Society: Member Relationship.—The same principle applies to the relationship which is formed when one takes out a policy in a "fraternal benefit society." Thus in *Royal Arcanum v. Green*,¹¹⁹ in which a fraternal insurance association chartered under the laws of Massachusetts was being sued in the courts of New York by a citizen of the latter State on a contract of insurance made in that State, the Court held that the defendant company was entitled under the full faith and credit clause to have

¹¹⁵ *Modern Woodmen v. Mixer*, 267 U.S. 544 (1925).

¹¹⁶ *Converse v. Hamilton*, 224 U.S. 243 (1912); *Selig v. Hamilton*, 234 U.S. 652 (1914); *Marin v. Augedahl*, 247 U.S. 142 (1918).

¹¹⁷ *Broderick v. Rosner*, 294 U.S. 629 (1935). See also *Thormann v. Frame*, 176 U.S. 350, 356 (1900); *Reynolds v. Stockton*, 140 U.S. 254, 264 (1891).

¹¹⁸ *Hancock National Bank v. Farnum*, 176 U.S. 640 (1900).

¹¹⁹ 237 U.S. 531 (1915), followed in *Modern Woodmen v. Mixer*, 267 U.S. 544 (1925).

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the case determined in accordance with the laws of Massachusetts and its own constitution and by-laws as these had been construed by the Massachusetts courts.

Nor has the Court manifested any disposition to depart from this rule. In *Sovereign Camp v. Bolin*,¹²⁰ it declared that a State in which a certificate of life membership of a foreign fraternal benefit association is issued, which construes and enforces the certificate according to its own law rather than according to the law of the State in which the association is domiciled, denies full faith and credit to the association's charter embodied in the status of the domiciliary State as interpreted by the latter's court. "The beneficiary certificate was not a mere contract to be construed and enforced according to the laws of the State where it was delivered. Entry into membership of an incorporated beneficiary society is more than a contract; it is entering into a complex and abiding relation and the rights of membership are governed by the law of the State of incorporation. [Hence] another State, wherein the certificate of membership was issued, cannot attach to membership rights against the society which are refused by the law of domicile." Consistent therewith, the Court also held, in *Order of Travelers v. Wolfe*,¹²¹ that South Dakota, in a suit brought therein by an Ohio citizen against an Ohio benefit society, must give effect to a provision of the constitution of the society prohibiting the bringing of an action on a claim more than six months after disallowance by the society, notwithstanding that South Dakota's period of limitation was six years and that its own statutes voided contract stipulations limiting the time within which rights may be enforced. Objecting to these results, Justice Black dissented on the ground that fraternal insurance companies are not entitled, either by the language of the Constitution, or by the nature of their enterprise, to such unique constitutional protection.

Insurance Company, Building and Loan Association: Contractual Relationships.—Whether or not distinguishable by nature of their enterprise, stock and mutual insurance companies and mutual building and loan associations, unlike fraternal benefit societies, have not been accorded the same unique constitutional protection; with few exceptions,¹²² they have had controversies arising out of their business relationships settled by application of the law of the forum State. In *National Mutual B. & L. Assn. v.*

¹²⁰ 305 U.S. 66, 75, 79 (1938).

¹²¹ 331 U.S. 586, 588–589, 637 (1947).

¹²² *New York Life Ins. Co. v. Head*, 234 U.S. 149 (1914); *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Dunken*, 266 U.S. 389 (1924).

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Brahan,¹²³ the principle applicable to these three forms of business organizations was stated as follows: where a corporation has become localized in a State and has accepted the laws of the State as a condition of doing business there, it cannot abrogate those laws by attempting to make contract stipulations, and there is no violation of the full faith and credit clause in instructing a jury to find according to local law notwithstanding a clause in a contract that it should be construed according to the laws of another State.

Thus, when a Mississippi borrower, having repaid a mortgage loan to a New York building and loan association, sued in a Mississippi court to recover, as usurious, certain charges collected by the association, the usury law of Mississippi rather than that of New York was held to control. In this case, the loan contract, which was negotiated in Mississippi subject to approval by the New York office, did not expressly state that it was governed by New York law.¹²⁴ Similarly, when the New York Life Insurance Company, which had expressly stated in its application and policy forms that they would be controlled by New York law, was sued in Missouri on a policy sold to a resident thereof, the court of that State was sustained in its application of Missouri, rather than New York law.¹²⁵ Also, in an action in a federal court in Texas to collect the amount of a life insurance policy which had been made in New York and later changed by instruments assigning beneficial interest, it was held that questions (1) whether the contract remained one governed by the law of New York with respect to rights of assignees, rather than by the law of Texas, (2) whether the public policy of Texas permits recovery by one named beneficiary who has no beneficial interest in the life of the insured, and (3) whether lack of insurable interest becomes material when the insurer acknowledges liability and pays the money into court, were questions of Texas law, to be decided according to Texas decisions.¹²⁶ Similarly, a State, by reason of its potential obligation to care for dependents of persons injured or killed within its limits, is conceded to have a substantial interest in insurance policies, wherever issued, which may afford compensation for such losses; accordingly, it is competent, by its own direct action statute, to grant the injured party a direct cause of action against the insurer of the tortfeasor, and to refuse to enforce the law of the State, in which the policy is issued or delivered, which recognizes as binding a pol-

¹²³ 193 U.S. 635 (1904).

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*

¹²⁵ *New York Life Ins. Co. v. Cravens*, 178 U.S. 389 (1900). See also *American Fire Ins. Co v. King Lumber Co.*, 250 U.S. 2 (1919).

¹²⁶ *Griffin v. McCoach*, 313 U.S. 498 (1941).

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icy stipulation which forbids direct actions until after the determination of the liability of the insured tortfeasor.¹²⁷

Consistent with the latter holding are the following two involving mutual insurance companies. In *Pink v. A.A.A. Highway Express*,¹²⁸ the New York insurance commissioner, as a statutory liquidator of an insolvent auto mutual company organized in New York, sued resident Georgia policyholders in a Georgia court to recover assessments alleged to be due by virtue of their membership in it. The Supreme Court held that, although by the law of the State of incorporation, policyholders of a mutual insurance company become members thereof and as such liable to pay assessments adjudged to be required in liquidation proceedings in that State, the courts of another State are not required to enforce such liability against local resident policyholders who did not appear and were not personally served in the foreign liquidation proceedings but are free to decide according to local law the questions whether, by entering into the policies, residents became members of the company. Again, in *State Farm Ins. Co. v. Duel*,¹²⁹ the Court ruled that an insurance company chartered in State A, which does not treat membership fees as part of premiums, cannot plead denial of full faith and credit when State B, as a condition of entry, requires the company to maintain a reserve computed by including membership fees as well as premiums received in all States. Were the company's contention accepted, "no State," the Court observed, "could impose stricter financial standards for foreign corporations doing business within its borders than were imposed by the State of incorporation." It is not apparent, the Court added, that State A has an interest superior to that of State B in the financial soundness and stability of insurance companies doing business in State B.

Workmen's Compensation Statutes.—Finally, the relationship of employer and employee, insofar as the obligations of the one and the rights of the other under workmen's compensation acts are concerned, has been the subject of differing and confusing treat-

¹²⁷ *Watson v. Employers Liability Corp.*, 348 U.S. 66 (1954). In *Clay v. Sun Insurance Office*, 363 U.S. 207 (1960), three dissenters, Justices Black, and Douglas, and Chief Justice Warren, would have resolved the constitutional issue which the Court avoided, and would have sustained application of the forum State's statute of limitations fixing a period in excess of that set forth in the policy.

¹²⁸ 314 U.S. 201, 206–208 (1941). However, a decree of a Montana Supreme Court, insofar as it permitted judgment creditors of a dissolved Iowa surety company to levy execution against local assets to satisfy judgment, as against title to such assets of the Iowa insurance commissioner as statutory liquidator and successor to the dissolved company, was held to deny full faith and credit to the statutes of Iowa. *Clark v. Williard*, 292 U.S. 112 (1934).

¹²⁹ 324 U.S. 154, 159–160 (1945).

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ment. In an early case, the injury occurred in New Hampshire, resulting in death to a workman who had entered the defendant company's employ in Vermont, the home State of both parties. The Court required the New Hampshire courts to respect a Vermont statute which precluded a worker from bringing a common-law action against his employer for job related injuries where the employment relation was formed in Vermont, prescribing a constitutional rule giving priority to the place of the establishment of the employment relationship over the place of injury.¹³⁰ The same result was achieved in a subsequent case, but the Court promulgated a new rule, applied thereafter, which emphasized a balancing of the governmental interests of each jurisdiction, rather than the mere application of the statutory rule of one or another State under full faith and credit.¹³¹ Thus, the Court held that the clause did not preclude California from disregarding a Massachusetts workmen's compensation statute, making its law exclusive of any common law action or any law of any other jurisdiction, and applying its own act in the case of an injury suffered by a Massachusetts employee of a Massachusetts employer while in California in the course of his employment.¹³² It is therefore settled that an injured workman may seek a compensation award either in the State in which the injury occurred or in the State in which the employee resided, his employer was principally located, and the employment relation was formed, even if one statute or the other purported to confer an exclusive remedy on the workman.¹³³

Less settled is the question whether a second State, with interests in the matter, may supplement a workmen's compensation award provided in the first State. At first, the Court ruled that a Louisiana employee of a Louisiana employer, who was injured on the job in Texas and who received an award under the Texas act, which did not grant further recovery to an employee who received compensation under the laws of another State, could not obtain additional compensation under the Louisiana statute.¹³⁴ Shortly, however, the Court departed from this holding, permitting Wisconsin, the State of the injury, to supplement an award pursuant to the laws of Illinois, where the worker resided and where the em-

¹³⁰ *Bradford Elec. Co. v. Clapper*, 286 U.S. 145 (1932).

¹³¹ *Alaska Packers Assn. v. Comm.*, 294 U.S. 532 (1935). The State where the employment contract was made was permitted to apply its workmen's compensation law despite the provision in the law of the State of injury making its law the exclusive remedy for injuries occurring there. See *id.*, 547 (stating the balancing test).

¹³² *Pacific Ins. Co. v. Comm.*, 306 U.S. 493 (1939).

¹³³ In addition to *Alaska Packers* and *Pacific Ins.*, see *Carroll v. Lanza*, 349 U.S. 408 (1955); *Cardillo v. Liberty Mutual Co.*, 330 U.S. 469 (1947); *Crider v. Zurich Ins. Co.*, 380 U.S. 39 (1965); *Nevada v. Hall*, 440 U.S. 410, 421-424 (1979).

¹³⁴ *Magnolia Petroleum Co. v. Hunt*, 320 U.S. 430 (1943).

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ployment contract had been entered into.¹³⁵ Although the second case could have been factually distinguished from the first,¹³⁶ the Court instead chose to depart from the principle of the first, saying that only if the laws of the first State making an award contained “unmistakable language” to the effect that those laws were exclusive of any remedy under the laws of any other State would supplementary awards be precluded.¹³⁷ While the overwhelming number of state court decisions since follow *McCartin* and *Magnolia* has been little noticed, all the Justices have recently expressed dissatisfaction with the former case as a rule of the full faith and credit clause, although a majority of the Court followed it and permitted a supplementary award.¹³⁸

Full Faith and Credit and Statutes of Limitation.—The full faith and credit clause is not violated by a state statute providing that all suits upon foreign judgments shall be brought within five years after such judgment shall have been obtained, where the statute has been construed by the state courts as barring suits on foreign judgments, only if the plaintiff could not revive his judgment in the state where it was originally obtained.¹³⁹

FULL FAITH AND CREDIT: MISCELLANY**Full Faith and Credit in Federal Courts**

By the terms of 28 U.S.C. §§1738–1739, the rule comprised therein pertains not merely to recognition by state courts of the records and judicial proceedings of courts of sister States but to recognition by “every court within the United States,” including recognition of the records and proceedings of the courts of any territory or any country subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The federal courts are bound to give to the judgments of the state courts the same faith and credit that the courts of one State are bound to give to the judgments of the courts of her sister

¹³⁵ *Industrial Comm. v. McCartin*, 330 U.S. 622 (1947).

¹³⁶ Employer and employee had entered into a contract of settlement under the Illinois act, the contract expressly providing that it did not affect any rights the employee had under Wisconsin law. *Id.*, 624.

¹³⁷ *Id.*, 627–628, 630.

¹³⁸ *Thomas v. Washington Gas Light Co.*, 448 U.S. 261 (1980). For the disapproval of *McCartin*, see *id.*, 269–272 (plurality opinion of four), 289 (concurring opinion of three), 291 (dissenting opinion of two). But the four Justice plurality would have instead overruled *Magnolia*, *id.*, 277–286, and adopted the rule of interest balancing used in deciding which State may apply its laws in the first place. The dissenting two Justices would have overruled *McCartin* and followed *Magnolia*. *Id.*, 290. The other Justices considered *Magnolia* the sounder rule but decided to follow *McCartin* because it could be limited to workmen's compensation cases, thus requiring no evaluation of changes throughout the reach of the full faith and credit clause. *Id.*, 286.

¹³⁹ *Watkins v. Conway*, 385 U.S. 188, 190–191 (1965).

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States.¹⁴⁰ Where suits to enforce the laws of one State are entertained in courts of another on principles of comity, federal district courts sitting in that State may entertain them and should, if they do not infringe federal law or policy.¹⁴¹ However, the refusal of a territorial court in Hawaii, having jurisdiction of the action which was on a policy issued by a New York insurance company, to admit evidence that an administrator had been appointed and a suit brought by him on a bond in the federal court in New York wherein no judgment had been entered, did not violate this clause.¹⁴²

The power to prescribe what effect shall be given to the judicial proceedings of the courts of the United States is conferred by other provisions of the Constitution, such as those which declare the extent of the judicial power of the United States, which authorize all legislation necessary and proper for executing the powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, and which declare the supremacy of the authority of the National Government within the limits of the Constitution. As part of its general authority, the power to give effect to the judgment of its courts is coextensive with its territorial jurisdiction.¹⁴³

Evaluation Of Results Under Provision

Thus the Court, from according an extrastate operation to statutes and judicial decisions in favor of defendants in transitory actions, proceeded next to confer the same protection upon certain classes of defendants in local actions in which the plaintiff's claim was the outgrowth of a relationship formed *extraterritorially. But can the Court stop at this point? If it is true, as Chief Justice Marshall once remarked, that "the Constitution was not made for the benefit of plaintiffs' alone," so also it is true that it was not made for the benefit of defendants alone. The day may come when the Court will approach the question of the relation of the full faith and credit clause to the extrastate operation of laws from the same

¹⁴⁰ *Cooper v. Newell*, 173 U.S. 555, 567 (1899). See also *Pennington v. Gibson*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 65, 81 (1854); *Cheever v. Wilson*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 108, 123 (1870); *Wisconsin v. Pelican Ins. Co.*, 127 U.S. 265, 291 (1888); *Swift v. McPherson*, 232 U.S. 51 (1914); *Baldwin v. Traveling Men's Assn.*, 283 U.S. 522 (1931); *American Surety Co. v. Baldwin*, 287 U.S. 156 (1932); *Sanders v. Fertilizer Works*, 292 U.S. 190 (1934); *Durfee v. Duke*, 375 U.S. 106 (1963); *Allen v. McCurry*, 449 U.S. 90 (1980); *Kremer v. Chemical Const. Corp.*, 456 U.S. 461 (1982).

¹⁴¹ *Milwaukee County v. White Co.*, 296 U.S. 268 (1935).

¹⁴² *Equitable Life Assurance Society v. Brown*, 187 U.S. 308 (1902). See also *Gibson v. Lyon*, 115 U.S. 439 (1885).

¹⁴³ *Embry v. Palmer*, 107 U.S. 3, 9 (1883). See also *Northern Assurance Co. v. Grand View Assn.*, 203 U.S. 106 (1906); *Louisville & N.R.R. Co. v. Stock Yards Co.*, 212 U.S. 132 (1909); *Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry. v. Sowers*, 213 U.S. 55 (1909); *West Side R.R. Co. v. Pittsburgh Const. Co.*, 219 U.S. 92 (1911); *Knights of Pythias v. Meyer*, 265 U.S. 30, 33 (1924).

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angle as it today views the broader question of the scope of state legislative power. When and if this day arrives, state statutes and judicial decisions will be given such extraterritorial operation as seems reasonable to the Court to give them. In short, the rule of the dominance of legal policy of the forum State will be superseded by that of judicial review.¹⁴⁴

The question arises whether the application to date, not by the Court alone but by Congress and the Court, of Article IV, § 1, can be said to have met the expectations of its Framers. In the light of some things said at the time of the framing of the clause this may be doubted. The protest was raised against the clause that, in vesting Congress with power to declare the effect state laws should have outside the enacting State, it enabled the new government to usurp the powers of the States, but the objection went unheeded. The main concern of the Convention, undoubtedly, was to render the judgments of the state courts in civil cases effective throughout the Union. Yet even this object has been by no means completely realized, owing to the doctrine of the Court, that before a judgment of a state court can be enforced in a sister State, a new suit must be brought on it in the courts of the latter, and the further doctrine that with respect to such a suit, the judgment sued on is only evidence; the logical deduction from this proposition is that the sister State is under no constitutional compulsion to give it a forum. These doctrines were first clearly stated in the *McElmoyle* case and flowed directly from the new states' rights premises of the Court, but they are no longer in harmony with the prevailing spirit of constitutional construction nor with the needs of the times. Also, the clause seems always to have been interpreted on the basis of the assumption that the term, "judicial proceedings," refers only to final judgments and does not include intermediate processes and writs, but the assumption would seem to be groundless, and if it is, then Congress has the power under the clause to provide for the service and execution throughout the United States of the judicial processes of the several States.

¹⁴⁴ Reviewing some of the cases treated in this section, a writer in 1926 said: "It appears, then, that the Supreme Court has quite definitely committed itself to a program of making itself, to some extent, a tribunal for bringing about uniformity in the field of conflicts...although the precise circumstances under which it will regard itself as having jurisdiction for this purpose are far from clear." Dodd, *The Power of the Supreme Court to Review State Decisions in the Field of Conflict of Laws*, 39 Harv. L. Rev. 533, 562 (1926). It can hardly be said that the law has been subsequently clarified on this point.

Sec. 1—Full Faith and Credit: Judicial Proceedings**SCOPE OF POWERS OF CONGRESS UNDER PROVISION**

Under the present system, suit ordinarily has to be brought where the defendant, the alleged wrongdoer, resides, which means generally where no part of the transaction giving rise to the action took place. What could be more irrational? "Granted that no state can of its own volition make its process run beyond its borders . . . is it unreasonable that the United States should by federal action be made a unit in the manner suggested?"¹⁴⁵

Indeed, there are few clauses of the Constitution, the merely literal possibilities of which have been so little developed as the full faith and credit clause. Congress has the power under the clause to decree the effect that the statutes of one State shall have in other States. This being so, it does not seem extravagant to argue that Congress may under the clause describe a certain type of divorce and say that it shall be granted recognition throughout the Union and that no other kind shall. Or to speak in more general terms, Congress has under the clause power to enact standards whereby uniformity of state legislation may be secured as to almost any matter in connection with which interstate recognition of private rights would be useful and valuable.

JUDGMENTS OF FOREIGN STATES

Doubtless Congress, by virtue of its powers in the field of foreign relations, might also lay down a mandatory rule regarding recognition of foreign judgments in every court of the United States. At present the duty to recognize judgments even in national courts rests only on comity and is qualified in the judgment of the Supreme Court, by a strict rule of parity.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁵Cook, *The Power of Congress Under the Full Faith and Credit Clause*, 28 Yale L.J. 421, 430 (1919).

¹⁴⁶No right, privilege, or immunity is conferred by the Constitution in respect to judgments of foreign states and nations. *Aetna Life Insurance Co. v. Tremblay*, 223 U.S. 185 (1912). See also *Hilton v. Guyot*, 159 U.S. 113, 234 (1895), where a French judgment offered in defense was held not a bar to the suit. Four Justices dissented on the ground that "the application of the doctrine of *res judicata* does not rest in discretion; and it is for the Government, and not for its courts, to adopt the principle of retorsion, if deemed under any circumstances desirable or necessary." At the same sitting of the Court, an action in a United States circuit court on a Canadian judgment was sustained on the same ground of reciprocity, *Ritchie v. McMullen*, 159 U.S. 235 (1895). See also *Ingenohl v. Olsen & Co.*, 273 U.S. 541 (1927), where a decision of the Supreme Court of the Philippine Islands was reversed for refusal to enforce a judgment of the Supreme Court of the British colony of Hong Kong, which was rendered "after a fair trial by a court having jurisdiction of the parties." Another instance of international cooperation in the judicial field is furnished by letters rogatory. See 28 U.S.C. §1781. Several States have similar provisions, 2 J. MOORE, *DIGEST OF INTERNATIONAL LAW* (Washington: 1906), 108–109.

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Cl. 1—Privileges and Immunities

SECTION 2. The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

STATE CITIZENSHIP: PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Origin and Purpose

“The primary purpose of this clause, like the clauses between which it is located. . . was to help fuse into one Nation a collection of independent sovereign States.”¹⁴⁷ Precedent for this clause was a much wordier and a somewhat unclear¹⁴⁸ clause of the Articles of Confederation. “The better to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship and intercourse among the people of the different States in this Union, the free inhabitants of each of these States, paupers, vagabonds and fugitives from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several States; and the people of each State shall have free ingress and regress to and from any other State, and shall enjoy therein all the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, impositions and restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, . . .”¹⁴⁹ In the Convention, the present clause was presented, reported by the Committee on Detail, and adopted all in the language ultimately approved.¹⁵⁰ Little commentary was addressed to it,¹⁵¹ and we may assume with Justice Miller that “[t]here can be but little question that the purpose of both these provisions is the same, and that the privileges and immunities intended are the same in each. In the Articles of Confederation we have some of these specifically mentioned, and enough perhaps to give some general idea of the class of civil rights meant by the phrase.”¹⁵²

¹⁴⁷ *Toomer v. Witsell*, 334 U.S. 385, 395 (1948).

¹⁴⁸ THE FEDERALIST, No. 42 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 285–286 (Madison).

¹⁴⁹ 1 F. THORPE (ed.), THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTIONS, H. Doc. No. 357, 59th Cong., 2 sess. (Washington: 1909), 10.

¹⁵⁰ 2 M. FARRAND, THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 173, 187, 443.

¹⁵¹ “It may be esteemed the basis of the Union, that ‘the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens of the several States.’ And if it be a just principle that every government ought to possess the means of executing its own provisions by its own authority, it will follow, that in order to the inviolable maintenance of that equality of privileges and immunities to which the citizens of the Union will be entitled, the national judiciary ought to pre- side in all cases in which one State or its citizens are opposed to another State or its citizens. To secure the full effect of so fundamental a provision against all evasion and subterfuge, it is necessary that its construction should be committed to that tribunal which, having no local attachments, will be likely to be impartial between the different States and their citizens, and which, owing its official existence to the Union, will never be likely to feel any bias inauspicious to the principles on which its is founded.” THE FEDERALIST, No. 80 (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 537–538 (Hamilton).

¹⁵² *Slaughter-House Cases*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 36, 75 (1873).

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At least four theories have been proffered regarding the purpose of this clause. First, the clause is a guaranty to the citizens of the different States of equal treatment by Congress; in other words, it is a species of equal protection clause binding on the National Government. Though it received some recognition in the *Dred Scott* case,¹⁵³ particularly in the opinion of Justice Catron,¹⁵⁴ this theory is today obsolete.¹⁵⁵ Second, the clause is a guaranty to the citizens of each State of the natural and fundamental rights inherent in the citizenship of persons in a free society, the privileges and immunities of free citizens, which no State could deny to citizens of other States, without regard to the manner in which it treated its own citizens. This theory found some expression in a few state cases¹⁵⁶ and best accords with the natural law-natural rights language of Justice Washington in *Corfield v. Coryell*.¹⁵⁷

If it had been accepted by the Court, this theory might well have endowed the Supreme Court with a reviewing power over restrictive state legislation as broad as that which it later came to exercise under the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment, but it was firmly rejected by the Court.¹⁵⁸ Third, the clause guarantees to the citizen of any State the rights which he enjoys as such even when he is sojourning in another State; that is, it enables him to carry with him his rights of State

¹⁵³ *Scott v. Sandford*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 393 (1857).

¹⁵⁴ *Id.*, 518, 527–529.

¹⁵⁵ Today, the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment imposes equal protection standards on the Federal Government. *Bolling v. Sharpe*, 347 U.S. 497 (1954); *Schneider v. Rusk*, 377 U.S. 163, 168 (1964); *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 641–642 (1969).

¹⁵⁶ *Campbell v. Morris*, 3 Harr. & McHen, 288 (Md. 1797); *Murray v. McCarty*, 2 Munf. 373 (Va. 1811); *Livingston v. Van Ingen*, 9 Johns. Case. 507 (N.Y. 1812); *Douglas v. Stephens*, 1, Del. Ch. 465 (1821); *Smith v. Moody*, 26 Ind. 299 (1866).

¹⁵⁷ 6 Fed. Cas. 546, 550 (No. 3230) (C.C.E.D. Pa. 1823). (Justice Washington on circuit), quoted *infra*, text at nn. 178–182. “At one time it was thought that this section recognized a group of rights which, according to the jurisprudence of the day, were classed as ‘natural rights’; and that the purpose of the section was to create rights of citizens of the United States by guaranteeing the citizens of every State the recognition of this group of rights by every other State. Such was the view of Justice Washington.” *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496, 511 (1939) (Justice Roberts for the Court). This view of the clause was asserted by Justices Field and Bradley, *Slaughter House Cases*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 97, 117–118 (1873) (dissenting opinions); *Butchers Union Co. v. Crescent City Co.*, 111 U.S. 746, 760 (1884) (Justice Field concurring), but see *infra*, n. 160, and was possibly understood so by Chief Justice Taney. *Scott v. Sandford*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 393, 423 (1857). And see *id.*, 580 (Justice Curtis dissenting). The natural rights concept of privileges and immunities was strongly held by abolitionists and their congressional allies who drafted the similar clause into 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment. Graham, *Our “Declaratory” Fourteenth Amendment*, reprinted in H. GRAHAM, EVERYMAN’S CONSTITUTION—HISTORICAL ESSAYS ON THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT, THE “CONSPIRACY THEORY”, AND AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONALISM (Madison: 1968), 295.

¹⁵⁸ *McKane v. Durston*, 153 U.S. 684, 687 (1894); and see cases cited *infra*, n. 160.

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citizenship throughout the Union, unembarrassed by state lines. This theory, too, the Court rejected.¹⁵⁹ Fourth, the clause merely forbids any State to discriminate against citizens of other States in favor of its own. It is this narrow interpretation that has become the settled one. "It was undoubtedly the object of the clause in question to place the citizens of each State upon the same footing with citizens of other States, so far as the advantages resulting from citizenship in those States are concerned. It relieves them from the disabilities of alienage in other States; it inhibits discriminating legislation against them by other States; it gives them the right of free ingress into other States, and egress from them; it insures to them in other States the same freedom possessed by the citizens of those States in the acquisition and enjoyment of property, and in the pursuit of happiness; and it secures to them in other States the equal protection of their laws."¹⁶⁰

The recent cases emphasize that interpretation of the clause is tied to maintenance of the Union. "Some distinctions between residents and nonresidents merely reflect the fact that this is a Nation composed of individual States, and are permitted; other distinctions are prohibited because they hinder the formation, the purpose, or the development of a single Union of those States. Only with respect to those 'privileges' and 'immunities' bearing upon the vitality of the Nation as a single entity must the State treat all citizens, resident and nonresident, equally."¹⁶¹ While the clause "was intended to create a national economic union," it as well protects noneconomic interests relating to the Union.¹⁶²

Hostile discrimination against all nonresidents infringes the clause,¹⁶³ but controversies between a State and its own citizens are not covered by the provision.¹⁶⁴ However, a state discrimination in favor of residents of one of its municipalities implicates the

¹⁵⁹City of Detroit v. Osborne, 135 U.S. 492 (1890).

¹⁶⁰Paul v. Virginia, 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 168, 180 (1869) (Justice Field for the Court; see *supra*, n. 157); and see Slaughter House Cases, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 36, 77 (1873); Chambers v. Baltimore & O.R.R., 207 U.S. 142 (1907); Whitfield v. Ohio, 297 U.S. 431 (1936).

¹⁶¹Baldwin v. Montana Fish & Game Comm., 436 U.S. 371, 383 (1978). See also Austin v. New Hampshire, 420 U.S. 656, 660-665 (1975) (clause "implicates not only the individual's right to nondiscriminatory treatment but also, perhaps more so, the structural balance essential to the concept of federalism." *Id.*, 662); Hicklin v. Orbeck, 437 U.S. 518, 523-524 (1978).

¹⁶²Supreme Court of New Hampshire v. Piper, 470 U.S. 274, 281-282 (1985). See also Doe v. Bolton, 410 U.S. 179, 200 (1973) (discrimination against out-of-state residents seeking medical care violates clause).

¹⁶³Blake v. McClung, 172 U.S. 239, 246 (1898); Travis v. Yale & Towne Mfg. Co., 252 U.S. 60 (1920).

¹⁶⁴Bradwell v. Illinois, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 130, 138 (1873); Cove v. Cunningham, 133 U.S. 107 (1890). But see Zobel v. Williams, 457 U.S. 55, 71 (1982) (Justice O'Connor concurring).

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clause, even though the disfavored class consists of in-state as well as out-of-state inhabitants.¹⁶⁵ The clause should not be read so literally, the Court held, as to permit States to exclude out-of-state residents from benefits through the simple expediency of delegating authority to political subdivisions.¹⁶⁶

How Implemented

This clause is self-executory, that is to say, its enforcement is dependent upon the judicial process. It does not authorize penal legislation by Congress. Federal statutes prohibiting conspiracies to deprive any person of rights or privileges secured by state laws,¹⁶⁷ or punishing infractions by individuals of the right of citizens to reside peacefully in the several States and to have free ingress into and egress from such States,¹⁶⁸ have been held void.

Citizens of Each State

A question much mooted before the Civil War was whether the term could be held to include free Negroes. In the *Dred Scott* case,¹⁶⁹ the Court answered it in the negative. "Citizens of each State," Chief Justice Taney argued, meant citizens of the United States as understood at the time the Constitution was adopted, and Negroes were not then regarded as capable of citizenship. The only category of national citizenship added under the Constitution comprised aliens, naturalized in accordance with acts of Congress.¹⁷⁰ In dissent, Justice Curtis not only denied the Chief Justice's assertion that there were no Negro citizens of States in 1789 but further argued that while Congress alone could determine what classes of aliens should be naturalized, the several States retained the right to extend citizenship to classes of persons born within their borders who had not previously enjoyed citizenship and that one upon whom state citizenship was thus conferred became a citizen of the State in the full sense of the Constitution.¹⁷¹ So far as persons

¹⁶⁵ *United Building & Construction Trades Council v. Mayor of Camden*, 465 U.S. 208 (1984).

¹⁶⁶ *Id.*, 217. The holding illustrates what the Court has referred to as the "mutually reinforcing relationship" between the commerce clause and the privileges and immunities clause. *Supreme Court of New Hampshire v. Piper*, 470 U.S. 274, 280 n. 8 (1985) (quoting *Hicklin v. Orbeck*, 437 U.S. 518, 531 (1978)). See, e.g., *Dean Milk Co. v. City of Madison*, 424 U.S. 366 (1976) (city protectionist ordinance that disadvantages both out-of-state producers and some in-state producers violates commerce clause).

¹⁶⁷ *United States v. Harris*, 106 U.S. 629, 643 (1883). See also *Baldwin v. Franks*, 120 U.S. 678 (1887).

¹⁶⁸ *United States v. Wheeler*, 254 U.S. 281 (1920).

¹⁶⁹ *Scott v. Sandford*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 393 (1857).

¹⁷⁰ *Id.*, 403–411.

¹⁷¹ *Id.*, 572–590.

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born in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are concerned, the question was put at rest by the Fourteenth Amendment.

Corporations.—At a comparatively early date the claim was made that a corporation chartered by a State and consisting of its citizens was entitled to the benefits of the comity clause in the transaction of business in other States. It was argued that the Court was bound to look beyond the act of incorporation and see who were the incorporators. If it found these to consist solely of citizens of the incorporating State, it was bound to permit them through the agency of the corporation to exercise in other States such privileges and immunities as the citizens thereof enjoyed. In *Bank of Augusta v. Earle*,¹⁷² this view was rejected. The Court held that the comity clause was never intended “to give to the citizens of each State the privileges of citizens in the several States, and at the same time to exempt them from the liabilities which the exercise of such privileges would bring upon individuals who were citizens of the State. This would be to give the citizens of other States far higher and greater privileges than are enjoyed by the citizens of the State itself.”¹⁷³ A similar result was reached in *Paul v. Virginia*,¹⁷⁴ but by a different course of reasoning. The Court there held that a corporation, in this instance, an insurance company, was “the mere creation of local law” and could “have no legal existence beyond the limits of the sovereignty”¹⁷⁵ which created it; even recognition of its existence by other States rested exclusively in their discretion. More recent cases have held that this discretion is qualified by other provisions of the Constitution notably the commerce clause and the Fourteenth Amendment.¹⁷⁶ By reason of its similarity to the corporate form of organization, a Massachusetts trust has been denied the protection of this clause.¹⁷⁷

All Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the Several States

The classical judicial exposition of the meaning of this phrase is that of Justice Washington in *Corfield v. Coryell*,¹⁷⁸ which was decided by him on circuit in 1823. The question at issue was the validity of a New Jersey statute which prohibited “any person who is not, at the time, an actual inhabitant and resident in this State”

¹⁷² 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 519 (1839).

¹⁷³ *Id.*, 586.

¹⁷⁴ 8 Wall. (75 U.S.) 168 (1869).

¹⁷⁵ *Id.*, 181.

¹⁷⁶ *Crutcher v. Kentucky*, 141 U.S. 47 (1891).

¹⁷⁷ *Hemphill v. Orloff*, 277 U.S. 537 (1928).

¹⁷⁸ 6 Fed. Cas. 546 (No. 3,230) (C.C.E.D. Pa., 1823).

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from raking or gathering “clams, oysters or shells” in any of the waters of the State, on board any vessel “not wholly owned by some person, inhabitant of and actually residing in this State. . . . The inquiry is,” wrote Justice Washington, “what are the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States? We feel no hesitation in confining these expressions to those privileges and immunities which are, in their nature, fundamental; which belong, of right, to the citizens of all free governments; and which have, at all times, been enjoyed by the citizens of the several States which compose this Union, . . .”¹⁷⁹ He specified the following rights as answering this description: “Protection by the Government; the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the right to acquire and possess property of every kind, and to pursue and obtain happiness and safety; subject nevertheless to such restraints as the Government must justly prescribe for the general good of the whole. The right of a citizen of one State to pass through, or to reside in any other State, for purposes of trade, agriculture, professional pursuits, or otherwise; to claim the benefits of the writ of *habeas corpus* ; to institute and maintain actions of any kind in the courts of the State; to take, hold and dispose of property, either real or personal; and an exemption from higher taxes or impositions than are paid by the other citizens of the State; . . .”¹⁸⁰

After thus defining broadly the private and personal rights which were protected, Justice Washington went on to distinguish them from the right to a share in the public patrimony of the State. “[W]e cannot accede” the opinion proceeds, “to the proposition . . . that, under this provision of the Constitution, the citizens of the several States are permitted to participate in all the rights which belong exclusively to the citizens of any particular State, merely upon the ground that they are enjoyed by those citizens; much less, that in regulating the use of the common property of the citizens of such State, the legislature is bound to extend to the citizens of all other States the same advantages as are secured to their own citizens.”¹⁸¹ The right of a State to the fisheries within its borders he then held to be in the nature of a property right, held by the State “for the use of the citizens thereof;” the State was under no obligation to grant “co-tenancy in the common property of the State, to the citizens of all the other States.”¹⁸² The precise holding of this case was confirmed in *McCready v. Virginia*,¹⁸³ the logic of

¹⁷⁹ *Id.*, 551–552.

¹⁸⁰ *Id.*, 552.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸² *Ibid.*

¹⁸³ 94 U.S. 391 (1877).

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*Geer v. Connecticut*¹⁸⁴ extended the same rule to wild game, and *Hudson Water Co. v. McCarter*¹⁸⁵ applied it to the running water of a State. In *Toomer v. Witsell*,¹⁸⁶ however, the Court refused to apply this rule to free-swimming fish caught in the three-mile belt off the coast of South Carolina. It held instead that “commercial shrimping in the marginal sea, like other common callings, is within the purview of the privileges and immunities clause” and that a severely discriminatory license fee exacted from nonresidents was unconstitutional.¹⁸⁷

The virtual demise, however, of the state ownership theory of animals and natural resources¹⁸⁸ compelled the Court to review and revise its mode of analysis of state restrictions that distinguished between residents and nonresidents¹⁸⁹ in respect to hunting and fishing and working with natural resources. A two-pronged test emerged. First, the Court held, it must be determined whether an activity in which a nonresident wishes to engage is within the protection of the clause. Such an activity must be “fundamental,” must, that is, be essential or basic, “interference with which would frustrate the purposes of the formation of the Union, . . .” Justice Washington’s opinion on Circuit in *Coryell* afforded the Court the standard; while recognizing that the opinion relied on notions of natural rights, the Court thought he used the term “fundamental” in the modern sense as well. Such activities as the pursuit of common callings within the State, the ownership and disposition of privately held property within the State, and the access to the courts of the State, had been recognized in previous cases as fundamental and protected against unreasonable burdening; but sport and recreational hunting, the issue in the particular case, was not a fundamental activity. It had nothing to do with one’s livelihood and implicated no other interest recognized as fundamental.¹⁹⁰ Subse-

¹⁸⁴ 161 U.S. 519 (1896).

¹⁸⁵ 209 U.S. 349 (1908).

¹⁸⁶ 334 U.S. 385 (1948).

¹⁸⁷ *Id.*, 403. In *Mullaney v. Anderson*, 342 U.S. 415 (1952), an Alaska statute providing for the licensing of commercial fishermen in territorial waters and levying a license fee of \$50.00 on nonresident and only \$5.00 on resident fishermen was held void under Art. IV, §2 on the authority of *Toomer v. Witsell*.

¹⁸⁸ The cases arose in the commerce clause context. See *Douglas v. Seacoast Products*, 431 U.S. 265, 284 (1977) (dictum). *Geer v. Connecticut*, 161 U.S. 519 (1896), was overruled in *Hughes v. Oklahoma*, 441 U.S. 322 (1979); *Hudson County Water Co. v. McCarter*, 209 U.S. 349 (1908), was overruled in *Sporhase v. Nebraska*, ex rel. Douglas, 458 U.S. 941 (1982).

¹⁸⁹ Although the clause specifically refers to “citizens,” the Court treats the terms “citizens” and “residents” as “essentially interchangeable.” *Austin v. New Hampshire*, 420 U.S. 656, 662 n. 8 (1975); *Hicklin v. Orbeck*, 437 U.S. 518, 524 n. 8 (1978).

¹⁹⁰ *Baldwin v. Montana Fish & Game Comm.*, 436 U.S. 371 (1978). The quotation is *id.*, 387.

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quent cases have recognized that the right to practice law¹⁹¹ and the right to seek employment on public contracts¹⁹² are to be considered fundamental activity.

Second, finding a fundamental interest protected under the clause, in the particular case the right to pursue an occupation or common calling, the Court employed a two-pronged analysis to determine whether the State's distinction between residents and nonresidents was justified. Thus, the State was compelled to show that nonresidents constituted a peculiar source of the evil at which the statute was aimed and that the discrimination bore a substantial relationship to the particular "evil" they are said to represent, e.g., that it is "closely tailored" to meet the actual problem. An Alaska statute giving residents preference over nonresidents in hiring for work on the oil and gas pipelines within the State failed both elements of the test.¹⁹³ No state justification for exclusion of new residents from the practice of law on grounds not applied to long-term residents has been approved by the Court.¹⁹⁴

Universal practice has also established a political exception to the clause to which the Court has given its approval. "A State may, by rule uniform in its operation as to citizens of the several States, require residence within its limits for a given time before a citizen of another State who becomes a resident thereof shall exercise the right of suffrage or become eligible to office."¹⁹⁵

Discrimination in Private Rights

Not only has judicial construction of the comity clause excluded certain privileges of a public nature from its protection, but the courts also have established the proposition that the purely private and personal rights to which the clause admittedly extends are not in all cases beyond the reach of state legislation which differentiates citizens and noncitizens. Broadly speaking, these rights are

¹⁹¹ Supreme Court of New Hampshire v. Piper, 470 U.S. 274 (1985).

¹⁹² United Building & Construction Trades Council v. Mayor of Camden, 465 U.S. 208 (1984).

¹⁹³ Hicklin v. Orbeck, 437 U.S. 518 (1978). Activity relating to pursuit of an occupation or common calling the Court recognized had long been held to be protected by the clause. The burden of showing constitutional justification was clearly placed on the State, *id.*, 526–528, rather than giving the statute the ordinary presumption of constitutionality. See Mullaney v. Anderson, 342 U.S. 415, 418 (1952).

¹⁹⁴ Barnard v. Thorstenn, 489 U.S. 546 (1989); Supreme Court of Virginia v. Friedman, 487 U.S. 59 (1988); Supreme Court of New Hampshire v. Piper, 470 U.S. 274 (1985).

¹⁹⁵ Blake v. McClung, 172 U.S. 239, 256 (1898). Of course as to suffrage, see *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330 (1972), but not as to candidacy, the principle is now qualified under the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. *Baldwin v. Montana Fish & Game Comm.*, 436 U.S. 371, 383 (1978) (citing *Kanapaux v. Ellisor*, 419 U.S. 891 (1974); *Chimento v. Stark*, 353 F. Supp. 1211 (D.C.D. N.H.), *aff'd.* 414 U.S. 802 (1973)).

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held subject to the reasonable exercise by a State of its police power, and the Court has recognized that there are cases in which discrimination against nonresidents may be reasonably resorted to by a State in aid of its own public health, safety and welfare. To that end a State may reserve the right to sell insurance to persons who have resided within the State for a prescribed period of time.¹⁹⁶ It may require a nonresident who does business within the State¹⁹⁷ or who uses the highways of the State¹⁹⁸ to consent, expressly or by implication, to service of process on an agent within the State. Without violating this section, a State may limit the dower rights of a nonresident to lands of which the husband died seized while giving a resident dower in all lands held during the marriage,¹⁹⁹ or may leave the rights of nonresident married persons in respect of property within the State to be governed by the laws of their domicile, rather than by the laws it promulgates for its own residents.²⁰⁰ But a State may not give a preference to resident creditors in the administration of the property of an insolvent foreign corporation.²⁰¹ An act of the Confederate Government, enforced by a State, to sequester a debt owed by one of its residents to a citizen of another State was held to be a flagrant violation of this clause.²⁰²

Access to Courts

The right to sue and defend in the courts is one of the highest and most essential privileges of citizenship and must be allowed by each State to the citizens of all other States to the same extent that it is allowed to its own citizens.²⁰³ The constitutional requirement is satisfied if the nonresident is given access to the courts of the State upon terms which, in themselves, are reasonable and adequate for the enforcing of any rights he may have, even though they may not be technically the same as those accorded to resident citizens.²⁰⁴ The Supreme Court upheld a state statute of limitations which prevented a nonresident from suing in the State's courts after expiration of the time for suit in the place where the cause of action arose²⁰⁵ and another such statute which suspended

¹⁹⁶ *LaTourette v. McMaster*, 248 U.S. 465 (1919).

¹⁹⁷ *Doherty & Co. v. Goodman*, 294 U.S. 623 (1935).

¹⁹⁸ *Hess v. Pawloski*, 274 U.S. 352, 356 (1927).

¹⁹⁹ *Ferry v. Spokane P. & S. Ry. Co.*, 258 U.S. 314 (1922), followed in *Ferry v. Corbett*, 258 U.S. 609 (1922).

²⁰⁰ *Conner v. Elliott*, 18 How. (59 U.S.) 591, 593 (1856).

²⁰¹ *Blake v. McClung*, 172 U.S. 239, 248 (1898).

²⁰² *Williams v. Bruffy*, 96 U.S. 176, 184 (1878).

²⁰³ *Chambers v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 207 U.S. 142, 148 (1907); *McKnett v. St. Louis & S.F. Ry. Co.*, 292 U.S. 230, 233 (1934).

²⁰⁴ *Canadian Northern Ry. Co. v. Eggen*, 252 U.S. 553 (1920).

²⁰⁵ *Id.*, 563.

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its operation as to resident plaintiffs, but not as to nonresidents, during the period of the defendant's absence from the State.²⁰⁶ A state law making it discretionary with the courts to entertain an action by a nonresident of the State against a foreign corporation doing business in the State was sustained since it was applicable alike to citizens and noncitizens residing out of the State.²⁰⁷ A statute permitting a suit in the courts of the State for wrongful death occurring outside the State, only if the decedent was a resident of the State, was sustained, because it operated equally upon representatives of the deceased whether citizens or noncitizens.²⁰⁸ Being patently nondiscriminatory, a Uniform Reciprocal State Law to secure the attendance of witnesses from within or without a State in criminal proceedings, whereunder an Illinois resident, while temporarily in Florida, was summoned to appear at a hearing for determination as to whether he should be surrendered to a New York officer for testimony in the latter State is not violative of this clause.²⁰⁹

Taxation

In the exercise of its taxing power, a State may not discriminate substantially between residents and nonresidents. In *Ward v. Maryland*,²¹⁰ the Court set aside a state law which imposed specific taxes upon nonresidents for the privilege of selling within the State goods which were produced in other States. Also found to be incompatible with the comity clause was a Tennessee license tax, the amount of which was dependent upon whether the person taxed had his chief office within or without the State.²¹¹ In *Travis v. Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.*,²¹² the Court, while sustaining the right of a State to tax income accruing within its borders to nonresidents,²¹³ held the particular tax void because it denied to nonresidents exemptions which were allowed to residents. The "terms 'resident' and 'citizen' are not synonymous," wrote Justice Pitney, ". . . but a general taxing scheme . . . if it discriminates against all

²⁰⁶ *Chemung Canal Bank v. Lowery*, 93 U.S. 72, 76 (1876).

²⁰⁷ *Douglas v. New York, N.H. & H. R. Co.*, 279 U.S. 377 (1929).

²⁰⁸ *Chambers v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 207 U.S. 142 (1907).

²⁰⁹ *New York v. O'Neill*, 359 U.S. 1 (1959). Justices Douglas and Black dissented.

²¹⁰ 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 418, 424 (1871). See also *Downham v. Alexandria Council*, 10 Wall. (77 U.S.) 173, 175 (1870).

²¹¹ *Chalker v. Birmingham & Nw. Ry. Co.*, 249 U.S. 522 (1919).

²¹² 252 U.S. 60 (1920).

²¹³ *Id.*, 62–64. See also *Shaffer v. Carter*, 252 U.S. 37 (1920). In *Austin v. New Hampshire*, 420 U.S. 656 (1975), the Court held void a state commuter income tax, inasmuch as the State imposed no income tax on its own residents and thus the tax fell exclusively on nonresidents' income and was not offset even approximately by other taxes imposed upon residents alone.

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nonresidents, has the necessary effect of including in the discrimination those who are citizens of other States; . . .”²¹⁴ Where there were no discriminations between citizens and noncitizens, a state statute taxing the business of hiring persons within the State for labor outside the State was sustained.²¹⁵ This section of the Constitution does not prevent a territorial government, exercising powers delegated by Congress, from imposing a discriminatory license tax on nonresident fishermen operating within its waters.²¹⁶

However, what at first glance may appear to be a discrimination may turn out not to be when the entire system of taxation prevailing in the enacting State is considered. On the basis of overall fairness, the Court sustained a Connecticut statute which required nonresident stockholders to pay a state tax measured by the full market value of their stock while resident stockholders were subject to local taxation on the market value of that stock reduced by the value of the real estate owned by the corporation.²¹⁷ Occasional or accidental inequality to a nonresident taxpayer is not sufficient to defeat a scheme of taxation whose operation is generally equitable.²¹⁸ In an early case the Court brushed aside as frivolous the contention that a State violated this clause by subjecting one of its own citizens to a property tax on a debt due from a nonresident secured by real estate situated where the debtor resided.²¹⁹

Clause 2. A person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

²¹⁴ 252 U.S. 60, 78–79 (1920).

²¹⁵ *Williams v. Fears*, 179 U.S. 270, 274 (1900).

²¹⁶ *Haavik v. Alaska Packers Assn.*, 263 U.S. 510 (1924).

²¹⁷ *Travellers' Inc. Co. v. Connecticut*, 185 U.S. 364, 371 (1902).

²¹⁸ *Maxwell v. Bugbee*, 250 U.S. 525 (1919).

²¹⁹ *Kirtland v. Hotchkiss*, 100 U.S. 491, 499 (1879). Cf. *Colgate v. Harvey*, 296 U.S. 404 (1935), in which discriminatory taxation of bank deposits outside the State owned by a citizen of the State was held to infringe a privilege of national citizenship, in contravention of the Fourteenth Amendment. The decision in *Colgate v. Harvey* was overruled in *Madden v. Kentucky*, 309 U.S. 83, 93 (1940).

INTERSTATE RENDITION

Duty to Surrender Fugitives From Justice

Although this provision is not in its nature self-executing, and there is no express grant to Congress of power to carry it into effect, that body passed a law shortly after the Constitution was adopted, imposing upon the Governor of each State the duty to deliver up fugitives from justice found in such State.²²⁰ The Supreme Court has accepted this contemporaneous construction as establishing the validity of this legislation.²²¹ The duty to surrender is not absolute and unqualified; if the laws of the State to which the fugitive has fled have been put in force against him, and he is imprisoned there, the demands of those laws may be satisfied before the duty of obedience to the requisition arises.²²² But, in *Kentucky v. Dennison*,²²³ the Court held that this statute was merely declaratory of a moral duty; that the Federal Government “has no power to impose on a State officer, as such, any duty whatever, and compel him to perform it; . . .”,²²⁴ and consequently that a federal court could not issue a mandamus to compel the governor of one State to surrender a fugitive to another. Long considered a constitutional derelict, *Dennison* was finally formally overruled in 1987.²²⁵ Now, States and Territories may invoke the power of federal courts to enforce against state officers this and other rights

²²⁰ 1 Stat. 302 (1793), 18 U.S.C. § 3182. The Act requires rendition of fugitives at the request of a demanding “Territory,” as well as of a State, thus extending beyond the terms of the clause. In *New York ex rel. Kopel v. Bingham*, 211 U.S. 468 (1909), the Court held that the legislative extension was permissible under the territorial clause. See *Puerto Rico v. Branstad*, 483 U.S. 219, 229–230 (1987).

²²¹ *Roberts v. Reilly*, 116 U.S. 80, 94 (1885). See also *Innes v. Tobin*, 240 U.S. 127 (1916). Said Justice Story: “[T]he natural, if not the necessary conclusion is, that the national government, in the absence of all positive provisions to the contrary, is bound, through its own proper departments, legislative, judicial, or executive, as the case may require, to carry into effect all the rights and duties imposed upon it by the Constitution;” and again “it has, on various occasions, exercised powers which were necessary and proper as means to carry into effect rights expressly given, and duties expressly enjoined thereby.” *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539, 616, 618–619 (1842).

²²² *Taylor v. Taintor*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 366, 371 (1873).

²²³ 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66 (1861); cf. *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539, 612 (1842).

²²⁴ 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66, 107 (1861). Congress in 1934 plugged the loophole created by this decision by making it unlawful for any person to flee from one State to another for the purpose of avoiding prosecution in certain cases. 48 Stat. 782, 18 U.S.C. § 1073.

²²⁵ *Puerto Rico v. Branstad*, 483 U.S. 219 (1987). “*Kentucky v. Dennison* is the product of another time. The conception of the relation between the States and the Federal Government there announced is fundamentally incompatible with more than a century of constitutional development.” *Id.*, 230.

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created by federal statute, including equitable relief to compel performance of federally-imposed duties.²²⁶

Fugitive From Justice: Defined.—To be a fugitive from justice within the meaning of this clause, it is not necessary that the party charged should have left the State after an indictment found or for the purpose of avoiding a prosecution anticipated or begun. It is sufficient that the accused, having committed a crime within one State and having left the jurisdiction before being subjected to criminal process, is found within another State.²²⁷ The motive which induced the departure is immaterial.²²⁸ Even if he were brought involuntarily into the State where found by requisition from another State, he may be surrendered to a third State upon an extradition warrant.²²⁹ A person indicted a second time for the same offense is nonetheless a fugitive from justice by reason of the fact that after dismissal of the first indictment, on which he was originally indicted, he left the State with the knowledge of, or without objection by, state authorities.²³⁰ But a defendant cannot be extradited if he was only constructively present in the demanding State at the time of the commission of the crime charged.²³¹ For the purpose of determining who is a fugitive from justice, the words “treason, felony or other crime” embrace every act forbidden and made punishable by a law of a State,²³² including misdemeanors.²³³

Procedure for Removal.—Only after a person has been charged with a crime in the regular course of judicial proceedings is the governor of a State entitled to make demand for his return from another State.²³⁴ The person demanded has no constitutional right to be heard before the governor of the State in which he is found on the question whether he has been substantially charged with crime and is a fugitive from justice.²³⁵ The constitutionally required surrender is not to be interfered with by *habeas corpus*

²²⁶ *Id.*, 230.

²²⁷ *Roberts v. Reilly*, 116 U.S. 80 (1885). See also *Strassheim v. Daily*, 221 U.S. 280 (1911); *Appleyard v. Massachusetts*, 203 U.S. 222 (1906); *Ex parte Reggel*, 114 U.S. 642, 650 (1885).

²²⁸ *Drew v. Thaw*, 235 U.S. 432, 439 (1914).

²²⁹ *Innes v. Tobin*, 240 U.S. 127 (1916).

²³⁰ *Bassing v. Cady*, 208 U.S. 386 (1908).

²³¹ *Hyatt v. People ex rel. Corkran*, 188 U.S. 691 (1903).

²³² *Kentucky v. Dennison*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66, 103 (1861).

²³³ *Taylor v. Taintor*, 16 Wall. (83 U.S.) 366, 375 (1873).

²³⁴ *Kentucky v. Dennison*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66, 104 (1861); *Pierce v. Creecy*, 210 U.S. 387 (1908). See also *Matter of Strauss*, 197 U.S. 324, 325 (1905); *Marbles v. Creecy*, 215 U.S. 63 (1909); *Strassheim v. Daily*, 221 U.S. 280 (1911).

²³⁵ *Munsey v. Clough*, 196 U.S. 364 (1905); *Pettibone v. Nichols*, 203 U.S. 192 (1906).

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upon speculations as to what ought to be the result of a trial.²³⁶ Nor is it proper thereby to inquire into the motives controlling the actions of the governors of the demanding and surrendering States.²³⁷ Matters of defense, such as the running of the statute of limitations,²³⁸ or the contention that continued confinement in the prison of the demanding State would amount to cruel and unjust punishment,²³⁹ cannot be heard on *habeas corpus* but should be tested in the courts of the demanding State, where all parties may be heard, where all pertinent testimony will be readily available, and where suitable relief, if any, may be fashioned. A defendant will, however, be discharged on *habeas corpus* if he shows by clear and satisfactory evidence that he was outside the demanding State at the time of the crime.²⁴⁰ If, however, the evidence is conflicting, *habeas corpus* is not a proper proceeding to try the question of alibi.²⁴¹ The *habeas* court's role is, therefore, very limited.²⁴²

Trial of Fugitives After Removal.—There is nothing in the Constitution or laws of the United States which exempts an offender, brought before the courts of a State for an offense against its laws, from trial and punishment, even though he was brought from another State by unlawful violence,²⁴³ or by abuse of legal process,²⁴⁴ and a fugitive lawfully extradited from another State may be tried for an offense other than that for which he was surrendered.²⁴⁵ The rule is different, however, with respect to fugitives surrendered by a foreign government, pursuant to treaty. In that case the offender may be tried only “for the offense with which he is charged in the proceedings for his extradition, until a reasonable time and opportunity have been given him, after his release or trial upon such charge, to return to the country from whose asylum he had been forcibly taken under those proceedings.”²⁴⁶

²³⁶ *Drew v. Thaw*, 235 U.S. 432 (1914).

²³⁷ *Pettibone v. Nichols*, 203 U.S. 192 (1906).

²³⁸ *Biddinger v. Commissioner of Police*, 245 U.S. 128 (1917). See also *Rodman v. Pothier*, 264 U.S. 399 (1924).

²³⁹ *Sweeney v. Woodall*, 344 U.S. 86 (1952).

²⁴⁰ *Hyatt v. People ex rel. Corkran*, 188 U.S. 691 (1903). See also *South Carolina v. Bailey*, 289 U.S. 412 (1933).

²⁴¹ *Munsey v. Clough*, 196 U.S. 364, 375 (1905).

²⁴² *Michigan v. Doran*, 439 U.S. 282, 289 (1978). In *California v. Superior Court*, 482 U.S. 400 (1987), the Court reiterated that extradition is a “summary procedure.”

²⁴³ *Ker v. Illinois*, 119 U.S. 436, 444 (1886); *Mahon v. Justice*, 127 U.S. 700, 707, 712, 714 (1888).

²⁴⁴ *Cook v. Hart*, 146 U.S. 183, 193 (1892); *Pettibone v. Nichols*, 203 U.S. 192, 215 (1906).

²⁴⁵ *Lascelles v. Georgia*, 148 U.S. 537, 543 (1893).

²⁴⁶ *United States v. Rauscher*, 119 U.S. 407, 430 (1886).

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Clause 3. No person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.

FUGITIVES FROM LABOR

This clause contemplated the existence of a positive unqualified right on the part of the owner of a slave which no state law could in any way regulate, control, or restrain. Consequently the owner of a slave had the same right to seize and repossess him in another State, as the local laws of his own State conferred upon him, and a state law which penalized such seizure was held unconstitutional.²⁴⁷ Congress had the power and the duty, which it exercised by the Act of February 12, 1793,²⁴⁸ to carry into effect the rights given by this section,²⁴⁹ and the States had no concurrent power to legislate on the subject.²⁵⁰ However, a state statute providing a penalty for harboring a fugitive slave was held not to conflict with this clause since it did not affect the right or remedy either of the master or the slave; by it the State simply prescribed a rule of conduct for its own citizens in the exercise of its police power.²⁵¹

SECTION 3. New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

DOCTRINE OF THE EQUALITY OF STATES

"Equality of constitutional right and power is the condition of all the States of the Union, old and new."²⁵² This doctrine, now a truism of constitutional law, did not find favor in the Constitu-

²⁴⁷ Prigg v. Pennsylvania, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539, 612 (1842).

²⁴⁸ 1 Stat. 302 (1793).

²⁴⁹ Jones v. Van Zandt, 5 How. (46 U.S.) 215, 229 (1847); Ableman v. Booth, 21 How. (62 U.S.) 506 (1859).

²⁵⁰ Prigg v. Pennsylvania, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539, 625 (1842).

²⁵¹ Moore v. Illinois, 14 How. (55 U.S.) 13, 17 (1853).

²⁵² Escanaba Co. v. Chicago, 107 U.S. 678, 689 (1883).

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tional Convention. That body struck out from this section, as reported by the Committee on Detail, two sections to the effect that “new States shall be admitted on the same terms with the original States. But the Legislature may make conditions with the new States concerning the public debt which shall be subsisting.”²⁵³ Opposing this action, Madison insisted that “the Western States neither would nor ought to submit to a union which degraded them from an equal rank with the other States.”²⁵⁴ Nonetheless, after further expressions of opinion *pro* and *con*, the Convention voted nine States to two to delete the requirement of equality.²⁵⁵

Prior to this time, however, Georgia and Virginia had ceded to the United States large territories held by them, upon condition that new States should be formed therefrom and admitted to the Union on an equal footing with the original States.²⁵⁶ Since the admission of Tennessee in 1796, Congress has included in each State’s act of admission a clause providing that the State enters the Union “on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever.”²⁵⁷ With the admission of Louisiana in 1812, the principle of equality was extended to States created out of territory purchased from a foreign power.²⁵⁸ By the Joint Resolution of December 29, 1845, Texas, then an independent Nation, “was admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever.”²⁵⁹

However, if the doctrine rested merely on construction of the declarations in the admission acts, then the conditions and limitations imposed by Congress and agreed to by the States in order to be admitted would nonetheless govern, since they must be construed along with the declarations. Again and again, however, in adjudicating the rights and duties of States admitted after 1789,

²⁵³ 2 M. FARRAND, THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787 (New Haven; rev. ed. 1937), 454.

²⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁵ *Ibid.* The present provision was then adopted as a substitute. *Id.*, 455.

²⁵⁶ *Pollard v. Hagan*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 212, 221 (1845). The Continental Congress in responding in the Northwest Ordinance, on July 13, 1787, provided that when each of the designated States in the territorial area achieved a population of 60,000 free inhabitants it was to be admitted “on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever[.]” An Ordinance for the Government of the Territory of the United States Northwest of the River Ohio, Art. V, 5 JOURNALS OF CONGRESS 752–754 (1823 ed.), reprinted in C. TANSILL (ed.), DOCUMENTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE FORMATION OF THE UNION OF THE AMERICAN STATES, H. Doc. No. 398, 69th Cong., 1st sess. (1927), 47, 54.

²⁵⁷ 1 Stat. 491 (1796). Prior to Tennessee’s admission, Vermont and Kentucky were admitted with different but conceptually similar terminology. 1 Stat. 191 (1791); 1 Stat. 189 (1791).

²⁵⁸ 2 Stat. 701, 703 (1812).

²⁵⁹ Justice Harlan, speaking for the Court, in *United States v. Texas*, 143 U.S. 621, 634 (1892) (citing 9 Stat. 108).

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the Supreme Court has referred to the condition of equality as if it were an inherent attribute of the Federal Union.²⁶⁰ That the doctrine is of constitutional stature was made evident at least by the time of the decision in *Pollard's Lessee*, if not before.²⁶¹ *Pollard's Lessee* involved conflicting claims by the United States and Alabama of ownership of certain partially inundated lands on the shore of the Gulf of Mexico in Alabama. The enabling act for Alabama had contained both a declaration of equal footing and a reservation to the United States of these lands.²⁶² Rather than an issue of mere land ownership, the Court saw the question as one concerning sovereignty and jurisdiction of the States. Inasmuch as the original States retained sovereignty and jurisdiction over the navigable waters and the soil beneath them within their boundaries, retention by the United States of either title to or jurisdiction over common lands in the new States would bring those States into the Union on less than an equal footing with the original States. This, the Court would not permit. "Alabama is, therefore, entitled to the sovereignty and jurisdiction over all the territory within her limits, subject to the common law, to the same extent that Georgia possessed it, before she ceded it to the United States. To maintain any other doctrine, is to deny that Alabama has been admitted into the union on an equal footing with the original states, the constitution, laws, and compact, to the contrary notwithstanding. . . . [T]o Alabama belong the navigable waters and soils under them, in controversy in this case, subject to the rights surrendered by the Constitution to the United States; and no compact that might be made between her and the United States could diminish or enlarge these rights."²⁶³

Finally, in 1911, the Court invalidated a restriction on the change of location of the State capital, which Congress had imposed as a condition for the admission of Oklahoma, on the ground that Congress may not embrace in an enabling act conditions relating wholly to matters under state control.²⁶⁴ In an opinion, from which Justices Holmes and McKenna dissented, Justice Lurton argued: "The power is to admit 'new States into this Union,' 'This Union'

²⁶⁰ *Permoli v. First Municipality*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 589, 609 (1845); *McCabe v. Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry Co.*, 235 U.S. 151 (1914); *Illinois Central Railroad v. Illinois*, 146 U.S. 387, 434 (1892); *Knight v. U.S. Land Association*, 142 U.S. 161, 183 (1891); *Weber v. Harbor Commissioners*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 57, 65 (1873).

²⁶¹ *Pollard's Lessee v. Hagan*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 212 (1845). See *Mayor of New Orleans v. United States*, 10 Pet. (35 U.S.) 662 (1836); *Permoli v. Municipality No. 1 of New Orleans*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 588 (1845).

²⁶² 3 Stat. 489, 492 (1819).

²⁶³ *Pollard's Lessee v. Hagan*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 212, 228–229 (1845) (emphasis supplied). And see *id.*, 222–223.

²⁶⁴ *Coyle v. Smith*, 221 U.S. 559 (1911).

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was and is a union of States, equal in power, dignity and authority, each competent to exert that residuum of sovereignty not delegated to the United States by the Constitution itself. To maintain otherwise would be to say that the Union, through the power of Congress to admit new States, might come to be a union of States unequal in power, as including States whose powers were restricted only by the Constitution, with others whose powers had been further restricted by an act of Congress accepted as a condition of admission.”²⁶⁵

The equal footing doctrine is a limitation only upon the terms by which Congress admits a State.²⁶⁶ That is, States must be admitted on an equal footing in the sense that Congress may not exact conditions solely as a tribute for admission, but it may, in the enabling or admitting acts or subsequently impose requirements that would be or are valid and effectual if the subject of congressional legislation after admission.²⁶⁷ Thus, Congress may embrace in an admitting act a regulation of commerce among the States or with Indian tribes or rules for the care and disposition of the public lands or reservations within a State. “[I]n every such case such legislation would derive its force not from any agreement or compact with the proposed new State, nor by reason of its acceptance of such enactment as a term of admission, but solely because the power of Congress extended to the subject, and, therefore, would not operate to restrict the State’s legislative power in respect of any matter which was not plainly within the regulating power of Congress.”²⁶⁸

Until recently the requirement of equality has applied primarily to political standing and sovereignty rather than to economic or property rights.²⁶⁹ Broadly speaking, every new State is entitled to exercise all the powers of government which belong to

²⁶⁵ *Id.*, 567.

²⁶⁶ *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 328–329 (1966). There is a broader implication, however, in *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 226 n. 53 (1962).

²⁶⁷ *Pollard’s Lessee v. Hagan*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 212, 224–225, 229–230 (1845); *Coyle v. Smith*, 221 U.S. 559, 573–574 (1911). See also *Bolln v. Nebraska*, 176 U.S. 83, 89 (1900); *Ward v. Race Horse*, 163 U.S. 504, 514 (1895); *Escanaba Co. v. City of Chicago*, 107 U.S. 678, 688 (1882); *Withers v. Buckley*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 84, 92 (1857).

²⁶⁸ *Coyle v. Smith*, 221 U.S. 559, 574 (1911). Examples include *Stearns v. Minnesota*, 179 U.S. 223 (1900) (congressional authority to dispose of and to make rules and regulations respecting the property of the United States); *United States v. Sandoval*, 231 U.S. 28 (1913) (regulating Indian tribes and intercourse with them); *United States v. Chavez*, 290 U.S. 357 (1933) (same); *Willamette Bridge Co. v. Hatch*, 125 U.S. 1, 9–10 (1888) (prevention of interference with navigability of waterways under commerce clause).

²⁶⁹ *United States v. Texas*, 339 U.S. 707, 716 (1950); *Stearns v. Minnesota*, 179 U.S. 223, 245 (1900).

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the original States of the Union.²⁷⁰ It acquires general jurisdiction, civil and criminal, for the preservation of public order, and the protection of persons and property throughout its limits even as to federal lands, except where the Federal Government has reserved²⁷¹ or the State has ceded some degree of jurisdiction to the United States, and, of course, no State can enact a law which would conflict with the constitutional powers of the United States. Consequently, it has jurisdiction to tax private activities carried on within the public domain (although not to tax the Federal lands), if the tax does not constitute an unconstitutional burden on the Federal Government.²⁷² Statutes applicable to territories, e.g., the Northwest Territory Ordinance of 1787, cease to have any operative force when the territory, or any part thereof, is admitted to the Union, except as adopted by state law.²⁷³ When the enabling act contains no exclusion of jurisdiction as to crimes committed on Indian reservations by persons other than Indians, state courts are vested with jurisdiction.²⁷⁴ But the constitutional authority of Congress to regulate commerce with Indian tribes is not inconsistent with the equality of new States,²⁷⁵ and conditions inserted in the New Mexico Enabling Act forbidding the introduction of liquor into Indian territory were therefore valid.²⁷⁶

Admission of a State on an equal footing with the original States involves the adoption as citizens of the United States of those whom Congress makes members of the political community and who are recognized as such in the formation of the new State.²⁷⁷

Judicial Proceedings Pending on Admission of New States

Whenever a territory is admitted into the Union, the cases pending in the territorial court which are of exclusive federal cognizance are transferred to the federal court having jurisdiction over the area; cases not cognizable in the federal courts are transferred

²⁷⁰ *Pollard v. Hagan*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 212, 223 (1845); *McCabe v. Atchison T. & S.F. Ry. Co.*, 235 U.S. 151 (1914).

²⁷¹ *Van Brocklin v. Tennessee*, 117 U.S. 151, 167 (1886).

²⁷² *Wilson v. Cook*, 327 U.S. 474 (1946).

²⁷³ *Permoli v. First Municipality*, 3 How. (44 U.S.) 589, 609 (1845); *Sands v. Manistee River Imp. Co.*, 123 U.S. 288, 296 (1887); see also *Withers v. Buckley*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 84, 92 (1858); *Huse v. Glover*, 119 U.S. 543 (1886); *Willamette Iron Bridge Co. v. Hatch*, 125 U.S. 1, 9 (1888); *Cincinnati v. Louisville & Nashville R.R. Co.*, 223 U.S. 390 (1912).

²⁷⁴ *Draper v. United States*, 164 U.S. 240 (1896), following *United States v. McBratney*, 104 U.S. 621 (1882).

²⁷⁵ *Dick v. United States*, 208 U.S. 340 (1908); *Ex parte Webb*, 225 U.S. 663 (1912).

²⁷⁶ *United States v. Sandoval*, 231 U.S. 28 (1913).

²⁷⁷ *Boyd v. Nebraska ex rel. Thayer*, 143 U.S. 135, 170 (1892).

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to the tribunals of the new State, and those over which federal and state courts have concurrent jurisdiction may be transferred either to the state or federal courts by the party possessing the option under existing law.²⁷⁸ Where Congress neglected to make provision for disposition of certain pending cases in an enabling act for the admission of a State to the Union, a subsequent act supplying the omission was held valid.²⁷⁹ After a case, begun in a United States court of a territory, is transferred to a state court under the operation of the enabling act and the state constitution, the appellate procedure is governed by the state statutes and procedures.²⁸⁰

The new State, without the express or implied assent of Congress, cannot enact that the records of the former territorial court of appeals should become records of its own courts or provide by law for proceedings based thereon.²⁸¹

Property Rights of States to Soil Under Navigable Waters

The "equal footing" doctrine has had an important effect on the property rights of new States to soil under navigable waters. In *Pollard v. Hagan*,²⁸² as was observed above, the Court held that the original States had reserved to themselves the ownership of the shores of navigable waters and the soils under them, and that under the principle of equality the title to the soils of navigable water passes to a new State upon admission. The principle of this case supplies the rule of decision in many property-claims cases.²⁸³

After refusing to extend the inland-water rule of *Pollard's Lessee* to the three mile marginal belt under the ocean along the coast,²⁸⁴ the Court applied the principle in reverse in *United States v. Texas*.²⁸⁵ Since the original States had been found not to own

²⁷⁸ *Baker v. Morton*, 12 Wall. (79 U.S.) 150, 153 (1871).

²⁷⁹ *Freeborn v. Smith*, 2 Wall. (69 U.S.) 160 (1865).

²⁸⁰ *John v. Paullin*, 231 U.S. 583 (1913).

²⁸¹ *Hunt v. Palao*, 4 How. (45 U.S.) 589 (1846). Cf. *Benner v. Porter*, 9 How. (50 U.S.) 235, 246 (1850).

²⁸² 3 How. (44 U.S.) 212, 223 (1845). See also *Martin v. Waddell*, 16 pet. (41 U.S.) 367, 410 (1842).

²⁸³ See *Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Mississippi*, 484 U.S. 469 (1988) (confirming language in earlier cases recognizing state sovereignty over tidal but nonnavigable lands); *Utah Division of State Lands v. United States*, 482 U.S. 193 (1987) (applying presumption against congressional intent to defeat state title to find inadequate federal reservation of lake bed); *Oregon ex rel. State Land Board v. Corvallis Sand & Gravel Co.*, 429 U.S. 363 (1977) (doctrine requires utilization of state common law rather than federal to determine ownership of land underlying river that is navigable but not an interstate boundary); *Shively v. Bowlby*, 152 U.S. 1 (1894) (whether Oregon or a prestatehood grantee from the United States of riparian lands near mouth of Columbia River owned soil below high-water mark).

²⁸⁴ *United States v. California*, 332 U.S. 19, 38 (1947); *United States v. Louisiana*, 339 U.S. 699 (1950).

²⁸⁵ 339 U.S. 707, 716 (1950). See *United States v. Maine*, 420, U.S. 515 (1975) (unanimously reaffirming the California, Louisiana, and Texas cases).

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the soil under the three mile belt, Texas, which concededly did own this soil before its annexation to the United States, was held to have surrendered its dominion and sovereignty over it, upon entering the Union on terms of equality with the existing States. To this extent, the earlier rule that unless otherwise declared by Congress the title to every species of property owned by a territory passes to the State upon admission²⁸⁶ has been qualified. However, when Congress, through passage of the Submerged Lands Act of 1953,²⁸⁷ surrendered its paramount rights to natural resources in the marginal seas to certain States, without any corresponding cession to all States, the transfer was held to entail no abdication of national sovereignty over control and use of the oceans in a manner destructive of the equality of the States.²⁸⁸

While the territorial status continues, the United States has power to convey property rights, such as rights in soil below the high-water mark along navigable waters,²⁸⁹ or the right to fish in designated waters,²⁹⁰ which will be binding on the State. But a treaty with an Indian tribe which gave hunting rights on unoccupied lands of the United States, which rights should cease when the United States parted with its title to any of the land, was held to be repealed by the admission to the Union of the territory in which the hunting lands were situated.²⁹¹

Clause 2. The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

²⁸⁶ *Brown v. Grant*, 116 U.S. 207, 212 (1886).

²⁸⁷ 67 Stat. 29, 43 U.S.C. §§1301-1315.

²⁸⁸ *Alabama v. Texas*, 347 U.S. 272, 274-277, 281 (1954). Justice Black and Douglas dissented.

²⁸⁹ *Shively v. Bowlby*, 152 U.S. 1, 47 (1894). See also *Joy v. St. Louis*, 201 U.S. 332 (1906).

²⁹⁰ *United States v. Winans*, 198 U.S. 371, 378 (1905); *Seufert Bros. Co. v. United States*, 249 U.S. 194 (1919). A fishing right granted by treaty to Indians does not necessarily preclude the application to Indians of state game laws regulating the time and manner of taking fish. *New York ex rel. Kennedy v. Becker*, 241 U.S. 556 (1916). See also *Metlakatla Indians v. Egan*, 369 U.S. 45, 54, 57-59 (1962); *Kake Village v. Egan*, 369 U.S. 60, 64-65, 67-69, 75-76 (1962). But it has been held to be violated by the exaction of a license fee which is both regulatory and revenue producing. *Tulee v. Washington*, 315 U.S. 681 (1942).

²⁹¹ *Ward v. Race Horse*, 163 U.S. 504, 510, 514 (1896).

**PROPERTY AND TERRITORY: POWERS OF CONGRESS
PROPERTY OF THE UNITED STATES**

Methods of Disposing Thereof

The Constitution is silent as to the methods of disposing of property of the United States. In *United States v. Gratiot*,²⁹² in which the validity of a lease of lead mines on government lands was put in issue, the contention was advanced that “disposal is not letting or leasing,” and that Congress has no power “to give or authorize leases.” The Court sustained the leases, saying “the disposal must be left to the discretion of Congress.”²⁹³ Nearly a century later this power to dispose of public property was relied upon to uphold the generation and sale of electricity by the Tennessee Valley Authority. The reasoning of the Court ran thus: the potential electrical energy made available by the construction of a dam in the exercise of its constitutional powers is property which the United States is entitled to reduce to possession; to that end it may install the equipment necessary to generate such energy. In order to widen the market and make a more advantageous disposition of the product, it may construct transmission lines and may enter into a contract with a private company for the interchange of electric energy.²⁹⁴

Public Lands: Federal and State Powers Thereover

No appropriation of public lands may be made for any purpose except by authority of Congress.²⁹⁵ However, the long-continued practice of withdrawing land from the public domain by Executive Orders for the purpose of creating Indian reservations has raised an implied delegation of authority from Congress to take such action.²⁹⁶ The comprehensive authority of Congress over public lands includes the power to prescribe the times, conditions, and mode of transfer thereof and to designate the persons to whom the transfer shall be made,²⁹⁷ to declare the dignity and effect of titles emanat-

²⁹² 14 Pet. (39 U.S.) 526 (1840).

²⁹³ *Id.*, 533, 538.

²⁹⁴ *Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288, 335–340 (1936). See also *Alabama Power Co. v. Ickes*, 302 U.S. 464 (1938).

²⁹⁵ *United States v. Fitzgerald*, 15 Pet. (40 U.S.) 407, 421 (1841). See also *California v. Deseret Water, Oil & Irrigation Co.*, 243 U.S. 415 (1917); *Utah Power & Light Co. v. United States*, 243 U.S. 389 (1917).

²⁹⁶ *Sioux Tribe v. United States*, 316 U.S. 317 (1942); *United States v. Midwest Oil Co.*, 236 U.S. 459, 469 (1915).

²⁹⁷ *Gibson v. Chouteau*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 92, 99 (1872); see also *Irvine v. Marshall*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 558 (1858); *Emblem v. Lincoln Land Co.*, 184 U.S. 660, 664 (1902).

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ing from the United States,²⁹⁸ to determine the validity of grants which antedate the government's acquisition of the property,²⁹⁹ to exempt lands acquired under the homestead laws from previously contracted debts,³⁰⁰ to withdraw land from settlement and to prohibit grazing thereon,³⁰¹ to prevent unlawful occupation of public property and to declare what are nuisances, as affecting such property, and provide for their abatement,³⁰² and to prohibit the introduction of liquor on lands purchased and used for an Indian colony.³⁰³ Congress may limit the disposition of the public domain to a manner consistent with its views of public policy. A restriction inserted in a grant of public lands to a municipality which prohibited the grantee from selling or leasing to a private corporation the right to sell or sublet water or electric energy supplied by the facilities constructed on such land was held valid.³⁰⁴

Unanimously upholding a federal law to protect wild-roaming horses and burros on federal lands, the Court restated the applicable principles governing Congress' power under this clause. It empowers Congress to act as both proprietor and legislature over the public domain; Congress has complete power to make those "needful rules" which in its discretion it determines are necessary. When Congress acts with respect to those lands covered by the clause, its legislation overrides conflicting state laws.³⁰⁵ Absent action by Congress, however, States may in some instances exercise some jurisdiction over activities on federal lands.³⁰⁶

No State can tax public lands of the United States within its borders,³⁰⁷ nor can state legislation interfere with the power of Congress under this clause or embarrass its exercise.³⁰⁸ Thus, by virtue of a Treaty of 1868, according self-government to Navajos living on an Indian Reservation in Arizona, the tribal court, rather than the courts of that State, had jurisdiction over a suit for a debt

²⁹⁸ *Bagnell v. Broderick*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 436, 450 (1839). See also *Field v. Seabury*, 19 How. (60 U.S.) 323, 332 (1857).

²⁹⁹ *Tameling v. United States Freehold & Immigration Co.*, 93 U.S. 644, 663 (1877). See also *Maxwell Land-Grant Case*, 121 U.S. 325, 366 (1887).

³⁰⁰ *Ruddy v. Rossi*, 248 U.S. 104 (1918).

³⁰¹ *Light v. United States*, 220 U.S. 523 (1911). See also *The Yosemite Valley Case*, 15 Wall. (82 U.S.) 77 (1873).

³⁰² *Camfield v. United States*, 167 U.S. 518, 525 (1897). See also *Jourdan v. Barrett*, 4 How. (45 U.S.) 169 (1846); *United States v. Waddell*, 112 U.S. 76 (1884).

³⁰³ *United States v. McGowan*, 302 U.S. 535 (1938).

³⁰⁴ *United States v. City of San Francisco*, 310 U.S. 16 (1940).

³⁰⁵ *Kleppe v. New Mexico*, 426 U.S. 529 (1976).

³⁰⁶ *California Coastal Comm. v. Granite Rock Co.*, 480 U.S. 572 (1987).

³⁰⁷ *Van Brocklin v. Tennessee*, 117 U.S. 151 (1886); cf. *Wilson v. Cook*, 327 U.S. 474 (1946).

³⁰⁸ *Gibson v. Choutau*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 92, 99 (1872). See also *Irvine v. Marshall*, 20 How. (61 U.S.) 558 (1858); *Emblem v. Lincoln Land Co.*, 184 U.S. 660, 664 (1902).

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owed by an Indian resident thereof to a non-Indian conducting a store on the Reservation under federal license.³⁰⁹ The question whether title to land which has once been the property of the United States has passed from it must be resolved by the laws of the United States; after title has passed, “that property, like all other property in the state, is subject to state legislation, so far as that legislation is consistent with the admission that the title passed and vested according to the laws of the United States.”³¹⁰ In construing a conveyance by the United States of land within a State, the settled and reasonable rule of construction of the State affords a guide in determining what impliedly passes to the grantee as an incident to land expressly granted.³¹¹ But a state statute enacted subsequently to a federal grant cannot operate to vest in the State rights which either remained in the United States or passed to its grantee.³¹²

Territories: Powers of Congress Thereover

In the territories, Congress has the entire dominion and sovereignty, national and local, and has full legislative power over all subjects upon which a state legislature might act.³¹³ It may legislate directly with respect to the local affairs of a territory or it may transfer that function to a legislature elected by the citizens thereof,³¹⁴ which will then be invested with all legislative power except as limited by the Constitution of the United States and acts of Congress.³¹⁵ In 1886, Congress prohibited the enactment by territorial legislatures of local or special laws on enumerated subjects.³¹⁶ The constitutional guarantees of private rights are applicable in territories which have been made a part of the United States by congressional action³¹⁷ but not in unincorporated territories.³¹⁸ Con-

³⁰⁹ *Williams v. Lee*, 358 U.S. 217 (1959).

³¹⁰ *Wilcox v. McConnell*, 13 Pet. (38 U.S.) 498, 517 (1839).

³¹¹ *Oklahoma v. Texas*, 258 U.S. 574, 595 (1922).

³¹² *United States v. Oregon*, 295 U.S. 1, 28 (1935).

³¹³ *Simms v. Simms*, 175 U.S. 162, 168 (1899). See also *United States v. McMillan*, 165 U.S. 504, 510 (1897); *El Paso & N.E. Ry. v. Gutierrez*, 215 U.S. 87 (1909); *First Nat. Bank v. County of Yankton*, 101 U.S. 129, 133 (1880).

³¹⁴ *Binns v. United States*, 194 U.S. 486, 491 (1904). See also *Sere v. Pitot*, 6 Cr. (10 U.S.) 332, 336 (1810); *Murphy v. Ramsey*, 114 U.S. 15, 44 (1885).

³¹⁵ *Walker v. New Mexico & S.P.R. Co.*, 165 U.S. 593, 604 (1897); *Simms v. Simms*, 175 U.S. 162, 163 (1899); *Wagoner v. Evans*, 170 U.S. 588, 591 (1898).

³¹⁶ 24 Stat. 170 (1886).

³¹⁷ *Downes v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 244, 271 (1901). See also *Mormon Church v. United States*, 136 U.S. 1, 14 (1890); *ICC v. United States ex rel. Humboldt Steamship Co.*, 224 U.S. 474 (1912).

³¹⁸ *Downes v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 244 (1901); *Dorr v. United States*, 195 U.S. 138 (1904); *Balzac v. Porto Rico*, 258 U.S. 298 (1922) (collectively, the *Insular Cases*). The guarantees of fundamental rights apply to persons in Puerto Rico, *id.*, 312–313, but what these are and how they are to be determined, in light of *Balzac's* holding

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gress may establish, or may authorize the territorial legislature to create, legislative courts whose jurisdiction is derived from statutes enacted pursuant to this section other than from Article III.³¹⁹ Such courts may exercise admiralty jurisdiction despite the fact that such jurisdiction may be exercised in the States only by constitutional courts.³²⁰

SECTION 4. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

GUARANTEE OF REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT

The first clause of this section, in somewhat different language, was contained in the Virginia Plan introduced in the Convention and was obviously attributable to Madison.³²¹ Through the various

that the right to a civil jury trial was not protected. The vitality of the *Insular Cases* has been questioned by some Justices, *Reid v. Covert*, 354 U.S. 1, 14 (1957) (plurality opinion); *Torres v. Puerto Rico*, 442 U.S. 465, 474, 475 (1979) (concurring opinion of four Justices), but there is no doubt the Court adheres to it, *United States v. Verdugo-Urquidez*, 494 U.S. 259, 268 (1990); *Harris v. Rosario*, 446 U.S. 651 (1980), and the developing caselaw using the cases as the proper analysis. Applying state-side rights in Puerto Rico are *Calero-Toledo v. Pearson Yacht Leasing Co.*, 416 U.S. 663 (1974) (procedural due process); *Examining Board v. Flores de Otero*, 426 U.S. 572 (1976) (equal protection principles); *Torres v. Puerto Rico*, 442 U.S. 465 (1979) (search and seizure); *Harris v. Rosario*, *supra* (same); *Rodriguez v. Popular Democratic Party*, 457 U.S. 1, 7–8 (1982) (equality of voting rights); *Posadas de Puerto Rico Assocs. v. Tourism Co.*, 478 U.S. 328, 331 n. 1 (1986) (First Amendment speech). See also *Califano v. Torres*, 435 U.S. 1, 4 n. 6 (1978) (right to travel assumed). Puerto Rico is, of course, not the only territory that is the subject of the doctrine of the *Insular Cases*. E.g., *Ocampo v. United States*, 234 U.S. 91 (1914) (Philippines and Sixth Amendment jury trial); *Hawaii v. Mankichi*, 190 U.S. 197 (1903) (grand jury indictment and trial by jury).

³¹⁹*American Insurance Co. v. Canter*, 1 Pet. (26 U.S.) 511, 546 (1828). See also *Clinton v. Englebrecht*, 13 Wall. (80 U.S.) 434–447 (1872); *Hornbuckle v. Toombs*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 648, 655 (1874); *Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145, 154 (1879); *The "City of Panama"*, 101 U.S. 453, 460 (1880); *McAllister v. United States*, 141 U.S. 174, 180 (1891); *United States v. McMillan*, 165 U.S. 504, 510 (1897); *Romeu v. Todd*, 206 U.S. 358, 368 (1907).

³²⁰*American Ins. Co. v. Canter*, 1 Pet. (26 U.S.) 511, 545 (1828).

³²¹"Resd. that a Republican government . . . ought to be guaranteed by the United States to each state." 1 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 22. In a letter in April, 1787, to Randolph, who formally presented the Virginia Plan to the Convention, Madison had suggested that "an article ought to be inserted expressly guaranteeing the tranquility of the states against internal as well as external danger. . . . Unless the Union be organized efficiently on republican principles innovations of a much more objectionable form may be obtruded." 2 WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON, G. HUNT ed.

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permutations into its final form,³²² the object of the clause seems clearly to have been more than an authorization for the Federal Government to protect States against foreign invasion or internal insurrection,³²³ a power seemingly already conferred in any case.³²⁴ No one can now resurrect the full meaning of the clause and intent which moved the Framers to adopt it, but with the exception of the reliance for a brief period during Reconstruction the authority contained within the confines of the clause has been largely unexplored.³²⁵

In *Luther v. Borden*,³²⁶ the Supreme Court established the doctrine that questions arising under this section are political, not judicial, in character and that "it rests with Congress to decide what government is the established one in a State . . . as well as its republican character."³²⁷ *Texas v. White*³²⁸ held that the action of the President in setting up provisional governments at the conclusion of the war was justified, if at all, only as an exercise of his powers as Commander-in-Chief and that such governments were to be regarded merely as provisional regimes to perform the functions of government pending action by Congress. On the ground that the

(New York: 1900), 336. On the background of the clause, see W. WIECEK, *THE GUARANTEE CLAUSE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION* (Ithaca: 1972), ch. 1.

³²² Thus, on June 11, the language of the provision was on Madison's motion changed to: "Resolved that a republican constitution and its existing laws ought to be guaranteed to each state by the United States." 1 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 193-194, 206. Then, on July 18, Gouverneur Morris objected to this language on the ground that "[h]e should be very unwilling that such laws as exist in R. Island ought to be guaranteed to each State of the Union." 2 *id.*, 47. Madison then suggested language "that the Constitutional authority of the States shall be guaranteed to them respectively against domestic as well as foreign violence," whereas Randolph wanted to add to this the language "and that no State be at liberty to form any other than a Republican Govt." Wilson then moved, "as a better expression of the idea," almost the present language of the section, which was adopted. *Id.*, 47-49.

³²³ Thus, Randolph on June 11, supporting Madison's version pending then, said that "a republican government must be the basis of our national union; and no state in it ought to have it in their power to change its government into a monarchy." 1 *id.*, 206. Again, on July 18, when Wilson and Mason indicated their understanding that the object of the proposal was "merely" to protect States against violence, Randolph asserted: "The Resoln. has 2 Objects. 1. to secure Republican government. 2. to suppress domestic commotions. He urged the necessity of both these provisions." 2 *id.*, 47. Following speakers alluded to the dangers of monarchy being created peacefully as necessitating the provision. *Id.*, 48. See W. WIECEK, *THE GUARANTEE CLAUSE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION* (Ithaca: 1972), ch. 2.

³²⁴ See Article I, §8, cl. 15.

³²⁵ See generally W. WIECEK, *THE GUARANTEE CLAUSE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION* (Ithaca: 1972).

³²⁶ 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1 (1849).

³²⁷ *Id.*, 42.

³²⁸ 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 700, 729 (1869). In *Georgia v. Stanton*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 50 (1868), the State attempted to attack Reconstruction legislation on the premise that it already had a republican form of government and that Congress was thus not authorized to act. The Court viewed the congressional decision as determinative.

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issues were not justiciable, the Court in the early part of this century refused to pass on a number of challenges to state governmental reforms and thus made the clause in effect noncognizable by the courts in any matter,³²⁹ a status from which the Court's opinion in *Baker v. Carr*,³³⁰ despite its substantial curbing of the political question doctrine, did not release it.³³¹

Similarly, in *Luther v. Borden*,³³² the Court indicated that it rested with Congress to determine upon the means proper to fulfill the guarantee of protection to the States against domestic violence. Chief Justice Taney declared that Congress might have placed it in the power of a court to decide when the contingency had happened which required the Federal Government to interfere, but that instead Congress had by the act of February 28, 1795,³³³ authorized the President to call out the militia in case of insurrection against the government of any State. It followed, said Taney, that the President "must, of necessity, decide which is the government, and which party is unlawfully arrayed against it, before he can perform the duty imposed upon him by the act of Congress",³³⁴ which determination was not subject to review by the courts.

In recent years, the authority of the United States to use troops and other forces in the States has not generally been derived from this clause and it has been of little importance.³³⁵

³²⁹ *Pacific States Tel. & Tel. Co. v. Oregon*, 223 U.S. 118 (1912); *Kiernan v. City of Portland*, 223 U.S. 151 (1912); *Davis v. Ohio*, 241 U.S. 565 (1916); *Ohio v. Akron Park District*, 281 U.S. 74 (1930); *O'Neill v. Leamer*, 239 U.S. 244 (1915); *Highland Farms Dairy v. Agnew*, 300 U.S. 608 (1937). But in certain earlier cases the Court had disposed of guarantee clause questions on the merits. *Forsyth v. Hammond*, 166 U.S. 506 (1897); *Minor v. Happersett*, 21 Wall. (88 U.S.) 162 (1875).

³³⁰ 369 U.S. 186, 218–232 (1962). In the Court's view, guarantee clause questions were nonjusticiable because resolution of them had been committed to Congress and not because they involved matters of state governmental structure.

³³¹ More recently, the Court speaking through Justice O'Connor has raised without deciding the possibility that the guarantee clause is justiciable and is a constraint upon Congress' power to regulate the activities of the States. *New York v. United States*, 112 S.Ct. 2408, 2432–2433 (1992); *Gregory v. Ashcroft*, 501 U.S. 452, 463 (1991). The opinions draw support from a powerful argument for utilizing the guarantee clause as a judicially enforceable limit on federal power. Merritt, *The Guarantee Clause and State Autonomy: Federalism for a Third Century*, 88 Colum. L. Rev. 1 (1988).

³³² 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1 (1849).

³³³ 1 Stat. 424.

³³⁴ *Luther v. Borden*, 7 How. (48 U.S.) 1, 43 (1849).

³³⁵ *Supra*, pp. 472–473, 557–561.

ARTICLE V

MODE OF AMENDMENT

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MODE OF AMENDMENT

ARTICLE V

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

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Scope of the Amending Power

When this Article was before the Constitutional Convention, a motion to insert a provision that “no State shall without its consent be affected in its internal policy” was made and rejected.¹ A further attempt to impose a substantive limitation on the amending power was made in 1861, when Congress submitted to the States a proposal to bar any future amendments which would authorize Congress to “interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof”² Three States ratified this article before the outbreak of the Civil War made it academic.³ Members of Congress

¹2 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 630.

²57 CONG. GLOBE 1263 (1861).

³H. AMES, *The Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the United States During the First Century of Its History*, H. Doc. 353, pt. 2, 54th Congress, 2d sess. (Washington: 1897), 363.

opposed passage by Congress of the Thirteenth Amendment on the basis that the amending process could not be utilized to work such a major change in the internal affairs of the States but the protest was in vain.⁴ Many years later the validity of both the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Amendments was challenged because of their content. The arguments against the former took a wide range. Counsel urged that the power of amendment is limited to the correction of errors in the framing of the Constitution and that it does not comprehend the adoption of additional or supplementary provisions. They contended further that ordinary legislation cannot be embodied in a constitutional amendment and that Congress cannot constitutionally propose any amendment which involves the exercise or relinquishment of the sovereign powers of a State.⁵ The Nineteenth Amendment was attacked on the narrower ground that a State which had not ratified the amendment would be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate because its representatives in that body would be persons not of its choosing, i.e., persons chosen by voters whom the State itself had not authorized to vote for Senators.⁶ Brushing aside these arguments as unworthy of serious attention, the Supreme Court held both amendments valid.

Proposing a Constitutional Amendment

Thirty-three proposed amendments to the Constitution have been submitted to the States pursuant to this Article, all of them upon the vote of the requisite majorities in Congress and none, of course, by the alternative convention method.⁷ In the Convention, much controversy surrounded the issue of the process by which the document then being drawn should be amended. At first, it was voted that “provision ought to be made for the amendment [of the Constitution] whensoever it shall seem necessary” without the agency of Congress being at all involved.⁸ Acting upon this instruction, the Committee on Detail submitted a section providing that upon the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the States Congress was to call a convention for purpose of amending the Constitution.⁹ Adopted,¹⁰ the section was soon reconsidered on the motion of Framers of quite different points of view, some who worried that the provision would allow two-thirds of the States to subvert

⁴ 66 CONG. GLOBE 921, 1424–1425, 1444–1447, 1483–1488 (1864).

⁵ National Prohibition Cases, 253 U.S. 350 (1920).

⁶ Leser v. Garnett, 258 U.S. 130 (1922).

⁷ A recent scholarly study of the amending process and the implications for our polity is R. BERNSTEIN, *AMENDING AMERICA* (1993).

⁸ 1 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 22, 202–203, 237; 2 *id.*, 85.

⁹ *Id.*, 188.

¹⁰ *Id.*, 467–468.

the others¹¹ and some who thought that Congress would be the first to perceive the need for amendment and that to leave the matter to the discretion of the States would mean that no alterations but those increasing the powers of the States would ever be proposed.¹² Madison's proposal was adopted, empowering Congress to propose amendments either on its own initiative or upon application by the legislatures of two-thirds of the States.¹³ When this provision came back from the Committee on Style, however, Gouverneur Morris and Gerry succeeded in inserting the language providing for a convention upon the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the States.¹⁴

Proposals by Congress.—Few difficulties of a constitutional nature have arisen with regard to this method of initiating constitutional change, the only method, as we noted above, so far successfully resorted to. When Madison submitted to the House of Representatives the proposals from which the Bill of Rights evolved, he contemplated that they should be incorporated in the text of the original instrument.¹⁵ Instead, the House decided to propose them as supplementary articles, a method followed since.¹⁶ It ignored a suggestion that the two Houses should first resolve that amendments are necessary before considering specific proposals.¹⁷ In the *National Prohibition Cases*,¹⁸ the Court ruled that in proposing an amendment, the two Houses of Congress thereby indicated that they deemed revision necessary. The same case also established the proposition that the vote required to propose an amendment was a vote of two thirds of the Members present—assuming the presence of a quorum—and not a vote of two-thirds of the entire membership.¹⁹ The approval of the President is not necessary for a proposed amendment.²⁰

The Convention Alternative.—Because it has never successfully been invoked, the convention method of amendment is sur-

¹¹ *Id.*, 557–558 (Gerry).

¹² *Id.*, 558 (Hamilton).

¹³ *Id.*, 559

¹⁴ *Id.*, 629–630. “Mr. Madison did not see why Congress would not be as much bound to propose amendments applied for by two-thirds of the State as to call a Convention on the like application. He saw no objection however against providing for a Convention for the purpose of amendments, except only that difficulties might arise as to the form, the quorum etc. which in Constitutional regulations ought to be as much as possible avoided.”

¹⁵ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 433–436 (1789).

¹⁶ *Id.*, 717.

¹⁷ *Id.*, 430.

¹⁸ 253 U.S. 350, 386 (1920).

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Hollingsworth v. Virginia*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 378 (1798).

rounded by a lengthy list of questions.²¹ When and how is a convention to be convened? Must the applications of the requisite number of States be identical or ask for substantially the same amendment or merely deal with the same subject matter? Must the requisite number of petitions be contemporaneous with each other, substantially contemporaneous, or strung out over several years? Could a convention be limited to consideration of the amendment or the subject matter which it is called to consider? These are only a few of the obvious questions and others lurk to be revealed on deeper consideration.²² This method has been close to utilization several times. Only one State was lacking when the Senate finally permitted passage of an amendment providing for the direct election of Senators.²³ Two States were lacking in a petition drive for a constitutional limitation on income tax rates.²⁴ The drive for an amendment to limit the Supreme Court's legislative apportionment decisions came within one State of the required number, and a proposal for a balanced budget amendment has been but two States short of the requisite number for some time.²⁵ Arguments existed in each instance against counting all the petitions, but the political realities no doubt are that if there is an authentic national movement underlying a petitioning by two-thirds of the States there will be a response by Congress.

Ratification.—In 1992, the Nation apparently ratified a long-quieted 27th Amendment, to the surprise of just about everyone. Whether the new Amendment has any effect in the area of its subject matter, the effective date of congressional pay raises, the adoption of this provision has unsettled much of the supposed learning on the issue of the timeliness of pendency of constitutional amendments.

It has been accepted that Congress may, in proposing an amendment, set a reasonable time limit for its ratification. Beginning with the Eighteenth Amendment, save for the Nineteenth, Congress has included language in all proposals stating that the amendment should be inoperative unless ratified within seven

²¹ The matter is treated comprehensively in C. Brickfield, *Problems Relating to a Federal Constitutional Convention*, 85th Congress, 1st sess. (Comm. Print; House Judiciary Committee) (1957). A thorough and critical study of activity under the petition method can be found in R. CAPLAN, *CONSTITUTIONAL BRINKSMANSHIP—AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION BY NATIONAL CONVENTION* (1988).

²² *Ibid.* See also *Federal Constitutional Convention*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Separation of Powers, 90th Congress, 1st sess. (1967).

²³ C. Brickfield, *Problems Relating to a Federal Constitutional Convention*, 85th Congress, 1st sess. (Comm. Print; House Judiciary Committee) (1957), 7, 89.

²⁴ *Id.*, 8–9, 89.

²⁵ R. CAPLAN, *CONSTITUTIONAL BRINKSMANSHIP—AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION BY NATIONAL CONVENTION* (1988), 73–78, 78–89.

years.²⁶ All the earlier proposals had been silent on the question, and two amendments proposed in 1789, one submitted in 1810 and another in 1861, and most recently one in 1924 had gone to the States and had not been ratified. In *Coleman v. Miller*,²⁷ the Court refused to pass upon the question whether the proposed child labor amendment, the one submitted to the States in 1924, was open to ratification thirteen years later. This it held to be a political question which Congress would have to resolve in the event three fourths of the States ever gave their assent to the proposal.

In *Dillon v. Gloss*,²⁸ the Court upheld Congress' power to prescribe time limitations for state ratifications and intimated that proposals which were clearly out of date were no longer open for ratification. Granting that it found nothing express in Article V relating to time constraints, the Court yet allowed that it found intimated in the amending process a "strongly suggest[ive]" argument that proposed amendments are not open to ratification for all time or by States acting at widely separate times.²⁹

Three related considerations were put forward. "First, proposal and ratification are not treated as unrelated acts but as succeeding steps in a single endeavor, the natural inference being that they are not to be widely separated in time. Secondly, it is only when there is deemed to be a necessity therefor that amendments are to be proposed, the reasonable implication being that when proposed they are to be considered and disposed of presently. Thirdly, as ratification is but the expression of the approbation of the people and is to be effective when had in three-fourths of the States, there is a fair implication that that it must be sufficiently contemporaneous in that number of States to reflect the will of the people in all sections at relatively the same period, which of course ratification scattered through a long series of years would not do."³⁰

Continuing, the Court observed that this conclusion was the far better one, because the consequence of the opposite view was that the four amendments proposed long before, including the two sent out to the States in 1789 "are still pending and in a situation where their ratification is some of the States many years since by

²⁶ Seven-year periods were included in the texts of the proposals of the 18th, 20th, 21st, and 22d amendments; apparently concluding in proposing the 23d that putting the time limit in the text merely cluttered up the amendment, Congress in it and subsequent amendments including the time limits in the authorizing resolution. After the extension debate over the Equal Rights proposal, Congress once again inserted into the text of the amendment the time limit with respect to the proposal of voting representation in Congress of the District of Columbia.

²⁷ 307 U.S. 433 (1939).

²⁸ 256 U.S. 368 (1921).

²⁹ *Id.*, 374.

³⁰ *Id.*, 374-375.

representatives of generations now largely forgotten may be effectively supplemented in enough more States to make three-fourths by representatives of the present or some future generation. To that view few would be able to subscribe, and in our opinion it is quite untenable.”³¹

What seemed “untenable” to a unanimous Court in 1921 proved quite acceptable to both executive and congressional branches in 1992. After a campaign calling for the resurrection of the 1789 proposal, which was originally transmitted to the States as one of the twelve original amendments, enough additional States ratified to make up a three-fourths majority, and the responsible executive official proclaimed the amendment as ratified as both Houses of Congress concurred in resolutions.³²

That there existed a “reasonable” time period for ratification was strongly controverted.³³ The Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice prepared for the White House counsel an elaborate memorandum that disputed all aspects of the *Dillon* opinion.³⁴ First, *Dillon’s* discussion of contemporaneity was discounted as dictum.³⁵ Second, the three “considerations” relied on in *Dillon* were deemed unpersuasive. Thus, the Court simply assumes that, since proposal and ratification are steps in a single process, the process must be short rather than lengthy, the argument that an amendment should reflect necessity says nothing about the length of time available, inasmuch as the more recent ratifying States obviously thought the pay amendment was necessary, and the fact that an amendment must reflect consensus does not so much as intimate contemporaneous consensus.³⁶ Third, the OLC memorandum argued that the proper mode of interpretation of Article V was to “provide a clear rule that is capable of mechanical application,

³¹ *Ibid.* One must observe that all the quoted language is dicta, the actual issue in *Dillon* being whether Congress could include in the text of a proposed amendment a time limit. In *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433, 453–454 (1939), Chief Justice Hughes, for a plurality, accepted the *Dillon* dictum, despite his opinion’s forceful argument for judicial abstinence on constitutional-amendment issues. The other four Justices in the Court majority thought Congress had complete and sole control over the amending process, subject to no judicial review. *Id.*, 459.

³² *Supra*, p. 126–127; *infra*, p. 1997.

³³ Thus, Professor Tribe wrote: “Article V says an amendment ‘shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as part of this Constitution’ when ‘ratified’ by three-fourths of the states—not that it might face a veto for tardiness. Despite the Supreme Court’s suggestion, no speedy ratification rule may be extracted from Article V’s text, structure or history.” Tribe, *The 27th Amendment Joins the Constitution*, *Wall Street Journal*, May 13, 1992, A15.

³⁴ 16 Ops. of the Office of Legal Coun. 102 (1992) (prelim.pr.).

³⁵ *Id.*, 109–110. *Coleman’s* endorsement of the dictum in the Hughes opinion was similarly pronounced dictum. *Id.*, 110. Both characterizations, as noted above, are correct.

³⁶ *Id.*, 111–112.

without any need to inquire into the timeliness or substantive validity of the consensus achieved by means of the ratification process. Accordingly, any interpretation that would introduce confusion must be disfavored.”³⁷ The rule ought to be, echoing Professor Tribe, that an amendment is ratified when three-fourths of the States have approved it.³⁸ The memorandum vigorously pursues a “plain-meaning” rule of constitutional construction. Article V says nothing about time limits, and elsewhere in the Constitution when the Framers wanted to include time limits they did so. The absence of any time language means there is no requirement of contemporaneity or of a “reasonable” period.³⁹

Now that the Amendment has been proclaimed and has been accepted by Congress, where does this development leave the argument over the validity of proposals long distant in time? One may assume that this precedent stands for the proposition that proposals remain viable for ever. It may, on the one hand, stand for the proposition that certain proposals, because they reflect concerns that are as relevant today, or perhaps in some future time, as at the time of transmission to the States, remain open to ratification. Certainly, the public concern with congressional pay made the Twenty-seventh Amendment particularly pertinent. The other 1789 proposal, relating to the number of representatives, might remain viable under this standard, whereas the other proposals would not. On the other hand, it is possible to argue that the precedent is an “aberration,” that its acceptance owed more to a political and philosophical argument between executive and legislative branches and to the defensive posture of Congress in the political context of 1992 that led to an uncritical acceptance of the Amendment. In that latter light, the development is relevant to but not dispositive of the controversy. And, barring some judicial interpretation, that is likely to be where the situation rests.

Nothing in the status of the precedent created by the Twenty-seventh Amendment suggests that Congress may not, when it proposes an amendment, include, either in the text or in the accompanying resolution, a time limitation, simply as an exercise of its necessary and proper power.

Whether once it has prescribed a ratification period Congress may thereafter extend the period without necessitating action by already-ratified States embroiled Congress, the States, and the courts in argument with respect to the proposed Equal Rights

³⁷ *Id.*, 113.

³⁸ *Id.*, 113–116.

³⁹ *Id.*, 103–106. The OLC also referenced previous debates in Congress in which Members had assumed this proposal and the others remained viable. *Ibid.*

Amendment.⁴⁰ Proponents argued and opponents doubted that the fixing of a time limit and the extending of it were powers committed exclusively to Congress under the political question doctrine and that in any event Congress had power to extend. It was argued that inasmuch as the fixing of a reasonable time was within Congress' power and that Congress could fix the time either in advance or at some later point, based upon its evaluation of the social and other bases of the necessities of the amendment, Congress did not do violence to the Constitution when, once having fixed the time, it subsequently extended the time. Proponents recognized that if the time limit was fixed in the text of the amendment Congress could not alter it because the time limit as well as the substantive provisions of the proposal had been subject to ratification by a number of States, making it unalterable by Congress except through the amending process again. Opponents argued that Congress, having by a two-thirds vote sent the amendment and its authorizing resolution to the States, had put the matter beyond changing by passage of a simple resolution, that States had either acted upon the entire package or at least that they had or could have acted affirmatively upon the promise of Congress that if the amendment had not been ratified within the prescribed period it would expire and their assent would not be compelled for longer than they had intended. Congress did pass a resolution extending by three years the period for ratification.⁴¹

Litigation followed and a federal district court, finding the issue to be justiciable, held that Congress did not have the power to extend, but before the Supreme Court could review the decision the extended time period expired and mooted the matter.⁴²

Also much disputed during consideration of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment was the question whether once a State had ratified it could thereafter withdraw or rescind its ratification, precluding Congress from counting that State toward completion of ratification. Four States had rescinded their ratifications and a fifth had declared that its ratification would be void unless the amendment was ratified within the original time limit.⁴³ The issue

⁴⁰See *Equal Rights Amendment Extension*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, 95th Congress, 2d sess. (1978); *Equal Rights Amendment Extension*, Hearings before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, 95th Congress, 1st/2d sess. (1977-78).

⁴¹H.J. Res. 638, 95th Congress, 2d sess. (1978); 92 Stat. 3799.

⁴²*Idaho v. Freeman*, 529 F. Supp. 1107 (D.C.D. Idaho, 1981), *prob. juris. noted*, 459 U.S. 918 (1982), *vacated and remanded to dismiss*, 459 U.S. 809 (1982).

⁴³Nebraska (March 15, 1973), Tennessee (April 23, 1974), and Idaho (February 8, 1977) all passed rescission resolutions without dispute about the actual passage. The Kentucky rescission was attached to another bill and was vetoed by the Lieutenant Governor, acting as Governor, citing grounds that included a state constitu-

was not without its history. The Fourteenth Amendment was ratified by the legislatures of Ohio and New Jersey, both of which subsequently passed rescinding resolutions. Contemporaneously, the legislatures of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina rejected ratification resolutions. Pursuant to the Act of March 2, 1867,⁴⁴ the governments of those States were reconstituted and the new legislatures ratified. Thus, there were presented both the question of the validity of a withdrawal and the question of the validity of a ratification following rejection. Congress requested the Secretary of State⁴⁵ to report on the number of States ratifying the proposal and the Secretary's response specifically noted the actions of the Ohio and New Jersey legislatures. The Secretary then issued a proclamation reciting that 29 States, including the two that had rescinded and the three which had ratified after first rejecting, had ratified, which was one more than the necessary three-fourths. He noted the attempted withdrawal of Ohio and New Jersey and observed that it was doubtful whether such attempts were effectual in withdrawing consent.⁴⁶ He therefore certified the amendment to be in force if the rescissions by Ohio and New Jersey were invalid. The next day Congress adopted a resolution listing all 29 States, including Ohio and New Jersey, as having ratified and concluded that the ratification process was completed.⁴⁷ The Secretary of State then proclaimed the Amendment as part of the Constitution.

In *Coleman v. Miller*,⁴⁸ the congressional action was interpreted as going directly to the merits of withdrawal after ratification and of ratification after rejection. "Thus, the political departments of the Government dealt with the effect of previous rejection and of attempted withdrawal and determined that both were ineffectual in the presence of an actual ratification." Although rescission was hotly debated with respect to the Equal Rights Amendment, the failure of ratification meant that nothing definitive

tional provision prohibiting the legislature from passing a law dealing with more than one subject and a senate rule prohibiting the introduction of new bills within the last ten days of a session. Both the resolution and the veto message were sent by the Kentucky Secretary of State to the General Services Administration. South Dakota was the fifth State.

⁴⁴ 14 Stat. 428.

⁴⁵ The Secretary was then responsible for receiving notices of ratification and proclaiming adoption.

⁴⁶ 15 Stat. 706, 707.

⁴⁷ 15 Stat. 709.

⁴⁸ 307 U.S. 433, 488–450 (1939) (plurality opinion). For an alternative construction of the precedent, see Corwin & Ramsey, *The Constitutional Law of Constitutional Amendment*, 27 Notre Dame Law. 185, 201–204 (1951). The legislature of New York attempted to withdraw its ratification of the 15th Amendment; although the Secretary of State listed New York among the ratifying States, noted the withdrawal resolution, there were ratifications from three-fourths of the States without New York. 16 Stat. 1131.

emerged from the debate. The questions that must be resolved are whether the matter is justiciable, that is, whether under the political question doctrine resolution of the issue is committed exclusively to Congress, and whether there is judicial review of what Congress' power is in respect to deciding the matter of rescission. The Fourteenth Amendment precedent and *Coleman v. Miller* combine to appear to say, but not without doubt, that resolution is a political question committed to Congress.

The Twenty-seventh Amendment precedent is relevant here. The Archivist of the United States proclaimed the Amendment as having been ratified a day previous to the time both Houses of Congress adopted resolutions accepting ratification.⁴⁹ There is no necessary conflict, inasmuch as both the Archivist and Congress concurred in their actions, but the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice opined that the *Coleman* precedent was not binding and that the Fourteenth Amendment action by Congress was an "aberration."⁵⁰ That is, the memorandum argued that the *Coleman* opinion by Chief Justice Hughes was for only a plurality of the Court and, moreover, was dictum since it addressed an issue not before the Court.⁵¹ On the merits, OLC argued that Article V gave Congress no role other than to propose amendments and to specify the mode of ratification. An amendment is valid when ratified by three-fourths of the States, no further action being required. Although someone must determine when the requisite number have acted, OLC argued that the executive officer charged with the function of certifying, now the Archivist, has only the ministerial duty of counting the notifications sent to him. Separation of powers and federalism concerns also counseled against a congressional role, and past practice, in which all but the Fourteenth Amendment were certified by an executive officer, was noted as supporting a decision against a congressional role.⁵²

What would be the result of adopting one view over the other?

First, finding that resolution of the question is committed to Congress merely locates the situs of the power, however, and says nothing about what the resolution should be. That Congress in the past has refused to accept rescissions is but the starting point, inasmuch as, unlike courts, Congress operates under no principle of *stare decisis* so that the decisions of one Congress on a subject do not bind future Congresses. If Congress were to be faced with a de-

⁴⁹F.R.Doc. 92-11951, 57 FED. REG. 21187; 138 CONG. REC. (daily ed.) S 6948-49, H 3505-06.

⁵⁰16 Ops. of the Office of Legal Coun. 102, 125 (1992) (prelim.pr.).

⁵¹*Id.*, 118-121.

⁵²*Id.*, 121-126.

cision about the validity of rescission, to what standards should it look?

That a question of constitutional interpretation may be “political” in the sense of being committed to one or to both of the “political” branches is not, of course, a judgment that in its resolution the political branch may decide without recourse to principle. Resolution of political questions is not subject to judicial review. So that the prospect of court overruling is not one with which the decisionmaker need trouble himself. But both legislators and executive are bound by oath to observe the Constitution,⁵³ and consequently it is with the original document that the search for an answer must begin.

At the same time, it may well be that the Constitution affords no answer; it may not speak to the issue. Generally, in the exercise of judicial review, courts view the actions of the legislative and executive branches in terms not of the wisdom or desirability or propriety of their actions but in terms of the comportment of those actions with the constitutional grants of power and constraints upon those powers; if an action is within a granted power and violates no restriction, the courts will not interfere. How the legislature or the executive decides to deal with a question within the confines of the powers each constitutionally have is beyond judicial control.

Therefore, if the Constitution commits decision on an issue to, say, Congress, and imposes no standards to govern or control the reaching of that decision, in its resolution Congress may be restrained only by its sense of propriety or wisdom or desirability, i.e., may be free to make a determination solely as a policy matter. The reason that these issues are not justiciable is not only that they are committed to a branch for decision without intervention by the courts but also that the Constitution does not contain an answer. This interpretation, in the context of amending the Constitution, may be what Chief Justice Hughes was deciding for the plurality of the Court in *Coleman*.⁵⁴

⁵³Article VI, parag. 3. “In the performance of assigned constitutional duties each branch of the Government must initially interpret the Constitution, and the interpretation of its powers by any branch is due great respect from the others.” *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683, 703 (1974).

⁵⁴*Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433, 450, 453 (1939) (plurality opinion). Thus, considering the question of ratification after rejection, the Chief Justice found “no basis in either Constitution or statute” to warrant the judiciary in restraining state officers from notifying Congress of a State’s ratification, so that it could decide to accept or reject. “Article 5, speaking solely of ratification, contains no provision as to rejection.” And in considering whether the Court could specify a reasonable time for an amendment to be before the State before it lost its validity as a proposal, Chief Justice Hughes asked: “Where are to be found the criteria for such a judicial determination? None are to be found in Constitution or statute.” His discussion of

Article V may be read to contain a governing constitutional principle, however. Thus, it can be argued that as written the provision contains only language respecting ratification and that inexorably once a State acts favorably on a resolution of ratification it has exhausted its jurisdiction over the subject and cannot rescind,⁵⁵ nor can Congress even authorize a State to rescind.⁵⁶ This conclusion is premised on Madison's argument that a State may not ratify conditionally, that is, it must adopt "*in toto and for ever.*"⁵⁷ While the Madison principle may be unexceptionable in the context in which it was stated, it may be doubted that it transfers readily to the significantly different issue of rescission.

A more pertinent principle would seem to be that expressed in *Dillon v. Gloss*.⁵⁸ In that case, the action of Congress in fixing a seven-year-period within which ratification was to occur or the proposal would expire was attacked as vitiating the amendment. The Court, finding no express provision in Article V, nonetheless thought it "reasonably implied" therein "that the ratification must be within some reasonable time after the proposal." Three reasons underlay the Court's finding of this implication and they are suggestive on the question of rescission.⁵⁹

Although addressed to a different issue, the Court's discussion of the length of time an amendment may reasonably pend before losing its viability is suggestive with respect to rescission. That is, first, with proposal and ratification as successive steps in a single endeavor, second, with the necessity of amendment forming the basis for adoption of the proposal, and, third, especially with the implication that an amendment's adoption should be "sufficiently

what Congress could look to in fixing a reasonable time, *id.*, 453-454, is overwhelmingly policy-oriented. On this approach generally, see Henkin, *Is There a "Political Question" Doctrine?*, 85 *Yale L.J.* 597 (1976).

⁵⁵ See, e.g., the debate between Senator Conkling and Senator Davis on this point in 89 CONG. GLOBE 1477-1481 (1870).

⁵⁶ *Constitutionality of Extending the Time Period for Ratification of the Proposed Equal Rights Amendment*, Memorandum of the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice, in *Equal Rights Amendment Extension*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, 95th Congress, 2d sess. (1978), 80, 91-99.

⁵⁷ During the debate in New York on ratification of the Constitution, it was suggested that the State approve the document on condition that certain amendments the delegates thought necessary be adopted. Madison wrote: "The Constitution requires an adoption in toto and for ever. It has been so adopted by the other States. An adoption for a limited time would be as defective as an adoption of some of the articles only. In short any condition whatever must viciate the ratification." 5 THE PAPERS OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON, H. Syrett ed. (New York: 1962), 184.

⁵⁸ 256 U.S. 368 (1921). Of course, we recognize, as indicated at various points above, that *Dillon*, and *Coleman* as well, insofar as they discuss points relied on here, express dictum and are not binding precedent. They are discussed solely for the persuasiveness of the views set out.

⁵⁹ Quoted *supra*, text at n. 30.

contemporaneous” in the requisite number of States “to reflect the will of the people in all sections at relatively the same period,” it would raise a large question were the ratification process to be one in which there was counted one or more States which at the same time other States were acting affirmatively were acting to withdraw their expression of judgment that amendment was necessary. The “decisive expression of the people’s will” that is to bind all might well in those or similar circumstances be found lacking. Employment of this analysis would not necessarily lead in specific circumstances to failures of ratification; the particular facts surrounding the passage of rescission resolutions, for example, might lead Congress to conclude that the requisite “contemporaneous” “expression of the people’s will” was not undermined by the action.

And employment of this analysis would still seem, under these precedents, to leave to Congress the crucial determination of the success or failure of ratification. At the same time it was positing this analysis in the context of passing on the question of Congress’ power to fix a time limit, the Court in *Dillon v. Gloss* observed that Article V left to Congress the authority “to deal with subsidiary matters of detail as the public interest and changing conditions may require.”⁶⁰ And in *Coleman v. Miller*, Chief Justice Hughes went further in respect to these “matters of detail” being “within the congressional province” in the resolution of which the decision by Congress “would not be subject to review by the courts.”⁶¹

Thus, it may be that if the *Dillon v. Gloss* construction is found persuasive, Congress would have constitutional standards to guide its decision on the validity of rescission. At the same time, if these precedents reviewed above are adhered to, and strictly applied, it appears that the congressional determination to permit or to disallow rescission would not be subject to judicial review.

Adoption of the alternative view, that Congress has no role but that the appropriate executive official has the sole responsibility, would entail different consequences. That official, now the Archivist, appears to have no discretion but to certify once he receives

⁶⁰ *Id.*, 375–376. It should be noted that the Court seemed to retain the power for itself to pass on the congressional decision, saying “[o]f the power of Congress, keeping within reasonable limits, to fix a definite period for the ratification we entertain no doubt” and noting later than no question existed that the seven-year period was reasonable. *Ibid.*

⁶¹ 307 U.S. 433, 452–454 (1939) (plurality opinion). It is, as noted above, not entirely clear to what extent the Hughes plurality exempted from judicial review congressional determinations made in the amending process. Justice Black’s concurrence thought the Court “treated the amending process of the Constitution in some respects as subject to judicial review, in others as subject to the final authority of Congress” and urged that the *Dillon v. Gloss* “reasonable time” construction be disapproved. *Id.*, 456, 458.

state notification.⁶² The official could, of course, request the Department of Justice for a legal opinion on some issue, such as the validity of rescissions. That is the course advocated by the executive branch, naturally, but it is one a little difficult to square with the ministerial responsibility of the Archivist.⁶³ In any event, there would seem to be no support for a political question preclusion of judicial review under these circumstances. Whether the Archivist certifies on the mere receipt of a ratification resolution or does so only after ascertaining the resolution's validity, it would appear that it is action subject to judicial review.⁶⁴

Congress has complete freedom of choice between the two methods of ratification recognized by Article V: by the legislatures of the States or by conventions in the States. In *United States v. Sprague*,⁶⁵ counsel advanced the contention that the Tenth Amendment recognized a distinction between powers reserved to the States and powers reserved to the people, and that state legislatures were competent to delegate only the former to the National Government; delegation of the latter required action of the people through conventions in the several States. The Eighteenth Amendment being of the latter character, the ratification by state legislatures, so the argument ran, was invalid. The Supreme Court rejected the argument. It found the language of Article V too clear to admit of reading any exception into it by implication.

The term "legislatures" as used in Article V means deliberative, representative bodies of the type which in 1789 exercised the legislative power in the several States. It does not comprehend the popular referendum which has subsequently become a part of the legislative process in many of the States, nor may a State validly condition ratification of a proposed constitutional amendment on its approval by such a referendum.⁶⁶ In the words of the Court: "[T]he

⁶² *United States ex rel. Widenmann v. Colby*, 265 F. 998, 999 (D.C.Cir. 1920), *affd.mem.* 257 U.S. 619 (1921); *United States v. Sitka*, 666 F.Supp. 19, 22 (D.Conn. 1987), *affd.*, 845 F.2d 43 (2d Cir.), *cert.den.*, 488 U.S. 827 (1988). See 96 CONG. REC. 3250 (Message from President Truman accompanying Reorg. Plan No. 20 of 1950); 16 Ops. of the Office of Legal Coun. 102, 117 (1992) (prelim.pr.).

⁶³ *Id.*, 116–118. Thus, OLC says that the statute "clearly requires that, before performing this ministerial function, the Archivist must determine whether he has received 'official notice' that an amendment has been adopted 'according to the provisions of the Constitution.' This is the question of law that the Archivist may properly submit to the Attorney General for resolution." *Id.*, 118. But if his duty is "ministerial," it seems, the Archivist may only notice the fact of receipt of a state resolution; if he may, in consultation with the Attorney General, determine whether the resolution is valid, that is considerably more than a "ministerial" function.

⁶⁴ Under the Administrative Procedure Act, doubtless, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701–706, though there may well be questions about one possible exception, the "committed to agency discretion" provision. *Id.*, § 701(a)(2).

⁶⁵ 282 U.S. 716 (1931).

⁶⁶ *Hawke v. Smith*, 253 U.S. 221, 231 (1920).

function of a state legislature in ratifying a proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution, like the function of Congress in proposing the amendment, is a federal function derived from the Federal Constitution; and it transcends any limitations sought to be imposed by the people of a State.”⁶⁷

Authentication and Proclamation.—Formerly, official notice from a state legislature, duly authenticated, that it had ratified a proposed amendment went to the Secretary of State, upon whom it was binding, “being certified by his proclamation, [was] conclusive upon the courts” as against any objection which might be subsequently raised as to the regularity of the legislative procedure by which ratification was brought about.⁶⁸ This function of the Secretary was first transferred to a functionary called the Administrator of General Services,⁶⁹ and then to the Archivist of the United States.⁷⁰ In *Dillon v. Gloss*,⁷¹ the Supreme Court held that the Eighteenth Amendment became operative on the date of ratification by the thirty-sixth State, rather than on the later date of the proclamation issued by the Secretary of State, and doubtless the same rule holds as to a similar proclamation by the Archivist.

Judicial Review Under Article V

Prior to 1939, the Supreme Court had taken cognizance of a number of diverse objections to the validity of specific amendments. Apart from holding that official notice of ratification by the several States was conclusive upon the courts,⁷² it had treated these questions as justiciable, although it had uniformly rejected them on the merits. In that year, however, the whole subject was thrown into confusion by the inconclusive decision in *Coleman v. Miller*.⁷³ This case came up on a writ of *certiorari* to the Supreme Court of Kansas to review the denial of a writ of mandamus to compel the Secretary of the Kansas Senate to erase an endorsement on a resolution ratifying the proposed child labor amendment to the Constitution to the effect that it had been adopted by the Kansas Senate. The attempted ratification was assailed on three grounds: (1) that

⁶⁷ *Leser v. Garnett*, 258 U.S. 130, 137 (1922).

⁶⁸ Act of April 20, 1818, §2, 3 Stat. 439. The language quoted in the text is from *Leser v. Garnett*, 258 U.S. 130, 137 (1922).

⁶⁹ 65 Stat. 710–711, §2; Reorg. Plan No. 20 of 1950, §1(c), 64 Stat. 1272.

⁷⁰ National Archives and Records Administration Act of 1984, 98 Stat. 2291, 1 U.S.C. §106b.

⁷¹ 256 U.S. 368, 376 (1921).

⁷² *Leser v. Garnett*, 258 U.S. 130 (1922).

⁷³ 307 U.S. 433 (1939). Cf. *Fairchild v. Hughes*, 258 U.S. 126 (1922), wherein the Court held that a private citizen could not sue in the federal courts to secure an indirect determination of the validity of a constitutional amendment about to be adopted.

the amendment had been previously rejected by the state legislature; (2) that it was no longer open to ratification because an unreasonable period of time, thirteen years, had elapsed since its submission to the States, and (3) that the lieutenant governor had no right to cast the deciding vote in the Kansas Senate in favor of ratification.

Four opinions were written in the Supreme Court, no one of which commanded the support of more than four members of the Court. The majority ruled that the plaintiffs, members of the Kansas State Senate, had a sufficient interest in the controversy to give the federal courts jurisdiction to review the case. Without agreement with regard to the grounds for their decision, a different majority affirmed the judgment of the Kansas court denying the relief sought. Four members who concurred in the result had voted to dismiss the writ on the ground that the amending process “is ‘political’ in its entirety, from submission until an amendment becomes part of the Constitution, and is not subject to judicial guidance, control or interference at any point.”⁷⁴ In an opinion reported as “the opinion of the Court,” but in which it appears that only two Justices joined Chief Justice Hughes who wrote it, it was declared that the writ of mandamus was properly denied, because the question whether a reasonable time had elapsed since submission of the proposal was a nonjusticiable political question, the kinds of considerations entering into deciding being fit for Congress to evaluate, and the question of the effect of a previous rejection upon a ratification was similarly nonjusticiable, because the 1868 Fourteenth Amendment precedent of congressional determination “has been accepted.”⁷⁵ But with respect to the contention that the lieutenant governor should not have been permitted to cast the deciding vote in favor of ratification, the Court found itself evenly divided, thus accepting the judgment of the Kansas Supreme Court that the state officer had acted validly.⁷⁶ However, the unexplained decision

⁷⁴Coleman v. Miller, 307 U.S. 433, 456, 459 (1939) (Justices Black, Roberts, Frankfurter, and Douglas concurring). Because the four believed that the parties lacked standing to bring the action, *id.*, 456, 460 (Justice Frankfurter dissenting on this point, joined by the other three Justices), the further discussion of the applicability of the political question doctrine is, strictly speaking, *dicta*. Justice Stevens, then a circuit judge, also felt free to disregard the opinion because a majority of the Court in Coleman “refused to accept that position.” *Dyer v. Blair*, 390 F. Supp. 1291, 1299–1300 (D.C.N.D.Ill. 1975) (three-judge court). See also *Idaho v. Freeman*, 529 F. Supp. 1107, 1125–1126 (D.C.D.Idaho, 1981), vacated and remanded to dismiss, 459 U.S. 809 (1982).

⁷⁵Coleman v. Miller, 307 U.S. 433, 447–456 (1939) (Chief Justice Hughes joined by Justices Stone and Reed).

⁷⁶Justices Black, Roberts, Frankfurter, and Douglas thought this issue was nonjusticiable too. *Id.*, 456. Although all nine Justices joined the rest of the decision, see *id.*, 470, 474 (Justice Butler, joined by Justice McReynolds, dissenting), one Jus-

by Chief Justice Hughes and his two concurring Justices that the issue of the lieutenant' governor's vote was justiciable indicates at the least that their position was in disagreement with the view of the other four Justices in the majority that all questions surrounding constitutional amendments are nonjusticiable.⁷⁷

However, *Coleman* does stand as authority for the proposition that at least some decisions with respect to the proposal and ratifications of constitutional amendments are exclusively within the purview of Congress, either because they are textually committed to Congress or because the courts lack adequate criteria of determination to pass on them.⁷⁸ But to what extent the political question doctrine encompasses the amendment process and what the standards may be to resolve that particular issue remain elusive of answers.

tice did not participate in deciding the issue of the lieutenant governor's participation; apparently, Justice McReynolds was the absent Member. Note, 28 Geo. L. J. 199, 200 n. 7 (19). Thus, Chief Justice Hughes and Justices Stone, Reed, and Butler would have been the four finding the issue justiciable.

⁷⁷The strongest argument to the effect that constitutional amendment questions are justiciable is Rees, *Throwing Away the Key: The Unconstitutionality of the Equal Rights Amendment Extension*, 58 Tex. L. Rev. 875, 886–901 (1980), and his student note, Comment, *Rescinding Ratification of Proposed Constitutional Amendments—A Question for the Court*, 37 La. L. Rev. 896 (1977). Two perspicacious scholars of the Constitution have come to opposite conclusions on the issue. Compare Dellinger, *The Legitimacy of Constitutional Change: Rethinking the Amendment Process*, 97 Harv. L. Rev. 386, 414–416 (1983) (there is judicial review), with Tribe, *A Constitution We Are Amending: In Defense of a Restrained Judicial Role*, 97 Harv. L. Rev. 433, 435–436 (1983). Much of the scholarly argument, up to that time, is collected in the ERA-time-extension hearings. *Supra*, n. 40. The only recent judicial precedents directly on point found justiciability on at least some questions. *Dyer v. Blair*, 390 F. Supp. 1291 (D.C.N.D.Ill., 1975) (three-judge court); *Idaho v. Freeman*, 529 F. Supp. 1107 (D.C.D.Idaho, 1981), vacated and remanded to dismiss, 459 U.S. 809 (1982).

⁷⁸In *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 214 (1962), the Court, in explaining the political question doctrine and categorizing cases, observed that *Coleman* “held that the questions of how long a proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution remained open to ratification, and what effect a prior rejection had on a subsequent ratification, were committed to congressional resolution and involved criteria of decision that necessarily escaped the judicial grasp.” Both characteristics were features that the Court in *Baker*, *supra*, 217, identified as elements of political questions, e.g., “a textually demonstrable constitutional commitment of the issue to a coordinate political department; or a lack of judicially discoverable and manageable standards for resolving it.” Later formulations have adhered to this way of expressing the matter. *Powell v. McCormack*, 395 U.S. 486 (1969); *O'Brien v. Brown*, 409 U.S. 1 (1972); *Gilligan v. Morgan*, 413 U.S. 1 (1973). However, it could be argued that, whatever the Court may say, what it did, particularly in *Powell* but also in *Baker*, largely drains the political question doctrine of its force. See *Uhler v. AFL-CIO*, 468 U.S. 1310 (1984) (Justice Rehnquist on Circuit) (doubting *Coleman*'s vitality in amendment context). But see *Goldwater v. Carter*, 444 U.S. 996, 1002 (1979) (opinion of Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger) (relying heavily upon *Coleman* to find an issue of treaty termination nonjusticiable). Compare *id.*, 1001 (Justice Powell concurring) (viewing *Coleman* as limited to its context).

ARTICLE VI

PRIOR DEBTS, NATIONAL SUPREMACY, AND OATHS OF OFFICE

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PRIOR DEBTS, NATIONAL SUPREMACY, AND OATHS OF OFFICE

ARTICLE VI

Clause 1. All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

PRIOR DEBTS

There are no annotations to this clause.

Clause 2. This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby; any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

NATIONAL SUPREMACY

Marshall's Interpretation of the National Supremacy Clause

Although the Supreme Court had held, prior to Marshall's appointment to the Bench, that the supremacy clause rendered null and void a state constitutional or statutory provision which was inconsistent with a treaty executed by the Federal Government,¹ it was left for him to develop the full significance of the clause as applied to acts of Congress. By his vigorous opinions in *McCulloch v. Maryland*² and *Gibbons v. Ogden*,³ he gave the principle a vitality which survived a century of vacillation under the doctrine of dual federalism. In the former case, he asserted broadly that "the States have no power, by taxation or otherwise, to retard, impede, burden, or in any manner control, the operations of the constitutional laws enacted by Congress to carry into execution the powers vested in

¹ *Ware v. Hylton*, 3 Dall. (3 U.S.) 199 (1796).

² *Wheat*. (17 U.S.) 316 (1819).

³ *Wheat*. (22 U.S.) 1 (1824).

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the general government. This is, we think, the unavoidable consequence of that supremacy which the Constitution has declared.”⁴ From this he concluded that a state tax upon notes issued by a branch of the Bank of the United States was void.

In *Gibbons v. Ogden*, the Court held that certain statutes of New York granting an exclusive right to use steam navigation on the waters of the State were null and void insofar as they applied to vessels licensed by the United States to engage in coastal trade. Said the Chief Justice: “In argument, however, it has been contended, that if a law passed by a State, in the exercise of its acknowledged sovereignty, comes into conflict with a law passed by Congress in pursuance of the Constitution, they affect the subject, and each other, like equal opposing powers. But the framers of our Constitution foresaw this state of things, and provided for it, by declaring the supremacy not only of itself, but of the laws made in pursuance of it. The nullity of an act, inconsistent with the Constitution, is produced by the declaration, that the Constitution is the supreme law. The appropriate application of that part of the clause which confers the same supremacy on laws and treaties, is to such acts of the State legislatures as do not transcend their powers, but though enacted in the execution of acknowledged State powers, interfere with, or are contrary to the laws of Congress, made in pursuance of the Constitution, or some treaty made under the authority of the United States. In every such case, the act of Congress, or the treaty, is supreme; and the law of the State, though enacted in the exercise of powers not controverted, must yield to it.”⁵

Task of the Supreme Court Under the Clause: Preemption

In applying the supremacy clause to subjects which have been regulated by Congress, the primary task of the Court is to ascertain whether a challenged state law is compatible with the policy expressed in the federal statute. When Congress legislates with regard to a subject, the extent and nature of the legal consequences of the regulation are federal questions, the answers to which are to be derived from a consideration of the language and policy of the state. If Congress expressly provides for exclusive federal dominion or if it expressly provides for concurrent federal-state jurisdiction, the task of the Court is simplified, though, of course, there may still be doubtful areas in which interpretation will be necessary. Where Congress is silent, however, the Court must itself decide

⁴ *Wheat*. (17 U.S.) 436 (1819).

⁵ *Wheat*. (22 U.S.), 210–211 (1824). See the Court’s discussion of *Gibbons* in *Douglas v. Seacoast Products*, 431 U.S. 265, 274–279 (1977).

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whether the effect of the federal legislation is to oust state jurisdiction.⁶

The Operation of the Supremacy Clause

When Congress legislates pursuant to its delegated powers, conflicting state law and policy must yield.⁷ Although the preemptive effect of federal legislation is best known in areas governed by the commerce clause, the same effect is present, of course, whenever Congress legislates constitutionally. And the operation of the supremacy clause may be seen as well when the authority of Congress is not express but implied, not plenary but dependent upon state acceptance. The latter may be seen in a series of cases concerning the validity of state legislation enacted to bring the States within the various programs authorized by Congress pursuant to the Social Security Act.⁸ State participation in the programs is voluntary, technically speaking, and no State is compelled to enact legislation comporting with the requirements of federal law. Once, however, a State is participating, its legislation, which is contrary to federal requirements, is void under the supremacy clause.⁹

Federal Immunity Laws and State Courts.—An example of the former circumstance is the operation of federal immunity acts¹⁰ to preclude the use in state courts of incriminating statements and testimony given by a witness before a committee of Congress or a federal grand jury.¹¹ Because Congress in pursuance of its paramount authority to provide for the national defense, as

⁶Treatment of preemption principles and standards is set out under the commerce clause, which is the greatest source of preemptive authority.

⁷*Gibbons v. Ogden*, 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 1, 210–211 (1824). See, e.g., *Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc.*, 112 S.Ct. 2608 (1992); *Morales v. TWA*, 112 S.Ct. 2031 (1992); *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725, 746 (1981); *Jones v. Rath Packing Co.*, 430 U.S. 519, 525 (1977).

⁸By the Social Security Act of 1935, 49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. §301 et seq., Congress established a series of programs operative in those States which joined the system and enacted the requisite complying legislation. Although participation is voluntary, the federal tax program underlying in effect induces state participation. See *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 548, 585–598 (1937).

⁹On the operation of federal spending programs upon state laws, see *South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203 (1987) (under highway funding programs). On the preemptive effect of federal spending laws, see *Lawrence County v. Lead-Deadwood School Dist.*, 469 U.S. 256 (1985). An early example of States being required to conform their laws to the federal standards is *King v. Smith*, 392 U.S. 309 (1968). Private parties may compel state acquiescence in federal standards to which they have agreed by participation in the programs through suits under a federal civil rights law (42 U.S.C. §1983). *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980). The Court has imposed some federalism constraints in this area by imposing a “clear statement” rule on Congress when it seeks to impose new conditions on States. *Pennhurst State School & Hospital v. Halderman*, 451 U.S. 1, 11, 17–18 (1981).

¹⁰Which operate to compel witnesses to testify even over self-incrimination claims by giving them an equivalent immunity.

¹¹*Adams v. Maryland*, 347 U.S. 179 (1954).

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complemented by the necessary and proper clause, is competent to compel testimony of persons which is needful for legislation, it is competent to obtain such testimony over a witness's self-incrimination claim by immunizing him from prosecution on evidence thus revealed not only in federal courts but in state courts as well.¹²

Priority of National Claims Over State Claims.—Anticipating his argument in *McCulloch v. Maryland*,¹³ Chief Justice Marshall in 1805 upheld an act of 1792 asserting for the United States a priority of its claims over those of the States against a debtor in bankruptcy.¹⁴ Consistent therewith, federal enactments providing that taxes due to the United States by an insolvent shall have priority in payment over taxes due by him to a State also have been sustained.¹⁵ Similarly, the Federal Government was held entitled to prevail over a citizen enjoying a preference under state law as creditor of an enemy alien bank in the process of liquidation by state authorities.¹⁶ A federal law providing that when a veteran dies in a federal hospital without a will or heirs his personal property shall vest in the United States as trustee for the General Post Fund was held to operate automatically without prior agreement of the veteran with the United States for such disposition and to take precedence over a state claim founded on its escheat law.¹⁷

Obligation of State Courts Under the Supremacy Clause

The Constitution, laws, and treaties of the United States are as much a part of the law of every State as its own local laws and constitution. Their obligation "is imperative upon the state judges, in their official and not merely in their private capacities. From the very nature of their judicial duties, they would be called upon to pronounce the law applicable to the case in judgment. They were not to decide merely according to the laws or Constitution of the

¹² *Ullmann v. United States*, 350 U.S. 422, 434–436 (1956). See also *Reina v. United States*, 364 U.S. 507, 510 (1960).

¹³ 4 *Wheat.* (17 U.S.) 316 (1819).

¹⁴ *United States v. Fisher*, 2 Cr. (6 U.S.) 358 (1805).

¹⁵ *Spokane County v. United States*, 279 U.S. 80, 87 (1929). A state requirement that notice of a federal tax lien be filed in conformity with state law in a state office in order to be accorded priority was held to be controlling only insofar as Congress by law had made it so. Remedies for collection of federal taxes are independent of legislative action of the States. *United States v. Union Central Life Ins. Co.*, 368 U.S. 291 (1961). See also *United States v. Buffalo Savings Bank*, 371 U.S. 228 (1963) (State may not avoid priority rules of a federal tax lien by providing that the discharge of state tax liens are to be part of the expenses of a mortgage foreclosure sale); *United States v. Pioneer American Ins. Co.*, 374 U.S. 84 (1963) (Matter of federal law whether a lien created by state law has acquired sufficient substance and has become so perfected as to defeat a later-arising or later-filed federal tax lien).

¹⁶ *Brownell v. Singer*, 347 U.S. 403 (1954).

¹⁷ *United States v. Oregon*, 366 U.S. 643 (1961).

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State, but according to the laws and treaties of the United States—‘the supreme law of the land.’”¹⁸ State courts are bound then to give effect to federal law when it is applicable and to disregard state law when there is a conflict; federal law includes, of course, not only the Constitution and congressional enactments and treaties but as well the interpretations of their meanings by the United States Supreme Court.¹⁹ While States need not specially create courts competent to hear federal claims or necessarily to give courts authority specially, it violates the supremacy clause for a state court to refuse to hear a category of federal claims when the court entertains state law actions of a similar nature.²⁰ The existence of inferior federal courts sitting in the States and exercising often concurrent jurisdiction of subjects has created problems with regard to the degree to which state courts are bound by their rulings. Though the Supreme Court has directed and encouraged the lower federal courts to create a corpus of federal common law,²¹ it has not spoken to the effect of such lower court rulings on state courts.

Supremacy Clause Versus the Tenth Amendment

The logic of the supremacy clause would seem to require that the powers of Congress be determined by the fair reading of the express and implied grants contained in the Constitution itself, without reference to the powers of the States. For a century after Marshall's death, however, the Court proceeded on the theory that the Tenth Amendment had the effect of withdrawing various matters of internal police from the reach of power expressly committed to Congress. This point of view was originally put forward in *New York City v. Miln*,²² which was first argued but not decided before Marshall's death. The *Miln* case involved a New York statute which required the captains of vessels entering New York Harbor with aliens aboard to make a report in writing to the Mayor of the City, giving certain prescribed information. It might have been distinguished from *Gibbons v. Ogden* on the ground that the statute involved in the earlier case conflicted with an act of Congress,

¹⁸*Martin v. Hunter's Lessee*, 1 Wheat. (14 U.S.) 304, 335 (1816). State courts have both the power and the duty to enforce obligations arising under federal law, unless Congress gives the federal courts exclusive jurisdiction. *Clafin v. Houseman*, 93 U.S. 130 (1876); *Second Employers' Liability Cases*, 223 U.S. 1 (1912); *Testa v. Katt*, 330 U.S. 386 (1947).

¹⁹*Cooper v. Aaron*, 358 U.S. 1 (1958).

²⁰*Howlett v. Rose*, 496 U.S. 356 (1990); *Felder v. Casey*, 487 U.S. 131 (1988).

²¹*Clearfield Trust Co. v. United States*, 318 U.S. 363 (1943); *Textile Workers of America v. Lincoln Mills*, 353 U.S. 448 (1957); *Illinois v. City of Milwaukee*, 406 U.S. 91 (1972).

²²11 Pet. (36 U.S.) 102 (1837).

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whereas the Court found that no such conflict existed in this case. But the Court was unwilling to rest its decision on that distinction.

Speaking for the majority, Justice Barbour seized the opportunity to proclaim a new doctrine. “But we do not place our opinion on this ground. We choose rather to plant ourselves on what we consider impregnable positions. They are these: That a State has the same undeniable and unlimited jurisdiction over all persons and things, within its territorial limits, as any foreign nation, where that jurisdiction is not surrendered or restrained by the Constitution of the United States. That, by virtue of this, it is not only the right, but the bounden and solemn duty of a State, to advance the safety, happiness and prosperity of its people, and to provide for its general welfare, by any and every act of legislation, which it may deem to be conducive to these ends; where the power over the particular subject, or the manner of its exercise is not surrendered or restrained, in the manner just stated. That all those powers which relate to merely municipal legislation, or what may, perhaps, more properly be called internal police, are not thus surrendered or restrained; and that, consequently, in relation to these, the authority of a State is complete, unqualified, and exclusive.”²³ Justice Story, in dissent, stated that Marshall had heard the previous argument and reached the conclusion that the New York statute was unconstitutional.²⁴

The conception of a “complete, unqualified and exclusive” police power residing in the States and limiting the powers of the National Government was endorsed by Chief Justice Taney ten years later in the *License Cases*.²⁵ In upholding state laws requiring licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages, including those imported from other States or from foreign countries, he set up the Supreme Court as the final arbiter in drawing the line between the mutually exclusive, reciprocally limiting fields of power occupied by the national and state governments.²⁶

Until recently, it appeared that in fact and in theory the Court had repudiated this doctrine,²⁷ but in *National League of Cities v. Usery*,²⁸ it revived part of this state police power limitation upon the exercise of delegated federal power. However, the decision was

²³Id., 139.

²⁴Id., 161.

²⁵5 How. (46 U.S.) 504 (1847).

²⁶Id., 573–574.

²⁷Representative early cases include *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*, 301 U.S. 1 (1937); *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 548 (1937); *Helvering v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 619 (1937); *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100 (1941). Among the cases incompatible with the theory was *Maryland v. Wirtz*, 392 U.S. 183 (1968).

²⁸426 U.S. 833 (1976).

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by a closely divided Court and subsequent interpretations closely cabined the development and then overruled the case.

Following the demise of the “doctrine of dual federalism” in the 1930s, the Court confronted the question whether Congress had the power to regulate state conduct and activities to the same extent, primarily under the commerce clause, as it did to regulate private conduct and activities to the exclusion of state law.²⁹ In *United States v. California*,³⁰ upholding the validity of the application of a federal safety law to a state-owned railroad being operated as a non-profit entity, the Court, speaking through Justice Stone, denied the existence of an implied limitation upon Congress’ “plenary power to regulate commerce” when a state instrumentality was involved. “The state can no more deny the power if its exercise has been authorized by Congress than can an individual.” While the State in operating the railroad was acting as a sovereign and within the powers reserved to the States, the Court said, its exercise was “in subordination to the power to regulate interstate commerce, which has been granted specifically to the national government. The sovereign power of the states is necessarily diminished to the extent of the grants of power to the federal government in the Constitution.”³¹ A series of cases followed in which the Court refused to construct any state immunity from regulation when Congress acted pursuant to a delegated power.³² The culmination of this series had been thought to be *Maryland v. Wirtz*,³³ in which the Court upheld the constitutionality of applying the federal wage and hour law to nonprofessional employees of state-operated schools and hospitals. In an opinion by Justice Harlan, the Court saw a clear connection between working conditions in these institutions and interstate commerce. Labor conditions in schools and hospitals affect commerce; strikes and work stoppages involving such

²⁹On the doctrine of “dual federalism,” see the commentary by the originator of the phrase, Professor Corwin. E. CORWIN, *THE TWILIGHT OF THE SUPREME COURT—A HISTORY OF OUR CONSTITUTIONAL THEORY* (Yale: 1934), 10–51; *THE COMMERCE POWER VERSUS STATES RIGHTS* (Princeton: 1936), 115–172; *A CONSTITUTION OF POWERS IN A SECULAR STATE* (Charlottesville: 1951), 1–28.

³⁰297 U.S. 175 (1936).

³¹*Id.*, 183–185.

³²*California v. United States*, 320 U.S. 577 (1944) (federal regulation of shipping terminal facilities owned by State); *California v. Taylor*, 353 U.S. 553 (1957) (Railway Labor Act applies on state-owned railroad); *Case v. Bowles*, 327 U.S. 92 (1946); *Hubler v. Twin Falls County*, 327 U.S. 103 (1946) (federal wartime price regulations applied to state transactions; Congress’ power effectively to wage war); *Board of Trustees v. United States*, 289 U.S. 48 (1933) (State university required to pay federal customs duties on imported educational equipment); *Oklahoma ex rel. Phillips v. Atkinson Co.*, 313 U.S. 508 (1941) (federal condemnation of state lands for flood control project); *Sanitary District v. United States*, 206 U.S. 405 (1925) (prohibition of State from diverting water from Great Lakes).

³³392 U.S. 183 (1968). Justices Douglas and Stewart dissented. *Id.*, 201.

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employees interrupt and burden the flow across state lines of goods purchased by state agencies and the wages paid have a substantial effect. The commerce clause being thus applicable, the Justice wrote, Congress was not constitutionally required to “yield to state sovereignty in the performance of governmental functions. This argument simply is not tenable. There is no general ‘doctrine implied in the Federal Constitution that “the two governments, national and state, are each to exercise its powers so as not to interfere with the free and full exercise of the powers of the other.’” . . . [I]t is clear that the Federal Government when acting within a delegated power, may override countervailing state interests whether these be described as ‘governmental’ or ‘proprietary’ in character. . . . [V]alid general regulations of commerce do not cease to be regulations of commerce because a State is involved. If a State is engaging in economic activities that are validly regulated by the Federal Government when engaged in by private persons, the State too may be forced to conform its activities to federal regulation.”³⁴

Wirtz was specifically reaffirmed in *Fry v. United States*,³⁵ in which the Court upheld the constitutionality of presidentially imposed wage and salary controls, pursuant to congressional statute, on all state governmental employees. In dissent, however, Justice Rehnquist propounded a doctrine which was to obtain majority approval in *League of Cities*.³⁶ In that opinion, he said for the Court: “[T]here are attributes of sovereignty attaching to every state government which may not be impaired by Congress, not because Con-

³⁴ *Id.*, 195, 196–197.

³⁵ 421 U.S. 542 (1975).

³⁶ *Id.* 549. Essentially, the Justice was required to establish an affirmative constitutional barrier to congressional action. *Id.* 552–553. That is, if one asserts only the absence of congressional authority, one’s chances of success are dim because of the breadth of the commerce power. But when he asserts that, say, the First or Fifth Amendment bars congressional action concededly within its commerce power, one interposes an affirmative constitutional defense that has a chance of success. It was the Justice’s view that the State was “asserting an affirmative constitutional right, inherent in its capacity as a State, to be free from such congressionally asserted authority.” *Id.*, 553. But whence the affirmative barrier? “[I]t is not the Tenth Amendment *by its terms*. . .” *Id.*, 557 (emphasis supplied). Rather, the Amendment was an example of the Framers’ understanding that the sovereignty of the States imposed an implied affirmative barrier to the assertion of otherwise valid congressional powers. *Id.*, 557–559. But the difficulty with this construction is that the equivalence sought to be established by Justice Rehnquist lies *not* between an individual asserting a constitutional limit on delegated powers and a State asserting the same thing but *is* rather between an individual asserting a lack of authority and a State asserting a lack of authority; this equivalence is evident on the face of the Tenth Amendment which states that the powers not delegated to the United States “are reserved to the States respectively, *or to the people*.” (emphasis supplied). The States are thereby accorded no greater interest in restraining the exercise of nondelegated power than are the people. See *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U.S. 447 (1823).

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gress may lack an affirmative grant of legislative authority to reach the matter, but because the Constitution prohibits it from exercising the authority in that manner.”³⁷ The standard apparently, in judging between permissible and impermissible federal regulation, is whether there is federal interference with “functions essential to separate and independent existence.”³⁸ In the context of this case, state decisions with respect to the pay of their employees and the hours to be worked were essential aspects of their “freedom to structure integral operations in areas of traditional governmental functions.”³⁹ The line of cases, exemplified by *United States v. California*, was distinguished and preserved on the basis that the state activities there regulated were so unlike the traditional activities of a State that Congress could reach them;⁴⁰ *Case v. Bowles* was held distinguishable on the basis that Congress had acted pursuant to its war powers and to have rejected the power would have impaired national defense;⁴¹ *Fry* was distinguished on the bases that it was emergency legislation tailored to combat a serious national emergency, the means were limited in time and effect, the freeze did not displace state discretion in structuring operations or force a restructuring, and, the federal action “operated to reduce the pressure upon state budgets rather than increase them.”⁴² *Wirtz* was overruled; it permitted Congress to intrude into the conduct of integral and traditional state governmental functions and could not therefore stand.⁴³

League of Cities did not prove to be much of a restriction upon congressional power in subsequent decisions. First, its principle was held not to reach to state regulation of private conduct that affects interstate commerce, even as to such matters as state jurisdiction over land within its borders.⁴⁴ Second, it was held not to immunize state conduct of a business operation, that is, proprietary activity not like “traditional governmental activities.”⁴⁵ Third, it was held not to preclude Congress from regulating the way States regulate private activities within the State, even though such state activity is certainly traditional governmental action, on the theory that because Congress could displace or preempt state regulation it may require the States to regulate in a certain way if they wish

³⁷ *National League of Cities v. Usery*, 426 U.S. 833, 845 (1976).

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Id.*, 852.

⁴⁰ *Id.*, 854.

⁴¹ *Id.*, 854 n. 18.

⁴² *Id.*, 852–853.

⁴³ *Id.*, 853–855.

⁴⁴ *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Reclamation Assn.*, 452 U.S. 264 (1981).

⁴⁵ *United Transp. Union v. Long Island Rail Road Co.*, 455 U.S. 678 (1982).

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to continue to act in this field.⁴⁶ Fourth, it was held not to limit Congress when it acts in an emergency or pursuant to its war powers, so that Congress may indeed reach even traditional governmental activity.⁴⁷ Fifth, it was held not to apply at all to Congress' enforcement powers under the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments.⁴⁸ Sixth, it apparently was to have no application to the exercise of Congress' spending power with conditions attached.⁴⁹ Seventh, not because of the way the Court framed the statement of its doctrinal position, which is absolutist, but because of the way it accommodated precedent and because of Justice Blackmun's concurrence, it was always open to interpretation that Congress was enabled to reach traditional governmental activities not involving employer-employee relations or is enabled to reach even these relations if the effect is "to reduce the pressures upon state budgets rather than increase them."⁵⁰ In his concurrence, Justice Blackmun suggested his lack of agreement with "certain possible implications" of the opinion and recast it as a "balancing approach" which "does not outlaw federal power in areas such as environmental protection, where the federal interest is demonstrably greater and where state facility compliance with imposed federal standards would be essential."⁵¹ Indeed, Justice Blackmun's deviation from *League of Cities* in the subsequent cases usually made the difference in the majority. dispute.

The Court overruled *National League of Cities* in *Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Auth.*,⁵² and seemingly returned to

⁴⁶ FERC v. Mississippi, 456 U.S. 742 (1982).

⁴⁷ National League of Cities v. Usery, 426 U.S. 833, 854 n. 18 (1976).

⁴⁸ Fitzpatrick v. Bitzer, 427 U.S. 445 (1976); City of Rome v. United States, 446 U.S. 156, 178–180 (1980).

⁴⁹ In Pennhurst State School & Hospital v. Halderman, 451 U.S. 1, 17 n. 13 (1981), the Court suggested rather ambiguously that *League of Cities* may restrict the federal spending power, citing its reservation of the cases in *League of Cities*, 426 U.S. 852 n. 17, but citing also spending clause cases indicating a rational basis standard of review of conditioned spending. Earlier, the Court had summarily affirmed a decision holding that the spending power was not affected by the case. North Carolina ex rel. Morrow v. Califano, 445 F.Supp. 532 (E.D.N.C. 1977) (three-judge court), *affd.* 435 U.S. 962 (1978). No hint of such a limitation is contained in more recent decisions (to be sure, in the aftermath of *League of Cities*' demise). New York v. United States, 112 S.Ct. 2408, 2423, 2426, 2433 (1992); South Dakota v. Dole, 483 U.S. 203, 210–212 (1987).

⁵⁰ National League of Cities v. Usery, 426 U.S. 833, 846–851 (1976). The quotation in the text is at *id.*, 853 (one of the elements distinguishing the case from *Fry*).

⁵¹ *Id.*, 856.

⁵² 469 U.S. 528 (1985). The issue was again decided by a 5 to 4 vote, Justice Blackmun's qualified acceptance of the *National League of Cities* approach having changed to complete rejection. Justice Blackmun's opinion of the Court was joined by Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens. Writing in dissent were Justices Powell (joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices Rehnquist and O'Connor), O'Connor (joined by Justices Powell and Rehnquist), and Rehnquist.

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the conception of federal supremacy embodied in *Wirtz* and *Fry*. For the most part, the Court indicated, States must seek protection from the impact of federal regulation in the political processes, and not in any limitations imposed on the commerce power or found in the Tenth Amendment. Justice Blackmun's opinion for the Court in *Garcia* concluded that the *National League of Cities* test for "integral operations in areas of traditional governmental functions" had proven "both impractical and doctrinally barren."⁵³ State autonomy is both limited and protected by the terms of the Constitution itself, hence—ordinarily, at least—exercise of Congress' enumerated powers is not to be limited by "*a priori* definitions of state sovereignty."⁵⁴ States retain a significant amount of sovereign authority "only to the extent that the Constitution has not divested them of their original powers and transferred those powers to the Federal Government."⁵⁵ There are direct limitations in Art. I, § 10, and "Section 8 . . . works an equally sharp contraction of state sovereignty by authorizing Congress to exercise a wide range of legislative powers and (in conjunction with the supremacy clause of Article VI) to displace contrary state legislation."⁵⁶ On the other hand, the principal restraints on congressional exercise of the commerce power are to be found not in the Tenth Amendment, in the commerce clause itself, or in "judicially created limitations on federal power," but in the structure of the Federal Government and in the political processes.⁵⁷ "[T]he fundamental limitation that the constitutional scheme imposes on the Commerce Clause to protect the 'States as States' is one of process rather than one of result."⁵⁸ While continuing to recognize that "Congress' authority under the Commerce Clause must reflect [the] position . . . that the States occupy a special and specific position in our constitutional system," the Court held that application of Fair Labor Standards Act minimum wage and overtime provisions to state employment does not require identification of these "affirmative limits."⁵⁹ Thus, arguably, the Court has not totally abandoned the *National League of Cities* premise that there are limits on the extent to which federal regulation may burden States as States. Rather, it has stipulated

⁵³Id., 557.

⁵⁴Id., 548.

⁵⁵Id., 549.

⁵⁶Id., 548.

⁵⁷"Apart from the limitation on federal authority inherent in the delegated nature of Congress' Article I powers, the principal means chosen by the Framers to ensure the role of the States in the federal system lies in the structure of the Federal Government itself." Id., 550. The Court cited as prime examples the role of states in selecting the President, and the equal representation of states in the Senate. Id., 551.

⁵⁸Id., 554.

⁵⁹Id., 556.

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that any such limits on exercise of federal power must be premised on a failure of the political processes to protect state interests, and “must be tailored to compensate for [such] failings . . . rather than to dictate a ‘sacred province of state autonomy.’”⁶⁰

Further indication of what must be alleged in order to establish affirmative limits to commerce power regulation was provided in *South Carolina v. Baker*.⁶¹ The Court expansively interpreted *Garcia* as meaning that there must be an allegation of “some extraordinary defects in the national political process” before the Court will intervene. A claim that Congress acted on incomplete information will not suffice, the Court noting that South Carolina had “not even alleged that it was deprived of any right to participate in the national political process or that it was singled out in a way that left it politically isolated and powerless.”⁶² Thus, the general rule is that “limits on Congress’ authority to regulate state activities . . . are structural, not substantive—i.e., that States must find their protection from congressional regulation through the national political process, not through judicially defined spheres of unregulable state activity.”⁶³

Dissenting in *Garcia*, Justice Rehnquist predicted that the doctrine propounded by the dissenters and by those Justices in *National League of Cities* “will . . . in time again command the support of a majority of the Court.”⁶⁴ As the membership of the Court changed, it appeared that the prediction was proving true.⁶⁵ Confronted with the opportunity in *New York v. United States*,⁶⁶ to re-examine *Garcia*, the Court instead distinguished it,⁶⁷ striking down a federal law on the basis that Congress could not “commandeer” the legislative and administrative processes of state government to compel the administration of federal programs.⁶⁸ The

⁶⁰ *Id.*, 554.

⁶¹ 485 U.S. 505 (1988).

⁶² *Id.*, 512–513.

⁶³ *Id.*, 512.

⁶⁴ *Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Auth.*, 469 U.S. 528, 579–580 (1985).

⁶⁵ The shift was pronounced in *Gregory v. Ashcroft*, 501 U.S. 452 (1991), in which the Court, cognizant of the constraints of *Garcia*, chose to apply a “plain statement” rule to construction of a statute seen to be intruding into the heart of state autonomy. *Id.*, 463. To do otherwise, said Justice O’Connor, was to confront “a potential constitutional problem” under the Tenth Amendment and the guarantee clause of Article IV, § 4. *Id.*, 463–464.

⁶⁶ 112 S.Ct. 2408 (1992).

⁶⁷ The line of cases exemplified by *Garcia* was said to concern the authority of Congress to subject state governments to generally applicable laws, those covering private concerns as well as the States, necessitating no revisiting of those cases. *Id.*, 2420.

⁶⁸ Struck down was a provision of law providing for the disposal of radioactive wastes generated in the United States by government and industry. Placing various

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line of analysis pursued by the Court makes clear, however, the result when a *Garcia* kind of federal law is reviewed.

That is, because the dispute involved the division of authority between federal and state governments, Justice O'Connor wrote for the Court, one could inquire whether Congress acted under a delegated power or one could ask whether Congress had invaded a state province protected by the Tenth Amendment. But, said the Justice, "the two inquiries are mirror images of each other. If a power is delegated to Congress in the Constitution, the Tenth Amendment expressly disclaims any reservation of that power to the States; if a power is an attribute of state sovereignty reserved by the Tenth Amendment, it is necessarily a power the Constitution has not conferred on Congress."⁶⁹

Powers delegated to the Nation, therefore, are subject to limitations that reserve power to the States. This limitation is not found in the text of the Tenth Amendment, which is, the Court stated, "but a truism,"⁷⁰ but is a direct constraint on Article I powers when an incident of state sovereignty is invaded.⁷¹ The "take title" provision was such an invasion. Both the Federal Government and the States owe political accountability to the people. When Congress encourages States to adopt and administer a federally-prescribed program, both governments maintain their accountability for their decisions. When Congress compels the States to act, state officials will bear the brunt of accountability that properly belongs at the national level.⁷² The "take title" provision, because it presented the States with "an unavoidable command", transformed state governments into "regional offices" or "administrative agencies" of the Federal Government, impermissibly undermined the accountability owing the people and was void.⁷³ Whether viewed as lying outside Congress' enumerated powers or as infringing the core of state sovereignty reserved by the Tenth Amendment, "the provision is inconsistent with the federal structure of our Government established by the Constitution."⁷⁴

Federal laws of general applicability, therefore, are surely subject to examination under the *New York* test rather than under the *Garcia* structural standard. The exercise of Congress' commerce

responsibilities on the States, the provision sought to compel performance by requiring that any State that failed to provide for the permanent disposal of wastes generated within its borders must take title to, take possession of, and assume liability for the wastes, id., 2414–2417, 2427–2429, obviously a considerable burden.

⁶⁹Id., 2417.

⁷⁰Id., 2418 (quoting *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100, 124 (1941)).

⁷¹Ibid.

⁷²Id., 2424.

⁷³Id., 2427–2429, 2434–2435.

⁷⁴Id., 2429.

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powers will likely be reviewed under a level of close scrutiny in the foreseeable future.

Federal Instrumentalities and Personnel and State Police Power

Federal instrumentalities and agencies have never enjoyed the same degree of immunity from state police regulation as from state taxation. The Court has looked to the nature of each regulation to determine whether it is compatible with the functions committed by Congress to the federal agency. This problem has arisen most often with reference to the applicability of state laws to the operation of national banks. Two correlative propositions have governed the decisions in these cases. The first was stated by Justice Miller in *First National Bank v. Commonwealth*.⁷⁵ “[National banks are] subject to the laws of the State, and are governed in their daily course of business far more by the laws of the State than of the Nation. All their contracts are governed and construed by State laws. Their acquisition and transfer of property, their right to collect their debts, and their liability to be sued for debts are all based on State law. It is only when the State law incapacitates the banks discharging their duties to the government that it becomes unconstitutional.”⁷⁶ In *Davis v. Elmira Savings Bank*,⁷⁷ the Court stated the second proposition thus: “National banks are instrumentalities of the Federal Government, created for a public purpose, and as such necessarily subject to the paramount authority of the United States. It follows that an attempt by a State to define their duties or control the conduct of their affairs is absolutely void, wherever such attempted exercise of authority expressly conflicts with the laws of the United States, and either frustrates the purpose of the national legislation, or impairs the efficiency of these agencies of the Federal Government to discharge the duties for the performance of which they were created.”⁷⁸

Similarly, a state law, insofar as it forbids national banks to use the word “saving” or “savings” in their business and advertising is void by reason of conflict with the Federal Reserve Act authorizing such banks to receive savings deposits.⁷⁹ However, federal incorporation of a railroad company of itself does not operate to exempt it from control by a State as to business consummated wholly therein.⁸⁰ Also, Treasury Department regulations, designed

⁷⁵ 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 353 (1870).

⁷⁶ *Id.*, 362.

⁷⁷ 161 U.S. 275 (1896).

⁷⁸ *Id.*, 283.

⁷⁹ *Franklin Nat. Bank v. New York*, 347 U.S. 273 (1954).

⁸⁰ *Reagan v. Mercantile Trust Co.*, 154 U.S. 413 (1894).

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to implement the federal borrowing power (Art. I, § 8, cl. 2) by making United States Savings Bonds attractive to investors and conferring exclusive title thereto upon a surviving joint owner, override contrary state community property laws whereunder a one-half interest in such property remains part of the estate of a decedent co-owner.⁸¹ Similarly, the Patent Office having been granted by Congress an unqualified authorization to license and regulate the conduct throughout the United States of nonlawyers as patent agents, a State, under the guise of prohibiting unauthorized practice of law, is preempted from enjoining such activities of a licensed agent as entail the rendering of legal opinions as to patentability or infringement of patent rights and the preparation and prosecution of application for patents.⁸²

The extent to which States may go in regulating contractors who furnish goods or services to the Federal Government is not as clearly established as is their right to tax such dealers. In 1943, a closely divided Court sustained the refusal of the Pennsylvania Milk Control Commission to renew the license of a milk dealer who, in violation of state law, had sold milk to the United States for consumption by troops at an army camp located on land belonging to the State, at prices below the minimum established by the Commission.⁸³ The majority was unable to find in congressional legislation, or in the Constitution, unaided by congressional enactment, any immunity from such price fixing regulations. On the same day, a different majority held that California could not penalize a milk dealer for selling milk to the War Department at less than the minimum price fixed by state law where the sales and deliveries were made in a territory which had been ceded to the Federal Government by the State and were subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the former.⁸⁴ On the other hand, by virtue of its conflict with standards set forth in the Armed Services Procurement Act, 41 U.S.C. § 152, for determining the letting of contracts to responsible bidders, a state law licensing contractors cannot be enforced against one selected by federal authorities for work on an Air Force base.⁸⁵

Most recently, the Court has done little to clarify the doctrinal difficulties.⁸⁶ The Court looked to a “functional” analysis of state

⁸¹ *Free v. Bland*, 369 U.S. 663 (1962).

⁸² *Sperry v. Florida*, 373 U.S. 379 (1963).

⁸³ *Penn Dairies v. Milk Control Comm.*, 318 U.S. 261 (1943).

⁸⁴ *Pacific Coast Dairy v. Dept. of Agriculture*, 318 U.S. 285 (1943). See also *Paul v. United States*, 371 U.S. 245 (1963).

⁸⁵ *Leslie Miller, Inc. v. Arkansas*, 353 U.S. 187 (1956).

⁸⁶ *North Dakota v. United States*, 495 U.S. 423 (1990). The difficulty is that the case was five-to-four with a single Justice concurring with a plurality of four to

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regulations, much like the rule covering state taxation. “A state regulation is invalid only if it regulates the United States directly or discriminates against the Federal Government or those with whom it deals.”⁸⁷In determining whether a regulation discriminates against the Federal Government, “the entire regulatory system should be analyzed.”⁸⁸

The Doctrine of Federal Exemption From State Taxation

McCulloch v. Maryland.—Five years after the decision in *McCulloch v. Maryland* that a State may not tax an instrumentality of the Federal Government, the Court was asked to and did re-examine the entire question in *Osborn v. United States Bank*.⁸⁹ In that case counsel for the State of Ohio, whose attempt to tax the Bank was challenged, put forward two arguments of great importance. In the first place it was “contended, that, admitting Congress to possess the power, this exemption ought to have been expressly asserted in the act of incorporation; and not being expressed, ought not to be implied by the Court.”⁹⁰ To which Marshall replied: “It is no unusual thing for an act of Congress to imply, without expressing, this very exemption from state control, which is said to be so objectionable in this instance.”⁹¹ Secondly, the appellants relied “greatly on the distinction between the bank and the public institutions, such as the mint or the post office. The agents in those offices are, it is said, officers of government. . . . Not so the directors of the bank. The connection of the government with the bank, is likened to that with contractors.”⁹² Marshall accepted this analogy but not to the advantage of the appellants. He simply indicated that all contractors who dealt with the Government were entitled to immunity from taxation upon such transactions.⁹³ Thus, not only was the decision of *McCulloch v. Maryland* reaffirmed but the foundation was laid for the vast expansion

reach the result. *Id.*, 444. Presumably, the concurrence agreed with the rationale set forth here, disagreeing only in other respects.

⁸⁷ *Id.*, 435. Four dissenting Justices agreed with this principle, but they also would invalidate a state law that “actually and substantially interferes with specific federal programs.” *Id.*, 448, 451–452.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* That is, only when the overall effect, when balanced against other regulations applicable to similarly situated persons who do not deal with the government, imposes a discriminatory burden will they be invalidated. The concurring Justice was doubtful of this standard. *Id.*, 444 (Justice Scalia concurring).

⁸⁹ 9 *Wheat.* (22 U.S.) 738 (1824).

⁹⁰ *Id.*, 865.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*

⁹² *Id.*, 866.

⁹³ *Id.*, 867.

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of the principle of immunity that was to follow in the succeeding decades.

Applicability of Doctrine to Federal Securities.—The first significant extension of the doctrine of the immunity of federal instrumentalities from state taxation came in *Weston v. Charleston*,⁹⁴ where Chief Justice Marshall also found in the supremacy clause a bar to state taxation of obligations of the United States. During the Civil War, when Congress authorized the issuance of legal tender notes, it explicitly declared that such notes, as well as United States bonds and other securities, should be exempt from state taxation.⁹⁵ A modified version of this section remains on the statute books today.⁹⁶ The right of Congress to exempt legal tender notes to the same extent as bonds was sustained in *Bank v. Supervisors*,⁹⁷ over the objection that such notes circulate as money and should be taxable in the same way as coin. But a state tax on checks issued by the Treasurer of the United States for interest accrued upon government bonds was sustained since it did not in any way affect the credit of the National Government.⁹⁸ Similarly, the assessment for an *ad valorem* property tax of an open account for money due under a federal contract,⁹⁹ and the inclusion of the value of United States bonds owed by a decedent, in measuring an inheritance tax,¹⁰⁰ were held valid, since neither tax would substantially embarrass the power of the United States to secure credit.¹⁰¹ A state property tax levied on mutual savings banks and federal savings and loan associations and measured by the amount of their capital, surplus, or reserve and undivided profits, but without deduction of the value of their United States securities, was voided as a tax on obligations of the Federal Government. Apart from the fact that the ownership interest of depositors in such institutions was different from that of corporate stockholders, the tax was im-

⁹⁴ 2 Pet. (27 U.S.) 449 (1829), followed in *New York ex rel. Bank of Commerce v. New York City*, 2 Bl. (67 U.S.) 620 (1863).

⁹⁵ 12 Stat. 709, 710, 1 (1863).

⁹⁶ 31 U.S.C. §3124. The exemption under the statute is no broader than that which the Constitution requires. *First National Bank v. Bartow County Bd. of Tax Assessors*, 470 U.S. 583 (1985). The relationship of this statute to another, 12 U.S.C. §548, governing taxation of shares of national banking associations, has occasioned no little difficulty. *American Bank & Trust Co. v. Dallas County*, 463 U.S. 855 (1983); *Memphis Bank & Trust Co. v. Garner*, 459 U.S. 392 (1983).

⁹⁷ 7 Wall. (74 U.S.) 26 (1868).

⁹⁸ *Hibernia Savings Society v. San Francisco*, 200 U.S. 310, 315 (1906).

⁹⁹ *Smith v. Davis*, 323 U.S. 111 (1944).

¹⁰⁰ *Plummer v. Coler*, 178 U.S. 115 (1900); *Blodgett v. Silberman*, 277 U.S. 1, 12 (1928).

¹⁰¹ *Accord: Rockford Life Ins. Co. v. Illinois Dept. of Revenue*, 482 U.S. 182 (1987) (Tax including in an investor's net assets the value of federally-backed securities ("Ginnie Maes") upheld, since it would have no adverse effect on Federal Government's borrowing ability).

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posed on the banks which were solely liable for payment thereof.¹⁰²

Income from federal securities is also beyond the reach of the state taxing power as the cases now stand.¹⁰³ Nor can such a tax be imposed indirectly upon the stockholders on such part of the corporate dividends as corresponds to the part of the corporation's income which is not assessed, i.e., income from tax exempt bonds.¹⁰⁴ A State may constitutionally levy an excise tax on corporations for the privilege of doing business, and measure the tax by the property of net income of the corporation, including tax exempt United States securities or the income derived therefrom.¹⁰⁵ The designation of a tax is not controlling.¹⁰⁶ Where a so-called "license tax" upon insurance companies, measured by gross income, including interest on government bonds, was, in effect, a commutation tax levied in lieu of other taxation upon the personal property of the taxpayer, it was still held to amount to an unconstitutional tax on the bonds themselves.¹⁰⁷

Taxation of Government Contractors.—In the course of his opinion in *Osborn v. United States Bank*,¹⁰⁸ Chief Justice Marshall posed the question: "Can a contractor for supplying a military post with provisions, be restrained from making purchases within any state, or from transporting the provisions to the place at which the troops were stationed? Or could he be fined or taxed for doing so? We have not yet heard these questions answered in the affirmative."¹⁰⁹ Today, the question insofar as taxation is concerned is answered in the affirmative. While the early cases looked toward immunity,¹¹⁰ in *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*,¹¹¹ by a 5-to-4 vote, the Court established the modern doctrine. Upholding a state tax on the gross receipts of a contractor providing services to the Fed-

¹⁰² *Society for Savings v. Bowers*, 349 U.S. 143 (1955).

¹⁰³ *Northwestern Mutual L. Ins. Co. v. Wisconsin*, 275 U.S. 136, 140 (1927).

¹⁰⁴ *Miller v. Milwaukee*, 272 U.S. 713 (1927).

¹⁰⁵ *Provident Institution v. Massachusetts*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 611 (1868); *Society for Savings v. Coite*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 594 (1868); *Hamilton Company v. Massachusetts*, 6 Wall. (73 U.S.) 632 (1868); *Home Ins. Co. v. New York*, 134 U.S. 594 (1890); *Werner Machine Co. v. Director of Taxation*, 350 U.S. 492 (1956).

¹⁰⁶ *Macallen v. Massachusetts*, 279 U.S. 620, 625 (1929).

¹⁰⁷ *Northwestern Mutual L. Ins. Co. v. Wisconsin*, 275 U.S. 136 (1927).

¹⁰⁸ 9 Wheat. (22 U.S.) 738 (1824).

¹⁰⁹ *Id.*, 867.

¹¹⁰ The dissent in *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*, 302 U.S. 134, 161 (1937), observed that the Court was overruling "a century of precedents." See, e.g., *Panhandle Oil Co. v. Mississippi ex rel. Knox*, 277 U.S. 218 (1928) (voiding a state privilege tax on dealers in gasoline as applied to sales by a dealer to the Federal Government for use by Coast Guard). It was in *Panhandle* that Justice Holmes uttered his riposte to Chief Justice Marshall: "The power to tax is not the power to destroy while this Court sits." *Id.*, 223 (dissenting).

¹¹¹ 302 U.S. 134 (1937).

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eral Government, the Court said that “[I]t is not necessary to cripple [the State’s power to tax] by extending the constitutional exemption from taxation to those subjects which fall within the general application of non-discriminatory laws, and where no direct burden is laid upon the governmental instrumentality, and there is only a remote, if any, influence upon the exercise of the functions of government.”¹¹² A state-imposed sales tax upon the purchase of goods by a private firm having a cost-plus contract with the Federal Government was sustained, it not being critical to the tax’s validity that it would be passed on to the Government.¹¹³ Previously, it had sustained a gross receipts tax levied in lieu of a property tax upon the operator of an automobile stage line, who was engaged in carrying the mails as an independent contractor¹¹⁴ and an excise tax on gasoline sold to a contractor with the Government and used to operate machinery in the construction of levees on the Mississippi River.¹¹⁵ While the decisions have not set an unwavering line,¹¹⁶ the Court has in recent years hewed to a very restrictive doctrine of immunity. “[T]ax immunity is appropriate in only one circumstance: when the levy falls on the United States itself, or on an agency or instrumentality so closely connected to the Government that the two cannot realistically be viewed as separate entities, at least insofar as the activity being taxed is concerned.”¹¹⁷ Thus, *New Mexico* sustained a state gross receipts tax and a use tax imposed upon contractors with the Federal Government which operated on “advanced funding,” drawing on federal deposits so that only federal funds were expended by the contractors to meet their obligations.¹¹⁸

¹¹² *Id.*, 150 (quoting *Willcuts v. Bunn*, 282 U.S. 216, 225 (1931)).

¹¹³ *Alabama v. King & Boozer*, 314 U.S. 1 (1941), overruling *Panhandle Oil Co. v. Mississippi ex rel. Knox*, 277 U.S. 218 (1928), and *Graves v. Texas Co.*, 298 U.S. 393 (1936). See also *Curry v. United States*, 314 U.S. 14 (1941). “The Constitution . . . does not forbid a tax whose legal incidence is upon a contractor doing business with the United States, even though the economic burden of the tax, by contract or otherwise, is ultimately borne by the United States.” *United States v. Boyd*, 378 U.S. 39, 44 (1964) (sustaining sales and use taxes on contractors using tangible personal property to carry out government cost-plus contract).

¹¹⁴ *Alward v. Johnson*, 282 U.S. 509 (1931).

¹¹⁵ *Trinityfarm Const. Co. v. Grosjean*, 291 U.S. 466 (1934).

¹¹⁶ *United States v. Allegheny County*, 322 U.S. 174 (1944) (voiding property tax that included in assessment the value of federal machinery held by private party); *Kern-Limerick v. Scurlock*, 347 U.S. 110 (1954) (voiding gross receipts sales tax applied to contractor purchasing article under agreement whereby he was to act as agent for Government and title to articles purchased passed directly from vendor to United States).

¹¹⁷ *United States v. New Mexico*, 455 U.S. 720, 735 (1982). See *South Carolina v. Baker*, 485 U.S. 505, 523 (1988).

¹¹⁸ “[I]mmunity may not be conferred simply because the tax has an effect on the United States, or even because the Federal Government shoulders the entire

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Of course, Congress may statutorily provide for immunity from taxation of federal contractors generally or in particular programs.¹¹⁹

Taxation of Salaries of Employees of Federal Agencies.—Of a piece with *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.* was the decision in *Graves v. New York ex rel. O’Keefe*,¹²⁰ handed down two years later. Repudiating the theory “that a tax on income is legally or economically a tax on its source,” the Court held that a State could levy a nondiscriminatory income tax upon the salary of an employee of a government corporation. In the opinion of the Court, Justice Stone intimated that Congress could not validly confer such an immunity upon federal employees. “The burden, so far as it can be said to exist or to affect the government in any indirect or incidental way, is one which the Constitution presupposes; and hence it cannot rightly be deemed to be within an implied restriction upon the taxing power of the national and state governments which the Constitution has expressly granted to one and has confirmed to the other. The immunity is not one to be implied from the Constitution, because if allowed it would impose to an inadmissible extent a restriction on the taxing power which the Constitution has reserved to the state governments.”¹²¹ Chief Justice Hughes concurred in the result without opinion. Justices Butler and McReynolds dissented and Justice Frankfurter wrote a concurring opinion in which he reserved judgment as to “whether Congress may, by express legislation, relieve its functionaries from their civic obligations to pay for the benefits of the State governments under which they live.”¹²²

That question is academic, Congress having consented to state taxation of its employees’ compensation as long as the taxation “does not discriminate against the . . . employee, because of the

economic burden of the levy.” *United States v. New Mexico*, 455 U.S. 720, 734 (1982).

¹¹⁹ *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*, 302 U.S. 134, 161 (1937); *Carson v. Roane-Anderson Co.*, 342 U.S. 232, 234 (1952); *United States v. New Mexico*, 455 U.S. 720, 737 (1982). *Roane-Anderson* held that a section of the Atomic Energy Act barred the collection of state sales and use taxes in connection with sales to private companies of personal property used by them in fulfilling their contracts with the AEC. Thereafter, Congress repealed the section for the express purpose of placing AEC contractors on the same footing as other federal contractors and the Court upheld imposition of the taxes. *United States v. Boyd*, 378 U.S. 39 (1964).

¹²⁰ 306 U.S. 466 (1939), followed in *State Comm. v. Van Cott*, 306 U.S. 511 (1939). This case overruled by implication *Dobbins v. Erie County*, 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 435 (1842), and *New York ex rel. Rogers v. Graves*, 299 U.S. 401 (1937), which held the income of federal employees to be immune from State taxation.

¹²¹ *Id.*, 487.

¹²² *Id.* 492.

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source of the . . . compensation.”¹²³ This statute, the Court has held, “is coextensive with the prohibition against discriminatory taxes embodied in the modern constitutional doctrine of intergovernmental tax immunity.”¹²⁴

Ad Valorem Taxes Under the Doctrine.—Property owned by a federally chartered corporation engaged in private business is subject to state and local *ad valorem* taxes. This was conceded in *McCulloch v. Maryland*,¹²⁵ and confirmed a half century later with respect to railroads incorporated by Congress.¹²⁶ Similarly, a property tax may be levied against the lands under water which are owned by a person holding a license under the Federal Water Power Act.¹²⁷ However, when privately owned property erected by lessees on tax exempt state lands is taxed by a county at less than full value, and houses erected by contractors on land leased from a federal Air Force base are taxed at full value, the latter tax, solely by reason of the discrimination against the United States and its lessees, is rendered void.¹²⁸ Likewise, when under state laws, a school district does not tax private lessees of state and municipal realty, whose leases are subject to termination at the lessor’s option in the event of sale, but does levy a tax, measured by the entire value of the realty, on lessees of United States property utilized for private purposes and whose leases are terminable at the option of the United States in an emergency or upon sale, the discrimination voided the tax collected from the latter. “A state tax may not discriminate against the Government or those with whom it deals” in the absence of significant differences justifying levy of higher taxes on lessees of federal property.¹²⁹ Land conveyed by

¹²³ 4 U.S.C. § 111. The statute, part of the Public Salary Tax Act of 1939, was considered and enacted contemporaneously with the alteration occurring in constitutional law, exemplified by *Graves*. That is, in *Helvering v. Gerhardt*, 304 U.S. 405 (1938), the Court had overruled precedents and held that Congress could impose nondiscriminatory taxes on the incomes of most state employees, and the 1939 Act had as its primary purpose the imposition of federal income taxes on the salaries of all state and local government employees. Feeling equity required it, Congress included a provision authorizing nondiscriminatory state taxation of federal employees. *Graves* came down while the provision was pending in Congress. See *Davis v. Michigan Dept. of the Treasury*, 489 U.S. 803, 810–814 (1989).

¹²⁴ *Id.*, 813. This case struck down, as violative of the provision, a state tax imposed on federal retirement benefits but exempting state retirement benefits. See also *Barker v. Kansas*, 112 S.Ct. 1619 (1992) (similarly voiding a state tax on federal military retirement benefits but not reaching state and local government retirees).

¹²⁵ 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 426 (1819).

¹²⁶ *Thomson v. Pacific Railroad*, 9 Wall. (76 U.S.) 579, 588, (1870); *Union Pacific R. Co. v. Peniston*, 18 Wall. (85 U.S.) 5, 31 (1873).

¹²⁷ *Susquehanna Power Co. v. Tax Comm.* (No. 1), 283 U.S. 291 (1931).

¹²⁸ *Moses Lake Homes v. Grant County*, 365 U.S. 744 (1961).

¹²⁹ *Phillips Chemical Co. v. Dumas School Dist.*, 361 U.S. 376, 383, 387 (1960). In *Offutt Housing Co. v. Sarpy County*, 351 U.S. 253 (1956), a housing company was

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the United States to a corporation for dry dock purposes was subject to a general property tax, despite a reservation in the conveyance of a right to free use of the dry dock and a provision for forfeiture in case of the continued unfitness of the dry dock for use or the use of land for other purposes.¹³⁰ Also, where equitable title has passed to the purchaser of land from the Government, a State may tax the equitable owner on the full value thereof, despite retention of legal title;¹³¹ but, in the case of reclamation entries, the tax may not be collected until the equitable title passes.¹³² In the pioneer case of *Van Brocklin v. Tennessee*,¹³³ the State was denied the right to sell for taxes lands which the United States owned at the time the taxes were levied, but in which it had ceased to have any interest at the time of sale. Similarly, a State cannot assess land in the hands of private owners for benefits from a road improvement completed while it was owned by the United States.¹³⁴

In 1944, with two dissents, the Court held that where the Government purchased movable machinery and leased it to a private contractor the lessee could not be taxed on the full value of the equipment.¹³⁵ Twelve years later, and with a like number of Justices dissenting, the Court upheld the following taxes imposed on federal contractors: (1) a municipal tax levied pursuant to a state law which stipulated that when tax exempt real property is used by a private firm for profit, the latter is subject to taxation to the same extent as if it owned the property, and based upon the value of real property, a factory, owned by the United States and made available under a lease permitting the contracting corporation to deduct such taxes from rentals paid by it; the tax was collectible only by direct action against the contractor for a debt owed, and was not applicable to federal properties on which payments in lieu of taxes are made; (2) a municipal tax, levied under the authority of the same state law, based on the value of the realty owned by the United States, and collected from a cost-plus-fixed-fee contractor, who paid no rent but agreed not to include any part of the cost of the facilities furnished by the Government in the price of goods supplied under the contract; (3) another municipal tax levied in the

held liable for county personal property taxes on the ground that the Government had consented to state taxation of the company's interest as lessee. Upon its completion of housing accommodations at an Air Force Base, the company had leased the houses and the furniture therein from the Federal Government.

¹³⁰ *Baltimore Shipbuilding Co. v. Baltimore*, 195 U.S. 375 (1904).

¹³¹ *Northern Pacific R. Co. v. Myers*, 172 U.S. 589 (1899); *New Brunswick v. United States*, 276 U.S. 547 (1928).

¹³² *Irwin v. Wright*, 258 U.S. 219 (1922).

¹³³ 117 U.S. 151 (1886).

¹³⁴ *Lee v. Osceola Imp. Dist.*, 268 U.S. 643 (1925).

¹³⁵ *United States v. Allegheny County*, 322 U.S. 174 (1944).

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same State against a federal subcontractor, and computed on the value of materials and work in process in his possession, notwithstanding that title thereto had passed to the United States following his receipt of installment payments.¹³⁶

In sustaining the first tax, the Court held that it was imposed, not on the Government or on its property, but upon a private lessee, that it was computed by the value of the use to the contractor of the federally leased property, and that it was nondiscriminatory; that is, it was designed to equalize the tax burden carried by private business using exempt property with that of similar businesses using taxed property. Distinguishing the *Allegheny* case, the Court maintained that in this older decision, the tax invalidated was imposed directly on federal property and that the question of the legality of a privilege on use and possession of such property had been expressly reserved therein. Also insofar as the economic incidents of such tax on private use curtails the net rental accruing to the Government, such burden was viewed as insufficient to vitiate the tax.¹³⁷

Deeming the second and third taxes similar to the first, the Court sustained them as taxes on the privilege of using federal property in the conduct of private business for profit. With reference to the second, the Court emphasized that the Government had reserved no right of control over the contractor and, hence, the latter could not be viewed as an agent of the Government entitled to the immunity derivable from that status.¹³⁸ As to the third tax, the Court asserted that there was no difference between taxing a private party for the privilege of using property he possesses, and taxing him for possessing property which he uses; for, in both instances, the use was private profit. Moreover, the economic burden thrust upon the Government was viewed as even more remote than in the administration of the first two taxes.¹³⁹

¹³⁶ *United States v. City of Detroit*, 355 U.S. 466 (1958). The Court more recently has stated that *Allegheny County* "in large part was overruled" by *Detroit v. United States* v. *New Mexico*, 455 U.S. 720, 732 (1982).

¹³⁷ *United States v. City of Detroit*, 355 U.S. 478, 482, 483 (1958). See also *California Bd. of Equalization v. Sierra Summit*, 490 U.S. 844 (1989).

¹³⁸ *United States v. Township of Muskegon*, 355 U.S. 484 (1958).

¹³⁹ *City of Detroit v. Murray Corp.*, 355 U.S. 489 (1958). In *United States v. County of Fresno*, 429 U.S. 452 (1977), these cases were reaffirmed and applied to sustain a tax imposed on the possessory interests of United States Forest Service employees in housing located in national forests within the county and supplied to the employees by the Forest Service as part of their compensation. A State or local government may raise revenues on the basis of property owned by the United States as long as it is in possession or use by the private citizen that is being taxed.

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Federal Property and Functions.—Property owned by the United States is, of course, wholly immune from state taxation.¹⁴⁰ No State can regulate, by the imposition of an inspection fee, any activity carried on by the United States directly through its own agents and employees.¹⁴¹ An early case, the authority of which is now uncertain, held invalid a flat rate tax on telegraphic messages, as applied to messages sent by public officers on official business.¹⁴²

Federally Chartered Finance Agencies: Statutory Exemptions.—Fiscal institutions chartered by Congress, their shares and their property, are taxable only with the consent of Congress and only in conformity with the restrictions it has attached to its consent.¹⁴³ Immediately after the Supreme Court construed the statute authorizing the States to tax national bank shares as allowing a tax on the preferred shares of such a bank held by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation,¹⁴⁴ Congress passed a law exempting such shares from taxation. The Court upheld this measure, saying: “When Congress authorized the states to impose such taxation, it did no more than gratuitously grant them political power which they theretofore lacked. Its sovereign power to revoke the grant remained unimpaired, the grant of the privilege being only a declaration of legislative policy changeable at will.”¹⁴⁵ In *Pittman v. Home Owners’ Corp.*,¹⁴⁶ the Court sustained the power of Congress under the necessary and proper clause to immunize the activities of the Corporation from state taxation; and in *Federal Land Bank v. Bismarck Co.*,¹⁴⁷ the like result was reached with respect to an attempt by the State to impose a retail sales tax on a sale of lumber and other building materials to the bank for use in repairing and improving property that had been acquired by foreclosure or mortgages.

¹⁴⁰ *Clallam County v. United States*, 263 U.S. 341 (1923). See also *Cleveland v. United States*, 323 U.S. 329, 333 (1945); *United States v. Mississippi Tax Comm.*, 412 U.S. 363 (1973); *United States v. Mississippi Tax Comm.*, 421 U.S. 599 (1975).

¹⁴¹ *Mayo v. United States*, 319 U.S. 441 (1943). A municipal tax on the privilege of working within the city, levied at the rate of one percent of earnings, although not deemed to be an income tax under state law, was sustained as such when collected from employees of a naval ordinance plant by reason of federal assent to that type of tax expressed in the Buck Act. 4 U.S.C. §§105–110. *Howard v. Commissioners*, 344 U.S. 624 (1953).

¹⁴² *Telegraph Co. v. Texas*, 105 U.S. 460, 464 (1882).

¹⁴³ *Des Moines Bank v. Fairweather*, 263 U.S. 103, 106 (1923); *Owensboro National Bank v. Owensboro*, 173 U.S. 664, 669 (1899); *First Nat. Bank v. Adams*, 258 U.S. 362 (1922); *Michigan Nat. Bank v. Michigan*, 365 U.S. 467 (1961).

¹⁴⁴ *Baltimore Nat. Bank v. Tax Comm.*, 297 U.S. 209 (1936).

¹⁴⁵ *Maricopa County v. Valley Bank*, 318 U.S. 357, 362, (1943).

¹⁴⁶ 308 U.S. 21 (1939).

¹⁴⁷ 314 U.S. 95 (1941).

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The State's principal argument proceeded thus: "Congress has authority to extend immunity only to the governmental functions of the federal land banks; the only governmental functions of the land banks are those performed by acting as depositories and fiscal agents for the federal government and providing a market for government bonds; all other functions of the land banks are private; petitioner here was engaged in an activity incidental to its business of lending money, an essentially private function; therefore 26 cannot operate to strike down a sales tax upon purchases made in furtherance of petitioner's lending functions."¹⁴⁸ The Court rejected this argument and invalidated the tax saying: "The argument that the lending functions of the federal land banks are proprietary rather than governmental misconceives the nature of the federal government with respect to every function which it performs. The federal government is one of delegated powers, and from that it necessarily follows that any constitutional exercise of its delegated powers is governmental. . . . It also follows that, when Congress constitutionally creates a corporation through which the federal government lawfully acts, the activities of such corporation are governmental."¹⁴⁹

Similarly, the lease by a federal land bank of oil and gas in a mineral estate, which it had reserved in land originally acquired through foreclosure and thereafter had conveyed to a third party, was held immune from a state personal property tax levied on the lease and on the royalties accruing thereunder. The fact that at the time of the conveyance and lease, the bank had recouped its entire loss resulting from the foreclosure did not operate to convert the mineral estate and lease into a non-governmental activity no longer entitled to exemption.¹⁵⁰ However, in the absence of federal legislation, a state law laying a percentage tax on the users of safety deposit services, measured by the bank's charges therefore, was held valid as applied to national banks. The tax, being on the user, did not, the Court held, impose an intrinsically unconstitutional burden on a federal instrumentality.¹⁵¹

Royalties.—In 1928, the Court went so far as to hold that a State could not tax as income royalties for the use of a patent issued by the United States.¹⁵² This proposition was soon overruled in *Fox Film Corp. v. Doyal*,¹⁵³ where a privilege tax based on gross income and applicable to royalties from copyrights was upheld.

¹⁴⁸ *Id.*, 101.

¹⁴⁹ *Id.*, 102.

¹⁵⁰ *Fed. Land Bank v. Kiowa County*, 368 U.S. 146 (1961).

¹⁵¹ *Colorado Bank v. Bedford*, 310 U.S. 41 (1940).

¹⁵² *Long v. Rockwood*, 277 U.S. 142 (1928).

¹⁵³ 286 U.S. 123 (1932).

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Likewise a State may lay a franchise tax on corporations, measured by the net income from all sources and applicable to income from copyright royalties.¹⁵⁴

Immunity of Lessees of Indian Lands.—Another line of anomalous decisions conferring tax immunity upon lessees of restricted Indian lands was overruled in 1949. The first of these cases, *Choctaw, O. & G. R. Co. v. Harrison*,¹⁵⁵ held that a gross production tax on oil, gas, and other minerals was an occupational tax, and, as applied to a lessee of restricted Indian lands, was an unconstitutional burden on such lessee, who was deemed to be an instrumentality of the United States. Next, the Court held the lease itself a federal instrumentality immune from taxation.¹⁵⁶ A modified gross production tax imposed in lieu of all ad valorem taxes was invalidated in two *per curiam* decisions.¹⁵⁷ In *Gillespie v. Oklahoma*,¹⁵⁸ a tax upon net income of the lessee derived from sales of his share of oil produced from restricted lands also was condemned. Finally a petroleum excise tax upon every barrel of oil produced in the State was held inapplicable to oil produced on restricted Indian lands.¹⁵⁹ In harmony with the trend to restricting immunity implied from the Constitution to activities of the Government itself, the Court overruled all these decisions in *Oklahoma Tax Comm. v. Texas Co.* and held that a lessee of mineral rights in restricted Indian lands was subject to nondiscriminatory gross production and excise taxes, so long as Congress did not affirmatively grant him immunity.¹⁶⁰

Summation and Evaluation

Although *McCulloch v. Maryland* and *Gibbons v. Ogden* were expressions of a single thesis, the supremacy of the National Government, their development after Marshall's death has been sharply divergent. During the period when *Gibbons v. Ogden* was eclipsed by the theory of dual federalism, the doctrine of *McCulloch*

¹⁵⁴ *Educational Films Corp. v. Ward*, 282 U.S. 379 (1931).

¹⁵⁵ 235 U.S. 292 (1914).

¹⁵⁶ *Indian Oil Co. v. Oklahoma*, 240 U.S. 522 (1916).

¹⁵⁷ *Howard v. Gipsy Oil Co.*, 247 U.S. 503 (1918); *Large Oil Co. v. Howard*, 248 U.S. 549 (1919).

¹⁵⁸ 257 U.S. 501 (1922).

¹⁵⁹ *Oklahoma v. Barnsdall Corp.*, 296 U.S. 521 (1936).

¹⁶⁰ 336 U.S. 342 (1949). Justice Rutledge, speaking for the Court, sketched the history of the immunity lessees of Indian lands from state taxation, which he found to stem from early rulings that tribal lands are themselves immune. The *Kansas Indians*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 737 (1867); *The New York Indians*, 5 Wall. (72 U.S.) 761 (1867). One of the first steps taken to curtail the scope of the immunity was *Shaw v. Oil Corp.*, 276 U.S. 575 (1928), which held that lands outside a reservation, though purchased with restricted Indian funds, were subject to state taxation. Congress soon upset the decision, however, and its act was sustained in *Board of Comm. v. Seber*, 318 U.S. 705 (1943).

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v. Maryland was not merely followed but greatly extended as a restraint on state interference with federal instrumentalities. Conversely, the Court's recent return to Marshall's conception of the powers of Congress has coincided with a retreat from the more extreme positions taken in reliance upon *McCulloch v. Maryland*. Today, the application of the supremacy clause is becoming, to an ever increasing degree, a matter of statutory interpretation; a determination whether state regulations can be reconciled with the language and policy of federal enactments. In the field of taxation, the Court has all but wiped out the private immunities previously implied from the Constitution without explicit legislative command. Broadly speaking, the immunity which remains is limited to activities of the Government itself, and to that which is explicitly created by statute, e.g., that granted to federal securities and to fiscal institutions chartered by Congress. But the term, activities, will be broadly construed.

Clause 3. The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

OATH OF OFFICE**Power of Congress in Respect to Oaths**

Congress may require no other oath of fidelity to the Constitution, but it may superadd to this oath such other oath of office as its wisdom may require.¹⁶¹ It may not, however, prescribe a test oath as a qualification for holding office, such an act being in effect an *ex post facto* law,¹⁶² and the same rule holds in the case of the States.¹⁶³

¹⁶¹ *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 4 Wheat. (17 U.S.) 316, 416 (1819).

¹⁶² *Ex parte Garland*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 333, 337 (1867).

¹⁶³ *Cummings v. Missouri*, 4 Wall. (71 U.S.) 277, 323 (1867). See also *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116 (1966), where the Supreme Court held that antiwar statements made by a newly elected member of the Georgia House of Representatives were not inconsistent with the oath of office, pledging support to the federal Constitution.

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National Duties of State Officers

Commenting in *THE FEDERALIST* on the requirement that state officers, as well as members of the state legislatures, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support the Constitution, Hamilton wrote: "Thus the legislatures, courts, and magistrates, of the respective members, will be incorporated into the operations of the national government *as far as its just and constitutional authority extends*; and it will be rendered auxiliary to the enforcement of its laws."¹⁶⁴ The younger Pinckney had expressed the same idea on the floor of the Philadelphia Convention: "They [the States] are the instruments upon which the Union must frequently depend for the support and execution of their powers . . ."¹⁶⁵ Indeed, the Constitution itself lays many duties, both positive and negative, upon the different organs of state government,¹⁶⁶ and Congress may frequently add others, provided it does not require the state authorities to act outside their normal jurisdiction. Early congressional legislation contains many illustrations of such action by Congress.

The Judiciary Act of 1789¹⁶⁷ not only left the state courts in sole possession of a large part of the jurisdiction over controversies between citizens of different States and in concurrent possession of the rest, and by other sections state courts were authorized to entertain proceedings by the United States itself to enforce penalties and forfeitures under the revenue laws, examples of the principle that federal law is law to be applied by the state courts, but also any justice of the peace or other magistrates of any of the States were authorized to cause any offender against the United States to be arrested and imprisoned or bailed under the usual mode of process. From the beginning, Congress enacted hundreds of statutes that contained provisions authorizing state officers to enforce and execute federal laws.¹⁶⁸ Pursuant to same idea of treating state governmental organs as available to the National Government for administrative purposes, the act of 1793 entrusted the rendition of fugitive slaves in part to national officials and in part to state offi-

¹⁶⁴ No. 27, (J. Cooke ed. 1961), 175(emphasis in original). See also, id., No. 45, 312–313 (Madison).

¹⁶⁵ 1 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* (New Haven: rev. ed. 1937), 404.

¹⁶⁶ See Article I, §3, cl. 1; §4, cl. 1; 10; Article II, §1, cl. 2; Article III, 2, cl. 2; Article IV, §§1, 2; Article V; Amendments 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 25, and 26.

¹⁶⁷ 1 Stat. 73 (1789).

¹⁶⁸ See Warren, *Federal Criminal Laws and the State Courts*, 38 Harv. L. Rev. 545 (1925); Holcomb, *The States as Agents of the Nation*, 3 *SELECTED ESSAYS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW* (Cambridge: 1938), 1187; Barnett, *Cooperation Between the Federal and State Governments*, 7 Ore. L. Rev. 267 (1928). See also J. CLARK, *THE RISE OF A NEW FEDERALISM* (Princeton: 1938); E. CORWIN, *COURT OVER CONSTITUTION* (Princeton: 1938), 148–168.

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cials and the rendition of fugitives from justice from one State to another exclusively to the state executives.¹⁶⁹

With the rise of the doctrine of States Rights and of the equal sovereignty of the States with the National Government, the availability of the former as instruments of the latter in the execution of its power came to be questioned.¹⁷⁰ In *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*,¹⁷¹ decided in 1842, the constitutionality of the provision of the act of 1793 making it the duty of state magistrates to act in the return of fugitive slaves was challenged; and in *Kentucky v. Dennison*,¹⁷² decided on the eve of the Civil War, similar objection was leveled against the provision of the same act which made it “the duty” of the Chief Executive of a State to render up a fugitive from justice upon the demand of the Chief Executive of State from which the fugitive had fled. The Court sustained both provisions, but upon the theory that the cooperation of the state authorities was purely voluntary. In the *Prigg* case the Court, speaking by Justice Story, said that “while a difference of opinion has existed, and may exist still on the point, in different states, whether state magistrates are bound to act under it, none is entertained by this Court, that state magistrates may, if they choose, exercise that authority, unless prohibited by state legislation.”¹⁷³ Subsequent cases confirmed the point that Congress could authorize willing state officers to perform such federal duties.¹⁷⁴ Indeed, when Congress in the Selective Service Act of 1917 authorized enforcement to a great extent through state employees, the Court rejected “as too wanting in merit to require further notice” the contention that the Act was invalid because of this delegation.¹⁷⁵ State officials were frequently employed in the enforcement of the National Prohibition Act, and suits to abate nuisances as defined by the statute were authorized to be brought, in the name of the United States, not only by federal

¹⁶⁹ 1 Stat. 302 (1793).

¹⁷⁰ For the development of opinion, especially on the part of state courts, adverse to the validity of such legislation, see 1 J. KENT, COMMENTARIES ON AMERICAN LAW (New York: 1826), 396–404.

¹⁷¹ 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539 (1842).

¹⁷² 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66 (1861).

¹⁷³ 16 Pet. (41 U.S.) 539, 622 (1842). See also *Kentucky v. Dennison*, 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66, 108 (1861). The word “magistrates” in this passage does not refer solely to judicial officers but reflects the usage in that era in which officers generally were denominated magistrates; the power thus upheld is not the related but separate issue of the utilization of state courts to enforce federal law.

¹⁷⁴ *United States v. Jones*, 109 U.S. 513, 519 (1883); *Robertson v. Baldwin*, 165 U.S. 275, 280 (1897); *Dallemagne v. Moisan*, 197 U.S. 169, 174 (1905); *Holmgren v. United States*, 217 U.S. 509, 517 (1910); *Parker v. Richard*, 250 U.S. 235, 239 (1919).

¹⁷⁵ *Selective Draft Law Cases*, 245 U.S. 366, 389 (1918). The Act was 40 Stat. 76 (1917).

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officials, but also by “any prosecuting attorney of any State or any subdivision thereof.”¹⁷⁶

In the *Dennison* case, however, it was held that while Congress could delegate it could not require performance of an obligation. The “duty” of state executives in the rendition of fugitives from justice was construed to be declaratory of a “moral duty.” Said Chief Justice Taney for the Court: “The act does not provide any means to compel the execution of this duty, nor inflict any punishment for neglect or refusal on the part of the Executive of the State; nor is there any clause or provision in the Constitution which arms the Government of the United States with this power. Indeed, such a power would place every State under the control and dominion of the General Government, even in the administration of its internal concerns and reserved rights. And we think it clear that the Federal Government, under the Constitution, has no power to impose on a State officer, as such, any duty whatever, and compel him to perform it[.] . . . It is true,” the Chief Justice conceded, “that in the early days of the Government, Congress relied with confidence upon the co-operation and support of the States, when exercising the legitimate powers of the General Government, and were accustomed to receive it, [but this, he explained, was] upon principles of comity, and from a sense of mutual and common interest, where no such duty was imposed by the Constitution.”¹⁷⁷

Eighteen years later, in *Ex parte Siebold*,¹⁷⁸ the Court sustained the right of Congress, under Article I, §4, parag. 1 of the Constitution, to impose duties upon state election officials in connection with a congressional election and to prescribe additional penalties for the violation by such officials of their duties under state law. While the doctrine of the holding was expressly confined to cases in which the National Government and the States enjoy “a concurrent power over the same subject matter,” no attempt was made to catalogue such cases. Moreover, the outlook of Justice Bradley’s opinion for the Court was decidedly nationalistic rather than dualistic, as is shown by the answer made to the contention of counsel “that the nature of sovereignty is such as to preclude the joint cooperation of two sovereigns, even in a matter in which they are mutually concerned.” To this Justice Bradley replied: “As a general rule, it is no doubt expedient and wise that the operations

¹⁷⁶ 41 Stat. 314, §22. In at least two States, the practice was approved by state appellate courts. *Carse v. Marsh*, 189 Cal. 743, 210 Pac. 257 (1922); *United States v. Richards*, 201 Wis. 130, 229 N.W. 675 (1930). On this and other issues under the Act, see Hart, *Some Legal Questions Growing Out of the President’s Executive Order for Prohibition Enforcement*, 13 Va. L. Rev. 86 (1922).

¹⁷⁷ 24 How. (65 U.S.) 66, 107–108 (1861).

¹⁷⁸ 100 U.S. 371 (1880).

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of the State and national governments should, as far as practicable, be conducted separately, in order to avoid undue jealousies and fears and conflicts of jurisdiction and power. But there is no reason for laying this down as a rule of universal application. It should never be made to override the plain and manifest dictates of the Constitution itself. We cannot yield to such a transcendental view of state sovereignty. The Constitution and laws of the United States are the supreme law of the land, and to these every citizen of every State owes obedience, whether in his individual or official capacity.”¹⁷⁹

Conflict, thus, developed early between these two doctrinal lines. But was the *Siebold* line that was to prevail. Enforcement of obligations upon state officials through mandamus or through injunctions was readily available, even when the State itself was immune, through the fiction of *Ex parte Young*,¹⁸⁰ under which a state official could be sued in his official capacity but without the immunities attaching to his official capacity. Although the obligations were, for a long period, in their origin based on the Federal Constitution, the capacity of Congress to enforce statutory obligations through judicial action was little doubted.¹⁸¹ Nonetheless, it was only recently that the Court squarely overruled *Dennison*. “If it seemed clear to the Court in 1861, facing the looming shadow of a Civil War, that ‘the Federal Government, under the Constitution, has no power to impose on a State officer, as such, any duty whatever, and compel him to perform it,’ . . . basic constitutional principles now point as clearly the other way.”¹⁸² That case is doubly important, inasmuch as the Court spoke not only to the extradition clause and the federal statute directly enforcing it, but it also enforced a purely statutory right on behalf of a Territory that could not claim for itself rights under the clause itself.¹⁸³

Even as the Court imposes new federalism limits upon Congress’ powers to regulated the States as States, it has reaffirmed the principle that Congress may authorize the federal courts to compel state officials to comply with federal law, statutory as well as constitutional. “[T]he Supremacy Clause makes federal law paramount over the contrary positions of state officials; the power

¹⁷⁹ *Id.*, 392.

¹⁸⁰ 209 U.S. 123 (1908). See also *Board of Liquidation v. McComb*, 92 U.S. 531, 541 (1876).

¹⁸¹ *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980).

¹⁸² *Puerto Rico v. Branstad*, 483 U.S. 219, 227 (1987) (*Dennison* “rests upon a foundation with which time and the currents of constitutional change have dealt much less favorably”).

¹⁸³ In including territories in the statute, Congress acted under the territorial clause rather than under the extradition clause. *New York ex rel. Kopel v. Bingham*, 211 U.S. 468 (1909).

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of federal courts to enforce federal law thus presupposes some authority to order state officials to comply.”¹⁸⁴

No doubt, there is tension between the exercise of Congress’ power to impose duties on state officials¹⁸⁵ and the developing doctrine under which the Court holds that Congress may not “commandeer” state legislative or administrative processes in the enforcement of federal programs.¹⁸⁶ However, the existence of the supremacy clause and the federal oath of office, as well as a body of precedent indicates that coexistence of the two lines of principles will be maintained.

¹⁸⁴ *New York v. United States*, 112 S.Ct. 2408, 2430 (1992). See also *FERC v. Mississippi*, 456 U.S. 742, 761–765 (1982); *Washington v. Washington State Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel Assn.*, 443 U.S. 658, 695 (1979); *Illinois v. City of Milwaukee*, 406 U.S. 91, 106–108 (1972).

¹⁸⁵ The practice continues. See P.L. 94–435, title III, 90 Stat. 1394, 15 U.S.C. § 15c (authorizing state attorneys general to bring *parens patriae* antitrust actions in the name of the State to secure monetary relief for damages to the citizens of the State); Medical Waste Tracking Act of 1988, P. L. 100–582, 102 Stat. 2955, 42 U.S.C. § 6992f (authorizing States to impose civil and possibly criminal penalties for violations of the Act); Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, P.L. 103–159, tit. I, 107 Stat. 1536, 18 U.S.C. § 922s (imposing on chief law enforcement officer of each jurisdiction to ascertain whether prospective firearms purchaser has disqualifying record).

¹⁸⁶ *New York v. United States*, 112 S.Ct. 2408 (1992).

ARTICLE VII

RATIFICATION

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

In General

In *Owings v. Speed*,¹ the question at issue was whether the Constitution of the United States operated upon an act of Virginia passed in 1788. The Court held it did not, stating in part:

“The Conventions of nine States having adopted the Constitution, Congress, in September or October, 1788, passed a resolution in conformity with the opinions expressed by the Convention, and appointed the first Wednesday in March of the ensuing year as the day, and the then seat of Congress as the place, ‘for commencing proceedings under the Constitution.’

“Both Governments could not be understood to exist at the same time. The New Government did not commence until the old Government expired. It is apparent that the Government did not commence on the Constitution being ratified by the ninth State; for these ratifications were to be reported to Congress, whose continuing existence was recognized by the Convention, and who were requested to continue to exercise their powers for the purpose of bringing the new Government into operation. In fact, Congress did continue to act as a Government until it dissolved on the 1st of November, by the successive disappearance of its Members. It existed potentially until the 2d of March, the day proceeding that on which the Members of the new Congress were directed to assemble.

“The resolution of the Convention might originally have suggested a doubt, whether the Government could be in operation for every purpose before the choice of a President; but this doubt has been long solved, and were it otherwise, its discussion would be useless, since it is apparent that its operation did not commence before the first Wednesday in March 1789”

¹ 5 Wheat. (18 U.S.) 420, 422–423 (1820).

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION
FIRST THROUGH TENTH AMENDMENTS**

BILL OF RIGHTS

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On September 12, five days before the Convention adjourned, Mason and Gerry raised the question of adding a bill of rights to the Constitution. Said Mason: "It would give great quiet to the people; and with the aid of the State declarations, a bill might be prepared in a few hours." But the motion of Gerry and Mason to appoint a committee for the purpose of drafting a bill of rights was rejected.¹ Again, on September 14, Pinckney and Gerry sought to add a provision "that the liberty of the Press should be inviolably observed—." But after Sherman observed that such a declaration was unnecessary, because "[t]he power of Congress does not extend to the Press," this suggestion too was rejected.² It cannot be known accurately why the Convention opposed these suggestions. Perhaps the lateness of the Convention, perhaps the desire not to present more opportunity for controversy when the document was forwarded to the States, perhaps the belief, asserted by the defenders of the Constitution when the absence of a bill of rights became critical, that no bill was needed because Congress was delegated none of the powers which such a declaration would deny, perhaps all these contributed to the rejection.³

In any event, the opponents of ratification soon made the absence of a bill of rights a major argument⁴ and some friends of the document, such as Jefferson,⁵ strongly urged amendment to in-

¹ M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787*, 587–88 (rev. ed. 1937).

² *Id.* at 617–618.

³ The argument most used by proponents of the Constitution was that inasmuch as Congress was delegated no power to do those things which a bill of rights would proscribe no bill of rights was necessary and that it might be dangerous because it would contain exceptions to powers not granted and might therefore afford a basis for claiming more than was granted. *THE FEDERALIST* NO. 84 at 555–67 (Alexander Hamilton) (Modern Library ed. 1937).

⁴ Substantial excerpts from the debate in the country and in the ratifying conventions are set out in 1 B. SCHWARTZ (ED.), *THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY* 435–620 (1971); 2 *id.* at 627–980. The earlier portions of volume 1 trace the origins of the various guarantees back to the Magna Carta.

⁵ In a letter to Madison, Jefferson indicated what he did not like about the proposed Constitution. "First the omission of a bill of rights providing clearly and without the aid of sophisms for freedom of religion, freedom of the press, protection against standing armies, restriction against monopolies, the eternal and unremitting force of the habeas corpus laws, and trials by jury in all matters of the fact triable by the laws of the land and not by the law of Nations. . . . Let me add that a bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular, and what no just government should refuse, or rest on inference."

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clude a declaration of rights.⁶ Several state conventions ratified while urging that the new Congress to be convened propose such amendments, 124 amendments in all being put forward by these States.⁷ Although some dispute has occurred with regard to the obligation of the first Congress to propose amendments, Madison at least had no doubts⁸ and introduced a series of proposals,⁹ which

12 THE PAPERS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON 438, 440 (J. Boyd ed. 1958). In suggested that nine States should ratify and four withhold ratification until amendments adding a bill of rights were adopted. *Id.* at 557, 570, 583. Jefferson still later endorsed the plan put forward by Massachusetts to ratify and propose amendments. 14 *id.* at 649.

⁶ Thus, George Washington observed in letters that a ratified Constitution could be amended but that making such amendments conditions for ratification was ill-advised. 11 THE WRITINGS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON 249 (W. Ford ed. 1891).

⁷ B. SCHWARTZ (ED.), THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 627–980 (1971). *See also* H. AMES, THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION 19 (1896).

⁸ Madison began as a doubter, writing Jefferson that while “[m]y own opinion has always been in favor of a bill of rights,” still “I have never thought the omission a material defect, nor been anxious to supply it even by subsequent amendment. . . .” 5 THE WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON 269. (G. Hunt ed. 1904). His reasons were four. (1) The Federal Government was not granted the powers to do what a bill of rights would proscribe. (2) There was reason “to fear that a positive declaration of some of the most essential rights could not be obtained in the requisite latitude. I am sure that the rights of conscience in particular, if submitted to public definition would be narrowed much more than they are likely ever to be by an assumed power.” (3) A greater security was afforded by the jealousy of the States of the national government. (4) “[E]xperience proves the inefficacy of a bill of rights on those occasions when its controul is most needed. Repeated violations of these parchment barriers have been committed by overbearing majorities in every State. . . . Wherever the real power in a Government lies, there is the danger of oppression. In our Governments the real power lies in the majority of the Community, and the invasion of private rights is chiefly to be apprehended, not from acts of Government contrary to the sense of its constituents, but from acts in which the Government is the mere instrument of the major number of the Constituents. . . . Wherever there is a interest and power to do wrong, wrong will generally be done, and not less readily by a powerful & interested party than by a powerful and interested prince.” *Id.* at 272–73. Jefferson’s response acknowledged the potency of Madison’s reservations and attempted to answer them, in the course of which he called Madison’s attention to an argument in favor not considered by Madison “which has great weight with me, the legal check which it puts into the hands of the judiciary. This is a body, which if rendered independent, and kept strictly to their own department merits great confidence for their learning and integrity.” 14 THE PAPERS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON 659 (J. Boyd ed. 1958). Madison was to assert this point when he introduced his proposals for a bill of rights in the House of Representatives. 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 439 (June 8, 1789).

In any event, following ratification, Madison in his successful campaign for a seat in the House firmly endorsed the proposal of a bill of rights. “[I]t is my sincere opinion that the Constitution ought to be revised, and that the first Congress meeting under it ought to prepare and recommend to the States for ratification, the most satisfactory provisions for all essential rights, particularly the rights of Conscience in the fullest latitude, the freedom of the press, trials by jury, security against general warrants &c.” 5 THE WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON 319 (G. Hunt ed. 1904).

⁹ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 424–50 (June 8, 1789). The proposals as introduced are at pp. 433–36. The Members of the House were indisposed to moving on the proposals.

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he had difficulty claiming the interest of the rest of Congress in considering. At length, the House of Representatives adopted 17 proposals; the Senate rejected two and reduced the remainder to twelve, which were accepted by the House and sent on to the States¹⁰ where ten were ratified and the other two did not receive the requisite number of concurring States.¹¹

Bill of Rights and the States.—One of the amendments which the Senate refused to accept—declared by Madison to be “the most valuable of the whole list”¹²—read: “The equal rights of conscience, the freedom of speech or of the press, and the right of trial by jury in criminal cases shall not be infringed by any State.”¹³ In spite of this rejection, the contention that the Bill of Rights—or at least the first eight—was applicable to the States was repeatedly pressed upon the Supreme Court. By a long series of decisions, beginning with the opinion of Chief Justice Marshall in *Barron v. Baltimore*,¹⁴ the argument was consistently rejected. Nevertheless, the enduring vitality of natural law concepts encouraged renewed appeals for judicial protection through application of the Bill of Rights.¹⁵

The Fourteenth Amendment.—Following the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, litigants disadvantaged by state laws and policies first resorted unsuccessfully to the privileges and immunities clause of §1 for judicial protection.¹⁶ Then, claimants seized upon the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment as guaranteeing certain fundamental and essential safeguards,

¹⁰Debate in the House began on July 21, 1789, and final passage was had on August 24, 1789. 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 660–779. The Senate considered the proposals from September 2 to September 9, but no journal was kept. The final version compromised between the House and Senate was adopted September 24 and 25. See 2 B. SCHWARTZ, (ED.), THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 983–1167 (1971).

¹¹The two not ratified dealt with the ratio of population to representatives and with compensation of Members of Congress. H. AMES, THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION 184, 185 (1896). The latter proposal was ratified in 1992 as the 27th Amendment.

¹²1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 755 (August 17, 1789).

¹³Id.

¹⁴32 U.S. (7 Pet.) 243 (1833). See also *Livingston's Lessee v. Moore*, 32 U.S. (7 Pet.) 469 (1833); *Permoli v. First Municipality*, 44 U.S. (3 How.) 589, 609 (1845); *Fox v. Ohio*, 46 U.S. (5 How.) 410 (1847); *Smith v. Maryland*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 71 (1855); *Withers v. Buckley*, 61 U.S. (20 How.) 84 (1858); *Pervear v. Massachusetts*, 72 U.S. (5 Wall.) 475 (1867); *Twitchell v. Commonwealth*, 74 U.S. (7 Wall.) 321 (1869).

¹⁵Thus, Justice Miller for the Court in *Loan Association v. Topeka*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 655, 662, 663 (1875): “It must be conceded that there are . . . rights in every free government beyond the control of the State . . . There are limitations on [governmental] power which grow out of the essential nature of all free governments. Implied reservations of individual rights, without which the social compact could not exist, and which are respected by all governments entitled to the name.”

¹⁶*Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36 (1873).

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without pressing the point of the applicability of the Bill of Rights.¹⁷ It was not until 1887 that a litigant contended that, although the Bill of Rights had not limited the States, yet so far as they secured and recognized the fundamental rights of man they were privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States and were now protected against state abridgment by the Fourteenth Amendment.¹⁸ This case the Court decided on other grounds, but in a series of subsequent cases it confronted the argument and rejected it,¹⁹ though over the dissent of the elder Justice Harlan, who argued that the Fourteenth Amendment in effect incorporated the Bill of Rights and made them effective restraints on the States.²⁰ Until 1947, this dissent made no headway,²¹ but in *Ad-*

¹⁷*Walker v. Sauvinet*, 92 U.S. 90 (1876); *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542 (1876); *Hurtado v. California*, 110 U.S. 516 (1884); *Presser v. Illinois*, 116 U.S. 252 (1886). In *Hurtado*, in which the Court held that indictment by information rather than by grand jury did not offend due process, the elder Justice Harlan entered a long dissent arguing that due process preserved the fundamental rules of procedural justice as they had existed in the past, but he made no reference to the possibility that the Fourteenth Amendment due process clause embodied the grand jury indictment guarantee of the Fifth Amendment.

¹⁸*Spies v. Illinois*, 123 U.S. 131 (1887).

¹⁹*In re Kemmler*, 136 U.S. 436 (1890); *McElvaine v. Brush*, 142 U.S. 155 (1891); *O'Neil v. Vermont*, 144 U.S. 323 (1892).

²⁰In *O'Neil v. Vermont*, 144 U.S. 323, 370 (1892), Justice Harlan, with Justice Brewer concurring, argued "that since the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, no one of the fundamental rights of life, liberty or property, recognized and guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, can be denied or abridged by a State in respect to any person within its jurisdiction. These rights are, principally, enumerated in the earlier Amendments of the Constitution." Justice Field took the same position. *Id.* at 337. Thus, he said: "While therefore, the ten Amendments, as limitations on power, and so far as they accomplish their purpose and find their fruition in such limitations, are applicable only to the Federal government and not to the States, yet, so far as they declare or recognize the rights of persons, they are rights belonging to them as citizens of the United States under the Constitution; and the Fourteenth Amendment, as to all such rights, places a limit upon state power by ordaining that no State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge them." *Id.* at 363. Justice Harlan reasserted this view in *Maxwell v. Dow*, 176 U.S. 581, 605 (1900) (dissenting opinion), and in *Twining v. New Jersey*, 211 U.S. 78, 114 (1908) (dissenting opinion). Justice Field was no longer on the Court and Justice Brewer did not in either case join Justice Harlan as he had done in *O'Neil*.

²¹*Cf. Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319, 323 (1937), in which Justice Cardozo for the Court, including Justice Black, said: "We have said that in appellant's view the Fourteenth Amendment is to be taken as embodying the prohibitions of the Fifth. His thesis is even broader. Whatever would be a violation of the original bill of rights (Amendments I to VIII) if done by the federal government is now equally unlawful by force of the Fourteenth Amendment if done by a state. There is no such general rule." See Frankfurter, *Memorandum on "Incorporation" of the Bill of Rights Into the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment*, 78 HARV. L. REV. 746 (1965). According to Justice Douglas' calculations, ten Justices had believed that the Fourteenth Amendment incorporated the Bill of Rights, but a majority of the Court at any one particular time has never been of that view. *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 355, 345-47 (1963) (concurring opinion). See also *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1, 4 n.2 (1964). It must be said, however that many of these Justices were not consistent in asserting this view. Justice Goldberg probably should be added to the list. *Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400, 410-14 (1965) (concurring opinion).

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*amson v. California*²² a minority of four Justices were marshalled behind Justice Black, who contended that his researches into the history of the Fourteenth Amendment left him in no doubt “that the language of the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment, taken as a whole, was thought by those responsible for its submission to the people, and by those who opposed its submission, sufficiently explicit to guarantee that thereafter no state could deprive its citizens of the privileges and protections of the Bill of Rights.”²³ Scholarly research stimulated by Justice Black’s view tended to discount the validity of much of the history recited by him and to find in the debates in Congress and in the ratifying conventions no support for his contention.²⁴ Other scholars, going beyond the immediate debates, found in the pre- and post-Civil War period a substantial body of abolitionist constitutional thought which could be shown to have greatly influenced the principal architects, and observed that all three formulations of § 1, privileges and immunities, due process, and equal protection, had long been in use as shorthand descriptions for the principal provisions of the Bill of Rights.²⁵

Unresolved perhaps in theory, the controversy in fact has been mostly mooted through the “selective incorporation” of a majority of the provisions of the Bill of Rights.²⁶ This process seems to have

²² 332 U.S. 46 (1947).

²³ *Id.* at 74, Justice Black’s contentions, *id.* at 68–123, were concurred in by Justice Douglas. Justices Murphy and Rutledge also joined this view but went further. “I agree that the specific guarantees of the Bill of Rights should be carried over intact into the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment. But I am not prepared to say that the latter is entirely and necessarily limited by the Bill of Rights. Occasions may arise where a proceeding falls so far short of conforming to fundamental standards of procedure as to warrant constitutional condemnation in terms of a lack of due process despite the absence of a specific provision in the Bill of Rights.” *Id.* at 124. Justice Black rejected this extension as an invocation of “natural law due process.” For examples in which he and Justice Douglas split over the application of nonspecified due process limitations, see, e.g., *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479 (1965); *In re Winship*, 397 U.S. 358 (1970).

²⁴ The leading piece is Fairman, *Does the Fourteenth Amendment Incorporate the Bill of Rights?* 2 STAN. L. REV. 5 (1949).

²⁵ Graham, *Early Antislavery Backgrounds of the Fourteenth Amendment, 1950* WISC. L. REV. 479, 610; Graham, *Our “Declaratory” Fourteenth Amendment*, 7 STAN. L. REV. 3 (1954); J. TENBROEK, *EQUAL UNDER LAW* (1965 enlarged ed.). The argument of these scholars tends to support either a “selective incorporation” theory or a fundamental rights theory, but it emphasized the abolitionist stress on speech and press as well as on jury trials as included in either construction.

²⁶ *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 130–32 (1970) (Justice Harlan concurring in part and dissenting in part). The language of this process is somewhat abstruse. Justice Frankfurter objected strongly to “incorporation” but accepted other terms. “The cases say the First [Amendment] is ‘made applicable’ by the Fourteenth or that it is taken up into the Fourteenth by ‘absorption,’ but not that the Fourteenth ‘incorporates’ the First. This is not a quibble. The phrase ‘made applicable’ is a neutral one. The concept of ‘absorption’ is a progressive one, i.e., over the course of time something gets absorbed into something else. The sense of the word ‘incorporate’ im-

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had its beginnings in an 1897 case in which the Court, without mentioning the just compensation clause of the Fifth Amendment, held that the Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause forbade the taking of private property without just compensation.²⁷ Then, in *Twining v. New Jersey*²⁸ the Court observed that "it is possible that some of the personal rights safeguarded by the first eight amendments against National action may also be safeguarded against state action, because a denial of them would be a denial of due process of law If this is so, it is not because those rights are enumerated in the first eight amendments, but because they are of such nature that they are included in the conception of due process of law." And in *Gitlow v. New York*,²⁹ the Court in dictum said: "For present purposes we may and do assume that freedom of speech and of the press—which are protected by the First Amendment from abridgment by Congress—are among the fundamental personal rights and 'liberties' protected by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment from impairment by the States." After quoting the language set out above from *Twining v. New Jersey*, the Court in 1932 said that "a consideration of the nature of the right and a review of the expressions of this and other courts, makes it clear that the right to the aid of counsel is of this fundamental character."³⁰ The doctrine of this period was best formulated by Justice Cardozo, who observed that the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment might proscribe a certain state procedure, not because the proscription was spelled out in one of the first eight amendments, but because the procedure "offends some principle of justice so rooted in the traditions and conscience of our people as to be ranked as fundamental,"³¹ because certain proscriptions were "implicit in the concept of ordered 'liberty.'"³²

plies simultaneity. One writes a document incorporating another by reference at the time of the writing. The Court has used the first two forms of language, but never the third." Frankfurter, *Memorandum on 'Incorporation' of the Bill of Rights Into the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment*, 78 HARV. L. REV. 746, 747–48 (1965). It remains true that no opinion of the Court has used "incorporation" to describe what it is doing, cf. *Washington v. Texas*, 388 U.S. 14, 18 (1967); *Benton v. Maryland*, 395 U.S. 784, 794 (1969), though it has regularly been used by dissenters. E.g., *Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400, 408 (1965) (Justice Harlan); *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 130 (1970) (Justice Harlan); *Williams v. Florida*, supra, 143 (Justice Stewart).

²⁷ *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. City of Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226 (1897).

²⁸ 211 U.S. 78, 99 (1908).

²⁹ 268 U.S. 652, 666 (1925).

³⁰ *Powell v. Alabama*, 287 U.S. 45, 68 (1932).

³¹ *Snyder v. Massachusetts*, 291 U.S. 97, 105 (1934).

³² *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319, 325 (1937). Justice Frankfurter was a strong advocate of this approach to the Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause. E.g., *Rochin v. California*, 342 U.S. 165 (1952); *Adamson v. California*, 332 U.S. 46, 59 (1947) (concurring opinion). Justice Harlan followed him in this regard. E.g.,

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As late as 1958, Justice Harlan was able to assert in an opinion of the Court that a certain state practice fell afoul of the Fourteenth Amendment because “[i]t is beyond debate that freedom to engage in association for the advancement of beliefs and ideas is an inseparable aspect of the ‘liberty’ assured by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, which embraces freedom of speech”³³

But this process of “absorption” into due process of rights which happened also to be specifically named in the Bill of Rights came to be supplanted by a doctrine which had for a time coexisted with it, the doctrine of “selective incorporation.” This doctrine holds that the due process clause incorporates the text of certain of the provisions of the Bill of Rights. Thus in *Malloy v. Hogan*,³⁴ Justice Brennan was enabled to say: “We have held that the guarantees of the First Amendment, . . . the prohibition of unreasonable searches and seizures of the Fourth Amendment, . . . and the right to counsel guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment, . . . are all to be enforced against the States under the Fourteenth Amendment according to the same standards that protect those personal rights against federal encroachment.” And Justice Clark was enabled to say: “First, this Court has decisively settled that the First Amendment’s mandate that ‘Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof’ has been made wholly applicable to the States by the Fourteenth

Benton v. Maryland, 395 U.S. 784, 801 (1969) (dissenting opinion); *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 117 (1970) (concurring in part and dissenting in part). For early applications of the principles to void state practices, see *Moore v. Dempsey*, 261 U.S. 86 (1923); *Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390 (1923); *Tumey v. Ohio*, 273 U.S. 510 (1927); *Powell v. Alabama*, 287 U.S. 45 (1932); *Mooney v. Holohan*, 294 U.S. 103 (1935); *Brown v. Mississippi*, 297 U.S. 278 (1936); *Rochin v. California*, supra.

³³ *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 460 (1958).

³⁴ 378 U.S. 1, 10 (1964). In *Washington v. Texas*, 388 U.S. 14, 18 (1967), Chief Justice Warren for the Court said that the Court has “increasingly looked to the specific guarantees of the [Bill of Rights] to determine whether a state criminal trial was conducted with due process of law.” And in *Benton v. Maryland*, 395 U.S. 784, 794 (1969), Justice Marshall for the Court wrote: “[W]e today find that the double jeopardy prohibition of the Fifth Amendment represents a fundamental ideal in our constitutional heritage, and that it should apply to the States through the Fourteenth Amendment.” In this process, the Court has substantially increased the burden of showing that a procedure is fundamentally fair as carried by those who would defend a departure from the requirement of the Bill of Rights. That is, previously the Court has asked whether a civilized system of criminal justice could be imagined that did not accord the particular procedural safeguard. E.g., *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319, 325 (1937). The present approach is to ascertain whether a particular guarantee is fundamental in the light of the system existent in the United States, which can make a substantial difference. *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 149 n.14 (1968). *Quaere*, the approach followed in *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78 (1970), and *Apodaca v. Oregon*, 406 U.S. 404 (1972).

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Amendment.”³⁵ Similar language asserting that particular provisions of the Bill of Rights have been applied to the States through the Fourteenth Amendment’s due process clause may be found in numerous cases.³⁶ Most of the provisions have now been so applied.³⁷

³⁵ *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 215 (1963). Similar formulations for the speech and press clauses appeared early. E.g., *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 639 (1943); *Schneider v. Irvington*, 308 U.S. 147, 160 (1939). In *Griffin v. California*, 380 U.S. 609, 615 (1965), Justice Douglas stated the holding as “that the Fifth Amendment, in its direct application to the Federal Government, and in its bearing on the States by reason of the Fourteenth Amendment, forbids” the state practice at issue.

³⁶ E.g., *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643 (1961); *Klopfert v. North Carolina*, 386 U.S. 213 (1967); *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145 (1968); *Ashe v. Swenson*, 397 U.S. 436 (1970); *Baldwin v. New York*, 399 U.S. 66 (1970).

³⁷ The following list does not attempt to distinguish between those Bill of Rights provisions which have been held to have themselves been incorporated or absorbed by the Fourteenth Amendment and those provisions which the Court indicated at the time were applicable against the States because they were fundamental and not merely because they were named in the Bill of Rights. Whichever formulation was originally used, the former is now the one used by the Court. *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 148 (1968).

First Amendment—

Religion—

Free exercise: *Hamilton v. Regents*, 293 U.S. 245, 262 (1934); *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 300, 303 (1940).

Establishment: *Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1, 3, 7, 8 (1947); *Illinois ex rel. McCollum v. Board of Education*, 333 U.S. 203 (1948).

Speech—*Citlow v. New York*, 268 U.S. 652, 666 (1925); *Fiske v. Kansas*, 274 U.S. 380 (1927); *Stromberg v. California*, 283 U.S. 359 (1931).

Press—*Near v. Minnesota ex rel. Olson*, 283 U.S. 697, 701 (1931).

Assembly—*DeJonge v. Oregon*, 299 U.S. 353 (1937).

Petition—*DeJonge v. Oregon*, *supra*, 364, 365; *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496 (1939); *Bridges v. California*, 314 U.S. 252 (1941).

Fourth Amendment—

Search and seizure—*Wolf v. Colorado*, 338 U.S. 25 (1949); *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643 (1961).

Fifth Amendment—

Double jeopardy—*Benton v. Maryland*, 395 U.S. 784 (1969); *Ashe v. Swenson*, 397 U.S. 436 (1970) (collateral estoppel).

Self-incrimination—*Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1 (1964); *Griffin v. California*, 380 U.S. 609 (1965).

Just compensation—*Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. City of Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226 (1897).

Sixth Amendment—

Speedy trial—*Klopfert v. North Carolina*, 386 U.S. 213 (1967).

Public trial—*In re Oliver*, 333 U.S. 257 (1948).

Jury trial—*Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145 (1968).

Impartial Jury—*Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717 (1961); *Turner v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 466 (1965).

Notice of charges—*In re Oliver*, 333 U.S. 257 (1948).

Confrontation—*Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400 (1965); *Douglas v. Alabama*, 380 U.S. 415 (1965).

Compulsory process—*Washington v. Texas*, 388 U.S. 14 (1967).

Counsel—*Powell v. Alabama*, 287 U.S. 45 (1932); *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335 (1963).

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Aside from the theoretical and philosophical considerations which enter into the question whether the Bill of Rights is incorporated into the Fourteenth Amendment or whether due process subsumes certain fundamental rights which may be named in the Bill of Rights, the principal relevant controversy is whether, once a guarantee or a right set out in the Bill of Rights is held to be a limitation on the States, the same standards which restrict the Federal Government restrict the States. The majority of the Court has consistently held that the standards are identical, whether the Federal Government or a State is involved,³⁸ and “has rejected the notion that the Fourteenth Amendment applies to the State only a ‘watered-down, subjective version of the individual guarantees of the Bill of Rights.’”³⁹ Those who have argued for the application of a dual-standard test of due process as between the Federal Government and the States, most notably Justice Harlan,⁴⁰ but includ-

Eighth Amendment—

Cruel and unusual punishment—*Louisiana ex rel. Francis v. Resweber*, 329 U.S. 459 (1947); *Robinson v. California*, 370 U.S. 660 (1962).

Provisions not applied are:

Second Amendment—

Right to keep and bear arms—*Cf. United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542, 553 (1876); *Presser v. Illinois*, 116 U.S. 252, 265 (1886).

Third Amendment—

Quartering troops in homes—No cases.

Fifth Amendment—

Grand Jury indictment—*Hurtado v. California*, 110 U.S. 516 (1884).

Seventh Amendment—

Jury trial in civil cases in which value of controversy exceeds \$20—*Cf. Adamson v. California*, 332 U.S. 46, 64–65 (1947) (Justice Frankfurter concurring). *See Minneapolis & St. L. R.R. v. Bombolis*, 241 U.S. 211 (1916).

Eighth Amendment—

Bail—*But see Schilb v. Kuebel*, 404 U.S. 357, 365 (1971).

Excessive Fines—*But see Tate v. Short*, 401 U.S. 395 (1971) (utilizing equal protection to prevent automatic jailing of indigents when others can pay a fine and avoid jail).

³⁸*Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1, 10–11 (1964); *Ker v. California*, 374 U.S. 23 (1963); *Griffin v. California*, 380 U.S. 609 (1965); *Baldwin v. New York*, 399 U.S. 66 (1970); *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78 (1970); *Ballew v. Georgia*, 435 U.S. 223 (1978); *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 780 n.16 (1978) (specifically the First Amendment speech and press clauses); *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28 (1978); *Burch v. Louisiana*, 441 U.S. 130 (1979).

³⁹*Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 106–107 (1970) (Justice Black concurring in part and dissenting in part), quoting *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1, 10–11 (1964).

⁴⁰Justice Harlan first took this position in *Roth v. United States*, 354 U.S. 476, 496 (1957) (concurring in part and dissenting in part). *See also Ker v. California*, 374 U.S. 23, 45–46 (1963) (concurring). His various opinions are collected in *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 129–33 (1970) (concurring in part and dissenting in part).

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ing Justice Stewart,⁴¹ Justice Fortas,⁴² Justice Powell,⁴³ and Justice Rehnquist,⁴⁴ have not only based their contentions on a rejection of actual incorporation but upon the ground as well that if the same standards are to apply the standards previously developed with the Federal Government in mind will have to be diluted in order to give the States more leeway in the operation of their criminal justice systems.⁴⁵ The latter result seems to have developed with regard to issues surrounding the interpretation of the jury trial guarantee of the Sixth Amendment.⁴⁶

⁴¹ *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 143–45 (1970) (concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 173–83 (1968) (Justices Harlan and Stewart dissenting). *But see Apodaca v. Oregon*, 406 U.S. 404, 414 (1972) (dissenting). *See also Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28 (1978) (Justice Stewart writing opinion of the Court).

⁴² *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194, 211 (1968) (concurring).

⁴³ *Johnson v. Louisiana*, 406 U.S. 356, 366 (1972) (concurring); *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 52–53 (1978) (dissenting, joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist). *But see First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 780 n.16 (1978) (rejecting theory in First Amendment context in opinion for the Court, joined by Chief Justice Burger).

⁴⁴ *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 290 (1976) (concurring in part and dissenting in part); *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 822 (1978) (dissenting). *See also Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 52–53 (1978) (joining Justice Powell's dissent). Justice Jackson was also apparently of this view. *Beauharnais v. Illinois*, 343 U.S. 250, 288 (1952) (dissenting).

⁴⁵ E.g., *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 129–38 (1970) (Justice Harlan concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194, 213–215 (1968) (Justice Fortas concurring). *But see Williams v. Florida*, *supra*, 106–08 (Justice Black concurring in part and dissenting in part).

⁴⁶ *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78 (1970); *Apodaca v. Oregon*, 406 U.S. 404 (1972). *But cf. Ballew v. Georgia*, 435 U.S. 223 (1978).

FIRST AMENDMENT

RELIGION AND EXPRESSION

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RELIGION AND FREE EXPRESSION

FIRST AMENDMENT

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

RELIGION

An Overview

Madison's original proposal for a bill of rights provision concerning religion read: "The civil rights of none shall be abridged on account of religious belief or worship, nor shall any national religion be established, nor shall the full and equal rights of conscience be in any manner, or on any pretence, infringed."¹ The language was altered in the House to read: "Congress shall make no law establishing religion, or to prevent the free exercise thereof, or to infringe the rights of conscience."² In the Senate, the section adopted read: "Congress shall make no law establishing articles of faith, or a mode of worship, or prohibiting the free exercise of religion, . . ."³ It was in the conference committee of the two bodies, chaired by Madison, that the present language was written with its some-

¹ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 434 (June 8, 1789).

²The committee appointed to consider Madison's proposals, and on which Madison served, with Vining as chairman, had rewritten the religion section to read: "No religion shall be established by law, nor shall the equal rights of conscience be infringed." After some debate during which Madison suggested that the word "national" might be inserted before the word "religion" as "point[ing] the amendment directly to the object it was intended to prevent," the House adopted a substitute reading: "Congress shall make no laws touching religion, or infringing the rights of conscience." 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 729–31 (August 15, 1789). On August 20, on motion of Fisher Ames, the language of the clause as quoted in the text was adopted. *Id.* at 766. According to Madison's biographer, "[t]here can be little doubt that this was written by Madison." I. BRANT, JAMES MADISON—FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION 1787–1800 at 271 (1950).

³This text, taken from the Senate JOURNAL of September 9, 1789, appears in 2 B. SCHWARTZ (ED.), THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 1153 (1971). It was at this point that the religion clauses were joined with the freedom of expression clauses.

what more indefinite “respecting” phraseology.⁴ Debate in Congress lends little assistance in interpreting the religion clauses; Madison’s position, as well as that of Jefferson who influenced him, is fairly clear,⁵ but the intent, insofar as there was one, of the others in Congress who voted for the language and those in the States who voted to ratify is subject to speculation.

Scholarly Commentary.—The explication of the religion clauses by the scholars has followed a restrained sense of their meaning. Story, who thought that “the right of a society or government to interfere in matters of religion will hardly be contested by any persons, who believe that piety, religion, and morality are intimately connected with the well being of the state, and indispensable to the administration of civil justice,”⁶ looked upon the prohibition simply as an exclusion from the Federal Government of all power to act upon the subject. “The situation . . . of the different states equally proclaimed the policy, as well as the necessity of such an exclusion. In some of the states, episcopalians constituted the predominant sect; in others presbyterians; in others, congregationalists; in others, quakers; and in others again, there was a close numerical rivalry among contending sects. It was impossible, that there should not arise perpetual strife and perpetual jealousy on the subject of ecclesiastical ascendancy, if the national government were left free to create a religious establishment. The only security was in extirpating the power. But this alone would have been an imperfect security, if it had not been followed up by a declaration

⁴ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 913 (September 24, 1789). The Senate concurred the same day. See I. BRANT, JAMES MADISON—FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION 1787–1800, 271–72 (1950).

⁵ During House debate, Madison told his fellow Members that “he apprehended the meaning of the words to be, that Congress should not establish a religion, and enforce the legal observation of it by law, nor compel men to worship God in any Manner contrary to their conscience.” 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 730 (August 15, 1789). That his conception of “establishment” was quite broad is revealed in his veto as President in 1811 of a bill which in granting land reserved a parcel for a Baptist Church in Salem, Mississippi; the action, explained President Madison, “comprises a principle and precedent for the appropriation of funds of the United States for the use and support of religious societies, contrary to the article of the Constitution which declares that ‘Congress shall make no law respecting a religious establishment.’” 8 THE WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON (G. Hunt. ed.) 132–33 (1904). Madison’s views were no doubt influenced by the fight in the Virginia legislature in 1784–1785 in which he successfully led the opposition to a tax to support teachers of religion in Virginia and in the course of which he drafted his “Memorial and Remonstrance against Religious Assessments” setting forth his thoughts. *Id.* at 183–91; I. BRANT, JAMES MADISON—THE NATIONALIST 1780–1787, 343–55 (1948). Acting on the momentum of this effort, Madison secured passage of Jefferson’s “Bill for Religious Liberty”. *Id.* at 354; D. MALONE, JEFFERSON THE VIRGINIAN 274–280 (1948). The theme of the writings of both was that it was wrong to offer public support of any religion in particular or of religion in general.

⁶ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1865 (1833).

of the right of the free exercise of religion, and a prohibition (as we have seen) of all religious tests. Thus, the whole power over the subject of religion is left exclusively to the state governments, to be acted upon according to their own sense of justice, and the state constitutions; and the Catholic and the Protestant, the Calvinist and the Arminian, the Jew and the Infidel, may sit down at the common table of the national councils, without any inquisition into their faith, or mode of worship.”⁷

“Probably,” Story also wrote, “at the time of the adoption of the constitution and of the amendment to it, now under consideration, the general, if not the universal, sentiment in America was, that Christianity ought to receive encouragement from the state, so far as was not incompatible with the private rights of conscience, and the freedom of religious worship. An attempt to level all religions, and to make it a matter of state policy to hold all in utter indifference, would have created universal disapprobation, if not universal indignation.”⁸ The object, then, of the religion clauses in this view was not to prevent general governmental encouragement of religion, of Christianity, but to prevent religious persecution and to prevent a national establishment.⁹

This interpretation has long since been abandoned by the Court, beginning, at least, with *Everson v. Board of Education*,¹⁰ in which the Court, without dissent on this point, declared that the Establishment Clause forbids not only practices that “aid one religion” or “prefer one religion over another,” but as well those that “aid all religions.” Recently, in reliance on published scholarly research and original sources, Court dissenters have recurred to the argument that what the religion clauses, principally the Establishment Clause, prevent is “preferential” governmental promotion of some religions, allowing general governmental promotion of all religion in general.¹¹ The Court has not responded, though Justice Souter in a major concurring opinion did undertake to rebut the argument and to restate the *Everson* position.¹²

⁷Id. at 1873.

⁸Id. at 1868.

⁹For a late expounding of this view, see T. COOLEY, GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF CONSTITUTIONAL LAW IN THE UNITED STATES 224–25 (3d ed. 1898).

¹⁰330 U.S. 1, 15 (1947). Establishment Clause jurisprudence since, whatever its twists and turns, maintains this view.

¹¹*Wallace v. Jaffree*, 472 U.S. 38, 91 (1985) (then-Justice Rehnquist dissenting). More recently, dissenters, including now-Chief Justice Rehnquist, have appeared reconciled to a “constitutional tradition” in which governmental endorsement of religion is out of bounds, even if it is not correct as a matter of history. See *Lee v. Weisman*, 112 S. Ct. 2649, 2678, 2683–84 (1992) (Justice Scalia, joined by the Chief Justice and Justices White and Thomas, dissenting).

¹²*Lee v. Weisman*, 112 S. Ct. 2649, 2667 (1992) (Justice Souter, joined by Justices Stevens and O’Connor, concurring).

Court Tests Applied to Legislation Affecting Religion.—

Before considering the development of the two religion clauses by the Supreme Court, one should notice briefly the tests developed by which religion cases are adjudicated by the Court. While later cases rely on a series of rather well-defined, if difficult-to-apply, tests, the language of earlier cases “may have [contained] too sweeping utterances on aspects of these clauses that seemed clear in relation to the particular cases but have limited meaning as general principles.”¹³ It is well to recall that “the purpose [of the religion clauses] was to state an objective, not to write a statute.”¹⁴

In 1802, President Jefferson wrote a letter to a group of Baptists in Danbury, Connecticut, in which he declared that it was the purpose of the First Amendment to build “a wall of separation between Church and State.”¹⁵ In *Reynolds v. United States*,¹⁶ Chief Justice Waite for the Court characterized the phrase as “almost an authoritative declaration of the scope and effect of the amendment.” In its first encounters with religion-based challenges to state programs, the Court looked to Jefferson’s metaphor for substantial guidance.¹⁷ But a metaphor may obscure as well as illuminate, and the Court soon began to emphasize neutrality and voluntarism as the standard of restraint on governmental action.¹⁸

¹³Walz v. Tax Comm’n, 397 U.S. 664, 668 (1970).

¹⁴Id.

¹⁵16 THE WRITINGS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON 281 (A. Libscomb ed., 1904).

¹⁶98 U.S. 145, 164 (1879).

¹⁷*Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1, 16 (1947); *Illinois ex rel. McCollum v. Board of Education*, 333 U.S. 203, 211, 212 (1948); cf. *Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U.S. 306, 317 (1952) (Justice Black dissenting). In *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 403 U.S. 602, 614 (1971), Chief Justice Burger remarked that “the line of separation, far from being a ‘wall,’ is a blurred, indistinct and variable barrier depending on all the circumstances of a particular relationship.” Similar observations were repeated by the Chief Justice in his opinion for the Court in *Lynch v. Donnelly*, 465 U.S. 668, 673 (1984) (the metaphor is not “wholly accurate”; the Constitution does not “require complete separation of church and state [but] affirmatively mandates accommodation, not merely tolerance, of all religions, and forbids hostility toward any”).

¹⁸*Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U.S. 306, 314 (1952); *Engel v. Vitale*, 370 U.S. 421 (1962); *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398 (1963); *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 305 (1963) (Justice Goldberg concurring); *Walz v. Tax Comm’n*, 397 U.S. 664, 694–97 (1970) (Justice Harlan concurring). In the opinion of the Court in the latter case, Chief Justice Burger wrote: “The course of constitutional neutrality in this area cannot be an absolutely straight line; rigidity could well defeat the basic purpose of these provisions, which is to insure that no religion be sponsored or favored, none commanded, and none inhibited. The general principle deducible from the First Amendment and all that has been said by the Court is this: that we will not tolerate either governmentally established religion or governmental interference with religion. Short of those expressly proscribed governmental acts there is room for play in the joints productive of a benevolent neutrality which will permit religious exercise to exist without sponsorship and without interference.” Id. at 669.

The concept of neutrality itself is “a coat of many colors,”¹⁹ and three standards that could be stated in objective fashion emerged as tests of Establishment Clause validity. The first two standards were part of the same formulation. “The test may be stated as follows: what are the purpose and the primary effect of the enactment? If either is the advancement or inhibition of religion then the enactment exceeds the scope of legislative power as circumscribed by the Constitution. That is to say that to withstand the strictures of the Establishment Clause there must be a secular legislative purpose and a primary effect that neither advances nor inhibits religion.”²⁰ The third test is whether the governmental program results in “an excessive government entanglement with religion. The test is inescapably one of degree . . . [T]he questions are whether the involvement is excessive, and whether it is a continuing one calling for official and continuing surveillance leading to an impermissible degree of entanglement.”²¹ In 1971 these three tests were combined and restated in Chief Justice Burger’s opinion for the Court in *Lemon v. Kurtzman*,²² and are frequently referred to by reference to that case name.

Although at one time accepted in principle by all of the Justices,²³ the tests have sometimes been difficult to apply,²⁴ have recently come under direct attack by some Justices,²⁵ and in two in-

¹⁹ *Board of Education v. Allen*, 392 U.S. 236, 249 (1968) (Justice Harlan concurring).

²⁰ *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 222 (1963).

²¹ *Walz v. Tax Comm’n*, 397 U.S. 664, 674–75 (1970).

²² 403 U.S. 602, 612–13 (1971).

²³ E.g., *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 653 (1980), and *id.* at 665 (dissenting opinion); *Stone v. Graham*, 449 U.S. 39, 40 (1980), and *id.* at 43 (dissenting opinion).

²⁴ The tests provide “helpful signposts,” *Hunt v. McNair*, 413 U.S. 734, 741 (1973), and are at best “guidelines” rather than a “constitutional caliper;” they must be used to consider “the cumulative criteria developed over many years and applying to a wide range of governmental action.” Inevitably, “no ‘bright line’ guidance is afforded.” *Tilton v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 672, 677–78 (1971). See also *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 761 & n.5, 773 n.31 (1973); *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 662 (1980), and *id.* at 663 (Justice Blackmun dissenting).

²⁵ See, e.g., *Edwards v. Aguillard*, 482 U.S. 578, 636–40 (1987) (Justice Scalia, joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist, dissenting) (advocating abandonment of the “purpose” test); *Wallace v. Jaffree*, 472 U.S. 38, 108–12 (1985) (Justice Rehnquist dissenting); *Aguilar v. Felton*, 473 U.S. 402, 426–30 (1985) (Justice O’Connor, dissenting) (addressing difficulties in applying the entanglement prong); *Roemer v. Maryland Bd. of Public Works*, 426 U.S. 736, 768–69 (Justice White concurring in judgment) (objecting to entanglement test). Justice Kennedy has also acknowledged criticisms of the *Lemon* tests, while at the same time finding no need to reexamine them. See, e.g., *Allegheny County v. Greater Pittsburgh ACLU*, 492 U.S. 573, 655–56 (1989). At least with respect to public aid to religious schools, Justice Stevens would abandon the tests and simply adopt a “no-aid” position. *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 671 (1980).

stances have not been applied at all by the Court.²⁶ While continued application is uncertain, the *Lemon* tests nonetheless have served for twenty years as the standard measure of Establishment Clause validity and explain most of the Court's decisions in the area.²⁷ As of the end of the Court's 1991–92 Term, there was not yet a consensus among *Lemon* critics as to what substitute test should be favored.²⁸ Reliance on “coercion” for that purpose would eliminate a principal distinction between establishment cases and free exercise cases and render the Establishment Clause largely duplicative of the Free Exercise Clause.²⁹

Government Neutrality in Religious Disputes.—One value that both clauses of the religion section serve is to enforce governmental neutrality in deciding controversies arising out of religious disputes. Schism sometimes develops within churches or between a local church and the general church, resulting in secession or expulsion of one faction or of the local church. A dispute over which body is to have control of the property of the church will then often be taken into the courts. It is now established that both religion clauses prevent governmental inquiry into religious doctrine in settling such disputes, and instead require courts simply to look to the decision-making body or process in the church and to give effect to whatever decision is officially and properly made.

²⁶ See *Marsh v. Chambers*, 463 U.S. 783 (1983) (upholding legislative prayers on the basis of historical practice); *Lee v. Weisman*, 112 S. Ct. 2649, 2655 (1992) (rejecting a request to reconsider *Lemon* because the practice of invocations at public high school graduations was invalid under established school prayer precedents). The Court has also held that the tripartite test is not applicable when law grants a denominational preference, distinguishing between religions; rather, the distinction is to be subjected to the strict scrutiny of a suspect classification. *Larson v. Valente*, 456 U.S. 228, 244–46 (1982).

²⁷ Justice Blackmun, concurring in *Lee*, contended that *Marsh* was the only one of 31 Establishment cases between 1971 and 1992 not to be decided on the basis on the *Lemon* tests. 112 S. Ct. at 2663, n.4.

²⁸ In 1990 Justice Kennedy, joined by Justice Scalia, proposed that “neutral” accommodations of religion should be permissible so long as they do not establish a state religion, and so long as there is no “coercion” to participate in religious exercises. *Westside Community Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens*, 496 U.S. 226, 260–61. The two Justices parted company, however, over the permissibility of invocations at public high school graduation ceremonies, Justice Scalia in dissent strongly criticizing Justice Kennedy's approach in the opinion of the Court for its reliance on psychological coercion. Justice Scalia would not “expand[] the concept of coercion beyond acts backed by threat of penalty.” *Lee v. Weisman*, 112 S. Ct. 2649, 2684 (1992). Chief Justice Rehnquist has advocated limiting application to a prohibition on establishing a national (or state) church or favoring one religious group over another. *Wallace v. Jaffree*, 472 U.S. 38, 98, 106 (1985) (dissenting).

²⁹ *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 222–23 (1963). See also *Board of Education v. Allen*, 392 U.S. 236, 248–49 (1968); and *Tilton v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 672, 689 (1971); *Lee v. Weisman*, 112 S. Ct. 2649, 2673 (Justice Souter concurring) (“a literal application of the coercion test would render the Establishment Clause a virtual nullity”).

The first such case was *Watson v. Jones*,³⁰ which was decided on common-law grounds in a diversity action without explicit reliance on the First Amendment. A constitutionalization of the rule was made in *Kedroff v. St. Nicholas Cathedral*,³¹ in which the Court held unconstitutional a state statute that recognized the autonomy and authority of those North American branches of the Russian Orthodox Church which had declared their independence from the general church. Recognizing that *Watson v. Jones* had been decided on nonconstitutional grounds, the Court thought nonetheless that the opinion “radiates . . . a spirit of freedom for religious organizations, and independence from secular control or manipulation—in short, power to decide for themselves, free from state interference, matters of church government as well as those of faith and doctrine.”³² The power of civil courts to resolve church property disputes was severely circumscribed, the Court held, because to permit resolution of doctrinal disputes in court was to jeopardize First Amendment values. What a court must do, it was held, is to look at the church rules: if the church is a hierarchical one which reposes determination of ecclesiastical issues in a certain body, the resolution by that body is determinative, while if the church is a congregational one prescribing action by a majority vote, that determination will prevail.³³ On the other hand, a court confronted with a church property dispute could apply “neutral principles of law, developed for use in all property disputes,” when to do so would not require resolution of doctrinal issues.³⁴ In a later case the Court elaborated on the limits of proper inquiry, holding that an argument over a matter of internal church government, the power to reorganize the dioceses of a hierarchical church in this country, was “at the core of ecclesiastical affairs” and a court could not interpret the church constitution to make an inde-

³⁰ 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 679 (1872).

³¹ 344 U.S. 94 (1952). *Kedroff* was grounded on the Free Exercise Clause. *Id.* at 116. But the subsequent cases used a collective “First Amendment” designation.

³² *Id.* at 116. On remand, the state court adopted the same ruling on the merits but relied on a common-law rule rather than the statute. This too was struck down. *Kreshik v. St. Nicholas Cathedral*, 363 U.S. 190 (1960).

³³ *Presbyterian Church v. Hull Memorial Presbyterian Church*, 393 U.S. 440, 447, 450–51 (1969); *Maryland and Virginia Eldership of the Churches of God v. Church of God at Sharpsburg*, 396 U.S. 367 (1970). For a similar rule of neutrality in another context, see *United States v. Ballard*, 322 U.S. 78 (1944) (denying defendant charged with mail fraud through dissemination of purported religious literature the right to present to the jury evidence of the truthfulness of the religious views he urged).

³⁴ *Presbyterian Church v. Hull Memorial Presbyterian Church*, 393 U.S. 440, 449 (1969); *Maryland and Virginia Eldership of the Churches of God v. Church of God of Sharpsburg*, 396 U.S. 367, 368 (1970). See also *id.* at 368–70 (Justice Brennan concurring).

pendent determination of the power but must defer to the interpretation of the body authorized to decide.³⁵

In *Jones v. Wolf*,³⁶ however, a divided Court, while formally adhering to these principles, appeared to depart in substance from their application. A schism had developed in a local church which was a member of a hierarchical church, and the majority voted to withdraw from the general church. The proper authority of the general church determined that the minority constituted the “true congregation” of the local church and awarded them authority over it. The Court approved the approach of the state court in applying neutral principles by examining the deeds to the church property, state statutes, and provisions of the general church’s constitution concerning ownership and control of church property in order to determine that no language of trust in favor of the general church was contained in any of them and that the property thus belonged to the local congregation.³⁷ Further, the Court held, the First Amendment did not prevent the state court from applying a presumption of majority rule to award control to the majority of the local congregation, provided that it permitted defeasance of the presumption upon a showing that the identity of the local church is to be determined by some other means as expressed perhaps in the general church charter.³⁸ The dissent argued that to permit a court narrowly to view only the church documents relating to property ownership permitted the ignoring of the fact that the dispute was over ecclesiastical matters and that the general church had decided which faction of the congregation was the local church.³⁹

Thus, it is unclear where the Court is on this issue. *Jones v. Wolf* restated the rule that it is improper to review an ecclesiastical dispute and that deference is required in those cases, but by approving a neutral principles inquiry which in effect can filter out the doctrinal issues underlying a church dispute, the Court seems

³⁵The Serbian Eastern Orthodox Diocese v. Dionisije Milivojevich, 426 U.S. 697, 720–25 (1976). In *Gonzalez v. Archbishop*, 280 U.S. 1 (1929), the Court had permitted limited inquiry into the legality of the actions taken under church rules. The *Serbian Eastern* Court disapproved of this inquiry with respect to concepts of “arbitrariness,” although it reserved decision on the “fraud” and “collusion” exceptions. 426 U.S. at 708–20.

³⁶443 U.S. 595 (1979). In the majority were Justices Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, Rehnquist, and Stevens. Dissenting were Justices Powell, Stewart, White, and Chief Justice Burger.

³⁷*Id.* at 602–06.

³⁸*Id.* at 606–10. Because it was unclear whether the state court had applied such a rule and applied it properly, the Court remanded.

³⁹*Id.* at 610.

to have approved at least an indirect limitation of the authority of hierarchical churches.⁴⁰

Establishment of Religion

“[F]or the men who wrote the Religion Clauses of the First Amendment the ‘establishment’ of a religion connoted sponsorship, financial support, and active involvement of the sovereign in religious activity.”⁴¹ However, the Court’s reading of the clause has never resulted in the barring of all assistance which aids, however incidentally, a religious institution. Outside this area, the decisions generally have more rigorously prohibited what may be deemed governmental promotion of religious doctrine.

Financial Assistance to Church-Related Institutions.—

The Court’s first opportunity to rule on the validity of governmental financial assistance to a religiously affiliated institution occurred in 1899, the assistance being a federal grant for the construction of a hospital owned and operated by a Roman Catholic order. The Court viewed the hospital as a secular institution so chartered by Congress and not as a religious or sectarian body, thus avoiding the constitutional issue.⁴² But when the right of local authorities to provide free transportation for children attending parochial schools reached the Court, it adopted very restrictive language. “The ‘establishment of religion’ clause of the First Amendment means at least this: Neither a state nor the Federal Government can set up a church. Neither can pass laws which aid one religion, aid all religions, or prefer one religion over another. Neither can force nor influence a person to go to or to remain away from church against his will or force him to profess a belief or disbelief in any religion. No person can be punished for entertaining

⁴⁰The Court indicated that the general church could always expressly provide in its charter or in deeds to property the proper disposition of disputed property. But here the general church had decided which faction was the “true congregation,” and this would appear to constitute as definitive a ruling as the Court’s suggested alternatives. *Id.* at 606.

⁴¹*Walz v. Tax Comm’n*, 397 U.S. 664, 668 (1970). “Two great drives are constantly in motion to abridge, in the name of education, the complete division of religion and civil authority which our forefathers made. One is to introduce religious education and observances into the public schools. The other, to obtain public funds for the aid and support of various private religious schools. . . . In my opinion both avenues were closed by the Constitution.” *Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1, 63 (1947) (Justice Rutledge dissenting).

⁴²*Bradfield v. Roberts*, 175 U.S. 291 (1899). *Cf.* *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 246 (1963) (Justice Brennan concurring). In *Cochran v. Board of Education*, 281 U.S. 370 (1930), a state program furnishing textbooks to parochial schools was sustained under a due process attack without reference to the First Amendment. *See also Quick Bear v. Leupp*, 210 U.S. 50 (1908) (statutory limitation on expenditures of public funds for sectarian education does not apply to treaty and trust funds administered by the Government for Indians).

or professing religious beliefs or disbeliefs, for church attendance or non-attendance. No tax in any amount, large or small, can be levied to support any religious activities or institutions, whatever they may be called, or whatever form they may adopt to teach or practice religion. Neither a state nor the Federal Government can, openly or secretly, participate in the affairs of any religious organizations or groups and vice versa. In the words of Jefferson, the clause against establishment of religion by law was intended to erect 'a wall of separation between church and State.'⁴³ But the majority sustained the provision of transportation. While recognizing that "it approaches the verge" of the State's constitutional power, still, Justice Black thought, the transportation was a form of "public welfare legislation" which was being extended "to all its citizens without regard to their religious belief."⁴⁴ "It is undoubtedly true that children are helped to get to church schools. There is even a possibility that some of the children might not be sent to the church schools if the parents were compelled to pay their children's bus fares out of their own pockets when transportation to a public school would have been paid for by the State."⁴⁵ Transportation benefited the child, just as did police protection at crossings, fire protection, connections for sewage disposal, public highways and sidewalks. Thus was born the "child benefit" theory.⁴⁶

The Court in 1968 relied on the "child benefit" theory to sustain state loans of textbooks to parochial school students.⁴⁷ Utilizing the secular purpose and effect tests,⁴⁸ the Court determined that the purpose of the loans was the "furtherance of the educational opportunities available to the young," while the effect was hardly less secular. "The law merely makes available to all children the benefits of a general program to lend school books free of charge. Books are furnished at the request of the pupil and ownership remains, at least technically, in the State. Thus no funds or books are furnished to parochial schools, and the financial benefit is to parents and children, not to schools. Perhaps free books make it more likely that some children choose to attend a sectarian

⁴³ *Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1, 15–16 (1947).

⁴⁴ *Id.* at 16.

⁴⁵ *Id.* at 17. It was in *Everson* that the Court, without much discussion of the matter, held that the Establishment Clause applied to the States through the Fourteenth Amendment and limited both national and state governments equally. *Id.* at 8, 13, 14–16. The issue is discussed at some length by Justice Brennan in *Abington School Dist. v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 253–58 (1963).

⁴⁶ *And see Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U.S. 306, 312–13 (1952) (upholding program allowing public schools to excuse students to attend religious instruction or exercises).

⁴⁷ *Board of Education v. Allen*, 392 U.S. 236 (1968).

⁴⁸ *Supra*, p. 973.

school, but that was true of the state-paid bus fares in *Everson* and does not alone demonstrate an unconstitutional degree of support for a religious institution.”⁴⁹

From these beginnings, the case law on the discretion of state and federal governmental assistance to sectarian elementary and secondary schools has multiplied. Through the 1970s, at least, the law became as restrictive in fact as the dicta in the early cases suggested, save for the provision of some assistance to children under the “child benefit” theory. Recent decisions evince a somewhat more accommodating approach permitting public assistance if the religious missions of the recipient schools may be only marginally served, or if the directness of aid to the schools is attenuated by independent decisions of parents who receive the aid initially. Throughout, the Court has allowed greater discretion when colleges affiliated with religious institutions are aided. Moreover, the opinions reveal a deep division among the Justices over the application of the *Lemon* tripartite test to these controversies.

A secular purpose is the first requirement to sustain the validity of legislation touching upon religion, and upon this standard the Justices display little disagreement. There are adequate legitimate, non-sectarian bases for legislation to assist nonpublic, religious schools: preservation of a healthy and safe educational environment for all school children, promotion of pluralism and diversity among public and nonpublic schools, and prevention of overburdening of the public school system that would accompany the financial failure of private schools.⁵⁰

Varied views have been expressed by the Justices, however, upon the tests of secular primary effect and church-state entanglement. As to the former test, the Court has formulated no hard-and-fast standard permitting easy judgment in all cases.⁵¹ In providing

⁴⁹ 392 U.S. at 243–44 (1968).

⁵⁰ *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 773 (1973). See also *id.* at 805 (Chief Justice Burger dissenting), 812–13 (Justice Rehnquist dissenting), 813 (Justice White dissenting). And see *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 240 (1977) (plurality opinion); *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 653–654 (1980), and *id.* at 665 (Justice Blackmun dissenting).

⁵¹ Justice White has argued that the primary effect test requires the Court to make an “ultimate judgment” whether the primary effect of a program advances religion. If the primary effect is secular, i.e., keeping the parochial school system alive and providing adequate secular education to substantial numbers of students, then the incidental benefit to religion was only secondary and permissible. *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 822–24 (1973) (dissenting). The Court rejected this view: “[o]ur cases simply do not support the notion that a law found to have a ‘primary’ effect to promote some legitimate end under the State’s police power is immune from further examination to ascertain whether it also has the direct and immediate effect of advancing religion.” *Id.* at 873 n.39.

assistance, government must avoid aiding the religious mission of such schools directly or indirectly. Thus, for example, funds may not be given to a sectarian institution without restrictions that would prevent their use for such purposes as defraying the costs of building or maintaining chapels or classrooms in which religion is taught.⁵² Loan of substantial amounts of purely secular educational materials to sectarian schools can also result in impermissible advancement of sectarian activity where secular and sectarian education are inextricably intertwined.⁵³ Even the provision of secular services in religious schools raises the possibility that religious instruction might be introduced into the class and is sufficient to condemn a program.⁵⁴ The extent to which the religious mission of the entity is inextricably intertwined with the secular mission and the size of the assistance furnished are factors for the reviewing court to consider.⁵⁵ But the fact that public aid to further secular purposes of the school will necessarily “free up” some of the institution’s funds which it may apply to its religious mission is not alone sufficient to condemn the program.⁵⁶ Rather, it must always be determined whether the religious effects are substantial or whether they are remote and incidental.⁵⁷ Upon that determination and

⁵² *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 774–80 (1973).

⁵³ *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349, 362–66 (1975). *See also* *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 248–51 (1977) (loan of same instructional material and equipment to pupils or their parents).

⁵⁴ *Compare* *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349, 367–72 (1975), *with* *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 238–48 (1977) and *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 654–57 (1980).

⁵⁵ *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 403 U.S. 602, 616–19 (1971). The existence of what the Court perceived to be massive aid and of religion-pervasive recipients constituted a major backdrop in *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756 (1973), and *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349 (1973). When the aid is more selective and its permissible use is cabined sufficiently, the character of the institution assumes less importance. *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 661–62 (1980). When the entity is an institution of higher education, the Court appears less concerned with its religious character but it still evaluates the degree to which it is pervasively sectarian. *Hunt v. McNair*, 413 U.S. 734 (1973); *Roemer v. Maryland Public Works Bd.*, 426 U.S. 736 (1976).

⁵⁶ *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 658–59 (1980).

⁵⁷ The form which the assistance takes may have little to do with the determination. One group of Justices has argued that when the assistance is given to parents, the dangers of impermissible primary effect and entanglement are avoided and it should be approved. *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 801–05 (1973) (dissenting). The Court denied a controlling significance to delivery of funds to parents rather than schools; government must always ensure a secular use. *Id.* at 780. Another group of Justices has argued that the primary effect test does not permit direct financial support to sectarian schools, *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 665–69 (1980) (dissenting), but the Court held that provision of direct aid with adequate assurances of nonreligious use does not constitute a forbidden primary effect. *Id.* at

upon the guarantees built into any program to assure that public aid is used exclusively for secular, neutral, and nonideological purposes rests the validity of public assistance.

The greater the necessity of policing the entity's use of public funds to ensure secular effect, the greater the danger of impermissible entanglement of government with religious matters. Any scheme that requires detailed and continuing oversight of the schools and that requires the entity to report to and justify itself to public authority has the potential for impermissible entanglement.⁵⁸ However, where the nature of the assistance is such that furthering of the religious mission is unlikely and the public oversight is concomitantly less intrusive, a review may be sustained.⁵⁹

Thus, government aid which is directed toward furthering secular interests in the welfare of the child or the nonreligious functions of the entity will generally be permitted where the entity is not so pervasively religious that secular and sectarian activities may not be separated. But no mere statement of rules can adequately survey the cases.

Substantial unanimity, at least in result, has prevailed among the Justices in dealing with direct financial assistance to sectarian schools, as might have been expected from the argument over the primary effect test.⁶⁰ State aid to church-connected schools was first found to have gone over the "verge"⁶¹ in *Lemon v. Kurtzman*.⁶² Involved were two state statutes, one of which authorized the "purchase" of secular educational services from nonpublic elementary and secondary schools, a form of reimbursement for the cost to religious schools of the teaching of such things as mathematics, modern foreign languages, and physical sciences, and the other of which provided salary supplements to nonpublic school teachers who taught courses similar to those found in public

661–62. More recently, in *Mueller v. Allen*, 463 U.S. 388 (1983), the views of the first group noted above controlled.

⁵⁸ *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 403 U.S. 602, 619–20, 621–22 (1971); *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349, 367–72 (1975); *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 254–55 (1977). Another aspect of entanglement identified by the Court is the danger that an aid program would encourage continuing political strife through disputes over annual appropriations and enlargements of programs. *Lemon*, 403 U.S. at 622–24; *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 794–98 (1973); *Meek*, 421 U.S. at 372. This concern appeared to have lessened somewhat in subsequent cases. *Roemer v. Maryland Public Works Board*, 426 U.S. 736, 763–66 (1976); *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 661 n.8 (1980).

⁵⁹ *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646, 659–61 (1980); *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 240–41, 242–44, 248 (1977).

⁶⁰ *But see* discussion *infra* p., on the Court's recent approval of the Adolescent Family Life Act, involving direct grants to religious institutions.

⁶¹ *Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1, 16 (1947).

⁶² 403 U.S. 602 (1971).

schools, used textbooks approved for use in public schools, and agreed not to teach any classes in religion. Accepting the secular purpose attached to both statutes by the legislature, the Court did not pass on the secular effect test, inasmuch as excessive entanglement was found. This entanglement arose because the legislature “has not, and could not, provide state aid on the basis of a mere assumption that secular teachers under religious discipline can avoid conflicts. The State must be certain, given the Religion Clauses, that subsidized teachers do not inculcate religion.”⁶³ Because the schools concerned were religious schools, because they were under the control of the church hierarchy, because the primary purpose of the schools was the propagation of the faith, a “comprehensive, discriminating, and continuing state surveillance will inevitably be required to ensure that these restrictions [on religious utilization of aid] are obeyed and the First Amendment otherwise respected.”⁶⁴ Moreover, the provision of public aid inevitably will draw religious conflict into the public arena as the contest for adequate funding goes on. Thus, the Court held, both programs were unconstitutional because the state supervision necessary to ensure a secular purpose and a secular effect inevitably involved the state authorities too deeply in the religious affairs of the aided institutions.⁶⁵

Two programs of assistance through provision of equipment and services to private, including sectarian, schools were invalidated in *Meek v. Pittenger*.⁶⁶ First, the loan of instructional material and equipment directly to qualifying nonpublic elementary and secondary schools was voided as an impermissible extension of assistance of religion. This conclusion was reached on the basis that 75 percent of the qualifying schools were church-related or religiously affiliated educational institutions and the assistance was available without regard to the degree of religious activity of the schools. The materials and equipment loaned were religiously neutral, but the substantial assistance necessarily constituted aid to the sectarian school enterprise as a whole and thus had a primary effect of advancing religion.⁶⁷ Second, the provision of auxiliary

⁶³Id. at 619.

⁶⁴Id.

⁶⁵Only Justice White dissented. Id. at 661. In *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 411 U.S. 192 (1973), the Court held that the State could reimburse schools for expenses incurred in reliance on the voided program up to the date the Supreme Court held the statute unconstitutional. *But see* *New York v. Cathedral Academy*, 434 U.S. 125 (1977).

⁶⁶421 U.S. 349 (1975). Chief Justice Burger and Justices Rehnquist and White dissented. Id. at 385, 387.

⁶⁷Id. at 362–66. *See also* *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 248–51 (1977). The Court in *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646,

services—remedial and accelerated instruction, guidance counseling and testing, speech and hearing services—by public employees on nonpublic school premises was invalidated because the Court thought the program had to be policed closely to ensure religious neutrality and it saw no way that could be done without impermissible entanglement. The fact that the teachers would, under this program and unlike one of the programs condemned in *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, be public employees rather than employees of the religious schools and possibly under religious discipline was insufficient to permit the State to fail to make certain that religion was not inculcated by subsidized teachers.⁶⁸

The Court in two 1985 cases again struck down programs of public subsidy of instructional services provided on the premises of sectarian schools, and relied on the effects test as well as the entanglement test. In *Grand Rapids School District v. Ball*,⁶⁹ the Court invalidated two programs conducted in leased private school classrooms, one taught during the regular school day by public school teachers,⁷⁰ and the other taught after regular school hours by part-time “public” teachers otherwise employed as full-time teachers by the sectarian school.⁷¹ Both programs, the Court held, had the effect of promoting religion in three distinct ways. The teachers might be influenced by the “pervasively sectarian nature” of the environment and might “subtly or overtly indoctrinate the students in particular religious tenets at public expense”; use of the parochial school classrooms “threatens to convey a message of state support for religion” through “the symbolic union of government and religion in one sectarian enterprise”; and “the programs in effect subsidize the religious functions of the parochial schools by taking over a substantial portion of their responsibility for teaching secular subjects.”⁷² In *Aguilar v. Felton*,⁷³ the Court invalidated a

661–62 (1980), held that *Meek* did not forbid all aid that benefited religiously pervasive schools to some extent, so long as it was conferred in such a way as to prevent any appreciable risk of being used to transmit or teach religious views. See also *Wolman v. Walter*, supra at 262 (Justice Powell concurring in part and dissenting in part).

⁶⁸ *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349, 367–72 (1975). But see *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 238–48 (1977).

⁶⁹ 473 U.S. 373 (1985).

⁷⁰ The vote on this “Shared Time” program was 5–4, the opinion of the Court by Justice Brennan being joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens. The Chief Justice, and Justices White, Rehnquist, and O’Connor dissented.

⁷¹ The vote on this “Community Education” program was 7–2, Chief Justice Burger and Justice O’Connor concurring with the “Shared Time” majority.

⁷² 473 U.S. at 397.

⁷³ 473 U.S. 402 (1985). This was another 5–4 decision, with Justice Brennan’s opinion of the Court being joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens, and with Chief Justice Burger and Justices White, Rehnquist, and O’Connor dissenting.

program under which public school employees provided instructional services on parochial school premises to educationally deprived children. The program differed from those at issue in *Grand Rapids* because the classes were closely monitored for religious content. This “pervasive monitoring” did not save the program, however, because, by requiring close cooperation and day-to-day contact between public and secular authorities, the monitoring “infringes precisely those Establishment Clause values at the root of the prohibition of excessive entanglement.”⁷⁴

A state program to reimburse nonpublic schools for a variety of services mandated by state law was voided because the statute did not distinguish between secular and potentially religious services the costs of which would be reimbursed.⁷⁵ Similarly, a program of direct monetary grants to nonpublic schools to be used for the maintenance of school facilities and equipment failed to survive the primary effect test because it did not restrict payment to those expenditures related to the upkeep of facilities used exclusively for secular purposes and because “within the context of these religion-oriented institutions” the Court could not see how such restrictions could effectively be imposed.⁷⁶ But a plan of direct monetary grants to nonpublic schools to reimburse them for the costs of state-mandated record-keeping and of administering and grading state-prepared tests and which contained safeguards against religious utilization of the tests was sustained even though the Court recognized the incidental benefit to the schools.⁷⁷

The “child benefit” theory, under which it is permissible for government to render ideologically neutral assistance and services to pupils in sectarian schools without being deemed to be aiding the religious mission of the schools, has not proved easy to apply. A number of different forms of assistance to students were at issue

⁷⁴ 473 U.S. at 413.

⁷⁵ *Levitt v. Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty*, 413 U.S. 472 (1973). Justice White dissented, *Id.* at 482. Among the services reimbursed was the cost of preparing and grading examinations in the nonpublic schools by the teachers there. In *New York v. Cathedral Academy*, 434 U.S. 125 (1977), the Court struck down a new statutory program entitling private schools to obtain reimbursement for expenses incurred during the school year in which the prior program was voided in *Levitt*.

⁷⁶ *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 774–80 (1973). Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist concurred, *Id.* at 798, and Justice White dissented, *Id.* at 820.

⁷⁷ *Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Regan*, 444 U.S. 646 (1980). Justices Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens dissented, *Id.* at 662, 671. The dissenters thought that the authorization of direct reimbursement grants was distinguishable from previously approved plans that had merely relieved the private schools of the costs of preparing and grading state-prepared tests. See *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 238–41 (1977).

in *Wolman v. Walter*.⁷⁸ The Court approved the following: standardized tests and scoring services used in the public schools, with private school personnel not involved in the test drafting and scoring; speech, hearing, and psychological diagnostic services provided in the private schools by public employees; and therapeutic, guidance, and remedial services for students provided off the premises of the private schools. In all these, the Court thought the program contained adequate built-in protections against religious utilization. But while the Court adhered to its ruling permitting the States to loan secular textbooks used in the public schools to pupils attending religious schools,⁷⁹ it declined to extend the precedent to permit the loan to pupils or their parents of instructional materials and equipment, such as projectors, tape recorders, maps, globes and science kits, although they were identical to those used in the public schools.⁸⁰ Nor was a State permitted to expend funds to pay the costs to religious schools of field trip transportation such as was provided to public school students.⁸¹

Substantially similar programs from New York and Pennsylvania providing for tuition reimbursement aid to parents of religious school children were struck down in 1973. New York's program provided reimbursements out of general tax revenues for tuition paid by low-income parents to send their children to nonpublic elementary and secondary schools; the reimbursements were of fixed amounts but could not exceed 50 percent of actual tuition paid.

⁷⁸ 433 U.S. 229 (1977). The Court deemed the situation in which these services were performed and the nature of the services to occasion little danger of aiding religious functions and thus requiring little supervision that would give rise to entanglement. All the services fell "within that class of general welfare services for children that may be provided by the States regardless of the incidental benefit that accrues to church-related schools." *Id.* at 243, quoting *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349, 371 n. 21 (1975). Justice Brennan would have voided all the programs because, considered as a whole, the amount of assistance was so large as to constitute assistance to the religious mission of the schools. *Id.* at 433 U.S. at 255. Justice Marshall would have approved only the diagnostic services, *id.* at 256, while Justice Stevens would generally approve closely administered public health services. *Id.* at 264.

⁷⁹ *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349, 359–72 (1975); *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229, 236–38 (1977). *Allen* was explained as resting on "the unique presumption" that "the educational content of textbooks is something that can be ascertained in advance and cannot be diverted to sectarian uses." There was "a tension" between *Nyquist*, *Meek*, and *Wolman*, on the one hand, and *Allen* on the other; while *Allen* was to be followed "as a matter of stare decisis," the "presumption of neutrality" embodied in *Allen* would not be extended to other similar assistance. *Id.* at 251 n.18. A more recent Court majority revived the *Allen* presumption, however, applying it to uphold tax deductions for tuition and other school expenses in *Mueller v. Allen*, 463 U.S. 388 (1983). Justice Rehnquist wrote the Court's opinion, joined by Justices White, Powell, and O'Connor, and by Chief Justice Burger.

⁸⁰ 433 U.S. at 248–51. *See also id.* at 263–64 (Justice Powell concurring in part and dissenting in part).

⁸¹ *Id.* at 252–55. Justice Powell joined the other three dissenters who would have approved this expenditure. *Id.* at 264.

Pennsylvania provided fixed-sum reimbursement for parents who send their children to nonpublic elementary and secondary schools, so long as the amount paid did not exceed actual tuition, the funds to be derived from cigarette tax revenues. Both programs, it was held, constituted public financial assistance to sectarian institutions with no attempt to segregate the benefits so that religion was not advanced.⁸²

New York had also enacted a separate program providing tax relief for low-income parents not qualifying for the tuition reimbursements; here relief was in the form of a deduction or credit bearing no relationship to the amounts of tuition paid, but keyed instead to adjusted gross income. This too was invalidated in *Nyquist*. “In practical terms there would appear to be little difference, for purposes of determining whether such aid has the effect of advancing religion, between the tax benefit allowed here and the tuition [reimbursement] grant. . . . The qualifying parent under either program receives the same form of encouragement and reward for sending his children to nonpublic schools. The only difference is that one parent receives an actual cash payment while the other is allowed to reduce by an arbitrary amount the sum he would otherwise be obliged to pay over to the State. We see no answer to Judge Hays’ dissenting statement below that ‘[i]n both instances the money involved represents a charge made upon the state for the purpose of religious education.’”⁸³ Some difficulty, however, was experienced in distinguishing this program from the tax exemption approved in *Walz*.⁸⁴

Two subsidiary arguments were rejected by the Court in these cases. First, it had been argued that the tuition reimbursement program promoted the free exercise of religion in that it permitted low-income parents desiring to send their children to school in accordance with their religious views to do so. The Court agreed that “tension inevitably exists between the Free Exercise and the Establishment Clauses,” but explained that the tension is ordinarily re-

⁸² Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. *Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 789–798 (1973) (New York); *Sloan v. Lemon*, 413 U.S. 825 (1973) (Pennsylvania). The Court distinguished *Everson* and *Allen* on the grounds that in those cases the aid was given to all children and their parents and that the aid was in any event religiously neutral, so that any assistance to religion was purely incidental. 413 U.S. at 781–82. Chief Justice Burger thought that *Everson* and *Allen* were controlling. *Id.* at 798.

⁸³ Committee for Public Educ. & Religious Liberty v. *Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 789–94 (1973). The quoted paragraph is *id.* 790–91.

⁸⁴ *Id.* at 791–94. Principally, *Walz* was said to be different because of the age of exemption there dealt with, because the *Walz* exemption was granted in the spirit of neutrality while the tax credit under consideration was not, and the fact that the *Walz* exemption promoted less entanglement while the credit would promote more.

solved through application of the “neutrality” principle: government may neither advance nor inhibit religion. The tuition program inescapably advanced religion and thereby violated this principle.⁸⁵ In the Pennsylvania case, it was argued that because the program reimbursed parents who sent their children to nonsectarian schools as well as to sectarian ones, the portion respecting the former parents was valid and “parents of children who attended sectarian schools are entitled to the same aid as a matter of equal protection. The argument is thoroughly spurious. . . . The Equal Protection Clause has never been regarded as a bludgeon with which to compel a State to violate other provisions of the Constitution.”⁸⁶

The *Nyquist* holding was substantially undermined in 1983, the Court taking a more accommodationist approach toward indirect subsidy of parochial schools. In *Mueller v. Allen*,⁸⁷ the Court upheld a Minnesota deduction from state income tax available to parents of elementary and secondary school children for expenses incurred in providing tuition, transportation, textbooks, and various other school supplies. Because the Minnesota deduction was available to parents of public and private schoolchildren alike, the Court termed it “vitally different from the scheme struck down in *Nyquist*,” and more similar to the benefits upheld in *Everson* and *Allen* as available to *all* schoolchildren.⁸⁸ The Court declined to look behind the “facial neutrality” of the law and consider empirical evidence of its actual impact, citing a need for “certainty” and the lack of “principled standards” by which to evaluate such evidence.⁸⁹ Also important to the Court’s refusal to consider the al-

⁸⁵Id. at 788–89. *But cf.* *Lynch v. Donnelly*, 465 U.S. 668, 673 (1984) (due to Free Exercise Clause, Constitution “affirmatively mandates accommodation, not merely tolerance, of all religions”).

⁸⁶*Sloan v. Lemon*, 413 U.S. 825, 833–35 (1973). In any event, the Court sustained the district court’s refusal to sever the program and save that portion as to children attending non-sectarian schools on the basis that since so large a portion of the children benefitted attended religious schools it could not be assumed the legislature would have itself enacted such a limited program.

In *Wheeler v. Barrera*, 417 U.S. 402 (1974), the Court held that States receiving federal educational funds were required by federal law to provide “comparable” but not equal services to both public and private school students within the restraints imposed by state constitutional restrictions on aid to religious schools. In the absence of specific plans, the Court declined to review First Amendment limitations on such services.

⁸⁷463 U.S. 388 (1983).

⁸⁸463 U.S. at 398. *Nyquist* had reserved the question of “whether the significantly religious character of the statute’s beneficiaries might differentiate the present cases from a case involving some form of public assistance (e.g., scholarships) made available generally without regard to the sectarian-nonsectarian, or public-nonpublic nature of the institution benefitted.” 413 U.S. at 782–83 n.38.

⁸⁹463 U.S. at 401. Justice Marshall’s dissenting opinion, joined by Justices Brennan, Blackmun, and Stevens, argued that the tuition component of the deduction, unavailable to parents of most public schoolchildren, was by far the most sig-

leged disproportionate benefits to parents of parochial schools was the assertion that, “whatever unequal effect may be attributed to the statutory classification can fairly be regarded as a rough return for the benefits . . . provided to the State and all taxpayers by parents sending their children to parochial schools.”⁹⁰

A second factor important in *Mueller*, present but not controlling in *Nyquist*, was that the financial aid was provided to the parents of schoolchildren rather than to the school, and thus in the Court’s view was “attenuated” rather than direct; since aid was “available only as a result of decisions of individual parents,” there was no “imprimatur of state approval.” The Court noted that, with the exception of *Nyquist*, “all . . . of our recent cases invalidating state aid to parochial schools have involved the direct transmission of assistance from the State to the schools themselves.”⁹¹ Thus *Mueller* seemingly stands for the proposition that state subsidies of tuition expenses at sectarian schools are permissible if contained in a facially neutral scheme providing benefits, at least nominally, to parents of public and private schoolchildren alike.⁹²

The Court, although closely divided at times, has approved quite extensive public assistance to institutions of higher learning. On the same day that it first struck down an assistance program for elementary and secondary private schools, the Court sustained construction grants to church-related colleges and universities.⁹³ The specific grants in question were for construction of two library buildings, a science building, a music, drama, and arts building, and a language laboratory. The law prohibited the financing of any facility for, or the use of any federally-financed building for, reli-

nificant, and that the deduction as a whole “was little more than a subsidy of tuition masquerading as a subsidy of general educational expenses.” 463 U.S. at 408–09. *Cf. Grand Rapids School Dist. v. Ball*, 473 U.S. 373 (1985), where the Court emphasized that 40 of 41 nonpublic schools at which publicly funded programs operated were sectarian in nature; and *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263, 275 (1981), holding that a college’s open forum policy had no primary effect of advancing religion “[a]t least in the absence of evidence that religious groups will dominate [the] forum.” *But cf. Bowen v. Kendrick*, 487 U.S. 589 (1988), permitting religious institutions to be recipients under a “facially neutral” direct grant program.

⁹⁰ 463 U.S. at 402.

⁹¹ 463 U.S. at 399.

⁹² *See also Witters v. Washington Dept. of Services for the Blind*, 474 U.S. 481 (1986), in which the Court held that provision of vocational assistance for the blind to a student who used the aid for tuition at a sectarian college did not have a primary effect of advancing religion. Without citing *Mueller*, the Court relied on the fact that the aid is paid directly to the student for use at the institution of his or her choice, so that religious institutions received aid “only as a result of the genuinely independent and private choices of aid recipients,” and on the additional fact that there was nothing in the record to indicate that “any significant portion of the aid” from the program as a whole would go to religious education. 474 U.S. at 487, 488.

⁹³ *Tilton v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 672 (1971). This was a 5–4 decision.

gious purposes, although the restriction on use ran for only twenty years.⁹⁴ The Court found that the purpose and effect of the grants were secular and that, unlike elementary and secondary schools, religious colleges were not so permeated with religious inculcations.⁹⁵ The supervision required to ensure conformance with the non-religious-use requirement was found not to constitute “excessive entanglement,” inasmuch as a building is nonideological in character, unlike teachers, and inasmuch as the construction grants were onetime things and did not continue as did the state programs.

Also sustained was a South Carolina program under which a state authority would issue revenue bonds for construction projects on campuses of private colleges and universities. The Court did not decide whether this special form of assistance could be otherwise sustained, because it concluded that religion was neither advanced nor inhibited, nor was there any impermissible public entanglement. “Aid normally may be thought to have a primary effect of advancing religion when it flows to an institution in which religion is so pervasive that a substantial portion of its functions are subsumed in the religious mission or when it funds a specifically religious activity in an otherwise substantially secular setting.”⁹⁶ The colleges involved, though they were affiliated with religious institutions, were not shown to be so pervasively religious—no religious test existed for faculty or student body, a substantial part of the student body was not of the religion of the affiliation—and state law precluded the use of any state-financed project for religious activities.⁹⁷

The kind of assistance permitted by *Tilton* and by *Hunt v. McNair* seems to have been broadened when the Court sustained a Maryland program of annual subsidies to qualifying private institutions of higher education; the grants were noncategorical but could not be used for sectarian purposes, a limitation to be policed

⁹⁴ Because such buildings would still have substantial value after twenty years, a religious use then would be an unconstitutional aid to religion, and the period of limitation was struck down, *Id.* at 682–84.

⁹⁵ It was no doubt true, Chief Justice Burger conceded, that construction grants to religious-related colleges did in some measure benefit religion, since the grants freed money that the colleges would be required to spend on the facilities for which the grants were made. Bus transportation, textbooks, and tax exemptions similarly benefited religion and had been upheld. “The crucial question is not whether some benefit accrues to a religious institution as a consequence of the legislative program, but whether its principal or primary effect advances religion.” *Id.* at 679.

⁹⁶ *Hunt v. McNair*, 413 U.S. 734, 743 (1973).

⁹⁷ *Id.* at 739–40, 741–45. Justices Brennan, Douglas, and Marshall, dissenting, rejected the distinction between elementary and secondary education and higher education and foresaw a greater danger of entanglement than did the Court. *Id.* at 749.

by the administering agency.⁹⁸ The plurality opinion found a secular purpose; found that the limitation of funding to secular activities was meaningful,⁹⁹ since the religiously affiliated institutions were not so pervasively sectarian that secular activities could not be separated from sectarian ones; and determined that excessive entanglement was improbable, given the fact that aided institutions were not pervasively sectarian. The annual nature of the subsidy was recognized as posing the danger of political entanglement, but the plurality thought that the character of the aided institutions—“capable of separating secular and religious functions”—was more important.¹⁰⁰

In *Bowen v. Kendrick*¹⁰¹ the Court by a 5–4 vote upheld the Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA)¹⁰² against facial challenge. The Act permits direct grants to religious organizations for provision of health care and for counseling of adolescents on matters of pregnancy prevention and abortion alternatives, and requires grantees to involve other community groups, including religious organizations, in delivery of services. All of the Justices agreed that AFLA had valid secular purposes; their disagreement related to application of the effects and entanglement tests. The Court relied on

⁹⁸*Roemer v. Maryland Public Works Bd.*, 426 U.S. 736 (1976). Justice Blackmun’s plurality opinion was joined only by Chief Justice Burger and Justice Powell. Justices White and Rehnquist concurred on the basis of secular purpose and no primary religious benefit, rejecting entanglement. *Id.* at 767. Justice Brennan, joined by Justice Marshall, dissented, and Justices Stewart and Stevens each dissented separately. *Id.* at 770, 773, 775.

⁹⁹*Id.* 755. In some of the schools mandatory religion courses were taught, the significant factor in Justice Stewart’s view, *id.* at 773, but outweighed by other factors in the plurality’s view.

¹⁰⁰*Id.* at 765–66. The plurality also relied on the facts that the student body was not local but diverse, and that large numbers of non-religiously affiliated institutions received aid. A still further broadening of governmental power to extend aid affecting religious institutions of higher education may be discerned in the Court’s summary affirmance of two lower-court decisions upholding programs of assistance—scholarships and tuitions grants—to students at college and university as well as vocational programs in both public and private—including religious—institutions; one of the programs contained no secular use restriction at all and in the other one the restriction seemed somewhat *pro forma*. *Smith v. Board of Governors of Univ. of North Carolina*, 434 U.S. 803 (1977), *affg* 429 F. Supp. 871 (W.D.N.C. 1977); *Americans United v. Blanton*, 434 U.S. 803 (1977), *affg* 433 F. Supp. 97 (M.D. Tenn. 1977). In *Witters v. Washington Dep’t of Services for the Blind*, 474 U.S. 481 (1986), the Court upheld use of a vocational rehabilitation scholarship at a religious college, emphasizing that the religious institution received the public money as a result of the “genuinely independent and private choices of the aid recipients,” and not as the result of any decision by the State to sponsor or subsidize religion.

¹⁰¹487 U.S. 589 (1988). Chief Justice Rehnquist wrote the Court’s opinion, and was joined by Justices White, O’Connor, Scalia, and Kennedy; in addition, Justice O’Connor and Justice Kennedy, joined by Justice Scalia, filed separate concurring opinions. Justice Blackmun’s dissenting opinion was joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens.

¹⁰²Pub. L. 97–35, 95 Stat. 578 (1981), codified at 42 U.S.C. § 300z *et seq.*

analogy to the higher education cases rather than the cases involving aid to elementary and secondary schools.¹⁰³ The case presented conflicting factual considerations. On the one hand, the class of beneficiaries was broad, with religious groups not predominant among the wide range of eligible community organizations. On the other hand, there were analogies to the parochial school aid cases: secular and religious teachings might easily be mixed, and the age of the targeted group (adolescents) suggested susceptibility. The Court resolved these conflicts by holding that AFLA is facially valid, there being insufficient indication that a significant proportion of the AFLA funds would be disbursed to “pervasively sectarian” institutions, but by remanding to the district court to determine whether particular grants to pervasively sectarian institutions were invalid. The Court emphasized in both parts of its opinion that the fact that “views espoused [during counseling] on matters of premarital sex, abortion, and the like happen to coincide with the religious views of the AFLA grantee would not be sufficient to show [an Establishment Clause violation].”¹⁰⁴

Although the Court applied the *Lemon* three-part test in *Kendrick*, the case may signal a changing approach to direct aid cases. The distinction between facial and as-applied invalidity is new in this context, and may have implications for other Establishment Clause challenges. Also noteworthy is the fact that the Court expressed tolerance for a level of monitoring that would be impermissible for “pervasively sectarian” organizations, rejecting the “Catch-22” argument that excessive entanglement would result. Perhaps most significant is the fact that Justice Kennedy indicated in his separate concurring opinion that he would look behind the “pervasively sectarian” nature of aid recipients and focus on how aid money is actually being spent; only if aid is being spent for religious purposes would he hold that there has been a violation.¹⁰⁵ This apparent contrast with the approach previously advocated by Justice Powell suggests that the balance on the Court may have shifted toward a less restrictive approach in the parochial school aid context.

Governmental Encouragement of Religion in Public Schools: Released Time.—Introduction of religious education into the public schools, one of Justice Rutledge’s “great drives,”¹⁰⁶ has

¹⁰³ The Court also noted that the 1899 case of *Bradfield v. Roberts* had established that religious organizations may receive direct aid for support of secular social-welfare cases.

¹⁰⁴ 487 U.S. at 621.

¹⁰⁵ *Id.* at 624–25.

¹⁰⁶ *Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1, 63 (Justice Rutledge dissenting) (quoted *supra* p. 977, n.41).

also occasioned a substantial amount of litigation in the Court. In its first two encounters, the Court voided one program and upheld another, in which the similarities were at least as significant as the differences. Both cases involved “released time” programs, the establishing of a period during which pupils in public schools were to be allowed, upon parental request, to receive religious instruction. In the first, the religious classes were conducted during regular school hours in the school building by outside teachers furnished by a religious council representing the various faiths, subject to the approval or supervision of the superintendent of schools. Attendance reports were kept and reported to the school authorities in the same way as for other classes, and pupils not attending the religious instruction classes were required to continue their regular studies. “The operation of the State’s compulsory education system thus assists and is integrated with the program of religious instruction carried on by separate religious sects. Pupils compelled by law to go to school for secular education are released in part from their legal duty upon the condition that they attend the religious classes. This is beyond all question a utilization of the tax-established and tax-supported public school system to aid religious groups to spread their faith. And it falls squarely under the ban of the First Amendment”¹⁰⁷ The case was also noteworthy because of the Court’s express rejection of the contention “that historically the First Amendment was intended to forbid only government preference of one religion over another, not an impartial governmental assistance of all religions.”¹⁰⁸

Four years later, the Court upheld a different released-time program.¹⁰⁹ In this one, schools released pupils during school hours, on written request of their parents, so that they might leave the school building and go to religious centers for religious instruction or devotional exercises. The churches reported to the schools the names of children released from the public schools who did not report for religious instruction; children not released remained in the classrooms for regular studies. The Court found the differences between this program and the program struck down in *McCullum* to be constitutionally significant. Unlike *McCullum*, where “the classrooms were used for religious instruction and force of the public school was used to promote that instruction,” religious instruction was conducted off school premises and “the public schools do

¹⁰⁷ *Illinois ex rel. McCollum v. Board of Education*, 333 U.S. 203, 209–10 (1948).

¹⁰⁸ *Id.* at 211.

¹⁰⁹ *Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U.S. 306 (1952). Justices Black, Frankfurter, and Jackson dissented. *Id.* at 315, 320, 323.

no more than accommodate their schedules.”¹¹⁰ We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being,” Justice Douglas wrote for the Court. “When the state encourages religious instruction or cooperates with religious authorities by adjusting the schedule of public events to sectarian needs, it follows the best of our traditions. For it then respects the religious nature of our people and accommodates the public service to their spiritual needs. To hold that it may not would be to find in the Constitution a requirement that the government show a callous indifference to religious groups. That would be preferring those who believe in no religion over those who do believe.”¹¹¹

Governmental Encouragement of Religion in Public Schools: Prayers and Bible Reading.—Upon recommendation of the state governing board, a local New York school required each class to begin each school day by reading aloud the following prayer in the presence of the teacher: “Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessing upon us, our parents, our teachers and our country.” Students who wished to do so could remain silent or leave the room. Said the Court: “We think that by using its public school system to encourage recitation of the Regents’ prayer, the State of New York had adopted a practice wholly inconsistent with the Establishment Clause. There can, of course, be no doubt that New York’s program of daily classroom invocation of God’s blessings as prescribed in the Regents’ prayer is a religious activity. . . . [W]e think that the constitutional prohibition against laws respecting an establishment of religion must at least mean that in this country it is no part of the business of government to compose official prayers for any group of the American people to recite as a part of a religious program carried on by government.”¹¹² “Neither the fact that the prayer may be nondenominationally neutral nor the fact that its observance on

¹¹⁰Id. at 315. See also *Abington School Dist. v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 261–63 (1963) (Justice Brennan concurring) (suggesting that the important distinction was that “the *McCullum* program placed the religious instruction in the public school classroom in precisely the position of authority held by the regular teachers of secular subjects, while the *Zorach* program did not”).

¹¹¹Id. at 313–14. These cases predated formulation of the *Lemon* three-part test for religious establishment, and the status of that test—as well as the constitutional status of released-time programs—is unclear. The degree of official and church cooperation may well not rise to a problem of excessive entanglement, but *quaere*, what is the secular purpose and secular effect of such programs? Some guidance may be provided by *Grand Rapids School District v. Ball*, 473 U.S. 373 (1985), and *Aguilar v. Felton*, 473 U.S. 402 (1985), striking down programs using public school teachers for instruction of parochial school students in parochial school facilities, but these were 5–4 decisions and the Court’s membership has since changed.

¹¹²*Engel v. Vitale*, 370 U.S. 421, 424, 425 (1962).

the part of the students is voluntary can serve to free it from the limitations of the Establishment Clause, as it might from the Free Exercise Clause. . . . The Establishment Clause . . . does not depend upon any showing of direct governmental compulsion and is violated by the enactment of laws which establish an official religion whether those laws operate directly to coerce nonobserving individuals or not.”¹¹³

Following the prayer decision came two cases in which parents and their school age children challenged the validity under the Establishment Clause of requirements that each school day begin with readings of selections from the Bible. Scripture reading, like prayers, the Court found, was a religious exercise. “Given that finding the exercises and the law requiring them are in violation of the Establishment Clause.”¹¹⁴ Rejected were contentions by the State that the object of the programs was the promotion of secular purposes, such as the expounding of moral values, the contradiction of the materialistic trends of the times, the perpetuation of traditional institutions, and the teaching of literature¹¹⁵ and that to forbid the particular exercises was to choose a “religion of secularism” in their place.¹¹⁶ Though the “place of religion in our society is an exalted one,” the Establishment Clause, the Court continued, prescribed that in “the relationship between man and religion,” the State must be “firmly committed to a position of neutrality.”¹¹⁷

¹¹³Id. at 430. Justice Black for the Court rejected the idea that the prohibition of religious services in public schools evidenced “a hostility toward religion or toward prayer.” Id. at 434. Rather, such an application of the First Amendment protected religion from the coercive hand of government and government from control by a religious sect. Dissenting alone, Justice Stewart could not “see how an ‘official religion’ is established by letting those who want to say a prayer say it. On the contrary, I think that to deny the wish of these school children to join in reciting this prayer is to deny them the opportunity of sharing in the spiritual heritage of our Nation.” Id. at 444, 445.

¹¹⁴Abington School Dist. v. Schempp, 374 U.S. 203, 223 (1963). “[T]he States are requiring the selection and reading at the opening of the school day of verses from the Holy Bible and the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer by the students in unison. These exercises are prescribed as part of the curricular activities of students who are required by law to attend school. They are held in the school buildings under the supervision and with the participation of teachers employed in those schools. None of these factors, other than compulsory school attendance, was present in the program upheld in *Zorach v. Clauson*.” Id.

¹¹⁵Id. at 223–24. The Court thought the exercises were clearly religious.

¹¹⁶Id. at 225. “We agree of course that the State may not establish a ‘religion of secularism’ in the sense of affirmatively opposing or showing hostility to religion, thus ‘preferring those who believe in no religion over those who do believe.’ *Zorach v. Clauson*, supra, at 314. We do not agree, however, that this decision in any sense has that effect.”

¹¹⁷Id. 226. Justice Brennan contributed a lengthy concurrence in which he attempted to rationalize the decisions of the Court on the religion clauses and to delineate the principles applicable. He concluded that what the establishment clause foreclosed “are those involvements of religious with secular institutions which (a)

In *Wallace v. Jaffree*,¹¹⁸ the Court held invalid an Alabama statute authorizing a 1-minute period of silence in all public schools “for meditation or prayer.” Because the only evidence in the record indicated that the words “or prayer” had been added to the existing statute by amendment for the sole purpose of returning voluntary prayer to the public schools, the Court found that the first prong of the *Lemon* test had been violated, i.e. that the statute was invalid as being entirely motivated by a purpose of advancing religion. The Court characterized the legislative intent to return prayer to the public schools as “quite different from merely protecting every student’s right to engage in voluntary prayer during an appropriate moment of silence during the schoolday,”¹¹⁹ and both Justices Powell and O’Connor in concurring opinions suggested that other state statutes authorizing moments of silence might pass constitutional muster.¹²⁰

The school prayer decisions served as precedent for the Court’s holding in *Lee v. Weisman*¹²¹ that a school-sponsored invocation at a high school commencement violated the Establishment Clause. The Court rebuffed a request to reexamine the *Lemon* test, finding “[t]he government involvement with religious activity in this case [to be] pervasive, to the point of creating a state-sponsored and state-directed religious exercise in a public school.” State officials not only determined that an invocation and benediction should be given, but also selected the religious participant and provided him with guidelines for the content of nonsectarian prayers. The Court, in an opinion by Justice Kennedy, viewed this state participation

serve the essentially religious activities of religious institutions; (b) employ the organs of government for essentially religious purposes; or (c) use essentially religious means to serve governmental ends, where secular means would suffice.” *Id.* at 230, 295. Justice Stewart again dissented alone, feeling that the claims presented were essentially free exercise contentions which were not supported by proof of coercion or of punitive official action for nonparticipation.

While numerous efforts were made over the years to overturn these cases, through constitutional amendment and through limitations on the Court’s jurisdiction, the Supreme Court itself has had no occasion to review the area again. *But see* *Stone v. Graham*, 449 U.S. 39 (1980) (summarily reversing state court and invalidating statute requiring the posting of the Ten Commandments, purchased with private contributions, on the wall of each public classroom).

¹¹⁸ 472 U.S. 38 (1985).

¹¹⁹ *Id.* at 59.

¹²⁰ Justice O’Connor’s concurring opinion is notable for its effort to synthesize and refine the Court’s Establishment and Free Exercise tests (*see also* the Justice’s concurring opinion in *Lynch v. Donnelly*), and Justice Rehnquist’s dissent for its effort to redirect Establishment Clause analysis by abandoning the tripartite test, discarding any requirement that government be neutral between religion and “irreligion,” and confining the scope to a prohibition on establishing a national church or otherwise favoring one religious group over another.

¹²¹ 112 S. Ct. 2649 (1992).

as coercive in the elementary and secondary school setting.¹²² The state “in effect required participation in a religious exercise,” since the option of not attending “one of life’s most significant occasions” was no real choice. “At a minimum,” the Court concluded, the Establishment Clause “guarantees that government may not coerce anyone to support or participate in religion or its exercise.”

Governmental Encouragement of Religion in Public Schools: Curriculum Restriction.—In *Epperson v. Arkansas*,¹²³ the Court struck down a state statute which made it unlawful for any teacher in any state-supported educational institution “to teach the theory or doctrine that mankind ascended or descended from a lower order of animals,” or “to adopt or use in any such institution a textbook that teaches” this theory. Agreeing that control of the curriculum of the public schools was largely in the control of local officials, the Court nonetheless held that the motivation of the statute was a fundamentalist belief in the literal reading of the Book of Genesis and that this motivation and result required the voiding of the law. “The law’s effort was confined to an attempt to blot out a particular theory because of its supposed conflict with the Biblical account, literally read. Plainly, the law is contrary to the mandate of the First . . . Amendment to the Constitution.”¹²⁴

Similarly invalidated as having the improper purpose of advancing religion was a Louisiana statute mandating balanced treatment of “creation-science” and “evolution-science” in the public schools. “The preeminent purpose of the Louisiana legislature,” the Court found in *Edwards v. Aguillard*, “was clearly to advance the religious viewpoint that a supernatural being created humankind.”¹²⁵ The Court viewed as a “sham” the stated purpose of protecting academic freedom, and concluded instead that the legislature’s purpose was to narrow the science curriculum in order to discredit evolution “by counterbalancing its teaching at every turn with the teaching of creation science.”¹²⁶

¹²² The Court distinguished *Marsh v. Chambers*, 463 U.S. 783, 792 (1983), holding that the opening of a state legislative session with a prayer by a state-paid chaplain does not offend the Establishment Clause. The *Marsh* Court had distinguished *Abington* on the basis that state legislators, as adults, are “presumably not readily susceptible to ‘religious indoctrination’ or ‘peer pressure.’” and the *Lee* Court reiterated this distinction. 112 S. Ct. at 2660.

¹²³ 393 U.S. 97 (1968).

¹²⁴ *Id.* at 109.

¹²⁵ 483 U.S. 578, 591 (1987).

¹²⁶ 483 U.S. at 589. The Court’s conclusion was premised on its finding that “the term ‘creation science,’ as used by the legislature . . . embodies the religious belief that a supernatural creator was responsible for the creation of humankind.” *Id.* at 592.

Access of Religious Groups to School Property.—Although government may not promote religion through its educational facilities, it may not bar student religious groups from meeting on public school property if it makes those facilities available to nonreligious student groups. To allow religious groups equal access to a public college's facilities would further a secular purpose, would not constitute an impermissible benefit to religion, and would pose little hazard of entanglement.¹²⁷ These principles apply to public secondary schools as well as to institutions of higher learning.¹²⁸ In 1990 the Court upheld application of the Equal Access Act¹²⁹ to prevent a secondary school from denying access to school premises to a student religious club while granting access to such other “noncurriculum” related student groups as a scuba diving club, a chess club, and a service club.¹³⁰

While the greater number of establishment cases have involved educational facilities, in other areas as well there have been contentions that legislative policies have been laws “respecting” the establishment of religion.

Tax Exemptions of Religious Property.—Every State and the District of Columbia provide for tax exemptions for religious institutions, and the history of such exemptions goes back to the time of our establishment as a polity. The only expression by a Supreme Court Justice prior to 1970 was by Justice Brennan, who deemed tax exemptions constitutional because the benefit conferred was incidental to the religious character of the institutions concerned.¹³¹ Then, in 1970, a nearly unanimous Court sustained a state exemption from real or personal property taxation of “property used exclusively for religious, educational or charitable purposes” owned by a corporation or association which was conducted exclusively for

¹²⁷ *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263, 270–75 (1981).

¹²⁸ *Westside Community Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens*, 496 U.S. 226 (1990). The Court had noted in *Widmar* that university students “are less impressionable than younger students and should be able to appreciate that the University’s policy is one of neutrality toward religion,” 454 U.S. at 274 n.14. The *Mergens* plurality ignored this distinction, suggesting that the secondary school’s neutrality was also evident to its students. 496 U.S. at 252.

¹²⁹ Pub. L. 98–377, title VIII, 98 Stat. 1302 (1984); 20 U.S.C. §§ 4071–74.

¹³⁰ There was no opinion of the Court on Establishment Clause issues, a plurality of four led by Justice O’Connor applying the three-part *Lemon* test, and concurring Justices Kennedy and Scalia proposing a less stringent test under which “neutral” accommodations of religion would be permissible as long as they do not in effect establish a state religion, and as long as there is no coercion of students to participate in a religious activity. *Id.* at 2377.

¹³¹ “If religious institutions benefit, it is in spite of rather than because of their religious character. For religious institutions simply share benefits which government makes generally available to educational, charitable, and eleemosynary groups.” *Abington School Dist. v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 301 (1963) (concurring opinion).

one or more of these purposes and did not operate for profit.¹³² The first prong of a two-prong argument saw the Court adopting Justice Brennan's rationale. Using the secular purpose and effect test, Chief Justice Burger noted that the purpose of the exemption was not to single out churches for special favor; instead, the exemption applied to a broad category of associations having many common features and all dedicated to social betterment. Thus, churches as well as museums, hospitals, libraries, charitable organizations, professional associations, and the like, all non-profit, and all having a beneficial and stabilizing influence in community life, were to be encouraged by being treated specially in the tax laws. The primary effect of the exemptions was not to aid religion; the primary effect was secular and any assistance to religion was merely incidental.¹³³

For the second prong, the Court created a new test, the entanglement test,¹³⁴ by which to judge the program. There was some entanglement whether there were exemptions or not, Chief Justice Burger continued, but with exemptions there was minimal involvement. But termination of exemptions would deeply involve government in the internal affairs of religious bodies, because evaluation of religious properties for tax purposes would be required and there would be tax liens and foreclosures and litigation concerning such matters.¹³⁵

While the general issue is now settled, it is to be expected that variations of the exemption upheld in *Walz* will present the Court with an opportunity to elaborate the field still further.¹³⁶ For example, the Court determined that a sales tax exemption applicable only to religious publications constituted a violation of the Establishment Clause,¹³⁷ and, on the other hand, that application of a general sales and use tax provision to religious publications violates neither the Establishment Clause nor the Free Exercise Clause.¹³⁸

¹³² *Walz v. Tax Comm'n*, 397 U.S. 664 (1970). Justice Douglas dissented.

¹³³ *Id.* at 672–74.

¹³⁴ *Supra*, p. 973.

¹³⁵ 397 U.S. at 674–76.

¹³⁶ For example, the Court subsequently accepted for review a case concerning property tax exemption for church property used as a commercial parking lot, but state law was changed, denying exemption for purely commercial property and requiring a pro rata exemption for mixed use, and the Court remanded so that the change in the law could be considered. *Differderfer v. Central Baptist Church*, 404 U.S. 412 (1972).

¹³⁷ *Texas Monthly, Inc. v. Bullock*, 489 U.S. 1 (1989).

¹³⁸ *Jimmy Swaggart Ministries v. California Bd. of Equalization*, 493 U.S. 378 (1990). Similarly, there is no constitutional impediment to straightforward application of 26 U.S.C. § 170 to disallow a charitable contribution for payments to a church

Exemption of Religious Organizations from Generally Applicable Laws.—The Civil Rights Act’s exemption of religious organizations from the prohibition against religious discrimination in employment¹³⁹ does not violate the Establishment Clause when applied to a religious organization’s secular, nonprofit activities. The Court held in *Corporation of the Presiding Bishop v. Amos*¹⁴⁰ that a church-run gymnasium operated as a nonprofit facility open to the public could require that its employees be church members. Declaring that “there is ample room for accommodation of religion under the Establishment Clause,”¹⁴¹ the Court identified a legitimate purpose in freeing a religious organization from the burden of predicting which of its activities a court will consider to be secular and which religious. The rule applying across-the-board to nonprofit activities and thereby “avoid[ing] . . . intrusive inquiry into religious belief” also serves to lessen entanglement of church and state.¹⁴² The exemption itself does not have a principal effect of advancing religion, the Court concluded, but merely allows churches to advance religion.¹⁴³

Sunday Closing Laws.—The history of Sunday Closing Laws goes back into United States colonial history and far back into English history.¹⁴⁴ Commonly, the laws require the observance of the Christian Sabbath as a day of rest, although in recent years they have tended to become honeycombed with exceptions. The Supreme Court rejected an Establishment Clause challenge to Sunday Closing Laws in *McGowan v. Maryland*.¹⁴⁵ The Court acknowledged

found to represent a reciprocal exchange rather than a contribution or gift. *Hernandez v. Commissioner*, 490 U.S. 680 (1989).

¹³⁹Section 703 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-2, makes it unlawful for any employer to discriminate in employment practices on the basis of an employee’s religion. Section 702, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-1, exempts from the prohibition “a religious corporation . . . with respect to the employment of individuals of a particular religion to perform work connected with the carrying on by such corporation . . . of its activities.”

¹⁴⁰483 U.S. 327 (1987).

¹⁴¹483 U.S. at 338.

¹⁴²*Id.* at 339.

¹⁴³“For a law to have forbidden ‘effects’ . . . it must be fair to say that the *government itself* has advanced religion through its own activities and influence.” 483 U.S. at 337. Justice O’Connor’s concurring opinion suggests that practically any benefit to religion can be “recharacterized as simply ‘allowing’ a religion to better advance itself,” and that a “necessary second step is to separate those benefits to religion that constitutionally accommodate the free exercise of religion from those that provide unjustifiable awards of assistance to religious organizations.” *Id.* at 347, 348.

¹⁴⁴The history is recited at length in the opinion of the Court in *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420, 431–40 (1961), and in Justice Frankfurter’s concurrence. *Id.* at 459, 470–551 and appendix.

¹⁴⁵366 U.S. 420 (1961). Decision on the establishment question in this case also controlled the similar decision on that question in *Two Guys from Harrison-Allentown v. McGinley*, 366 U.S. 582 (1961), *Braunfeld v. Brown*, 366 U.S. 599 (1961),

that historically the laws had a religious motivation and were designed to effectuate concepts of Christian theology. However, “[i]n light of the evolution of our Sunday Closing Laws through the centuries, and of their more or less recent emphasis upon secular considerations, it is not difficult to discern that as presently written and administered, most of them, at least, are of a secular rather than of a religious character, and that presently they bear no relationship to establishment of religion. . . .”¹⁴⁶ “[T]he fact that this [prescribed day of rest] is Sunday, a day of particular significance for the dominant Christian sects, does not bar the State from achieving its secular goals. To say that the States cannot prescribe Sunday as a day of rest for these purposes solely because centuries ago such laws had their genesis in religion would give a constitutional interpretation of hostility to the public welfare rather than one of mere separation of church and State.”¹⁴⁷ The choice of Sunday as the day of rest, while originally religious, now reflected simple legislative inertia or recognition that Sunday was a traditional day for the choice.¹⁴⁸ Valid secular reasons existed for not simply requiring one day of rest and leaving to each individual to choose the day, reasons of ease of enforcement and of assuring a common day in the community for rest and leisure.¹⁴⁹ More recently, a state statute mandating that employers honor the Sabbath day of the employee’s choice was held invalid as having the primary effect of promoting religion by weighing the employee’s Sabbath choice over all other interests.¹⁵⁰

Conscientious Objection.—Historically, Congress has provided for alternative service for men who had religious scruples against participating in either combat activities or in all forms of military activities; the fact that Congress chose to draw the line of exemption on the basis of religious belief confronted the Court with a difficult constitutional question, which, however, the Court chose to avoid by a somewhat disingenuous interpretation of the stat-

and *Gallagher v. Crown Koshier Super Market*, 366 U.S. 617 (1961). On free exercise in these cases, see *infra*, pp. 1011–12.

¹⁴⁶ *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420, 444 (1961).

¹⁴⁷ *Id.* at 445.

¹⁴⁸ *Id.* at 449–52.

¹⁴⁹ *Id.* Justice Frankfurter, with whom Justice Harlan concurred, arrived at the same conclusions by a route that did not require approval of *Everson v. Board of Education*, from which he had dissented.

¹⁵⁰ *Estate of Thornton v. Caldor, Inc.*, 472 U.S. 703 (1985).

ute.¹⁵¹ In *Gillette v. United States*,¹⁵² a further constitutional problem arose in which the Court did squarely confront and validate the congressional choice. Congress had restricted conscientious objection status to those who objected to “war in any form” and the Court conceded that there were religious or conscientious objectors who were not opposed to all wars but only to particular wars based upon evaluation of a number of factors by which the “justness” of any particular war could be judged; “properly construed,” the Court said, the statute did draw a line relieving from military service some religious objectors while not relieving others.¹⁵³ Purporting to apply the secular purpose and effect test, the Court looked almost exclusively to purpose and hardly at all to effect. Although it is not clear, the Court seemed to require that a classification must be religiously based “on its face”¹⁵⁴ or lack any “neutral, secular basis for the lines government has drawn”¹⁵⁵ in order that it be held to violate the Establishment Clause. The classification here was not religiously based “on its face,” and served “a number of valid purposes having nothing to do with a design to foster or favor any sect, religion, or cluster of religions.”¹⁵⁶ These purposes, related to the difficulty in separating sincere conscientious objectors to particular wars from others with fraudulent claims, included the maintenance of a fair and efficient selective service system and protection of the integrity of democratic decision-making.¹⁵⁷

Regulation of Religious Solicitation.—Although the solicitation cases have generally been decided under the free exercise or free speech clauses,¹⁵⁸ in one instance the Court, intertwining establishment and free exercise principles, voided a provision in a state charitable solicitations law that required only those religious organizations that received less than half their total contributions

¹⁵¹In *United States v. Seeger*, 380 U.S. 163 (1965), a unanimous Court construed the language of the exemption limiting the status to those who by “religious training and belief” (that is, those who believed in a “Supreme Being”), to mean that a person must have some belief which occupies in his life the place or role which the traditional concept of God occupies in the orthodox believer. After the “Supreme Being” clause was deleted, a plurality in *Welsh v. United States*, 398 U.S. 333 (1970), construed the religion requirement as inclusive of moral, ethical, or religious grounds. Justice Harlan concurred on constitutional grounds, believing that the statute was clear that Congress had intended to restrict conscientious objection status to those persons who could demonstrate a traditional religious foundation for their beliefs and that this was impermissible under the Establishment Clause. *Id.* at 344. The dissent by Justices White and Stewart and Chief Justice Burger rejected both the constitutional and the statutory basis. *Id.* at 367.

¹⁵²401 U.S. 437 (1971).

¹⁵³*Id.* at 449.

¹⁵⁴*Id.* at 450.

¹⁵⁵*Id.* at 452.

¹⁵⁶*Id.*

¹⁵⁷*Id.* at 452–60.

¹⁵⁸*Infra*, p. 1182.

from members or affiliated organizations to comply with the registration and reporting sections of the law.¹⁵⁹ Applying strict scrutiny equal protection principles, the Court held that by distinguishing between older, well-established churches that had strong membership financial support and newer bodies lacking a contributing constituency or that may favor public solicitation over general reliance on financial support from the members, the statute granted denominational preference forbidden by the Establishment Clause.¹⁶⁰

Religion in Governmental Observances.—The practice of opening legislative sessions with prayers by paid chaplains was upheld in *Marsh v. Chambers*,¹⁶¹ a case involving prayers in the Nebraska Legislature. The Court relied almost entirely on historical practice. Congress had paid a chaplain and opened sessions with prayers for almost 200 years; the fact that Congress had continued the practice after considering constitutional objections in the Court's view strengthened rather than weakened the historical argument. Similarly, the practice was well rooted in Nebraska and in most other states. Most importantly, the First Amendment had been drafted in the First Congress with an awareness of the chaplaincy practice, and this practice was not prohibited or discontinued. The Court did not address the lower court's findings,¹⁶² amplified in Justice Brennan's dissent, that each aspect of the *Lemon v. Kurtzman* tripartite test had been violated. Instead of constituting an application of the tests, therefore, *Marsh* can be read as representing an exception to their application.¹⁶³

A different form of governmentally sanctioned religious observance—inclusion of religious symbols in governmentally sponsored holiday displays—was twice before the Court, with varying results. In 1984, in *Lynch v. Donnelly*,¹⁶⁴ the Court found no violation of

¹⁵⁹*Larson v. Valente*, 456 U.S. 228 (1982). Two Justices dissented on the merits, *id.* at 258 (Justices White and Rehnquist), while two other Justices dissented on a standing issue. *Id.* at 264 (Chief Justice Burger and Justice O'Connor).

¹⁶⁰*Id.* at 246–51. Compare *Heffron v. ISKCON*, 452 U.S. 640, 652–53 (1981), and *id.* at 659 n.3 (Justice Brennan, concurring in part and dissenting in part) (dealing with a facially neutral solicitation rule distinguishing between religious groups that have a religious tenet requiring peripatetic solicitation and those who do not).

¹⁶¹463 U.S. 783 (1983). *Marsh* was a 6–3 decision, with Chief Justice Burger's opinion for the Court being joined by Justices White, Blackmun, Powell, Rehnquist, and O'Connor, and with Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens dissenting.

¹⁶²*Chambers v. Marsh*, 675 F.2d 228 (8th Cir. 1982).

¹⁶³School prayer cases were distinguished on the basis that legislators, as adults, are presumably less susceptible than are schoolchildren to religious indoctrination and peer pressure, 463 U.S. at 792, but there was no discussion of the tests themselves.

¹⁶⁴465 U.S. 668 (1984). *Lynch* was a 5–4 decision, with Justice Blackmun, who voted with the majority in *Marsh*, joining the *Marsh* dissenters in this case. Again, Chief Justice Burger wrote the opinion of the Court, joined by the other majority

the Establishment Clause occasioned by inclusion of a Nativity scene (creche) in a city's Christmas display; in 1989, in *Allegheny County v. Greater Pittsburgh ACLU*,¹⁶⁵ inclusion of a creche in a holiday display was found to constitute a violation. Also at issue in *Allegheny County* was inclusion of a menorah in a holiday display; here the Court found no violation. The setting of each display was crucial to the varying results in these cases, the determinant being whether the Court majority believed that the overall effect of the display was to emphasize the religious nature of the symbols, or whether instead the emphasis was primarily secular. Perhaps equally important for future cases, however, was the fact that the four dissenters in *Allegheny County* would have upheld both the creche and menorah displays under a more relaxed, deferential standard.

Chief Justice Burger's opinion for the Court in *Lynch* began by expanding on the religious heritage theme exemplified by *Marsh*; other evidence that "[w]e are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being"¹⁶⁶ was supplied by reference to the national motto "In God We Trust," the affirmation "one nation under God" in the pledge of allegiance, and the recognition of both Thanksgiving and Christmas as national holidays. Against that background, the Court then determined that the city's inclusion of the creche in its Christmas display had a legitimate secular purpose in recognizing "the historical origins of this traditional event long [celebrated] as a National Holiday,"¹⁶⁷ and that its primary effect was not to advance religion. The benefit to religion was called "indirect, remote, and incidental," and in any event no greater than the benefit resulting from other actions that had been found to be permissible, e.g. the provision of transportation and textbooks to parochial school students, various assistance to church-supported colleges, Sunday closing laws, and legislative prayers.¹⁶⁸ The Court also reversed the lower court's finding of entanglement based only on "political divisiveness."¹⁶⁹

Allegheny County was also decided by a 5–4 vote, Justice Blackmun writing the opinion of the Court on the creche issue, and

Justices, and again Justice Brennan wrote a dissent, joined by the other dissenters. A concurring opinion was added by Justice O'Connor, and a dissenting opinion was added by Justice Blackmun.

¹⁶⁵ 492 U.S. 573 (1989).

¹⁶⁶ 465 U.S. at 675, quoting *Zorach v. Clausen*, 343 U.S. 306, 313 (1952).

¹⁶⁷ 465 U.S. at 680.

¹⁶⁸ 465 U.S. at 681–82. Note that, while the extent of benefit to religion was an important factor in earlier cases, it was usually balanced against the secular effect of the same practice rather than the religious effects of other practices.

¹⁶⁹ 465 U.S. at 683–84.

there being no opinion of the Court on the menorah issue.¹⁷⁰ To the majority, the setting of the creche was distinguishable from that in *Lynch*. The creche stood alone on the center staircase of the county courthouse, bore a sign identifying it as the donation of a Roman Catholic group, and also had an angel holding a banner proclaiming “Gloria in Excelsis Deo.” Nothing in the display “detract[ed] from the creche’s religious message,” and the overall effect was to endorse that religious message.¹⁷¹ The menorah, on the other hand, was placed outside a government building alongside a Christmas tree and a sign saluting liberty, and bore no religious messages. To Justice Blackmun, this grouping merely recognized “that both Christmas and Chanukah are part of the same winter-holiday season, which has attained a secular status”;¹⁷² to concurring Justice O’Connor, the display’s “message of pluralism” did not endorse religion over nonreligion even though Chanukah is primarily a religious holiday and even though the menorah is a religious symbol.¹⁷³ The dissenters, critical of the endorsement test proposed by Justice O’Connor and of the three-part *Lemon* test, would instead distill two principles from the Establishment Clause: “government may not coerce anyone to support or participate in any religion or its exercise; and it may not, in the guise of avoiding hostility or callous indifference, give direct benefits to religion in such a degree that it in fact ‘establishes a state religion or religious faith, or tends to do so.’”¹⁷⁴

Miscellaneous.—In *Larkin v. Grendel’s Den*,¹⁷⁵ the Court held that the Establishment Clause is violated by a delegation of governmental decisionmaking to churches. At issue was a state statute permitting any church or school to block issuance of a liquor license to any establishment located within 500 feet of the church or school. While the statute had a permissible secular purpose of protecting churches and schools from the disruptions often associated with liquor establishments, the Court indicated that these purposes could be accomplished by other means, e.g. an outright ban on liquor outlets within a prescribed distance, or the vesting of discretionary authority in a governmental decisionmaker required to consider the views of affected parties. However, the

¹⁷⁰ Justice O’Connor, who had concurred in *Lynch*, was the pivotal vote, joining the *Lynch* dissenters to form the majority in *Allegheny County*. Justices Scalia and Kennedy, not on the Court in 1984, replaced Chief Justice Burger and Justice Powell in voting to uphold the creche display; Justice Kennedy authored the dissenting opinion, joined by the other three.

¹⁷¹ 492 U.S. at 598, 600.

¹⁷² *Id.* at 616.

¹⁷³ *Id.* at 635.

¹⁷⁴ *Id.* at 659.

¹⁷⁵ 459 U.S. 116 (1982).

conferral of a veto authority on churches had a primary effect of advancing religion both because the delegation was standardless (thereby permitting a church to exercise the power to promote parochial interests), and because “the mere appearance of a joint exercise of legislative authority by Church and State provides a significant symbolic benefit to religion in the minds of some.”¹⁷⁶ Moreover, the Court determined, because the veto “enmeshes churches in the processes of government,” it represented an entanglement offensive to the “core rationale underlying the Establishment Clause”—“[to prevent] ‘a fusion of governmental and religious functions.’”¹⁷⁷

FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION

“The Free Exercise Clause . . . withdraws from legislative power, state and federal, the exertion of any restraint on the free exercise of religion. Its purpose is to secure religious liberty in the individual by prohibiting any invasions there by civil authority.”¹⁷⁸ It bars “governmental regulation of religious *beliefs* as such,”¹⁷⁹ prohibiting misuse of secular governmental programs “to impede the observance of one or all religions or . . . to discriminate invidiously between religions . . . even though the burden may be characterized as being only indirect.”¹⁸⁰ Freedom of conscience is the basis of the free exercise clause, and government may not penalize or discriminate against an individual or a group of individuals because of their religious views nor may it compel persons to affirm any particular beliefs.¹⁸¹ Interpretation is complicated, however, by the fact that exercise of religion usually entails ritual or other practices that constitute “conduct” rather than pure “belief.” When it comes to protecting conduct as free exercise, the Court has been inconsistent.¹⁸² It has long been held that the Free Exercise

¹⁷⁶ 459 U.S. at 125–26. *But cf.* *Marsh v. Chambers*, 463 U.S. 783 (1983), involving no explicit consideration of the possible symbolic implication of opening legislative sessions with prayers by paid chaplains.

¹⁷⁷ 459 U.S. at 126–27, quoting *Abington*, 374 U.S. 203, 222.

¹⁷⁸ *Abington School District v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203, 222–23 (1963).

¹⁷⁹ *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398, 402 (1963) (emphasis in original).

¹⁸⁰ *Braunfeld v. Brown*, 366 U.S. 599, 607 (1961).

¹⁸¹ *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398, 402 (1963); *Torcaso v. Watkins*, 367 U.S. 488 (1961).

¹⁸² Academics as well as the Justices grapple with the extent to which religious practices as well as beliefs are protected by the Free Exercise Clause. For contrasting academic views of the origins and purposes of the Free Exercise Clause, compare McConnell, *The Origins and Historical Understanding of Free Exercise of Religion*, 103 HARV. L. REV. 1410 (1990) (concluding that constitutionally compelled exemptions from generally applicable laws are consistent with the Clause’s origins in religious pluralism) with Marshall, *The Case Against the Constitutionally Compelled Free Exercise Exemption*, 40 CASE W. RES. L. REV. 357 (1989–90) (arguing that such

Clause does not necessarily prevent government from requiring the doing of some act or forbidding the doing of some act merely because religious beliefs underlie the conduct in question.¹⁸³ What has changed over the years is the Court's willingness to hold that some religiously motivated conduct is protected from generally applicable prohibitions.

The relationship between the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses varies with the expansiveness of interpretation of the two clauses. In a general sense both clauses proscribe governmental involvement with and interference in religious matters, but there is possible tension between a requirement of governmental neutrality derived from the Establishment Clause and a Free-Exercise-derived requirement that government accommodate some religious practices.¹⁸⁴ So far, the Court has harmonized interpretation by denying that free-exercise-mandated accommodations create establishment violations, and also by upholding some legislative accommodations not mandated by free exercise requirements. "This Court has long recognized that government may (and sometimes must) accommodate religious practices and that it may do so without violating the Establishment Clause."¹⁸⁵ In holding that a state could not deny unemployment benefits to Sabbatarians who refused Saturday work, for example, the Court denied that it was "fostering an 'establishment' of the Seventh-Day Adventist religion, for the extension of unemployment benefits to Sabbatarians in common with Sunday worshippers reflects nothing more than the governmental obligation of neutrality in the face of religious differences, and does not represent that involvement of religious with secular institutions which it is the object of the Establishment Clause to forestall."¹⁸⁶ Legislation granting religious exemptions not held to

exemptions establish an invalid preference for religious beliefs over non-religious beliefs).

¹⁸³ E.g., *Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145 (1879); *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11 (1905); *Prince v. Massachusetts*, 321 U.S. 158 (1944); *Braunfeld v. Brown*, 366 U.S. 599 (1961); *United States v. Lee*, 455 U.S. 252 (1982); *Employment Division v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 872 (1990).

¹⁸⁴ "The Court has struggled to find a neutral course between the two Religion Clauses, both of which are cast in absolute terms, and either of which, if expanded to a logical extreme, would tend to clash with the other." *Walz v. Tax Comm'n*, 397 U.S. 668–69 (1970).

¹⁸⁵ *Hobbie v. Unemployment Appeals Comm'n*, 480 U.S. 136, 144–45 (1987). A similar accommodative approach was suggested in *Walz*. "there is room for play in the joints productive of a benevolent neutrality which will permit religious exercise to exist without [governmental] sponsorship and without interference." 397 U.S. at 669.

¹⁸⁶ *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398, 409 (1963). *Accord*, *Thomas v. Review Bd.*, 450 U.S. 707, 719–20 (1981). Dissenting in *Thomas*, Justice Rehnquist argued that *Sherbert* and *Thomas* created unacceptable tensions between the Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses, and that requiring the States to accommodate persons like

have been required by the Free Exercise Clause has also been upheld against Establishment Clause challenge,¹⁸⁷ although it is also possible for legislation to go too far in promoting free exercise.¹⁸⁸

The Belief-Conduct Distinction.—While the Court has consistently affirmed that the Free Exercise Clause protects religious beliefs, protection for religiously motivated conduct has waxed and waned over the years. The Free Exercise Clause “embraces two concepts—freedom to believe and freedom to act. The first is absolute, but in the nature of things, the second cannot be.”¹⁸⁹ In its first free exercise case, involving the power of government to prohibit polygamy, the Court invoked a hard distinction between the two, saying that although laws “cannot interfere with mere religious beliefs and opinions, they may with practices.”¹⁹⁰ The rule thus propounded protected only belief, inasmuch as religiously motivated action was to be subjected to the police power of the state to the same extent as would similar action springing from other

Sherbert and Thomas because of their religious beliefs ran the risk of “establishing” religion under the Court’s existing tests. He argued further, however, that less expansive interpretations of both clauses would eliminate this artificial tension. Thus, Justice Rehnquist would have interpreted the Free Exercise Clause as not requiring government to grant exemptions from general requirements that may burden religious exercise but that do not prohibit religious practices outright, and would have interpreted the Establishment Clause as not preventing government from voluntarily granting religious exemptions. 450 U.S. at 720–27. By 1990 these views had apparently gained ascendancy, Justice Scalia’s opinion for the Court in the “peyote” case suggesting that accommodation should be left to the political process, i.e., that states could constitutionally provide exceptions in their drug laws for sacramental peyote use, even though such exceptions are not constitutionally required. *Employment Div. v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 872, 890 (1990).

¹⁸⁷ See, e.g., *Walz v. Tax Comm’n*, 397 U.S. 664 (upholding property tax exemption for religious organizations); *Corporation of the Presiding Bishop v. Amos*, 483 U.S. 327 (1987) (upholding Civil Rights Act exemption allowing religious institutions to restrict hiring to members of religion); *Gillette v. United States*, 401 U.S. 437, 453–54 (1971) (interpreting conscientious objection exemption from military service).

¹⁸⁸ See, e.g., *Committee for Pub. Educ. & Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756, 788–89 (1973) (tuition reimbursement grants to parents of parochial school children violate Establishment Clause in spite of New York State’s argument that program was designed to promote free exercise by enabling low-income parents to send children to church schools); *Texas Monthly, Inc. v. Bullock*, 489 U.S. 1 (1989) (state sales tax exemption for religious publications violates the Establishment Clause) (plurality opinion).

¹⁸⁹ *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 304 (1940).

¹⁹⁰ *Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145, 166 (1878). “Crime is not the less odious because sanctioned by what any particular sect may designate as ‘religion.’” *Davis v. Beason*, 133 U.S. 333, 345 (1890). In another context, Justice Sutherland in *United States v. Macintosh*, 283 U.S. 605, 625 (1931), suggested a plenary governmental power to regulate action in denying that recognition of conscientious objection to military service was of a constitutional magnitude, saying that “unqualified allegiance to the Nation and submission and obedience to the laws of the land, as well those made for war as those made for peace, are not inconsistent with the will of God.”

motives. The *Reynolds* no-protection rule was applied in a number of cases,¹⁹¹ but later cases established that religiously grounded conduct is not always outside the protection of the free exercise clause.¹⁹² Instead, the Court began to balance the secular interest asserted by the government against the claim of religious liberty asserted by the person affected; only if the governmental interest was “compelling” and if no alternative forms of regulation would serve that interest was the claimant required to yield.¹⁹³ Thus, while freedom to engage in religious practices was not absolute, it was entitled to considerable protection.

Recent cases evidence a narrowing of application of the compelling interest test, and a corresponding constriction on the freedom to engage in religiously motivated conduct. First, the Court purported to apply strict scrutiny, but upheld the governmental action anyhow. Next the Court held that the test is inappropriate in the contexts of military and prison discipline.¹⁹⁴ Then, more importantly, the Court ruled in *Employment Division v. Smith* that “if prohibiting the exercise of religion . . . is not the object . . . but merely the incidental effect of a generally applicable and otherwise valid provision, the First Amendment has not been offended.”¹⁹⁵ Therefore, the Court concluded, the Free Exercise Clause does not prohibit a state from applying generally applicable criminal penalties to use of peyote in a religious ceremony, or from denying unemployment benefits to persons dismissed from their jobs because of religious ceremonial use of peyote. Accommodation of such religious practices must be found in “the political process,” the Court noted; statutory religious-practice exceptions are permissible, but

¹⁹¹ *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11 (1905) (compulsory vaccination); *Prince v. Massachusetts* 321 U.S. 158 (1944) (child labor); *Cleveland v. United States*, 329 U.S. 14 (1946) (polygamy). In *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398, 403 (1963), Justice Brennan asserted that the “conduct or activities so regulated [in the cited cases] have invariably posed some substantial threat to public safety, peace or order.”

¹⁹² *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398 (1963); *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205 (1972); *cf. Braunfeld v. Brown*, 366 U.S. 599, 607 (1961): “[I]f the State regulates conduct by enacting a general law within its power, the purpose and effect of which is to advance the State’s secular goals, the statute is valid despite its indirect burden on religious observance unless the State may accomplish its purpose by means which do not impose such a burden.”

¹⁹³ *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398, 403, 406–09 (1963). In *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205 (1972), the Court recognized compelling state interests in provision of public education, but found insufficient evidence that those interests (preparing children for citizenship and for self-reliance) would be furthered by requiring Amish children to attend public schools beyond the eighth grade. Instead, the evidence showed that the Amish system of vocational education prepared their children for life in their self-sufficient communities.

¹⁹⁴ *Goldman v. Weinberger*, 475 U.S. 503 (1986); *O’Lone v. Estate of Shabazz*, 482 U.S. 342 (1987).

¹⁹⁵ 494 U.S. 872, 878 (1990).

not “constitutionally required.”¹⁹⁶ The result is tantamount to a return to the *Reynolds* belief-conduct distinction.

The Mormon Cases.—The Court’s first encounter with free exercise claims occurred in a series of cases in which the Federal Government and the territories moved against the Mormons because of their practice of polygamy. Actual prosecutions and convictions for bigamy presented little problem for the Court, inasmuch as it could distinguish between beliefs and acts.¹⁹⁷ But the presence of large numbers of Mormons in some of the territories made convictions for bigamy difficult to obtain, and in 1882 Congress enacted a statute which barred “bigamists,” “polygamists,” and “any person cohabiting with more than one woman” from voting or serving on juries. The Court sustained the law, even as applied to persons entering the state prior to enactment of the original law prohibiting bigamy and to persons as to whom the statute of limitations had run.¹⁹⁸ Subsequently, an act of a territorial legislature which required a prospective voter not only to swear that he was not a bigamist or polygamist but as well that “I am not a member of any order, organization or association which teaches, advises, counsels or encourages its members, devotees or any other person to commit the crime of bigamy or polygamy . . . or which practices bigamy, polygamy or plural or celestial marriage as a doctrinal rite of such organization; that I do not and will not, publicly or privately, or in any manner whatever teach, advise, counsel or encourage any person to commit the crime of bigamy or polygamy . . . ,” was upheld in an opinion that condemned plural marriage and its advocacy as equal evils.¹⁹⁹ And, finally, the Court sustained the revocation of the charter of the Mormon Church and confiscation of all church property not actually used for religious worship or for burial.²⁰⁰

¹⁹⁶ *Id.* at 890.

¹⁹⁷ *Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145 (1879); *cf.* *Cleveland v. United States*, 329 U.S. 14 (1946) (no religious-belief defense to Mann Act prosecution for transporting a woman across state line for the “immoral purpose” of polygamy).

¹⁹⁸ *Murphy v. Ramsey*, 114 U.S. 15 (1885).

¹⁹⁹ *Davis v. Beason*, 133 U.S. 333 (1890). “Bigamy and polygamy are crimes by the laws of all civilized and Christian countries. . . . To call their advocacy a tenet of religion is to offend the common sense of mankind. If they are crimes, then to teach, advise and counsel their practice is to aid in their commission, and such teaching and counseling are themselves criminal and proper subjects of punishment, as aiding and abetting crime are in all other cases.” *Id.* at 341–42.

²⁰⁰ *The Late Corporation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints v. United States*, 136 U.S. 1 (1890). “[T]he property of the said corporation . . . [is to be used to promote] the practice of polygamy—a crime against the laws, and abhorrent to the sentiments and feelings of the civilized world. . . . The organization of a community for the spread and practice of polygamy is, in a measure, a return to barbarism. It is contrary to the spirit of Christianity and of the civilization which Christianity had produced in the Western world.” *Id.* at 48–49.

The Jehovah's Witnesses Cases.—In contrast to the Mormons, the sect known as Jehovah's Witnesses, in many ways as unsettling to the conventional as the Mormons were,²⁰¹ provoked from the Court a lengthy series of decisions²⁰² expanding the rights of religious proselytizers and other advocates to utilize the streets and parks to broadcast their ideas, though the decisions may be based more squarely on the speech clause than on the free exercise clause. The leading case is *Cantwell v. Connecticut*.²⁰³ Three Jehovah's Witnesses were convicted under a statute which forbade the unlicensed soliciting of funds for religious or charitable purposes, and also under a general charge of breach of the peace. The solicitation count was voided as an infringement on religion because the issuing officer was authorized to inquire whether the applicant did have a religious cause and to decline a license if in his view the cause was not religious. Such power amounted to a previous restraint upon the exercise of religion and was invalid, the Court held.²⁰⁴ The breach of the peace count arose when the three accosted two Catholics in a strongly Catholic neighborhood and played them a phonograph record which grossly insulted the Christian religion in general and the Catholic Church in particular. The Court voided this count under the clear-and-present danger test, finding that the interest sought to be upheld by the State did not justify the suppression of religious views that simply annoyed listeners.²⁰⁵

There followed a series of sometimes conflicting decisions. At first, the Court sustained the application of a non-discriminatory li-

²⁰¹ For recent cases dealing with other religious groups discomfiting to the mainstream, see *Heffron v. ISKCON*, 452 U.S. 640 (1981) (Hare Krishnas); *Larson v. Valente*, 456 U.S. 228 (1982) (Unification Church).

²⁰² Most of the cases are collected and categorized by Justice Frankfurter in *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268, 273 (1951) (concurring opinion).

²⁰³ 310 U.S. 296 (1940).

²⁰⁴ *Id.* at 303–07. “The freedom to act must have appropriate definition to preserve the enforcement of that protection [of society]. In every case the power to regulate must be so exercised as not, in attaining a permissible end, unduly to infringe the protected freedom. . . . [A] State may by general and non-discriminatory legislation regulate the times, the places, and the manner of soliciting upon its streets, and of holding meetings thereon; and may in other respects safeguard the peace, good order and comfort of the community, without unconstitutionally invading the liberties protected by the Fourteenth Amendment.” *Id.* at 304.

²⁰⁵ *Id.* at 307–11. “In the realm of religious faith, and in that of political belief, sharp differences arise. In both fields the tenets of one man may seem the rankest error to his neighbor. To persuade others to his own point of view, the pleader, as we know, at times, resorts to exaggeration, to vilification of men who have been, or are, prominent in church or state, and even to false statement. But the people of this nation have ordained in the light of history, that, in spite of the probabilities of excesses and abuses, these liberties are in the long view, essential to enlightened opinion and right conduct on the part of the citizens of a democracy.” *Id.* at 310.

license fee to vendors of religious books and pamphlets,²⁰⁶ but eleven months later it vacated its former decision and struck down such fees.²⁰⁷ A city ordinance making it unlawful for anyone distributing literature to ring a doorbell or otherwise summon the dwellers of a residence to the door to receive such literature was held in violation of the First Amendment when applied to distributors of leaflets advertising a religious meeting.²⁰⁸ But a state child labor law was held to be validly applied to punish the guardian of a nine-year old child who permitted her to engage in “preaching work” and the sale of religious publications after hours.²⁰⁹ The Court decided a number of cases involving meetings and rallies in public parks and other public places by upholding licensing and permit requirements which were premised on nondiscriminatory “times, places, and manners” terms and which did not seek to regulate the content of the religious message to be communicated.²¹⁰

Free Exercise Exemption From General Governmental Requirements.—As described above, the Court gradually abandoned its strict belief-conduct distinction, and developed a balancing test to determine when a uniform, nondiscriminatory requirement by government mandating action or nonaction by citizens must allow exceptions for citizens whose religious scruples forbid compliance. Then, in 1990, the Court reversed direction in *Employment Division v. Smith*,²¹¹ confining application of the “compelling interest” test to a narrow category of cases.

In early cases the Court sustained the power of a State to exclude from its schools children who because of their religious beliefs would not participate in the salute to the flag,²¹² only within a short time to reverse itself and condemn such exclusions, but on

²⁰⁶ *Jones v. Opelika*, 316 U.S. 584 (1942).

²⁰⁷ *Jones v. Opelika*, 319 U.S. 103 (1943); *Murdock v. Pennsylvania*, 319 U.S. 105 (1943). See also *Follett v. McCormick*, 321 U.S. 573 (1944) (invalidating a flat licensing fee for booksellers). *Murdock* and *Follett* were distinguished in *Jimmy Swaggart Ministries v. California Bd. of Equalization*, 493 U.S. 378, 389 (1990) as applying “only where a flat license fee operates as a prior restraint”; upheld in *Swaggart* was application of a general sales and use tax to sales of religious publications.

²⁰⁸ *Martin v. City of Struthers*, 319 U.S. 141 (1943). *But cf.* *Breard v. City of Alexandria*, 341 U.S. 622 (1951) (similar ordinance sustained in commercial solicitation context).

²⁰⁹ *Prince v. Massachusetts*, 321 U.S. 158 (1944).

²¹⁰ E.g., *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268 (1951); *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290 (1951); *Fowler v. Rhode Island*, 345 U.S. 67 (1953); *Poulos v. New Hampshire*, 345 U.S. 395 (1953). See also *Larson v. Valente*, 456 U.S. 228 (1982) (solicitation on state fair ground by Unification Church members).

²¹¹ 494 U.S. 872 (1990).

²¹² *Minersville School Dist. v. Gobitis*, 310 U.S. 586 (1940).

speech grounds rather than religious grounds.²¹³ Also, the Court seemed to be clearly of the view that government could compel those persons religiously opposed to bearing arms to take an oath to do so or to receive training to do so,²¹⁴ only in later cases by its statutory resolution to cast doubt on this resolution,²¹⁵ and still more recently to leave the whole matter in some doubt.²¹⁶

*Braunfeld v. Brown*²¹⁷ held that the free exercise clause did not mandate an exemption from Sunday Closing Laws for an Orthodox Jewish merchant who observed Saturday as the Sabbath and was thereby required to be closed two days of the week rather than one. This requirement did not prohibit any religious practices, the Court's plurality pointed out, but merely regulated secular activity in a manner making religious exercise more expensive.²¹⁸ "If the State regulates conduct by enacting a general law within its power, the purpose and effect of which is to advance the State's secular goals, the statute is valid despite its indirect burden on religious observance unless the State may accomplish its purpose by means which do not impose such a burden."²¹⁹

Within two years the Court in *Sherbert v. Verner*²²⁰ extended the line of analysis to require a religious exemption from a secular, regulatory piece of economic legislation. Sherbert was disqualified from receiving unemployment compensation because, as a Seventh

²¹³ *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943). On the same day, the Court held that a State may not forbid the distribution of literature urging and advising on religious grounds that citizens refrain from saluting the flag. *Taylor v. Mississippi*, 319 U.S. 583 (1943).

²¹⁴ See *United States v. Schwimmer*, 279 U.S. 644 (1929); *United States v. Macintosh*, 283 U.S. 605 (1931); and *United States v. Bland*, 283 U.S. 636 (1931) (all interpreting the naturalization law as denying citizenship to a conscientious objector who would not swear to bear arms in defense of the country), all three of which were overruled by *Girouard v. United States*, 328 U.S. 61 (1946), on strictly statutory grounds. See also *Hamilton v. Board of Regents*, 293 U.S. 245 (1934) (upholding expulsion from state university for a religiously based refusal to take a required course in military training); *In re Summers*, 325 U.S. 561 (1945) (upholding refusal to admit applicant to bar because as conscientious objector he could not take required oath).

²¹⁵ *United States v. Seeger*, 380 U.S. 163 (1965); see *id.* at 188 (Justice Douglas concurring); *Welsh v. United States*, 398 U.S. 333 (1970); and see *id.* at 344 (Justice Harlan concurring).

²¹⁶ *Gillette v. United States*, 401 U.S. 437 (1971) (holding that secular considerations overbalanced free exercise infringement of religious beliefs of objectors to particular wars).

²¹⁷ 366 U.S. 599 (1961). On Sunday Closing Laws and the establishment clause, see *supra*, pp. 987–988.

²¹⁸ 366 U.S. at 605–06.

²¹⁹ *Id.* at 607 (plurality opinion). The concurrence balanced the economic disadvantage suffered by the Sabbatarians against the important interest of the State in securing its day of rest regulation. *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. at 512–22 (1961). Three Justices dissented. *Id.* at 561 (Justice Douglas); *Braunfeld v. Brown*, 366 U.S. at 610 (Justice Brennan), 616 (Justice Stewart).

²²⁰ 374 U.S. 398 (1963).

Day Adventist, she would not accept Saturday work; according to state officials, this meant she was not complying with the statutory requirement to stand ready to accept suitable employment. This denial of benefits could be upheld, the Court said, only if “her disqualification as a beneficiary represents no infringement by the State of her constitutional rights of free exercise, or [if] any incidental burden on the free exercise of appellant’s religions may be justified by a ‘compelling state interest in the regulation of a subject within the State’s constitutional power to regulate . . .’”²²¹ First, the disqualification was held to impose a burden on the free exercise of Sherbert’s religion; it was an indirect burden and it did not impose a criminal sanction on a religious practice, but the disqualification derived solely from her practice of her religion and constituted a compulsion upon her to forgo that practice.²²² Second, there was no compelling interest demonstrated by the State. The only interest asserted was the prevention of the possibility of fraudulent claims, but that was merely a bare assertion. Even if there was a showing of demonstrable danger, “it would plainly be incumbent upon the appellees to demonstrate that no alternative forms of regulation would combat such abuses without infringing First Amendment rights.”²²³

Sherbert was reaffirmed and applied in subsequent cases involving denial of unemployment benefits. *Thomas v. Review Board*²²⁴ involved a Jehovah’s Witness who quit his job when his employer transferred him from a department making items for industrial use to a department making parts for military equipment. While his belief that his religion proscribed work on war materials was not shared by all other Jehovah’s Witnesses, the Court held that it was inappropriate to inquire into the validity of beliefs asserted to be religious so long as the claims were made in good faith (and the beliefs were at least arguably religious). The same result was reached in a 1987 case, the fact that the employee’s religious conversion rather than a job reassignment had created the conflict between work and Sabbath observance not being considered mate-

²²¹ Id. at 403, quoting *NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415, 438 (1963).

²²² Id. at 403–06.

²²³ Id. at 407. *Braunfeld* was distinguished because of “a countervailing factor which finds no equivalent in the instant case—a strong state interest in providing one uniform day of rest for all workers.” That secular objective could be achieved, the Court found, only by declaring Sunday to be that day of rest. Requiring exemptions for Sabbatarians, while theoretically possible, appeared to present an administrative problem of such magnitude, or to afford the exempted class so great a competitive advantage, that such a requirement would have rendered the entire statutory scheme unworkable. Id. at 408–09. Other Justices thought that *Sherbert* overruled *Braunfeld*. Id. at 413, 417 (Justice Stewart concurring), 418 (Justice Harlan and White dissenting).

²²⁴ 450 U.S. 707 (1981).

rial to the determination that free exercise rights had been burdened by the denial of unemployment compensation.²²⁵ Also, a state may not deny unemployment benefits solely because refusal to work on the Sabbath was based on sincere religious beliefs held independently of membership in any established religious church or sect.²²⁶

The Court applied the *Sherbert* balancing test in several areas outside of unemployment compensation. The first two such cases involved the Amish, whose religion requires them to lead a simple life of labor and worship in a tight-knit and self-reliant community largely insulated from the materialism and other distractions of modern life. *Wisconsin v. Yoder*²²⁷ held that a state compulsory attendance law, as applied to require Amish children to attend ninth and tenth grades of public schools in contravention of Amish religious beliefs, violated the Free Exercise Clause. The Court first determined that the beliefs of the Amish were indeed religiously based and of great antiquity.²²⁸ Next, the Court rejected the State's arguments that the Free Exercise Clause extends no protection because the case involved "action" or "conduct" rather than belief, and because the regulation, neutral on its face, did not single out religion.²²⁹ Instead, the Court went on to analyze whether a "compelling" governmental interest required such "grave interference" with Amish belief and practices.²³⁰ The governmental interest was not the general provision of education, inasmuch as the State and the Amish were in agreement on education through the first eight grades and since the Amish provided their children with additional education of a primarily vocational nature. The State's interest was really that of providing two additional years of public schooling. Nothing in the record, felt the Court, showed that this interest outweighed the great harm which it would do to traditional Amish religious beliefs to impose the compulsory ninth and tenth grade attendance.²³¹

But in recent years the Court's decisions evidenced increasing discontent with the compelling interest test. In several cases the

²²⁵ *Hobbie v. Unemployment Appeals Comm'n*, 480 U.S. 136 (1987).

²²⁶ *Frazee v. Illinois Dep't of Employment Security*, 489 U.S. 829 (1989). Cf. *United States v. Seeger*, 380 U.S. 163 (1965) (interpreting the religious objection exemption from military service as encompassing a broad range of formal and personal religious beliefs).

²²⁷ 406 U.S. 205 (1972).

²²⁸ *Id.* at 215–19. Why the Court felt impelled to make these points is unclear, since it is settled that it is improper for courts to inquire into the interpretation of religious belief. E.g., *United States v. Lee*, 455 U.S. 252, 257 (1982).

²²⁹ *Id.* at 219–21.

²³⁰ *Id.* at 221.

²³¹ *Id.* at 221–29.

Court purported to apply strict scrutiny but nonetheless upheld the governmental action in question. In *United States v. Lee*,²³² for example, the Court denied the Amish exemption from compulsory participation in the Social Security system. The objection was that payment of taxes by Amish employers and employees and the receipt of public financial assistance were forbidden by their religious beliefs. Accepting that this was true, the Court nonetheless held that the governmental interest was compelling and therefore sufficient to justify the burdening of religious beliefs.²³³ Compulsory payment of taxes was necessary for the vitality of the system; either voluntary participation or a pattern of exceptions would undermine its soundness and make the program difficult to administer.

“A compelling governmental interest” was also found to outweigh free exercise interests in *Bob Jones University v. United States*,²³⁴ in which the Court upheld the I.R.S.’s denial of tax exemptions to church-run colleges whose racially discriminatory admissions policies derived from religious beliefs. The Federal Government’s “fundamental, overriding interest in eradicating racial discrimination in education”—found to be encompassed in common law standards of “charity” underlying conferral of the tax exemption on “charitable” institutions—“substantially outweighs” the burden on free exercise. Nor could the schools’ free exercise interests be accommodated by less restrictive means.²³⁵

In other cases the Court found reasons not to apply compelling interest analysis. Religiously motivated speech, like other speech, can be subjected to reasonable time, place, or manner regulation serving a “substantial” rather than “compelling” governmental interest.²³⁶ *Sherbert’s* threshold test, inquiring “whether government has placed a substantial burden on the observation of a central religious belief or practice,”²³⁷ eliminates other issues. As long as a particular religion does not proscribe the payment of taxes (as was the case with the Amish in *Lee*), the Court has denied that there

²³² 455 U.S. 252 (1982).

²³³ The Court’s formulation was whether the limitation on religious exercise was “essential to accomplish an overriding governmental interest.” 455 U.S. at 257–58. *Accord*, *Hernandez v. Commissioner*, 490 U.S. 680, 699–700 (1989) (any burden on free exercise imposed by disallowance of a tax deduction was “justified by the ‘broad public interest in maintaining a sound tax system’ free of ‘myriad exceptions flowing from a wide variety of religious beliefs’”).

²³⁴ 461 U.S. 574 (1983).

²³⁵ 461 U.S. at 604.

²³⁶ *Heffron v. ISKCON*, 452 U.S. 640 (1981). Requiring Krishnas to solicit at fixed booth sites on county fair grounds is a valid time, place, and manner regulation, although, as the Court acknowledged, *id.* at 652, peripatetic solicitation was an element of Krishna religious rites.

²³⁷ As restated in *Hernandez v. Commissioner*, 490 U.S. 680, 699 (1989).

is any constitutionally significant burden resulting from “imposition of a generally applicable tax [that] merely decreases the amount of money [adherents] have to spend on [their] religious activities.”²³⁸ The one caveat the Court left—that a generally applicable tax might be so onerous as to “effectively choke off an adherent’s religious practices”²³⁹—may be a moot point in light of the Court’s general ruling in *Employment Division v. Smith*, discussed below.

The Court also drew a distinction between governmental regulation of individual conduct, on the one hand, and restraint of governmental conduct as a result of individuals’ religious beliefs, on the other. *Sherbert’s* compelling interest test has been held inapplicable in cases viewed as involving attempts by individuals to alter governmental actions rather than attempts by government to restrict religious practices. Emphasizing the absence of coercion on religious adherents, the Court in *Lyng v. Northwest Indian Cemetery Protective Ass’n*²⁴⁰ held that the Forest Service, even absent a compelling justification, could construct a road through a portion of a national forest held sacred and used by Indians in religious observances. The Court distinguished between governmental actions having the indirect effect of frustrating religious practices and those actually prohibiting religious belief or conduct: “the Free Exercise Clause is written in terms of what the government cannot do to the individual, not in terms of what the individual can exact from the government.”²⁴¹ Similarly, even a sincerely held religious belief that assignment of a social security number would rob a child of her soul was held insufficient to bar the government from using the number for purposes of its own recordkeeping.²⁴² It mattered not how easily the government could accommodate the religious beliefs or practices (an exemption from the social security number requirement might have been granted with only slight impact on the government’s recordkeeping capabilities), since the na-

²³⁸ *Jimmy Swaggart Ministries v. California Bd. of Equalization*, 493 U.S. 378, 391 (1990). See also *Tony and Susan Alamo Found. v. Secretary of Labor*, 471 U.S. 290 (1985) (the Court failing to perceive how application of minimum wage and overtime requirements would burden free exercise rights of employees of a religious foundation, there being no assertion that the amount of compensation was a matter of religious import); and *Hernandez v. Commissioner*, 490 U.S. 680 (1989) (questioning but not deciding whether any burden was imposed by administrative disallowance of deduction for payments deemed to be for commercial rather than religious or charitable purposes).

²³⁹ *Jimmy Swaggart Ministries*, 493 U.S. at 392.

²⁴⁰ 485 U.S. 439 (1988).

²⁴¹ *Id.* at 451, quoting *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398, 412 (1963) (Douglas, J., concurring).

²⁴² *Bowen v. Roy*, 476 U.S. 693 (1986).

ture of the governmental actions did not implicate free exercise protections.²⁴³

Compelling interest analysis is also wholly inapplicable in the context of military rules and regulations, where First Amendment review “is far more deferential than . . . review of similar laws or regulations designed for civilian society.”²⁴⁴ Thus the Court did not question the decision of military authorities to apply uniform dress code standards to prohibit the wearing of a yarmulke by an officer compelled by his Orthodox Jewish religious beliefs to wear the yarmulke.²⁴⁵

A high degree of deference is also due decisions of prison administrators having the effect of restricting religious exercise by inmates. The general rule is that prison regulations impinging on exercise of constitutional rights by inmates are “valid if . . . reasonably related to legitimate penological interests.”²⁴⁶ Thus because general prison rules requiring a particular category of inmates to work outside of buildings where religious services were held, and prohibiting return to the buildings during the work day, could be viewed as reasonably related to legitimate penological concerns of security and order, no exemption was required to permit Muslim inmates to participate in Jumu’ah, the core ceremony of their religion.²⁴⁷ The fact that the inmates were left with no alternative means of attending Jumu’ah was not dispositive, the Court being “unwilling to hold that prison officials are required by the Constitution to sacrifice legitimate penological objectives to that end.”²⁴⁸

Finally, in *Employment Division v. Smith*²⁴⁹ the Court indicated that the compelling interest test may apply only in the field of unemployment compensation, and in any event does not apply to require exemptions from generally applicable criminal laws. Criminal laws are “generally applicable” when they apply across

²⁴³ “In neither case . . . would the affected individuals be coerced by the Government’s action into violating their religious beliefs; nor would either governmental action penalize religious activity.” Lyng, 485 U.S. at 449.

²⁴⁴ *Goldman v. Weinberger*, 475 U.S. 503, 507 (1986).

²⁴⁵ Congress reacted swiftly by enacting a provision allowing military personnel to wear religious apparel while in uniform, subject to exceptions to be made by the Secretary of the relevant military department for circumstances in which the apparel would interfere with performance of military duties or would not be “neat and conservative.” Pub. L. 100–180, § 508(a)(2), 101 Stat. 1086 (1987); 10 U.S.C. § 774.

²⁴⁶ *O’Lone v. Estate of Shabazz*, 482 U.S. 342, 349 (1987) (quoting *Turner v. Safley*, 482 U.S. 78, 89 (1987)).

²⁴⁷ *O’Lone v. Estate of Shabazz*, 482 U.S. 342 (1987).

²⁴⁸ *Id.* at 351–52 (also suggesting that the ability of the inmates to engage in other activities required by their faith, e.g. individual prayer and observance of Ramadan, rendered the restriction reasonable).

²⁴⁹ 494 U.S. 872 (1990) (holding that state may apply criminal penalties to use of peyote in a religious ceremony, and may deny unemployment benefits to persons dismissed from their jobs because of religiously inspired use of peyote).

the board regardless of the religious motivation of the prohibited conduct, and are “not specifically directed at . . . religious practices.”²⁵⁰ The unemployment compensation statute at issue in *Sherbert* was peculiarly suited to application of a balancing test because denial of benefits required a finding that an applicant had refused work “without good cause.” *Sherbert* and other unemployment compensation cases thus “stand for the proposition that where the State has in place a system of individual exemptions, it may not refuse to extend that system to cases of ‘religious hardship’ without compelling reason.”²⁵¹ *Wisconsin v. Yoder* and other decisions holding “that the First Amendment bars application of a neutral, generally applicable law to religiously motivated action” were distinguished as involving “not the Free Exercise Clause alone, but the Free Exercise Clause in conjunction with other constitutional protections” such as free speech or “parental rights.”²⁵² Except in the relatively uncommon circumstance when a statute calls for individualized consideration, then, the Free Exercise Clause affords no basis for exemption from a “neutral, generally applicable law.” As the Court concluded in *Smith*, accommodation for religious practices incompatible with general requirements must ordinarily be found in “the political process.”²⁵³

The ramifications of *Smith* are potentially widespread. The Court has apparently returned to a belief-conduct dichotomy under which religiously motivated conduct is not entitled to special protection. Laws may not single out religiously motivated conduct for adverse treatment, but formally neutral laws of general applicability may regulate religious conduct (along with other conduct) regardless of the adverse or prohibitory effects on religious exercise. Similar rules govern taxation. Under the Court’s rulings in *Smith* and *Swaggart*, religious exemptions from most taxes are a matter of legislative grace rather than constitutional command, since most important taxes (e.g., income, property, sales and use) satisfy the criteria of formal neutrality and general applicability, and are not license fees that can be viewed as prior restraints on expression.²⁵⁴ The result is equal protection, but not substantive protection, for

²⁵⁰ Id. at 878.

²⁵¹ Id. at 884.

²⁵² Id. at 881.

²⁵³ Id. at 890.

²⁵⁴ This latter condition derives from the fact that the Court in *Swaggart* distinguished earlier decisions by characterizing them as applying only to flat license fees. See n., *supra*. See also Laycock, *The Remnants of Free Exercise*, 1990 SUP. CT. REV. 1, 39–41.

religious exercise.²⁵⁵ The Court's approach also accords less protection to religiously-based conduct than is accorded expressive conduct that implicates speech but not religious values.²⁵⁶ On the practical side, relegation of free exercise claims to the political process may, as concurring Justice O'Connor warned, result in less protection for small, unpopular religious sects.²⁵⁷

Religious Test Oaths.—However the Court has been divided in dealing with religiously-based conduct and governmental compulsion of action or nonaction, it was unanimous in voiding a state constitutional provision which required a notary public, as a condition of perfecting his appointment, to declare his belief in the existence of God. The First Amendment, considered with the religious oath provision of Article VI, makes it impossible “for government, state or federal, to restore the historically and constitutionally discredited policy of probing religious beliefs by test oaths or limiting public offices to persons who have, or perhaps more properly, profess to have, a belief in some particular kind of religious concept.”²⁵⁸

Religious Disqualification.—Unanimously, but with great differences of approach, the Court declared invalid a Tennessee statute barring ministers and priests from service in a specially called state constitutional convention.²⁵⁹ The Court's decision necessarily implied that the constitutional provision on which the statute was based, barring ministers and priests from service as state legislators, was also invalid.

²⁵⁵ Justice O'Connor, concurring in *Smith*, argued that “the Free Exercise Clause protects values distinct from those protected by the Equal Protection Clause.” 494 U.S. at 901.

²⁵⁶ Although neutral laws affecting expressive conduct are not measured by a “compelling interest” test, they are “subject to a balancing, rather than categorical, approach.” *Smith*, 494 U.S. at 902 (O'Connor, J., concurring).

²⁵⁷ *Id.* at 1613.

²⁵⁸ *Torcaso v. Watkins*, 367 U.S. 488, 494 (1961).

²⁵⁹ *McDaniel v. Paty*, 435 U.S. 618 (1978). The plurality opinion by Chief Justice Burger, joined by Justices Powell, Rehnquist, and Stevens, found the case governed by *Sherbert v. Verner's* strict scrutiny test. The State had failed to show that its view of the dangers of clergy participation in the political process had any validity; *Torcaso v. Watkins* was distinguished because the State was acting on the status of being a clergyman rather than on one's beliefs. Justice Brennan, joined by Justice Marshall, found *Torcaso* controlling because imposing a restriction upon one's status as a religious person did penalize his religious belief, his freedom to profess or practice that belief. *Id.* at 629. Justice Stewart also found *Torcaso* dispositive, *id.* at 642, and Justice White found an equal protection violation because of the restraint upon seeking political office. *Id.* at 643.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION—SPEECH AND PRESS**Adoption and the Common Law Background**

Madison's version of the speech and press clauses, introduced in the House of Representatives on June 8, 1789, provided: "The people shall not be deprived or abridged of their right to speak, to write, or to publish their sentiments; and the freedom of the press, as one of the great bulwarks of liberty, shall be inviolable."¹ The special committee rewrote the language to some extent, adding other provisions from Madison's draft, to make it read: "The freedom of speech and of the press, and the right of the people peaceably to assemble and consult for their common good, and to apply to the Government for redress of grievances, shall not be infringed."² In this form it went to the Senate, which rewrote it to read: "That Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and consult for their common good, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."³ Subsequently, the religion clauses and these clauses were combined by the Senate.⁴ The final language was agreed upon in conference.

Debate in the House is unenlightening with regard to the meaning the Members ascribed to the speech and press clause and there is no record of debate in the Senate.⁵ In the course of debate, Madison warned against the dangers which would arise "from discussing and proposing abstract propositions, of which the judgment may not be convinced. I venture to say, that if we confine ourselves to an enumeration of simple, acknowledged principles, the ratification will meet with but little difficulty."⁶ That the "simple, acknowledged principles" embodied in the First Amendment have occasioned controversy without end both in the courts and out should alert one to the difficulties latent in such spare language. Insofar as there is likely to have been a consensus, it was no doubt the common law view as expressed by Blackstone. "The liberty of the

¹ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 434 (1789). Madison had also proposed language limiting the power of the States in a number of respects, including a guarantee of freedom of the press, *Id.* at 435. Although passed by the House, the amendment was defeated by the Senate, *supra*, p.957.

² *Id.* at 731 (August 15, 1789).

³ THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 1148-49 (B. Schwartz ed. 1971).

⁴ *Id.* at 1153.

⁵ The House debate insofar as it touched upon this amendment was concerned almost exclusively with a motion to strike the right to assemble and an amendment to add a right of the people to instruct their Representatives. 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 731-49 (August 15, 1789). There are no records of debates in the States on ratification.

⁶ *Id.* at 738.

press is indeed essential to the nature of a free state; but this consists in laying no *previous* restraints upon publications, and not in freedom from censure for criminal matter when published. Every freeman has an undoubted right to lay what sentiments he pleases before the public; to forbid this, is to destroy the freedom of the press: but if he publishes what is improper, mischievous, or illegal, he must take the consequences of his own temerity. To subject the press to the restrictive power of a licenser, as was formerly done, both before and since the Revolution, is to subject all freedom of sentiment to the prejudices of one man, and make him the arbitrary and infallible judge of all controverted points in learning, religion and government. But to punish as the law does at present any dangerous or offensive writings, which, when published, shall on a fair and impartial trial be adjudged of a pernicious tendency, is necessary for the preservation of peace and good order, of government and religion, the only solid foundations of civil liberty. Thus, the will of individuals is still left free: the abuse only of that free will is the object of legal punishment. Neither is any restraint hereby laid upon freedom of thought or inquiry; liberty of private sentiment is still left; the disseminating, or making public, of bad sentiments, destructive to the ends of society, is the crime which society corrects.”⁷

Whatever the general unanimity on this proposition at the time of the proposal of and ratification of the First Amendment,⁸

⁷ W. BLACKSTONE'S COMMENTARIES ON THE LAWS OF ENGLAND 151–52 (T. Cooley 2d rev. ed. 1872). See 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1874–86 (Boston: 1833). The most comprehensive effort to assess theory and practice in the period prior to and immediately following adoption of the Amendment is L. LEVY, LEGACY OF SUPPRESSION: FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS IN EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY (1960), which generally concluded that the Blackstonian view was the prevailing one at the time and probably the understanding of those who drafted, voted for, and ratified the Amendment.

⁸ It would appear that Madison advanced libertarian views earlier than his Jeffersonian compatriots, as witness his leadership of a move to refuse officially to concur in Washington's condemnation of “[c]ertain self-created societies,” by which the President meant political clubs supporting the French Revolution, and his success in deflecting the Federalist intention to censure such societies. I. BRANT, JAMES MADISON—FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION 1787–1800, 416–20 (1950). “If we advert to the nature of republican government,” Madison told the House, “we shall find that the censorial power is in the people over the government, and not in the government over the people.” 4 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 934 (1794). On the other hand, the early Madison, while a member of his county's committee on public safety, had enthusiastically promoted prosecution of Loyalist speakers and the burning of their pamphlets during the Revolutionary period. 1 PAPERS OF JAMES MADISON 147, 161–62, 190–92 (W. Hutchinson & W. Rachal eds. 1962). There seems little doubt that Jefferson held to the Blackstonian view. Writing to Madison in 1788, he said: “A declaration that the federal government will never restrain the presses from printing anything they please, will not take away the liability of the printers for false facts printed.” 13 PAPERS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON 442 (J. Boyd ed. 1955). Commenting a year later to Madison on his proposed amendment, Jefferson suggested that

it appears that there emerged in the course of the Jeffersonian counterattack on the Sedition Act⁹ and the use by the Adams Administration of the Act to prosecute its political opponents,¹⁰ something of a libertarian theory of freedom of speech and press,¹¹ which, however much the Jeffersonians may have departed from it upon assuming power,¹² was to blossom into the theory undergirding Supreme Court First Amendment jurisprudence in modern times. Full acceptance of the theory that the Amendment operates not only to bar most prior restraints of expression but subsequent punishment of all but a narrow range of expression, in political discourse and indeed in all fields of expression, dates from a quite recent period, although the Court's movement toward that position began in its consideration of limitations on speech and press in the period following World War I.¹³ Thus, in 1907, Justice Holmes

the free speech-free press clause might read something like: "The people shall not be deprived or abridged of their right to speak, to write or otherwise to publish anything but false facts affecting injuriously the life, liberty, property, or reputation of others or affecting the peace of the confederacy with foreign nations." 15 PAPERS, *supra*, at 367.

⁹The Act, Ch. 74, 1 Stat. 596 (1798), punished anyone who would "write, print, utter or publish . . . any false, scandalous and malicious writing or writings against the government of the United States, or either house of the Congress of the United States, or the President of the United States, with intent to defame the said government, or either house of the said Congress, or the said President, or to bring them, or either of them, into contempt or disrepute." See J. SMITH, FREEDOM'S FETTERS—THE ALIEN AND SEDITION LAWS AND AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES (1956).

¹⁰*Id.* at 159 et seq.

¹¹L. LEVY, LEGACY OF SUPPRESSION: FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS IN EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY, ch. 6 (Cambridge, 1960); *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 273–76 (1964). But compare L. LEVY, EMERGENCE OF A FREE PRESS (1985), a revised and enlarged edition of LEGACY OF SUPPRESSION, in which Professor Levy modifies his earlier views, arguing that while the intention of the Framers to outlaw the crime of seditious libel, in pursuit of a free speech principle, cannot be established and may not have been the goal, there was a tradition of robust and rowdy expression during the period of the framing that contradicts his prior view that a modern theory of free expression did not begin to emerge until the debate over the Alien and Sedition Acts.

¹²L. LEVY, JEFFERSON AND CIVIL LIBERTIES—THE DARKER SIDE (Cambridge, 1963). Thus President Jefferson wrote to Governor McKean of Pennsylvania in 1803: "The federalists having failed in destroying freedom of the press by their gag-law, seem to have attacked it in an opposite direction; that is, by pushing its licentiousness and its lying to such a degree of prostitution as to deprive it of all credit. . . . This is a dangerous state of things, and the press ought to be restored to its credibility if possible. The restraints provided by the laws of the States are sufficient for this if applied. And I have, therefore, long thought that a few prosecutions of the most prominent offenders would have a wholesome effect in restoring the integrity of the presses. Not a general prosecution, for that would look like persecution; but a selected one." 9 WORKS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON 449 (P. Ford, ed. 1905).

¹³*New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254 (1964), provides the principal doctrinal justification for the development, although the results had long since been fully applied by the Court. In *Sullivan*, Justice Brennan discerned in the controversies over the Sedition Act a crystallization of "a national awareness of the central meaning of the First Amendment," *id.* at 273, which is that the "right of free public

could observe that even if the Fourteenth Amendment embodied prohibitions similar to the First Amendment, “still we should be far from the conclusion that the plaintiff in error would have us reach. In the first place, the main purpose of such constitutional provisions is ‘to prevent all such *previous restraints* upon publications as had been practiced by other governments,’ and they do not prevent the subsequent punishment of such as may be deemed contrary to the public welfare The preliminary freedom extends as well to the false as to the true; the subsequent punishment may extend as well to the true as to the false. This was the law of criminal libel apart from statute in most cases, if not in all.”¹⁴ But as Justice Holmes also observed, “[t]here is no constitutional right to have all general propositions of law once adopted remain unchanged.”¹⁵

But in *Schenck v. United States*,¹⁶ the first of the post-World War I cases to reach the Court, Justice Holmes, in the opinion of the Court, while upholding convictions for violating the Espionage Act by attempting to cause insubordination in the military service by circulation of leaflets, suggested First Amendment restraints on subsequent punishment as well as prior restraint. “It well may be

discussion of the stewardship of public officials . . . [is] a fundamental principle of the American form of government.” *Id.* at 275. This “central meaning” proscribes either civil or criminal punishment for any but the most maliciously, knowingly false criticism of government. “Although the Sedition Act was never tested in this Court, the attack upon its validity has carried the day in the court of history. . . . [The historical record] reflect[s] a broad consensus that the Act, because of the restraint it imposed upon criticism of government and public officials, was inconsistent with the First Amendment.” *Id.* at 276. Madison’s Virginia Resolutions of 1798 and his *Report* in support of them brought together and expressed the theories being developed by the Jeffersonians and represent a solid doctrinal foundation for the point of view that the First Amendment superseded the common law on speech and press, that a free, popular government cannot be libeled, and that the First Amendment absolutely protects speech and press. 6 WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON, 341–406 (G. Hunt, ed. 1908).

¹⁴*Patterson v. Colorado*, 205 U.S. 454, 462 (1907) (emphasis original). Justice Frankfurter had similar views in 1951: “The historic antecedents of the First Amendment preclude the notion that its purpose was to give unqualified immunity to every expression that touched on matters within the range of political interest. . . . ‘The law is perfectly well settled,’ this Court said over fifty years ago, ‘that the first ten amendments to the Constitution, commonly known as the Bill of Rights, were not intended to lay down any novel principles of government, but simply to embody certain guaranties and immunities which we had inherited from our English ancestors, and which had from time immemorial been subject to certain well-recognized exceptions arising from the necessities of the case. In incorporating these principles into the fundamental law there was no intention of disregarding the exceptions, which continued to be recognized as if they had been formally expressed.’ That this represents the authentic view of the Bill of Rights and the spirit in which it must be construed has been recognized again and again in cases that have come here within the last fifty years.” *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494, 521–522, 524 (1951) (concurring opinion). The internal quotation is from *Robertson v. Baldwin*, 165 U.S. 275, 281 (1897).

¹⁵*Patterson v. Colorado*, 205 U.S. 454, 461 (1907).

¹⁶249 U.S. 47, 51–52 (1919) (citations omitted).

that the prohibition of laws abridging the freedom of speech is not confined to previous restraints although to prevent them may have been the main purpose We admit that in many places and in ordinary times the defendants in saying all that was said in the circular would have been within their constitutional rights. But the character of every act depends upon the circumstances in which it is done. The most stringent protection of free speech would not protect a man in falsely shouting fire in a theater and causing a panic. . . . The question in every case is whether the words used are used in such a nature as to create a clear and present danger that they will bring about the substantive evils that Congress has a right to prevent.” Justice Holmes along with Justice Brandeis soon went into dissent in their views that the majority of the Court was misapplying the legal standards thus expressed to uphold suppression of speech which offered no threat of danger to organized institutions.¹⁷ But it was with the Court’s assumption that the Fourteenth Amendment restrained the power of the States to suppress speech and press that the doctrines developed.¹⁸ At first, Holmes and Brandeis remained in dissent, but in *Fiske v. Kansas*,¹⁹ the Court sustained a First Amendment type of claim in a state case, and in *Stromberg v. California*,²⁰ a state law was voided on grounds of its interference with free speech.²¹ State common law was also voided, the Court in an opinion by Justice Black asserting that the First Amendment enlarged protections for speech, press, and religion beyond those enjoyed under English common law.²² Development over the years since has been uneven, but by 1964 the Court could say with unanimity: “we consider this case against the background of a profound national commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open, and that it may well include vehement, caustic and

¹⁷ *Debs v. United States*, 249 U.S. 211 (1919); *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616 (1919); *Schaefer v. United States*, 251 U.S. 466 (1920); *Pierce v. United States*, 252 U.S. 239 (1920); *United States ex rel. Milwaukee Social Democratic Pub. Co. v. Burleson*, 255 U.S. 407 (1921). A state statute similar to the federal one was upheld in *Gilbert v. Minnesota*, 254 U.S. 325 (1920).

¹⁸ *Gitlow v. New York*, 268 U.S. 652 (1925); *Whitney v. California*, 274 U.S. 357 (1927). The Brandeis and Holmes dissents in both cases were important formulations of speech and press principles.

¹⁹ 274 U.S. 380 (1927).

²⁰ 283 U.S. 359 (1931). By contrast, it was not until 1965 that a federal statute was held unconstitutional under the First Amendment. *Lamont v. Postmaster General*, 381 U.S. 301 (1965). See also *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967).

²¹ And see *Near v. Minnesota ex rel. Olson*, 283 U.S. 697 (1931); *Herndon v. Lowry*, 301 U.S. 242 (1937); *De Jonge v. Oregon*, 299 U.S. 353 (1937); *Lovell v. Griffin*, 303 U.S. 444 (1938).

²² *Bridges v. California*, 314 U.S. 252, 263–68 (1941) (overturning contempt convictions of newspaper editor and others for publishing commentary on pending cases).

sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials.”²³ And in 1969, it was said that the cases “have fashioned the principle that the constitutional guarantees of free speech and free press do not permit a State to forbid or proscribe advocacy of the use of force or of law violation except where such advocacy is directed to inciting or producing imminent lawless action and is likely to incite or produce such action.”²⁴ This development and its myriad applications are elaborated in the following sections.

Freedom of Expression: The Philosophical Basis

Probably no other provision of the Constitution has given rise to so many different views with respect to its underlying philosophical foundations, and hence proper interpretive framework, as has the guarantee of freedom of expression—the free speech and free press clauses.²⁵ The argument has been fought out among the commentators. “The outstanding fact about the First Amendment today is that the Supreme Court has never developed any comprehensive theory of what that constitutional guarantee means and how it should be applied in concrete cases.”²⁶ Some of the commentators argue in behalf of a complex of values, none of which by itself is sufficient to support a broad-based protection of freedom of expression.²⁷ Others would limit the basis of the First Amendment to one only among a constellation of possible values and would

²³New York Times Co. v. Sullivan, 376 U.S. 254, 270 (1964).

²⁴Brandenburg v. Ohio, 395 U.S. 444, 447 (1969).

²⁵While “expression” is not found in the text of the First Amendment, it is used herein, first, as a shorthand term for the freedoms of speech, press, assembly, petition, association, and the like, which are comprehended by the Amendment, and, second, as a recognition of the fact that judicial interpretation of the clauses of the First Amendment has greatly enlarged the definition commonly associated with “speech,” as the following discussion will reveal. The term seems well settled, *see, e.g.,* T. EMERSON, THE SYSTEM OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION (1970), although it has been criticized. F. SCHAUER, FREE SPEECH: A PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY, 50–52 (1982). The term also, as used here, conflates the speech and press clauses, explicitly assuming they are governed by the same standards of interpretation and that, in fact, the press clause itself adds nothing significant to the speech clause as interpreted, an assumption briefly defended *infra*, pp. 1026–29.

²⁶T. EMERSON, THE SYSTEM OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION 15 (1970). The practice in the Court is largely to itemize all the possible values the First Amendment has been said to protect. *See, e.g.,* Consolidated Edison Co. v. PSC, 447 U.S. 530, 534–35 (1980); First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti, 435 U.S. 765, 776–77 (1978).

²⁷T. EMERSON, THE SYSTEM OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION 6–7 (1970). For Emerson, the four values are (1) assuring individuals self-fulfillment, (2) promoting discovery of truth, (3) providing for participation in decisionmaking by all members of society, and (4) promoting social stability through discussion and compromise of differences. For a persuasive argument in favor of an “eclectic” approach, *see* Shriffrin, *The First Amendment and Economic Regulation: Away From a General Theory of the First Amendment*, 78 NW. U.L. REV. 1212 (1983). A compressive discussion of all the theories may be found in F. SCHAUER, FREE SPEECH: A PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY (1982).

therefore limit coverage or degree of protection of the speech and press clauses. For example, one school of thought believes that, because of the constitutional commitment to free self-government, only political speech is within the core protected area,²⁸ although some commentators tend to define more broadly the concept of “political” than one might suppose from the word alone. Others recur to the writings of Milton and Mill and argue that protecting speech, even speech in error, is necessary to the eventual ascertainment of the truth, through conflict of ideas in the marketplace, a view skeptical of our ability to ever know the truth.²⁹ A broader-grounded view is variously expounded by scholars who argue that freedom of expression is necessary to promote individual self-fulfillment, such as the concept that when speech is freely chosen by the speaker to persuade others it defines and expresses the “self,” promotes his liberty,³⁰ or the concept of “self-realization,” the belief that free speech enables the individual to develop his powers and abilities and to make and influence decisions regarding his destiny.³¹ The literature is enormous and no doubt the Justices as well as the larger society are influenced by it, and yet the decisions, probably in large part because they are the collective determination of nine individuals, seldom clearly reflect a principled and consistent acceptance of any philosophy.

Freedom of Expression: Is There a Difference Between Speech and Press

Utilization of the single word “expression” to reach speech, press, petition, association, and the like, raises the central question of whether the free speech clause and the free press clause are co-extensive; does one perhaps reach where the other does not? It has

²⁸ *E.g.*, A. MEIKLEJOHN, *POLITICAL FREEDOM* (1960); Bork, *Neutral Principles and Some First Amendment Problems*, 47 *IND. L.J.* 1 (1971); BeVier, *The First Amendment and Political Speech: An Inquiry Into the Substance and Limits of Principle*, 30 *STAN. L. REV.* 299 (1978). This contention does not reflect the Supreme Court’s view. “It is no doubt true that a central purpose of the First Amendment ‘was to protect the free discussion of governmental affairs.’ . . . But our cases have never suggested that expression about philosophical, social, artistic, economic, literary, or ethical matters—to take a nonexclusive list of labels—is not entitled to full First Amendment protection.” *Abood v. Detroit Bd. of Educ.*, 431 U.S. 209, 231 (1977).

²⁹ The “marketplace of ideas” metaphor is attributable to Justice Holmes’ opinion in *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616, 630 (1919). See Scanlon, *Freedom of Expression and Categories of Expression*, 40 *U. PITT. L. REV.* 519 (1979). The theory has been the dominant one in scholarly and judicial writings. Baker, *Scope of the First Amendment Freedom of Speech*, 25 *UCLA L. REV.* 964, 967–74 (1978).

³⁰ *E.g.*, Baker “*Process of Change and the Liberty Theory of the First Amendment*,” 55 *S. CAL. L. REV.* 293 (1982); Baker, *Realizing Self-Realization: Corporate Political Expenditures and Redish’s The Value of Free Speech*, 130 *U. PA. L. REV.* 646 (1982).

³¹ Redish, *The Value of Free Speech*, 130 *U. PA. L. REV.* 591 (1982).

been much debated, for example, whether the “institutional press” may assert or be entitled to greater freedom from governmental regulations or restrictions than are non-press individuals, groups, or associations. Justice Stewart has argued: “That the First Amendment speaks separately of freedom of speech and freedom of the press is no constitutional accident, but an acknowledgment of the critical role played by the press in American society. The Constitution requires sensitivity to that role, and to the special needs of the press in performing it effectively.”³² But as Chief Justice Burger wrote: “The Court has not yet squarely resolved whether the Press Clause confers upon the ‘institutional press’ any freedom from government restraint not enjoyed by all others.”³³

Several Court holdings do firmly point to the conclusion that the press clause does not confer on the press the power to compel government to furnish information or to give the press access to information that the public generally does not have.³⁴ Nor in many respects is the press entitled to treatment different in kind than the treatment any other member of the public may be subjected to.³⁵ “Generally applicable laws do not offend the First Amendment simply because their enforcement against the press has incidental effects.”³⁶ Yet, it does seem clear that to some extent the press, because of the role it plays in keeping the public informed and in the dissemination of news and information, is entitled to particular if not special deference that others are not similarly entitled to, that its role constitutionally entitles it to governmental “sensitivity,” to use Justice Stewart’s word.³⁷ What difference such

³² *Houchins v. KQED*, 438 U.S. 1, 17 (1978) (concurring opinion). Justice Stewart initiated the debate in a speech, subsequently reprinted as Stewart, *Or of the Press*, 26 *HASTINGS L. J.* 631 (1975). Other articles are cited in *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 795 (1978) (Chief Justice Burger concurring).

³³ *Id.* at 798. The Chief Justice’s conclusion was that the institutional press had no special privilege as the press.

³⁴ *Houchins v. KQED*, 438 U.S. 1 (1978), and *id.* at 16 (Justice Stewart concurring); *Saxbe v. Washington Post*, 417 U.S. 843 (1974); *Pell v. Procunier*, 417 U.S. 817 (1974); *Nixon v. Warner Communications*, 435 U.S. 589 (1978). The trial access cases, whatever they may precisely turn out to mean, recognize a right of access of both public and press to trials. *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555 (1980); *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Superior Court*, 457 U.S. 596 (1982).

³⁵ *Branzburg v. Hayes*, 408 U.S. 665 (1972) (grand jury testimony by newspaper reporter); *Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547 (1978) (search of newspaper offices); *Herbert v. Lando*, 441 U.S. 153 (1979) (defamation by press); *Cohen v. Cowles Media Co.*, 501 U.S. 663 (1991) (newspaper’s breach of promise of confidentiality).

³⁶ *Cohen v. Cowles Media*, 501 U.S. 663, 669 (1991).

³⁷ *E.g.*, *Miami Herald Pub. Co. v. Tornillo*, 418 U.S. 241 (1974); *Landmark Communications v. Virginia*, 435 U.S. 829 (1978). *See also* *Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547, 563–67 (1978), and *id.* at 568 (Justice Powell concurring); *Branzburg v. Hayes*, 408 U.S. 665, 709 (1972) (Justice Powell concurring). Several concurring opinions in *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555 (1980), imply recognition of some right of the press to gather information that apparently may not be

a recognized “sensitivity” might make in deciding cases is difficult to say.

The most interesting possibility lies in the area of First Amendment protection of good faith defamation.³⁸ Justice Stewart argued that the *Sullivan* privilege is exclusively a free press right, denying that the “constitutional theory of free speech gives an individual any immunity from liability for libel or slander.”³⁹ To be sure, in all the cases to date that the Supreme Court has resolved, the defendant has been, in some manner, of the press,⁴⁰ but the Court’s decision that corporations are entitled to assert First Amendment speech guarantees against federal and, through the Fourteenth Amendment, state regulations causes the evaporation of the supposed “conflict” between speech clause protection of individuals only and of press clause protection of press corporations as well as of press individuals.⁴¹ The issue, the Court wrote, was not what constitutional rights corporations have but whether the speech which is being restricted is expression that the First Amendment protects because of its societal significance. Because the speech concerned the enunciation of views on the conduct of governmental affairs, it was protected regardless of its source; while the First Amendment protects and fosters individual self-expression as a worthy goal, it also and as important affords the public access to discussion, debate, and the dissemination of information and ideas. Despite *Bellotti’s* emphasis upon the nature of the contested speech being political, it is clear that the same principle,

wholly inhibited by nondiscriminatory constraints. *Id.* at 582–84 (Justice Stevens), 586 n.2 (Justice Brennan), 599 n.2 (Justice Stewart). On the other hand, the Court has also suggested that the press is protected in order to promote and to protect the exercise of free speech in the society, including the receipt of information by the people. *E.g.*, *Mills v. Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214, 218–19 (1966); *CBS v. FCC*, 453 U.S. 367, 394–95 (1981).

³⁸*New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254 (1964). *See infra*, pp. 1136–45.

³⁹Stewart, *Or of the Press*, 26 HASTINGS, L. J. 631, 633–35 (1975).

⁴⁰In *Hutchinson v. Proxmire*, 443 U.S. 111, 133 n.16 (1979), the Court noted that it has never decided whether the *Times* standard applies to an individual defendant. Some think they discern in *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*, 418 U.S. 323 (1974), intimations of such leanings by the Court.

⁴¹*First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765 (1978). The decision, addressing a question not theretofore confronted, was 5-to-4. Justice Rehnquist would have recognized no protected First Amendment rights of corporations because, as entities entirely the creation of state law, they were not to be accorded rights enjoyed by natural persons. *Id.* at 822. Justices White, Brennan, and Marshall thought the First Amendment implicated but not dispositive because of the state interests asserted. *Id.* at 802. Previous decisions recognizing corporate free speech had involved either press corporations, *id.* at 781–83; and see *id.* at 795 (Chief Justice Burger concurring), or corporations organized especially to promote the ideological and associational interests of their members. *E.g.*, *NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415 (1963).

the right of the public to receive information, governs nonpolitical, corporate speech.⁴²

With some qualifications, therefore, it is submitted that the speech and press clauses may be analyzed under an umbrella “expression” standard, with little, if any, hazard of missing significant doctrinal differences.

The Doctrine of Prior Restraint

“[L]iberty of the press, historically considered and taken up by the Federal Constitution, has meant, principally although not exclusively, immunity from previous restraints or censorship.”⁴³ “Any system of prior restraints of expression comes to this Court bearing a heavy presumption against its constitutional validity.”⁴⁴ Government “thus carries a heavy burden of showing justification for the imposition of such a restraint.”⁴⁵ Under the English licensing system, which expired in 1695, all printing presses and printers were licensed and nothing could be published without prior approval of the state or church authorities. The great struggle for liberty of the press was for the right to publish without a license that which for a long time could be published only with a license.⁴⁶

The United States Supreme Court’s first encounter with a law imposing a prior restraint came in *Near v. Minnesota ex rel. Olson*,⁴⁷ in which a five-to-four majority voided a law authorizing the permanent enjoining of future violations by any newspaper or periodical once found to have published or circulated an “obscene, lewd and lascivious” or a “malicious, scandalous and defamatory” issue. An injunction had been issued after the newspaper in question had printed a series of articles tying local officials to gangsters. While the dissenters maintained that the injunction constituted no prior restraint, inasmuch as that doctrine applied to prohibitions of publication without advance approval of an executive official,⁴⁸ the majority deemed the difference of no consequence, since in order to avoid a contempt citation the newspaper would have to clear future publications in advance with the

⁴² Commercial speech when engaged in by a corporation is subject to the same standards of protection as when natural persons engage in it. *Consolidated Edison Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 530, 533–35 (1980). Nor does the status of a corporation as a government-regulated monopoly alter the treatment. *Id.* at 534 n.1; *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 557, 566–68 (1980).

⁴³ *Near v. Minnesota ex rel. Olson*, 283 U.S. 697, 716 (1931).

⁴⁴ *Bantam Books v. Sullivan*, 372 U.S. 58, 70 (1963).

⁴⁵ *Organization for a Better Austin v. Keefe*, 402 U.S. 415, 419 (1971); *New York Times Co. v. United States*, 403 U.S. 713, 714 (1971).

⁴⁶ *Near v. Minnesota ex rel. Olson*, 283 U.S. 697, 713–14 (1931); *Lovell v. Griffin*, 303 U.S. 444, 451 (1938).

⁴⁷ 283 U.S. 697 (1931).

⁴⁸ *Id.* at 723, 733–36 (Justice Butler dissenting).

judge.⁴⁹ Liberty of the press to scrutinize closely the conduct of public affairs was essential, said Chief Justice Hughes for the Court. “[T]he administration of government has become more complex, the opportunities for malfeasance and corruption have multiplied, crime has grown to most serious proportions, and the danger of its protection by unfaithful officials and of the impairment of the fundamental security of life and property by criminal alliances and official neglect, emphasizes the primary need of a vigilant and courageous press, especially in great cities. The fact that the liberty of the press may be abused by miscreant purveyors of scandal does not make any the less necessary the immunity of the press from previous restraint in dealing with official misconduct. Subsequent punishment for such abuses as may exist is the appropriate remedy, consistent with constitutional privilege.”⁵⁰ The Court did not undertake to explore the kinds of restrictions to which the term “prior restraint” would apply nor to do more than assert that only in “exceptional circumstances” would prior restraint be permissible.⁵¹ Nor did subsequent cases substantially illuminate the murky interior of the doctrine. The doctrine of prior restraint was called upon by the Court as it struck down a series of loosely drawn statutes and ordinances requiring licenses to hold meetings and parades and to distribute literature, with uncontrolled discretion in the licensor whether or not to issue them, and as it voided other restrictions on First Amendment rights.⁵² The doctrine that generally emerged was that permit systems—prior licensing, if you will—were constitutionally valid so long as the discretion of the issuing official was limited to questions of times, places, and manners.⁵³ The most recent Court encounter with the doctrine in the

⁴⁹Id. at 712–13.

⁵⁰Id. at 719–20.

⁵¹Id. at 715–16.

⁵²*E.g.*, *Lovell v. Griffin*, 303 U.S. 444 (1938); *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296 (1940); *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290 (1951); *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268 (1951); *Staub v. City of Baxley*, 355 U.S. 313 (1958). For other applications, see *Grosjean v. American Press Co.*, 297 U.S. 233 (1936); *Murdock v. Pennsylvania*, 319 U.S. 105 (1943); *Follett v. McCormick*, 321 U.S. 573 (1944).

⁵³*Cox v. New Hampshire*, 312 U.S. 569 (1941); *Poulos v. New Hampshire*, 345 U.S. 395 (1953). In *Carroll v. President & Comm’rs of Princess Anne*, 393 U.S. 175 (1968), the Court held invalid the issuance of an *ex parte* injunction to restrain the holding of a protest meeting, holding that usually notice must be given the parties to be restrained and an opportunity for them to rebut the contentions presented to justify the sought-for restraint. In *Organization for a Better Austin v. Keefe*, 402 U.S. 415 (1971), the Court held invalid as a prior restraint an injunction preventing the petitioners from distributing 18,000 pamphlets attacking respondent’s alleged “blockbusting” real estate activities; he was held not to have borne the “heavy burden” of justifying the restraint. “No prior decisions support the claim that the interest of an individual in being free from public criticism of his business practices in pamphlets or leaflets warrants use of the injunctive power of a court. Designating the conduct as an invasion of privacy . . . is not sufficient to support an injunction

national security area occurred when the Government attempted to enjoin press publication of classified documents pertaining to the Vietnam War⁵⁴ and, although the Court rejected the effort, at least five and perhaps six Justices concurred on principle that in some circumstances prior restraint of publication would be constitutional.⁵⁵ But no cohesive doctrine relating to the subject, its applications, and its exceptions has yet emerged.

Injunctions and the Press in Fair Trial Cases.—Confronting a claimed conflict between free press and fair trial guarantees, the Court unanimously set aside a state court injunction barring the publication of information that might prejudice the subsequent trial of a criminal defendant.⁵⁶ Though agreed on result, the Justices were divided with respect to whether “gag orders” were ever permissible and if so what the standards for imposing them were. The opinion of the Court utilized the Learned Hand formulation of the “clear and present danger” test⁵⁷ and considered as factors in

against peaceful distribution of informational literature of the nature revealed by this record.” *Id.* at 419–20. *See also* *City of Lakewood v. Plain Dealer Publishing Co.*, 486 U.S. 750 (1988) (ordinance vesting in the mayor unbridled discretion to grant or deny annual permit for location of newsracks on public property is facially invalid as prior restraint).

The necessity of immediate appellate review of orders restraining the exercise of First Amendment rights was strongly emphasized in *National Socialist Party v. Village of Skokie*, 432 U.S. 43 (1977), and seems to explain the Court’s action in *Philadelphia Newspapers v. Jerome*, 434 U.S. 241 (1978). *But see* *Moreland v. Sprecher*, 443 U.S. 709 (1979) (party can relinquish right to expedited review through failure to properly request it).

⁵⁴*New York Times Co. v. United States*, 403 U.S. 713 (1971). The vote was six to three, with Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Marshall in the majority and Chief Justice Burger and Justices Harlan and Blackmun in the minority. Each Justice issued an opinion.

⁵⁵The three dissenters thought such restraint appropriate in this case. *Id.* at 748, 752, 759. Justice Stewart thought restraint would be proper if disclosure “will surely result in direct, immediate, and irreparable damage to our Nation or its people,” *id.* at 730, while Justice White did not endorse any specific phrasing of a standard. *Id.* at 730–733. Justice Brennan would preclude even interim restraint except upon “governmental allegation and proof that publication must inevitably, directly, and immediately cause the occurrence of an event kindred to imperiling the safety of a transport already at sea.” *Id.* at 712–13.

The same issues were raised in *United States v. Progressive, Inc.*, 467 F. Supp. 990 (W.D.Wis. 1979), in which the United States obtained an injunction prohibiting publication of an article it claimed would reveal information about nuclear weapons, thus increasing the dangers of nuclear proliferation. The injunction was lifted when the same information was published elsewhere and thus no appellate review was had of the order.

With respect to the right of the Central Intelligence Agency to prepublication review of the writings of former agents and its enforcement through contractual relationships, see *Snepp v. United States*, 444 U.S. 507 (1980); *Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. v. Colby*, 509 F.2d 1362 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 421 U.S. 992 (1975); *United States v. Marchetti*, 446 F.2d 1309 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 409 U.S. 1063 (1972).

⁵⁶*Nebraska Press Ass’n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539 (1976).

⁵⁷*Id.* at 562, quoting *Dennis v. United States*, 183 F.2d 201, 212 (2d Cir. 1950), *aff’d.*, 341 U.S. 494, 510 (1951).

any decision on the imposition of a restraint upon press reporters (a) the nature and extent of pretrial news coverage, (b) whether other measures were likely to mitigate the harm, and (c) how effectively a restraining order would operate to prevent the threatened danger.⁵⁸ One seeking a restraining order would have a heavy burden to meet to justify such an action, a burden that could be satisfied only on a showing that with a prior restraint a fair trial would be denied, but the Chief Justice refused to rule out the possibility of showing the kind of threat that would possess the degree of certainty to justify restraints.⁵⁹ Justice Brennan's major concurring opinion flatly took the position that such restraining orders were never permissible. Commentary and reporting on the criminal justice system is at the core of First Amendment values, he would hold, and secrecy can do so much harm "that there can be no prohibition on the publication by the press of any information pertaining to pending judicial proceedings or the operation of the criminal justice system, no matter how shabby the means by which the information is obtained."⁶⁰ The extremely narrow exceptions under which prior restraints might be permissible relate to probable national harm resulting from publication, the Justice continued; because the trial court could adequately protect a defendant's right to a fair trial through other means even if there were conflict of constitutional rights the possibility of damage to the fair trial right would be so speculative that the burden of justification could not be met.⁶¹ While the result does not foreclose the possibility of future "gag orders," it does lessen the number to be expected and

⁵⁸*Nebraska Press Ass'n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539, 562 (1976) (opinion of Chief Justice Burger, concurred in by Justices Blackmun and Rehnquist, and, also writing brief concurrences, Justices White and Powell). Applying the tests, the Chief Justice agreed that (a) there was intense and pervasive pretrial publicity and more could be expected, but that (b) the lower courts had made little effort to assess the prospects of other methods of preventing or mitigating the effects of such publicity and that (c) in any event the restraining order was unlikely to have the desired effect of protecting the defendant's rights. *Id.* at 562-67.

⁵⁹The Court differentiated between two kinds of information, however: (1) reporting on judicial proceedings held in public, which has "special" protection and requires a much higher justification than (2) reporting of information gained from other sources as to which the burden of justifying restraint is still high. *Id.* at 567-68, 570. *See also Oklahoma Pub. Co. v. District Court*, 430 U.S. 308 (1977) (setting aside injunction restraining news media from publishing name of juvenile involved in pending proceeding when name has been learned at open detention hearing that could have been closed but was not); *Smith v. Daily Mail Pub. Co.*, 433 U.S. 97 (1979).

⁶⁰*Id.* at 572, 588. Justices Stewart and Marshall joined this opinion and Justice Stevens noted his general agreement except that he reserved decision in particularly egregious situations, even though stating that he might well agree with Justice Brennan there also. *Id.* at 617. Justice White, while joining the opinion of the Court, noted that he had grave doubts that "gag orders" could ever be justified but he would refrain from so declaring in the Court's first case on the issue. *Id.* at 570.

⁶¹*Id.* at 588-95.

shifts the focus to other alternatives for protecting trial rights.⁶² On a different level, however, are orders restraining the press as a party to litigation in the dissemination of information obtained through pretrial discovery. In *Seattle Times Co. v. Rhinehart*,⁶³ the Court determined that such orders protecting parties from abuses of discovery require “no heightened First Amendment scrutiny.”⁶⁴

Obscenity and Prior Restraint.—Only in the obscenity area has there emerged a substantial consideration of the doctrine of prior restraint and the doctrine’s use there may be based upon the proposition that obscenity is not a protected form of expression.⁶⁵ In *Kingsley Books v. Brown*,⁶⁶ the Court upheld a state statute which, while it embodied some features of prior restraint, was seen as having little more restraining effect than an ordinary criminal statute; that is, the law’s penalties applied only after publication. But in *Times Film Corp. v. City of Chicago*,⁶⁷ a divided Court specifically affirmed that, at least in the case of motion pictures, the First Amendment did not proscribe a licensing system under which a board of censors could refuse to license for public exhibition films which it found to be obscene. Books and periodicals may also be subjected to some forms of prior restraint,⁶⁸ but the thrust of the Court’s opinions in this area with regard to all forms of communication has been to establish strict standards of procedural protections to ensure that the censoring agency bears the burden of proof on obscenity, that only a judicial order can restrain exhibition, and that a prompt final judicial decision is assured.⁶⁹

⁶² One such alternative is the banning of communication with the press on trial issues by prosecution and defense attorneys, police officials, and court officers. This, of course, also raises First Amendment issues. See, e.g., *Chicago Council of Lawyers v. Bauer*, 522 F. 2d 242 (7th Cir. 1975), cert. denied, 427 U.S. 912 (1976).

⁶³ 467 U.S. 20 (1984).

⁶⁴ 467 U.S. at 36. The decision was unanimous, all other Justices joining Justice Powell’s opinion for the Court, but with Justices Brennan and Marshall noting additionally that under the facts of the case important interests in privacy and religious freedom were being protected. *Id.* at 37, 38.

⁶⁵ *Infra*, pp. 1149–59.

⁶⁶ 354 U.S. 436 (1957). See also *Bantam Books v. Sullivan*, 372 U.S. 58 (1963).

⁶⁷ 365 U.S. 43 (1961). See also *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 427 U.S. 50 (1976) (zoning ordinance prescribing distances adult theaters may be located from residential areas and other theaters is not an impermissible prior restraint).

⁶⁸ *Cf. Kingsley Books v. Brown*, 354 U.S. 436 (1957).

⁶⁹ *Freedman v. Maryland*, 380 U.S. 51 (1965); *Teitel Film Corp. v. Cusack*, 390 U.S. 139 (1968); *Interstate Circuit v. City of Dallas*, 390 U.S. 676 (1968); *Blount v. Rizzi*, 400 U.S. 410 (1971); *United States v. Thirty-seven Photographs*, 402 U.S. 363, 367–375 (1971); *Southeastern Promotions v. Conrad*, 420 U.S. 546 (1975); *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975); *FW/PBS, Inc. v. City of Dallas*, 493 U.S. 215 (1990) (ordinance requiring licensing of “sexually oriented business” places no time limit on approval by inspection agencies and fails to provide an avenue for prompt judicial review); *Fort Wayne Books, Inc. v. Indiana*, 489 U.S. 46 (1989) (seizure of books and films based on *ex parte* probable cause hearing under state RICO law’s forfeiture procedures constitutes invalid prior restraint; instead, there must be

Subsequent Punishment: Clear and Present Danger and Other Tests

Granted that the context of the controversy over freedom of expression at the time of the ratification of the First Amendment was almost exclusively limited to the problem of prior restraint, still the words speak of laws “abridging” freedom of speech and press and the modern adjudicatory disputes have been largely fought out over subsequent punishment. “The mere exemption from previous restraints cannot be all that is secured by the constitutional provisions, inasmuch as of words to be uttered orally there can be no previous censorship, and the liberty of the press might be rendered a mockery and a delusion, and the phrase itself a byword, if, while every man was at liberty to publish what he pleased, the public authorities might nevertheless punish him for harmless publications. . . .

“[The purpose of the speech-press clauses] has evidently been to protect parties in the free publication of matters of public concern, to secure their right to a free discussion of public events and public measures, and to enable every citizen at any time to bring the government and any person in authority to the bar of public opinion by any just criticism upon their conduct in the exercise of the authority which the people have conferred upon them. . . . The evils to be prevented were not the censorship of the press merely, but any action of the government by means of which it might prevent such free and general discussion of public matters as seems absolutely essential to prepare the people for an intelligent exercise of their rights as citizens.”⁷⁰ A rule of law permitting criminal or civil liability to be imposed upon those who speak or write on public issues and their superintendence would lead to “self-censorship” by all which would not be relieved by permitting a defense of truth. “Under such a rule, would-be critics of official conduct may be deterred from voicing their criticism, even though it is believed to be true and even though it is in fact true, because of doubt whether it can be proved in court or fear of the expense of having to do so The rule thus dampens the vigor and limits the variety of public debate.”⁷¹

a determination in an adversarial proceeding that the materials are obscene or that a RICO violation has occurred).

⁷⁰ 2 T. COOLEY, A TREATISE ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITATIONS WHICH REST UPON THE LEGISLATIVE POWERS OF THE STATES OF THE AMERICAN UNION 885–86 (8th ed. 1927).

⁷¹ *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 279 (1964). *See also* *Speiser v. Randall*, 357 U.S. 513, 526 (1958); *Smith v. California*, 361 U.S. 147, 153–154 (1959); *Time, Inc. v. Hill*, 385 U.S. 374, 389 (1967).

“Persecution for the expression of opinions seems to me perfectly logical. If you have no doubt of your premises or your power and want a certain result with all your heart you naturally express your wishes in law and sweep away all opposition. To allow opposition by speech seems to indicate that you think the speech impotent, as when a man says that he has squared the circle, or that you do not care whole-heartedly for the result, or that you doubt either your power or your premises. But when men have realized that time has upset many fighting faiths, they may come to believe even more than they believe the very foundations of their own conduct that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas, that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which their wishes safely can be carried out. That at any rate is the theory of our Constitution.”⁷² “Those who won our independence believed that the final end of the State was to make men free to develop their faculties; and that in its government the deliberative forces should prevail over the arbitrary. They valued liberty both as an end and as a means. They believed liberty to be the secret of happiness and courage to be the secret of liberty. They believed that freedom to think as you will and to speak as you think are means indispensable to the discovery and spread of political truth; that without free speech and assembly discussion would be futile; that with them, discussion affords ordinarily adequate protection against the dissemination of noxious doctrine; that the greatest menace to freedom is an inert people; that public discussion is a political duty; and that this should be a fundamental principle of the American government. They recognized the risks to which all human institutions are subject. But they knew that order cannot be secured merely through fear of punishment for its infraction; that it is hazardous to discourage thought, hope and imagination; that fear breeds repression; that repression breeds hate; that hate menaces stable government; that the path of safety lies in the opportunity to discuss freely supposed grievances and proposed remedies; and that the fitting remedy for evil counsels is good ones. Believing in the power of reason as applied through public discussion, they eschewed silence coerced by law—the argument of force in its worst form. Recognizing the occasional tyrannies of governing majorities, they amended the Con-

⁷² *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616, 630 (1919) (Justice Holmes dissenting).

stitution so that free speech and assembly should be guaranteed.”⁷³

“But, although the rights of free speech and assembly are fundamental, they are not in their nature absolute. Their exercise is subject to restriction, if the particular restriction proposed is required in order to protect the State from destruction or from serious injury, political, economic or moral.”⁷⁴ The fixing of a standard is necessary, by which it can be determined what degree of evil is sufficiently substantial to justify resort to abridgment of speech and press and assembly as a means of protection and how clear and imminent and likely the danger is.⁷⁵ That standard has fluctuated over a period of some fifty years now and it cannot be asserted with a great degree of confidence that the Court has yet settled on any firm standard or any set of standards for differing forms of expression.⁷⁶ The cases are instructive of the difficulty.

Clear and Present Danger.—Certain expression, oral or written, may incite, urge, counsel, advocate, or importune the commission of criminal conduct; other expression, such as picketing, demonstrating, and engaging in certain forms of “symbolic” action may either counsel the commission of criminal conduct or itself constitute criminal conduct. Leaving aside for the moment the problem of “speech-plus” communication, it becomes necessary to determine when expression that may be a nexus to criminal conduct is subject to punishment and restraint. At first, the Court seemed disposed in the few cases reaching it to rule that if the conduct could be made criminal, the advocacy of or promotion of the conduct could be made criminal.⁷⁷ Then, in *Schenck v. United States*,⁷⁸ in which defendants had been convicted of seeking to disrupt recruitment of military personnel by dissemination of certain leaflets, Justice Holmes formulated the “clear and present danger” test which has ever since been the starting point of argument. “The question in every case is whether the words used are used in such circumstances and are of such a nature as to create a clear and present danger that they will bring about the substantive evils that Congress has a right to prevent. It is a question of proximity and degree.”⁷⁹ The convictions were unanimously affirmed. One week

⁷³ *Whitney v. California*, 274 U.S. 357, 375–76 (1927) (Justice Brandeis concurring).

⁷⁴ *Id.* at 373.

⁷⁵ *Id.* at 374.

⁷⁶ On the great range of expressive communications, see *infra*.

⁷⁷ *Davis v. Beason*, 133 U.S. 333 (1890); *Fox v. Washington*, 236 U.S. 273 (1915).

⁷⁸ 249 U.S. 47 (1919).

⁷⁹ *Id.* at 52.

later, the Court again unanimously affirmed convictions under the same Act with Justice Holmes speaking. “[W]e think it necessary to add to what has been said in *Schenck v. United States* . . . only that the First Amendment while prohibiting legislation against free speech as such cannot have been, and obviously was not, intended to give immunity for every possible use of language. We venture to believe that neither Hamilton nor Madison, nor any other competent person then or later, ever supposed that to make criminal the counseling of a murder within the jurisdiction of Congress would be an unconstitutional interference with free speech.”⁸⁰ And in *Debs v. United States*,⁸¹ Justice Holmes was found referring to “the natural and intended effect” and “probable effect” of the condemned speech in common-law tones.

But in *Abrams v. United States*,⁸² Justices Holmes and Brandeis dissented upon affirmance of the convictions of several alien anarchists who had printed leaflets seeking to encourage discontent with United States participation in the War. The majority simply referred to *Schenck* and *Frohwerk* to rebut the First Amendment argument, but the dissenters urged that the Government had made no showing of a clear and present danger. Another affirmance by the Court of a conviction, the majority simply saying that “[t]he tendency of the articles and their efficacy were enough for the offense,” drew a similar dissent.⁸³ Moreover, in *Gitlow v. New York*,⁸⁴ a conviction for distributing a manifesto in violation of a law making it criminal to advocate, advise, or teach the duty, necessity, or propriety of overthrowing organized government by force or violence, the Court affirmed in the absence of any evidence regarding the effect of the distribution and in the absence of any contention that it created any immediate threat to the security of the State. In so doing, the Court discarded Holmes’ test. “It is clear that the question in such cases [as this] is entirely different from that involved in those cases where the statute merely prohibits certain acts involving the danger of substantive evil, without any reference to language itself, and it is sought to apply its provisions to language used by the defendant for the purpose of bringing about the prohibited results. . . . In such cases it has been held that the general provisions of the statute may be constitutionally applied to the specific utterance of the defendant if its natural tendency and probable effect was to bring about the substantive evil which the

⁸⁰ *Frohwerk v. United States*, 249 U.S., 204, 206 (1919) (citations omitted).

⁸¹ 249 U.S. 211, 215–16 (1919).

⁸² 250 U.S. 616 (1919).

⁸³ *Schaefer v. United States*, 251 U.S. 466, 479 (1920). See also *Pierce v. United States*, 252 U.S. 239 (1920).

⁸⁴ 268 U.S. 652 (1925)

legislative body might prevent. . . . [T]he general statement in the *Schenck Case* . . . was manifestly intended . . . to apply only in cases of this class, and has no application to those like the present, where the legislative body itself has previously determined the danger of substantive evil arising from utterances of a specified character.”⁸⁵ Thus, a state legislative determination “that utterances advocating the overthrow of organized government by force, violence, and unlawful means, are so inimical to the general welfare, and involve such danger of substantive evil that they may be penalized in the exercise of its police power” was almost conclusive on the Court.⁸⁶ It is not clear what test, if any, the majority would have utilized, although the “bad tendency” test has usually been associated with the case. In *Whitney v. California*,⁸⁷ the Court affirmed a conviction under a criminal syndicalism statute based on defendant’s association with and membership in an organization which advocated the commission of illegal acts, finding again that the determination of a legislature that such advocacy involves “such danger to the public peace and the security of the State” was entitled to almost conclusive weight. In a technical concurrence which was in fact a dissent from the opinion of the Court, Justice Brandeis restated the “clear and present danger” test. “[E]ven advocacy of violation [of the law] . . . is not a justification for denying free speech where the advocacy falls short of incitement and there is nothing to indicate that the advocacy would be immediately acted on In order to support a finding of clear and present danger it must be shown either that immediate serious violence was to be expected or was advocated, or that the past conduct furnished reason to believe that such advocacy was then contemplated.”⁸⁸

The Adoption of Clear and Present Danger.—The Court did not invariably affirm convictions during this period in cases

⁸⁵ Id. at 670–71.

⁸⁶ Id. at 668. Justice Holmes dissented. “If what I think the correct test is applied, it is manifest that there was no present danger of an attempt to overthrow the government by force on the part of the admittedly small minority who share the defendant’s views. It is said that this manifesto was more than a theory, that it was an incitement. Every idea is an incitement. It offers itself for belief, and, if believed, is acted on unless some other belief outweighs it, or some failure of energy stifles the movement at its birth. The only difference between the expression of an opinion and an incitement in the narrower sense is the speaker’s enthusiasm for the result. Eloquence may set fire to reason. But whatever may be thought of the redundant discourse before us, it had no chance of starting a present conflagration. If, in the long run, the beliefs expressed in proletarian dictatorship are destined to be accepted by the dominant forces of the community, the only meaning of free speech is that they would be given their chance and have their way.” Id. at 673.

⁸⁷ 274 U.S. 357, 371–72 (1927).

⁸⁸ Id. at 376.

like those under consideration. In *Fiske v. Kansas*,⁸⁹ it held that a criminal syndicalism law had been invalidly applied to convict one against whom the only evidence was the “class struggle” language of the constitution of the organization to which he belonged. A conviction for violating a “red flag” law was voided as the statute was found unconstitutionally vague.⁹⁰ Neither case mentioned clear and present danger. An “incitement” test seemed to underlie the opinion in *De Jonge v. Oregon*,⁹¹ upsetting a conviction under a criminal syndicalism statute for attending a meeting held under the auspices of an organization which was said to advocate violence as a political method, although the meeting was orderly and no violence was advocated during it. In *Herndon v. Lowry*,⁹² the Court narrowly rejected the contention that the standard of guilt could be made the “dangerous tendency” of one’s words, and indicated that the power of a State to abridge speech “even of utterances of a defined character must find its justification in a reasonable apprehension of danger to organized government.”

Finally, in *Thornhill v. Alabama*,⁹³ a state anti-picketing law was invalidated because “no clear and present danger of destruction of life or property, or invasion of the right of privacy, or breach of the peace can be thought to be inherent in the activities of every person who approaches the premises of an employer and publicizes the facts of a labor dispute involving the latter.” During the same term, the Court reversed the breach of the peace conviction of a Jehovah’s Witness who had played an inflammatory phonograph record to persons on the street, the Court discerning no clear and present danger of disorder.⁹⁴

The stormiest fact situation faced by the Court in applying clear and present danger occurred in *Terminiello v. City of Chicago*,⁹⁵ in which a five-to-four majority struck down a conviction obtained after the judge instructed the jury that a breach of the peace could be committed by speech that “stirs the public to anger, invites dispute, brings about a condition of unrest, or creates a disturbance.” “A function of free speech under our system of government,” wrote Justice Douglas for the majority, “is to invite dispute.

⁸⁹ 274 U.S. 380 (1927).

⁹⁰ *Stromberg v. California*, 283 U.S. 359 (1931).

⁹¹ 299 U.S. 353 (1937). *See id.* at 364–65.

⁹² 301 U.S. 242, 258 (1937). At another point, clear and present danger was alluded to without any definite indication it was the standard. *Id.* at 261.

⁹³ 310 U.S. 88, 105 (1940). The Court admitted that the picketing did result in economic injury to the employer, but found such injury “neither so serious nor so imminent” as to justify restriction. The role of clear and present danger was not to play a future role in the labor picketing cases.

⁹⁴ *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 308 (1940).

⁹⁵ 337 U.S. 1 (1949).

It may indeed best serve its high purpose when it induces a condition of unrest, creates dissatisfaction with conditions as they are, or even stirs people to anger. Speech is often provocative and challenging. It may strike at prejudices and preconceptions and have profound unsettling effects as it presses for acceptance of an idea. That is why freedom of speech, though not absolute, . . . is nevertheless protected against censorship or punishment, unless shown likely to produce a clear and present danger of a serious substantive evil that rises far above public inconvenience, annoyance, or unrest.”⁹⁶ The dissenters focused on the disorders which had actually occurred as a result of Terminiello’s speech, Justice Jackson saying: “Rioting is a substantive evil, which I take it no one will deny that the State and the City have the right and the duty to prevent and punish In this case the evidence proves beyond dispute that danger of rioting and violence in response to the speech was clear, present and immediate.”⁹⁷ The Jackson position was soon adopted in *Feiner v. New York*,⁹⁸ in which Chief Justice Vinson said that “[t]he findings of the state courts as to the existing situation and the imminence of greater disorder coupled with petitioner’s deliberate defiance of the police officers convince us that we should not reverse this conviction in the name of free speech.”

Contempt of Court and Clear and Present Danger.—The period during which clear and present danger was the standard by which to determine the constitutionality of governmental suppression of or punishment for expression was a brief one, extending roughly from *Thornhill* to *Dennis*.⁹⁹ But in one area it was vigorously, though not without dispute, applied to enlarge freedom of utterance and it is in this area that it remains viable. In early contempt-of-court cases in which criticism of courts had been punished as contempt, the Court generally took the position that even if freedom of speech and press was protected against governmental abridgment, a publication tending to obstruct the administration of justice was punishable, irrespective of its truth.¹⁰⁰ But in *Bridges v. California*,¹⁰¹ in which contempt citations had been brought against a newspaper and a labor leader for statements made about pending judicial proceedings, Justice Black for a five-to-four Court

⁹⁶ Id. at 4–5.

⁹⁷ Id. at 25–26.

⁹⁸ 340 U.S. 315, 321 (1951).

⁹⁹ *Thornhill v. Alabama*, 310 U.S. 88 (1940); *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494 (1951).

¹⁰⁰ *Patterson v. Colorado*, 205 U.S. 454 (1907); *Toledo Newspaper Co. v. United States*, 247 U.S. 402 (1918).

¹⁰¹ 314 U.S. 252 (1941).

majority began with application of clear and present danger, which he interpreted to require that “the substantive evil must be extremely serious and the degree of imminence extremely high before utterances can be punished.”¹⁰² He noted that the “substantive evil here sought to be averted . . . appears to be double: disrespect for the judiciary; and disorderly and unfair administration of justice.” The likelihood that the court will suffer damage to its reputation or standing in the community was not, Justice Black continued, a “substantive evil” which would justify punishment of expression.¹⁰³ The other evil, “disorderly and unfair administration of justice,” “is more plausibly associated with restricting publications which touch upon pending litigation.” But the “degree of likelihood” of the evil being accomplished was not “sufficient to justify summary punishment.”¹⁰⁴ In dissent, Justice Frankfurter accepted the application of clear and present danger, but he interpreted it as meaning no more than a “reasonable tendency” test. “Comment however forthright is one thing. Intimidation with respect to specific matters still in judicial suspense, quite another. . . . A publication intended to teach the judge a lesson, or to vent spleen, or to discredit him, or to influence him in his future conduct, would not justify exercise of the contempt power. . . . It must refer to a matter under consideration and constitute in effect a threat to its impartial disposition. It must be calculated to create an atmospheric pressure incompatible with rational, impartial adjudication. But to interfere with justice it need not succeed. As with other offenses, the state should be able to proscribe attempts that fail because of the danger that attempts may succeed.”¹⁰⁵

A unanimous Court next struck down the contempt conviction arising out of newspaper criticism of judicial action already taken, although one case was pending after a second indictment. Specifically alluding to clear and present danger, while seeming to regard it as stringent a test as Justice Black had in the prior case, Justice Reed wrote that the danger sought to be averted, a “threat to the impartial and orderly administration of justice,” “has not the clearness and immediacy necessary to close the door of permissible public comment.”¹⁰⁶ Divided again, the Court a year later set aside contempt convictions based on publication, while a motion for a

¹⁰² *Id.* at 263.

¹⁰³ *Id.* at 270–71.

¹⁰⁴ *Id.* at 271–78.

¹⁰⁵ *Id.* at 291. Joining Justice Frankfurter in dissent were Chief Justice Stone and Justices Roberts and Byrnes.

¹⁰⁶ *Pennekamp v. Florida*, 328 U.S. 331, 336, 350 (1946). To Justice Frankfurter, the decisive consideration was whether the judge or jury is, or presently will be, pondering a decision that comment seeks to affect. *Id.* at 369.

new trial was pending, of inaccurate and unfair accounts and an editorial concerning the trial of a civil case. “The vehemence of the language used is not alone the measure of the power to punish for contempt. The fires which it kindles must constitute an imminent, and not merely a likely, threat to the administration of justice. The danger must not be remote or even probable; it must immediately imperil.”¹⁰⁷

In *Wood v. Georgia*,¹⁰⁸ the Court again divided, applying clear and present danger to upset the contempt conviction of a sheriff who had been cited for criticizing the recommendation of a county court that a grand jury look into African American bloc voting, vote buying, and other alleged election irregularities. No showing had been made, said Chief Justice Warren, of “a substantive evil actually designed to impede the course of justice.” The case presented no situation in which someone was on trial, there was no judicial proceeding pending that might be prejudiced, and the dispute was more political than judicial.¹⁰⁹ A unanimous Court recently seems to have applied the standard to set aside a contempt conviction of a defendant who, arguing his own case, alleged before the jury that the trial judge by his bias had prejudiced his trial and that he was a political prisoner. Though the defendant’s remarks may have been disrespectful of the court, the Supreme Court noted that “[t]here is no indication . . . that petitioner’s statements were uttered in a boisterous tone or in any wise actually disrupted the court proceeding” and quoted its previous language about the imminence of the threat necessary to constitute contempt.¹¹⁰

Clear and Present Danger Revised: Dennis.—In *Dennis v. United States*,¹¹¹ the Court sustained the constitutionality of the Smith Act,¹¹² which proscribed advocacy of the overthrow by force and violence of the government of the United States, and upheld

¹⁰⁷ *Craig v. Harney*, 331 U.S. 367, 376 (1947). Dissenting with Chief Justice Vinson, Justice Frankfurter said: “We cannot say that the Texas Court could not properly find that these newspapers asked of the judge, and instigated powerful sections of the community to ask of the judge, that which no one has any business to ask of a judge, except the parties and their counsel in open court, namely, that he should decide one way rather than another.” *Id.* at 390. Justice Jackson also dissented. *Id.* at 394. *See also* *Landmark Communications v. Virginia*, 435 U.S. 829, 844 (1978); *Nebraska Press Ass’n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539, 562–63 (1976).

¹⁰⁸ 370 U.S. 375 (1962).

¹⁰⁹ *Id.* at 383–85, 386–90. Dissenting, Justices Harlan and Clark thought that the charges made by the defendant could well have influenced the grand jurors in their deliberations and that the fact that laymen rather than judicial officers were subject to influence should call for a less stringent test than when the latter were the object of comment. *Id.* at 395.

¹¹⁰ *In re Little*, 404 U.S. 553, 555 (1972). The language from *Craig v. Harney*, 331 U.S. 367, 376 (1947), is quoted *supra*, text accompanying n.13.

¹¹¹ 341 U.S. 494 (1951).

¹¹² Ch. 439, 54 Stat. 670 (1940), 18 U.S.C. §2385.

convictions under it. *Dennis'* importance here is in the rewriting of the clear and present danger test. For a plurality of four, Chief Justice Vinson acknowledged that the Court had in recent years relied on the Holmes-Brandeis formulation of clear and present danger without actually overruling the older cases that had rejected the test; but while clear and present danger was the proper constitutional test, that "shorthand phrase should [not] be crystallized into a rigid rule to be applied inflexibly without regard to the circumstances of each case." It was a relative concept. Many of the cases in which it had been used to reverse convictions had turned "on the fact that the interest which the State was attempting to protect was itself too insubstantial to warrant restriction of speech."¹¹³ Here, in contrast, "[o]verthrow of the Government by force and violence is certainly a substantial enough interest for the Government to limit speech."¹¹⁴ And in combating that threat, the Government need not wait to act until the putsch is about to be executed and the plans are set for action. "If Government is aware that a group aiming at its overthrow is attempting to indoctrinate its members and to commit them to a course whereby they will strike when the leaders feel the circumstances permit, action by the Government is required."¹¹⁵ Therefore, what does the phrase "clear and present danger" import for judgment? "Chief Judge Learned Hand, writing for the majority below, interpreted the phrase as follows: 'In each case [courts] must ask whether the gravity of the "evil," discounted by its improbability, justifies such invasion of free speech as is necessary to avoid the danger.' 183 F.2d at 212. We adopt this statement of the rule. As articulated by Chief Judge Hand, it is as succinct and inclusive as any other we might devise at this time. It takes into consideration those factors which we deem relevant, and relates their significances. More we cannot expect from words."¹¹⁶ The "gravity of the evil, discounted by its improbability" was found to justify the convictions.¹¹⁷

¹¹³ *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494, 508 (1951).

¹¹⁴ *Id.* at 509.

¹¹⁵ *Id.* at 508, 509.

¹¹⁶ *Id.* at 510. Justice Frankfurter, concurring, adopted a balancing test, *id.* at 517, discussed *infra*, pp. 1023–28. Justice Jackson appeared to proceed on a conspiracy approach rather than one depending on advocacy. *Id.* at 561. Justices Black and Douglas dissented, reasserting clear and present danger as the standard. *Id.* at 579, 581. Note the recurrence to the Learned Hand formulation in *Nebraska Press Ass'n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539, 562 (1976), although the Court appeared in fact to apply balancing.

¹¹⁷ In *Yates v. United States*, 354 U.S. 298 (1957), the Court substantially limited both the Smith Act and the *Dennis* case by interpreting the Act to require advocacy of unlawful action, to require the urging of doing something now or in the future, rather than merely advocacy of forcible overthrow as an abstract doctrine, and by finding the evidence lacking to prove the former. Of *Dennis*, Justice Harlan

Balancing.—Clear and present danger as a test, it seems clear, was a pallid restriction on governmental power after *Dennis* and it virtually disappeared from the Court’s language over the next twenty years.¹¹⁸ Its replacement for part of this period was the much disputed “balancing” test, which made its appearance in the year prior to *Dennis* in *American Communications Ass’n v. Douds*.¹¹⁹ There the Court sustained a law barring from access to the NLRB any labor union if any of its officers failed to file annually an oath disclaiming membership in the Communist Party and belief in the violent overthrow of the government.¹²⁰ For the Court, Chief Justice Vinson rejected reliance on the clear and present danger test. “Government’s interest here is not in preventing the dissemination of Communist doctrine or the holding of particular beliefs because it is feared that unlawful action will result therefrom if free speech is practiced. Its interest is in protecting the free flow of commerce from what Congress considers to be substantial evils of conduct that are not the products of speech at all. Section 9(h), in other words, does not interfere with speech because Congress fears the consequences of speech; it regulates harmful conduct which Congress has determined is carried on by persons who may be identified by their political affiliations and beliefs. The Board does not contend that political strikes . . . are the present or impending products of advocacy of the doctrines of Communism or the expression of belief in overthrow of the Government by force. On the contrary, it points out that such strikes are called by persons

wrote: “The essence of the *Dennis* holding was that indoctrination of a group in preparation for future violent action, as well as exhortation to immediate action, by advocacy found to be directed to ‘action for the accomplishment’ of forcible overthrow, to violence as ‘a rule or principle of action,’ and employing ‘language of incitement,’ *id.* at 511–12, is not constitutionally protected when the group is of sufficient size and cohesiveness, is sufficiently oriented towards action, and other circumstances are such as reasonably to justify apprehension that action will occur.” *Id.* at 321.

¹¹⁸ *Cf.* Brennan, *The Supreme Court and the Meiklejohn Interpretation of the First Amendment*, 79 HARV. L. REV. 1, 8 (1965). See *Garner v. Louisiana*, 368 U.S. 157, 185–207 (1961) (Justice Harlan concurring).

¹¹⁹ 339 U.S. 382 (1950). See also *Osman v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 846 (1950). Balancing language was used by Justice Black in his opinion for the Court in *Martin v. City of Struthers*, 319 U.S. 141, 143 (1943), but it seems not to have influenced the decision. Similarly, in *Schneider v. Irvington*, 308 U.S. 147, 161–62 (1939), Justice Roberts used balancing language which he apparently did not apply.

¹²⁰ The law, §9(h) of the Taft-Hartley Act, 61 Stat. 146 (1947), was repealed, 73 Stat. 525 (1959), and replaced by a section making it a criminal offense for any person “who is or has been a member of the Communist Party” during the preceding five years to serve as an officer or employee of any union. § 504, 73 Stat. 536 (1959); 29 U.S.C. § 504. It was held unconstitutional in *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437 (1965).

who, so Congress has found, have the will and power to do so without advocacy.”¹²¹

The test, rather, must be one of balancing of interests. “When particular conduct is regulated in the interest of public order, and the regulation results in an indirect, conditional, partial abridgement of speech, the duty of the courts is to determine which of these two conflicting interests demands the greater protection under the particular circumstances presented.”¹²² Inasmuch as the interest in the restriction, the government’s right to prevent political strikes and the disruption of commerce, is much more substantial than the limited interest on the other side in view of the relative handful of persons affected in only a partial manner, the Court perceived no difficulty upholding the statute.¹²³

Justice Frankfurter in *Dennis*¹²⁴ rejected the applicability of clear and present danger and adopted a balancing test. “The demands of free speech in a democratic society as well as the interest in national security are better served by candid and informed weighing of the competing interests, within the confines of the judicial process, than by announcing dogmas too inflexible for the non-Euclidian problems to be solved.”¹²⁵ But the “careful weighing of conflicting interests”¹²⁶ not only placed in the scale the disparately-weighed interest of government in self-preservation and the interest of defendants in advocating illegal action, which alone would have determined the balance, it also involved the Justice’s philosophy of the “confines of the judicial process” within which the role of courts, in First Amendment litigation as in other, is severely limited. Thus, “[f]ull responsibility” may not be placed in the courts “to balance the relevant factors and ascertain which interest in the circumstances [is] to prevail.” “Courts are not representative bodies. They are not designed to be a good reflex of a democratic society.” Rather, “[p]rimary responsibility for adjusting the interests which compete in the situation before us of necessity belongs to the Congress.”¹²⁷ Therefore, after considering at some length the factors to be balanced, Justice Frankfurter concluded: “It is not for us to decide how we would adjust the clash of interests which this case presents were the primary responsibility for reconciling it ours. Congress has determined that the danger created by advocacy of overthrow justifies the ensuing restriction on freedom of speech.

¹²¹ *American Communications Ass’n v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382, 396 (1950).

¹²² *Id.* at 399.

¹²³ *Id.* at 400–06.

¹²⁴ *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494, 517 (1951) (concurring opinion).

¹²⁵ *Id.* at 524–25.

¹²⁶ *Id.* at 542.

¹²⁷ *Id.* at 525.

The determination was made after due deliberation, and the seriousness of the congressional purpose is attested by the volume of legislation passed to effectuate the same ends.”¹²⁸ Only if the balance struck by the legislature is “outside the pale of fair judgment”¹²⁹ could the Court hold that Congress was deprived by the Constitution of the power it had exercised.¹³⁰

Thereafter, during the 1950’s and the early 1960’s, the Court utilized the balancing test in a series of decisions in which the issues were not, as they were not in *Doubs* and *Dennis*, matters of expression or advocacy as a threat but rather were governmental inquiries into associations and beliefs of persons or governmental regulation of associations of persons, based on the idea that beliefs and associations provided adequate standards for predicting future or intended conduct that was within the power of government to regulate or to prohibit. Thus, in the leading case on balancing, *Konigsberg v. State Bar of California*,¹³¹ the Court upheld the refusal of the State to certify an applicant for admission to the bar. Required to satisfy the Committee of Bar Examiners that he was of “good moral character,” Konigsberg testified that he did not believe in the violent overthrow of the government and that he had never knowingly been a member of any organization which advocated such action, but he declined to answer any question pertaining to membership in the Communist Party.

For the Court, Justice Harlan began by asserting that freedom of speech and association were not absolutes but were subject to various limitations. Among the limitations, “general regulatory statutes, not intended to control the content of speech but incidentally limiting its unfettered exercise, have not been regarded as the type of law the First or Fourteenth Amendment forbade Congress or the States to pass, when they have been found justified by subordinating valid governmental interests, a prerequisite to constitutionality which has necessarily involved a weighing of the governmental interest involved.”¹³² The governmental interest involved was the assurance that those admitted to the practice of law were committed to lawful change in society and it was proper for the State to believe that one possessed of “a belief, firm enough to be carried over into advocacy, in the use of illegal means to change the form” of government did not meet the standard of fitness.¹³³ On the other hand, the First Amendment interest was limited be-

¹²⁸ *Id.* at 550–51.

¹²⁹ *Id.* at 540.

¹³⁰ *Id.* at 551.

¹³¹ 366 U.S. 36 (1961).

¹³² *Id.* at 50–51.

¹³³ *Id.* at 51–52.

cause there was “minimal effect upon free association occasioned by compulsory disclosure” under the circumstances. “There is here no likelihood that deterrence of association may result from foreseeable private action . . . for bar committee interrogations such as this are conducted in private. . . . Nor is there the possibility that the State may be afforded the opportunity for imposing undetectable arbitrary consequences upon protected association . . . for a bar applicant’s exclusion by reason of Communist Party membership is subject to judicial review, including ultimate review by this Court, should it appear that such exclusion has rested on substantive or procedural factors that do not comport with the Federal Constitution.”¹³⁴

Balancing was used to sustain congressional and state inquiries into the associations and activities of individuals in connection with allegations of subversion¹³⁵ and to sustain proceedings against the Communist Party and its members.¹³⁶ In certain other cases, involving state attempts to compel the production of membership lists of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and to investigate that organization, use of the balancing test resulted in a finding that speech and associational rights outweighed the governmental interest claimed.¹³⁷ The Court used a balancing test in the late 1960’s to protect the speech rights of a public employee who had criticized his employers.¹³⁸ On the other hand, balancing was not used when the Court struck down restrictions on receipt of materials mailed from Communist countries,¹³⁹ and it was similarly not used in cases involving picketing, pamphleteering, and demonstrating in public places.¹⁴⁰ But the only case in which it was specifically rejected involved a statutory regulation like those which had given rise to the test in the first

¹³⁴ *Id.* at 52–53. *See also* *In re Anastaplo*, 366 U.S. 82 (1961). The status of these two cases is in doubt after *Baird v. State Bar*, 401 U.S. 1 (1971), and *In re Stolar*, 401 U.S. 23 (1971), in which neither the plurality nor the concurring Justice making up the majority used a balancing test.

¹³⁵ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109 (1959); *Uphaus v. Wyman*, 360 U.S. 72 (1959); *Wilkinson v. United States*, 365 U.S. 399 (1961); *Braden v. United States*, 365 U.S. 431 (1961).

¹³⁶ *Communist Party v. SACB*, 367 U.S. 1 (1961); *Scales v. United States*, 367 U.S. 203 (1961).

¹³⁷ *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449 (1958); *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Flowers*, 377 U.S. 288 (1964); *Gibson v. Florida Legislative Investigating Committee*, 372 U.S. 539 (1963).

¹³⁸ *Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563 (1968).

¹³⁹ *Lamont v. Postmaster General*, 381 U.S. 301 (1965).

¹⁴⁰ *E.g.*, *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536 and 559 (1965) (2 cases); *Edwards v. South Carolina*, 372 U.S. 229 (1963); *Adderley v. Florida*, 385 U.S. 39 (1966); *Brown v. Louisiana*, 383 U.S. 131 (1966). *But see* *Lloyd Corp. v. Tanner*, 407 U.S. 551 (1972), where balancing reappears and in which other considerations overbalance the First Amendment claims.

place. *United States v. Robel*¹⁴¹ held invalid under the First Amendment a statute which made it unlawful for any member of an organization which the Subversive Activities Control Board had ordered to register to work in a defense establishment.¹⁴² Although Chief Justice Warren for the Court asserted that the vice of the law was that its proscription operated *per se* “without any need to establish that an individual’s association poses the threat feared by the Government in proscribing it,”¹⁴³ the rationale of the decision was not clear and present danger but the existence of less restrictive means by which the governmental interest could be accomplished.¹⁴⁴ In a concluding footnote, the Court said: “It has been suggested that this case should be decided by ‘balancing’ the governmental interests . . . against the First Amendment rights asserted by the appellee. This we decline to do. We recognize that both interests are substantial, but we deem it inappropriate for this Court to label one as being more important or more substantial than the other. Our inquiry is more circumscribed. Faced with a clear conflict between a federal statute enacted in the interests of national security and an individual’s exercise of his First Amendment rights, we have confined our analysis to whether Congress has adopted a constitutional means in achieving its concededly legitimate legislative goal. In making this determination we have found it necessary to measure the validity of the means adopted by Congress against both the goal it has sought to achieve and the specific prohibitions of the First Amendment. But we have in no way ‘balanced’ those respective interests. We have ruled only that the Constitution requires that the conflict between congressional power and individual rights be accommodated by legislation drawn more narrowly to avoid the conflict.”¹⁴⁵

The “Absolutist” View of the First Amendment, With a Note on “Preferred Position”.—During much of this period, the opposition to the balancing test was led by Justices Black and Douglas, who espoused what may be called an “absolutist” position, denying the government any power to abridge speech. But the beginnings of such a philosophy may be gleaned in much earlier cases in which a rule of decision based on a preference for First Amendment liberties was prescribed. Thus, Chief Justice Stone in his famous *Carolene Products* “footnote 4” suggested that the ordinary presumption of constitutionality which prevailed when economic

¹⁴¹ 389 U.S. 258 (1967).

¹⁴² Subversive Activities Control Act of 1950, § 5(a)(1)(D), ch. 1024, 64 Stat. 992, 50 U.S.C. § 784(a)(1)(D).

¹⁴³ *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258, 265 (1967).

¹⁴⁴ *Id.* at 265–68.

¹⁴⁵ *Id.* at 268 n.20.

regulation was in issue might very well be reversed when legislation which restricted “those political processes which can ordinarily be expected to bring about repeal of undesirable legislation” is called into question.¹⁴⁶ Then in *Murdock v. Pennsylvania*,¹⁴⁷ in striking down a license tax on religious colporteurs, the Court remarked that “[f]reedom of press, freedom of speech, freedom of religion are in a preferred position.” Two years later the Court indicated that its decision with regard to the constitutionality of legislation regulating individuals is “delicate . . . [especially] where the usual presumption supporting legislation is balanced by the preferred place given in our scheme to the great, the indispensable democratic freedoms secured by the First Amendment. . . . That priority gives these liberties a sanctity and a sanction not permitting dubious intrusions.”¹⁴⁸ The “preferred-position” language was sharply attacked by Justice Frankfurter in *Kovacs v. Cooper*¹⁴⁹ and it dropped from the opinions, although its philosophy did not.

Justice Black expressed his position in many cases but his *Konigsberg* dissent contains one of the lengthiest and clearest expositions of it.¹⁵⁰ That a particular governmental regulation abridged speech or deterred it was to him “sufficient to render the action of the State unconstitutional” because he did not subscribe “to the doctrine that permits constitutionally protected rights to be ‘balanced’ away whenever a majority of this Court thinks that a State might have an interest sufficient to justify abridgment of those freedoms . . . I believe that the First Amendment’s unequivocal command that there shall be no abridgment of the rights of free speech and assembly shows that the men who drafted our Bill of Rights did all the ‘balancing’ that was to be done in this field.”¹⁵¹ As he elsewhere wrote: “First Amendment rights are beyond abridgment either by legislation that directly restrains their exer-

¹⁴⁶ *United States v. Carolene Products Co.*, 304 U.S. 144, 152 n.4 (1938).

¹⁴⁷ 319 U.S. 105, 115 (1943). See also *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 639 (1943).

¹⁴⁸ *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516, 529–30 (1945).

¹⁴⁹ 336 U.S. 77, 89 (1949) (collecting cases with critical analysis).

¹⁵⁰ *Konigsberg v. State Bar of California*, 366 U.S. 36, 56 (1961) (dissenting opinion). See also *Braden v. United States*, 365 U.S. 431, 441 (1961) (dissenting); *Wilkinson v. United States*, 365 U.S. 399, 422 (1961) (dissenting); *Uphaus v. Wyman*, 364 U.S. 388, 392 (1960) (dissenting); *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 140 (1959) (dissenting); *American Communications Ass’n v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382, 445 (1950); *Communist Party v. SACB*, 367 U.S. 1, 137 (1961) (dissenting); *Beauharnais v. Illinois*, 343 U.S. 250, 267 (1952) (dissenting); *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 293 (1964) (concurring); *New York Times Co. v. United States*, 403 U.S. 713, 714 (1971) (concurring). For Justice Douglas’ position, see *New York Times Co. v. United States*, *supra*, 403 U.S. at 720 (concurring); *Roth v. United States*, 354 U.S. 476, 508 (1957) (dissenting); *Brandenburg v. Ohio*, 395 U.S. 444, 450 (1969) (concurring).

¹⁵¹ *Konigsberg v. State Bar of California*, 366 U.S. 36, 60–61 (1961).

cise or by suppression or impairment through harassment, humiliation, or exposure by government.”¹⁵² But the “First and Fourteenth Amendments . . . take away from government, state and federal, all power to restrict freedom of speech, press and assembly where people have a right to be for such purpose. This does not mean however, that these amendments also grant a constitutional right to engage in the conduct of picketing or patrolling whether on publicly owned streets or on privately owned property.”¹⁵³ Thus, in his last years on the Court, the Justice, while maintaining an “absolutist” position, increasingly drew a line between “speech” and “conduct which involved communication.”¹⁵⁴

Of Other Tests and Standards: Vagueness, Overbreadth, Least Restrictive Means, and Others.—In addition to the foregoing tests, the Court has developed certain standards that are exclusively or primarily applicable in First Amendment litigation. Some of these, such as the doctrines prevalent in the libel and obscenity areas, are very specialized,¹⁵⁵ but others are not. Vagueness is a due process vice which can be brought into play with regard to any criminal and many civil statutes,¹⁵⁶ but as applied in areas respecting expression it also encompasses concern that protected conduct will be deterred out of fear that the statute is capable of application to it. Vagueness has been the basis for voiding numerous such laws, especially in the fields of loyalty oaths,¹⁵⁷ obscenity,¹⁵⁸ and restrictions on public demonstrations.¹⁵⁹ It is usually combined with the overbreadth doctrine, which focuses on the

¹⁵² *Bates v. City of Little Rock*, 361 U.S. 516, 528 (1960) (concurring).

¹⁵³ *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 559, 578, 581 (1965) (dissenting).

¹⁵⁴ These cases involving important First Amendment issues are dealt with *infra*, pp. 1123–42. See *Brown v. Louisiana*, 383 U.S. 131 (1966); *Adderley v. Florida*, 385 U.S. 39 (1966).

¹⁵⁵ *Infra*, pp. 1136–45, 1149–59.

¹⁵⁶ The vagueness doctrine generally requires that a statute be precise enough to give fair warning to actors that contemplated conduct is criminal, and to provide adequate standards to enforcement agencies, factfinders, and reviewing courts. See, e.g., *Connally v. General Construction Co.*, 269 U.S. 385 (1926); *Lanzetta v. New Jersey*, 306 U.S. 451 (1939); *Colautti v. Franklin*, 439 U.S. 379 (1979); *Village of Hoffman Estates v. Flipside*, 455 U.S. 489 (1982).

¹⁵⁷ *E.g.*, *Cramp v. Board of Pub. Instruction*, 368 U.S. 278 (1961); *Baggett v. Bullitt*, 377 U.S. 360 (1964); *Keyishian v. Board of Regents*, 385 U.S. 589 (1967). See also *Gentile v. State Bar of Nevada*, 501 U.S. 1030 (1991) (attorney discipline, extrajudicial statements).

¹⁵⁸ *E.g.*, *Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507 (1948); *Burstyn v. Wilson*, 343 U.S. 495 (1952); *Interstate Circuit v. City of Dallas*, 390 U.S. 676 (1968).

¹⁵⁹ *E.g.*, *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296 (1940); *Gregory v. City of Chicago*, 394 U.S. 111 (1969); *Coates v. City of Cincinnati*, 402 U.S. 611 (1971). See also *Smith v. Goguen*, 415 U.S. 566 (1974) (flag desecration law); *Lewis v. City of New Orleans*, 415 U.S. 130 (1974) (punishment of opprobrious words); *Hynes v. Mayor of Oradell*, 425 U.S. 610 (1976) (door-to-door canvassing). For an evident narrowing of standing to assert vagueness, see *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 427 U.S. 50, 60 (1976).

need for precision in drafting a statute that may affect First Amendment rights;¹⁶⁰ an overbroad statute that sweeps under its coverage both protected and unprotected speech and conduct will normally be struck down as facially invalid, although in a non-First Amendment situation the Court would simply void its application to protected conduct.¹⁶¹ Similarly, and closely related at least to the overbreadth doctrine, the Court has insisted that when the government seeks to carry out a permissible goal and it has available a variety of effective means to the given end, it must choose the measure which least interferes with rights of expression.¹⁶² Also, the Court has insisted that regulatory measures which bear on expression must relate to the achievement of the purpose asserted as its justification.¹⁶³ The prevalence of these standards and tests in this area would appear to indicate that while “preferred position” may have disappeared from the Court’s language it has not disappeared from its philosophy.

Is There a Present Test?—Complexities inherent in the myriad varieties of expression encompassed by the First Amendment guarantees of speech, press, and assembly probably preclude any

¹⁶⁰ NAACP v. Button, 371 U.S. 415, 432–33 (1963).

¹⁶¹ *E.g.*, Kunz v. New York, 340 U.S. 290 (1951); *Aptheker v. Secretary of State*, 378 U.S. 500 (1964); *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967); *Zwickler v. Koota*, 389 U.S. 241 (1967); *Lewis v. City of New Orleans*, 415 U.S. 130 (1974). However, the Court’s dissatisfaction with the reach of the doctrine, *see e.g.*, *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37 (1971), resulted in a curbing of it in *Broadrick v. Oklahoma*, 413 U.S. 601 (1973), a 5-to-4 decision, in which the Court emphasized “that facial overbreadth adjudication is an exception to our traditional overbreadth adjudication,” and held that where conduct and not merely speech is concerned “the overbreadth of a statute must not only be real, but substantial as well, judged in relation to the statute’s plainly legitimate sweep.” *Id.* at 615. The opinion of the Court and Justice Brennan’s dissent, *id.* at 621, contain extensive discussion of the doctrine. Other restrictive decisions are *Arnett v. Kennedy*, 416 U.S. 134, 158–64 (1974); *Parker v. Levy*, 417 U.S. 733, 757–61 (1974); and *New York v. Ferber*, 458 U.S. 747, 766–74 (1982). Nonetheless, the doctrine continues to be used across a wide spectrum of First Amendment cases. *Bigelow v. Virginia*, 421 U.S. 809, 815–18 (1975); *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975); *Doran v. Salem Inn*, 422 U.S. 922, 932–34 (1975); *Village of Schaumburg v. Citizens for a Better Environment*, 444 U.S. 620, 633–39 (1980); *Secretary of State of Maryland v. Joseph H. Munson Co.*, 467 U.S. 947 (1984) (charitable solicitation statute placing 25% cap on fundraising expenditures); *City of Houston v. Hill*, 482 U.S. 451 (1987) (city ordinance making it unlawful to “oppose, molest, abuse, or interrupt” police officer in performance of duty); *Board of Airport Comm’rs v. Jews for Jesus*, 482 U.S. 569 (1987) (resolution banning all “First Amendment activities” at airport).

¹⁶² *Shelton v. Tucker*, 364 U.S. 479 (1960); *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967); *Schneider v. Smith*, 390 U.S. 17 (1968); *Virginia State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748 (1976); *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 557, 564, 565, 569–71 (1980).

¹⁶³ *Bates v. City of Little Rock*, 361 U.S. 516, 525 (1960); *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 464 (1958); *Louisiana ex rel. Gremillion v. NAACP*, 366 U.S. 293 (1961). *See also* *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 557, 564, 565, 569 (1980).

single standard. For certain forms of expression for which protection is claimed, the Court engages in “definitional balancing” to determine that those forms are outside the range of protection.¹⁶⁴ Balancing is in evidence to enable the Court to determine whether certain covered speech is entitled to protection in the particular context in which the question arises.¹⁶⁵ Utilization of vagueness, overbreadth and less intrusive means may very well operate to reduce the occasions when questions of protection must be answered squarely on the merits. What is observable, however, is the re-emergence, at least in a tentative fashion, of something like the clear and present danger standard in advocacy cases, which is the context in which it was first developed. Thus, in *Brandenburg v. Ohio*,¹⁶⁶ a conviction under a criminal syndicalism statute of advocating the necessity or propriety of criminal or terroristic means to achieve political change was reversed. The prevailing doctrine developed in the Communist Party cases was that “mere” advocacy was protected but that a call for concrete, forcible action even far in the future was not protected speech and knowing membership in an organization calling for such action was not protected association, regardless of the probability of success.¹⁶⁷ In *Brandenburg*, however, the Court reformulated these and other rulings to mean “that the constitutional guarantees of free speech and free press do not permit a State to forbid or proscribe advocacy of the use of force or of law violation except where such advocacy is directed to inciting or producing imminent lawless action and is likely to incite or produce such action.”¹⁶⁸ The Court has not revisited these is-

¹⁶⁴ Thus, obscenity, by definition, is outside the coverage of the First Amendment, *Roth v. United States*, 354 U.S. 476 (1957); *Paris Adult Theatre v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49 (1973), as are malicious defamation, *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254 (1964), and “fighting words,” *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*, 315 U.S. 568 (1942). The Court must, of course, decide in each instance whether the questioned expression definitionally falls within one of these or another category. See, e.g., *Jenkins v. Georgia*, 418 U.S. 153 (1974); *Gooding v. Wilson*, 405 U.S. 518 (1972).

¹⁶⁵ E.g., the multifaceted test for determining when commercial speech is protected, *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 557, 566 (1980); the standard for determining when expressive conduct is protected, *United States v. O'Brien*, 391 U.S. 367, 377 (1968); the elements going into decision with respect to access at trials, *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Superior Court*, 457 U.S. 596, 606–10 (1982); and the test for reviewing press “gag orders” in criminal trials, *Nebraska Press Ass'n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539, 562–67 (1976), are but a few examples.

¹⁶⁶ 395 U.S. 444 (1969).

¹⁶⁷ *Yates v. United States*, 354 U.S. 298 (1957); *Scales v. United States* 367 U.S. 203 (1961); *Noto v. United States*, 367 U.S. 290 (1961). And see *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116 (1966); *Watts v. United States*, 394 U.S. 705 (1969).

¹⁶⁸ 395 U.S. at 447 (1969). Subsequent cases relying on *Brandenburg* indicate the standard has considerable bite, but do not elaborate sufficiently enough to begin filling in the outlines of the test. *Hess v. Indiana*, 414 U.S. 105 (1973); *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886, 928 (1982). But see *Haig v. Agee*, 453 U.S. 280, 308–09 (1981).

sues since *Brandenburg*, so the long-term significance of the decision is yet to be determined.

Freedom of Belief

The First Amendment does not expressly speak in terms of liberty to hold such beliefs as one chooses, but in both the religion and the expression clauses, it is clear, liberty of belief is the foundation of the liberty to practice what religion one chooses and to express oneself as one chooses.¹⁶⁹ “If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein.”¹⁷⁰ Speaking in the context of religious freedom, the Court at one point said that while the freedom to act on one’s beliefs could be limited, the freedom to believe what one will “is absolute.”¹⁷¹ But matters are not so simple.

Flag Salute Cases.—That government generally may not compel a person to affirm a belief is the principle of the second *Flag Salute Case*.¹⁷² In *Minersville School District v. Gobitis*,¹⁷³ the Court upheld the power of the State to expel from its schools certain children, Jehovah’s Witnesses, who refused upon religious grounds to join in a flag salute ceremony and recitation of the pledge of allegiance. “Conscientious scruples have not, in the course of the long struggle for religious toleration, relieved the individual from obedience to a general law not aimed at the promotion or restriction of religious beliefs.”¹⁷⁴ But three years later, a six-to-three majority of the Court reversed itself.¹⁷⁵ Justice Jackson for

¹⁶⁹ *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943); *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 303–04 (1940); *United States v. Ballard*, 322 U.S. 78 (1944); *Torcaso v. Watkins*, 367 U.S. 488 (1961); *American Communications Ass’n v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382, 408 (1950); *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116, 132 (1966); *Speiser v. Randall*, 357 U.S. 513 (1958); *Baird v. State Bar of Arizona*, 401 U.S. 1, 5–6 (1971), and *id.* at 9–10 (Justice Stewart concurring).

¹⁷⁰ *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 642 (1943).

¹⁷¹ *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 303 (1940).

¹⁷² *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943).

¹⁷³ 310 U.S. 586 (1940).

¹⁷⁴ *Id.* at 594. Justice Stone alone dissented, arguing that the First Amendment religion and speech clauses forbade coercion of “these children to express a sentiment which, as they interpret it, they do not entertain, and which violates their deepest religious convictions.” *Id.* at 601.

¹⁷⁵ *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943). Justices Roberts and Reed simply noted their continued adherence to *Gobitis*. *Id.* at 642. Justice Frankfurter dissented at some length, denying that the First Amendment authorized the Court “to deny to the State of West Virginia the attainment of that which we all recognize as a legitimate legislative end, namely, the promotion of good citizenship, by employment of the means here chosen.” *Id.* at 646, 647.

the Court chose to ignore the religious argument and to ground the decision upon freedom of speech. The state policy, he said, constituted “a compulsion of students to declare a belief. . . . It requires the individual to communicate by word and sign his acceptance of the political ideas [the flag] bespeaks.”¹⁷⁶ But the power of a State to follow a policy that “requires affirmation of a belief and an attitude of mind” is limited by the First Amendment, which, under the standard then prevailing, required the State to prove that the act of the students in remaining passive during the ritual “creates a clear and present danger that would justify an effort even to muffle expression.”¹⁷⁷

However, the principle of *Barnette* does not extend so far as to bar government from requiring of its employees or of persons seeking professional licensing or other benefits an oath generally but not precisely based on the oath required of federal officers, which is set out in the Constitution, that the taker of the oath will uphold and defend the Constitution.¹⁷⁸ It is not at all clear, however, to what degree the government is limited in probing the sincerity of the person taking the oath.¹⁷⁹

Imposition of Consequences for Holding Certain Beliefs.—Despite the *Cantwell* dictum that freedom of belief is absolute,¹⁸⁰ government has been permitted to inquire into the holding of certain beliefs and to impose consequences on the believers, primarily with regard to its own employees and to licensing certain professions.¹⁸¹ It is not clear what precise limitations the Court has placed on these practices.

¹⁷⁶Id. at 631, 633.

¹⁷⁷Id. at 633–34. *Barnette* was the focus of the Court’s decision in *Wooley v. Maynard*, 430 U.S. 705 (1977), voiding the state’s requirement that motorists display auto license plates bearing the motto “Live Free or Die.” Acting on the complaint of a Jehovah’s Witness, the Court held that one may not be compelled to display on his private property a message making an ideological statement. Compare *PruneYard Shopping Center v. Robins*, 447 U.S. 74, 85–88 (1980), and *id.* at 96 (Justice Powell concurring).

¹⁷⁸*Cole v. Richardson*, 405 U.S. 676 (1972); *Connell v. Higginbotham*, 403 U.S. 207 (1971); *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116 (1966); *Knight v. Board of Regents*, 269 F. Supp. 339 (S.D.N.Y. 1967) (three-judge court), *aff’d*, 390 U.S. 36 (1968); *Hosack v. Smiley*, 276 F. Supp. 876 (C.D. Colo. 1967) (three-judge court), *aff’d*, 390 U.S. 744 (1968); *Ohlson v. Phillips*, 304 F. Supp. 1152 (C.D. Colo. 1969) (three-judge court), *aff’d*, 397 U.S. 317 (1970); *Law Students Civil Rights Research Council v. Wadmond*, 401 U.S. 154, 161 (1971); *Fields v. Askew*, 279 So. 2d 822 (Fla. 1973), *aff’d per curiam*, 414 U.S. 1148 (1974).

¹⁷⁹Compare *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116 (1966), with *Law Students Civil Rights Research Council v. Wadmond*, 401 U.S. 154 (1971).

¹⁸⁰*Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 303 (1940).

¹⁸¹The issue has also arisen in the context of criminal sentencing. Evidence that racial hatred was a motivation for a crime may be taken into account, *Barclay v. Florida*, 463 U.S. 939, 949 (1983), but evidence of the defendant’s membership in a racist group is inadmissible where race was not a factor and no connection had

In its disposition of one of the first cases concerning the federal loyalty security program, the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia asserted broadly that “so far as the Constitution is concerned there is no prohibition against dismissal of Government employees because of their political beliefs, activities or affiliations.”¹⁸² On appeal, this decision was affirmed by an equally divided Court, it being impossible to determine whether this issue was one treated by the Justices.¹⁸³ Thereafter, the Court dealt with the loyalty-security program in several narrow decisions not confronting the issue of denial or termination of employment because of beliefs or “beliefs plus.” But the same issue was also before the Court in related fields. In *American Communications Ass’n v. Douds*,¹⁸⁴ the Court was again evenly divided over a requirement that, in order for a union to have access to the NLRB, each of its officers must file an affidavit that he neither believed in, nor belonged to an organization that believed in, the overthrow of government by force or by illegal means. Chief Justice Vinson thought the requirement reasonable because it did not prevent anyone from believing what he chose but only prevented certain people from being officers of unions, and because Congress could reasonably conclude that a person with such beliefs was likely to engage in political strikes and other conduct which Congress could prevent.¹⁸⁵ Dissenting, Justice Frankfurter thought the provision too vague,¹⁸⁶ Justice Jackson thought that Congress could impose no disqualification upon anyone for an opinion or belief which had not manifested itself in any overt act,¹⁸⁷ and Justice Black thought that government had no power to penalize beliefs in any way.¹⁸⁸ Fi-

been established between the defendant’s crime and the group’s objectives. *Dawson v. Delaware*, 112 S. Ct. 4197 (1992). See also *United States v. Abel*, 469 U.S. 45 (1984) (defense witness could be impeached by evidence that both witness and defendant belonged to group whose members were sworn to lie on each other’s behalf).

¹⁸² *Bailey v. Richardson*, 182 F. 2d 46, 59 (D.C. Cir. 1950). The premise of the decision was that government employment is a privilege rather than a right and that access thereto may be conditioned as the Government pleases. But this basis, as the Court has said, “has been thoroughly undermined in the ensuing years.” *Board of Regents v. Roth*, 408 U.S. 564, 571 n.9 (1972). For the vitiation of the right-privilege distinction, see *infra*, p. 1085.

¹⁸³ *Bailey v. Richardson*, 341 U.S. 918 (1951). See also *Washington v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 923 (1951), affg by an equally divided Court, 182 F. 2d 375 (D.C. Cir. 1950). While no opinions were written in these cases, several Justices expressed themselves on the issues in *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Comm. v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123 (1951), decided the same day.

¹⁸⁴ 339 U.S. 382 (1950). In a later case raising the same point, the Court was again equally divided. *Osman v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 846 (1950).

¹⁸⁵ 339 U.S. at 408–09, 412.

¹⁸⁶ *Id.* at 415.

¹⁸⁷ *Id.* at 422.

¹⁸⁸ *Id.* at 445.

nally, in *Konigsberg v. State Bar of California*,¹⁸⁹ a majority of the Court was found supporting dictum in Justice Harlan's opinion in which he justified some inquiry into beliefs, saying that "[i]t would indeed be difficult to argue that a belief, firm enough to be carried over into advocacy, in the use of illegal means to change the form of the State or Federal Government is an unimportant consideration in determining the fitness of applicants for membership in a profession in whose hands so largely lies the safekeeping of this country's legal and political institutions."

When the same issue returned to the Court years later, three five-to-four decisions left the principles involved unclear.¹⁹⁰ Four Justices endorsed the view that beliefs could not be inquired into as a basis for determining qualifications for admission to the bar;¹⁹¹ four Justices endorsed the view that while mere beliefs might not be sufficient grounds to debar one from admission, the States were not precluded from inquiring into them for purposes of determining whether one was prepared to advocate violent overthrow of the government and to act on his beliefs.¹⁹² The decisive vote in each case was cast by a single Justice who would not permit denial of admission based on beliefs alone but would permit inquiry into those beliefs to an unspecified extent for purposes of determining that the required oath to uphold and defend the Constitution could be taken in good faith.¹⁹³ Changes in Court personnel following this decision would seem to leave the questions presented open to further litigation.

Right of Association

"It is beyond debate that freedom to engage in association for the advancement of beliefs and ideas is an inseparable aspect of the 'liberty' assured by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, which embraces freedom of speech. . . . Of course, it

¹⁸⁹ 336 U.S. 36, 51–52 (1961). See also *In re Anastaplo*, 336 U.S. 82, 89 (1961). Justice Black, joined by Justice Douglas and Chief Justice Warren, dissented on the ground that the refusal to admit the two to the state bars was impermissibly based upon their beliefs. *Id.* at 56, 97.

¹⁹⁰ *Baird v. State Bar of Arizona*, 401 U.S. 1 (1971); *In re Stolar*, 401 U.S. 23 (1971); *Law Students Civil Rights Research Council v. Wadmond*, 401 U.S. 154 (1971).

¹⁹¹ 401 U.S. at 5–8; *id.* at 28–29 (plurality opinions of Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall in *Baird* and *Stolar*, respectively); *id.* at 174–76, 178–80 (Justices Black and Douglas dissenting in *Wadmond*), 186–90 (Justices Marshall and Brennan dissenting in *Wadmond*).

¹⁹² 401 U.S. at 17–19, 21–22 (Justices Blackmun, Harlan, and White, and Chief Justice Burger dissenting in *Baird*).

¹⁹³ 401 U.S. at 9–10; *id.* at 31 (Justice Stewart concurring in *Baird* and *Stolar*, respectively). How far Justice Stewart would permit government to go is not made clear by his majority opinion in *Wadmond*. *Id.* at 161–66.

is immaterial whether the beliefs sought to be advanced by association pertain to political, economic, religious or cultural matters, and state action which may have the effect of curtailing the freedom to associate is subject to the closest scrutiny.”¹⁹⁴ It would appear from the Court’s opinions that the right of association is derivative from the First Amendment guarantees of speech, assembly, and petition,¹⁹⁵ although it has at times seemingly been referred to as a separate, independent freedom protected by the First Amendment.¹⁹⁶ The doctrine is a fairly recent construction, the problems associated with it having previously arisen primarily in the context of loyalty-security investigations of Communist Party membership, and these cases having been resolved without giving rise to any separate theory of association.¹⁹⁷

Freedom of association as a concept thus grew out of a series of cases in the 1950’s and 1960’s in which certain States were attempting to curb the activities of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In the first case, the Court unanimously set aside a contempt citation imposed after the organization refused to comply with a court order to produce a list of its members within the State. “Effective advocacy of both public and private points of view, particularly controversial ones, is undeniably enhanced by group association, as this Court has more than once recognized by remarking upon the close nexus between the freedoms of speech and assembly.”¹⁹⁸ “[T]hese indispensable liberties, whether of speech, press, or association,”¹⁹⁹ may be abridged by governmental action either directly or indirectly, wrote Justice Harlan, and the State had failed to demonstrate a need for the lists which would outweigh the harm to associational rights which disclosure would produce.

Applying the concept in subsequent cases, the Court again held in *Bates v. City of Little Rock*,²⁰⁰ that the disclosure of membership lists, because of the harm to be caused to “the right of association,” could only be compelled upon a showing of a subordinating interest; ruled in *Shelton v. Tucker*,²⁰¹ that while a State had a broad inter-

¹⁹⁴ NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson, 357 U.S. 449, 460–61 (1958).

¹⁹⁵ Id.; Bates v. City of Little Rock, 361 U.S. 516, 522–23 (1960); United Transportation Union v. State Bar of Michigan, 401 U.S. 576, 578–79 (1971); Healy v. James, 408 U.S. 169, 181 (1972).

¹⁹⁶ NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson, 357 U.S. 449, 461, 463 (1958); NAACP v. Button, 371 U.S. 415, 429–30 (1963); Cousins v. Wigoda, 419 U.S. 477, 487 (1975); In re Primus, 436 U.S. 412, 426 (1978); Democratic Party v. Wisconsin, 450 U.S. 107, 121 (1981).

¹⁹⁷ *Infra*, pp. 1067–78.

¹⁹⁸ NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson, 357 U.S. 449, 460 (1958).

¹⁹⁹ Id. at 461.

²⁰⁰ 361 U.S. 516 (1960).

²⁰¹ 364 U.S. 479 (1960).

est to inquire into the fitness of its school teachers, that interest did not justify a regulation requiring all teachers to list all organizations to which they had belonged within the previous five years; again struck down an effort to compel membership lists from the NAACP;²⁰² and overturned a state court order barring the NAACP from doing any business within the State because of alleged improprieties.²⁰³ Certain of the activities condemned in the latter case, the Court said, were protected by the First Amendment and, while other actions might not have been, the State could not so infringe on the “right of association” by ousting the organization altogether.²⁰⁴

A state order prohibiting the NAACP from urging persons to seek legal redress for alleged wrongs and from assisting and representing such persons in litigation opened up new avenues when the Court struck the order down as violating the First Amendment.²⁰⁵ “[A]bstract discussion is not the only species of communication which the Constitution protects; the First Amendment also protects vigorous advocacy, certainly of lawful ends, against governmental intrusion. . . . In the context of NAACP objectives, litigation is not a technique of resolving private differences; it is a means for achieving the lawful objectives of equality of treatment by all government, federal, state and local, for the members of the Negro community in this country. It is thus a form of political expression. . . .

“We need not, in order to find constitutional protection for the kind of cooperative, organizational activity disclosed by this record, whereby Negroes seek through lawful means to achieve legitimate political ends, subsume such activity under a narrow, literal conception of freedom of speech, petition or assembly. For there is no longer any doubt that the First and Fourteenth Amendments protect certain forms of orderly group activity.”²⁰⁶ This decision was

²⁰² *Louisiana ex rel. Gremillion v. NAACP*, 366 U.S. 293 (1961).

²⁰³ *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Flowers*, 377 U.S. 288 (1964).

²⁰⁴ *Id.* at 308, 309.

²⁰⁵ *NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415 (1963).

²⁰⁶ *Id.* at 429–30. *Button* was applied in *In re Primus*, 436 U.S. 412 (1978), in which the Court found foreclosed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments the discipline visited upon a volunteer lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union who had solicited someone to utilize the ACLU to bring suit to contest the sterilization of Medicaid recipients. Both the NAACP and the ACLU were organizations that engaged in extensive litigation as well as lobbying and educational activities, all of which were means of political expression. “[T]he efficacy of litigation as a means of advancing the cause of civil liberties often depends on the ability to make legal assistance available to suitable litigants.” *Id.* at 431. “[C]ollective activity undertaken to obtain meaningful access to the courts is a fundamental right within the protection of the First Amendment.” *Id.* at 426. However, ordinary law practice for commercial ends is not given special protection. “A lawyer’s procurement of remunera-

followed in three subsequent cases in which the Court held that labor unions enjoyed First Amendment protection in assisting their members in pursuing their legal remedies to recover for injuries and other actions. In the first case, the union advised members to seek legal advice before settling injury claims and recommended particular attorneys;²⁰⁷ in the second the union retained attorneys on a salary basis to represent members;²⁰⁸ in the third, the union maintained a legal counsel department which recommended certain attorneys who would charge a limited portion of the recovery and which defrayed the cost of getting clients together with attorneys and of investigation of accidents.²⁰⁹ Wrote Justice Black: “[T]he First Amendment guarantees of free speech, petition, and assembly give railroad workers the rights to cooperate in helping and advising one another in asserting their rights. . . .”²¹⁰

Thus, a right to associate together to further political and social views is protected against unreasonable burdening,²¹¹ but the evolution of this right in recent years has passed far beyond the relatively narrow contexts in which it was given birth.

Social contacts that fall short of organization or association to “engage in speech” may be unprotected, however. In holding that a state may restrict admission to certain licensed dance halls to persons between the age of 14 and 18, the Court declared that there is no “generalized right of ‘social association’ that includes chance encounters in dance halls.”²¹²

In a series of three decisions, the Court explored the extent to which associational rights may be burdened by nondiscrimination

tive employment is a subject only marginally affected with First Amendment concerns.” *Ohralik v. Ohio State Bar Ass’n*, 436 U.S. 447, 459 (1978). *See also* *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350, 376 n.32 (1977).

²⁰⁷ *Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen v. Virginia*, 377 U.S. 1 (1964).

²⁰⁸ *United Mine Workers v. Illinois State Bar Ass’n*, 389 U.S. 217 (1967).

²⁰⁹ *United Transportation Union v. State Bar of Michigan*, 401 U.S. 576 (1971).

²¹⁰ *Id.* at 578–79. These cases do not, however, stand for the proposition that individuals are always entitled to representation of counsel in administrative proceedings. *See* *Walters v. Nat’l Ass’n of Radiation Survivors*, 473 U.S. 305 (1985) (upholding limitation to \$10 of fee that may be paid attorney in representing veteran’s death or disability claims before VA).

²¹¹ *E.g.*, *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886, 907–15 (1982) (concerted activities of group protesting racial bias); *Healy v. James*, 408 U.S. 169 (1972) (denial of official recognition to student organization by public college without justification abridged right of association). The right does not, however, protect the decision of entities not truly private to exclude minorities. *Runyon v. McCrary*, 427 U.S. 160, 175–76 (1976); *Norwood v. Harrison*, 413 U.S. 455, 469–70 (1973); *Railway Mail Ass’n v. Corsi*, 326 U.S. 88, 93–94 (1945); *Roberts v. United States Jaycees*, 468 U.S. 609 (1984).

²¹² *City of Dallas v. Stanglin*, 490 U.S. 19 (1989). The narrow factual setting—a restriction on adults dancing with teenagers in public—may be contrasted with the Court’s broad assertion that “coming together to engage in recreational dancing . . . is not protected by the First Amendment.” *Id.* at 25.

requirements. First, *Roberts v. United States Jaycees*²¹³ upheld application of the Minnesota Human Rights Act to prohibit the United States Jaycees from excluding women from full membership. Three years later in *Board of Directors of Rotary Int'l v. Rotary Club of Duarte*,²¹⁴ the Court applied *Roberts* in upholding application of a similar California law to prevent Rotary International from excluding women from membership. Then, in *New York State Club Ass'n v. New York City*,²¹⁵ the Court upheld against facial challenge New York City's Human Rights Law, which prohibits race, creed, sex, and other discrimination in places "of public accommodation, resort, or amusement," and applies to clubs of more than 400 members providing regular meal service and supported by nonmembers for trade or business purposes. In *Roberts*, both the Jaycees' nearly indiscriminate membership requirements and the State's compelling interest in prohibiting discrimination against women were important to the Court's analysis. On the one hand, the Court found, "the local chapters of the Jaycees are large and basically unselective groups," age and sex being the only established membership criteria in organizations otherwise entirely open to public participation. The Jaycees, therefore, "lack the distinctive characteristics [e.g. small size, identifiable purpose, selectivity in membership, perhaps seclusion from the public eye] that might afford constitutional protection to the decision of its members to exclude women."²¹⁶ Similarly, the Court determined in *Rotary International* that Rotary Clubs, designed as community service organizations representing a cross section of business and professional occupations, also do not represent "the kind of intimate or private relation that warrants constitutional protection."²¹⁷ And in the *New York City* case, the fact that the ordinance "certainly could be constitutionally applied at least to some of the large clubs, under [the] decisions in *Rotary* and *Roberts*, the applicability criteria "pinpointing organizations which are 'commercial' in nature," helped to defeat the facial challenge.²¹⁸

Some amount of First Amendment protection is still due such organizations; the Jaycees and its members had taken public positions on a number of issues, and had engaged in "a variety of civic, charitable, lobbying, fundraising and other activities worthy of constitutional protection." However, the *Roberts* Court could find "no basis in the record for concluding that admission of women as full

²¹³ 468 U.S. 609 (1984).

²¹⁴ 481 U.S. 537 (1987).

²¹⁵ 487 U.S. 1 (1988).

²¹⁶ 468 U.S. at 621.

²¹⁷ 481 U.S. at 546.

²¹⁸ 487 U.S. at 12.

voting members will impede the organization's ability to engage in these protected activities or to disseminate its preferred views."²¹⁹ Moreover, the State had a "compelling interest to prevent . . . acts of invidious discrimination in the distribution of publicly available goods, services, and other advantages."²²⁰

Because of the near-public nature of the Jaycees and Rotary Clubs—the Court in *Roberts* likening the situation to a large business attempting to discriminate in hiring or in selection of customers—the cases may be limited in application, and should not be read as governing membership discrimination by private social clubs.²²¹ In *New York City*, the Court noted that "opportunities for individual associations to contest the constitutionality of the Law as it may be applied against them are adequate to assure that any overbreadth . . . will be curable through case-by-case analysis of specific facts."²²²

Political Association.—The major expansion of the right of association has occurred in the area of political rights. "There can no longer be any doubt that freedom to associate with others for the common advancement of political beliefs and ideas is a form of 'orderly group activity' protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments. . . . The right to associate with the political party of one's choice is an integral part of this basic constitutional freedom."²²³ Usually in combination with an equal protection analysis, the Court since *Williams v. Rhodes*²²⁴ has passed on numerous state restrictions that have an impact upon the ability of individuals or groups to join one or the other of the major parties or to form and join an independent political party to further political, social and economic goals.²²⁵ Of course, the right is not absolute. The Court has recognized that there must be substantial state regulation of the election process which necessarily will work a diminu-

²¹⁹ 468 U.S. at 626–27.

²²⁰ 468 U.S. at 628.

²²¹ The Court in *Rotary* rejected an assertion that *Roberts* had recognized that Kiwanis Clubs are constitutionally distinguishable, and suggested that a case-by-case approach is necessary to determine whether "the 'zone of privacy' extends to a particular club or entity." 481 U.S. at 547 n.6.

²²² 487 U.S. at 15.

²²³ *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51, 56–57 (1973).

²²⁴ 393 U.S. 23 (1968).

²²⁵ *E.g.*, *Rosario v. Rockefeller*, 410 U.S. 752 (1973) (time deadline for enrollment in party in order to vote in next primary); *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51 (1973) (barring voter from party primary if he voted in another party's primary within preceding 23 months); *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767 (1974) (ballot access restriction); *Illinois State Bd. of Elections v. Socialist Workers Party*, 440 U.S. 173 (1979) (number of signatures to get party on ballot); *Citizens Against Rent Control v. City of Berkeley*, 454 U.S. 290 (1982) (limit on contributions to associations formed to support or oppose referendum measure); *Clements v. Fashing*, 457 U.S. 957 (1982) (resign-to-run law).

tion of the individual's right to vote and to join with others for political purposes. The validity of governmental regulation must be determined by assessing the degree of infringement of the right of association against the legitimacy, strength, and necessity of the governmental interests and the means of implementing those interests.²²⁶ Many restrictions upon political association have survived this sometimes exacting standard of review, in large measure upon the basis of some of the governmental interests found compelling.²²⁷

A significant extension of First Amendment association rights in the political context occurred when the Court curtailed the already limited political patronage system. At first holding that a nonpolicy-making, nonconfidential government employee cannot be discharged from a job that he is satisfactorily performing upon the sole ground of his political beliefs or affiliations,²²⁸ the Court subsequently held that "the question is whether the hiring authority can demonstrate that party affiliation is an appropriate requirement for the effective performance of the public office involved."²²⁹

²²⁶ *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23, 30–31 (1968); *Bullock v. Carter*, 405 U.S. 134, 142–143 (1972); *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 730 (1974); *Illinois State Bd. of Elections v. Socialist Workers Party*, 440 U.S. 173, 183 (1979).

²²⁷ Thus, in *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 736 (1974), the Court found "compelling" the state interest in achieving stability through promotion of the two-party system, and upheld a bar on any independent candidate who had been affiliated with any other party within one year. Compare *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23, 31–32 (1968) (casting doubt on state interest in promoting Republican and Democratic voters). The state interest in protecting the integrity of political parties was held to justify requiring enrollment of a person in the party up to eleven months before a primary election, *Rosario v. Rockefeller*, 410 U.S. 752 (1973), but not to justify requiring one to forgo one election before changing parties, *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51 (1973). See also *Civil Service Comm'n v. National Ass'n of Letter Carriers*, 413 U.S. 548 (1973) (efficient operation of government justifies limits on employee political activity); *Rodriguez v. Popular Democratic Party*, 457 U.S. 1 (1982) (permitting political party to designate replacement in office vacated by elected incumbent of that party serves valid governmental interests). *Storer v. Brown* was distinguished in *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780 (1983), holding invalid a requirement that independent candidates for President and Vice-President file nominating petitions by March 20 in order to qualify for the November ballot; state interests in assuring voter education, treating all candidates equally (candidates participating in a party primary also had to declare candidacy in March), and preserving political stability, were deemed insufficient to justify the substantial impediment to independent candidates and their supporters. See also *Tashjian v. Republican Party of Connecticut*, 479 U.S. 208 (1986) (state interests are insubstantial in imposing "closed primary" under which a political party is prohibited from allowing independents to vote in its primaries).

²²⁸ *Elrod v. Burns*, 427 U.S. 347 (1976). The limited concurrence of Justices Stewart and Blackmun provided the qualification for an otherwise expansive plurality opinion. *Id.* at 374.

²²⁹ *Branti v. Finkel*, 445 U.S. 507, 518 (1980). On the same page, the Court refers to a position in which "party membership was *essential* to a discharge of the employee's governmental responsibilities." (emphasis supplied). A great gulf separates "appropriate" from "essential," so that much depends on whether the Court

The concept of policymaking, confidential positions was abandoned, the Court noting that some such positions would nonetheless be protected whereas some people filling positions not reached by the description would not be.²³⁰ The opinion of the Court makes difficult an evaluation of the ramifications of the decision, but it seems clear that a majority of the Justices adhere to a doctrine of broad associational political freedom that will have substantial implications for governmental employment. Refusing to confine *Elrod* and *Branti* to their facts, the court in *Rutan v. Republican Party of Illinois*²³¹ held that restrictions on patronage apply not only to dismissal or its substantial equivalent, but also to promotion, transfer, recall after layoffs, and hiring of low-level public employees.

The protected right of association extends as well to coverage of party principles, enabling a political party to assert against some state regulation an overriding interest sufficient to overcome the legitimate interests of the governing body. Thus, a Wisconsin law that mandated an open primary election, with party delegates bound to support at the national convention the wishes of the voters expressed in that primary election, while legitimate and valid in and of itself, had to yield to a national party rule providing for the acceptance of delegates chosen only in an election limited to those voters who affiliated with the party.²³²

Provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act requiring the reporting and disclosure of contributions and expenditures to and by political organizations, including the maintenance by such organizations of records of everyone contributing more than \$10 and the reporting by individuals and groups that are not candidates or political committees who contribute or expend more than \$100 a year for the purpose of advocating the election or defeat of an identified candidate, were sustained.²³³ “[C]ompelled disclosure, in itself, can seriously infringe on privacy of association and belief guaranteed by the First Amendment. . . . We long have recognized

was using the two words interchangeably or whether the stronger word was meant to characterize the position noted and not to particularize the standard.

²³⁰ Justice Powell’s dissents in both cases contain lengthy treatments of and defenses of the patronage system as a glue strengthening necessary political parties. *Id.* at 520.

²³¹ 497 U.S. 62 (1990). *Rutan* was a 5–4 decision, with Justice Brennan writing the Court’s opinion. The four dissenters indicated, in an opinion by Justice Scalia, that they would not only rule differently in *Rutan*, but that they would also overrule *Elrod* and *Branti*.

²³² *Democratic Party v. Wisconsin ex rel. LaFollette*, 450 U.S. 107 (1981). *See also Cousins v. Wigoda*, 419 U.S. 477 (1975) (party rules, not state law, governed which delegation from State would be seated at national convention; national party had protected associational right to sit delegates it chose).

²³³ *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 60–84 (1976).

the significant encroachments on First Amendment rights of the sort that compelled disclosure imposes cannot be justified by a mere showing of some legitimate governmental interest. . . . We have required that the subordinating interests of the State must survive exacting scrutiny. We have also insisted that there be a 'relevant correlation' or 'substantial relation' between the governmental interest and the information required to be disclosed."²³⁴ The governmental interests effectuated by these requirements—providing the electorate with information, deterring corruption and the appearance of corruption, and gathering data necessary to detect violations—were found to be of sufficient magnitude to be validated even though they might incidentally deter some persons from contributing.²³⁵ A claim that contributions to minor parties and independents should have a blanket exemption from disclosure was rejected inasmuch as an injury was highly speculative; but any such party making a showing of a reasonable probability that compelled disclosure of contributors' names would subject them to threats or reprisals could obtain an exemption from the courts.²³⁶ The *Buckley* Court also narrowly construed the requirement of reporting independent contributions and expenditures in order to avoid constitutional problems.²³⁷

Conflict Between Organization and Members.—It is to be expected that disputes will arise between an organization and some of its members, and that First Amendment principles may be implicated. Of course, unless there is some governmental connection, there will be no federal constitutional application to any such controversy.²³⁸ But at least in some instances, when government compels membership in an organization or in some manner lends its authority to such compulsion, there may well be constitutional limitations. Disputes implicating such limitations can arise in connection with union shop labor agreements permissible under the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act.²³⁹

²³⁴ *Id.* at 64 (footnote citations omitted).

²³⁵ *Id.* at 66–68.

²³⁶ *Id.* at 68–74. Such a showing, based on past governmental and private hostility and harassment, was made in *Brown v. Socialist Workers '74 Campaign Comm.*, 459 U.S. 87 (1982).

²³⁷ 424 U.S. at 74–84.

²³⁸ The Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, 73 Stat. 537, 29 U.S.C. §§ 411–413, enacted a bill of rights for union members, designed to protect, inter alia, freedom of speech and assembly and the right to participate in union meetings on political and economic subjects.

²³⁹ § 8(a)(3) of the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947, 61 Stat. 140, 29 U.S.C. § 158(a)(3), permits the negotiation of union shop but not closed shop agreements, which, however, may be outlawed by contrary state laws. § 14(b), 61 Stat. 151, 29 U.S.C. § 164(b). See *Lincoln Federal Labor Union v. Northwestern Iron & Metal Co.*, 335 U.S. 525 (1949); *AFL v. American Sash & Door Co.*, 335 U.S. 538

Initially, the Court avoided constitutional issues in resolving a challenge by union shop employees to use of their dues money for political causes. Acknowledging “the utmost gravity” of the constitutional issues, the Court determined that Congress had intended that dues money obtained through union shop agreements should be used only to support collective bargaining and not in support of other causes.²⁴⁰ Justices Black and Douglas, in separate opinions, would have held that Congress could not constitutionally provide for compulsory membership in an organization which could exact from members money which the organization would then spend on causes which the members opposed; Justices Frankfurter and Harlan, also reaching the constitutional issue, would have held that the First Amendment was not violated when government did not compel membership but merely permitted private parties to enter into such agreements and that in any event so long as members were free to espouse their own political views the use by a union of dues money to support political causes which some members opposed did not violate the First Amendment.²⁴¹

In *Abood v. Detroit Board of Education*,²⁴² the Court applied *Hanson* and *Street* to the public employment context. Recognizing that employee associational rights were clearly restricted by any system of compelled support, because the employees had a right not to associate, not to support, the Court nonetheless found the governmental interests served by the agency shop provision—the promotion of labor peace and stability of employer-employee relations—to be of overriding importance and to justify the impact upon employee freedom.²⁴³ But a different balance was drawn

(1949). In industries covered by the Railway Labor Act, union shop agreements may be negotiated regardless of contrary state laws. 64 Stat. 1238, 45 U.S.C. § 152, Eleventh; *Railway Employees Dept. v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (1956).

²⁴⁰ *International Ass'n of Machinists v. Street*, 367 U.S. 740 (1961). The quoted phrase is at 749.

²⁴¹ *Id.* at 775 (Justice Douglas concurring), 780 (Justice Black dissenting), 797 (Justices Frankfurter and Harlan dissenting). On the same day, a majority of the Court declined, in *Lathrop v. Donohue*, 367 U.S. 820 (1961), to reach the constitutional issues presented by roughly the same fact situation in a suit by lawyers compelled to join an “integrated bar.” These issues were faced squarely in *Keller v. State Bar of California*, 496 U.S. 1 (1990). An integrated state bar may not, against a members’ wishes, devote compulsory dues to ideological or other political activities not “necessarily or reasonably incurred for the purpose of regulating the legal profession or improving the quality of legal service available to the people of the State.” *Id.* at 14.

²⁴² 431 U.S. 209 (1977). That a public entity was the employer and the employees consequently were public employees was deemed constitutionally immaterial for the application of the principles of *Hanson* and *Street*, *id.* at 226–32, but Justice Powell found the distinction between public and private employment crucial. *Id.* at 244.

²⁴³ *Id.* at 217–23. The compelled support was through the agency shop device. *Id.* at 211, 217 n. 10. Justice Powell, joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justice

when the Court considered whether employees compelled to support the union were constitutionally entitled to object to the use of those exacted funds to support political candidates or to advance ideological causes not germane to the union's duties as collective-bargaining representative. To compel one to expend funds in such a way is to violate his freedom of belief and the right to act on those beliefs just as much as if government prohibited him from acting to further his own beliefs.²⁴⁴ However, the remedy was not to restrain the union from making non-collective bargaining related expenditures but to require that those funds come only from employees who do not object. Therefore, the lower courts were directed to oversee development of a system whereby employees could object generally to such use of union funds and could obtain either a proportionate refund or reduction of future exactions.²⁴⁵ Later, the Court further tightened the requirements. A proportionate refund is inadequate because "even then the union obtains an involuntary loan for purposes to which the employee objects;"²⁴⁶ an advance reduction of dues corrects the problem only if accompanied by sufficient information by which employees may gauge the propriety of the union's fee.²⁴⁷ Therefore, the union procedure must also "provide for a reasonably prompt decision by an impartial decisionmaker."²⁴⁸

On a related matter, the Court held that a labor relations body could not prevent a union member or employee represented exclusively by a union from speaking out at a public meeting on an issue of public concern, simply because the issue was a subject of collective bargaining between the union and the employer.²⁴⁹

Maintenance of National Security and the First Amendment

Preservation of the security of the Nation from its enemies, foreign and domestic, is the obligation of government and one of the foremost reasons for government to exist. Pursuit of this goal may

Blackmun, would have held that compelled support by public employees of unions violated their First Amendment rights. *Id.* at 244. For an argument over the issue of corporate political contributions and shareholder rights, see *First National Bank v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 792–95 (1978), and *id.* at 802, 812–21 (Justice White dissenting).

²⁴⁴ 431 U.S. at 232–37.

²⁴⁵ *Id.* at 237–42. On the other hand, nonmembers may be charged for such general union expenses as contributions to state and national affiliates, expenses of sending delegates to state and national union conventions, and costs of a union newsletter. *Lehnert v. Ferris Faculty Ass'n*, 500 U.S. 507 (1991).

²⁴⁶ *Ellis v. Brotherhood of Railway, Airline & Steamship Clerks*, 466 U.S. 435 (1984).

²⁴⁷ *Chicago Teachers Union v. Hudson*, 475 U.S. 292 (1986).

²⁴⁸ *Id.* at 309.

²⁴⁹ *Madison School Dist. v. WERC*, 429 U.S. 167 (1977).

lead government officials at times to trespass in areas protected by the guarantees of speech and press and may require the balancing away of rights which might be preserved inviolate at other times. The drawing of the line is committed, not exclusively but finally, to the Supreme Court. In this section, we consider a number of areas in which the necessity to draw lines has arisen.

Punishment of Advocacy.—Criminal punishment for the advocacy of illegal or of merely unpopular goals and of ideas did not originate in the United States in the post-World War II concern with Communism. Enactment of and prosecutions under the Sedition Act of 1798¹ and prosecutions under the federal espionage laws² and state sedition and criminal syndicalism laws³ in the 1920's and early 1930's have been alluded to earlier.⁴ But it was in the 1950's and the 1960's that the Supreme Court confronted First Amendment concepts fully in determining the degree to which government could proceed against persons and organizations which it believed were plotting and conspiring both to advocate the overthrow of government and to accomplish that goal.

The Smith Act of 1940⁵ made it a criminal offense for anyone to knowingly or willfully advocate, abet, advise, or teach the duty, necessity, desirability, or propriety of overthrowing the Government of the United States or of any State by force or violence, or for anyone to organize any association which teaches, advises, or encourages such an overthrow, or for anyone to become a member of or to affiliate with any such association. No case involving pros-

¹ *Supra*, p. 1022.

² *Supra*, pp. 1022–24, 1036–38. The cases included *Schenck v. United States*, 249 U.S. 47 (1919) (affirming conviction for attempting to disrupt conscription by circulation of leaflets bitterly condemning the draft); *Debs v. United States*, 249 U.S. 211 (1919) (affirming conviction for attempting to create insubordination in armed forces based on one speech advocating socialism and opposition to war, and praising resistance to the draft); *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616 (1919) (affirming convictions based on two leaflets, one of which attacked President Wilson as a coward and hypocrite for sending troops into Russia and the other of which urged workers not to produce materials to be used against their brothers).

³ *Supra*, p. 1039. The cases included *Gitlow v. New York*, 268 U.S. 652 (1925) (affirming conviction based on publication of “manifesto” calling for the furthering of the “class struggle” through mass strikes and other mass action); *Whitney v. California*, 274 U.S. 357 (1927) (affirming conviction based upon adherence to party which had platform rejecting parliamentary methods and urging a “revolutionary class struggle,” the adoption of which defendant had opposed).

⁴ See also *Taylor v. Mississippi*, 319 U.S. 583 (1943), setting aside convictions of three Jehovah's Witnesses under a statute which prohibited teaching or advocacy intended to encourage violence, sabotage, or disloyalty to the government after the defendants had said that it was wrong for the President “to send our boys across in uniform to fight our enemies” and that boys were being killed “for no purpose at all.” The Court found no evil or sinister purpose, no advocacy of or incitement to subversive action, and no threat of clear and present danger to government.

⁵ Ch. 439, 54 Stat. 670, 18 U.S.C. § 2385.

ecution under this law was reviewed by the Supreme Court until in *Dennis v. United States*⁶ it considered the convictions of eleven Communist Party leaders on charges of conspiracy to violate the advocacy and organizing sections of the statute. Chief Justice Vinson's plurality opinion for the Court applied a revised clear and present danger test⁷ and concluded that the evil sought to be prevented was serious enough to justify suppression of speech. "If, then, this interest may be protected, the literal problem which is presented is what has been meant by the use of the phrase 'clear and present danger' of the utterances bringing about the evil within the power of Congress to punish. Obviously, the words cannot mean that before the Government may act, it must wait until the *putsch* is about to be executed, the plans have been laid and the signal is awaited. If Government is aware that a group aiming at its overthrow is attempting to indoctrinate its members and to commit them to a course whereby they will strike when the leaders feel the circumstances permit, action by the Government is required."⁸ "The mere fact that from the period 1945 to 1948 petitioners' activities did not result in an attempt to overthrow the Government by force and violence is of course no answer to the fact that there was a group that was ready to make the attempt. The formation by petitioners of such a highly organized conspiracy, with rigidly disciplined members subject to call when the leaders, these petitioners, felt that the time had come for action, coupled with the inflammable nature of world conditions, similar uprisings in other countries, and the touch-and-go nature of our relations with countries with whom petitioners were in the very least ideologically attuned, convince us that their convictions were justified on this score."⁹

Justice Frankfurter in concurrence developed a balancing test, which, however, he deferred to the congressional judgment in applying, concluding that "there is ample justification for a legislative judgment that the conspiracy now before us is a substantial threat to national order and security."¹⁰ Justice Jackson's concurrence was based on his reading of the case as involving "a conviction of conspiracy, after a trial for conspiracy, on an indictment charging conspiracy, brought under a statute outlawing conspiracy." Here the Government was dealing with "permanently organized, well-financed, semi-secret, and highly disciplined organizations" plotting

⁶ 341 U.S. 494 (1951).

⁷ *Id.* at 510, quoted *supra*, p. 1023.

⁸ *Id.* at 509.

⁹ *Id.* at 510-11.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 517, 542.

to overthrow the Government; under the First Amendment “it is not forbidden to put down force and violence, it is not forbidden to punish its teaching or advocacy, and the end being punishable, there is no doubt of the power to punish conspiracy for the purpose.”¹¹ Justices Black and Douglas dissented separately, the former viewing the Smith Act as an invalid prior restraint and calling for reversal of the convictions for lack of a clear and present danger, the latter applying the Holmes-Brandeis formula of clear and present danger to conclude that “[t]o believe that petitioners and their following are placed in such critical positions as to endanger the Nation is to believe the incredible.”¹²

In *Yates v. United States*,¹³ the convictions of several second-string Communist Party leaders were set aside, a number ordered acquitted, and others remanded for retrial. The decision was based upon construction of the statute and appraisal of the evidence rather than on First Amendment claims, although each prong of the ruling seems to have been informed with First Amendment considerations. Thus, Justice Harlan for the Court wrote that the trial judge had given faulty instructions to the jury in advising that all advocacy and teaching of forcible overthrow was punishable, whether it was language of incitement or not, so long as it was done with an intent to accomplish that purpose. But the statute, the Justice continued, prohibited “advocacy of action,” not merely “advocacy in the realm of ideas.” “The essential distinction is that those to whom the advocacy is addressed must be urged to *do* something, now or in the future, rather than merely to *believe* in something.”¹⁴ Second, the Court found the evidence insufficient to establish that the Communist Party had engaged in the required advocacy of action, requiring the Government to prove such advocacy in each instance rather than presenting evidence generally about the Party. Additionally, the Court found the evidence insufficient to link five of the defendants to advocacy of action, but sufficient with regard to the other nine.¹⁵

Compelled Registration of Communist Party.—The Internal Security Act of 1950 provided for a comprehensive regulatory scheme by which “Communist-action organizations” and “Com-

¹¹ Id. at 561, 572, 575.

¹² Id. at 579 (Justice Black dissenting), 581, 589 (Justice Douglas dissenting).

¹³ 354 U.S. 298 (1957).

¹⁴ Id. at 314, 315–16, 320, 324–25.

¹⁵ Id. at 330–31, 332. Justices Black and Douglas would have held the Smith Act unconstitutional. Id. at 339. Justice Harlan’s formulation of the standard by which certain advocacy could be punished was noticeably stiffened in *Brandenburg v. Ohio*, 395 U.S. 444 (1969).

munist-front organizations” could be curbed.¹⁶ Organizations found to fall within one or the other of these designations were required to register and to provide for public inspection membership lists, accountings of all money received and expended, and listings of all printing presses and duplicating machines; members of organizations which failed to register were required to register and members were subject to comprehensive restrictions and criminal sanctions. After a lengthy series of proceedings, a challenge to the registration provisions reached the Supreme Court, which sustained the constitutionality of the section under the First Amendment, only Justice Black dissenting on this ground.¹⁷ Employing the balancing test, Justice Frankfurter for himself and four other Justices concluded that the threat to national security posed by the Communist conspiracy outweighed considerations of individual liberty, the impact of the registration provision in this area in any event being limited to whatever “public opprobrium and obloquy” might attach.¹⁸ Three Justices based their conclusion on the premise that the Communist Party was an anti-democratic, secret organization, subservient to a foreign power, utilizing speech-plus in attempting to achieve its ends and therefore subject to extensive governmental regulation.¹⁹

Punishment for Membership in an Organization Which Engages in Proscribed Advocacy.—It was noted above that the Smith Act also contained a provision making it a crime to organize or become a member of an organization which teaches, advocates, or encourages the overthrow of government by force or violence.²⁰ The Government used this authority to proceed against Communist Party members. In *Scales v. United States*,²¹ the Court affirmed a conviction under this section and held it constitutional against First Amendment attack. Advocacy such as the Communist Party

¹⁶Ch. 1024, 64 Stat. 987. Sections of the Act requiring registration of Communist-action and Communist-front organizations and their members were repealed in 1968. Pub. L. 90-237, § 5, 81 Stat. 766.

¹⁷*Communist Party v. SACB*, 367 U.S. 1 (1961). The Court reserved decision on the self-incrimination claims raised by the Party. The registration provisions ultimately floundered on this claim. *Albertson v. SACB*, 382 U.S. 70 (1965).

¹⁸*Id.* at 88-105. The quoted phrase is *id.* at 102.

¹⁹*Id.* at 170-175 (Justice Douglas dissenting on other grounds), 191 (Justice Brennan and Chief Justice Warren dissenting on other grounds). Justice Black's dissent on First Amendment grounds argued that “Congress has [no] power to outlaw an association, group or party either on the ground that it advocates a policy of violent overthrow of the existing Government at some time in the distant future or on the ground that it is ideologically subservient to some foreign country.” *Id.* at 147.

²⁰*Supra*, p. 1067.

²¹367 U.S. 203 (1961). Justices Black and Douglas dissented on First Amendment grounds, *id.* at 259, 262, while Justice Brennan and Chief Justice Warren dissented on statutory grounds. *Id.* at 278

engaged in, Justice Harlan wrote for the Court, was unprotected under *Dennis*, and he could see no reason why membership which constituted a purposeful form of complicity in a group engaging in such advocacy should be a protected form of association. Of course, “[i]f there were a similar blanket prohibition of association with a group having both legal and illegal aims, there would indeed be a real danger that legitimate political expression or association would be impaired, but . . . [t]he clause does not make criminal all association with an organization which has been shown to engage in illegal advocacy.” Only an “active” member of the Party—one who with knowledge of the proscribed advocacy intends to accomplish the aims of the organization—was to be punished, the Court said, not a “nominal, passive, inactive or purely technical” member.²²

Disabilities Attaching to Membership in Proscribed Organizations.—The consequences of being or becoming a member of a proscribed organization can be severe. Aliens are subject to deportation for such membership.²³ Congress made it unlawful for any member of an organization required to register as a “Communist-action” or a “Communist-front” organization to apply for a passport or to use a passport.²⁴ A now-repealed statute required as a condition of access to NLRB processes by any union that each of

²²Id. 228–30. In *Noto v. United States*, 367 U.S. 290 (1961), the Court reversed a conviction under the membership clause because the evidence was insufficient to prove that the Party had engaged in unlawful advocacy. “[T]he mere abstract teaching of Communist theory, including the teaching of the moral propriety or even moral necessity for a resort to force and violence is not the same as preparing a group for violent action and steeling it to such action. There must be some substantial direct or circumstantial evidence of a call to violence now or in the future which is both sufficiently strong and sufficiently pervasive to lend color to the otherwise ambiguous theoretical material regarding Communist Party teaching, and to justify the inference that such a call to violence may fairly be imputed to the Party as a whole, and not merely to some narrow segment of it.” Id. at 297–98.

²³*Supra*, pp. 280–81. See 66 Stat. 205 (1952), 8 U.S.C. § 1251(a)(6). “Innocent” membership in an organization which advocates violent overthrow of the government is apparently insufficient to save an alien from deportation. *Galvan v. Press*, 347 U.S. 522 (1954). More recent cases, however, seem to impose a high standard of proof on the Government to show a “meaningful association,” as a matter of statutory interpretation. *Rowoldt v. Perfetto*, 355 U.S. 115 (1957); *Gastelum-Quinones v. Kennedy*, 374 U.S. 469 (1963).

²⁴Subversive Activities Control Act of 1950, § 6, ch. 1024, 64 Stat. 993, 50 U.S.C. § 785. The section was declared unconstitutional in *Aptheker v. Secretary of State*, 378 U.S. 500 (1964), as an infringement of the right to travel, a liberty protected by the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. But the Court considered the case as well in terms of its restrictions on “freedom of association,” emphasizing that the statute reached membership whether it was with knowledge of the organization’s illegal aims or not, whether it was active or not, and whether the member intended to further the organization’s illegal aims. Id. at 507–14. *But see Zemel v. Rusk*, 381 U.S. 1, 16–17 (1965), in which the Court denied that State Department area restrictions in its passport policies violated the First Amendment, because the policy inhibited action rather than expression, a distinction the Court continued in *Haig v. Agee*, 453 U.S. 280, 304–10 (1981).

its officers must file affidavits that he was not a member of the Communist Party or affiliated with it.²⁵ The Court has sustained state bar associations in their efforts to probe into applicants' membership in the Communist Party in order to determine whether there was knowing membership on the part of one sharing a specific intent to further the illegal goals of the organization.²⁶ A section of the Communist Control Act of 1954 was designed to keep the Communist Party off the ballot in all elections.²⁷ The most recent interpretation of this type of disability is *United States v. Robel*,²⁸ in which the Court held unconstitutional under the First Amendment a section of the Internal Security Act which made it unlawful for any member of an organization compelled to register as a "Communist-action" or "Communist-front" organization to work thereafter in any defense facility. For the Court, Chief Justice Warren wrote that a statute which so infringed upon freedom of association must be much more narrowly drawn to take precise account of the evils at which it permissibly could be aimed. One could be disqualified from holding sensitive positions on the basis of active, knowing membership with a specific intent to further the unlawful goals of an organization, but that membership which was passive or inactive, or by a person unaware of the organization's unlawful aims, or by one who disagreed with those aims, could not be grounds for disqualification, certainly not for a non-sensitive position.²⁹

A somewhat different matter is disqualifying a person for public benefits of some sort because of membership in a proscribed organization or because of some other basis ascribable to doubts about his loyalty. The First Amendment was raised only in dissent when in *Flemming v. Nestor*³⁰ the Court sustained a statute which required the termination of Social Security old age benefits to an

²⁵This part of the oath was sustained in *American Communications Ass'n v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 382 (1950), and *Osman v. Douds*, 339 U.S. 846 (1950). With regard to another part of the required oath, see *supra*, p. 1055.

²⁶*Konigsberg v. State Bar of California*, 366 U.S. 36 (1961); *In re Anastaplo*, 366 U.S. 82 (1961); *Law Students Civil Rights Research Council v. Wadmond*, 401 U.S. 154 (1971). Membership alone, however, appears to be an inadequate basis on which to deny admission. *Id.* at 165-66; *Baird v. State Bar of Arizona*, 401 U.S. 1 (1971); *Schware v. Board of Bar Examiners*, 353 U.S. 232 (1957).

²⁷Ch. 886, § 3, 68 Stat. 775, 50 U.S.C. § 842. The section was at issue without a ruling on the merits in *Mitchell v. Donovan*, 290 F. Supp. 642 (D. Minn. 1968) (ordering names of Communist Party candidates put on ballot); 300 F. Supp. 1145 (D. Minn. 1969) (dismissing action as moot); 398 U.S. 427 (1970) (dismissing appeal for lack of jurisdiction).

²⁸389 U.S. 258 (1967).

²⁹*Id.* at 265-66. See also *Schneider v. Smith*, 390 U.S. 17 (1968).

³⁰363 U.S. 603 (1960). Justice Black argued the applicability of the First Amendment. *Id.* at 628 (dissenting). Chief Justice Warren and Justices Douglas and Brennan also dissented. *Id.* at 628, 634.

alien who was deported on grounds of membership in the Communist Party. Proceeding on the basis that no one was “entitled” to Social Security benefits, Justice Harlan for the Court concluded that a rational justification for the law might be the deportee’s inability to aid the domestic economy by spending the benefits locally, although a passage in the opinion could be read to suggest that termination was permissible because alien Communists are undeserving of benefits.³¹ Of considerable significance in First Amendment jurisprudence is *Speiser v. Randall*,³² in which the Court struck down a state scheme for denying veterans’ property tax exemptions to “disloyal” persons. The system, as interpreted by the state courts, denied the exemption only to persons who engaged in speech which could be criminally punished consistent with the First Amendment, but the Court found the vice of the provision to be that after each claimant had executed an oath disclaiming his engagement in unlawful speech, the tax assessor could disbelieve the oath taker and deny the exemption, thus placing on the claimant the burden of proof of showing that he was loyal. “The vice of the present procedure is that, where particular speech falls close to the line separating the lawful and the unlawful, the possibility of mistaken fact-finding—inherent in all litigation—will create the danger that the legitimate utterance will be penalized. The man who knows that he must bring forth proof and persuade another of the lawfulness of his conduct necessarily must steer far wider of the unlawful zone than if the State must bear these burdens In practical operation, therefore, this procedural device must necessarily produce a result which the State could not command directly. It can only result in a deterrence of speech which the Constitution makes free.”³³

Employment Restrictions and Loyalty Oaths.—An area in which significant First Amendment issues are often raised is the establishment of loyalty-security standards for government employees. Such programs generally take one of two forms or may com-

³¹Id. at 612. The suggestive passage reads: “Nor . . . can it be deemed irrational for Congress to have concluded that the public purse should not be utilized to contribute to the support of those deported on the grounds specified in the statute.” Ibid. *But see* *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398, 404–05, 409 n.9 (1963). While the right-privilege distinction is all but moribund, *Flemming* has been strongly reaffirmed in recent cases by emphasis on the noncontractual nature of such benefits. *Richardson v. Belcher*, 404 U.S. 78, 80–81 (1971); *United States Railroad Retirement Board v. Fritz*, 449 U.S. 166, 174 (1980).

³²357 U.S. 513 (1958).

³³Id. at 526. For a possible limiting application of the principle, see *Law Students Civil Rights Research Council v. Wadmond*, 401 U.S. 154, 162–64 (1971), and *id.* at 176–78 (Justices Black and Douglas dissenting), *id.* at 189 n.5 (Justices Marshall and Brennan dissenting).

bine the two. First, government may establish a system investigating employees or prospective employees under standards relating to presumed loyalty. Second, government may require its employees or prospective employees to subscribe to a loyalty oath disclaiming belief in or advocacy of, or membership in an organization which stands for or advocates, unlawful or disloyal action. The Federal Government's security investigation program has been tested numerous times and First Amendment issues raised, but the Supreme Court has never squarely confronted the substantive constitutional issues, and it has not dealt with the loyalty oath features of the federal program.³⁴ The Court has, however, had a long running encounter with state loyalty oath programs.³⁵

First encountered³⁶ was a loyalty oath for candidates for public office rather than one for public employees. Accepting the state court construction that the law required each candidate to "make oath that he is not a person who is engaged 'in one way or another in the attempt to overthrow the government by *force or violence*,' and that he is not knowingly a member of an organization engaged in such an attempt," the Court unanimously sustained the provision in a one-paragraph per curiam opinion.³⁷ Less than two months later, the Court did uphold a requirement that employees take an oath that they had not within a prescribed period advised, advocated, or taught the overthrow of government by unlawful

³⁴The federal program is primarily grounded in two Executive Orders by President Truman and President Eisenhower, E.O. 9835, 12 Fed. Reg. 1935 (1947), and E.O. 10450, 18 Fed. Reg. 2489 (1953), and a significant amendatory Order issued by President Nixon, E.O. 11605, 36 Fed. Reg. 12831 (1971). Statutory bases include 5 U.S.C. §§ 7311, 7531–32. Cases involving the program were decided either on lack of authority for the action being reviewed, e.g., *Cole v. Young*, 351 U.S. 536 (1956); and *Peters v. Hobby*, 349 U.S. 331 (1955), or on procedural due process grounds, *Greene v. McElroy*, 360 U.S. 474 (1959); *Cafeteria & Restaurant Workers Union v. McElroy*, 367 U.S. 886 (1961). *But cf.* *United States v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258 (1967); *Schneider v. Smith*, 390 U.S. 17 (1968). A series of three-judge district court decisions, however, invalidated federal loyalty oaths and inquiries. *Soltar v. Postmaster General*, 277 F. Supp. 579 (N.D. Calif. 1967); *Haskett v. Washington*, 294 F. Supp. 912 (D.D.C. 1968); *Stewart v. Washington*, 301 F. Supp. 610 (D.D.C. 1969); *National Ass'n of Letter Carriers v. Blount*, 305 F. Supp. 546 (D.D.C. 1969) (no-strike oath).

³⁵So-called negative oaths or test oaths are dealt with in this section; for the positive oaths, *see supra*, pp. 1055–56.

³⁶Test oaths had first reached the Court in the period following the Civil War, at which time they were voided as ex post facto laws and bills of attainder. *Cummings v. Missouri*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 277 (1867); *Ex parte Garland*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 333 (1867).

³⁷*Gerende v. Board of Supervisors of Elections*, 341 U.S. 56 (1951) (emphasis original). In *Indiana Communist Party v. Whitcomb*, 414 U.S. 411 (1974), a requirement that parties and candidates seeking ballot space subscribe to a similar oath was voided because the oath's language did not comport with the advocacy standards of *Brandenburg v. Ohio*, 395 U.S. 444 (1969). Four Justices concurred more narrowly. 414 U.S. at 452 n.3. *See also* *Whitcomb v. Communist Party of Indiana*, 410 U.S. 976 (1973).

means, nor been a member of an organization with similar objectives; every employee was also required to swear that he was not and had not been a member of the Communist Party.³⁸ For the Court, Justice Clark perceived no problem with the inquiry into Communist Party membership but cautioned that no issue had been raised whether an employee who was or had been a member could be discharged merely for that reason.³⁹ With regard to the oath, the Court did not discuss First Amendment considerations but stressed that it believed the appropriate authorities would not construe the oath adversely against persons who were innocent of an organization's purpose during their affiliation, or persons who had severed their associations upon knowledge of an organization's purposes, or persons who had been members of an organization at a time when it was not unlawfully engaged.⁴⁰ Otherwise, the oath requirement was valid as "a reasonable regulation to protect the municipal service by establishing an employment qualification of loyalty" and as being "reasonably designed to protect the integrity and competency of the service."⁴¹

In the following Term, the Court sustained a state statute disqualifying for government employment persons who advocated the overthrow of government by force or violence or persons who were members of organizations which so advocated; the statute had been supplemented by a provision applicable to teachers calling for the drawing up of a list of organizations which advocated violent overthrow and making membership in any listed organization *prima facie* evidence of disqualification.⁴² Justice Minton observed that everyone had a right to assemble, speak, think, and believe as he pleased, but had no right to work for the State in its public school system except upon compliance with the State's reasonable terms. "If they do not choose to work on such terms, they are at liberty to retain their beliefs and associations and go elsewhere. Has the State thus deprived them of any right to free speech or assembly?"

³⁸ *Garner v. Board of Public Works*, 341 U.S. 716 (1951). Justice Frankfurter dissented in part on First Amendment grounds, *id.* at 724, Justice Burton dissented in part, *id.* at 729, and Justices Black and Douglas dissented completely, on bill of attainder grounds, *id.* at 731.

³⁹ *Id.* at 720. Justices Frankfurter and Burton agreed with this ruling. *Id.* at 725–26, 729–30.

⁴⁰ *Id.* at 723–24.

⁴¹ *Id.* at 720–21. Justice Frankfurter objected that the oath placed upon the takers the burden of assuring themselves that every organization to which they belonged or had been affiliated with for a substantial period of time had not engaged in forbidden advocacy.

⁴² *Adler v. Board of Education*, 342 U.S. 485 (1952). Justice Frankfurter dissented because he thought no party had standing. *Id.* at 497. Justices Black and Douglas dissented on First Amendment grounds. *Id.* at 508.

We think not.”⁴³ A State could deny employment based on a person’s advocacy of overthrow of the government by force or violence or based on unexplained membership in an organization so advocating with knowledge of the advocacy.⁴⁴ With regard to the required list, the Justice observed that the state courts had interpreted the law to provide that a person could rebut the presumption attached to his mere membership.⁴⁵

Invalidated the same year was an oath requirement, addressed to membership in the Communist Party and other proscribed organizations, which the state courts had interpreted to disqualify from employment “solely on the basis of organizational membership.” Stressing that membership might be innocent, that one might be unaware of an organization’s aims, or that he might have severed a relationship upon learning of its aims, the Court struck the law down; one must be or have been a member with knowledge of illegal aims.⁴⁶ But subsequent cases firmly reiterated the power of governmental agencies to inquire into the associational relationships of their employees for purposes of determining fitness and upheld dismissals for refusal to answer relevant questions.⁴⁷ In *Shelton v. Tucker*,⁴⁸ however, a five-to-four majority held that, while a State could inquire into the fitness and competence of its teachers, a requirement that every teacher annually list every organization to which he belonged or had belonged in the previous five years was invalid because it was too broad, bore no rational relationship to the State’s interests, and had a considerable potential for abuse.

Vagueness was then employed by the Court when loyalty oaths aimed at “subversives” next came before it. *Cramp v. Board of Public Instruction*⁴⁹ unanimously held too vague an oath which required one to swear, inter alia, that “I have not and will not lend my aid, support, advice, counsel or influence to the Communist

⁴³Id. at 492.

⁴⁴Ibid.

⁴⁵Id. at 494–96.

⁴⁶Wieman v. Updegraff, 344 U.S. 183 (1952).

⁴⁷Beilan v. Board of Education, 357 U.S. 399 (1958); Lerner v. Casey, 357 U.S. 458 (1958); Nelson v. County of Los Angeles, 362 U.S. 1 (1960). Compare *Slochower v. Board of Higher Education*, 350 U.S. 551 (1956). The self-incrimination aspects of these cases are considered *infra*, under analysis of the Fifth Amendment.

⁴⁸364 U.S. 479 (1960). “It is not disputed that to compel a teacher to disclose his every associational tie is to impair that teacher’s right of free association, a right closely allied to freedom of speech and a right which, like free speech, lies at the foundation of a free society.” Id. at 485–86. Justices Frankfurter, Clark, Harlan, and Whittaker dissented. Id. at 490, 496.

⁴⁹368 U.S. 278 (1961). For further proceedings on this oath, see *Connell v. Higginbotham*, 305 F. Supp. 445 (M.D. Fla. 1970). *aff’d in part and rev’d in part*, 403 U.S. 207 (1971).

Party.” Similarly, in *Baggett v. Bullitt*,⁵⁰ two oaths, one requiring teachers to swear that they “will by precept and example promote respect for the flag and the institutions of the United States of America and the State of Washington, reverence for law and order and undivided allegiance to the government,” and the other requiring all state employees to swear, *inter alia*, that they would not “aid in the commission of any act intended to overthrow, destroy, or alter or assist in the overthrow, destruction, or alteration” of government. Although couched in vagueness terms, the Court’s opinion stressed that the vagueness was compounded by its effect on First Amendment rights and seemed to emphasize that the State could not deny employment to one simply because he unintentionally lent indirect aid to the cause of violent overthrow by engaging in lawful activities that he knew might add to the power of persons supporting illegal overthrow.⁵¹

More precisely drawn oaths survived vagueness attacks but fell before First Amendment objections in the next three cases. *Elfbrandt v. Russell*⁵² involved an oath that as supplemented would have been violated by one who “knowingly and willfully becomes or remains a member of the communist party . . . or any other organization having for its purposes the overthrow by force or violence of the government” with “knowledge of said unlawful purpose of said organization.” The law’s blanketing in of “knowing but guiltless” membership was invalid, wrote Justice Douglas for the Court, because one could be a knowing member but not subscribe to the illegal goals of the organization; moreover, it appeared that one must also have participated in the unlawful activities of the organization before public employment could be denied.⁵³ Next, in *Keyishian v. Board of Regents*,⁵⁴ the oath provisions sustained in *Adler*⁵⁵ were declared unconstitutional. A number of provisions were voided as vague,⁵⁶ but the Court held invalid a new provision making Communist Party membership *prima facie* evidence of disqualification for employment because the opportunity to rebut the presumption was too limited. It could be rebutted only by denying membership, denying knowledge of advocacy of illegal overthrow,

⁵⁰ 377 U.S. 360 (1964). Justices Clark and Harlan dissented. *Id.* at 380

⁵¹ *Id.* at 369–70.

⁵² 384 U.S. 11 (1966). Justices White, Clark, Harlan, and Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 20.

⁵³ *Id.* at 16, 17, 19. “Those who join an organization but do not share its unlawful purposes and who do not participate in its unlawful activities pose no threat, either as citizens or public employees.” *Id.* at 17.

⁵⁴ 385 U.S. 589 (1967). Justices Clark, Harlan, Stewart, and White dissented. *Id.* at 620.

⁵⁵ *Adler v. Board of Education*, 342 U.S. 485 (1952).

⁵⁶ *Keyishian v. Board of Regents*, 385 U.S. 589, 597–604 (1967).

or denying that the organization advocates illegal overthrow. But “legislation which sanctions membership unaccompanied by specific intent to further the unlawful goals of the organization or which is not active membership violates constitutional limitations.”⁵⁷ Similarly, in *Whitehill v. Elkins*,⁵⁸ the oath, revised, upheld in *Gerende*,⁵⁹ was voided because the Court thought it might include within its proscription innocent membership in an organization which advocated illegal overthrow of government.

More recent cases do not illuminate whether membership changes in the Court presage a change in view with regard to the loyalty-oath question. In *Connell v. Higginbotham*⁶⁰ an oath provision reading “that I do not believe in the overthrow of the Government of the United States or of the State of Florida by force or violence” was invalidated because the statute provided for summary dismissal of an employee refusing to take the oath, with no opportunity to explain that refusal. *Cole v. Richardson*⁶¹ upheld a clause in an oath “that I will oppose the overthrow of the government of the United States of America or of this Commonwealth by force, violence, or by any illegal or unconstitutional method” upon the construction that this clause was mere “repetition, whether for emphasis or cadence,” of the first part of the oath, which was a valid “uphold and defend” positive oath.

Legislative Investigations and the First Amendment.—

The power of inquiry by congressional and state legislative committees in order to develop information as a basis for legislation⁶² is subject to some uncertain limitation when the power as exercised results in deterrence or penalization of protected beliefs, associations and conduct. While the Court initially indicated that it would scrutinize closely such inquiries in order to curb First Amendment infringement,⁶³ later cases balanced the interests of the legislative bodies in inquiring about both protected and unprotected associations and conduct against what were perceived to be limited restraints upon the speech and association rights of witnesses, and

⁵⁷ Id. at 608. Note that the statement here makes specific intent or active membership alternatives in addition to knowledge while *Elfbrandt v. Russell*, 384 U.S. 11, 19 (1966), requires both in addition to knowledge.

⁵⁸ 389 U.S. 54 (1967). Justices Harlan, Stewart, and White dissented. Id. at 62.

⁵⁹ *Gerende v. Board of Supervisors of Elections*, 341 U.S. 56 (1951).

⁶⁰ 403 U.S. 207 (1971).

⁶¹ 405 U.S. 676, 683–84 (1972).

⁶² *Supra*, pp. 93–105.

⁶³ See *United States v. Rumely*, 345 U.S. 41 (1953); *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 197–98 (1957); *Sweezy v. New Hampshire*, 354 U.S. 234, 249–51 (1957). Concurring in the last case, Justices Frankfurter and Harlan would have ruled that the inquiry there was precluded by the First Amendment. Id. at 255.

upheld wide-ranging committee investigations.⁶⁴ More recently, the Court has placed the balance somewhat differently and required that the investigating agency show “a subordinating interest which is compelling” to justify the restraint on First Amendment rights which the Court found would result from the inquiry.⁶⁵ The issues in this field, thus, must be considered to be unsettled pending further judicial consideration.

Interference With War Effort.—Unlike the dissent to United States participation in World War I, which provoked several prosecutions,⁶⁶ the dissent to United States action in Vietnam was subjected to little legal attack. Possibly the most celebrated governmental action, the prosecution of Dr. Spock and four others for conspiring to counsel, aid, and abet persons to evade or to refuse obligations under the Selective Service System, failed to reach the Supreme Court.⁶⁷ Aside from a comparatively minor case,⁶⁸ the Court’s sole encounter with a Vietnam War protest allegedly involving protected “symbolic conduct” was *United States v. O’Brien*.⁶⁹ That case affirmed a conviction and upheld a congressional prohibition against destruction of draft registration certificates; O’Brien had publicly burned his card. “We cannot accept the view that an apparently limitless variety of conduct can be labeled ‘speech’ whenever the person engaging in the conduct intends thereby to express an idea. However, even on the assumption that the alleged communicative element in O’Brien’s conduct is sufficient to bring into play the First Amendment, it does not necessarily follow that the destruction of a registration certificate is constitutionally protected activity. This Court has held that when ‘speech’ and ‘nonspeech’ elements are combined in the same course of conduct, a sufficiently important governmental interest in regulating the nonspeech element can justify incidental limitations on

⁶⁴ *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109 (1959); *Uphaus v. Wyman*, 360 U.S. 72 (1959); *Wilkinson v. United States*, 365 U.S. 399 (1961); *Braden v. United States*, 365 U.S. 431 (1961). Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, and Brennan dissented in each case.

⁶⁵ *Gibson v. Florida Legislative Investigation Committee*, 372 U.S. 539 (1963). Justices Harlan, Clark, Stewart, and White dissented. *Id.* at 576, 583. *See also* *DeGregory v. Attorney General of New Hampshire*, 383 U.S. 825 (1966).

⁶⁶ *Supra*, pp. 1036–38.

⁶⁷ *United States v. Spock*, 416 F.2d 165 (1st Cir. 1969).

⁶⁸ In *Schacht v. United States*, 398 U.S. 58 (1970), the Court reversed a conviction under 18 U.S.C. §702 for wearing a military uniform without authority. The defendant had worn the uniform in a skit in an on-the-street anti-war demonstration, and 10 U.S.C. §772(f) authorized the wearing of a military uniform in a “theatrical production” so long as the performance did not “tend to discredit” the military. This last clause the Court held unconstitutional as an invalid limitation of freedom of speech.

⁶⁹ 391 U.S. 367 (1968).

First Amendment freedoms.”⁷⁰ Finding that the Government’s interest in having registrants retain their cards at all times was an important one and that the prohibition of destruction of the cards worked no restriction of First Amendment freedoms broader than that needed to serve the interest, the Court upheld the statute. More recently, the Court upheld a “passive enforcement” policy singling out for prosecution for failure to register for the draft those young men who notified authorities of an intention not to register for the draft and those reported by others.⁷¹

Suppression of Communist Propaganda in the Mails.—A 1962 statute authorizing the Post Office Department to retain all mail from abroad which was determined to be “communist political propaganda” and to forward it to an addressee only upon his request was held unconstitutional in *Lamont v. Postmaster General*.⁷² The Court held that to require anyone to request receipt of mail determined to be undesirable by the Government was certain to deter and inhibit the exercise of First Amendment rights to receive information.⁷³ Distinguishing *Lamont*, the Court in 1987 upheld statutory classification as “political propaganda” of communications or expressions by or on behalf of foreign governments, foreign “principals,” or their agents, and reasonably adapted or intended to influence United States foreign policy.⁷⁴ “The physical detention of materials, not their mere designation as ‘communist political propaganda,’ was the offending element of the statutory scheme [in *Lamont*].”⁷⁵

Exclusion of Certain Aliens as a First Amendment Problem.—While a nonresident alien might be able to present no claim, based on the First Amendment or on any other constitutional provision, to overcome a governmental decision to exclude him from the country, it was arguable that United States citizens who could

⁷⁰Id. at 376–77. For recent cases with suggestive language, see *Snepp v. United States*, 444 U.S. 507 (1980); *Haig v. Agee*, 453 U.S. 280 (1981).

⁷¹*Wayte v. United States*, 470 U.S. 598 (1985). The incidental restriction on First Amendment rights to speak out against the draft was no greater than necessary to further the government’s interests in “prosecutorial efficiency,” obtaining sufficient proof prior to prosecution, and promoting general deterrence (or not appearing to condone open defiance of the law). See also *United States v. Albertini*, 472 U.S. 675 (1985) (order banning a civilian from entering military base valid as applied to attendance at base open house by individual previously convicted of destroying military property).

⁷²381 U.S. 301 (1965). The statute, Pub. L. 87–793, § 305, 76 Stat. 840, was the first federal law ever struck down by the Court as an abridgment of the First Amendment speech and press clauses.

⁷³Id. at 307. Justices Brennan, Harlan, and Goldberg concurred, spelling out in some detail the rationale of the protected right to receive information as the basis for the decision.

⁷⁴*Meese v. Keene*, 481 U.S. 465 (1987).

⁷⁵Id. at 480.

assert a First Amendment interest in hearing the alien and receiving information from him, such as the right recognized in *Lamont*, could be able to contest such exclusion.⁷⁶ But the Court declined to reach the First Amendment issue and to place it in balance when it found that a governmental refusal to waive a statutory exclusion⁷⁷ was on facially legitimate and neutral grounds; the Court's emphasis, however, upon the "plenary" power of Congress over admission or exclusion of aliens seemed to indicate where such a balance might be drawn.⁷⁸

Particular Governmental Regulations Which Restrict Expression

Government adopts and enforces many measures which are designed to further a valid interest but which may have restrictive effects upon freedom of expression. As an employer, government is interested in attaining and maintaining full production from its employees in a harmonious environment. As enforcer of the democratic method of carrying out selection of public officials, it is interested in outlawing "corrupt practices" and promoting a fair and smoothly-functioning electoral process. As regulator of economic affairs, its interests are extensive. As educator, it desires to impart knowledge and training to the young with as little distraction as possible. All of these interests may be achieved with some restriction upon expression, but if the regulation goes too far expression may be abridged and the regulation will fail.⁷⁹

Government as Employer: Political Activities.—Abolition of the "spoils system" in federal employment brought with it con-

⁷⁶The right to receive information has been prominent in the rationale of several cases, e.g., *Martin v. City of Struthers*, 319 U.S. 141 (1943); *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516 (1945); *Stanley v. Georgia*, 394 U.S. 557 (1969).

⁷⁷By §§ 212(a)(28)(D) and (G) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1182(a)(28)(D) and (G), aliens who advocate or write and publish "the economic, international, and governmental doctrines of world communism" are made ineligible to receive visas and are thus excluded from the United States. Upon the recommendation of the Secretary of State, however, the Attorney General is authorized to waive these provisions and to admit such an alien temporarily into the country. INA § 212(d)(3)(A), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d)(3)(A).

⁷⁸*Kleindienst v. Mandel*, 408 U.S. 753 (1972).

⁷⁹Highly relevant in this and subsequent sections dealing with governmental incidental restraints upon expression is the distinction the Court has drawn between content-based and content-neutral regulations, a distinction designed to ferret out those regulations which indeed serve other valid governmental interests from those which in fact are imposed because of the content of the expression reached. *Compare* *Police Department v. Mosley*, 408 U.S. 92 (1972); *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975); and *Schacht v. United States*, 398 U.S. 58 (1970), *with* *Greer v. Spock*, 424 U.S. 828 (1976); *Civil Service Commission v. National Association of Letter Carriers*, 413 U.S. 548 (1973); and *United States v. O'Brien*, 391 U.S. 367 (1968). Content-based regulations are subjected to strict scrutiny, while content-neutral regulations are not.

sequent restrictions upon political activities by federal employees. In 1876, federal employees were prohibited from requesting from, giving to, or receiving from any other federal employee money for political purposes, and the Civil Service Act of 1883 more broadly forbade civil service employees to use their official authority or influence to coerce political action of any person or to interfere with elections.⁸⁰ By the Hatch Act, federal employees, and many state employees as well, are forbidden to “take any active part in political management or in political campaigns.”⁸¹ As applied through the regulations and rulings of the Office of Personnel Management, formerly the Civil Service Commission, the Act prevents employees from running for public office, distributing campaign literature, playing an active role at political meetings, circulating nomination petitions, attending a political convention except as a spectator, publishing a letter soliciting votes for a candidate, and all similar activity.⁸² The question is whether government, which may not prohibit citizens in general from engaging in these activities, may nonetheless so control the off-duty activities of its own employees.

In *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*,⁸³ the Court answered in the affirmative. While the Court refused to consider the claims of persons who had not yet engaged in forbidden political activities, it did rule against a mechanical employee of the Mint who had done so. The opinion of the Court, by Justice Reed, recognized that the restrictions of political activities imposed by the Act did in some measure impair First Amendment and other constitutional rights,⁸⁴ but it placed its decision upon the established principle that no right is absolute. The standard by which the Court judged the validity of the permissible impairment of First Amendment rights, however, was a due process standard of reasonableness.⁸⁵ Thus, changes in the standards of judging incidental restrictions on expression suggested the possibility of a reconsideration of *Mitch-*

⁸⁰ Ch. 287, 19 Stat. 169, § 6, 18 U.S.C. §§ 602–03, sustained in *Ex parte Curtis*, 106 U.S. 371 (1882); Ch. 27, 22 Stat. 403, as amended, 5 U.S.C. § 7323.

⁸¹ Ch. 410, 53 Stat. 1148 § 9(a), (1939), as amended, 5 U.S.C. § 7324(a)(2). By Ch. 640, 54 Stat. 767 (1940), as amended, 5 U.S.C. §§ 1501–08, the restrictions on political activity were extended to state and local governmental employees working in programs financed in whole or in part with federal funds. This provision was sustained against federalism challenges in *Oklahoma v. Civil Service Comm’n*, 330 U.S. 127 (1947). All the States have adopted laws patterned on the Hatch Act. See *Broadrick v. Oklahoma*, 413 U.S. 601, 604 (1973).

⁸² The Commission on Political Activity of Government Personnel, Findings and Recommendations 11, 19–24 (Washington: 1968).

⁸³ 330 U.S. 75, 94–104 (1947). The decision was 4-to-3, with Justice Frankfurter joining the Court on the merits only after arguing the Court lacked jurisdiction.

⁸⁴ *Id.* at 94–95.

⁸⁵ *Id.* at 101, 102.

*ell.*⁸⁶ But a divided Court, reaffirming *Mitchell*, sustained the Act's limitations upon political activity against a range of First Amendment challenges.⁸⁷ It emphasized that the interest of the Government in forbidding partisan political activities by its employees was so substantial that it overrode the rights of those employees to engage in political activities and association;⁸⁸ therefore, a statute which barred in plain language a long list of activities would be clearly valid.⁸⁹ The issue in *Letter Carriers*, however, was whether the language Congress did enact, forbidding employees to take "an active part in political management or in political campaigns," was unconstitutional on its face, either because the statute was too imprecise to allow government employees to determine what was forbidden and what was permitted, or because the statute swept in under its coverage conduct that Congress could not forbid as well as conduct subject to prohibition or regulation. In respect to vagueness, plaintiffs contended and the lower court had held that the quoted proscription was inadequate to provide sufficient guidance and that the only further elucidation Congress had provided was to enact that the forbidden activities were the same activities which the Commission had as of 1940, and reaching back to 1883, "determined are at the time of the passage of this act prohibited on the part of employees . . . by the provisions of the civil-service rules. . . ." This language had been included, it was contended, to deprive the Commission of power to alter thousands of rulings made by it which were not available to employees and which were in any event mutually inconsistent and too broad.

The Court held, on the contrary, that Congress had intended to confine the Commission to the boundaries of its rulings as of 1940 but had further intended the Commission by a process of case-by-case adjudication to flesh out the prohibition and to give content to it. That the Commission had done. It had regularly summarized in understandable terms the rules which it applied, and it was authorized as well to issue advisory opinions to employees un-

⁸⁶The Act was held unconstitutional by a divided three-judge district court. *National Ass'n of Letter Carriers v. Civil Service Comm'n*, 346 F. Supp. 578 (D.D.C. 1972).

⁸⁷*Civil Service Comm'n v. National Ass'n of Letter Carriers*, 413 U.S. 548 (1973). In *Broadrick v. Oklahoma*, 413 U.S. 601 (1973), the Court refused to consider overbreadth attacks on a state statute of much greater coverage because the plaintiffs had engaged in conduct that the statute could clearly constitutionally proscribe.

⁸⁸The interests recognized by the Court as served by the proscription on partisan activities were (1) the interest in the efficient and fair operation of governmental activities and the appearance of such operation, (2) the interest in fair elections, and (3) the interest in protecting employees from improper political influences. 413 U.S. at 557-67.

⁸⁹*Id.* at 556.

certain of the propriety of contemplated conduct. “[T]here are limitations in the English language with respect to being both specific and manageably brief,” said the Court, but it thought the prohibitions as elaborated in Commission regulations and rulings were “set out in terms that the ordinary person exercising ordinary common sense can sufficiently understand and comply with, without sacrifice to the public interests.”⁹⁰ There were conflicts, the Court conceded, between some of the things forbidden and some of the protected expressive activities, but these were at most marginal. Thus, some conduct arguably protected did under some circumstances so partake of partisan activities as to be properly proscribable. But the Court would not invalidate the entire statute for this degree of overbreadth.⁹¹ More recently, in *Bush v. Lucas*⁹² the Court held that the civil service laws and regulations are sufficiently “elaborate [and] comprehensive” so as to afford federal employees adequate remedy for deprivation of First Amendment rights as a result of disciplinary actions by supervisors, and that therefore there is no need to create an additional judicial remedy for the constitutional violation.

Government as Employer: Free Expression Generally.—

Change has occurred in many contexts, in the main with regard to state and local employees and with regard to varying restrictions placed upon such employees. Foremost among the changes has been the general disregarding of the “right-privilege” distinction. Application of that distinction to the public employment context was epitomized in the famous sentence of Justice Holmes: “The petitioner may have a constitutional right to talk politics, but he has no constitutional right to be a policeman.”⁹³ The Supreme Court embraced this application in the early 1950s, first affirming a lower court decision by equally divided vote,⁹⁴ and soon after applying the distinction itself. Upholding a prohibition on employment as

⁹⁰Id. at 578–79.

⁹¹Id. at 580–81.

⁹²462 U.S. 367 (1983).

⁹³*McAuliffe v. Mayor of New Bedford*, 155 Mass. 216, 220, 29 N.E. 517 (1892).

⁹⁴*Bailey v. Richardson*, 182 F. 2d 46, 59 (D.C. Cir. 1950), aff’d by an equally divided Court, 341 U.S. 918 (1951). The appeals court majority, upholding the dismissal of a government employee against due process and First Amendment claims, asserted that “the plain hard fact is that so far as the Constitution is concerned there is no prohibition against the dismissal of Government employees because of their political beliefs, activities or affiliations. . . . The First Amendment guarantees free speech and assembly, but it does not guarantee Government employ.” Although the Supreme Court issued no opinion in *Bailey*, several Justices touched on the issues in *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123 (1951). Justices Douglas and Jackson in separate opinions rejected the privilege doctrine as applied by the lower court in *Bailey*. Id. at 180, 185. Justice Black had previously rejected the doctrine in *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*, 330 U.S. 75, 105 (1947) (dissenting opinion).

teachers of persons who advocated the desirability of overthrowing the government, the Court declared that “[i]t is clear that such persons have the right under our law to assemble, speak, think and believe as they will. . . . It is equally clear that they have no right to work for the state in the school system on their own terms. They may work for the school system under reasonable terms laid down by the proper authorities of New York. If they do not choose to work on such terms, they are at liberty to retain their beliefs and associations and go elsewhere. Has the State thus deprived them of any right to free speech or assembly? We think not.”⁹⁵

The same year, however, saw the express rejection of the right-privilege doctrine in another loyalty case. Voiding a loyalty oath requirement conditioned on mere membership in suspect organizations, the Court reasoned that the interest of public employees in being free of such an imposition was substantial. “There can be no dispute about the consequences visited upon a person excluded from public employment on disloyalty grounds. In the view of the community, the stain is a deep one; indeed, it has become a badge of infamy. . . . [W]e need not pause to consider whether an abstract right to public employment exists. It is sufficient to say that constitutional protection does extend to the public servant whose exclusion pursuant to a statute is patently arbitrary or discriminatory.”⁹⁶ The premise here that if removal or rejection injures one in some fashion he is therefore entitled to raise constitutional claims against the dismissal or rejection has faded in subsequent cases; the rationale now is that while government may deny employment, or any benefit for that matter, for any number of reasons, it may not deny employment or other benefits on a basis that infringes that person’s constitutionally protected interests. “For if the government could deny a benefit to a person because of his constitutionally protected speech or associations, his exercise of those freedoms would in effect be penalized and inhibited. This would allow the government to ‘produce a result which [it] could not command directly.’ . . . Such interference with constitutional rights is impermissible.”⁹⁷

⁹⁵ *Adler v. Board of Education*, 342 U.S. 458, 492–93 (1952). Justices Douglas and Black dissented, again rejecting the privilege doctrine. *Id.* at 508. Justice Frankfurter, who dissented on other grounds, had previously rejected the doctrine in another case, *Garner v. Board of Public Works*, 341 U.S. 716, 725 (1951) (concurring in part and dissenting in part).

⁹⁶ *Wieman v. Updegraff*, 344 U.S. 183, 190–91, 192 (1952). Some earlier cases had utilized a somewhat qualified statement of the privilege. *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*, 330 U.S. 75, 100 (1947); *Garner v. Board of Public Works*, 341 U.S. 716, 722 (1951).

⁹⁷ *Perry v. Sindermann*, 408 U.S. 593, 597 (1972). In a companion case, the Court noted that the privilege basis for the appeals court’s due process holding in

However, the fact that government does not have *carte blanche* in dealing with the constitutional rights of its employees does not mean it has no power at all. “[I]t cannot be gainsaid that the State has interests as an employer in regulating the speech of its employees that differ significantly from those it possesses in connection with regulation of the speech of the citizenry in general.”⁹⁸ *Pickering* concerned the dismissal of a high school teacher who had written a critical letter to a local newspaper reflecting on the administration of the school system. The letter also contained several factual errors. “The problem in any case,” Justice Marshall wrote for the Court, “is to arrive at a balance between the interests of the teacher, as a citizen, in commenting upon matters of public concern and the interest of the State, as an employer, in promoting the efficiency of the public services it performs through its employees.”⁹⁹ No general standard was laid down by the Court, but a suggestive analysis was undertaken. Dismissal of a public employee for criticism of his superiors was improper, the Court indicated, where the relationship of employee to superior was not so close, such as day-to-day personal contact, that problems of discipline or of harmony among coworkers, or problems of personal loyalty and confidence, would arise.¹⁰⁰ The school board had not shown that any harm had resulted from the false statements in the letter, and it could not proceed on the assumption that the false statements were per se harmful, inasmuch as the statements primarily reflected a difference of opinion between the teacher and the board about the allocation of funds. Moreover, the allocation of funds is a matter of important public concern about which teachers have informed and definite opinions that the community should be aware of. “In these circumstances we conclude that the interest of the school adminis-

Bailey “has been thoroughly undermined in the ensuing years.” *Board of Regents v. Roth*, 408 U.S. 564, 571 n.9 (1972). The test now in due process and other such cases is whether government has conferred a property right in employment which it must respect, *see infra*, pp. 1622–31, but the inquiry when it is alleged that an employee has been penalized for the assertion of a constitutional right is that stated in the text. A finding, however, that protected expression or conduct played a substantial part in the decision to dismiss or punish does not conclude the case; the employer may show by a preponderance of the evidence that the same decision would have been reached in the absence of the protected expression or conduct. *Mt. Healthy City Bd. of Educ. v. Doyle*, 429 U.S. 274, 287 (1977); *Givhan v. Western Line Consol. Sch. Dist.*, 439 U.S. 410, 416 (1979).

⁹⁸*Pickering v. Board of Education*, 391 U.S. 563, 568 (1968).

⁹⁹*Id.*

¹⁰⁰*Id.* at 568–70. *Contrast Connick v. Myers*, 461 U.S. 138 (1983), where *Pickering* was distinguished on the basis that the employee, an assistant district attorney, worked in an environment where a close personal relationship involving loyalty and harmony was important. “When close working relationships are essential to fulfilling public responsibilities, a wide degree of deference to the employer’s judgment is appropriate.” *Id.* at 151–52.

tration in limiting teachers' opportunities to contribute to public debate is not significantly greater than its interest in limiting a similar contribution by any member of the general public."¹⁰¹

Combining a balancing test of governmental interest and employee rights with a purportedly limiting statutory construction, the Court, in *Arnett v. Kennedy*,¹⁰² sustained the constitutionality of a provision of federal law authorizing removal or suspension without pay of an employee "for such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service" when the "cause" cited concerned speech by the employee. He had charged that his superiors had made an offer of a bribe to a private person. The quoted statutory phrase, the Court held, "is without doubt intended to authorize dismissal for speech as well as other conduct." But, recurring to its *Letter Carriers* analysis,¹⁰³ it noted that the authority conferred was not impermissibly vague, inasmuch as it is not possible to encompass within a statutory enactment all the myriad situations that arise in the course of employment and the language used was informed by developed principles of agency adjudication coupled with a procedure for obtaining legal counsel from the agency on the interpretation of the law.¹⁰⁴ Neither was the language overbroad, continued the Court, because it "proscribes only that public speech which improperly damages and impairs the reputation and efficiency of the employing agency, and it thus imposes no greater controls on the behavior of federal employees than are necessary for the protection of the Government as an employer. . . . We hold that the language 'such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service' in the Act excludes constitutionally protected speech, and that the statute is therefore not overbroad."¹⁰⁵

Pickering was distinguished in *Connick v. Myers*,¹⁰⁶ involving what the Court characterized in the main as an employee grievance

¹⁰¹ *Id.* at 570–73. *Pickering* was extended to private communications of an employee's views to the employer in *Givhan v. Western Line Consol. Sch. Dist.*, 439 U.S. 410 (1979), although the Court recognized that different considerations might arise in context. That is, with respect to public speech, *content* may be determinative in weighing impairment of the government's interests, whereas with private speech, *manner, time, and place of delivery* may be as or more important. *Id.* at 415 n.4.

¹⁰² 416 U.S. 134 (1974). The quoted language is from 5 U.S.C. §7501(a).

¹⁰³ *Civil Service Comm'n v. National Ass'n of Letter Carriers*, 413 U.S. 548, 578–79 (1973).

¹⁰⁴ *Arnett v. Kennedy*, 416 U.S. 134, 158–64 (1974).

¹⁰⁵ *Id.* at 162. In dissent, Justice Marshall argued: "The Court's answer is no answer at all. To accept this response is functionally to eliminate overbreadth from the First Amendment lexicon. No statute can reach and punish constitutionally protected speech. The majority has not given the statute a limiting construction but merely repeated the obvious." *Id.* at 229.

¹⁰⁶ 461 U.S. 138 (1983).

rather than an effort to inform the public on a matter of public concern. The employee, an assistant district attorney involved in a dispute with her supervisor over transfer to a different section, was fired for insubordination after she circulated a questionnaire among her peers soliciting views on matters relating to employee morale. This firing the Court found permissible. “When employee expression cannot be fairly considered as relating to any matter of political, social, or other concern to the community, government officials should enjoy wide latitude in managing their offices, without intrusive oversight by the judiciary in the name of the First Amendment.”¹⁰⁷ Whether an employee’s speech addresses a matter of public concern, the Court indicated, must be determined not only by its content, but also by its form and context.¹⁰⁸ Because one aspect of the employee’s speech did raise matters of public concern, *Connick* also applied *Pickering’s* balancing test, holding that “a wide degree of deference is appropriate” when “close working relationships” between employer and employee are involved.¹⁰⁹ The issue of public concern is not only a threshold inquiry, but under *Connick* still figures in the balancing of interests: “the State’s burden in justifying a particular discharge varies depending upon the nature of the employee’s expression” and its importance to the public.¹¹⁰

On the other hand, the Court has indicated that an employee’s speech may be protected as relating to matters of public concern even in the absence of any effort or intent to inform the public.¹¹¹ In *Rankin v. McPherson*¹¹² the Court held protected an employee’s comment, made to a coworker upon hearing of an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate the President, and in a context critical of the

¹⁰⁷ 461 U.S. at 146. *Connick* was a 5–4 decision, with Justice White’s opinion of the Court being joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justices Powell, Rehnquist, and O’Connor. Justice Brennan, joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens, dissented, arguing that information concerning morale at an important government office is a matter of public concern, and that the Court extended too much deference to the employer’s judgment as to disruptive effect. *Id.* at 163–65.

¹⁰⁸ *Id.* at 147–48. Justice Brennan objected to this introduction of context, admittedly of interest in balancing interests, into the threshold issue of public concern.

¹⁰⁹ *Id.* at 151–52.

¹¹⁰ *Id.* at 150. The Court explained that “a stronger showing [of interference with governmental interests] may be necessary if the employee’s speech more substantially involve[s] matters of public concern.” *Id.* at 152.

¹¹¹ This conclusion was implicit in *Givhan*, *supra* n.101, characterized by the Court in *Connick* as involving “an employee speak[ing] out as a citizen on a matter of general concern, not tied to a personal employment dispute, but [speaking] privately.” 461 U.S. at 148 n.8.

¹¹² 483 U.S. 378 (1987). This was a 5–4 decision, with Justice Marshall’s opinion of the Court being joined by Justices Brennan, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens, and with Justice Scalia’s dissent being joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist, and by Justices White and O’Connor. Justice Powell added a separate concurring opinion.

President's policies, "If they go for him again, I hope they get him." Indeed, the Court in *McPherson* emphasized the clerical employee's lack of contact with the public in concluding that the employer's interest in maintaining the efficient operation of the office (including public confidence and good will) was insufficient to outweigh the employee's First Amendment rights.¹¹³

Thus, although the public employer cannot muzzle its employees or penalize them for their expressions and associations to the same extent that a private employer can (the First Amendment, inapplicable to the private employer, is applicable to the public employer),¹¹⁴ the public employer nonetheless has broad leeway in restricting employee speech. If the employee speech does not relate to a matter of "public concern," then *Connick* applies and the employer is largely free of constitutional restraint. If the speech does relate to a matter of public concern, then *Pickering's* balancing test (as modified by *Connick*) is employed, the governmental interests in efficiency, workplace harmony, and the satisfactory performance of the employee's duties¹¹⁵ being balanced against the employee's First Amendment rights. While the general approach is relatively easy to describe, it has proven difficult to apply.¹¹⁶ The First Amendment, however, does not stand alone in protecting the

¹¹³"Where . . . an employee serves no confidential, policymaking, or public contact role, the danger to the agency's successful function from that employee's private speech is minimal." 483 U.S. at 390–91.

¹¹⁴See, e.g., *Elrod v. Burns*, 427 U.S. 347 (1976), and *Branti v. Finkel*, 445 U.S. 507 (1980) (political patronage systems impermissibly infringe protected belief and associational rights of employees); *Madison School Dist. v. WERC*, 429 U.S. 167 (1977) (school teacher may not be prevented from speaking at a public meeting in opposition to position advanced by union with exclusive representation rights). The public employer may, as may private employers, permit collective bargaining and confer on representatives of its employees the right of exclusive representation, *Abood v. Detroit Bd. of Educ.*, 431 U.S. 209, 223–32 (1977), but the fact that its employees may speak does not compel government to listen to them. See *Smith v. Arkansas State Highway Employees*, 441 U.S. 463 (1979) (employees have right to associate to present their positions to their employer but employer not constitutionally required to engage in collective bargaining). See also *Minnesota State Bd. for Community Colleges v. Knight*, 465 U.S. 271 (1984) (public employees not members of union have no First Amendment right to meet separately with public employers compelled by state law to "meet and confer" with exclusive bargaining representative). Government may also inquire into the fitness of its employees and potential employees, but it must do so in a manner that does not needlessly endanger the expression and associational rights of those persons. See, e.g., *Shelton v. Tucker*, 364 U.S. 479 (1969).

¹¹⁵In some contexts, the governmental interest is more far-reaching. See *Snepp v. United States*, 444 U.S. 507, 509 n.3 (1980) (interest in protecting secrecy of foreign intelligence sources).

¹¹⁶For analysis of the efforts of lower courts to apply *Pickering* and *Connick*, see Massaro, *Significant Silences: Freedom of Speech in the Public Sector Workplace*, 61 S. CAL. L. REV. 1 (1987); and Allred, *From Connick to Confusion: The Struggle to Define Speech on Matters of Public Concern*, 64 IND. L.J. 43 (1988).

speech of public employees; statutory protections for “whistleblowers” add to the mix.¹¹⁷

Government as Educator.—While the Court had previously made clear that students in public schools were entitled to some constitutional protection¹¹⁸ and that minors generally were not outside the range of constitutional protection,¹¹⁹ its first attempt to establish standards of First Amendment expression guarantees against curtailment by school authorities came in *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*.¹²⁰ There, high school principals had banned the wearing of black armbands by students in school as a symbol of protest against United States actions in Viet Nam. Reversing the refusal of lower courts to reinstate students who had been suspended for violating the ban, the Court set out the balance to be drawn. “First Amendment rights, applied in light of the special characteristics of the school environment, are available to teachers and students. It can hardly be argued that either students or teachers shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the school house gate. . . . On the other hand, the Court has repeatedly emphasized the need for affirming the comprehensive authority of the States and of school officials, consistent with fundamental constitutional safeguards, to prescribe and control conduct in the schools.”¹²¹ Restriction on expression by school authorities is only permissible to prevent disruption of educational discipline. “In order for the State in the person of school officials to justify prohibition of a particular expression of opinion, it must be able to show that its action was caused by something more than a mere desire to avoid the discomfort and unpleasantness that always accompany an unpopular viewpoint. Certainly where there is no finding and no showing that engaging in the forbidden conduct would ‘materially and substantially interfere with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school,’ the prohibition cannot be sustained.”¹²²

¹¹⁷The principal federal law is the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989, Pub. L. No. 101–12, 103 Stat. 16, 5 U.S.C. § 1201 *et seq.*

¹¹⁸*West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943) (flag salute); *Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390 (1923) (limitation of language curriculum to English); *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510 (1925) (compulsory school attendance in public rather than choice of public or private schools).

¹¹⁹*In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1 (1967). Of course, children are in a number of respects subject to restrictions which would be impermissible were adults involved. *E.g.*, *Ginsberg v. New York*, 390 U.S. 629 (1968); *Rowan v. Post Office Dept.*, 397 U.S. 728 (1970) (access to objectionable and perhaps obscene materials).

¹²⁰393 U.S. 503 (1969).

¹²¹*Id.* at 506, 507.

¹²²*Id.* at 509. The internal quotation is from *Burnside v. Byars*, 363 F.2d 744, 749 (5th Cir. 1966). *See also Paphis v. Board of Curators*, 410 U.S. 667 (1973) (state

Tinker was reaffirmed by the Court in *Healy v. James*,¹²³ in which it held that the withholding of recognition by a public college administration from a student organization violated the students' right of association, which is a construct of First Amendment liberties. Denial of recognition, the Court held, was impermissible if it had been based on the local organization's affiliation with the national SDS, or on disagreement with the organization's philosophy, or on a fear of disruption with no evidentiary support. "First Amendment rights must always be applied 'in light of the special characteristics of the . . . environment' in the particular case. . . . And, where state-operated educational institutions are involved, this Court has long recognized 'the need for affirming the comprehensive authority of the States and of school officials, consistent with fundamental constitutional safeguards, to prescribe and control conduct in the schools.' . . . Yet, the precedents of this Court leave no room for the view that, because of the acknowledged need for order, First Amendment protections should apply with less force on college campuses than in the community at large. Quite to the contrary, '[t]he vigilant protection of constitutional freedoms is nowhere more vital than in the community of American schools.' . . . The college classroom with its surrounding environs is peculiarly the 'market place of ideas' and we break no new constitutional ground in reaffirming this Nation's dedication to safeguarding academic freedom."¹²⁴ But a college may impose reasonable regulations to maintain order and preserve an atmosphere in which learning may take place, and it may impose as a condition of recognition that each organization affirm in advance its willingness to adhere to reasonable campus law.¹²⁵

university could not expel a student for using "indecent speech" in campus newspaper). However, offensive "indecent" speech in the context of a high school assembly is punishable by school authorities. See *Bethel School Dist. No. 403 v. Fraser*, 478 U.S. 675 (1986) (upholding 2-day suspension, and withdrawal of privilege of speaking at graduation, for student who used sophomoric sexual metaphor in speech given to school assembly).

¹²³ 408 U.S. 169 (1972).

¹²⁴ *Id.* at 180. The internal quotations are from *Tinker*, 393 U.S. 503, 506, 507 (1969), and from *Shelton v. Tucker*, 364 U.S. 479, 487 (1960).

¹²⁵ *Healy v. James*, 408 U.S. at 193. Because a First Amendment right was in issue, the burden was on the college to justify its rejection of a request for recognition rather than upon the requesters to justify affirmatively their right to be recognized. *Id.* at 184. Justice Rehnquist concurred in the result, because in his view a school administration could impose upon students reasonable regulations that would be impermissible if imposed by the government upon all citizens; consequently, cases cited by the Court which had arisen in the latter situation he did not think controlling. *Id.* at 201. See also *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104 (1972), in which the Court upheld an antinoise ordinance that forbade persons on grounds adjacent to a school to willfully make noise or to create any other diversion during school hours that "disturbs or tends to disturb" normal school activities.

While a public college may not be required to open its facilities generally for use by student groups, once it has done so it must justify any discriminations and exclusions under applicable constitutional norms, such as those developed under the public forum doctrine. Thus, it was constitutionally impermissible for a college to close off its facilities, otherwise open, to students wishing to engage in religious speech.¹²⁶ To be sure, a decision to permit access by religious groups had to be evaluated under First Amendment religion standards, but equal access did not violate the religion clauses. Compliance with stricter state constitutional provisions on church-state was a substantial interest, but it could not justify a content-based discrimination in violation of the First Amendment speech clause.¹²⁷ By enactment of the Equal Access Act in 1984,¹²⁸ Congress applied the same “limited open [public] forum” principles to public high schools, and the Court upheld the Act against First Amendment challenge.¹²⁹

When faced with another conflict between a school system’s obligation to inculcate community values in students and the expression rights of those students, the Court splintered badly, remanding for full trial a case challenging the authority of a school board to remove certain books from high school and junior high school libraries.¹³⁰ In dispute were the school board’s reasons for removing the books—whether, as the board alleged, because of vulgarity and other content-neutral reasons, or whether also because of political disagreement with contents. The plurality conceded that school boards must be permitted “to establish and apply their curriculum in such a way as to transmit community values,” and that “there is a legitimate and substantial community interest in promoting respect for authority and traditional values be they social, moral, or political.” At the same time, the plurality thought that students retained substantial free expression protections and that among these was the right to receive information and ideas. Carefully limiting its discussion to the removal of books from a school library,

¹²⁶ *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263 (1981).

¹²⁷ *Id.* at 270–76. Whether the holding extends beyond the college level to students in high school or below who are more “impressionable” and perhaps less able to appreciate that equal access does not compromise the school’s neutrality toward religion, *id.* at 274 n.14, is unclear. See *Brandon v. Board of Education*, 635 F.2d 971 (2d Cir. 1980), cert. denied, 454 U.S. 1123 (1981).

¹²⁸ Pub. L. No. 98–377, title VII, 98 Stat. 1302, 20 U.S.C. §§4071–74.

¹²⁹ *Westside Community Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens*, 496 U.S. 226 (1990). There was no opinion of the Court on the Establishment Clause holding. A plurality opinion, *id.* at 247–53, rejected Justice Marshall’s contention, *id.* at 263, that compulsory attendance and other structured aspects of the particular high school setting in *Mergens* differed so significantly from the relatively robust, open college setting in *Widmar* as to suggest state endorsement of religion.

¹³⁰ *Board of Education v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853 (1982).

thereby excluding acquisition of books as well as questions of school curricula, the plurality would hold a school board constitutionally disabled from removing library books in order to deny access to ideas with which it disagrees for political reasons.¹³¹ The four dissenters basically rejected the contention that school children have a protected right to receive information and ideas and thought that the proper role of education was to inculcate the community's values, a function into which the federal courts could rarely intrude.¹³² The decision provides little guidance to school officials and to the lower courts and assures a revisiting of the controversy by the Supreme Court.

Tinker was distinguished in *Hazelwood School Dist. v. Kuhlmeier*,¹³³ the Court relying on public forum analysis to hold that editorial control and censorship of a student newspaper sponsored by a public high school need only be "reasonably related to legitimate pedagogical concerns."¹³⁴ "The question whether the First Amendment requires a school to tolerate particular student speech—the question that we addressed in *Tinker*—is different from the question whether the First Amendment requires a school affirmatively to promote particular student speech."¹³⁵ The student newspaper had been created by school officials as a part of the school curriculum, and served "as a supervised learning experience for journalism students." Because no public forum had been created, school officials could maintain editorial control subject only to a reasonableness standard. Thus, a principal's decisions to excise from the publication an article describing student pregnancy in a manner believed inappropriate for younger students, and another article on divorce critical of a named parent, were upheld.

The category of school-sponsored speech subject to *Kuhlmeier* analysis appears to be far broader than the category of student expression still governed by *Tinker*. School-sponsored activities, the Court indicated, can include "publications, theatrical productions, and other expressive activities that students, parents, and members of the public might reasonably perceive to bear the imprimatur of the school. These activities may fairly be characterized as part of the school curriculum, whether or not they occur in a tradi-

¹³¹ Id. 862, 864–69, 870–72. Only Justices Marshall and Stevens joined fully Justice Brennan's opinion. Justice Blackmun joined it for the most part with differing emphases. Id. at 875. Justice White refrained from joining any of the opinions but concurred in the result solely because he thought there were unresolved issues of fact that required a trial. Id. at 883.

¹³² The principal dissent was by Justice Rehnquist. Id. at 904. See also id. at 885 (Chief Justice Burger), 893 (Justice Powell), 921 (Justice O'Connor).

¹³³ 484 U.S.260 (1988).

¹³⁴ Id. at 273.

¹³⁵ Id. at 270–71.

tional classroom setting, so long as they are supervised by faculty members and designed to impart particular knowledge or skills to student participants and audiences.”¹³⁶ Because most primary, intermediate, and secondary school environments are tightly structured, with few opportunities for unsupervised student expression,¹³⁷ *Tinker* apparently has limited applicability. It may be, for example, that students are protected for off-premises production of “underground” newspapers (but not necessarily for attempted distribution on school grounds) as well as for non-disruptive symbolic speech. For most student speech at public schools, however, *Tinker’s* tilt in favor of student expression, requiring school administrators to premise censorship on likely disruptive effects, has been replaced by *Kuhlmeier’s* tilt in favor of school administrators’ pedagogical discretion.¹³⁸

Governmental regulation of the school and college administration can also implicate the First Amendment. But the Court dismissed as too attenuated a claim to a First Amendment-based academic freedom privilege to withhold peer review materials from EEOC subpoena in an investigation of a charge of sex discrimination in a faculty tenure decision.¹³⁹

Government as Regulator of the Electoral Process: Elections.—Government has increasingly regulated the electoral system by which candidates are nominated and elected, requiring disclosure of contributions and expenditures, limiting contributions and expenditures, and imposing other regulations.¹⁴⁰ These regula-

¹³⁶Id. at 271. Selection of materials for school libraries may fall within this broad category, depending upon what is meant by “designed to impart particular knowledge or skills.” See generally Stewart, *The First Amendment, the Public Schools, and the Inculcation of Community Values*, 18 J. LAW & EDUC. 23 (1989).

¹³⁷The Court in *Kuhlmeier* declined to decide “whether the same degree of deference is appropriate with respect to school-sponsored expressive activities at the college and university level.” 484 U.S. at 274 n.7.

¹³⁸One exception may exist for student religious groups covered by the Equal Access Act; in this context the Court seemed to step back from *Kuhlmeier’s* broad concept of curriculum-relatedness, seeing no constitutionally significant danger of perceived school sponsorship of religion arising from application of the Act’s requirement that high schools provide meeting space for student religious groups on the same basis that they provide such space for student clubs. *Westside Community Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens*, 496 U.S. 226 (1990).

¹³⁹*University of Pennsylvania v. EEOC*, 493 U.S. 182 (1990).

¹⁴⁰The basic federal legislation regulating campaign finances is spread over several titles of the United States Code. The relevant, principal modern laws are the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, 86 Stat. 3, as amended by the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1974, 88 Stat. 1263, and the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1979, 93 Stat. 1339, 2 U.S.C. 431 et seq., and sections of Titles 18 and 26. The Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925, 43 Stat. 1074, was upheld in *Burroughs v. United States*, 290 U.S. 534 (1934), but there was no First Amendment challenge. All States, of course, extensively regulate elections.

tions restrict freedom of expression, which comprehends the rights to join together for political purposes, to promote candidates and issues, and to participate in the political process.¹⁴¹ The Court is divided with respect to many of these federal and state restrictions, but when government acts to bar or penalize political speech directly the Justices are united. Thus, when Kentucky attempted to void an election on the grounds that the winner's campaign promise to serve at a lower salary than that affixed to the office violated a law prohibiting candidates from offering material benefits to voters in consideration for their votes, the Court ruled unanimously that the state's action violated the First Amendment.¹⁴² Similarly, California could not prohibit official governing bodies of political parties from endorsing or opposing candidates in primary elections.¹⁴³

In 1971 and 1974, Congress imposed new and stringent regulation of and limitations on contributions to and expenditures by political campaigns, as well as disclosure of most contributions and expenditures, setting the stage for the landmark *Buckley v. Valeo* decision probing the scope of protection afforded political activities by the First Amendment.¹⁴⁴ In basic unanimity, but with several Justices feeling that the sustained provisions trenched on protected expression, the Court sustained the contribution and disclosure sections of the statute but voided the limitations on expenditures.¹⁴⁵

"Discussion of public issues and debate on the qualifications of candidates are integral to the operation of the system of government established by our Constitution. . . . A restriction on the amount of money a person or group can spend on political communication during a campaign necessarily reduces the quantity of expression by restricting the number of issues discussed, the depth

¹⁴¹ See, e.g., *Mills v. Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214, 218–19 (1966); *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 14, 19 (1976); *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 776–78 (1978); *Brown v. Hartlage*, 456 U.S. 45, 52–54 (1982).

¹⁴² *Brown v. Hartlage*, 456 U.S. 45 (1982). See also *Mills v. Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214 (1966) (setting aside a conviction and voiding a statute which punished electioneering or solicitation of votes for or against any proposition on the day of the election, applied to publication of a newspaper editorial on election day supporting an issue on the ballot); *Vanasco v. Schwartz*, 401 F. Supp. 87 (E.D.N.Y. 1975) (three-judge court), aff'd, 423 U.S. 1041 (1976) (statute barring malicious, scurrilous, and false and misleading campaign literature is unconstitutionally overbroad).

¹⁴³ *Eu v. San Francisco County Democratic Central Comm.*, 489 U.S. 214 (1989). Cf. *Burson v. Freeman*, 112 S. Ct. 1846 (1992) (upholding Tennessee law prohibiting solicitation of votes and distribution of campaign literature within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place; plurality found a "compelling" interest in preventing voter intimidation and election fraud).

¹⁴⁴ 424 U.S. 1 (1976).

¹⁴⁵ The Court's lengthy opinion was denominated *per curiam*, but five Justices filed separate opinions.

of their exploration, and the size of the audience reached.”¹⁴⁶ The expenditure of money in political campaigns may involve speech alone, conduct alone, or mixed speech-conduct, the Court noted, but all forms of it involve communication, and when governmental regulation is aimed directly at suppressing communication it matters not how that communication is defined. As such, the regulation must be subjected to close scrutiny and justified by compelling governmental interests. When this process was engaged in, the contribution limitations, with some construed exceptions, survived, but the expenditure limitation did not.

The contribution limitation was sustained as imposing only a marginal restriction upon the contributor’s ability to engage in free communication, inasmuch as the contribution is a generalized expression of support for a candidate but it is not a communication of reasons for the support; “the size of the contribution provides a very rough index of the intensity of the contributors’ support for the candidate.”¹⁴⁷ The political expression really occurs when the funds are spent by a candidate; only if the restrictions were set so low as to impede this communication would there arise a constitutional infringement. This incidental restraint upon expression may therefore be justified by Congress’ purpose to limit the actuality and appearance of corruption resulting from large individual financial contributions.¹⁴⁸

Of considerable importance to the analysis of the validity of the limitations on contributions was the Court’s conclusion voiding a section restricting to \$1,000 a year the aggregate expenditure anyone could make to advocate the election or defeat of a “clearly identified candidate.” Though the Court treated the restricted spending as purely an expenditure it seems to partake equally of the nature of a contribution on behalf of a candidate that is not given to the candidate but that is spent on his behalf. “Advocacy of the election or defeat of candidates for federal office is no less entitled to protection under the First Amendment than the discussion of political policy generally or advocacy of the passage or de-

¹⁴⁶ *Id.* at 14, 19.

¹⁴⁷ *Id.* at 21.

¹⁴⁸ *Id.* at 14–38. Chief Justice Burger and Justice Blackmun would have struck down the contribution limitations. *Id.* at 235, 241–46, 290. See also *California Medical Ass’n v. FEC*, 453 U.S. 182 (1981), sustaining a provision barring individuals and unincorporated associations from contributing more than \$5,000 per year to any multicandidate political action committee, on the basis of the standards applied to contributions in *Buckley*; and *FEC v. National Right to Work Committee*, 459 U.S. 197 (1982), sustaining a provision barring nonstock corporations from soliciting contributions from persons other than their members when the corporation uses the funds for designated federal election purposes.

feat of legislation.”¹⁴⁹ The Court found that none of the justifications offered in support of a restriction on such expression was adequate; independent expenditures did not appear to pose the dangers of corruption that contributions did and it was an impermissible purpose to attempt to equalize the ability of some individuals and groups to express themselves by restricting the speech of other individuals and groups.¹⁵⁰

Similarly, limitations upon the amount of funds a candidate could spend out of his own resources or those of his immediate family were voided. A candidate, no less than any other person, has a First Amendment right to advocate.¹⁵¹ The limitations upon total expenditures by candidates seeking nomination or election to federal office could not be justified: the evil associated with dependence on large contributions was met by limitations on contributions, the purpose of equalizing candidate financial resources was impermissible, and the First Amendment did not permit government to determine that expenditures for advocacy were excessive or wasteful.¹⁵²

Although the Court in *Buckley* upheld the Act’s reporting and disclosure requirements, it indicated that under some circumstances the First Amendment might require exemption for minor parties able to show “a reasonable probability that the compelled disclosure of a party’s contributors’ names will subject them to threats, harassment, or reprisals from either Government officials or private parties.”¹⁵³ This standard was applied both to disclosure of contributors’ names and to disclosure of recipients of

¹⁴⁹ Id. at 48.

¹⁵⁰ Id. at 39–51. Justice White dissented. Id. at 257. In an oblique return to the right-privilege distinction, the Court agreed that Congress could condition receipt of public financing funds upon acceptance of expenditure limitations. Id. at 108–09. In *Common Cause v. Schmitt*, 512 F. Supp. 489 (D.C. 1980), aff’d by an equally divided Court, 455 U.S. 129 (1982), a provision was invalidated which limited independent political committees to expenditures of no more than \$1,000 to further the election of any presidential candidate who received public funding. An equally divided affirmation is of limited precedential value. When the validity of this provision, 26 U.S.C. §9012(f), was again before the Court in 1985, the Court invalidated it by vote of 7–2. *FEC v. National Conservative Political Action Comm.*, 470 U.S. 480 (1985). In an opinion by Justice Rehnquist, the Court determined that the governmental interest in preventing corruption or the appearance of corruption was insufficient justification for restricting the First Amendment rights of committees interested in making independent expenditures on behalf of a candidate, since “the absence of prearrangement and coordination undermines the value of the expenditure to the candidate, and thereby alleviates the danger that expenditures will be given as a *quid pro quo* for improper commitments from the candidate.” Id. at 498.

¹⁵¹ Id. at 51–54. Justices Marshall and White disagreed with this part of the decision. Id. at 286.

¹⁵² Id. at 54–59. The reporting and disclosure requirements were sustained. Id. at 60–84. See *supra*, pp. 1063–64.

¹⁵³ 424 U.S. at 74.

campaign expenditures in *Brown v. Socialist Workers '74 Campaign Committee*,¹⁵⁴ in which the Court held that the minor party had established the requisite showing of likely reprisals through proof of past governmental and private hostility and harassment. Disclosure of recipients of campaign expenditures, the Court reasoned, could not only dissuade supporters and workers who might receive reimbursement for expenses, but could also dissuade various entities from performing routine commercial services for the party and thereby “cripple a minor party’s ability to operate effectively.”¹⁵⁵

Outside the context of contributions to candidates, however, the Court has not been convinced of the justifications for limiting such uses of money for political purposes. Thus, a municipal ordinance regulating the maximum amount that could be contributed to or accepted by an association formed to take part in a city referendum was invalidated.¹⁵⁶ While *Buckley* had sustained limits on contributions as a prophylactic measure to prevent corruption or its appearance, no risk of corruption was found in giving or receiving funds in connection with a referendum. Similarly, the Court invalidated a criminal prohibition on payment of persons to circulate petitions for a ballot initiative.¹⁵⁷

Venturing into the area of the constitutional validity of governmental limits upon political spending or contributions by corporations, a closely-divided Court struck down a state law that prohibited corporations from expending funds in order to influence referendum votes on any measure save proposals that materially affected corporate business, property, or assets. The free discussion of governmental affairs “is the type of speech indispensable to decisionmaking in a democracy,” the Court said, “and this is no less true because the speech comes from a corporation rather than an individual”¹⁵⁸ It is the nature of the speech, not the status of the speaker, that is relevant for First Amendment analysis, thus allowing the Court to pass by the question of the rights a corporate person may have. The “materially affecting” requirement was found to

¹⁵⁴ 459 U.S. 87 (1982).

¹⁵⁵ *Id.* at 97–98.

¹⁵⁶ *Citizens Against Rent Control v. City of Berkeley*, 454 U.S. 290 (1980). It is not clear from the opinion whether the Court was applying a contribution or an expenditure analysis to the ordinance, *see id.* at 301 (Justice Marshall concurring), or whether in this context it makes any difference.

¹⁵⁷ *Meyer v. Grant*, 486 U.S. 414 (1988).

¹⁵⁸ *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765 (1978). Justice Powell wrote the opinion of the Court. Dissenting, Justices White, Brennan, and Marshall argued that while corporations were entitled to First Amendment protection, they were subject to more regulation than were individuals, and substantial state interests supported the restrictions. *Id.* at 802. Justice Rehnquist went further in dissent, finding no corporate constitutional protection. *Id.* at 822.

be an impermissible proscription of speech based on content and identity of interests. The “exacting scrutiny” that restrictions on speech must pass was not satisfied by any of the justifications offered and the Court in any event found some of them impermissible.

Bellotti called into some question the constitutionality of the federal law that makes it unlawful for any corporation or labor union “to make a contribution or expenditure in connection with any election” for federal office or “in connection with any primary election or political convention or caucus held to select candidates” for such office.¹⁵⁹ Three times the opportunity has arisen for the Court to assess the validity of the statute and each time it has passed it by.¹⁶⁰ One of the dissents in *Bellotti* suggested its application to the federal law, but the Court saw several distinctions.¹⁶¹

Other aspects of the federal provision have been interpreted by the Court. First, in *FEC v. National Right to Work Committee*,¹⁶² the Court unanimously upheld section 441b’s prohibition on corporate solicitation of money from corporate nonmembers for use in federal elections. Relying on *Bellotti* for the proposition that government may act to prevent “both actual corruption and the appearance of corruption of elected representatives,” the Court concluded that “there is no reason why . . . unions, corporations, and similar organizations [may not be] treated differently from individuals.”¹⁶³ However, an exception to this general principle was recognized by a divided Court in *FEC v. Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Inc.*,¹⁶⁴ holding the section’s independent expenditure limitations (not limiting expenditures but requiring only that such expendi-

¹⁵⁹ 2 U.S.C. § 441b. The provision began as § 313 of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925, 43 Stat. 1074, prohibiting contributions by corporations. It was made temporarily applicable to labor unions in the War Labor Disputes Act of 1943, 57 Stat. 167, and became permanently applicable in § 304 of the Taft-Hartley Act, 61 Stat. 159.

¹⁶⁰ All three cases involved labor unions and were decided on the basis of statutory interpretation, apparently informed with some constitutional doubts. *United States v. CIO*, 335 U.S. 106 (1948); *United States v. United Automobile Workers*, 352 U.S. 567 (1957); *Pipefitters v. United States*, 407 U.S. 385 (1972).

¹⁶¹ *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 811–12 (1978) (Justice White dissenting). The Court emphasized that *Bellotti* was a referendum case, not a case involving corporate expenditures in the context of partisan candidate elections, in which the problem of corruption of elected representatives was a weighty problem. “Congress might well be able to demonstrate the existence of a danger of real or apparent corruption in independent expenditures by corporations to influence candidate elections.” *Id.* at 787–88 & n.26.

¹⁶² 459 U.S. 197 (1982).

¹⁶³ 459 U.S. at 210–11.

¹⁶⁴ 479 U.S. 238 (1986). Justice Brennan’s opinion for the Court was joined by Justices Marshall, Powell, O’Connor, and Scalia; Chief Justice Rehnquist, author of the Court’s opinion in *National Right to Work Comm.*, dissented from the constitutional ruling, and was joined by Justices White, Blackmun, and Stevens.

tures be financed by voluntary contributions to a separate segregated fund) unconstitutional as applied to a corporation organized to promote political ideas, having no stockholders, and not serving as a front for a “business corporation” or union. One of the rationales for the special rules on corporate participation in elections—elimination of “the potential for unfair deployment of [corporate] wealth for political purposes”—has no applicability to such a corporation “formed to disseminate political ideas, not to amass capital.”¹⁶⁵ The other principal rationale—protection of corporate shareholders and other contributors from having their money used to support political candidates to whom they may be opposed—was also deemed inapplicable. The Court distinguished *National Right to Work Committee* because “restrictions on contributions require less compelling justification than restrictions on independent spending,” and also explained that, “given a contributor’s awareness of the political activity of [MCFL], as well as the readily available remedy of refusing further donations, the interest protecting contributors is simply insufficient to support § 441b’s restriction on . . . independent spending.”¹⁶⁶ What the Court did not address directly was whether the same analysis could have led to a different result in *National Right to Work Committee*.¹⁶⁷

Clarification of *Massachusetts Citizens for Life* was afforded by *Austin v. Michigan State Chamber of Commerce*,¹⁶⁸ in which the Court upheld application to a nonprofit corporation of Michigan’s restrictions on independent expenditures by corporations. The Michigan law, like federal law, prohibited such expenditures from corporate treasury funds, but allowed them to be made from separate “segregated” funds. This arrangement, the Court decided, serves the state’s compelling interest in assuring that corporate wealth, accumulated with the help of special advantages conferred by state law, does not unfairly influence elections. The law was sufficiently “narrowly tailored” because it permits corporations to make independent political expenditures through segregated funds that “accurately reflect contributors’ support for the corporation’s political views.”¹⁶⁹ Also, the Court concluded that the Chamber of Commerce was unlike the MCFL in each of the three distinguishing features that had justified an exemption from operation of the federal law. Unlike MCFL, the Chamber was not organized solely

¹⁶⁵ 479 U.S. at 259.

¹⁶⁶ *Id.* at 259–60, 262.

¹⁶⁷ The Court did not spell out whether there was any significant distinction between the two organizations, NRWC and MCFL; Chief Justice Rehnquist’s dissent suggested that there was not. *See id.* at 266.

¹⁶⁸ 494 U.S. 652 (1990).

¹⁶⁹ *Id.* at 660–61.

to promote political ideas; although it had no stockholders, the Chamber's members had similar disincentives to forego benefits of membership in order to protest the Chamber's political expression; and, by accepting corporate contributions, the Chamber could serve as a conduit for corporations to circumvent prohibitions on direct corporate contributions and expenditures.¹⁷⁰

Government as Regulator of the Electoral Process: Lobbying.—Inasmuch as legislators may be greatly dependent upon representations made to them and information supplied to them by interested parties, legislators may desire to know what the real interests of those parties are, what groups or persons they represent, and other such information. But everyone is constitutionally entitled to write his congressman or his state legislator, to encourage others to write or otherwise contact legislators, and to make speeches and publish articles designed to influence legislators. Conflict is inherent. In the Federal Regulation of Lobbying Act,¹⁷¹ Congress by broadly phrased and ambiguous language seemed to require detailed reporting and registration by all persons who solicited, received, or expended funds for purposes of lobbying, that is to influence congressional action directly or indirectly. In *United States v. Harriss*,¹⁷² the Court, stating that it was construing the Act to avoid constitutional doubts,¹⁷³ interpreted covered lobbying as meaning only direct attempts to influence legislation through direct communication with members of Congress.¹⁷⁴ So construed, the Act was constitutional; Congress had “merely provided for a modicum of information from those who for hire attempt to influence legislation or who collect or spend funds for that purpose,” and this was simply a measure of “self-protection.”¹⁷⁵

Other statutes and governmental programs affect lobbying and lobbying activities. It is not impermissible for the Federal Government to deny a business expense tax deduction for money spent to defeat legislation which would adversely affect one's business.¹⁷⁶ But the antitrust laws may not be applied to a concert of business enterprises that have joined to lobby the legislative branch to pass and the executive branch to enforce laws which would have a det-

¹⁷⁰ Id. at 661–65.

¹⁷¹ Ch. 753, 60 Stat 812, 839 (1946), 2 U.S.C. §§ 261–70.

¹⁷² 347 U.S. 612 (1954).

¹⁷³ Id. at 623.

¹⁷⁴ Id. at 617–624.

¹⁷⁵ Id. at 625. Justices Douglas, Black, and Jackson dissented. Id. at 628, 633. They thought the Court's interpretation too narrow and would have struck the statute down as being too broad and too vague, but would not have denied Congress the power to enact narrow legislation to get at the substantial evils of the situation. See also *United States v. Rumely*, 345 U.S. 41 (1953).

¹⁷⁶ *Cammarano v. United States*, 358 U.S. 498 (1959).

rimental effect upon competitors, even if the lobbying was conducted unethically.¹⁷⁷ On the other hand, allegations that competitors combined to harass and deter others from having free and unlimited access to agencies and courts by resisting before those bodies all petitions of competitors for purposes of injury to competition are sufficient to implicate antitrust principles.¹⁷⁸

Government as Regulator of Labor Relations.—Numerous problems may arise in this area,¹⁷⁹ but the issue here considered is the balance to be drawn between the free speech rights of an employer and the statutory rights of his employees to engage or not engage in concerted activities free of employer coercion, which may well include threats or promises or other oral or written communications. The Court has upheld prohibitions against employer interference with union activity through speech so long as the speech is coercive,¹⁸⁰ and that holding has been reduced to statutory form.¹⁸¹ Nonetheless, there is a First Amendment tension in this area, with its myriad variations of speech forms that may be denominated “predictions,” especially since determination whether particular utterances have an impermissible impact on workers is vested with an agency with no particular expertise in the protection of freedom of expression.¹⁸²

Government as Investigator: Journalist’s Privilege.—News organizations have claimed that the First Amendment status of the press compels a recognition by government of an exception to the ancient rule that every citizen owes to his government a duty to give what testimony he is capable of giving.¹⁸³ The argument for a limited exemption to permit journalists to conceal their sources and to keep confidential certain information they obtain

¹⁷⁷ *Eastern R.R. Presidents Conference v. Noerr Motor Freight*, 365 U.S. 127 (1961). See also *UMW v. Pennington*, 381 U.S. 657, 669–71 (1965).

¹⁷⁸ *California Motor Transport Co. v. Trucking Unlimited*, 404 U.S. 508 (1972). Justices Stewart and Brennan thought that joining to induce administrative and judicial action was as protected as the concert in *Noerr* but concurred in the result because the complaint could be read as alleging that defendants sought to forestall access to agencies and courts by plaintiffs. *Id.* at 516.

¹⁷⁹ *E.g.*, the speech and associational rights of persons required to join a union, *Railway Employees Dep’t v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (1956); *International Ass’n of Machinists v. Street*, 367 U.S. 740 (1961); and see *Abood v. Detroit Bd. of Educ.* 431 U.S. 209 (1977) (public employees), restrictions on picketing and publicity campaigns, *Babbitt v. United Farm Workers*, 442 U.S. 289 (1979), and application of collective bargaining laws in sensitive areas, *NLRB v. Yeshiva Univ.*, 444 U.S. 672 (1980) (faculty collective bargaining in private universities); *NLRB v. Catholic Bishop*, 440 U.S. 490 (1979) (collective bargaining in religious schools).

¹⁸⁰ *NLRB v. Virginia Electric & Power Co.*, 314 U.S. 469 (1941).

¹⁸¹ Ch. 120, 61 Stat. 142, § 8(c) (1947), 29 U.S.C. § 158(c).

¹⁸² Cf. *NLRB v. Gissel Packing Co.*, 395 U.S. 575, 616–20 (1969).

¹⁸³ 8 J. WIGMORE, *EVIDENCE* 2192 (3d ed. 1940). See *Blair v. United States*, 250 U.S. 273, 281 (1919); *United States v. Bryan*, 339 U.S. 323, 331 (1950).

and choose at least for the moment not to publish was rejected in *Branzburg v. Hayes*¹⁸⁴ by a closely divided Court. “Fair and effective law enforcement aimed at providing security for the person and property of the individual is a fundamental function of government, and the grand jury plays an important, constitutionally mandated role in this process. On the records now before us, we perceive no basis for holding that the public interest in law enforcement and in ensuring effective grand jury proceedings is insufficient to override the consequential, but uncertain, burden on news gathering which is said to result from insisting that reporters, like other citizens, respond to relevant questions put to them in the course of a valid grand jury investigation or criminal trial.”¹⁸⁵ Not only was it uncertain to what degree confidential informants would be deterred from providing information, said Justice White for the Court, but the conditional nature of the privilege claimed might not mitigate the deterrent effect, leading to claims for an absolute privilege. Confidentiality could be protected by the secrecy of grand jury proceedings and by the experience of law enforcement officials in themselves dealing with informers. Difficulties would arise as well in identifying who should have the privilege and who should not. But the principal basis of the holding was that the investigation and exposure of criminal conduct was a governmental function of such importance that it overrode the interest of newsmen in avoiding the incidental burden on their newsgathering activities occasioned by such governmental inquiries.¹⁸⁶

¹⁸⁴ 408 U.S. 665 (1972). “The claim is, however, that reporters are exempt from these obligations because if forced to respond to subpoenas and identify their sources or disclose other confidences, their informants will refuse or be reluctant to furnish newsworthy information in the future. This asserted burden on news gathering is said to make compelled testimony from newsmen constitutionally suspect and to require a privileged position for them.” *Id.* at 682.

¹⁸⁵ *Id.* at 690–91.

¹⁸⁶ Chief Justice Burger and Justices Blackmun, Powell, and Rehnquist joined the Court’s opinion. Justice Powell also submitted a concurring opinion in which he suggested that newsmen might be able to assert a privilege of confidentiality if in each individual case they demonstrated that responding to the governmental inquiry at hand would result in a deterrence of First Amendment rights and privilege and that the governmental interest asserted was entitled to less weight than their interest. *Id.* at 709. Justice Stewart dissented, joined by Justices Brennan and Marshall, and argued that the First Amendment required a privilege which could only be overcome by a governmental showing that the information sought is clearly relevant to a precisely defined subject of inquiry, that it is reasonable to think that the witness has that information, and that there is not any means of obtaining the information less destructive of First Amendment liberties. *Id.* at 725. Justice Douglas also dissented. *Id.* at 711.

The courts have construed *Branzburg* as recognizing a limited privilege which must be balanced against other interests. *See In re Pennington*, 224 Kan. 573, 581 P.2d 812 (1978), cert. denied, 440 U.S. 929 (1979); *Riley v. City of Chester*, 612 F.2d 708 (3d Cir. 1979); *United States v. Cuthbertson*, 630 F.2d 139 (3d Cir. 1980); *cf. United States v. Criden*, 633 F.2d 346 (3d Cir. 1980).

The Court observed that Congress and the States were free to develop by statute privileges for reporters as narrowly or as broadly as they chose; while efforts in Congress failed, many States have enacted such laws.¹⁸⁷ The assertion of a privilege in civil cases has met with mixed success in the lower courts, the Supreme Court having not yet confronted the issue.¹⁸⁸

Nor does the status of an entity as a newspaper (or any other form of news medium) protect it from issuance and execution on probable cause of a search warrant for evidence or other material properly sought in a criminal investigation.¹⁸⁹ The press had argued that to permit searches of newsrooms would threaten the ability to gather, analyze, and disseminate news, because searches would be disruptive, confidential sources would be deterred from coming forward with information because of fear of exposure, reporters would decline to put in writing their information, and internal editorial deliberations would be exposed. The Court thought that First Amendment interests were involved, although it seemed to doubt that the consequences alleged would occur, but it observed that the built-in protections of the warrant clause would adequately protect those interests and noted that magistrates could guard against abuses when warrants were sought to search newsrooms by requiring particularizations of the type, scope, and intrusiveness that would be permitted in the searches.¹⁹⁰

¹⁸⁷ At least 26 States have enacted some form of journalists' shield law. E.g., CAL. EVID. CODE §1070; N.J. REV. STAT. 2A:84A-21, 21a, -29. The reported cases evince judicial hesitancy to give effect to these statutes. See, e.g., *Farr v. Pitchess*, 522 F. 2d 464 (9th Cir. 1975), cert. denied, 427 U.S. 912 (1976); *Rosato v. Superior Court*, 51 Cal. App. 3d 190, 124 Cal. Rptr. 427 (1975), cert. denied, 427 U.S. 912 (1976). The greatest difficulty these laws experience, however, is the possibility of a constitutional conflict with the Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights of criminal defendants. See *Matter of Farber*, 78 N.J. 259, 394 A. 2d 330, cert. denied sub. nom., *New York Times v. New Jersey*, 439 U.S. 997 (1978). See also *New York Times v. Jasclevich*, 439 U.S. 1301, 1304, 1331 (1978) (applications to Circuit Justices for stay), and *id.* at 886 (vacating stay).

¹⁸⁸ E.g., *Baker v. F. & F. Investment Co.*, 470 F.2d 778 (2d Cir. 1972), cert. denied, 411 U.S. 966 (1973); *Democratic National Comm. v. McCord*, 356 F. Supp. 1394 (D.D.C. 1973).

¹⁸⁹ *Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547, 563-67 (1978). Justice Powell thought it appropriate that "a magistrate asked to issue a warrant for the search of press offices can and should take cognizance of the independent values protected by the First Amendment" when he assesses the reasonableness of a warrant in light of all the circumstances. *Id.* at 568 (concurring). Justices Stewart and Marshall would have imposed special restrictions upon searches when the press was the object, *id.* at 570 (dissenting), and Justice Stevens dissented on Fourth Amendment grounds. *Id.* at 577.

¹⁹⁰ Congress has enacted the Privacy Protection Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96-440, 94 Stat. 1879, 42 U.S.C. §2000aa, to protect the press and other persons having material intended for publication from federal or state searches in specified circumstances, and creating damage remedies for violations.

Government and the Conduct of Trials.—Conflict between constitutionally protected rights is not uncommon. One of the most difficult to resolve is the conflict between a criminal defendant’s Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights to a fair trial and the First Amendment’s protection of the rights to obtain and publish information about defendants and trials. Convictions obtained in the context of prejudicial pre-trial publicity¹⁹¹ and during trials that were media “spectaculars”¹⁹² have been reversed, but the prevention of such occurrences is of paramount importance to the governmental and public interest in the finality of criminal trials and the successful prosecution of criminals. However, the imposition of “gag orders” on press publication of information directly confronts the First Amendment bar on prior restraints,¹⁹³ although the courts have a good deal more discretion in preventing the information from becoming public in the first place.¹⁹⁴ Perhaps the most profound debate that has arisen in recent years concerns the right of access of the public and the press to trial and pre-trial proceedings, and in those cases the Court has enunciated several important theorems of First Amendment interpretation.

When the Court held that the Sixth Amendment right to a public trial did not guarantee access of the public and the press to pre-trial suppression hearings,¹⁹⁵ a major debate flowered that implicated all the various strands of the extent to which, if at all, the speech and press clauses protected the public and the press in seeking to attend trials.¹⁹⁶ The right of access to criminal trials against the wishes of the defendant was held protected in *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*,¹⁹⁷ but the Justices could not agree upon a majority rationale that would permit principled application of the holding to other areas in which access is sought.

¹⁹¹ *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717 (1961); *Rideau v. Louisiana*, 373 U.S. 723 (1963).

¹⁹² *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966); *compare Estes v. Texas*, 381 U.S. 532 (1965), *with Chandler v. Florida*, 449 U.S. 560 (1981).

¹⁹³ *Nebraska Press Ass’n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539 (1976).

¹⁹⁴ *See, e.g., Gentile v. State Bar of Nevada*, 501 U.S. 1030 (1991) (disciplinary rules restricting extrajudicial comments by attorneys are void for vagueness, but such attorney speech may be regulated if it creates a “substantial likelihood of material prejudice” to the trial of a client); *Seattle Times Co. v. Rhinehart*, 467 U.S. 20 (1984) (press, as party to action, restrained from publishing information obtained through discovery).

¹⁹⁵ *Gannett Co. v. DePasquale*, 443 U.S. 368 (1979).

¹⁹⁶ *DePasquale* rested solely on the Sixth Amendment, the Court reserving judgment on whether there is a First Amendment right of public access. 443 U.S. at 392.

¹⁹⁷ 448 U.S. 555 (1980). The decision was 7-to-1, Justice Rehnquist dissenting, *id.* at 604, and Justice Powell not participating. Justice Powell, however, had taken the view in *Gannett Co. v. DePasquale*, 443 U.S. 368, 397 (1979) (concurring), that the First Amendment did protect access to trials.

Chief Justice Burger pronounced the judgment of the Court, but his opinion was joined by only two other Justices (and one of them in a separate concurrence drew conclusions probably going beyond the Chief Justice's opinion).¹⁹⁸ Basic to the Chief Justice's view was an historical treatment which demonstrated that trials were traditionally open. This openness, moreover, was no "quirk of history" but "an indispensable attribute of an Anglo-American trial." This characteristic flowed from the public interest in seeing fairness and proper conduct in the administration of criminal trials; the "therapeutic value" to the public of seeing its criminal laws in operation, purging the society of the outrage felt with the commission of many crimes, convincingly demonstrated why the tradition developed and was maintained. Thus, "a presumption of openness inheres in the very nature of a criminal trial under our system of justice." The presumption has more than custom to command it. "[I]n the context of trials . . . the First Amendment guarantees of speech and press, standing alone, prohibit government from summarily closing courtroom doors which had long been open to the public at the time that amendment was adopted."¹⁹⁹

Justice Brennan, joined by Justice Marshall, followed a significantly different route to the same conclusion. In his view, "the First Amendment . . . has a *structural* role to play in securing and fostering our republican system of self-government." It preserves and protects meaningful control over government through public discussion of its operation, and government therefore is compelled to see to the availability of information that people need to engage in that meaningful discussion. Thus, there is in fact a right of access that arises in the context of situations implicating self-government, including, but not limited to, trials.²⁰⁰

The trial court in *Richmond Newspapers* had made no findings of necessity for closure, and neither Chief Justice Burger nor Justice Brennan found the need to articulate a standard for determining when the government's or the defendant's interests could outweigh the public right of access. That standard was developed two years later. *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Superior Court*²⁰¹ involved a

¹⁹⁸ See *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555, 582 (1980) (Justice Stevens concurring).

¹⁹⁹ *Id.* at 564–69. The emphasis on experience and history was repeated by the Chief Justice in his opinion for the Court in *Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court*, 478 U.S. 1 (1986) (Press-Enterprise II).

²⁰⁰ *Id.* at 585–93.

²⁰¹ 457 U.S. 596 (1982). Joining Justice Brennan's opinion of the Court were Justices White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell. Justice O'Connor concurred in the judgment. Chief Justice Burger, with Justice Rehnquist, dissented, arguing that the tradition of openness that underlay *Richmond Newspapers*, was absent with respect

statute, unique to one State, that mandated the exclusion of the public and the press from trials during the testimony of a sex-crime victim under the age of 18. For the Court, Justice Brennan wrote that the First Amendment guarantees press and public access to criminal trials, both because of the tradition of openness²⁰² and because public scrutiny of a criminal trial serves the valuable functions of enhancing the quality and safeguards of the integrity of the factfinding process, of fostering the appearance of fairness, and of permitting public participation in the judicial process. The right is not absolute, but in order to close all or part of a trial government must show that “the denial is necessitated by a compelling governmental interest, and [that it] is narrowly tailored to serve that interest.”²⁰³ The Court was explicit that the right of access was to *criminal* trials,²⁰⁴ so that the question of the openness of civil trials remains.

The Court next applied and extended the right of access in several other areas, striking down state efforts to exclude the public from *voir dire* proceedings, from a suppression hearing, and from a preliminary hearing. The Court determined in *Press-Enterprise I*²⁰⁵ that historically *voir dire* had been open to the public, and that “[t]he presumption of openness may be overcome only by an overriding interest based on findings that closure is essential to preserve higher values and is narrowly tailored to serve that interest.”²⁰⁶ No such findings had been made by the state court, which had ordered closed, in the interest of protecting the privacy interests of some prospective jurors, 41 of the 44 days of *voir dire* in a rape-murder case. The trial court also had not considered the possibility of less restrictive alternatives, e.g. *in camera* consideration of jurors’ requests for protection from publicity. In *Waller v. Georgia*,²⁰⁷ the Court held that “under the Sixth Amendment, any clo-

to sex crimes and youthful victims and that *Richmond Newspapers* was unjustifiably extended. *Id.* at 612. Justice Stevens dissented on mootness grounds. *Id.* at 620.

²⁰² That there was no tradition of openness with respect to the testimony of minor victims of sex crimes was irrelevant, the Court argued. As a general matter, all criminal trials have been open. The presumption of openness thus attaches to all criminal trials and to close any particular kind or part of one because of a particular reason requires justification on the basis of the governmental interest asserted. *Id.* at 605 n.13.

²⁰³ *Id.* at 606–07. Protecting the well-being of minor victims was a compelling interest, the Court held, and might justify exclusion in specific cases, but it did not justify a mandatory closure rule. The other asserted interest, encouraging minors to come forward and report sex crimes, was not well served by the statute.

²⁰⁴ The Court throughout the opinion identifies the right as access to criminal trials, even italicizing the word at one point. *Id.* at 605.

²⁰⁵ *Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court*, 464 U.S. 501 (1984).

²⁰⁶ 464 U.S. at 510.

²⁰⁷ 467 U.S. 39 (1984).

sure of a suppression hearing over the objections of the accused²⁰⁸ must meet the tests set out in *Press Enterprise*,” and noted that the need for openness at suppression hearings “may be particularly strong” due to the fact that the conduct of police and prosecutor is often at issue.²⁰⁹ And in *Press Enterprise II*,²¹⁰ the Court held that there is a similar First Amendment right of the public to access to most criminal proceedings (here a preliminary hearing) even when the accused requests that the proceedings be closed. Thus, an accused’s Sixth Amendment-based request for closure must meet the same stringent test applied to governmental requests to close proceedings: there must be “specific findings . . . demonstrating that first, there is a substantial probability that the defendant’s right to a fair trial will be prejudiced by publicity that closure would prevent, and second, reasonable alternatives to closure cannot adequately protect the defendant’s fair trial rights.”²¹¹ Openness of preliminary hearings was deemed important because, under California law, the hearings can be “the final and most important step in the criminal proceeding” and therefore may be “the sole occasion for public observation of the criminal justice system,” and also because the safeguard of a jury is unavailable at preliminary hearings.²¹²

Government as Administrator of Prisons.—A prison inmate retains only those First Amendment rights that are not inconsistent with his status as a prisoner or with the legitimate penological objectives of the corrections system.²¹³ The identifiable governmental interests at stake in administration of prisons are the preservation of internal order and discipline, the maintenance of institutional security against escape or unauthorized entry, and the rehabilitation of the prisoners.²¹⁴ In applying these general standards, the Court at first arrived at somewhat divergent points in assessing prison restrictions on mail and on face-to-face news interviews between newsmen and prisoners. The Court’s more recent deferential approach to regulation of prisoners’ mail has lessened the differences.

²⁰⁸ *Gannett Co. v. DePasquale*, supra n., did not involve assertion *by the accused* of his 6th Amendment right to a public trial; instead, the accused in that case had requested closure. “[T]he constitutional guarantee of a public trial is for the benefit of the defendant.” *DePasquale*, 443 U.S. at 381.

²⁰⁹ 467 U.S. at 47.

²¹⁰ *Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court*, 478 U.S. 1 (1986).

²¹¹ *Id.* at 14.

²¹² *Id.* at 12.

²¹³ *Pell v. Procunier*, 417 U.S. 817, 822 (1974).

²¹⁴ *Procunier v. Martinez*, 416 U.S. 396, 412 (1974).

First, in *Procunier v. Martinez*,²¹⁵ the Court invalidated mail censorship regulations that permitted authorities to hold back or to censor mail to and from prisoners whenever they thought that the letters “unduly complain,” “express inflammatory . . . views or beliefs,” or were “defamatory” or “otherwise inappropriate.” The Court based this ruling not on the rights of the prisoner, but instead on the outsider’s right to communicate with the prisoner either by sending or by receiving mail. Under this framework, the Court held, regulation of mail must further an important interest unrelated to the suppression of expression; regulation must be shown to further the substantial interest of security, order, and rehabilitation, and it must not be utilized simply to censor opinions or other expressions. Further, a restriction must be no greater than is necessary or essential to the protection of the particular government interest involved.

However, in *Turner v. Safley*,²¹⁶ the Court made clear that a more deferential standard is applicable when only the communicative rights of inmates are at stake. In upholding a Missouri rule barring inmate-to-inmate correspondence, while striking down a prohibition on inmate marriages absent compelling reason such as pregnancy or birth of a child, the Court announced the appropriate standard. “[W]hen a regulation impinges on inmates’ constitutional rights, the regulation is valid if it is reasonably related to legitimate penological interests.”²¹⁷ Several considerations are appropriate in determining reasonableness of a regulation. First, there must be a rational relation to a legitimate, content-neutral objective. Prison security, broadly defined, is one such objective.²¹⁸ Availability of other avenues for exercise of the inmate right suggests reasonableness. A further indicium of reasonableness is present if accommodation would have a negative effect on liberty or safety of guards or other inmates. On the other hand, an alternative to regulation “that fully accommodated the prisoner’s rights at *de minimis* cost to valid penological interests” suggests

²¹⁵ 416 U.S. 396 (1974). *But see* *Jones v. North Carolina Prisoners’ Union*, 433 U.S. 119 (1977), in which the Court sustained, while recognizing the First Amendment implications, prison regulations barring solicitation of prisoners by other prisoners to join a union, banning union meetings, and denying bulk mailings concerning the union from outside sources. The reasonable fears of correctional officers that organizational activities of the sort advocated by the union could impair discipline and lead to possible disorders justified the regulations.

²¹⁶ 482 U.S. 78 (1987).

²¹⁷ *Id.* at 89.

²¹⁸ All that is required is that the underlying governmental objective be content neutral; the regulation itself may discriminate on the basis of content. *See Thornburgh v. Abbott*, 490 U.S. 401 (1989) (upholding Federal Bureau of Prisons regulation allowing prison authorities to reject incoming publications found to be detrimental to prison security).

unreasonableness.²¹⁹ Two years after *Safley*, the Court directly limited *Martinez*, restricting it to regulation of *outgoing* correspondence. In the Court's current view the needs of prison security justify a more deferential standard for prison regulations restricting incoming material, whether those incoming materials are correspondence from other prisoners, correspondence from nonprisoners, or outside publications.²²⁰

Neither prisoners nor newsmen have any affirmative First Amendment right to face-to-face interviews, when general public access to prisons is restricted and when there are alternatives by which the news media can obtain information respecting prison policies and conditions.²²¹ Prison restrictions on such interviews do indeed implicate the First Amendment rights of prisoners, the Court held, but the justification for the restraint lay in the implementation of security arrangements, affected by the entry of persons into prisons, and the carrying out of rehabilitation objectives, affected by the phenomenon of the "big wheel," the exploitation of access to the news media by certain prisoners; alternatives to face-to-face interviews existed, such as mail and visitation with family, attorneys, clergy, and friends. The existence of alternatives and the presence of justifications for the restraint served to weigh the balance against the asserted First Amendment right, the Court held.²²²

While agreeing with a previous affirmation that "newsgathering is not without some First Amendment protection,"²²³ the Court denied that the First Amendment accorded newsmen any affirmative obligation on the part of government. "The First and Fourteenth Amendments bar government from interfering in any way with a free press. The Constitution does not, however, require government to accord the press special access to information not shared by members of the public generally."²²⁴ Government has an obligation not to impair the freedom of journalists to seek out newsworthy information, and not to restrain the publication of news. But it cannot be argued, the Court continued, "that the Constitution imposes upon government the affirmative

²¹⁹ 482 U.S. at 91.

²²⁰ *Thornburgh v. Abbott*, 490 U.S. 401, 411–14 (1989).

²²¹ *Pell v. Procunier*, 417 U.S. 817 (1974). Justices Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall dissented. *Id.* at 836.

²²² *Id.* at 829–35.

²²³ *Branzburg v. Hayes*, 408 U.S. 665, 707 (1972), *quoted in Pell v. Procunier*, 417 U.S. 817, 833 (1974).

²²⁴ *Id.* at 834.

duty to make available to journalists sources of information not available to members of the public generally.”²²⁵

Pell and *Saxbe* did not delineate whether the “equal access” rule applied only in cases in which there was public access, so that a different rule for the press might follow when general access was denied, nor did they purport to begin defining what the rules of equal access are. No greater specificity emerged from *Houchins v. KQED*,²²⁶ in which the broadcaster had sued for access to a prison from which public and press alike were barred and as to which there was considerable controversy over conditions of incarceration. Following initiation of the suit, the administrator of the prison authorized limited public tours. The tours were open to the press, but cameras and recording devices were not permitted, there was no opportunity to talk to inmates, and the tours did not include the maximum security area about which much of the controversy centered. The Supreme Court overturned the injunction obtained in the lower courts, the plurality reiterating that “[n]either the First Amendment nor the Fourteenth Amendment mandates a right of access to government information or sources of information within the government’s control. . . . [U]ntil the political branches decree otherwise, as they are free to do, the media have no special right of access to the Alameda County Jail different from or greater than that accorded the public generally.”²²⁷ Justice Stewart, whose vote was necessary to the disposition of the case, agreed with the equal access holding but would have approved an injunction more narrowly drawn to protect the press’ right to use cameras and recorders so as to enlarge public access to the information.²²⁸ Thus, any question of special press access appears settled by the decision; yet there still remain the questions raised above. May everyone be barred from access and, once access is accorded, does the Constitution necessitate any limitation on the discretion of prison administrators?²²⁹

²²⁵ *Id.* The holding was applied to federal prisons in *Saxbe v. Washington Post*, 417 U.S. 843 (1974). Dissenting, Justices Powell, Brennan, and Marshall argued that an important societal function of the First Amendment is to preserve free public discussion of governmental affairs, that the press’ role was to make this discussion informed through providing the requisite information, and that the ban on face-to-face interviews unconstitutionally fettered this role of the press. *Id.* at 850.

²²⁶ 438 U.S. 1 (1978). The decision’s imprecision of meaning is partly attributable to the fact that there was no opinion of the Court. A plurality opinion represented the views of only three Justices; two Justices did not participate, three Justices dissented, and one Justice concurred with views that departed somewhat from the plurality.

²²⁷ *Id.* at 15–16.

²²⁸ *Id.* at 16.

²²⁹ The dissenters, Justices Stevens, Brennan, and Powell, believed that the Constitution protects the public’s right to be informed about conditions within the

Government and Power of the Purse.—In exercise of the spending power, Congress may refuse to subsidize exercise of First Amendment rights, but it may not deny benefits solely on the basis of exercise of these rights. The distinction between these two closely related principles seemed, initially at least, to hinge on the severity and pervasiveness of the restriction placed on exercise of First Amendment rights. What has emerged is the principle that Congress may condition the receipt of federal funds on acceptance of speech limitations on persons working for the project receiving the federal funding—even if the project also receives non-federal funds—provided that the speech limitations do not extend to the use of nonfederal funds outside of the federally funded project. In *Regan v. Taxation With Representation*,²³⁰ the Court held that Congress could constitutionally limit tax-exempt status under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to charitable organizations that do not engage in lobbying. “Congress has merely refused to pay for the lobbying out of public moneys,” the Court concluded.²³¹ The effect of the ruling on the organization’s lobbying activities was minimal, however, since it could continue to receive tax-deductible contributions by creating a separate affiliate to conduct the lobbying. In *FCC v. League of Women Voters*,²³² on the other hand, the Court held that the First Amendment rights of public broadcasting stations were abridged by a prohibition on all editorializing by any recipient of public funds. There was no alternative means, as there had been in *Taxation With Representation*, by which the stations could continue to receive public funding and create an affiliate to engage in the prohibited speech. The Court rejected dissenting Justice Rehnquist’s argument that the general principles of *Taxation With Representation* and *Oklahoma v. Civil Service Comm’n*²³³

prison and that total denial of access, such as existed prior to institution of the suit, was unconstitutional. They would have sustained the more narrowly drawn injunctive relief to the press on the basis that no member of the public had yet sought access. *Id.* at 19. It is clear that Justice Stewart did not believe the Constitution affords any relief. *Id.* at 16. While the plurality opinion of the Chief Justice Burger and Justices White and Rehnquist may be read as not deciding whether any public right of access exists, overall it appears to proceed on the unspoken basis that there is none. The second question, when Justice Stewart’s concurring opinion and the dissenting opinion are combined, appears to be answerable qualifiedly in the direction of constitutional constraints upon the nature of access limitation once access is granted.

²³⁰ 461 U.S. 540 (1983).

²³¹ *Id.* at 545. *See also* *Cammarano v. United States*, 358 U.S. 498, 512–13 (1959) (exclusion of lobbying expenses from income tax deduction for ordinary and necessary business expenses is not a regulation aimed at the suppression of dangerous ideas, and does not violate the First Amendment).

²³² 468 U.S. 364 (1984).

²³³ 330 U.S. 127 (1947). *See* discussion *supra* p. 156.

should be controlling.²³⁴ Several years later, however, Chief Justice Rehnquist asserted for the Court that restrictions on abortion counseling and referral imposed on recipients of family planning funding under the Public Health Service Act did not constitute discrimination on the basis of viewpoint, but instead represented government's decision "to fund one activity to the exclusion of the other."²³⁵ It remains to be seen what application this decision will have outside the contentious area of abortion regulation.²³⁶

Governmental Regulation of Communications Industries

As in the previous section, the governmental regulations here considered may have only the most indirect relation to freedom of expression, or may clearly implicate that freedom even though the purpose of the particular regulation is not to reach the content of the message. First, however, the judicially-formulated doctrine distinguishing commercial expression from other forms is briefly considered.

Commercial Speech.—In recent years, the Court's treatment of "commercial speech" has undergone a transformation, from total nonprotection under the First Amendment to qualified protection. The conclusion that expression proposing a commercial transaction is a different order of speech was arrived at almost casually in *Val-*

²³⁴ 468 U.S. at 399–401, & 401 n.27.

²³⁵ *Rust v. Sullivan*, 111 S. Ct. 1759, 1772 (1991). Dissenting Justice Blackmun contended that *Taxation With Representation* was easily distinguishable because its restriction was on all lobbying activity regardless of content or viewpoint. *Id.* at 1780–81.

²³⁶ The Court attempted to minimize the potential sweep of its ruling in *Rust*. "This is not to suggest that funding by the Government, even when coupled with the freedom of the fund recipient to speak outside the scope of the Government-funded project, is invariably sufficient to justify government control over the content of expression." 111 S. Ct. at 1776. The Court noted several possible exceptions to the general principle: government ownership of a public forum does not justify restrictions on speech; the university setting requires heightened protections through application of vagueness and overbreadth principles; and the doctor-patient relationship may also be subject to special First Amendment protection. (The Court denied, however, that the doctor-patient relationship was significantly impaired by the regulatory restrictions at issue.) Lower courts were quick to pick up on these suggestions. *See, e.g., Stanford Univ. v. Sullivan*, 773 F. Supp. 472, 476–78 (D.D.C. 1991) (confidentiality clause in federal grant research contract is invalid because, *inter alia*, of application of vagueness principles in a university setting); *Gay Men's Health Crisis v. Sullivan*, 792 F. Supp. 278 (S.D.N.Y. 1992) ("offensiveness" guidelines restricting Center for Disease Control grants for preparation of AIDS-related educational materials are unconstitutionally vague); *Finley v. National Endowment for the Arts*, 795 F. Supp. 1457 (C.D.Cal. 1992) ("decency clause" restricting grants by the National Endowment for the Arts is void for vagueness under Fifth Amendment and overbroad under First Amendment; artistic expression is entitled to the same level of protection as academic freedom).

entine v. Chrestensen,¹ in which the Court upheld a city ordinance prohibiting distribution on the street of “commercial and business advertising matter,” as applied to an exhibitor of a submarine who distributed leaflets describing his submarine on one side and on the other side protesting the city’s refusal of certain docking facilities. The doctrine was in any event limited to promotion of commercial activities; the fact that expression was disseminated for profit or through commercial channels did not expose it to any greater regulation than if it were offered for free.² The doctrine lasted in this form for more than twenty years.

“Commercial speech,” the Court has held, is protected “from unwarranted governmental regulation,” although its nature makes such communication subject to greater limitations than can be imposed on expression not solely related to the economic interests of the speaker and its audience.³ Overturning of this exception in free expression doctrine was accomplished within a brief span of time in which the Justices haltingly but then decisively moved to a new position. Reasserting the doctrine at first in a narrow five-to-four decision, the Court sustained the application of a city’s ban on employment discrimination to bar sex-designated employment advertising in a newspaper.⁴ Granting that speech does not lose its constitutional protection simply because it appears in a commercial context, Justice Powell, for the Court, found the placing of want-ads in newspapers to be “classic examples of commercial speech,” devoid of expressions of opinions with respect to issues of social policy; the ad “did no more than propose a commercial transaction.” But the Justice also noted that employment discrimination, which was facilitated by the advertisements, was itself illegal.⁵

¹ 316 U.S. 52 (1942). See also *Breard v. City of Alexandria*, 341 U.S. 622 (1951). The doctrine was one of the bases upon which the banning of all commercials for cigarettes from radio and television was upheld. *Capital Broadcasting Co. v. Mitchell*, 333 F. Supp. 582 (D.D.C. 1971) (three-judge court), *aff’d per curiam*, 405 U.S. 1000 (1972).

² Books that are sold for profit, *Smith v. California*, 361 U.S. 147, 150 (1959); *Ginzburg v. United States*, 383 U.S. 463, 474–75 (1966), advertisements dealing with political and social matters which newspapers carry for a fee, *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 265–66 (1964), motion pictures which are exhibited for an admission fee, *United States v. Paramount Pictures*, 334 U.S. 131, 166 (1948); *Joseph Burstyn, Inc. v. Wilson*, 343 U.S. 495, 501–02 (1952), were all during this period held entitled to full First Amendment protection regardless of the commercial element involved.

³ *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. v. Public Service Comm’n*, 447 U.S. 557, 561 (1980).

⁴ *Pittsburgh Press Co. v. Comm’n on Human Relations*, 413 U.S. 376 (1973).

⁵ *Id.* at 385, 389. The Court continues to hold that government may ban commercial speech related to illegal activity. *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. v. Public Service Comm’n*, 447 U.S. 557, 563–64 (1980).

Next, the Court overturned a conviction under a state statute making it illegal, by sale or circulation of any publication, to encourage or prompt the obtaining of an abortion, as applied to an editor of a weekly newspaper who published an advertisement announcing the availability of legal and safe abortions in another State and detailing the assistance that would be provided state residents in going to and obtaining abortions in the other State.⁶ The Court discerned that the advertisements conveyed information of other than a purely commercial nature, that they related to services that were legal in the other jurisdiction, and that the State could not prevent its residents from obtaining abortions in the other State or punish them for doing so.

Then, all these distinctions were swept away as the Court voided a statute declaring it unprofessional conduct for a licensed pharmacist to advertise the prices of prescription drugs.⁷ Accepting a suit brought by consumers to protect their right to receive information, the Court held that speech that does no more than propose a commercial transaction is nonetheless of such social value as to be entitled to protection. Consumers' interests in receiving factual information about prices may even be of greater value than political debate, but in any event price competition and access to information about it is in the public interest. State interests asserted in support of the ban, protection of professionalism and the quality of prescription goods, were found either badly served or not served by the statute.⁸

Turning from the interests of consumers to receive information to the asserted right of advertisers to communicate, the Court voided several restrictions. The Court voided a municipal ordinance which barred the display of "For sale" and "Sold" signs on residential lawns, purportedly so as to limit "white flight" resulting from a "fear psychology" that developed among white residents following sale of homes to nonwhites. The right of owners to communicate their intention to sell a commodity and the right of potential buyers to receive the message was protected, the Court determined; the community interest could have been achieved by less restrictive means and in any event could not be achieved by restricting the free flow of truthful information.⁹ Similarly, deciding a question it had reserved in the *Virginia Pharmacy* case, the Court held that a State could not forbid lawyers from advertising the prices they

⁶ *Bigelow v. Virginia*, 421 U.S. 809 (1975).

⁷ *Virginia State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748 (1976). Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 781.

⁸ *Id.* at 763–64 (consumers' interests), 764–65 (social interest), 766–70 (justifications for the ban).

⁹ *Linmark Ass'n v. Township of Willingboro*, 431 U.S. 85 (1977).

charged for the performance of routine legal services.¹⁰ None of the proffered state justifications for the ban was deemed sufficient to overcome the private and societal interest in the free exchange of this form of speech.¹¹ Nor may a state categorically prohibit attorney advertising through mailings that target persons known to face particular legal problems,¹² or prohibit an attorney from holding himself out as a certified civil trial specialist.¹³ However, a State has been held to have a much greater countervailing interest in regulating person-to-person solicitation of clients by attorneys; therefore, especially since in-person solicitation is “a business transaction in which speech is an essential but subordinate component,” the state interest need only be important rather than compelling.¹⁴

Moreover, a statute prohibiting the practice of optometry under a trade name was sustained because there was “a significant possibility” that the public might be misled through deceptive utilization of the same or similar trade names.¹⁵ But a state regulatory commission prohibition of utility advertisements “intended to stimulate the purchase of utility services” was held unjustified by the asserted interests in energy consumption and avoidance of subsidization of additional energy costs by all consumers.¹⁶

While commercial speech is entitled to First Amendment protection, the Court has clearly held that it is not wholly undifferentiable from other forms of expression; it has remarked on the commonsense differences between speech that does no more

¹⁰ *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350 (1977). Chief Justice Burger and Justices Powell, Stewart, and Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 386, 389, 404.

¹¹ *Id.* at 368–79. *See also* *In re R.M.J.*, 455 U.S. 191 (1982) (invalidating sanctions imposed on attorney for deviating in some respects from rigid prescriptions of advertising style and for engaging in some proscribed advertising practices, because the State could show neither that his advertising was misleading nor that any substantial governmental interest was served by the restraints).

¹² *Shapiro v. Kentucky Bar Ass'n*, 486 U.S. 466 (1988).

¹³ *Peel v. Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Comm'n*, 496 U.S. 91 (1990).

¹⁴ *Ohralik v. Ohio State Bar Ass'n*, 436 U.S. 447 (1978). *But compare* *In re Primus*, 426 U.S. 412 (1978). The distinction between in-person and other attorney advertising was continued in *Zauderer v. Office of Disciplinary Counsel*, 471 U.S. 626 (1985) (“print advertising . . . in most cases . . . will lack the coercive force of the personal presence of the trained advocate”).

¹⁵ *Friedman v. Rogers*, 440 U.S. 1 (1979).

¹⁶ *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 447 U.S. 557 (1980). *See also* *Consolidated Edison Co. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 447 U.S. 530 (1980) (voiding a ban on utility's inclusion in monthly bills of inserts discussing controversial issues of public policy). However, the linking of a product to matters of public debate does not thereby entitle an ad to the increased protection afforded noncommercial speech. *Bolger v. Youngs Drug Products Corp.*, 463 U.S. 60 (1983).

than propose a commercial transaction and other varieties.¹⁷ Initially, the Court developed a four-pronged test to measure the validity of restraints upon commercial expression. Recent indications are that the Court has relaxed aspects of the test, making it more deferential to governmental regulation.

Under the first prong of the test as originally formulated, certain commercial speech is not entitled to protection; the informational function of advertising is the First Amendment concern and if it does not accurately inform the public about lawful activity, it can be suppressed.¹⁸

Second, if the speech is protected, the interest of the government in regulating and limiting it must be assessed. The State must assert a substantial interest to be achieved by restrictions on commercial speech.¹⁹

¹⁷ Commercial speech is viewed by the Court as usually harder than other speech; because advertising is the *sine qua non* of commercial profits, it is less likely to be chilled by regulation. Thus, the difference inheres in both the nature of the speech and the nature of the governmental interest. *Virginia State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748, 771–72 n.24 (1976); *Ohralik v. Ohio State Bar Ass'n*, 436 U.S. 447, 455–56 (1978). It is, of course, important to develop distinctions between commercial speech and other speech for purposes of determining when broader regulation is permissible. The Court's definitional statements have been general, referring to commercial speech as that "proposing a commercial transaction," *Ohralik v. Ohio State Bar Ass'n*, *supra*, or as "expression related solely to the economic interests of the speaker and its audience." *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 447 U.S. 557, 561 (1980). It has simply viewed as noncommercial the advertising of views on public policy that would inhere to the economic benefit of the speaker. *Consolidated Edison Co. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 447 U.S. 530 (1980). So too, the Court has refused to treat as commercial speech charitable solicitation undertaken by professional fundraisers, characterizing the commercial component as "inextricably intertwined with otherwise fully protected speech." *Riley v. National Fed'n of the Blind*, 487 U.S. 781, 796 (1988). By contrast, a mixing of home economics information with a sales pitch at a "Tupperware" party did not remove the transaction from commercial speech. *Board of Trustees v. Fox*, 492 U.S. 469 (1989).

¹⁸ *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 447 U.S. 557, 563, 564 (1980). Within this category fall the cases involving the possibility of deception through such devices as use of trade names, *Friedman v. Rogers*, 440 U.S. 1 (1979), and solicitation of business by lawyers, *Ohralik v. Ohio State Bar Ass'n*, 436 U.S. 447 (1978), as well as the proposal of an unlawful transaction, *Pittsburgh Press Co. v. Comm'n on Human Relations*, 413 U.S. 376 (1973).

¹⁹ *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 447 U.S. 557, 564, 568–69 (1980). The Court deemed the State's interests to be clear and substantial. The pattern here is similar to much due process and equal protection litigation as well as expression and religion cases in which the Court accepts the proffered interests as legitimate and worthy. *See also San Francisco Arts & Athletics, Inc. v. United States Olympic Comm.*, 483 U.S. 522 (1987) (governmental interest in protecting USOC's exclusive use of word "Olympic" is substantial). However, in *Bolger v. Youngs Drug Products Corp.*, 463 U.S. 60 (1983), the Court deemed insubstantial a governmental interest in protecting postal patrons from offensive but not obscene materials. For deferential treatment of the governmental interest, *see Posadas de Puerto Rico Associates v. Tourism Co. of Puerto Rico*, 478 U.S. 328 (1986) (Puerto Rico's "substantial" interest in discouraging casino gambling by residents justifies

Third, the restriction cannot be sustained if it provides only ineffective or remote support for the asserted purpose.²⁰

Fourth, if the governmental interest could be served as well by a more limited restriction on commercial speech, the excessive restriction cannot survive.²¹ The Court has rejected the idea that a “least restrictive means” test is required. Instead, what is now required is a “reasonable fit” between means and ends, with the means “narrowly tailored to achieve the desired objective.”²²

Thus, the “different degree of protection” accorded commercial speech means that government need not tolerate inaccuracies to the same extent it must in other areas and it may require that a commercial message appear in such a form, or include such additional information, warnings, and disclaimers, as are necessary to prevent it being deceptive.²³ Somewhat broader times, places, and manner regulations are to be tolerated.²⁴ The rule against prior re-

ban on ads aimed at residents even though residents may legally engage in casino gambling, and even though ads aimed at tourists are permitted).

²⁰Id. at 569. The ban here was found to directly advance one of the proffered interests. Contrast this holding with *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350 (1977); *Virginia State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748 (1976); and *Bolger v. Youngs Drug Products Corp.*, 463 U.S. 60 (1983), where the restraints were deemed indirect or ineffectual.

²¹*Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. Public Service Comm’n*, 447 U.S. 557, 565, 569–71 (1980). This test is, of course, the “least restrictive means” standard. *Shelton v. Tucker*, 364 U.S. 479, 488 (1960). In *Central Hudson*, the Court found the ban more extensive than was necessary to effectuate the governmental purpose. *And see Bolger v. Youngs Drug Products Corp.*, 463 U.S. 60 (1983), where the Court held that the governmental interest in not interfering with parental efforts at controlling children’s access to birth control information could not justify a ban on commercial mailings about birth control products; “[t]he level of discourse reaching a mailbox simply cannot be limited to that which would be suitable for a sandbox.” Id. at 74. Note, however, that in *San Francisco Arts & Athletics, Inc. v. United States Olympic Comm.*, 483 U.S. 522 (1987), the Court applied the test in a manner deferential to Congress: “the restrictions [at issue] are not broader than Congress reasonably could have determined to be necessary to further these interests.”

²²*Board of Trustees v. Fox*, 492 U.S. 469, 480 (1989)

²³*Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350, 383–84 (1977); *Ohralik v. Ohio State Bar Ass’n*, 436 U.S. 447, 456 (1978). Requirements that advertisers disclose more information than they otherwise choose to are upheld “as long as [they] are reasonably related to the State’s interest in preventing deception of consumers,” the Court explaining that “[t]he right of a commercial speaker not to divulge accurate information regarding his services is not . . . a fundamental right” requiring strict scrutiny of the disclosure requirement. *Zauderer v. Office of Disciplinary Counsel*, 471 U.S. 626, 651 & n.14 (1985) (upholding requirement that attorney’s contingent fees ad mention that unsuccessful plaintiffs might still be liable for court costs).

²⁴*Virginia State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748, 771 (1976); *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350, 384 (1977). But in *Linmark Associates v. Township of Willingboro*, 431 U.S. 85, 93–94 (1977), the Court refused to accept a times, places, and manner defense of an ordinance prohibiting “For Sale” signs on residential lawns. First, ample alternative channels of communication were not available, and second, the ban was seen rather as a content limitation.

straints may be inapplicable²⁵ and disseminators of commercial speech are not protected by the overbreadth doctrine.²⁶ Whether government may ban all commercial advertising of a service or product that is legal to sell is a matter of current debate. In *Posadas de Puerto Rico Associates v. Tourism Co. of Puerto Rico*,²⁷ the Court upheld a Puerto Rico ban on advertising of casino gambling aimed at residents, who nonetheless were not prohibited from engaging in casino gambling. The advertising ban was far from complete, however, since ads aimed at the lucrative tourist trade were still permitted. In any event, courts must now analyze with some care regulations of and limitations on commercial expression, the demise of the exception permitting easy resolution no longer.²⁸

Taxation.—Disclaiming any intimation “that the owners of newspapers are immune from any of the ordinary forms of taxation for support of the government,” the Court voided a state two-percent tax on the gross receipts of advertising in newspapers with a circulation exceeding 20,000 copies a week.²⁹ In the Court’s view, the tax was analogous to the Eighteenth Century English practice of imposing advertising and stamp taxes on newspapers for the express purpose of pricing the opposition penny press beyond the

²⁵ *Virginia State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748, 771–72 n.24 (1976); *Central Hudson & Electric Co. v. Public Service Comm’n*, 447 U.S. 557, 571 n.13 (1980).

²⁶ *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350, 379–81 (1977); *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. Public Service Comm’n*, 477 U.S. 557, 565 n.8 (1980).

²⁷ 478 U.S. 328 (1986). The Court’s opinion by Justice Rehnquist distinguished earlier cases (*Carey* and *Bigelow*) invalidating bans on advertisements of contraceptives and abortion services because there “the underlying conduct that was the subject of the advertising restrictions was constitutionally protected and could not have been prohibited.” Casino gambling, on the other hand, is not such protected conduct, and the Court announced a potentially sweeping principle that “the greater power to completely ban casino gambling necessarily includes the lesser power to ban advertising of casino gambling.” 478 U.S. at 345–46. For discussion of the case, see P. Kurland, *Posadas de Puerto Rico v. Tourism Company: “Twas Strange, Twas Passing Strange; Twas Pitiful, Twas Wondrous Pitiful,”* 1986 SUP. CT. REV. 1. For qualification based on the commercial nature of speech in *Posadas*, see *Meyer v. Grant*, 486 U.S. 414, 424–25 (1988) (power to ban ballot initiatives entirely does not include power to limit discussion of political issues raised by initiative petitions).

²⁸ Easy resolution of controversies is also made impossible by Supreme Court divisions. See, e.g., *Metromedia v. City of San Diego*, 453 U.S. 490 (1981), in which the Court held unconstitutional an ordinance prohibiting billboards and other outdoor sign displays, both commercial and noncommercial, subject to a wide array of exceptions which in some respects treated noncommercial signs more severely than commercial ones. It was on the basis of the divergence of treatment that the ordinance was held to fail. Seven of the Justices appeared to endorse the view that bans on commercial billboards are permissible ways to implement the substantial governmental interests in traffic safety and aesthetics. *Id.* at 503–12 (plurality opinion of Justices White, Stewart, Marshall, and Powell), 540 (Justice Stevens dissenting), 555 (Chief Justice Burger dissenting), 569 (Justice Rehnquist dissenting).

²⁹ *Grosjean v. American Press Co.*, 297 U.S. 233, 250 (1936).

means of the mass of the population.³⁰ The tax at issue focused exclusively upon newspapers, it imposed a serious burden on the distribution of news to the public, and it appeared to be a discriminatorily selective tax aimed almost solely at the opposition to the state administration.³¹ Combined with the standard that government may not impose a tax directly upon the exercise of a constitutional right itself,³² these tests seem to permit general business taxes upon receipts of businesses engaged in communicating protected expression without raising any First Amendment issues.³³

Ordinarily, a tax singling out the press for differential treatment is highly suspect, and creates a heavy burden of justification on the state. This is so, the Court explained in 1983, because such “a powerful weapon” to single out a small group carries with it a lessened political constraint than do those measures affecting a broader based constituency, and because “differential treatment, unless justified by some special characteristic of the press, suggests that the goal of the regulation is not unrelated to suppression of expression.”³⁴ The state’s interest in raising revenue is not sufficient justification for differential treatment of the press. Moreover, the Court refused to adopt a rule permitting analysis of the “effective burden” imposed by a differential tax; even if the current effective tax burden could be measured and upheld, the threat of increasing the burden on the press might have “censorial effects,” and “courts as institutions are poorly equipped to evaluate with precision the relative burdens of various methods of taxation.”³⁵

³⁰Id. at 245–48.

³¹Id. at 250–51. *Grosjean* was distinguished on this latter basis in *Minneapolis Star & Tribune Co. v. Minnesota Comm’r of Revenue*, 460 U.S. 575 (1983).

³²*Murdock v. Pennsylvania*, 319 U.S. 105 (1943); *Follett v. McCormick*, 321 U.S. 573 (1944) (license taxes upon Jehovah’s Witnesses selling religious literature invalid).

³³Cf. *City of Corona v. Corona Daily Independent*, 115 Cal. App. 2d 382, 252 P.2d 56 (1953), cert. den., 346 U.S. 833 (1953) (Justices Black and Douglas dissenting). And see *Cammarano v. United States*, 358 U.S. 498 (1959) (no First Amendment violation to deny business expense tax deduction for expenses incurred in lobbying about measure affecting one’s business); *Leathers v. Medlock*, 499 U.S. 439 (1991) (no First Amendment violation in applying general gross receipts tax to cable television services while exempting other communications media).

³⁴*Minneapolis Star & Tribune Co. v. Minnesota Comm’r of Revenue*, 460 U.S. 575, 585 (1983) (invalidating a Minnesota use tax on the cost of paper and ink products used in a publication, and exempting the first \$100,000 of such costs each calendar year; *Star & Tribune* paid roughly two-thirds of all revenues the state raised by the tax). The Court seemed less concerned, however, when the affected group within the press was not so small, upholding application of a gross receipts tax to cable television services even though other segments of the communications media were exempted. *Leathers v. Medlock*, 499 U.S. 439 (1991).

³⁵460 U.S. at 588, 589.

Also difficult to justify is taxation that targets specific subgroups within a segment of the press for differential treatment. An Arkansas sales tax exemption for newspapers and for “religious, professional, trade, and sports journals” published within the state was struck down as an invalid content-based regulation of the press.³⁶ Entirely as a result of content, some magazines were treated less favorably than others. The general interest in raising revenue was again rejected as a “compelling” justification for such treatment, and the measure was viewed as not narrowly tailored to achieve other asserted state interests in encouraging “fledgling” publishers and in fostering communications.

The Court seemed to change course somewhat in 1991, upholding a state tax that discriminated among different components of the communications media, and proclaiming that “differential taxation of speakers, even members of the press, does not implicate the First Amendment unless the tax is directed at, or presents the danger of suppressing, particular ideas.”³⁷

The general principle that government may not impose a financial burden based on the content of speech underlay the Court’s invalidation of New York’s “Son of Sam” law, which provided that a criminal’s income from publications describing his crime was to be placed in escrow and made available to victims of the crime.³⁸ While the Court recognized a compelling state interest in ensuring that criminals do not profit from their crimes, and in compensating crime victims, the law was not narrowly tailored to those ends. It applied only to income derived from speech, not to income from other sources, and it was significantly overinclusive because it reached a wide range of literature (e.g., the *Confessions of Saint Augustine* and Thoreau’s *Civil Disobedience*) “that did not enable a criminal to profit from his crime while a victim remains uncompensated.”³⁹

Labor Relations.—Just as newspapers and other communications businesses are subject to nondiscriminatory taxation, they are entitled to no immunity from the application of general laws regulating their relations with their employees and prescribing wage and hour standards. In *Associated Press v. NLRB*,⁴⁰ the application of the National Labor Relations Act to a newsgathering agency was found to raise no constitutional problem. “The publisher of a news-

³⁶ *Arkansas Writers’ Project, Inc. v. Ragland*, 481 U.S. 221 (1987).

³⁷ *Leathers v. Medlock*, 499 U.S. 439, 453 (1991) (tax applied to all cable television systems within the state, but not to other segments of the communications media).

³⁸ *Simon & Schuster v. New York Crime Victims Bd.*, 112 S. Ct. 501 (1991).

³⁹ 112 S. Ct. at 511.

⁴⁰ 301 U.S. 103, 132 (1937).

paper has no special immunity from the application of general laws. He has no special privilege to invade the rights and liberties of others. . . . The regulation here in question has no relation whatever to the impartial distribution of news.” Similarly, the Court has found no problem with requiring newspapers to pay minimum wages and observe maximum hours.⁴¹

Antitrust Laws.—Resort to the antitrust laws to break up restraints on competition in the newsgathering and publishing field was found not only to present no First Amendment problem but to comport with government’s obligation under that Amendment. Said Justice Black: “It would be strange indeed, however, if the grave concern for freedom of the press which prompted adoption of the First Amendment should be read as a command that the government was without power to protect that freedom. The First Amendment, far from providing an argument against application of the Sherman Act, here provides powerful reasons to the contrary. That Amendment rests on the assumption that the widest possible dissemination of information from diverse and antagonistic sources is essential to the welfare of the public, that a free press is a condition of a free society. Surely a command that the government itself shall not impede the free flow of ideas does not afford nongovernmental combinations a refuge if they impose restraints upon that constitutionally guaranteed freedom. Freedom to publish means freedom for all and not for some. Freedom to publish is guaranteed by the Constitution, but freedom to combine to keep others from publishing is not.”⁴²

Thus, both newspapers and broadcasters, as well as other such industries, may not engage in monopolistic and other anticompetitive activities free of possibility of antitrust law attack,⁴³ even though it may be contended that freedom of the press may thereby be preserved.⁴⁴

⁴¹ *Oklahoma Press Pub. Co. v. Walling*, 327 U.S. 186 (1946).

⁴² *Associated Press v. United States*, 326 U.S. 1, 20 (1945).

⁴³ *Lorain Journal Co. v. United States*, 342 U.S. 143 (1951) (refusal of newspaper publisher who enjoyed a substantial monopoly to sell advertising to persons also advertising over a competing radio station violates antitrust laws); *United States v. Radio Corporation of America*, 358 U.S. 334 (1959) (FCC approval no bar to antitrust suit); *United States v. Greater Buffalo Press, Inc.*, 402 U.S. 549 (1971) (monopolization of color comic supplements). See also *FCC v. National Citizens Comm. for Broadcasting*, 436 U.S. 775 (1978) (upholding FCC rules prospectively barring, and in some instances requiring divesting to prevent, the common ownership of a radio or television broadcast station and a daily newspaper located in the same community).

⁴⁴ *Citizen Publishing Co. v. United States*, 394 U.S. 131 (1969) (pooling arrangement between two newspapers violates antitrust laws; First Amendment argument that one paper will fail if arrangement is outlawed rejected). In response to this decision, Congress enacted the Newspaper Preservation Act to sanction certain joint

Radio and Television.—Because there are a limited number of broadcast frequencies for radio and non-cable television use, the Federal Government licenses access to these frequencies, permitting some applicants to utilize them and denying the greater number of applicants such permission. Even though this licensing system is in form a variety of prior restraint, the Court has held that it does not present a First Amendment issue because of the unique characteristic of scarcity.⁴⁵ Thus, the Federal Communications Commission has broad authority to determine the right of access to broadcasting,⁴⁶ although, of course, the regulation must be exercised in a manner that is neutral with regard to the content of the materials broadcast.⁴⁷

In certain respects, however, governmental regulation does implicate First Amendment values to a great degree; insistence that broadcasters afford persons attacked on the air an opportunity to reply and that they afford a right to reply from opposing points of view when they editorialize on the air was unanimously found to be constitutional.⁴⁸ In *Red Lion*, Justice White explained that differences in the characteristics of various media justify differences in First Amendment standards applied to them.⁴⁹ Thus, while there is a protected right of everyone to speak, write, or publish as he will, subject to very few limitations, there is no comparable right of everyone to broadcast. The frequencies are limited and some few must be given the privilege over others. The particular licensee, however, has no First Amendment right to hold that license and his exclusive privilege may be qualified. Qualification by censorship of content is impermissible, but the First Amendment does not prevent a governmental insistence that a licensee “conduct

arrangements where one paper is in danger of failing. 84 Stat. 466 (1970), 15 U.S.C. §§ 1801–1804.

⁴⁵*NBC v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190 (1943); see also *Red Lion Broadcasting Co. v. FCC*, 395 U.S. 367, 375–79, 387–89 (1969); *FCC v. National Citizens Comm. for Broadcasting*, 436 U.S. 775, 798–802 (1978).

⁴⁶*NBC v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190 (1943); *Federal Radio Comm. v. Nelson Brothers Bond & Mortgage Co.*, 289 U.S. 266 (1933); *FCC v. Pottsville*, 309 U.S. 134 (1940); *FCC v. ABC*, 347 U.S. 284 (1954); *Farmers Union v. WDAY*, 360 U.S. 525 (1958).

⁴⁷“But Congress did not authorize the Commission to choose among applicants upon the basis of their political, economic or social views or upon any other capricious basis. If it did, or if the Commission by these regulations proposed a choice among applicants upon some such basis, the issue before us would be wholly different.” *NBC v. United States*, 319 U.S. 190, 226 (1943).

⁴⁸*Red Lion Broadcasting Co. v. FCC*, 395 U.S. 367 (1969). “The Federal Communications Commission has for many years imposed on radio and television broadcasters the requirement that discussion of public issues be presented on broadcast stations, and that each side of those issues must be given fair coverage. This is known as the fairness doctrine. . . .” *Id.* at 369. The two issues passed on in *Red Lion* were integral parts of the doctrine.

⁴⁹*Id.* at 386.

himself as a proxy or fiduciary with obligations to present those views and voices which are representative of his community and which would otherwise, by necessity, be barred from the airwaves." Further, said Justice White, "[b]ecause of the scarcity of radio frequencies, the Government is permitted to put restraints on licensees in favor of others whose views should be expressed on this unique medium. But the people as a whole retain their interest in free speech by radio and their collective right to have the medium function consistently with the ends and purposes of the First Amendment. It is the right of the viewers and listeners, not the right of the broadcasters, which is paramount."⁵⁰ The broadcasters had argued that if they were required to provide equal time at their expense to persons attacked and to points of view different from those expressed on the air, expression would be curbed through self-censorship, for fear of controversy and economic loss. Justice White thought this possibility "at best speculative," but if it should materialize "the Commission is not powerless to insist that they give adequate and fair attention to public issues."⁵¹

In *Columbia Broadcasting System v. Democratic National Committee*,⁵² the Court rejected claims of political groups that the broadcast networks were constitutionally required to sell them broadcasting time for the presentation of views on controversial issues. The ruling terminated a broad drive to obtain that result, but the fragmented nature of the Court's multiple opinions precluded a satisfactory evaluation of the constitutional implications of the case. However, in *CBS v. FCC*,⁵³ the Court held that Congress had conferred on candidates seeking federal elective office an affirmative, promptly enforceable right of reasonable access to the use of broadcast stations, to be administered through FCC control over license revocations, and held such right of access to be within Congress' power to grant, the First Amendment notwithstanding. The constitutional analysis was brief and merely restated the spectrum scarcity rationale and the role of the broadcasters as fiduciaries for the public interest.

In *FCC v. League of Women Voters*,⁵⁴ the Court took the same general approach to governmental regulation of public broadcast-

⁵⁰Id. at 388–90.

⁵¹Id. at 392–93.

⁵²412 U.S. 94 (1973).

⁵³453 U.S. 367 (1981). The dissent argued that the FCC had assumed, and the Court had confirmed it in assuming, too much authority under the congressional enactment. In its view, Congress had not meant to do away with the traditional deference to the editorial judgments of the broadcasters. Id. at 397 (Justices White, Rehnquist, and Stevens).

⁵⁴468 U.S. 364 (1984), holding unconstitutional § 399 of the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, as amended. The decision was 5–4, with Justice Brennan's opinion for

ing, but struck down a total ban on editorializing by stations receiving public funding. In summarizing the principles guiding analysis in this area, the Court reaffirmed that Congress may regulate in ways that would be impermissible in other contexts, but indicated that broadcasters are entitled to greater protection than may have been suggested by *Red Lion*. “[A]lthough the broadcasting industry plainly operates under restraints not imposed upon other media, the thrust of these restrictions has generally been to secure the public’s First Amendment interest in receiving a balanced presentation of views on diverse matters of public concern. . . . [T]hese restrictions have been upheld only when we were satisfied that the restriction is narrowly tailored to further a substantial governmental interest.”⁵⁵ However, the earlier cases were distinguished. “[I]n sharp contrast to the restrictions upheld in *Red Lion* or in [*CBS v. FCC*], which left room for editorial discretion and simply required broadcast editors to grant others access to the microphone, §399 directly prohibits the broadcaster from speaking out on public issues even in a balanced and fair manner.”⁵⁶ The ban on all editorializing was deemed too severe and restrictive a means of accomplishing the governmental purposes—protecting public broadcasting stations from being coerced, through threat or fear of withdrawal of public funding, into becoming “vehicles for governmental propagandizing,” and also keeping the stations “from becoming convenient targets for capture by private interest groups wishing to express their own partisan viewpoints.”⁵⁷ Expression of editorial opinion was described as a “form of speech . . . that lies at the heart of First Amendment protection,”⁵⁸ and the ban was said to be “defined solely on the basis of . . . content,” the assumption being that editorial speech is speech directed at “controversial issues of public importance.”⁵⁹ Moreover, the ban on editorializing was both overinclusive, applying to commentary on local issues of no likely interest to Congress, and underinclusive, not applying at all to expression of controversial opinion in the context of regular programming. Therefore, the Court concluded, the restriction was not narrowly enough tailored to fulfill the government’s purposes.

the Court being joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and O’Connor, and with Justices White, Rehnquist (joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justice White), and Stevens filing dissenting opinions.

⁵⁵ 468 U.S. at 380. The Court rejected the suggestion that only a “compelling” rather than “substantial” governmental interest can justify restrictions.

⁵⁶ 468 U.S. at 385.

⁵⁷ 468 U.S. at 384–85. Dissenting Justice Stevens thought that the ban on editorializing served an important purpose of “maintaining government neutrality in the free marketplace of ideas.” *Id.* at 409.

⁵⁸ 468 U.S. at 381.

⁵⁹ 468 U.S. at 383.

Sustaining FCC discipline of a broadcaster who aired a record containing a series of repeated “barnyard” words, considered “indecent” but not obscene, the Court posited a new theory to explain why the broadcast industry is less entitled to full constitutional protection than are other communications entities.⁶⁰ “First, the broadcast media have established a uniquely pervasive presence in the lives of all Americans. Patently offensive, indecent material presented over the airwaves confronts the citizens, not only in public, but also in the privacy of the home, where the individual’s right to be left alone plainly outweighs the First Amendment rights of an intruder. . . . Second, broadcasting is uniquely accessible to children, even those too young to read. . . . The ease with which children may obtain access to broadcast material . . . amply justif[ies] special treatment of indecent broadcasting.”⁶¹ The purport of the Court’s new theory is hard to divine; while its potential is broad, the Court emphasized the contextual “narrowness” of its holding, which “requires consideration of a host of variables.”⁶² Time of day of broadcast, the likely audience, the differences between radio, television, and perhaps closed-circuit transmissions were all relevant in the Court’s view. It may be, then, that the case will be limited in the future to its particular facts; yet, the pronouncement of a new theory sets in motion a tendency the application of which may not be so easily cabined.

The Court has ruled that cable television “implicates First Amendment interests,” since a franchisee communicates ideas through selection of original programming and through exercise of editorial discretion in determining which stations to include in its offering, but has left for future decision how these interests are to be balanced against a community’s interests in limiting franchises and preserving utility space.⁶³

⁶⁰FCC v. *Pacifica Foundation*, 438 U.S. 726 (1978).

⁶¹*Id.* at 748–51. This was the only portion of the constitutional discussion that obtained the support of a majority of the Court. Justice Stevens’ opinion was joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justices Rehnquist, Powell, and Blackmun. Justices Powell and Blackmun, *id.* 755, concurred also in a separate opinion, which reiterated the points made in the text. Justices Brennan and Marshall dissented with respect to the constitutional arguments made by Justices Stevens and Powell. *Id.* at 762. Justices Stewart and White dissented on statutory grounds, not reaching the constitutional arguments. *Id.* at 777.

⁶²*Id.* at 750. *See also id.* at 742–43 (plurality opinion), and *id.* 755–56 (Justice Powell concurring) (“Court reviews only the Commission’s holding that Carlin’s monologue was indecent ‘as broadcast’ at two o’clock in the afternoon, and not the broad sweep of the Commission’s opinion.”).

⁶³*City of Los Angeles v. Preferred Communications*, 476 U.S. 488 (1986). *See also Leathers v. Medlock*, 499 U.S. 439 (1991) (application of state gross receipts tax to cable industry permissible even though other segments of the communications media were exempted).

Governmentally Compelled Right of Reply to Newspapers.—However divided it may have been in dealing with access to the broadcast media, the Court was unanimous in holding void under the First Amendment a state law that granted a political candidate a right to equal space to answer criticism and attacks on his record by a newspaper.⁶⁴ Granting that the number of newspapers had declined over the years, that ownership had become concentrated, and that new entries were prohibitively expensive, the Court agreed with proponents of the law that the problem of newspaper responsibility was a great one. But press responsibility, while desirable, “is not mandated by the Constitution,” while freedom is. The compulsion exerted by government on a newspaper to print that which it would not otherwise print, “a compulsion to publish that which ‘reason tells them should not be published,’” runs afoul of the free press clause.⁶⁵

Government Restraint of Content of Expression

The three previous sections considered primarily but not exclusively incidental restraints on expression as a result of governmental regulatory measures aimed at goals other than control of the content of expression; this section considers the permissibility of governmental measures which are directly concerned with the content of expression.⁶⁶ As a general matter, government may not regulate speech “because of its message, its ideas, its subject matter, or its content.”⁶⁷ Invalid content regulation includes not only

⁶⁴ *Miami Herald Pub. Co. v. Tornillo*, 418 U.S. 241 (1974).

⁶⁵ *Id.* at 256. The Court also adverted to the imposed costs of the compelled printing of replies but this seemed secondary to the quoted conclusion. The Court has also held that a state may not require a privately owned utility company to include in its billing envelopes views of a consumer group with which it disagrees. While a plurality opinion adhered to by four Justices relied heavily on *Tornillo*, there was not a Court majority consensus as to rationale. *Pacific Gas & Elec. v. Public Utilities Comm'n*, 475 U.S. 1 (1986).

⁶⁶ The distinction was sharply drawn by Justice Harlan in *Konigsberg v. State Bar of California*, 366 U.S. 36, 49–51 (1961): “Throughout its history this Court has consistently recognized at least two ways in which constitutionally protected freedom of speech is narrower than an unlimited license to talk. On the one hand certain forms of speech, or speech in certain contexts, have been considered outside the scope of constitutional protection. . . . On the other hand, general regulatory statutes not intended to control the content of speech but incidentally limiting its unfettered exercise, have not been regarded as the type of law the First or Fourteenth Amendments forbade Congress or the states to pass, when they have been found justified by subordinating valid governmental interests, a prerequisite to constitutionality which has necessarily involved a weighing of the governmental interest involved.”

⁶⁷ *Police Dep't v. Mosley*, 408 U.S. 92, 95 (1972). See also *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205, 208–12 (1975); *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765 (1978); *Carey v. Brown*, 447 U.S. 455 (1980); *Metromedia v. City of San Diego*, 453 U.S. 490 (1981) (plurality opinion); *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263 (1981); *Regan v. Time, Inc.*, 468 U.S. 641 (1984).

restrictions on particular viewpoints, but also prohibitions on public discussion of an entire topic.⁶⁸

Originally the Court took a “two-tier” approach to content-oriented regulation of expression. Under the “definitional balancing” of this approach, some forms of expression are protected by the First Amendment and certain categories of expression are not entitled to protection. This doctrine traces to *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*,⁶⁹ in which the Court opined that “certain well-defined and narrowly limited classes of speech . . . are no essential part of any exposition of ideas, and are of such slight social value as a step to truth” that government may prevent those utterances and punish those uttering them without raising any constitutional problems. If speech fell within the *Chaplinsky* categories, it was unprotected, regardless of its effect; if it did not, it was covered by the First Amendment and it was protected unless the restraint was justified by some test relating to harm, such as clear and present danger or a balancing of presumptively protected expression against a governmental interest which must be compelling.

For several decades, the decided cases reflected a fairly consistent and sustained march by the Court to the elimination of, or a severe narrowing of, the “two-tier” doctrine. The result was protection of much expression that hitherto would have been held absolutely unprotected (e.g., seditious speech and seditious libel, fighting words, defamation, and obscenity). More recently, the march has been deflected by a shift in position with respect to obscenity and by the creation of a new category of non-obscene child pornography. But in the course of this movement, differences surfaced among the Justices on the permissibility of regulation based on content and the interrelated issue of a hierarchy of speech values, according to which some forms of expression, while protected, may be more readily subject to official regulation and perhaps suppression than other protected expression. These differences were compounded in cases in which First Amendment expression values came into conflict with other values, either constitutionally protected values such as the right to fair trials in criminal cases, or societally valued interests such as those in privacy, reputation, and the protection from disclosure of certain kinds of information.

Attempts to work out these differences are elaborated in the following pages, but the effort to formulate a doctrine of permissible content regulation within categories of protected expression

⁶⁸Arkansas Writers' Project, Inc. v. Ragland, 481 U.S. 221, 230 (1987) (citing Consolidated Edison Co. v. Public Service Comm'n, 447 U.S. 530, 537 (1980)).

⁶⁹315 U.S. 568, 571–72 (1942).

necessitates a brief treatment. It remains standard doctrine that it is impermissible to posit regulation of protected expression upon its content.⁷⁰ But in recent Terms, Justice Stevens has articulated a theory that would permit some governmental restraint based upon content. In Justice Stevens' view, there is a hierarchy of speech; where the category of speech at issue fits into that hierarchy determines the appropriate level of protection under the First Amendment. A category's place on the continuum is guided by *Chaplinsky's* formulation of whether it is "an essential part of any exposition of ideas" and what its "social value as a step to truth" is.⁷¹ Thus, offensive but nonobscene words and portrayals dealing with sex and excretion may be regulated when the expression plays no role or a minimal role in the exposition of ideas.⁷² "Whether political oratory or philosophical discussion moves us to applaud or to despise what is said, every schoolchild can understand why our duty to defend the right to speak remains the same. But few of us would march our sons and daughters off to war to preserve the citizen's right to see 'Specified Sexual Activities' exhibited in the theaters of our choice."⁷³

While a majority of the Court has not joined in approving Justice Stevens' theory,⁷⁴ the Court has in some contexts of covered expression approved restrictions based on content,⁷⁵ and in still other areas, such as privacy, it has implied that some content-

⁷⁰ See, e.g., *Simon & Schuster v. New York Crime Victims Bd.*, 112 S. Ct. 501 (1991).

⁷¹ *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*, 315 U.S. 568, 572 (1942).

⁷² *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 427 U.S. 50, 63–73 (1976) (plurality opinion); *Smith v. United States*, 431 U.S. 291, 317–19 (1977) (Justice Stevens dissenting); *Carey v. Population Services Int.*, 431 U.S. 678, 716 (1977) (Justice Stevens concurring in part and concurring in the judgment); *FCC v. Pacifica Found.*, 438 U.S. 726, 744–48 (1978) (plurality opinion); *Schad v. Borough of Mount Ephraim*, 452 U.S. 61, 80, 83 (1981) (Justice Stevens concurring in judgment); *New York v. Ferber*, 458 U.S. 747, 781 (1982) (Justice Stevens concurring in judgment); *R. A. V. v. City of St. Paul*, 112 S. Ct. 2538, 2564 (1992) (Justice Stevens concurring in the judgment).

⁷³ *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 427 U.S. 50, 70 (1976) (plurality opinion).

⁷⁴ In *New York v. Ferber*, 458 U.S. 747, 763 (1982), a majority of the Court joined an opinion quoting much of Justice Stevens' language in these cases, but the opinion rather clearly adopts the proposition that the disputed expression, child pornography, is not covered by the First Amendment, not that it is covered but subject to suppression because of its content. *Id.* at 764. And see *id.* at 781 (Justice Stevens concurring in judgment).

⁷⁵ E.g., commercial speech, which is covered by the First Amendment but is less protected than other speech, is subject to content-based regulation. *Central Hudson Gas & Electric Co. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 447 U.S. 557, 568–69 (1980). See also *Rowan v. Post Office Dep't*, 397 U.S. 728 (1970) (sexually-oriented, not necessarily obscene mailings); and *Barnes v. Glen Theatre, Inc.*, 501 U.S. 560 (1991) (nonobscene, erotic dancing).

based restraints on expression would be approved.⁷⁶ Moreover, the Court in recent years has emphasized numerous times the role of the First Amendment in facilitating, indeed making possible, political dialogue and the operation of democratic institutions.⁷⁷ While this emphasis may be read as being premised on a hierarchical theory of the worthiness of political speech and the subordinate position of less worthy forms of speech, more likely it is merely a celebration of the most worthy role speech plays, and not a suggestion that other roles and other kinds of discourses are relevant in determining the measure of protection enjoyed under the First Amendment.⁷⁸

That there can be a permissible content regulation within a category of protected expression was questioned in theory, and rejected in application, in *Hustler Magazine, Inc. v. Falwell*.⁷⁹ In *Falwell* the Court refused to recognize a distinction between permissible political satire and “outrageous” parodies “doubtless gross and repugnant in the eyes of most.”⁸⁰ “If it were possible by laying down a principled standard to separate the one from the other,” the Court suggested, “public discourse would probably suffer little or no harm. But we doubt that there is any such standard, and we are quite sure that the pejorative description ‘outrageous’ does not supply one.”⁸¹ *Falwell* can also be read as consistent with the hierarchical theory of interpretation; the offensive advertisement parody was protected as within “the world of debate about public affairs,” and was not “governed by any exception to . . . general First Amendment principles.”⁸²

So too, there can be impermissible content regulation within a category of otherwise unprotected expression. In *R. A. V. v. City of St. Paul*,⁸³ the Court struck down a hate crimes ordinance construed by the state courts to apply only to use of “fighting words.” The difficulty, the Court found, was that the ordinance made a further content discrimination, proscribing only those fighting words that would arouse anger, alarm, or resentment in others on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, or gender. This amounted to

⁷⁶ *E.g.*, *Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469 (1975). *See also* *Zacchini v. Scripps-Howard Broadcasting Co.*, 433 U.S. 562 (1977).

⁷⁷ *E.g.*, *First National Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 776–77, 781–83 (1978); *Citizens Against Rent Control v. City of Berkeley*, 454 U.S. 290, 299–300 (1982).

⁷⁸ *E.g.*, *First National Bank v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765, 783 (1978); *Consolidated Edison Co. v. Public Service Comm’n*, 447 U.S.C. 530, 534 n.2 (1980).

⁷⁹ 485 U.S. 46 (1988).

⁸⁰ *Id.* at 50, 55.

⁸¹ *Id.* at 55.

⁸² *Id.* at 53.

⁸³ 112 S. Ct. 2538 (1992).

“special prohibitions on those speakers who express views on disfavored subjects.”⁸⁴ The fact that government may proscribe areas of speech such as obscenity, defamation, or fighting words does not mean that these areas “may be made the vehicles for content discrimination unrelated to their distinctly proscribable content. . . . [G]overnment may proscribe libel; but it may not make the further content discrimination of proscribing *only* libel critical of the government.”⁸⁵

Content regulation of protected expression is measured by a compelling interest test derived from equal protection analysis: government “must show that its regulation is necessary to serve a compelling [governmental] interest and is narrowly drawn to achieve that end.”⁸⁶ Application of this test ordinarily results in invalidation of the regulation.⁸⁷ Objecting to the balancing approach inherent in this test because it “might be read as a concession that [government] may censor speech whenever they believe there is a compelling justification for doing so,” Justice Kennedy argues instead for a rule of *per se* invalidity.⁸⁸ But compelling interest analysis can still be useful, the Justice suggests, in determining whether a regulation is actually content-based or instead is content-neutral; in those cases in which the government tenders “a plausible justification unrelated to the suppression of expression,” application of the compelling interest test may help to determine “whether the asserted justification is in fact an accurate description of the purpose and effect of the law.”⁸⁹

Seditious Speech and Seditious Libel.—Opposition to government through speech alone has been subject to punishment throughout much of history under laws proscribing “seditious” utterances. In this country, the Sedition Act of 1798 made criminal, inter alia, malicious writings which defamed, brought into contempt or disrepute, or excited the hatred of the people against the Government, the President, or the Congress, or which stirred peo-

⁸⁴ Id. at 2547.

⁸⁵ Id. at 2543.

⁸⁶ Arkansas Writers' Project, Inc. v. Ragland, 481 U.S. 221, 231 (1987); Simon & Shuster v. New York Crime Victims Bd., 112 S. Ct. 501, 509 (1991).

⁸⁷ But see Burson v. Freeman, 112 S. Ct. 1846 (1992) (state law prohibiting the solicitation of votes and the display or distribution of campaign literature within 100 feet of a polling place upheld as applied to the traditional public forum of streets and sidewalks). The *Burson* plurality phrased the test not in terms of whether the law was “narrowly tailored,” but instead in terms of whether the law was “necessary” to serve compelling state interests. 112 S. Ct. at 1852, 1855.

⁸⁸ Simon & Shuster v. New York Crime Victims Bd., 112 S. Ct. 501, 513 (1991) (concurring).

⁸⁹ Burson v. Freeman, 112 S. Ct. 1846, 1859 (1992) (concurring).

ple to sedition.⁹⁰ In *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*,⁹¹ the Court surveyed the controversy surrounding the enactment and enforcement of the Sedition Act and concluded that debate “first crystallized a national awareness of the central meaning of the First Amendment. . . . Although the Sedition Act was never tested in this Court, the attack upon its validity has carried the day in the court of history [That history] reflect[s] a broad consensus that the Act, because of the restraint it imposed upon criticism of government and public officials, was inconsistent with the First Amendment.” The “central meaning” discerned by the Court, quoting Madison’s comment that in a republican government “the censorial power is in the people over the Government, and not in the Government over the people,” is that “[t]he right of free public discussion of the stewardship of public officials was thus, in Madison’s view, a fundamental principle of the American form of government.”

Little opportunity to apply this concept of the “central meaning” of the First Amendment in the context of sedition and criminal syndicalism laws has been presented to the Court. In *Dombrowski v. Pfister*⁹² the Court, after expanding on First Amendment grounds the discretion of federal courts to enjoin state court proceedings, struck down as vague and as lacking procedural due process protections certain features of a state “Subversive Activities and Communist Control Law.” In *Brandenburg v. Ohio*,⁹³ a state criminal syndicalism statute was held unconstitutional because its condemnation of advocacy of crime, violence, or unlawful methods of terrorism swept within its terms both mere advocacy as well as incitement to imminent lawless action. A seizure of books, pamphlets, and other documents under a search warrant pursuant to

⁹⁰Ch. 74, 1 Stat. 596, *supra*, p. 1022, n.9. Note also that the 1918 amendment of the Espionage Act of 1917, ch. 75, 40 Stat. 553, reached “language intended to bring the form of government of the United States . . . or the Constitution . . . or the flag . . . or the uniform of the Army or Navy into contempt, scorn, contumely, or disrepute.” *Cf. Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616 (1919). For a brief history of seditious libel here and in Great Britain, see Z. CHAFEE, *FREE SPEECH IN THE UNITED STATES* 19–35, 497–516 (1941).

⁹¹376 U.S. 254, 273–76 (1964). See also *Abrams v. United States*, 250 U.S. 616, 630 (1919) (Justice Holmes dissenting).

⁹²380 U.S. 479, 492–96 (1965). A number of state laws were struck down by three-judge district courts pursuant to the latitude prescribed by this case. E.g., *Ware v. Nichols*, 266 F. Supp. 564 (N.D. Miss. 1967) (criminal syndicalism law); *Carmichael v. Allen*, 267 F. Supp. 985 (N.D. Ga. 1966) (insurrection statute); *McSurely v. Ratliff*, 282 F. Supp. 848 (E.D. Ky. 1967) (criminal syndicalism). This latitude was then circumscribed in cases attacking criminal syndicalism and criminal anarchy laws. *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37 (1971); *Samuels v. Mackell*, 401 U.S. 66 (1971).

⁹³395 U.S. 444 (1969). See also *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964); *Ashton v. Kentucky*, 384 U.S. 195 (1966), considered *infra*, pp. 1137–38.

a state subversives suppression law was struck down under the Fourth Amendment in an opinion heavy with First Amendment overtones.⁹⁴

Fighting Words and Other Threats to the Peace.—In *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*,⁹⁵ the Court unanimously sustained a conviction under a statute proscribing “any offensive, derisive, or annoying word” addressed to any person in a public place under the state court’s interpretation of the statute as being limited to “fighting words”—*i.e.*, to “words . . . [which] have a direct tendency to cause acts of violence by the person to whom, individually, the remark is addressed.” The statute was sustained as “narrowly drawn and limited to define and punish specific conduct lying within the domain of state power, the use in a public place of words likely to cause a breach of the peace.”⁹⁶ The case is best known for Justice Murphy’s famous dictum. “[I]t is well understood that the right of free speech is not absolute at all times and under all circumstances. There are certain well-defined and narrowly limited classes of speech, the prevention and punishment of which have never been thought to raise any Constitutional problem. These include the lewd and obscene, the profane, the libelous, and the insulting or ‘fighting’ words—those which by their very utterance inflict injury or tend to incite an immediate breach of the peace. It has been well observed that such utterances are no essential part of any exposition of ideas, and are of such slight social value as a step to truth that any benefit that may be derived from them is clearly outweighed by the social interest in order and morality.”⁹⁷

Chaplinsky still remains viable for the principle that “the States are free to ban the simple use, without a demonstration of additional justifying circumstances, of so-called ‘fighting words,’ those personally abusive epithets which, when addressed to the ordinary citizen, are, as a matter of common knowledge, inherently likely to provoke violent reaction.”⁹⁸ But, in actuality, the Court has closely scrutinized statutes on vagueness and overbreadth

⁹⁴ *Stanford v. Texas*, 379 U.S. 476 (1965). In *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297 (1972), a Government claim to be free to wiretap in national security cases was rejected on Fourth Amendment grounds in an opinion which called attention to the relevance of the First Amendment.

⁹⁵ 315 U.S. 568 (1942).

⁹⁶ *Id.* at 573.

⁹⁷ *Id.* at 571–72.

⁹⁸ *Cohen v. California*, 403 U.S. 15, 20 (1971). Cohen’s conviction for breach of peace, occasioned by his appearance in public with an “offensive expletive” lettered on his jacket, was reversed, in part because the words were not a personal insult and there was no evidence of audience objection.

grounds and set aside convictions as not being within the doctrine. *Chaplinsky* thus remains formally alive but of little vitality.⁹⁹

On the obverse side, the “hostile audience” situation, the Court once sustained a conviction for disorderly conduct of one who refused police demands to cease speaking after his speech seemingly stirred numbers of his listeners to mutterings and threatened disorders.¹⁰⁰ But this case has been significantly limited by cases which hold protected the peaceful expression of views which stirs people to anger because of the content of the expression, or perhaps because of the manner in which it is conveyed, and that breach of the peace and disorderly conduct statutes may not be used to curb such expression.

The cases are not clear to what extent the police must go in protecting the speaker against hostile audience reaction or whether only actual disorder or a clear and present danger of disorder will entitle the authorities to terminate the speech or other expressive conduct.¹⁰¹ Neither, in the absence of incitement to illegal action, may government punish mere expression or proscribe ideas,¹⁰² regardless of the trifling or annoying caliber of the expression.¹⁰³

⁹⁹The cases hold that government may not punish profane, vulgar, or opprobrious words simply because they are offensive, but only if they are “fighting words” that do have a direct tendency to cause acts of violence by the person to whom they are directed. *Gooding v. Wilson*, 405 U.S. 518 (1972); *Hess v. Indiana*, 414 U.S. 105 (1973); *Lewis v. City of New Orleans*, 415 U.S. 130 (1974); *Lucas v. Arkansas*, 416 U.S. 919 (1974); *Kelly v. Ohio*, 416 U.S. 923 (1974); *Karlan v. City of Cincinnati*, 416 U.S. 924 (1974); *Rosen v. California*, 416 U.S. 924 (1974); and see *Eaton v. City of Tulsa*, 416 U.S. 697 (1974).

¹⁰⁰*Feiner v. New York*, 340 U.S. 315 (1951). See also *Milk Wagon Drivers v. Meadowmoor Dairies*, 312 U.S. 287 (1941), in which the Court held that a court could enjoin peaceful picketing because violence occurring at the same time against the businesses picketed could have created an atmosphere in which even peaceful, otherwise protected picketing could be illegally coercive. But compare *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886 (1982).

¹⁰¹The principle actually predates *Feiner*. See *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296 (1940); *Terminiello v. Chicago*, 337 U.S. 1 (1949). For subsequent application, see *Edwards v. South Carolina*, 372 U.S. 229 (1963); *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536 (1965); *Brown v. Louisiana*, 383 U.S. 131 (1966); *Gregory v. City of Chicago*, 394 U.S. 111 (1969); *Bachellar v. Maryland*, 397 U.S. 564 (1970). Significant is Justice Harlan’s statement of the principle reflected by *Feiner*: “Nor do we have here an instance of the exercise of the State’s police power to prevent a speaker from intentionally provoking a given group to hostile reaction. Cf. *Feiner v. New York*, 340 U.S. 315 (1951).” *Cohen v. California*, 403 U.S. 15, 20 (1970).

¹⁰²*Cohen v. California*, 403 U.S. 15 (1971); *Bachellar v. Maryland*, 397 U.S. 564 (1970); *Street v. New York*, 394 U.S. 576 (1969); *Schacht v. United States*, 398 U.S. 58 (1970); *Joseph Burstyn, Inc. v. Wilson*, 343 U.S. 495 (1952); *Kingsley Pictures Corp. v. Regents*, 360 U.S. 684 (1959); *Stromberg v. California*, 283 U.S. 359 (1931).

¹⁰³*Coates v. City of Cincinnati*, 402 U.S. 611 (1971); *Cohen v. California*, 403 U.S. 15 (1971); *Gooding v. Wilson*, 405 U.S. 518 (1972).

Group Libel, Hate Speech.—In *Beauharnais v. Illinois*,¹⁰⁴ relying on dicta in past cases,¹⁰⁵ the Court upheld a state group libel law which made it unlawful to defame a race or class of people. The defendant had been convicted under this statute after he had distributed a leaflet, a part of which was in the form of a petition to his city government, taking a hard-line white supremacy position and calling for action to keep African Americans out of white neighborhoods. Justice Frankfurter for the Court sustained the statute along the following reasoning. Libel of an individual, he established, was a common-law crime and was now made criminal by statute in every State in the Union. These laws raise no constitutional difficulty because libel is within that class of speech which is not protected by the First Amendment. If an utterance directed at an individual may be the object of criminal sanctions, no good reason appears to deny a State the power to punish the same utterances when they are directed at a defined group, “unless we can say that this is a willful and purposeless restriction unrelated to the peace and well-being of the State.”¹⁰⁶ The Justice then reviewed the history of racial strife in Illinois to conclude that the legislature could reasonably fear substantial evils from unrestrained racial utterances. Neither did the Constitution require the State to accept a defense of truth, inasmuch as historically a defendant had to show not only truth but publication with good motives and for justifiable ends.¹⁰⁷ “Libelous utterances not being within the area of constitutionally protected speech, it is unnecessary . . . to consider the issues behind the phrase ‘clear and present danger.’”¹⁰⁸

Beauharnais has little continuing vitality as precedent. Its holding, premised in part on the categorical exclusion of defamatory statements from First Amendment protection, has been substantially undercut by subsequent developments, not the least of which are the Court’s subjection of defamation law to First Amendment challenge and its ringing endorsement of “uninhibited, robust, and wide-open” debate on public issues in *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*.¹⁰⁹ In *R. A. V. v. City of St. Paul*, the Court, in an

¹⁰⁴ 343 U.S. 250 (1952).

¹⁰⁵ *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*, 315 U.S. 568, 571–72 (1942); *Near v. Minnesota ex rel. Olson*, 283 U.S. 697, 707–08 (1931).

¹⁰⁶ *Beauharnais v. Illinois*, 343 U.S. 250, 254–58 (1952).

¹⁰⁷ *Id.* at 265–66.

¹⁰⁸ *Id.* at 266.

¹⁰⁹ 376 U.S. 254 (1964). *See also* *Collin v. Smith*, 447 F. Supp. 676 (N.D.Ill.) (ordinances prohibiting distribution of materials containing racial slurs are unconstitutional), *aff’d*, 578 F.2d 1197 (7th Cir.), *stay denied*, 436 U.S. 953 (1978), *cert. denied*, 439 U.S. 916 (1978) (Justices Blackmun and Rehnquist dissenting on basis that Court should review case that is in “some tension” with *Beauharnais*). *But see* *New*

opinion by Justice Scalia, explained and qualified the categorical exclusions for defamation, obscenity, and fighting words. These categories of speech are not “entirely invisible to the Constitution,” but instead “can, consistently with the First Amendment, be regulated *because of their constitutionally proscribable content.*”¹¹⁰ Content discrimination unrelated to that “distinctively proscribable content” runs afoul of the First Amendment. Therefore, the city’s bias-motivated crime ordinance, interpreted as banning the use of fighting words known to offend on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, or gender, but not on such other possible bases as political affiliation, union membership, or homosexuality, was invalidated for its content discrimination. “The First Amendment does not permit [the city] to impose special prohibitions on those speakers who express views on disfavored subjects.”¹¹¹

Defamation.—One of the most seminal shifts in constitutional jurisprudence occurred in 1964 with the Court’s decision in *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*.¹¹² The *Times* had published a paid advertisement by a civil rights organization criticizing the response of a Southern community to demonstrations led by Dr. Martin Luther King, and containing several factual errors. The plaintiff, a city commissioner in charge of the police department, claimed that the advertisement had libeled him even though he was not referred to by name or title and even though several of the incidents described had occurred prior to his assumption of office. Unanimously, the Court reversed the lower court’s judgment for the plaintiff. To the contention that the First Amendment did not protect libelous publications, the Court replied that constitutional scrutiny could not be foreclosed by the “label” attached to something. “Like . . . the various other formulae for the repression of expression that have been challenged in this Court, libel can claim no talismanic immunity from constitutional limitations. It must be measured by standards that satisfy the First Amendment.”¹¹³ “The general proposition,” the Court continued, “that freedom of expression upon public questions is secured by the First Amendment has long been settled by our decisions [W]e consider this case against the background of a profound national commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open, and that it may well include vehement, caustic, and sometimes un-

York v. Ferber, 458 U.S. 747, 763 (1982) (obliquely citing *Beauharnais* with approval).

¹¹⁰ 112 S. Ct. at 2543 (emphasis original).

¹¹¹ *Id.* at 2547.

¹¹² 376 U.S. 254 (1964).

¹¹³ *Id.* at 269. Justices Black, Douglas, and Goldberg, concurring, would have held libel laws *per se* unconstitutional. *Id.* at 293, 297.

pleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials.”¹¹⁴ Because the advertisement was “an expression of grievance and protest on one of the major public issues of our time, [it] would seem clearly to qualify for the constitutional protection . . . [unless] it forfeits that protection by the falsity of some of its factual statements and by its alleged defamation of respondent.”¹¹⁵

Erroneous statement is protected, the Court asserted, there being no exception “for any test of truth.” Error is inevitable in any free debate and to place liability upon that score, and especially to place on the speaker the burden of proving truth, would introduce self-censorship and stifle the free expression which the First Amendment protects.¹¹⁶ Nor would injury to official reputation afford a warrant for repressing otherwise free speech. Public officials are subject to public scrutiny and “[c]riticism of their official conduct does not lose its constitutional protection merely because it is effective criticism and hence diminishes their official reputation.”¹¹⁷ That neither factual error nor defamatory content could penetrate the protective circle of the First Amendment was the “lesson” to be drawn from the great debate over the Sedition Act of 1798, which the Court reviewed in some detail to discern the “central meaning of the First Amendment.”¹¹⁸ Thus, it appears, the libel law under consideration failed the test of constitutionality because of its kinship with seditious libel, which violated the “central meaning of the First Amendment.” “The constitutional guarantees require, we think, a federal rule that prohibits a public official from recovering damages for a defamatory falsehood relating to his official conduct unless he proves that the statement was made with ‘actual malice’—that is, with knowledge that it was false or with reckless disregard of whether it was false or not.”¹¹⁹

In the wake of the *Times* ruling, the Court decided two cases involving the type of criminal libel statute upon which Justice Frankfurter had relied in analogy to uphold the group libel law in *Beauharnais*.¹²⁰ In neither case did the Court apply the concept of *Times* to void them altogether. *Garrison v. Louisiana*¹²¹ held that

¹¹⁴ Id. at 269, 270.

¹¹⁵ Id. at 271.

¹¹⁶ Id. at 271–72, 278–79. Of course, the substantial truth of an utterance is ordinarily a defense to defamation. See *Masson v. New Yorker Magazine*, 111 S. Ct. 2419, 2433 (1991).

¹¹⁷ Id. at 272–73.

¹¹⁸ Id. at 273. See *supra*, p. 1022 n.13.

¹¹⁹ Id. at 279–80. The same standard applies for defamation contained in petitions to the government, the Court having rejected the argument that the petition clause requires absolute immunity. *McDonald v. Smith*, 472 U.S. 479 (1985).

¹²⁰ *Beauharnais v. Illinois*, 343 U.S. 250, 254–58 (1952).

¹²¹ 379 U.S. 64 (1964).

a statute that did not incorporate the *Times* rule of “actual malice” was invalid, while in *Ashton v. Kentucky*¹²² a common-law definition of criminal libel as “any writing calculated to create disturbances of the peace, corrupt the public morals or lead to any act, which, when done, is indictable” was too vague to be constitutional.

The teaching of *Times* and the cases following after it is that expression on matters of public interest is protected by the First Amendment. Within that area of protection is commentary about the public actions of individuals. The fact that expression contains falsehoods does not deprive it of protection, because otherwise such expression in the public interest would be deterred by monetary judgments and self-censorship imposed for fear of judgments. But, over the years, the Court has developed an increasingly complex set of standards governing who is protected to what degree with respect to which matters of public and private interest.

Individuals to whom the *Times* rule applies presented one of the first issues for determination. At first, the Court keyed it to the importance of the position held. “There is, first, a strong interest in debate on public issues, and, second, a strong interest in debate about those persons who are in a position significantly to influence the resolution of those issues. Criticism of government is at the very center of the constitutionally protected area of free discussion. Criticism of those responsible for government operations must be free, lest criticism of government itself be penalized. It is clear, therefore, that the ‘public official’ designation applies at the very least to those among the hierarchy of government employees who have, or appear to the public to have, substantial responsibility for or control over the conduct of governmental affairs.”¹²³ But over time, this focus seems to have become diffused and the concept of “public official” has appeared to take on overtones of anyone holding public elective or appointive office.¹²⁴ Moreover, candidates for public office were subject to the *Times* rule and comment on their

¹²² 384 U.S. 195 (1966).

¹²³ *Rosenblatt v. Baer*, 383 U.S. 75, 85 (1966).

¹²⁴ *Id.* (supervisor of a county recreation area employed by and responsible to the county commissioners may be public official within *Times* rule). See *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964) (elected municipal judges); *Henry v. Collins*, 380 U.S. 356 (1965) (county attorney and chief of police); *St. Amant v. Thompson*, 390 U.S. 727 (1968) (deputy sheriff); *Greenbelt Cooperative Pub. Ass’n v. Bresler*, 398 U.S. 6 (1970) (state legislator who was major real estate developer in area); *Time, Inc. v. Pape*, 401 U.S. 279 (1971) (police captain). The categorization does not, however, include all government employees. *Hutchinson v. Proxmire*, 443 U.S. 111, 119 n.8 (1979).

character or past conduct, public or private, insofar as it touches upon their fitness for office, is protected.¹²⁵

Thus, with respect to both public officials and candidates, a wide range of reporting about them is protected. Certainly, the conduct of official duties by public officials is subject to the widest scrutiny and criticism.¹²⁶ But the Court has held as well that criticism that reflects generally upon an official's integrity and honesty is protected.¹²⁷ Candidates for public office, the Court has said, place their whole lives before the public, and it is difficult to see what criticisms could not be related to their fitness.¹²⁸

For a time, the Court's decisional process threatened to expand the *Times* privilege so as to obliterate the distinction between private and public figures. First, the Court created a subcategory of "public figure," which included those otherwise private individuals who have attained some prominence, either through their own efforts or because it was thrust upon them, with respect to a matter of public interest, or, in Chief Justice Warren's words, those persons who are "intimately involved in the resolution of important public questions or, by reason of their fame, shape events in areas

¹²⁵ *Monitor Patriot Co. v. Roy*, 401 U.S. 265 (1971); *Ocala Star-Banner Co. v. Dameron*, 401 U.S. 295 (1971).

¹²⁶ *Rosenblatt v. Baer*, 383 U.S. 75, 85 (1966).

¹²⁷ *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964), involved charges that judges were inefficient, took excessive vacations, opposed official investigations of vice, and were possibly subject to "racketeer influences." The Court rejected an attempted distinction that these criticisms were not of the manner in which the judges conducted their courts but were personal attacks upon their integrity and honesty. "Of course, any criticism of the manner in which a public official performs his duties will tend to affect his private, as well as his public, reputation. . . . The public-official rule protects the paramount public interest in a free flow of information to the people concerning public officials, their servants. To this end, anything which might touch on an official's fitness for office is relevant. Few personal attributes are more germane to fitness for office than dishonesty, malfeasance, or improper motivation, even though these characteristics may also affect the official's private character." *Id.* at 76-77.

¹²⁸ In *Monitor Patriot Co. v. Roy*, 401 U.S. 265, 274-75 (1971), the Court said: "The principal activity of a candidate in our political system, his 'office,' so to speak, consists in putting before the voters every conceivable aspect of his public and private life that he thinks may lead the electorate to gain a good impression of him. A candidate who, for example, seeks to further his cause through the prominent display of his wife and children can hardly argue that his qualities as a husband or father remain of 'purely private' concern. And the candidate who vaunts his spotless record and sterling integrity cannot convincingly cry 'Foul' when an opponent or an industrious reporter attempts to demonstrate the contrary. . . . Given the realities of our political life, it is by no means easy to see what statements about a candidate might be altogether without relevance to his fitness for the office he seeks. The clash of reputations is the staple of election campaigns and damage to reputation is, of course, the essence of libel. But whether there remains some exiguous area of defamation against which a candidate may have full recourse is a question we need not decide in this case."

of concern to society at large.”¹²⁹ More recently, the Court has curtailed the definition of “public figure” by playing down the matter of public interest and emphasizing the voluntariness of the assumption of a role in public affairs that will make of one a “public figure.”¹³⁰

Second, in a fragmented ruling, the Court applied the *Times* standard to private citizens who had simply been involved in events of public interest, usually, though not invariably, not through their own choosing.¹³¹ But, in *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*¹³² the Court set off on a new path of limiting recovery for defamation by private persons. Henceforth, persons who are neither public officials nor public figures may recover for the publication of defamatory falsehoods so long as state defamation law establishes a standard higher than strict liability, such as negligence; damages may not be presumed, however, but must be proved, and punitive damages will be recoverable only upon the *Times* showing of “actual malice.”

The Court’s opinion by Justice Powell established competing constitutional considerations. On the one hand, imposition upon the press of liability for every misstatement would deter not only false speech but much truth as well; the possibility that the press might have to prove everything it prints would lead to self-censorship and the consequent deprivation of the public of its access to information. On the other hand, there is a legitimate state interest in compensating individuals for the harm inflicted on them by de-

¹²⁹ *Curtis Publishing Co. v. Butts*, 388 U.S. 130, 164 (1967) (Chief Justice Warren concurring in the result). *Curtis* involved a college football coach, and *Associated Press v. Walker*, decided in the same opinion, involved a retired general active in certain political causes. The suits arose from reporting that alleged, respectively, the fixing of a football game and the leading of a violent crowd in opposition to enforcement of a desegregation decree. The Court was extremely divided, but the rule that emerged was largely the one developed in the Chief Justice’s opinion. Essentially, four Justices opposed application of the *Times* standard to “public figures,” although they would have imposed a lesser but constitutionally-based burden on public figure plaintiffs. *Id.* at 133 (plurality opinion of Justices Harlan, Clark, Stewart, and Fortas). Three Justices applied *Times*, *id.* at 162 (Chief Justice Warren), and 172 (Justices Brennan and White). Two Justices would have applied absolute immunity. *Id.* at 170 (Justices Black and Douglas). See also *Greenbelt Cooperative Pub. Ass’n v. Bresler*, 398 U.S. 6 (1970).

¹³⁰ Public figures “[f]or the most part [are] those who . . . have assumed roles of especial prominence in the affairs of society. Some occupy positions of such persuasive power and influence that they are deemed public figures for all purposes. More commonly, those classed as public figures have thrust themselves to the forefront of particular public controversies in order to influence the resolution of the issues involved.” *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*, 418 U.S. 323, 345 (1974).

¹³¹ *Rosenbloom v. Metromedia*, 403 U.S. 29 (1971). *Rosenbloom* had been prefigured by *Time, Inc., v. Hill*, 385 U.S. 374 (1967), a “false light” privacy case considered *infra*.

¹³² 418 U.S. 323 (1974).

famatory falsehoods. An individual's right to the protection of his own good name is, at bottom, but a reflection of our society's concept of the worth of the individual. Therefore, an accommodation must be reached. The *Times* rule had been a proper accommodation when public officials or public figures were concerned, inasmuch as by their own efforts they had brought themselves into the public eye, had created a need in the public for information about them, and had at the same time attained an ability to counter defamatory falsehoods published about them. Private individuals are not in the same position and need greater protection. "We hold that, so long as they do not impose liability without fault, the States may define for themselves the appropriate standard of liability for a publisher or broadcaster of defamatory falsehood injurious to a private individual."¹³³ Some degree of fault must be shown, then.

Generally, juries may award substantial damages in tort for presumed injury to reputation merely upon a showing of publication. But this discretion of juries had the potential to inhibit the exercise of freedom of the press, and moreover permitted juries to penalize unpopular opinion through the awarding of damages. Therefore, defamation plaintiffs who do not prove actual malice—that is, knowledge of falsity or reckless disregard for the truth—will be limited to compensation for actual provable injuries, such as out-of-pocket loss, impairment of reputation and standing, personal humiliation, and mental anguish and suffering. A plaintiff who proves actual malice will be entitled as well to collect punitive damages.¹³⁴

Subsequent cases have revealed a trend toward narrowing the scope of the "public figure" concept. A socially prominent litigant in a particularly messy divorce controversy was held not to be such a person,¹³⁵ and a person convicted years before of contempt after failing to appear before a grand jury was similarly not a public figure even as to commentary with respect to his conviction.¹³⁶ Also not a public figure for purposes of allegedly defamatory comment about the value of his research was a scientist who sought and received federal grants for research, the results of which were published in scientific journals.¹³⁷ Public figures, the Court reiterated, are those who (1) occupy positions of such persuasive power and influence that they are deemed public figures for all purposes or (2)

¹³³ *Id.* at 347.

¹³⁴ *Id.* at 348–50. Justice Brennan would have adhered to *Rosenbloom*, *id.* at 361, while Justice White thought the Court went too far in constitutionalizing the law of defamation. *Id.* at 369.

¹³⁵ *Time, Inc. v. Firestone*, 424 U.S. 448 (1976).

¹³⁶ *Wolston v. Reader's Digest Ass'n*, 443 U.S. 157 (1979).

¹³⁷ *Hutchinson v. Proxmire*, 443 U.S. 111 (1979).

have thrust themselves to the forefront of particular public controversies in order to influence the resolution of the issues involved, and are public figures with respect to comment on those issues.¹³⁸

Commentary about matters of “public interest” when it defames someone is apparently, after *Firestone*¹³⁹ and *Gertz*, to be protected to the degree that the person defamed is a public official or candidate for public office, public figure, or private figure. That there is a controversy, that there are matters that may be of “public interest,” is insufficient to make a private person a “public figure” for purposes of the standard of protection in defamation actions.

The Court has elaborated on the principles governing defamation actions brought by private figures. First, when a private plaintiff sues a media defendant for publication of information that is a matter of public concern—the *Gertz* situation, in other words—the burden is on the plaintiff to establish the falsity of the information. Thus, the Court held in *Philadelphia Newspapers v. Hepps*,¹⁴⁰ the common law rule that defamatory statements are presumptively false must give way to the First Amendment interest that true speech on matters of public concern not be inhibited. This means, as the dissenters pointed out, that a *Gertz* plaintiff must establish falsity in addition to establishing some degree of fault (e.g. negligence).¹⁴¹ On the other hand, the Court held in *Dun & Bradstreet v. Greenmoss Builders* that the *Gertz* standard limiting award of presumed and punitive damages applies only in cases involving matters of public concern, and that the sale of credit reporting information to subscribers is not such a matter of public concern.¹⁴² What significance, if any, is to be attributed to the fact that a media defendant rather than a private defendant has been sued is left unclear. The plurality in *Dun & Bradstreet* declined to follow the lower court’s rationale that *Gertz* protections are unavailable to nonmedia defendants, and a majority of Justices were

¹³⁸ *Id.* at 134 (quoting *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*, 418 U.S. 323, 345 (1974)).

¹³⁹ *Time, Inc. v. Firestone*, 424 U.S. 448, 454 (1976). *See also* *Wolston v. Reader’s Digest Ass’n*, 443 U.S. 157 (1979).

¹⁴⁰ 475 U.S. 767 (1986). Justice O’Connor’s opinion of the Court was joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell; Justice Stevens’ dissent was joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices White and Rehnquist.

¹⁴¹ 475 U.S. at 780 (Stevens, J., dissenting).

¹⁴² 472 U.S. 749 (1985). Justice Powell wrote a plurality opinion joined by Justices Rehnquist and O’Connor, and Chief Justice Burger and Justice White, both of whom had dissented in *Gertz*, added brief concurring opinions agreeing that the *Gertz* standard should not apply to credit reporting. Justice Brennan, joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens, dissented, arguing that *Gertz* had not been limited to matters of public concern, and should not be extended to do so.

in agreement on that point.¹⁴³ But in *Philadelphia Newspapers*, the Court expressly reserved the issue of “what standards would apply if the plaintiff sues a nonmedia defendant.”¹⁴⁴

Satellite considerations besides the issue of who is covered by the *Times* privilege are of considerable importance. The use in the cases of the expression “actual malice” has been confusing in many respects, because it is in fact a concept distinct from the common law meaning of malice or the meanings common understanding might give to it.¹⁴⁵ Constitutional “actual malice” means that the defamation was published with knowledge that it was false or with reckless disregard of whether it was false.¹⁴⁶ Reckless disregard is not simply negligent behavior, but publication with serious doubts as to the truth of what is uttered.¹⁴⁷ A defamation plaintiff under the *Times* or *Gertz* standard has the burden of proving by “clear and convincing” evidence, not merely by the preponderance of evidence standard ordinarily borne in civil cases, that the defendant acted with knowledge of falsity or with reckless disregard.¹⁴⁸ Moreover, the Court has held, a *Gertz* plaintiff has the burden of proving the actual falsity of the defamatory publication.¹⁴⁹ A plaintiff suing the press¹⁵⁰ for defamation under the *Times* or *Gertz* standards is not limited to attempting to prove his case without resort to discovery of the defendant’s editorial processes in the establish-

¹⁴³ 472 U.S. at 753 (plurality); id. at 773 (Justice White); id. at 781–84 (dissent).

¹⁴⁴ 465 U.S. at 779 n.4. Justice Brennan added a brief concurring opinion expressing his view that such a distinction is untenable. Id. at 780.

¹⁴⁵ See, e.g., *Herbert v. Lando*, 441 U.S. 153, 199 (1979) (Justice Stewart dissenting).

¹⁴⁶ *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 280 (1964); *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64, 78 (1964); *Cantrell v. Forest City Publishing Co.*, 419 U.S. 245, 251–52 (1974).

¹⁴⁷ *St. Amant v. Thompson*, 390 U.S. 727, 730–33 (1968); *Beckley Newspapers Corp. v. Hanks*, 389 U.S. 81 (1967). A finding of “highly unreasonable conduct constituting an extreme departure from the standards of investigation and reporting ordinarily adhered to by responsible publishers” is alone insufficient to establish actual malice. *Harte-Hanks Communications v. Connaughton*, 491 U.S. 657 (1989) (nonetheless upholding the lower court’s finding of actual malice based on the “entire record”).

¹⁴⁸ *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*, 418 U.S. 323, 331–32 (1974); *Beckley Newspapers Corp. v. Hanks*, 389 U.S. 81, 83 (1967). See *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 285–86 (1964) (“convincing clarity”). A corollary is that the issue on motion for summary judgment in a *New York Times* case is whether the evidence is such that a reasonable jury might find that actual malice has been shown with convincing clarity. *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby*, 477 U.S. 242 (1986).

¹⁴⁹ *Philadelphia Newspapers v. Hepps*, 475 U.S. 767 (1986) (leaving open the issue of what “quantity” or standard of proof must be met).

¹⁵⁰ Because the defendants in these cases have typically been media defendants (*but see Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964); *Henry v. Collins*, 380 U.S. 356 (1965)), and because of the language in the Court’s opinions, some have argued that only media defendants are protected under the press clause and individuals and others are not protected by the speech clause in defamation actions. See *supra*, pp. 1026–29.

ment of “actual malice.”¹⁵¹ The state of mind of the defendant may be inquired into and the thoughts, opinions, and conclusions with respect to the material gathered and its review and handling are proper subjects of discovery. As with other areas of protection or qualified protection under the First Amendment (as well as some other constitutional provisions), appellate courts, and ultimately the Supreme Court, must independently review the findings below to ascertain that constitutional standards were met.¹⁵²

There had been some indications that statements of opinion, unlike assertions of fact, are absolutely protected,¹⁵³ but the Court held in *Milkovich v. Lorain Journal Co.*¹⁵⁴ that there is no constitutional distinction between fact and opinion, hence no “wholesale defamation exemption” for any statement that can be labeled “opinion.”¹⁵⁵ The issue instead is whether, regardless of the context in which a statement is uttered, it is sufficiently factual to be susceptible of being proved true or false. Thus, if statements of opinion may “reasonably be interpreted as stating actual facts about an individual,”¹⁵⁶ then the truthfulness of the factual assertions may be tested in a defamation action. There are sufficient protections for free public discourse already available in defamation law, the Court concluded, without creating “an artificial dichotomy between ‘opinion’ and fact.”¹⁵⁷

Substantial meaning is also the key to determining whether inexact quotations are defamatory. Journalistic conventions allow some alterations to correct grammar and syntax, but the Court in *Masson v. New Yorker Magazine*¹⁵⁸ refused to draw a distinction on that narrow basis. Instead, “a deliberate alteration of words [in a quotation] does not equate with knowledge of falsity for purposes

¹⁵¹ *Herbert v. Lando*, 441 U.S. 153 (1979).

¹⁵² *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 284–86 (1964). See, e.g., *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886, 933–34 (1982). *Harte-Hanks Communications v. Connaughton*, 491 U.S. 657, 688 (1989) (“the reviewing court must consider the factual record in full”); *Bose Corp. v. Consumers Union of United States*, 466 U.S. 485 (1984) (the “clearly erroneous” standard of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 52(a) must be subordinated to this constitutional principle).

¹⁵³ See, e.g., *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*, 418 U.S. 323, 339 (1974) (“under the First Amendment there is no such thing as a false idea”); *Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Ass’n v. Bresler*, 398 U.S. 6 (1970) (holding protected the accurate reporting of a public meeting in which a particular position was characterized as “black-mail”); *Letter Carriers v. Austin*, 418 U.S. 264 (1974) (holding protected a union newspaper’s use of epithet “scab”).

¹⁵⁴ 497 U.S. 1 (1990).

¹⁵⁵ *Id.* at 18.

¹⁵⁶ *Id.* at 20. In *Milkovich* the Court held to be actionable assertions and implications in a newspaper sports column that a high school wrestling coach had committed perjury in testifying about a fight involving his team.

¹⁵⁷ *Id.* at 19.

¹⁵⁸ 111 S. Ct. 2419 (1991).

of [*New York Times*] unless the alteration results in a material change in the meaning conveyed by the statement.”¹⁵⁹

Invasion of Privacy.—Governmental power to protect the privacy interests of its citizens by penalizing publication or authorizing causes of action for publication implicates directly First Amendment rights. Privacy is a concept composed of several aspects.¹⁶⁰ As a tort concept, it embraces at least four branches of protected interests: protection from unreasonable intrusion upon one’s seclusion, from appropriation of one’s name or likeness, from unreasonable publicity given to one’s private life, and from publicity which unreasonably places one in a false light before the public.¹⁶¹

While the Court has variously recognized valid governmental interests in extending protection to privacy,¹⁶² it has at the same time interposed substantial free expression interests in the balance. Thus, in *Time, Inc. v. Hill*,¹⁶³ the *Times* privilege was held to preclude recovery under a state privacy statute that permitted recovery for harm caused by exposure to public attention in any publication which contained factual inaccuracies, although not necessarily defamatory inaccuracies, in communications on matters of public interest. When in *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*,¹⁶⁴ the Court held that the *Times* privilege was not applicable in defamation cases unless the plaintiff is a public official or public figure, even though plaintiff may have been involved in a matter of public interest, the question arose whether *Hill* applies to all “false-light” cases or only such cases involving public officials or public figures.¹⁶⁵ And, more important, *Gertz* left unresolved the issue “whether the State may ever define and protect an area of privacy free from unwanted publicity in the press.”¹⁶⁶

In *Cox Broadcasting*, the Court declined to pass on the broad question, holding instead that the accurate publication of informa-

¹⁵⁹ 111 S. Ct. at 2433.

¹⁶⁰ See, e.g., WILLIAM PROSSER, LAW OF TORTS 117 (4th ed. 1971); Prosser, *Privacy*, 48 CALIF. L. REV. 383 (1960); J. THOMAS MCCARTHY, THE RIGHTS OF PUBLICITY AND PRIVACY (1987); THOMAS EMERSON, THE SYSTEM OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION 544–61 (1970). It should be noted that we do not have here the question of the protection of one’s privacy from governmental invasion.

¹⁶¹ Restatement (Second), of Torts §§652A–652I (1977). These four branches were originally propounded in Prosser’s 1960 article (supra n.), incorporated in the Restatement, and now “routinely accept[ed].” McCarthy, supra n.160, §5.8[A].

¹⁶² *Time, Inc. v. Hill*, 385 U.S. 374, 383 n.7 (1967); and *id.* 402, 404 (Justice Harlan, concurring in part and dissenting in part), 411, 412–15 (Justice Fortas dissenting); *Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469, 487–89 (1975).

¹⁶³ 385 U.S. 374 (1967). See also *Cantrell v. Forest City Publishing Co.*, 419 U.S. 245 (1974).

¹⁶⁴ 418 U.S. 323 (1974).

¹⁶⁵ Cf. *Cantrell v. Forest City Publishing Co.*, 419 U.S. 245, 250–51 (1974); *Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469, 490 n.19 (1975).

¹⁶⁶ *Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469, 491 (1975).

tion obtained from public records is absolutely privileged. Thus, the State could not permit a civil recovery for invasion of privacy occasioned by the reporting of the name of a rape victim obtained from court records and from a proceeding in open court.¹⁶⁷ Nevertheless, the Court in appearing to retreat from what had seemed to be settled principle, that truth is a constitutionally required defense in any defamation action, whether plaintiff be a public official, public figure, or private individual, may have preserved for itself the discretion to recognize a constitutionally permissible tort of invasion of privacy through publication of truthful information.¹⁶⁸ But in recognition of the conflicting interests—in expression and in privacy—it is evident that the judicial process in this area will be cautious.

Continuing to adhere to “limited principles that sweep no more broadly than the appropriate context of the instant case,” the Court invalidated an award of damages against a newspaper for printing the name of a sexual assault victim lawfully obtained from a sheriff’s department press release. The state was unable to demonstrate that imposing liability served a “need” to further a state interest of the highest order, since the same interest could have been served by the more limited means of self regulation by the police, since the particular *per se* negligence statute precluded inquiry into the extent of privacy invasion (*e.g.*, inquiry into whether the victim’s identity was already widely known), and since the statute sin-

¹⁶⁷ More specifically, the information was obtained “from judicial records which are maintained in connection with a public prosecution and which themselves are open to public inspection.” *Id.* at 491. There was thus involved both the First Amendment and the traditional privilege of the press to report the events of judicial proceedings. *Id.* at 493, 494–96.

¹⁶⁸ Thus, Justice White for the Court noted that the defense of truth is constitutionally required in suits by public officials or public figures. But “[t]he Court has nevertheless carefully left open the question whether the First and Fourteenth Amendments require that truth be recognized as a defense in a defamatory action brought by a private person as distinguished from a public official or public figure.” *Id.* at 490. If truth is not a constitutionally required defense, then it would be possible for the States to make truthful defamation of private individuals actionable and, more important, truthful reporting of matters that constitute invasions of privacy actionable. *See Brasco v. Reader’s Digest*, 4 Cal. 3d 520, 483 P. 2d 34, 93 Cal. Rptr. 866 (1971); *Commonwealth v. Wiseman*, 356 Mass. 251, 249 N.E. 2d 610 (1969), cert. den., 398 U.S. 960 (1970). Concurring in *Cohn*, 420 U.S., 497, Justice Powell contended that the question of truth as a constitutionally required defense was long settled in the affirmative and that *Gertz* itself, which he wrote, was explainable on no other basis. But he too would reserve the question of actionable invasions of privacy through truthful reporting. “In some instances state actions that are denominated actions in defamation may in fact seek to protect citizens from injuries that are quite different from the wrongful damage to reputation flowing from false statements of fact. In such cases, the Constitution may permit a different balance. And, as today’s opinion properly recognizes, causes of action grounded in a State’s desire to protect privacy generally implicate interests that are distinct from those protected by defamation actions.” *Id.* at 500.

gled out “mass communications” media for liability rather than applying evenhandedly to anyone disclosing a victim’s identity.¹⁶⁹

Emotional Distress Tort Actions.—In *Hustler Magazine, Inc. v. Falwell*,¹⁷⁰ the Court applied the *New York Times v. Sullivan* standard to recovery of damages by public officials and public figures for the tort of intentional infliction of emotional distress. The case involved an advertisement “parody” portraying the plaintiff, described by the Court as a “nationally known minister active as a commentator on politics and public affairs,” as engaged in “a drunken incestuous rendezvous with his mother in an out-house.”¹⁷¹ Affirming liability in this case, the Court believed, would subject “political cartoonists and satirists . . . to damage awards without any showing that their work falsely defamed its subject.”¹⁷² A proffered “outrageousness” standard for distinguishing such parodies from more traditional political cartoons was rejected. While not doubting that “the caricature of respondent . . . is at best a distant cousin of [some] political cartoons . . . and a rather poor relation at that,” the Court explained that “[o]utrageousness” in the area of political and social discourse has an inherent subjectiveness about it which would allow a jury to impose liability on the basis of the jurors’ tastes or views.”¹⁷³ Therefore, proof of intent to cause injury, “the gravamen of the tort,” is insufficient “in the area of public debate about public figures.” Additional proof that the publication contained a false statement of fact made with actual malice was necessary, the Court concluded, in order “to give adequate ‘breathing space’ to the freedoms protected by the First Amendment.”¹⁷⁴

“Right of Publicity” Tort Actions.—In *Zacchini v. Scripps-Howard Broadcasting Co.*,¹⁷⁵ the Court held unprotected by the First Amendment a broadcast of a video tape of the “entire act” of a “human cannonball” in the context of the performer’s suit for damages against the company for having “appropriated” his act, thereby injuring his right to the publicity value of his performance. The Court emphasized two differences between the legal action permitted here and the legal actions found unprotected or not fully

¹⁶⁹ *The Florida Star v. B.J.F.*, 491 U.S. 524 (1989).

¹⁷⁰ 485 U.S. 46 (1988).

¹⁷¹ 485 U.S. at 47–48.

¹⁷² *Id.* at 53.

¹⁷³ *Id.* at 55.

¹⁷⁴ *Id.* at 52–53.

¹⁷⁵ 433 U.S. 562 (1977). The “right of publicity” tort is conceptually related to one of the privacy strands, “appropriation” of one’s name or likeness for commercial purposes. *Id.* at 569–72. Justices Powell, Brennan, and Marshall dissented, finding the broadcast protected, *id.* at 579, and Justice Stevens dissented on other grounds. *Id.* at 582.

protected in defamation and other privacy-type suits. First, the interest sought to be protected was, rather than a party's right to his reputation and freedom from mental distress, the right of the performer to remuneration for putting on his act. Second, the other torts if permitted decreased the information which would be made available to the public, whereas permitting this tort action would have an impact only on "who gets to do the publishing."¹⁷⁶ In both respects, the tort action was analogous to patent and copyright laws in that both provide an economic incentive to persons to make the investment required to produce a performance of interest to the public.¹⁷⁷

Publication of Legally Confidential Information.—While a State may have numerous and important valid interests in assuring the confidentiality of certain information, it may not maintain this confidentiality through the criminal prosecution of nonparticipant third parties, including the press, who disclose or publish the information.¹⁷⁸ The case arose in the context of the investigation of a state judge by an official disciplinary body; both by state constitutional provision and by statute, the body's proceedings were required to be confidential and the statute made the divulging of information about the proceeding a misdemeanor. For publishing an accurate report about an investigation of a sitting judge, the newspaper was indicted and convicted of violating the statute, which the state courts construed to apply to nonparticipant divulging. Although the Court recognized the importance of confidentiality to the effectiveness of such a proceeding, it held that the publication here "lies near the core of the First Amendment" because the free discussion of public affairs, including the operation of the judicial system, is primary and the State's interests were simply insufficient to justify the encroachment on freedom of speech and of the press.¹⁷⁹ The scope of the privilege thus conferred by this decision on the press and on individuals is, however, somewhat unclear, because the Court appeared to reserve consideration of broader questions than those presented by the facts of the

¹⁷⁶Id. at 573–74. Plaintiff was not seeking to bar the broadcast but rather to be paid for the value he lost through the broadcasting.

¹⁷⁷Id. at 576–78. This discussion is the closest the Court has come in considering how copyright laws in particular are to be reconciled with the First Amendment. The Court's emphasis is that they encourage the production of work for the public's benefit.

¹⁷⁸Landmark Communications v. Virginia, 435 U.S. 829 (1978). The decision by Chief Justice Burger was unanimous, Justices Brennan and Powell not participating, but Justice Stewart would have limited the holding to freedom of the press to publish. Id. at 848. See also Smith v. Daily Mail Pub. Co., 433 U.S. 97 (1979).

¹⁷⁹Id. at 838–42. The state court's utilization of the clear-and-present-danger test was disapproved in its application; additionally, the Court questioned the relevance of the test in this case. Id. at 842–45.

case.¹⁸⁰ It does appear, however, that government would find it difficult to punish the publication of almost any information by a nonparticipant to the process in which the information was developed to the same degree as it would be foreclosed from obtaining prior restraint of such publication.¹⁸¹ There are also limits on the extent to which government may punish disclosures by *participants* in the criminal process, the Court having invalidated a restriction on a grand jury witness's disclosure of his own testimony after the grand jury had been discharged.¹⁸²

Obscenity.—Although public discussion of political affairs is at the core of the First Amendment, the guarantees of speech and press, it should have been noticed from the previous subsections, are broader. “We do not accede to appellee’s suggestion that the constitutional protection for a free press applies only to the exposition of ideas. The line between the informing and the entertaining is too elusive for the protection of that basic right.”¹ The right to impart and to receive “information and ideas, regardless of their social worth . . . is fundamental to our free society.”² Indeed, it is primarily with regard to the entertaining function of expression that the law of obscenity is concerned, inasmuch as the Court has rejected any concept of “ideological” obscenity.³ However, this function is not the reason why obscenity is outside the protection of the

¹⁸⁰ *Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469 (1975), in the context of a civil proceeding, had held that the First Amendment did not permit the imposition of liability on the press for truthful publication of information released to the public in official court records, *id.* at 496, but had expressly reserved the question “whether the publication of truthful information withheld by law from the public domain is similarly privileged,” *id.* at 497 n.27, and *Landmark* on its face appears to answer the question affirmatively. Caution is impelled, however, by the Court’s similar reservation. “We need not address all the implications of that question here, but only whether in the circumstances of this case *Landmark*’s publication is protected by the First Amendment.” 435 U.S. at 840.

¹⁸¹ See *Nebraska Press Ass’n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539 (1976).

¹⁸² *Butterworth v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 624 (1990).

¹ *Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507, 510 (1948). Illustrative of the general observation is the fact that “[m]usic, as a form of expression and communication, is protected under the First Amendment.” *Ward v. Rock Against Racism*, 491 U.S. 781, 790 (1989).

² *Stanley v. Georgia*, 394 U.S. 557, 564 (1969).

³ *Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507 (1948); *Burstyn v. Wilson*, 343 U.S. 495 (1952); *Commercial Pictures Corp. v. Regents*, 346 U.S. 587 (1954); *Kingsley Pictures Corp. v. Regents*, 360 U.S. 684 (1959). The last case involved the banning of the movie *Lady Chatterley’s Lover* on the ground that it dealt too sympathetically with adultery. “It is contended that the State’s action was justified because the motion picture attractively portrays a relationship which is contrary to the moral standards, the religious precepts, and the legal code of its citizenry. This argument misconceives what it is that the Constitution protects. Its guarantee is not confined to the expression of ideas that are conventional or shared by a majority. It protects advocacy of the opinion that adultery may sometimes be proper no less than advocacy of socialism or the single tax. And in the realm of ideas it protects expression which is eloquent no less than that which is unconvincing.” *Id.* at 688–89.

First Amendment, although the Court has never really been clear about what that reason is.

Adjudication over the constitutional law of obscenity began in *Roth v. United States*,⁴ in which the Court in an opinion by Justice Brennan settled in the negative the “dispositive question” “whether obscenity is utterance within the area of protected speech and press.”⁵ The Court then undertook a brief historical survey to demonstrate that “the unconditional phrasing of the First Amendment was not intended to protect every utterance.” All or practically all of the States which ratified the First Amendment had laws making blasphemy or profanity or both crimes, and provided for prosecutions of libels as well. It was this history which had caused the Court in *Beauharnais* to conclude that “libelous utterances are not within the area of constitutionally protected speech,” and this history was deemed to demonstrate that “obscenity, too, was outside the protection intended for speech and press.”⁶ “The protection given speech and press was fashioned to assure unfettered interchange of ideas for the bringing about of political and social changes desired by the people All ideas having even the slightest redeeming social importance—unorthodox ideas, controversial ideas, even ideas hateful to the prevailing climate of opinion—have the full protection of the guaranties, unless excludable because they encroach upon the limited area of more important interests. But implicit in the history of the First Amendment is the rejection of obscenity as utterly without redeeming social importance.”⁷ It was objected that obscenity legislation punishes because of incitation to impure thoughts and without proof that obscene materials create a clear and present danger of antisocial conduct. But since obscenity was not protected at all, such tests as clear and present danger were irrelevant.⁸

⁴ 354 U.S. 476 (1957). Heard at the same time and decided in the same opinion was *Alberts v. California*, involving, of course, a state obscenity law. The Court’s first opinion in the obscenity field was *Butler v. Michigan*, 352 U.S. 380 (1957), considered *infra*, p. 1113 n.18. Earlier the Court had divided four-to-four and thus affirmed a state court judgment that Edmund Wilson’s *Memoirs of Hecate County* was obscene. *Doubleday & Co. v. New York*, 335 U.S. 848 (1948).

⁵ *Roth v. United States*, 354 U.S. 476, 481 (1957). Justice Brennan later changed his mind on this score, arguing that, because the Court had failed to develop a workable standard for distinguishing the obscene from the non-obscene, regulation should be confined to the protection of children and non-consenting adults. See *Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49, 73 (1973), and discussion *infra* p. 1209, n.29.

⁶ 354 U.S. at 482–83. The reference is to *Beauharnais v. Illinois*, 343 U.S. 250 (1952).

⁷ *Roth v. United States*, 354 U.S. 476, 484 (1957). There then followed the well-known passage from *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*, 315 U.S. 568, 571–72 (1942); see *supra*, p. 1133.

⁸ 354 U.S. at 486, also quoting *Beauharnais v. Illinois*, 343 U.S. 250, 266 (1952).

“However,” Justice Brennan continued, “sex and obscenity are not synonymous. Obscene material is material which deals with sex in a manner appealing to prurient interest. The portrayal of sex, e.g., in art, literature and scientific works, is not itself sufficient reason to deny material the constitutional protection of freedom of speech and press It is therefore vital that the standards for judging obscenity safeguard the protection of freedom of speech and press for material which does not treat sex in a manner appealing to prurient interest.”⁹ The standard which the Court thereupon adopted for the designation of material as unprotected obscenity was “whether to the average person, applying contemporary community standards, the dominant theme of the material taken as a whole appeals to prurient interest.”¹⁰ The Court defined material appealing to prurient interest as “material having a tendency to excite lustful thoughts,” and defined prurient interest as “a shameful or morbid interest in nudity, sex, or excretion.”¹¹

In the years after *Roth*, the Court struggled with many obscenity cases with varying degrees of success. The cases can be grouped topically, but with the exception of those cases dealing with protec-

⁹ 354 U.S. at 487, 488.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 489.

¹¹ *Id.* at 487 n.20. A statute defining “prurient” as “that which incites lasciviousness or lust” covers more than obscenity, the Court later indicated in *Brockett v. Spokane Arcades, Inc.*, 472 U.S. 491, 498 (1984); obscenity consists in appeal to “a shameful or morbid” interest in sex, not in appeal to “normal, healthy sexual desires.” *Brockett* involved a facial challenge to the statute, so the Court did not have to explain the difference between “normal, healthy” sexual desires and “shameful” or “morbid” sexual desires.

tion of children,¹² unwilling adult recipients,¹³ and procedure,¹⁴ these cases are best explicated chronologically.

*Manual Enterprises v. Day*¹⁵ upset a Post Office ban upon the mailing of certain magazines addressed to homosexual audiences, but resulted in no majority opinion of the Court. Nor did a majority opinion emerge in *Jacobellis v. Ohio*, in which conviction for exhib-

¹²In *Butler v. Michigan*, 352 U.S. 380 (1957), the Court unanimously reversed a conviction under a statute which punished general distribution of materials unsuitable for children. Protesting that the statute “reduce[d] the adult population of Michigan to reading only what is fit for children,” the Court pronounced the statute void. Narrowly drawn proscriptions for distribution or exhibition to children of materials which would not be obscene for adults are permissible, *Ginsberg v. New York*, 390 U.S. 629 (1968), although the Court insists on a high degree of specificity. *Interstate Circuit, Inc. v. City of Dallas*, 390 U.S. 676 (1968); *Rabeck v. New York*, 391 U.S. 462 (1968). Protection of children in this context is concurred in even by those Justices who would proscribe obscenity regulation for adults. *Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49, 73, 113 (1973) (Justice Brennan dissenting). But children do have First Amendment protection and government may not bar dissemination of everything to them. “Speech that is neither obscene as to youths nor subject to some other legitimate proscription cannot be suppressed solely to protect the young from ideas or images that a legislative body thinks unsuitable for them.” *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205, 212–14 (1975) (in context of nudity on movie screen). See also *FCC v. Pacifica Found.*, 438 U.S. 726, 749–50 (1978); *Pinkus v. United States*, 436 U.S. 293, 296–98 (1978).

¹³Protection of unwilling adults was the emphasis in *Rowan v. Post Office Dep’t*, 397 U.S. 728 (1970), which upheld a scheme by which recipients of objectionable mail could put their names on a list and require the mailer to send no more such material. But, absent intrusions into the home, *FCC v. Pacifica Found.*, 438 U.S. 726 (1978), or a degree of captivity that makes it impractical for the unwilling viewer or auditor to avoid exposure, government may not censor content, in the context of materials not meeting constitutional standards for denomination as pornography, to protect the sensibilities of some. It is up to offended individuals to turn away. *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205, 208–12 (1975). But see *Pinkus v. United States*, 436 U.S. 293, 298–301 (1978) (jury in passing on what community standards are must include “sensitive persons” within the community).

¹⁴The First Amendment requires that procedures for suppressing distribution of obscene materials provide for expedited consideration, for placing the burden of proof on government, and for hastening judicial review. *Supra*, p. 1033. Additionally, Fourth Amendment search and seizure law has been suffused with First Amendment principles, so that the law governing searches for and seizures of allegedly obscene materials is more stringent than in most other areas. *Marcus v. Search Warrant*, 367 U.S. 717 (1961); *A Quantity of Books v. Kansas*, 378 U.S. 205 (1964); *Heller v. New York*, 413 U.S. 483 (1973); *Roaden v. Kentucky*, 413 U.S. 496 (1973); *Lo-Ji Sales v. New York*, 442 U.S. 319 (1979); and see *Walter v. United States*, 447 U.S. 649 (1980). Scier—that is, knowledge of the nature of the materials—is a prerequisite to conviction, *Smith v. California*, 361 U.S. 147 (1959), but the prosecution need only prove the defendant knew the contents of the material, not that he knew they were legally obscene. *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87, 119–24 (1974). See also *Vance v. Universal Amusement Co.*, 445 U.S. 308 (1980) (public nuisance injunction of showing future films on basis of past exhibition of obscene films constitutes prior restraint); *McKinney v. Alabama*, 424 U.S. 669 (1976) (criminal defendants may not be bound by a finding of obscenity of materials in prior civil proceeding to which they were not parties).

¹⁵370 U.S. 478 (1962).

iting a motion picture was reversed.¹⁶ Chief Justice Warren's concurrence in *Roth*¹⁷ was adopted by a majority in *Ginzburg v. United States*,¹⁸ in which Justice Brennan for the Court held that in "close" cases borderline materials could be determined to be obscene if the seller "pandered" them in a way that indicated he was catering to prurient interests. The same five-Justice majority, with Justice Harlan concurring, the same day affirmed a state conviction of a distributor of books addressed to a sado-masochistic audience, applying the "pandering" test and concluding that material could be held legally obscene if it appealed to the prurient interests of the deviate group to which it was directed.¹⁹ Unanimity was shattered, however, when on the same day the Court held that *Fanny Hill*, a novel at that point 277 years old, was not legally obscene.²⁰ The prevailing opinion again restated the *Roth* tests that, to be considered obscene, material must (1) have a dominant theme in the work considered as a whole that appeals to prurient interest, (2) be patently offensive because it goes beyond contemporary community standards, and (3) be utterly without redeeming social value.²¹

After the divisions engendered by the disparate opinions in the three 1966 cases, the Court over the next several years submerged its differences by *per curiam* dispositions of nearly three dozen cases, in all but one of which it reversed convictions or civil determinations of obscenity. The initial case was *Redrup v. New York*,²² in which, after noting that the cases involved did not present special questions requiring other treatment, such as concern for juve-

¹⁶ 378 U.S. 184 (1964). Without opinion, citing *Jacobellis*, the Court reversed a judgment that Henry Miller's *Tropic of Cancer* was obscene. *Grove Press v. Gerstein*, 378 U.S. 577 (1964). *Jacobellis* is best known for Justice Stewart's concurrence, contending that criminal prohibitions should be limited to "hard-core pornography." The category "may be indefinable," he added, but "I know it when I see it, and the motion picture involved in this case is not that." *Id.* at 197. The difficulty with this visceral test is that other members of the Court did not always "see it" the same way; two years later, for example, Justice Stewart was on opposite sides in two obscenity decisions decided on the same day. *A Book Named "John Cleland's Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure" v. Attorney General of Massachusetts*, 383 U.S. 413, 421 (1966) (concurring on basis that book was not obscene); *Mishkin v. New York*, 383 U.S. 502, 518 (1966) (dissenting from finding that material was obscene).

¹⁷ *Roth v. United States*, 354 U.S. 476, 494 (1957).

¹⁸ 383 U.S. 463 (1966). Pandering remains relevant in pornography cases. *Splawn v. California*, 431 U.S. 595 (1977); *Pinkus v. United States*, 436 U.S. 293, 303-04 (1978).

¹⁹ *Mishkin v. New York*, 383 U.S. 502 (1966). *See id.* at 507-10 for discussion of the legal issue raised by the limited appeal of the material. The Court relied on *Mishkin* in *Ward v. Illinois*, 431 U.S. 767, 772 (1977).

²⁰ *A Book Named "John Cleland's Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure" v. Attorney General of Massachusetts*, 383 U.S. 413 (1966).

²¹ *Id.* at 418. On the precedential effect of the *Memoirs* plurality opinion, *see Marks v. United States*, 430 U.S. 188, 192-94 (1977).

²² 386 U.S. 767 (1967).

niles, protection of unwilling adult recipients, or proscription of pandering,²³ the Court succinctly summarized the varying positions of the seven Justices in the majority and said: “[w]hichever of the constitutional views is brought to bear upon the cases before us, it is clear that the judgments cannot stand”²⁴ And so things went for several years.²⁵

Changing membership on the Court raised increasing speculation about the continuing vitality of *Roth*; it seemed unlikely the Court would long continue its *Redrup* approach.²⁶ The change when it occurred strengthened the powers of government, federal, state, and local, to outlaw or restrictively regulate the sale and dissemination of materials found objectionable, and developed new standards for determining which objectionable materials are legally obscene.

At the end of the October 1971 Term, the Court requested argument on the question whether the display of sexually oriented films or of sexually oriented pictorial magazines, when surrounded by notice to the public of their nature and by reasonable protection against exposure to juveniles, was constitutionally protected.²⁷ By a five-to-four vote the following Term, the Court in *Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton* adhered to the principle established in *Roth* that obscene material is not protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments even if access is limited to consenting adults.²⁸ Chief Justice Burger for the Court observed that the States have wider interests than protecting juveniles and unwilling adults from exposure to pornography; legitimate state interests, effectuated through the exercise of the police power, exist in protecting and improving the quality of life and the total community environment, in improving the tone of commerce in the cities, and in protecting public safety. It matters not that the States may be acting on the basis

²³Id. at 771.

²⁴Id. at 770–71. The majority was thus composed of Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Fortas.

²⁵See *Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49, 82–83 & n.8 (1973) (Justice Brennan dissenting) (describing *Redrup* practice and listing 31 cases decided on the basis of it).

²⁶See *United States v. Reidel*, 402 U.S. 351 (1971) (federal prohibition of dissemination of obscene materials through the mails is constitutional); *United States v. Thirty-Seven Photographs*, 402 U.S. 363 (1971) (customs seizures of obscene materials from baggage of travelers are constitutional). In *Grove Press v. Maryland State Board of Censors*, 401 U.S. 480 (1971), a state court determination that the motion picture “I Am Curious (Yellow)” was obscene was affirmed by an equally divided Court, Justice Douglas not participating. And *Stanley v. Georgia*, 394 U.S. 557, 560–64, 568 (1969), had insisted that *Roth* remained the governing standard.

²⁷*Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton*, 408 U.S. 921 (1972); *Alexander v. Virginia*, 408 U.S. 921 (1972).

²⁸413 U.S. 49 (1973).

of unverifiable assumptions in arriving at the decision to suppress the trade in pornography; the Constitution does not require in the context of the trade in ideas that governmental courses of action be subject to empirical verification any more than it does in other fields. Nor does the Constitution embody any concept of *laissez faire*, or of privacy, or of Millsean “free will,” that curbs governmental efforts to suppress pornography.²⁹

In *Miller v. California*,³⁰ the Court then undertook to enunciate standards by which unprotected pornographic materials were to be identified. Because of the inherent dangers in undertaking to regulate any form of expression, laws to regulate pornography must be carefully limited; their scope is to be confined “to works which depict or describe sexual conduct.” That conduct must be specifically defined by the applicable statute, whether as written or as authoritatively construed by the courts.³¹ The law “must also be limited to works which, taken as a whole, appeal to the prurient interest in sex, which portray sexual conduct in a patently offensive way, and which, taken as a whole, do not have serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.”³² The standard that a work must be “utterly without redeeming social value” before it may be suppressed was disavowed and discarded. In determining whether material appeals to a prurient interest or is patently offensive, the

²⁹Id. at 57, 60–62, 63–64, 65–68. Delivering the principal dissent, Justice Brennan argued that the Court’s *Roth* approach allowing the suppression of pornography was a failure, that the Court had not and could not formulate standards by which protected materials could be distinguished from unprotected materials, and that the First Amendment had been denigrated through the exposure of numerous persons to punishment for the dissemination of materials that fell close to one side of the line rather than the other, but more basically by deterrence of protected expression caused by the uncertainty. Id. at 73. “I would hold, therefore, that at least in the absence of distribution to juveniles or obtrusive exposure to unconsenting adults, the First and Fourteenth Amendments prohibit the State and Federal Governments from attempting wholly to suppress sexually oriented materials on the basis of their allegedly ‘obscene’ contents.” Id. at 113. Justices Stewart and Marshall joined this opinion; Justice Douglas dissented separately, adhering to the view that the First Amendment absolutely protected all expression. Id. at 70.

³⁰413 U.S. 15 (1973).

³¹*Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15, 24 (1973). The Court stands ready to import into the general phrasings of federal statutes the standards it has now formulated. *United States v. 12 200-Ft. Reels of Film*, 413 U.S. 123, 130 n.7 (1973) (Court is prepared to construe statutes proscribing materials that are “obscene,” “lewd,” “lascivious,” “filthy,” “indecent,” and “immoral” as limited to the types of “hard core” pornography reachable under the *Miller* standards). For other cases applying *Miller* standards to federal statutes, see *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87, 110–16 (1974) (use of the mails); *United States v. Orito*, 413 U.S. 139 (1973) (transportation of pornography in interstate commerce). The Court’s insistence on specificity in state statutes, either as written by the legislature or as authoritatively construed by the state court, appears to have been significantly weakened, in fact if not in enunciation, in *Ward v. Illinois*, 431 U.S. 767 (1977).

³²*Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. at 24.

trier of fact, whether a judge or a jury, is not bound by a hypothetical national standard but may apply the local community standard where the trier of fact sits.³³ Prurient interest and patent offensiveness, the Court indicated, “are essentially questions of fact.”³⁴ By contrast, the third or “value” prong of the *Miller* test is not subject to a community standards test; instead, the appropriate standard is “whether a reasonable person would find [literary, artistic, political, or scientific] value in the material, taken as a whole.”³⁵ The Court in *Miller* reiterated that it was not permitting an unlimited degree of suppression of materials. Only “hard core” materials were to be deemed without the protection of the First Amendment; its idea of the content of “hard core” pornography was revealed in its example of the types of conduct that could not be portrayed: “(a) Patently offensive representations or descriptions of ultimate sexual acts, normal or perverted, actual or simulated. (b) Patently offensive representations or descriptions of masturbation, excretory functions, and lewd exhibition of the genitals.”³⁶ Portrayal need not be limited to pictorial representation; books containing only descriptive language, no pictures, were subject to suppression under the standards.³⁷

³³It is the unprotected nature of obscenity that allows this inquiry; offensiveness to local community standards is, of course, a principle completely at odds with mainstream First Amendment jurisprudence. *See, e.g., Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397 (1989); *R. A. V. v. City of St. Paul*, 112 S. Ct. 2538 (1992).

³⁴*Id.* at 30–34. “A juror is entitled to draw on his knowledge of the views of the average person in the community or vicinage from which he comes for making the required determination, just as he is entitled to draw on his knowledge of the propensities of a ‘reasonable’ person in other areas of the law.” *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87, 104 (1974). The holding does not compel any particular circumscribed area to be used as a “community.” In federal cases, it will probably be the judicial district from which the jurors are drawn, *Id.* at 105–106. Indeed, the jurors may be instructed to apply “community standards” without any definition being given of the “community.” *Jenkins v. Georgia*, 418 U.S. 153, 157 (1974). In a federal prosecution for use of the mails to transmit pornography, the fact that the legislature of the State within which the transaction takes place has abolished pornography regulation except for dealings with children does not preclude permitting the jurors in the federal case to make their own definitions of what is offensive to contemporary community standards; they may be told of the legislature’s decision but they are not bound by it. *Smith v. United States*, 431 U.S. 291 (1977).

³⁵*Pope v. Illinois*, 481 U.S. 497, 500–01 (1987).

³⁶*Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15, 25–28 (1973). Quoting *Miller’s* language in *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87, 114 (1974), the Court reiterated that it was only “hard-core” material that was unprotected. “While the particular descriptions there contained were not intended to be exhaustive, they clearly indicate that there is a limit beyond which neither legislative draftsmen nor juries may go in concluding that particular material is ‘patently offensive’ within the meaning of the obscenity test set forth in the *Miller* cases.” Referring to this language in *Ward v. Illinois*, 431 U.S. 767 (1977), the Court upheld a state court’s power to construe its statute to reach sadomasochistic materials not within the confines of the *Miller* language.

³⁷*Kaplan v. California*, 413 U.S. 115 (1973).

First Amendment values, the Court stressed in *Miller*, “are adequately protected by the ultimate power of appellate courts to conduct an independent review of constitutional claims when necessary.”³⁸ But the Court had conferred on juries as triers of fact the determination, based upon their understanding of community standards, whether material was “patently offensive.” Did not this virtually immunize these questions from appellate review? In *Jenkins v. Georgia*,³⁹ the Court, while adhering to the *Miller* standards, stated that “juries [do not] have unbridled discretion in determining what is ‘patently offensive.’” *Miller* was intended to make clear that only “hard-core” materials could be suppressed and this concept and the Court’s descriptive itemization of some types of hardcore materials were “intended to fix substantive constitutional limitations, deriving from the First Amendment, on the type of material subject to such a determination.” The Court’s own viewing of the motion picture in question convinced it that “[n]othing in the movie falls within either of the two examples given in *Miller* of material which may constitutionally be found to meet the ‘patently offensive’ element of those standards, nor is there anything sufficiently similar to such material to justify similar treatment.”⁴⁰ But in a companion case, the Court found that a jury determination of obscenity “was supported by the evidence and consistent with” the standards.⁴¹

The decisions from the *Paris Adult Theatre* and *Miller* era were rendered by narrow majorities,⁴² but nonetheless have guided the Court since. There is no indication that the dissenting viewpoints in those cases will gain ascendancy in the foreseeable future;⁴³ if anything, government authority to define and regulate

³⁸ 413 U.S. at 25.

³⁹ 418 U.S. 153 (1974).

⁴⁰ *Id.* at 161. The film at issue was *Carnal Knowledge*.

⁴¹ *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87 (1974). In *Smith v. United States*, 431 U.S. 291, 305–06 (1977), the Court explained that jury determinations in accordance with their own understanding of the tolerance of the average person in their community are not unreviewable. Judicial review would pass on (1) whether the jury was properly instructed to consider the entire community and not simply the members’ own subjective reaction or the reactions of a sensitive or of a callous minority, (2) whether the conduct depicted fell within the examples specified in *Miller*, (3) whether the work lacked serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value, and (4) whether the evidence was sufficient. The Court indicated that the value test of *Miller* “was particularly amenable to judicial review.” The value test is not to be measured by community standards, the Court later held in *Pope v. Illinois*, 481 U.S. 497 (1987), but instead by a “reasonable person” standard. An erroneous instruction on this score, however, may be “harmless error.” *Id.* at 503.

⁴² For other five-to-four decisions of the era, see *Marks v. United States*, 430 U.S. 188 (1977); *Smith v. United States*, 431 U.S. 291 (1977); *Splawn v. California*, 431 U.S. 595 (1977); and *Ward v. Illinois*, 431 U.S. 767 (1977).

⁴³ None of the dissenters in *Miller* and *Paris Adult Theatre* (Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall) remain on the Court. Justice Stevens agrees with Justice

obscenity may be strengthened. Also, the Court's willingness to allow substantial regulation of non-obscene but sexually explicit or indecent expression reduces the importance (outside the criminal area) of whether material is classified as obscene.

Even as to materials falling within the constitutional definition of obscene, the Court has recognized a limited private, protected interest in possession within the home,⁴⁴ unless those materials constitute child pornography. *Stanley v. Georgia* was an appeal from a state conviction for possession of obscene films discovered in appellant's home by police officers armed with a search warrant for other items which were not found. Unanimously,⁴⁵ the Court reversed, holding that the mere private possession of obscene materials in the home cannot be made a criminal offense. The Constitution protects the right to receive information and ideas, the Court said, regardless of their social value, and "that right takes on an added dimension" in the context of a prosecution for possession of something in one's own home. "For also fundamental is the right to be free, except in very limited circumstances, from unwanted governmental intrusions into one's privacy."⁴⁶ Despite the unqualified assertion in *Roth* that obscenity was not protected by the First Amendment, the Court observed, it and the cases following were concerned with the governmental interest in regulating commercial distribution of obscene materials." *Roth* and the cases following that decision are not impaired by today's decision," the Court insisted,⁴⁷ but in its rejection of each of the state contentions made in support of the conviction the Court appeared to be rejecting much of the basis of *Roth*. First, there is no governmental interest in protecting an individual's mind from the effect of obscenity. Second, the absence of ideological content in the films was irrelevant, since the Court will not draw a line between transmission of ideas

Brennan that "government may not constitutionally criminalize mere possession or sale of obscene literature, absent some connection to minors or obtrusive display to unconsenting adults," *Pope v. Illinois*, 481 U.S. 497, 513 (Stevens, J., dissenting), but it is doubtful whether any other members of the current Court share this view. Justice White's dissenting opinion in *Barnes v. Glen Theatre, Inc.*, 111 S. Ct. 2456, 2472 (1991), joined by Justice Blackmun and the now-retired Justice Marshall, seems to reflect similar views with respect to regulation of non-obscene nude dancing, but does not address regulation of obscenity. Both Justice White and Justice Blackmun voted with the majority in *Miller* and *Paris Adult Theatre*.

⁴⁴ *Stanley v. Georgia*, 394 U.S. 557 (1969).

⁴⁵ Justice Marshall wrote the opinion of the Court and was joined by Justices Douglas, Harlan, and Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren. Justice Black concurred. *Id.* at 568. Justice Stewart concurred and was joined by Justices Brennan and White on a search and seizure point. Justice Stewart, however, had urged the First Amendment ground in an earlier case. *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 686 (1961) (concurring opinion).

⁴⁶ 394 U.S. at 564.

⁴⁷ *Id.* at 560-64, 568.

and entertainment. Third, there is no empirical evidence to support a contention that exposure to obscene materials may incite a person to antisocial conduct; even if there were such evidence, enforcement of laws proscribing the offensive conduct is the answer. Fourth, punishment of mere possession is not necessary to punishment of distribution. Fifth, there was little danger that private possession would give rise to the objections underlying a proscription upon public dissemination, exposure to children and unwilling adults.⁴⁸

Stanley's broad rationale has been given a restrictive reading, and the holding has been confined to its facts. Any possible implication that *Stanley* was applicable outside the home and recognized a right to obtain pornography or a right in someone to supply it was soon dispelled.⁴⁹ The Court has consistently rejected *Stanley's* theoretical underpinnings, upholding morality-based regulation of the behavior of consenting adults.⁵⁰ Also, *Stanley* has been held inapplicable to possession of child pornography in the home, the Court determining that the state interest in protecting children from sexual exploitation far exceeds the interest in *Stanley* of protecting adults from themselves.⁵¹ Apparently for this reason, a state's conclusion that punishment of mere possession is a necessary or desirable means of reducing production of child pornography will not be closely scrutinized.⁵²

Child Pornography.—In *New York v. Ferber*,⁵³ the Court recognized another category of expression that is outside the coverage of the First Amendment, the pictorial representation of children in films or still photographs in a variety of sexual activities or exposures of the genitals. The basic reason such depictions could be prohibited was the governmental interest in protecting the physical

⁴⁸Id. at 565–68.

⁴⁹*Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49, 65–68 (1973). Transportation of unprotected material for private use may be prohibited, *United States v. Orito*, 413 U.S. 139 (1973), and the mails may be closed, *United States v. Reidel*, 402 U.S. 351 (1971), as may channels of international movement, *United States v. Thirty-Seven Photographs*, 402 U.S. 363 (1971); *United States v. 12 200-Ft. Reels of Film*, 413 U.S. 123 (1973).

⁵⁰*Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49, 65–70 (1973) (commercial showing of obscene films to consenting adults); *Bowers v. Hardwick*, 478 U.S. 186 (1986) (private, consensual, homosexual conduct); *Barnes v. Glen Theatre, Inc.*, 111 S. Ct. 2456 (1991) (regulation of non-obscene, nude dancing restricted to adults).

⁵¹*Osborne v. Ohio*, 495 U.S. 103 (1990).

⁵²Id. at 109–10.

⁵³458 U.S. 747 (1982). Decision of the Court was unanimous, although there were several limiting concurrences. *Compare*, e.g., 775 (Justice Brennan, arguing for exemption of “material with serious literary, scientific, or educational value”), *with* 774 (Justice O'Connor, arguing that such material need not be excepted). The Court did not pass on the question, inasmuch as the materials before it were well within the prohibitable category. Id. at 766–74.

and psychological well-being of children whose participation in the production of these materials would subject them to exploitation and harm. The state may go beyond a mere prohibition on the use of the children, because it is not possible to protect children adequately without prohibiting the exhibition and dissemination of the materials and advertising about them. Thus, “the evil to be restricted so overwhelmingly outweighs the expressive interests, if any, at stake, that no process of case-by-case adjudication is required.”⁵⁴ But, since expression is involved, government must carefully define what conduct is to be prohibited and may reach only “works that *visually* depict sexual conduct by children below a specified age.”⁵⁵

The reach of the state may even extend to private possession of child pornography in the home. In *Osborne v. Ohio*⁵⁶ the Court upheld a state law criminalizing the possession or viewing of child pornography as applied to someone who possessed such materials in his home. Distinguishing *Stanley v. Georgia*, the Court ruled that Ohio’s interest in preventing exploitation of children far exceeded what it characterized as Georgia’s “paternalistic interest” in protecting the minds of adult viewers of pornography.⁵⁷ Because of the greater importance of the state interest involved, the Court saw less need to require states to demonstrate a strong necessity for regulating private possession as well as commercial distribution and sale.

Non-obscene But Sexually Explicit and Indecent Expression.—There is expression, either spoken or portrayed, which is offensive to some but is not within the constitutional standards of unprotected obscenity. Nudity portrayed in films or stills cannot be presumed obscene⁵⁸ nor can offensive language ordinarily be punished simply because it offends someone.⁵⁹ Nonetheless, govern-

⁵⁴Id. at 763–64.

⁵⁵Id. at 764 (emphasis original). The Court’s statement of the modified *Miller* standards for child pornography is at id., 764–65.

⁵⁶495 U.S. 103 (1990).

⁵⁷Id. at 108.

⁵⁸*Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205, 212–14 (1975).

⁵⁹E.g., *Cohen v. California*, 403 U.S. 15 (1971). Special rules apply to broadcast speech, which, because of its intrusion into the home and the difficulties of protecting children, is accorded “the most limited First Amendment protection” of all forms of communication; non-obscene but indecent language may be curtailed, the time of day and other circumstances determining the extent of curtailment. *FCC v. Pacifica Found.*, 438 U.S. 726, 748 (1978). However, recent efforts by Congress and the FCC to extend the indecency ban to 24 hours a day have been rebuffed by an appeals court. *Action for Children’s Television v. FCC*, 932 F.2d 1504 (D.C. Cir. 1991) (invalidating regulations promulgated pursuant to Pub. L. No. 100–459, § 608), *cert. denied*, 112 S. Ct. 1281, 1282. Earlier, the same court had invalidated an FCC restriction on indecent, non-obscene broadcasts to the hours of midnight to 6 a.m., finding that the FCC had failed to adduce sufficient evidence to support the restraint. *Ac-*

ment may regulate sexually explicit but non-obscene expression in a variety of ways. Legitimate governmental interests may be furthered by appropriately narrow regulation, and the Court's view of how narrow regulation must be is apparently influenced not only by its view of the strength of the government's interest in regulation, but also by its view of the importance of the expression itself. In other words, sexually explicit expression does not receive the same degree of protection afforded purely political speech.⁶⁰

Government has a "compelling" interest in the protection of children from seeing or hearing indecent material, but total bans applicable to adults and children alike are constitutionally suspect.⁶¹ Also, government may take notice of objective conditions attributable to the commercialization of sexually explicit but non-obscene materials. Thus, the Court recognized a municipality's authority to zone land to prevent deterioration of urban areas, upholding an ordinance providing that "adult theaters" showing motion pictures that depicted "specified sexual activities" or "specified anatomical areas" could not be located within 100 feet of any two other establishments included within the ordinance or within 500 feet of a residential area.⁶² Similarly, an adult bookstore is subject

tion for Children's Television v. FCC, 852 F.2d 1332, 1335 (D.C. Cir. 1988). Congress has now imposed a similar 6 a.m.-to-midnight ban on indecent programming, with a 10 p.m.-to-midnight exception for stations that go off the air at midnight. Pub. L. 102-356, § 16 (1992), 47 U.S.C. § 303 note.

⁶⁰ Justice Scalia, concurring in *Sable Communications v. FCC*, 492 U.S. 115, 132 (1989), suggested that there should be a "sliding scale" taking into account the definition of obscenity: "[t]he more narrow the understanding of what is 'obscene,' and hence the more pornographic what is embraced within the residual category of 'indecent,' the more reasonable it becomes to insist upon greater assurance of insulation from minors." *Barnes v. Glen Theatre*, 111 S. Ct. 2456 (1991), upholding regulation of nude dancing even in the absence of threat to minors, may illustrate a general willingness by the Court to apply soft rather than strict scrutiny to regulation of more sexually explicit expression.

⁶¹ See *Sable Communications v. FCC*, 492 U.S. 115 (1989) (FCC's "dial-a-porn" rules imposing a total ban on "indecent" speech are unconstitutional, given less restrictive alternatives—e.g., credit cards or user IDs—of preventing access by children). *Pacifica Foundation* is distinguishable, the Court reasoned, because that case did not involve a "total ban" on broadcast, and also because there is no "captive audience" for the "dial-it" medium, as there is for the broadcast medium. 492 U.S. at 127-28.

⁶² *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 427 U.S. 50 (1976). Four of the five majority Justices thought the speech involved deserved less First Amendment protection than other expression, *id.* at 63-71, while Justice Powell, concurring, thought the ordinance was sustainable as a measure that served valid governmental interests and only incidentally affected expression. *Id.* at 73. Justices Stewart, Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun dissented. *Id.* at 84, 88. *Young* was followed in *City of Renton v. Playtime Theatres*, 475 U.S. 41 (1986), upholding a city ordinance prohibiting location of adult theaters within 1,000 feet of residential areas, churches, or parks, and within one mile of any school. Rejecting the claim that the ordinance regulated content of speech, the Court indicated that such time, place and manner regulations are valid if "designed to serve a substantial governmental interest" and if

to closure as a public nuisance if it is being used as a place for prostitution and illegal sexual activities, since the closure “was directed at unlawful conduct having nothing to do with books or other expressive activity.”⁶³ However, a city was held constitutionally powerless to prohibit drive-in motion picture theaters from showing films containing nudity if the screen is visible from a public street or place.⁶⁴ Also, the FCC was unable to justify a ban on transmission of “indecent” but not obscene telephone messages.⁶⁵

The Court has recently held, however, that “live” productions containing nudity can be regulated to a greater extent than had been allowed for films and publications. Whether this represents a distinction between live performances and other entertainment media, or whether instead it signals a more permissive approach overall to governmental regulation of non-obscene but sexually explicit material, remains to be seen. In *Barnes v. Glen Theatre, Inc.*,⁶⁶ the Court upheld application of Indiana’s public indecency statute to require that dancers in public performances of nude, non-obscene erotic dancing wear “pasties” and a “G-string” rather than appear totally nude. There was no opinion of the Court, three Justices viewing the statute as a permissible regulation of “societal order and morality,”⁶⁷ one viewing it as a permissible means of regulating supposed secondary effects of prostitution and other criminal activity,⁶⁸ and a fifth Justice seeing no need for special First Amendment protection from a law of general applicability directed at conduct rather than expression.⁶⁹ All but one of the Justices agreed that nude dancing is entitled to some First Amendment protection,⁷⁰ but the result of *Barnes* was a bare minimum

“allow[ing] for reasonable alternative avenues of communication.” *Id.* at 39. The city had a substantial interest in regulating the “undesirable secondary effects” of such businesses. And, while the suitability for adult theaters of the remaining 520 acres within the city was disputed, the Court held that the theaters “must fend for themselves in the real estate market,” and are entitled only to “a reasonable opportunity to open and operate.” *Id.* at 42.

⁶³ *Arcara v. Cloud Books*, 478 U.S. 697 (1986).

⁶⁴ *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 204 (1975). Dissenting from Justice Powell’s opinion for the Court were Chief Justice Burger and Justices White and Rehnquist. *Id.* at 218, 224. Only Justice Blackmun, of the Justices in the majority, remains on the Court in 1992, and it seems questionable whether the current Court would reach the same result.

⁶⁵ *Sable Communications of California v. FCC*, 492 U.S. 115 (1989).

⁶⁶ 111 S. Ct. 2456 (1991).

⁶⁷ *Id.* (Chief Justice Rehnquist, joined by Justices O’Connor and Kennedy).

⁶⁸ *Id.* at 2468 (Justice Souter).

⁶⁹ *Id.* at 2463 (Justice Scalia). The Justice thus favored application of the same approach recently applied to free exercise of religion in *Employment Division v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 872 (1990).

⁷⁰ Earlier cases had established as much. *See California v. LaRue*, 409 U.S. 109, 118 (1972); *Southeastern Promotions v. Conrad*, 420 U.S. 546, 557–58 (1975); *Doran v. Salem Inn*, 422 U.S. 922, 932 (1975); *Schad v. Borough of Mount Ephraim*, 452

of protection. Numerous questions remain unanswered. In addition to the uncertainty over applicability of *Barnes* to regulation of the content of films or other shows in “adult” theaters,⁷¹ there is also the issue of its applicability to nudity in operas or theatrical productions not normally associated with commercial exploitation of sex.⁷² But broad implications for First Amendment doctrine are probably unwarranted.⁷³ The Indiana statute was not limited in application to barrooms; had it been, then the Twenty-first Amendment would have afforded additional authority to regulate the erotic dancing.⁷⁴

U.S. 61, 66 (1981); *New York State Liquor Auth. v. Bellanca*, 452 U.S. 714, 716, 718 (1981). Presumably, then, the distinction between barroom erotic dancing, entitled to minimum protection, and social “ballroom” dancing, not expressive and hence not entitled to First Amendment protection (see *City of Dallas v. Stanglin*, 490 U.S. 19, 24 (1989)), still hangs by a few threads. Justice Souter, concurring in *Barnes*, 111 S. Ct. 2468, recognized the validity of the distinction between ballroom and erotic dancing, a validity that had been questioned by a dissent in the lower court. *Miller v. Civil City of South Bend*, 904 F.2d 1081, 1128–29 (7th Cir. 1990) (Easterbrook, J.).

⁷¹ Although Justice Souter relied on what were essentially zoning cases (*Young v. American Mini Theatres* and *Renton v. Playtime Theatres*) to justify regulation of expression itself, he nonetheless pointed out that a pornographic movie featuring one of the respondent dancers was playing nearby without interference by the authorities. This suggests that, at least with respect to direct regulation of the degree of permissible nudity, he might draw a distinction between “live” and film performances even while acknowledging the harmful “secondary” effects associated with *both*.

⁷² The Court has not ruled directly on such issues. See *Southeastern Promotions v. Conrad*, 420 U.S. 546 (1975) (invalidating the denial of use of a public auditorium for a production of the musical “Hair,” in the absence of procedural safeguards that must accompany a system of prior restraint). Presumably the *Barnes* plurality’s public morality rationale would apply equally to the “adult” stage and to the operatic theater, while Justice Souter’s secondary effects rationale would not. But the plurality ducked this issue, reinterpreting the lower court record to deny that Indiana had distinguished between “adult” and theatrical productions. 111 S. Ct. at 2459 n.1 (Chief Justice Rehnquist); *id.* at 2464 n.2 (Justice Scalia). On the other hand, the fact that the state authorities disclaimed any intent to apply the statute to theatrical productions demonstrated to dissenting Justice White (who was joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens) that the statute was *not* a general prohibition on public nudity, but instead was targeted at “the communicative aspect of the erotic dance.” 111 S. Ct. at 2473.

⁷³ The Court had only recently affirmed that music is entitled to First Amendment protection independently of the message conveyed by any lyrics (*Ward v. Rock Against Racism*, 491 U.S. 781 (1989)), so it seems implausible that the Court is signalling a narrowing of protection to only ideas and opinions. Rather, the Court seems willing to give government the benefit of the doubt when it comes to legitimate objectives in regulating expressive conduct that is sexually explicit. For an extensive discourse on the expressive aspects of dance and the arts in general, and the striptease in particular, see Judge Posner’s concurring opinion in the lower court’s disposition of *Barnes*. *Miller v. Civil City of South Bend*, 904 F.2d 1081, 1089 (7th Cir. 1990).

⁷⁴ *California v. LaRue*, 409 U.S. 109 (1972); *New York State Liquor Auth. v. Bellanca*, 452 U.S. 714 (1981).

Speech Plus—The Constitutional Law of Leafleting, Picketing, and Demonstrating

Communication of political, economic, social, and other views is not accomplished solely by face-to-face speech, broadcast speech, or writing in newspapers, periodicals, and pamphlets. There is also “expressive conduct,” which includes picketing, patrolling, and marching, distribution of leaflets and pamphlets and addresses to publicly assembled audiences, door-to-door solicitation and many forms of “sit-ins.” There is also a class of conduct now only vaguely defined which has been denominated “symbolic conduct,” which includes such actions as flag desecration and draft-card burnings. Because all these ways of expressing oneself involve conduct—action—rather than mere speech, they are all much more subject to regulation and restriction than is simple speech. Some of them may be forbidden altogether. But to the degree that these actions are intended to communicate a point of view the First Amendment is relevant and protects some of them to a great extent. Sorting out the conflicting lines of principle and doctrine is the point of this section.

The Public Forum.—In 1895 while he was a member of the highest court of Massachusetts, Justice Holmes rejected a contention that public property was by right open to the public as a place where the right of speech could be recognized,⁷⁵ a rejection endorsed in its rationale on review by the United States Supreme Court.⁷⁶ This point of view was rejected by the Court in *Hague v. CIO*,⁷⁷ where Justice Roberts wrote: “Wherever the title of streets and parks may rest, they have immemorially been held in trust for the use of the public and, time out of mind, have been used for purposes of assembly, communicating thoughts between citizens, and discussing public questions. Such use of the streets and public places has from ancient times, been a part of the privileges, immunities, rights, and liberties of citizens.” While this opinion was not itself joined by a majority of the Justices, the view was subsequently endorsed by the Court in several opinions.⁷⁸

⁷⁵ *Commonwealth v. Davis*, 162 Mass. 510, 511 (1895). “For the Legislature absolutely or conditionally to forbid public speaking in a highway or public park is no more an infringement of rights of a member of the public than for the owner of a private house to forbid it in the house.”

⁷⁶ *Davis v. Massachusetts*, 167 U.S. 43, 48 (1897).

⁷⁷ 307 U.S. 496, 515 (1939). Only Justice Black joined the opinion and Chief Justice Hughes generally concurred in it, but only Justices McReynolds and Butler dissented from the result.

⁷⁸ E.g., *Schneider v. State*, 308 U.S. 147, 163 (1939); *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290, 293 (1951).

It was called into question in the 1960's, however, when the Court seemed to leave the issue open⁷⁹ and when a majority endorsed an opinion of Justice Black's asserting his own narrower view of speech rights in public places.⁸⁰ More recent decisions have restated and quoted the Roberts language from *Hague* and that is now the position of the Court.⁸¹ Public streets and parks,⁸² including those adjacent to courthouses⁸³ and foreign embassies,⁸⁴ as well as public libraries⁸⁵ and the grounds of legislative bodies,⁸⁶ are open to public demonstrations, although the uses to which public areas are dedicated may shape the range of permissible expression and conduct that may occur there.⁸⁷ Moreover, not all public

⁷⁹ *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536, 555 (1965). For analysis of this case in the broader context, see Kalven, *The Concept of the Public Forum: Cox v. Louisiana*, 1965 SUP. CT. REV. 1.

⁸⁰ *Adderley v. Florida*, 385 U.S. 39 (1966). See *id.* at 47–48; *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 559, 578 (1965) (Justice Black concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Jamison v. Texas*, 318 U.S. 413, 416 (1943) (Justice Black for the Court).

⁸¹ E.g., *Shuttlesworth v. City of Birmingham*, 394 U.S. 147, 152 (1969); *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104, 115 (1972); *Carey v. Brown*, 447 U.S. 455, 460 (1980).

⁸² *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496 (1939); *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268 (1951); *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290 (1951); *Shuttlesworth v. City of Birmingham*, 394 U.S. 147 (1969); *Coates v. City of Cincinnati*, 402 U.S. 611 (1971); *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104 (1972); *Greer v. Spock*, 424 U.S. 828, 835–36 (1976); *Carey v. Brown*, 447 U.S. 455 (1980).

⁸³ Narrowly drawn statutes which serve the State's interests in security and in preventing obstruction of justice and influencing of judicial officers are constitutional. *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 559 (1965). A restriction on carrying signs or placards on the grounds of the Supreme Court is unconstitutional as applied to the public sidewalks surrounding the Court, since it does not sufficiently further the governmental purposes of protecting the building and grounds, maintaining proper order, or insulating the judicial decisionmaking process from lobbying. *United States v. Grace*, 461 U.S. 171 (1983).

⁸⁴ In *Boos v. Barry*, 485 U.S. 312 (1988), the Court struck down as content-based a District of Columbia law prohibiting the display of any sign within 500 feet of a foreign embassy if the sign tends to bring the foreign government into "public odium" or "public disrepute." However, another aspect of the District's law, making it unlawful for three or more persons to congregate within 500 feet of an embassy and refuse to obey a police dispersal order, was upheld; under a narrowing construction, the law had been held applicable only to congregations directed at an embassy, and reasonably believed to present a threat to the peace or security of the embassy.

⁸⁵ *Brown v. Louisiana*, 383 U.S. 131 (1966) (sit-in in library reading room).

⁸⁶ *Edwards v. South Carolina*, 372 U.S. 229 (1963); *Jeanette Rankin Brigade v. Capitol Police Chief*, 342 F. Supp. 575 (D.C. 1972) (three-judge court), *aff'd*, 409 U.S. 972 (1972) (voiding statute prohibiting parades and demonstrations on United States Capitol grounds).

⁸⁷ E.g., *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104 (1972) (sustaining ordinance prohibiting noisemaking adjacent to school if that noise disturbs or threatens to disturb the operation of the school); *Brown v. Louisiana*, 383 U.S. 131 (1966) (silent vigil in public library protected while noisy and disruptive demonstration would not be); *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969) (wearing of black armbands as protest protected but not if it results in disruption of school); *Cameron v. Johnson*, 390 U.S. 611 (1968) (preservation of access to courthouse); *Frisby v. Schultz*, 487 U.S. 474 (1988) (ordinance prohibiting picketing "before or

properties are thereby public forums. “[T]he First Amendment does not guarantee access to property simply because it is owned or controlled by the government.”⁸⁸ “The crucial question is whether the manner of expression is basically compatible with the normal activity of a particular place at a particular time.”⁸⁹ Thus, by the nature of the use to which the property is put or by tradition, some sites are simply not as open for expression as streets and parks are.⁹⁰ But if government does open non-traditional forums for expressive activities, it may not discriminate on the basis of content or viewpoint in according access.⁹¹ The Court in accepting the public forum concept has nevertheless been divided with respect to the reach of the doctrine.⁹² The concept is likely, therefore, to continue to be a focal point of judicial debate in coming years.

Speech in public forums is subject to time, place, and manner regulations, which take into account such matters as control of traffic in the streets, the scheduling of two meetings or demonstrations at the same time and place, the preventing of blockages of building entrances, and the like.⁹³ Such regulations are closely scrutinized in order to protect free expression, and, to be valid, must be justified without reference to the content or subject matter

about” any residence or dwelling, narrowly construed as prohibiting only picketing that targets a particular residence, upheld as furthering significant governmental interest in protecting the privacy of the home).

⁸⁸ *United States Postal Service v. Council of Greenburgh Civic Ass'ns*, 453 U.S. 114, 129 (1981).

⁸⁹ *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104, 116 (1972).

⁹⁰ E.g., *Adderley v. Florida*, 385 U.S. 39 (1966) (jails); *Lehman v. City of Shaker Heights*, 418 U.S. 298 (1974) (advertising space in city rapid transit cars); *Greer v. Spock*, 424 U.S. 828 (1976) (military bases); *United States Postal Service v. Council of Greenburgh Civic Ass'ns*, 453 U.S. 114 (1981) (private mail boxes); *Perry Educ. Ass'n v. Perry Local Educators' Ass'n*, 460 U.S. 37 (1983) (interschool mail system); *ISKCON v. Lee*, 112 S. Ct. 2701 (1992) (publicly owned airport terminal).

⁹¹ E.g., *Southeastern Promotions, Ltd. v. Conrad*, 420 U.S. 546 (1975) (municipal theater); *Madison School District v. WERC*, 429 U.S. 167 (1976) (school board meeting); *Heffron v. ISKCON*, 452 U.S. 640 (1981) (state fair grounds); *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263 (1981) (university meeting facilities).

⁹² Compare *United States Postal Service v. Council of Greenburgh Civic Ass'ns*, 454 U.S. 114, 128–31 (1981), with *id.* at 136–40 (Justice Brennan concurring), and 142 (Justice Marshall dissenting). For evidence of continuing division, compare *ISKCON v. Lee*, 112 S. Ct. 2701 (1992) with *id.* at 27 (Justice Kennedy concurring).

⁹³ See, e.g., *Heffron v. ISKCON*, 452 U.S. 640, 647–50 (1981), and *id.* at 656 (Justice Brennan concurring in part and dissenting in part) (stating law and discussing cases); *Clark v. Community for Creative Non-Violence*, 468 U.S. 288 (1984) (prohibition of sleep-in demonstration in area of park not designated for overnight camping).

of speech,⁹⁴ must serve a significant governmental interest,⁹⁵ and must leave open ample alternative channels for communication of the information.⁹⁶ A recent formulation is that a time, place, or manner regulation “must be narrowly tailored to serve the government’s legitimate content-neutral interests, but . . . need not be the least-restrictive or least-intrusive means of doing so.” All that is required is that “the means chosen are not substantially broader than necessary to achieve the government’s interest.”⁹⁷ Corollary to the rule forbidding regulation premised on content is the principle, a merging of free expression and equal protection standards, that government may not discriminate between different kinds of messages in affording access.⁹⁸ In order to ensure against covert forms of discrimination against expression and between different kinds of content, the Court has insisted that licensing systems be constructed as free as possible of the opportunity for arbitrary administration.⁹⁹ The Court has also applied its general strictures

⁹⁴ *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268 (1951); *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536 (1965); *Police Department v. Mosley*, 408 U.S. 92 (1972); *Madison School District v. WERC*, 429 U.S. 167 (1976); *Carey v. Brown*, 447 U.S. 455 (1980); *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263 (1981). In *Lehman v. City of Shaker Heights*, 418 U.S. 298 (1974), a divided Court permitted the city to sell commercial advertising space on the walls of its rapid transit cars but to refuse to sell political advertising space.

⁹⁵ E.g., the governmental interest in safety and convenience of persons using public forum, *Heffron v. ISKCON*, 452 U.S. 640, 650 (1981); the interest in preservation of a learning atmosphere in school, *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104, 115 (1972); and the interest in protecting traffic and pedestrian safety in the streets, *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536, 554–55 (1965); *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290, 293–94 (1951); *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496, 515–16 (1939).

⁹⁶ *Heffron v. ISKCON*, 452 U.S. 640, 654–55 (1981); *Consolidated Edison Co. v. PSC*, 447 U.S. 530, 535 (1980).

⁹⁷ *Ward v. Rock Against Racism*, 491 U.S. 781, 798, 800 (1989).

⁹⁸ *Police Department v. Mosley*, 408 U.S. 92 (1972) (ordinance void which barred all picketing around school building except labor picketing); *Carey v. Brown*, 447 U.S. 455 (1980) (same); *Widmar v. Vincent*, 454 U.S. 263 (1981) (college rule permitting access to all student organizations except religious groups); *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268 (1951) (permission to use parks for some groups but not for others). These principles apply only to the traditional public forum and to the governmentally created “limited public forum.” Government may, without creating a limited public forum, place “reasonable” restrictions on access to nonpublic areas. *See, e.g.* *Perry Educ. Ass’n v. Perry Local Educators’ Ass’n*, 460 U.S. 37, 48 (1983) (use of school mail system); and *Cornelius v. NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund*, 473 U.S. 788 (1985) (charitable solicitation of federal employees at workplace). *See also* *Lehman v. City of Shaker Heights*, 418 U.S. 298 (1974) (city may sell commercial advertising space on the walls of its rapid transit cars but refuse to sell political advertising space).

⁹⁹ E.g., *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496, 516 (1939); *Schneider v. State*, 308 U.S. 147, 164 (1939); *Cox v. New Hampshire*, 312 U.S. 569 (1941); *Poulos v. New Hampshire*, 345 U.S. 395 (1953); *Staub v. City of Baxley*, 355 U.S. 313, 321–25 (1958); *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536, 555–58 (1965); *Shuttlesworth v. City of Birmingham*, 394 U.S. 147, 150–53 (1969). Justice Stewart for the Court described these and other cases as “holding that a law subjecting the exercise of First Amendment freedoms to the prior restraint of a license without narrow, objective, and definite standards to guide the licensing authority is unconstitutional.” *Id.* at 150–51.

against prior restraints in the contexts of permit systems and judicial restraint of expression.¹⁰⁰

It appears that government may not deny access to the public forum for demonstrators on the ground that the past meetings of these demonstrators resulted in violence,¹⁰¹ and may not vary a demonstration licensing fee based on an estimate of the amount of hostility likely to be engendered,¹⁰² but the Court's position with regard to the "heckler's veto," the governmental termination of a speech or demonstration because of hostile crowd reaction, remains quite unclear.¹⁰³

A person faced with an unconstitutional licensing law may ignore it, engage in the desired conduct, and challenge the constitutionality of the permit system upon a subsequent prosecution for violating it. *Id.* at 151; *Jones v. Opelika*, 316 U.S. 584, 602 (1942) (Chief Justice Stone dissenting), adopted per curiam on rehearing, 319 U.S. 103 (1943). *See also* *City of Lakewood v. Plain Dealer Publishing Co.*, 486 U.S. 750 (1988) (upholding facial challenge to ordinance vesting in the mayor unbridled discretion to grant or deny annual permit for location of newsracks on public property); *Riley v. National Fed'n of the Blind*, 487 U.S. 781 (1988) (invalidating as permitting "delay without limit" licensing requirement for professional fundraisers); *Forsyth County v. Nationalist Movement*, 112 S. Ct. 2395 (1992). *But see* *Walker v. City of Birmingham*, 388 U.S. 307 (1967) (same rule not applicable to injunctions).

¹⁰⁰In *Shuttlesworth v. City of Birmingham*, 394 U.S. 147 (1969), the Court reaffirmed the holdings of the earlier cases, and, additionally, both Justice Stewart, for the Court, *id.* at 155 n.4, and Justice Harlan concurring, *id.* at 162–64, asserted that the principles of *Freedman v. Maryland*, 380 U.S. 51 (1965), governing systems of prior censorship of motion pictures, were relevant to permit systems for parades and demonstrations. These standards include prompt and expeditious administrative handling of requests and prompt judicial review of adverse actions. *See* *National Socialist Party v. Village of Skokie*, 432 U.S. 43 (1977). The Court also voided an injunction against a protest meeting which was issued *ex parte*, without notice to the protestors and with, or course, no opportunity for them to rebut the representations of the seekers of the injunction. *Carroll v. President and Comm'rs of Princess Anne*, 393 U.S. 175 (1968).

¹⁰¹The only available precedent is *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290 (1951). The holding was on a much narrower basis, but in dictum the Court said: "The court below has mistakenly derived support for its conclusions from the evidence produced at the trial that appellant's religious meetings had, in the past, caused some disorder. There are appropriate public remedies to protect the peace and order of the community if appellant's speeches should result in disorder and violence." *Id.* at 294. A different rule applies to labor picketing. *See* *Milk Wagon Drivers Local 753 v. Meadowmoor Dairies*, 312 U.S. 287 (1941) (background of violence supports prohibition of all peaceful picketing). The military may ban a civilian, previously convicted of destroying government property, from reentering a military base, and may apply the ban to prohibit the civilian from reentering the base for purposes of peaceful demonstration during an Armed Forces Day "open house." *United States v. Albertini*, 472 U.S. 675 (1985).

¹⁰²*Forsyth County v. Nationalist Movement*, 112 S. Ct. 2395 (1992) (a fee based on anticipated crowd response necessarily involves examination of the content of the speech, and is invalid as a content regulation).

¹⁰³Dicta clearly indicate that a hostile reaction will not justify suppression of speech, *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496, 502 (1939); *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536, 551 (1965); *Bachellar v. Maryland*, 397 U.S. 564, 567 (1970), and one holding appears to point this way. *Gregory v. City of Chicago*, 394 U.S. 111 (1969). On the other hand, the Court has upheld a breach of the peace conviction of a speaker who

The Court has defined three different categories of public property for public forum analysis. First, there is the public forum, places such as streets and parks which have traditionally been used for public assembly and debate, where the government may not prohibit all communicative activity and must justify content-neutral time, place, and manner restrictions as narrowly tailored to serve some legitimate interest. Government may also open property for communicative activity, and thereby create a public forum. Such a forum may be limited—hence the expression “limited public forum”—for “use by certain groups, e.g. *Widmar v. Vincent* (student groups), or for discussion of certain subjects, e.g. *City of Madison Joint School District v. Wisconsin PERC* (school board business),”¹⁰⁴ but within the framework of such legitimate limitations discrimination based on content must be justified by compelling governmental interests.¹⁰⁵ Thirdly, government “may reserve a forum for its intended purposes, communicative or otherwise, as long as the regulation on speech is reasonable and not an effort to suppress expression merely because public officials oppose the speaker’s view.”¹⁰⁶ The distinction between the second and third categories can therefore determine the outcome of a case, since speakers may be excluded from the second category only for a “compelling” governmental interest, while exclusion from the third category need only be “reasonable.” Yet, distinguishing between the two categories creates no small difficulty, as evidenced by recent case law.

The Court has held that a school system did not create a limited public forum by opening an interschool mail system to use by selected civic groups “that engage in activities of interest and educational relevance to students,” and that, in any event, if a limited public forum had thereby been created a teachers union rivaling the exclusive bargaining representative could still be excluded as not being “of a similar character” to the civic groups.¹⁰⁷ Less problematic was the Court’s conclusion that utility poles and other mu-

refused to cease speaking upon the demand of police who feared imminent violence. *Feiner v. New York*, 340 U.S. 315 (1951). In *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268, 273 (1951) (concurring opinion), Justice Frankfurter wrote: “It is not a constitutional principle that, in acting to preserve order, the police must proceed against the crowd whatever its size and temper and not against the speaker.”

¹⁰⁴ *Perry Educ. Ass’n v. Perry Local Educators’ Ass’n*, 460 U.S. 37, 45–46 (1983).

¹⁰⁵ 460 U.S. at 46.

¹⁰⁶ *Id.*

¹⁰⁷ *Perry Educ. Ass’n v. Perry Local Educators’ Ass’n*, 460 U.S. 37 (1983). This was a 5–4 decision, with Justice White’s opinion of the Court being joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices Blackmun, Rehnquist, and O’Connor, and with Justice Brennan’s dissent being joined by Justices Marshall, Powell, and Stevens. See also *Hazelwood School Dist. v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 U.S. 260 (1988) (student newspaper published as part of journalism class is not a public forum).

nicipal property did not constitute a public forum for the posting of signs.¹⁰⁸ More problematic was the Court's conclusion that the Combined Federal Campaign, the Federal Government's forum for coordinated charitable solicitation of federal employees, is not a limited public forum. Exclusion of various advocacy groups from participation in the Campaign was upheld as furthering "reasonable" governmental interests in offering a forum to "traditional health and welfare charities," avoiding the appearance of governmental favoritism of particular groups or viewpoints, and avoiding disruption of the federal workplace by controversy.¹⁰⁹ The Court pinpointed the government's intention as the key to whether a public forum has been created: "[t]he government does not create a public forum by inaction or by permitting limited discourse, but only by intentionally opening a non-traditional forum for public discourse."¹¹⁰ Under this categorical approach, the government has wide discretion in maintaining the nonpublic character of its forums, and may regulate in ways that would be impermissible were it to designate a limited public forum.¹¹¹

Application of the doctrine continues to create difficulty. A majority of Justices could not agree on the public forum status of a sidewalk located entirely on Postal Service property.¹¹² The Court was also divided over whether nonsecured areas of an airport terminal, including shops and restaurants, constituted a public forum. Holding that the terminal was not a public forum, the Court upheld restrictions on the solicitation and receipt of funds.¹¹³ But

¹⁰⁸ *City Council v. Taxpayers for Vincent*, 466 U.S. 789 (1984) (upholding an outright ban on use of utility poles for signs). The Court noted that "it is of limited utility in the context of this case to focus on whether the tangible property itself should be deemed a public forum." *Id.* at 815 n.32.

¹⁰⁹ *Cornelius v. NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund*, 473 U.S. 788 (1985). Precedential value of *Cornelius* may be subject to question, since it was decided by 4-3 vote, the non-participating Justices (Marshall and Powell) having dissented in *Perry*. Justice O'Connor wrote the opinion of the Court, joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices White and Rehnquist. Justice Blackmun, joined by Justice Brennan, dissented, and Justice Stevens dissented separately.

¹¹⁰ 473 U.S. at 802. Justice Blackmun criticized "the Court's circular reasoning that the CFC is not a limited public forum because the Government intended to limit the forum to a particular class of speakers." *Id.* at 813-14.

¹¹¹ Justice Kennedy criticized this approach in *ISKCON v. Lee*, 112 S. Ct. 2701, 27, (1992) (concurring), contending that recognition of government's authority to designate the forum status of property ignores the nature of the First Amendment as "a limitation on government, not a grant of power." Justice Brennan voiced similar misgivings in his dissent in *United States v. Kokinda*: "public forum categories—originally conceived of as a way of *preserving* First Amendment rights—have been used . . . as a means of upholding restrictions on speech". 497 U.S. at 741 (emphasis original) (citation omitted).

¹¹² *United States v. Kokinda*, 497 U.S. 720 (1990) (upholding a ban on solicitation on the sidewalk).

¹¹³ *ISKCON v. Lee*, 112 S. Ct. 2701 (1992).

the Court also invalidated a ban on the sale or distribution of literature to passers-by within the same terminal, four Justices believing that the terminal constituted a public forum, and a fifth contending that the multipurpose nature of the forum (shopping mall as well as airport) made restrictions on expression less “reasonable.”¹¹⁴

Quasi-Public Places.—The First Amendment precludes government restraint of expression and it does not require individuals to turn over their homes, businesses or other property to those wishing to communicate about a particular topic.¹¹⁵ But it may be that in some instances private property is so functionally akin to public property that private owners may not forbid expression upon it. In *Marsh v. Alabama*,¹¹⁶ the Court held that the private owner of a company town could not forbid distribution of religious materials by a Jehovah’s Witness on a street in the town’s business district. The town, wholly owned by a private corporation, had all the attributes of any American municipality, aside from its ownership, and was functionally like any other town. In those circumstances, the Court reasoned, “the more an owner, for his advantage, opens up his property for use by the public in general, the more do his rights become circumscribed by the statutory and constitutional rights of those who use it.”¹¹⁷ This precedent lay unused for some twenty years until the Court first indicated a substantial expansion of it, and then withdrew to a narrow interpretation.

First, in *Food Employees Union v. Logan Valley Plaza*,¹¹⁸ the Court held constitutionally protected the picketing of a store located in a shopping center by a union objecting to the store’s employment of nonunion labor. Finding that the shopping center was

¹¹⁴ Lee v. ISKCON, 112 S. Ct. 2709 (1992).

¹¹⁵ In *Garner v. Louisiana*, 368 U.S. 157, 185, 201–07 (1961), Justice Harlan, concurring, would have reversed breach of the peace convictions of “sit-in” demonstrators who conducted their “sit-in” at lunch counters of department stores. He asserted that the protesters were sitting at the lunch counters where they knew they would not be served in order to demonstrate that segregation at such counters existed. “Such a demonstration . . . is as much a part of the ‘free trade in ideas’ . . . as is verbal expression, more commonly thought of as ‘speech.’” Conviction for breach of peace was void in the absence of a clear and present danger of disorder. The Justice would not, however protect “demonstrations conducted on private property over the objection of the owner . . . , just as it would surely not encompass verbal expression in a private home if the owner has not consented.” He had read the record to indicate that the demonstrators were invitees in the stores and that they had never been asked to leave by the owners or managers. See also *Frisby v. Schultz*, 487 U.S. 474 (1988) (government may protect residential privacy by prohibiting altogether picketing that targets a single residence).

¹¹⁶ 326 U.S. 501 (1946).

¹¹⁷ Id. at 506.

¹¹⁸ *Amalgamated Food Employees Union Local 590 v. Logan Valley Plaza*, 391 U.S. 308 (1968).

the functional equivalent of the business district involved in *Marsh*, the Court announced there was “no reason why access to a business district in a company town for the purpose of exercising First Amendment rights should be constitutionally required, while access for the same purpose to property functioning as a business district should be limited simply because the property surrounding the ‘business district’ is not under the same ownership.”¹¹⁹ [T]he State,” said Justice Marshall, “may not delegate the power, through the use of its trespass laws, wholly to exclude those members of the public wishing to exercise their First Amendment rights on the premises in a manner and for a purpose generally consonant with the use to which the property is actually put.”¹²⁰ The Court observed that it would have been hazardous to attempt to distribute literature at the entrances to the center and it reserved for future decision “whether respondents’ property rights could, consistently with the First Amendment, justify a bar on picketing which was not thus directly related in its purpose to the use to which the shopping center property was being put.”¹²¹

Four years later, the Court answered the reserved question in the negative.¹²² Several members of an antiwar group had attempted to distribute leaflets on the mall of a large shopping center, calling on the public to attend a protest meeting. Center guards invoked a trespass law against them, and the Court held they could rightfully be excluded. The center had not dedicated its property to a public use, the Court said; rather, it invited the public in specifically to carry on business with those stores located in the center. Plaintiffs’ leafleting, not directed to any store or to the customers *qua* customers of any of the stores, was unrelated to any activity in the center. Unlike the situation in *Logan Valley Plaza*, there were reasonable alternatives by which plaintiffs could reach those who used the center. Thus, in the absence of a relationship between the purpose of the expressive activity and the business of the shopping center, the property rights of the center owner will overbalance the expressive rights to persons who would use their property for communicative purposes.

Then, the Court formally overruled *Logan Valley Plaza*, holding that shopping centers are not functionally equivalent to the company town involved in *Marsh*.¹²³ Suburban malls may be the

¹¹⁹ *Id.* at 319. Justices Black, Harlan, and White dissented. *Id.* at 327, 333, 337.

¹²⁰ *Id.* at 319–20.

¹²¹ *Id.* at 320 n.9.

¹²² *Lloyd Corp. v. Tanner*, 407 U.S. 551 (1972).

¹²³ *Hudgens v. NLRB*, 424 U.S. 507 (1976). Justice Stewart’s opinion for the Court asserted that *Logan Valley* had in fact been overruled by *Lloyd Corp.*, *id.* at

“new town squares” in the view of sociologists, but they are private property in the eye of the law. The ruling came in a case in which a union of employees engaged in an economic strike against one store in a shopping center was barred from picketing the store within the mall. The rights of employees in such a situation are generally to be governed by federal labor laws¹²⁴ rather than the First Amendment, although there is also the possibility that state constitutional provisions may be interpreted more expansively by state courts to protect some kinds of public issue picketing in shopping centers and similar places.¹²⁵ Henceforth, only when private property “has taken on *all* the attributes of a town” is it to be treated as a public forum.¹²⁶

Picketing and Boycotts by Labor Unions.—Though “logically relevant” to what might be called “public issue” picketing, the cases dealing with the invocation of economic pressures by labor unions are set apart by different “economic and social interests.”¹²⁷ Therefore, these cases are dealt with separately here. It was, however, in a labor case that the Court first held picketing to be entitled to First Amendment protection.¹²⁸ Striking down a flat prohibition on picketing to influence or induce someone to do something, the Court said: “In the circumstances of our times the dissemination of information concerning the facts of a labor dispute must be regarded as within that area of free discussion that is guaranteed by the Constitution

“[T]he group in power at any moment may not impose penal sanctions on peaceful and truthful discussion of matters of public interest merely on a showing that others may thereby be persuaded to take action inconsistent with its interests. Abridgment of the liberty of such discussion can be justified only where the clear danger of substantive evils arises under circumstances affording no oppor-

517–18, but Justice Powell, the author of the *Lloyd Corp.* opinion, did not believe that to be the case, *id.* at 523.

¹²⁴ *But see* *Sears, Roebuck & Co. v. Carpenters*, 436 U.S. 180 (1978).

¹²⁵ In *PruneYard Shopping Center v. Robins*, 447 U.S. 74 (1980), the Court held that a state court interpretation of the state constitution to protect picketing in a privately owned shopping center did not deny the property owner any federal constitutional rights. *But cf.* *Pacific Gas & Elec. v. Public Utilities Comm’n*, 475 U.S. 1 (1986), holding that a state may not require a privately owned utility company to include in its billing envelopes views of a consumer group with which it disagrees, a majority of Justices distinguishing *PruneYard* as not involving such forced association with others’ beliefs.

¹²⁶ *Hudgens v. NLRB*, 424 U.S. 507, 516–17 (1976) (quoting Justice Black’s dissent in *Logan Valley Plaza*, 391 U.S. 308, 332–33 (1968)).

¹²⁷ *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268, 276 (1951) (Justice Frankfurter concurring).

¹²⁸ *Thornhill v. Alabama*, 310 U.S. 88, 102, 104–05 (1940). Picketing as an aspect of communication was recognized in *Senn v. Tile Layers Union*, 301 U.S. 468 (1937).

tunity to test the merits of ideas by competition for acceptance in the market of public opinion.”¹²⁹ Peaceful picketing in a situation in which violence had occurred and was continuing, however, was held proscribable.¹³⁰ In the absence of violence, the Court continued to find picketing protected,¹³¹ but there soon was decided a class of cases in which the Court sustained injunctions against peaceful picketing in the course of a labor controversy when such picketing was counter to valid state policies in a domain open to state regulation.¹³² These cases proceeded upon a distinction drawn by Justice Douglas. “Picketing by an organized group is more than free speech, since it involves patrol of a particular locality and since the very presence of a picket line may induce action of one kind or another, quite irrespective of the nature of the ideas which are being disseminated. Hence those aspects of picketing make it the subject of restrictive regulations.”¹³³ The apparent culmination of this course of decision was the *Vogt* case in which Justice Frankfurter broadly rationalized all the cases and derived the rule that “a State, in enforcing some public policy, whether of its criminal or its civil law, and whether announced by its legislature or its courts, could constitutionally enjoin peaceful picketing aimed at preventing effectuation of that policy.”¹³⁴ There the matter rests, although there is some indication that *Thornhill* stands for something more than that a State may not enforce a blanket prohibition on picketing.¹³⁵

Public Issue Picketing and Parading.—The early cases held that picketing and parading were forms of expression entitled

¹²⁹ See also *Carlson v. California*, 310 U.S. 106 (1940). In *AFL v. Swing*, 312 U.S. 321 (1941), the Court held unconstitutional an injunction against peaceful picketing based on a State’s common-law policy against picketing in the absence of an immediate dispute between employer and employee.

¹³⁰ *Milk Wagon Drivers Union v. Meadowmoor Dairies*, 312 U.S. 287 (1941).

¹³¹ *Bakery & Pastry Drivers Local v. Wohl*, 315 U.S. 769 (1942); *Carpenters & Joiners Union v. Ritter’s Cafe*, 315 U.S. 722 (1942); *Cafeteria Employees Union v. Angelos*, 320 U.S. 293 (1943).

¹³² *Giboney v. Empire Storage & Ice Co.*, 336 U.S. 490 (1949); *International Bhd. of Teamsters Union v. Hanke*, 339 U.S. 470 (1950); *Building Service Emp. Intern. Union v. Gazzam*, 339 U.S. 532 (1950); *Local Union, Journeymen v. Graham*, 345 U.S. 192 (1953).

¹³³ *Bakery & Pastry Drivers Local v. Wohl*, 315 U.S. 769, 776–77 (1942) (concurring opinion).

¹³⁴ *International Bhd. of Teamsters v. Vogt*, 354 U.S. 284, 293 (1957). See also *American Radio Ass’n v. Mobile Steamship Ass’n*, 419 U.S. 215, 228–32 (1974); *NLRB v. Retail Store Employees*, 447 U.S. 607 (1980); *International Longshoremen’s Ass’n v. Allied International*, 456 U.S. 212, 226–27 (1982).

¹³⁵ Cf. the opinions in *NLRB v. Fruit & Vegetable Packers*, 377 U.S. 58 (1964); *Youngdahl v. Rainfair*, 355 U.S. 131, 139 (1957) (indicating that where violence is scattered through time and much of it was unconnected with the picketing, the State should proceed against the violence rather than the picketing).

to some First Amendment protection.¹³⁶ Those early cases did not, however, explicate the difference in application of First Amendment principles which the difference between mere expression and speech-plus would entail. Many of these cases concerned disruptions or feared disruptions of the public peace occasioned by the expressive activity and the ramifications of this on otherwise protected activity.¹³⁷ A series of other cases concerned the permissible characteristics of permit systems in which parades and meetings were licensed, and more recent cases have expanded the procedural guarantees which must accompany a permissible licensing system.¹³⁸ In one case, however, the Court applied the rules developed with regard to labor picketing to uphold an injunction against the picketing of a grocery chain by a black group to compel the chain to adopt a quota-hiring system for blacks. The Supreme Court affirmed the state courts' ruling that, while no law prevented the chain from hiring blacks on a quota basis, picketing to coerce the adoption of racially discriminatory hiring was contrary to state public policy.¹³⁹

A series of civil rights picketing and parading cases led the Court to formulate standards much like those it had established in the labor field, but more protective of expressive activity. The process began with *Edwards v. South Carolina*,¹⁴⁰ in which the Court reversed a breach of the peace conviction of several blacks for their refusal to disperse as ordered by police. The statute was so vague, the Court concluded, that demonstrators could be convicted simply because their presence "disturbed" people. Describing the demonstration upon the grounds of the legislative building in South Carolina's capital, Justice Stewart observed that "[t]he circumstances in this case reflect an exercise of these basic [First Amendment] constitutional rights in their most pristine and classic form."¹⁴¹ In subsequent cases, the Court observed: "We emphatically reject the notion urged by appellant that the First and Fourteenth Amendments afford the same kind of freedom to those who would communicate ideas by conduct such as patrolling, marching,

¹³⁶ *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496 (1939); *Cox v. New Hampshire*, 312 U.S. 569 (1941); *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290 (1951); *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268 (1951).

¹³⁷ *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296 (1940); *Chaplinsky v. New Hampshire*, 315 U.S. 568 (1942); *Terminiello v. City of Chicago*, 337 U.S. 1 (1949); *Feiner v. New York*, 340 U.S. 315 (1951).

¹³⁸ *Supra*, p. 1167.

¹³⁹ *Hughes v. Superior Court*, 339 U.S. 460 (1950). This ruling, allowing content-based restriction, seems inconsistent with *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware*, *infra*, text accompanying nn.147-61.

¹⁴⁰ 372 U.S. 229 (1963).

¹⁴¹ *Id.* at 235. *See also* *Fields v. South Carolina*, 375 U.S. 44 (1963); *Henry v. City of Rock Hill*, 376 U.S. 776 (1964).

and picketing on streets and highways, as those amendments afford to those who communicate ideas by pure speech.”¹⁴² “The conduct which is the subject to this statute—picketing and parading—is subject to regulation even though intertwined with expression and association. The examples are many of the application by this Court of the principle that certain forms of conduct mixed with speech may be regulated or prohibited.”¹⁴³

The Court must determine, of course, whether the regulation is aimed primarily at conduct, as is the case with time, place, and manner regulations, or whether instead the aim is to regulate content of speech. In a series of decisions, the Court refused to permit restrictions on parades and demonstrations, and reversed convictions imposed for breach of the peace and similar offenses, when, in the Court’s view, disturbance had resulted from opposition to the messages being uttered by demonstrators.¹⁴⁴ More recently, however, the Court upheld a ban on residential picketing in *Frisby v. Shultz*,¹⁴⁵ finding that the city ordinance was narrowly tailored to serve the “significant” governmental interest in protecting residential privacy. As interpreted, the ordinance banned only picketing that targets a single residence, and it is unclear whether the Court would uphold a broader restriction on residential picketing.¹⁴⁶

In 1982 the Justices confronted a case, that, like *Hughes v. Superior Court*,¹⁴⁷ involved a “contrary-to-public-policy” restriction on picketing and parading. *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*¹⁴⁸ may join in terms of importance such cases as *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*¹⁴⁹ in requiring the States to observe new and enhanced constitutional standards in order to impose liability upon persons for engaging in expressive conduct implicating the First Amendment. The case arose in the context of a protest against racial conditions by black citizens of Port Gibson, Mississippi. Listing demands that included desegregation of public facilities, hiring of black policemen, hiring of more black employees by local stores,

¹⁴² *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536, 555 (1965).

¹⁴³ *Id.* at 563.

¹⁴⁴ *Edwards v. South Carolina*, 372 U.S. 229 (1963); *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536 (1965); *Gregory v. City of Chicago*, 394 U.S. 111 (1969); *Bachellar v. Maryland*, 397 U.S. 564 (1970). See also *Collin v. Smith*, 447 F. Supp. 676 (N.D.Ill.), *aff’d*, 578 F.2d 1197 (7th Cir.), *stay den.*, 436 U.S. 953, *cert. denied*, 439 U.S. 916 (1978).

¹⁴⁵ 487 U.S. 474 (1988).

¹⁴⁶ An earlier case involving residential picketing had been resolved on equal protection rather than First Amendment grounds, the ordinance at issue making an exception for labor picketing. *Carey v. Brown*, 447 U.S. 455 (1980).

¹⁴⁷ 339 U.S. 460 (1950).

¹⁴⁸ 458 U.S. 886 (1982). The decision was unanimous, with Justice Rehnquist concurring in the result and Justice Marshall not participating. The Court’s decision was by Justice Stevens.

¹⁴⁹ 376 U.S. 254 (1964).

and ending of verbal abuse by police, a group of several hundred blacks unanimously voted to boycott the area's white merchants. The boycott was carried out through speeches and nonviolent picketing and solicitation of others to cease doing business with the merchants. Individuals were designated to watch stores and identify blacks patronizing the stores; their names were then announced at meetings and published. Persuasion of others included social pressures and threats of social ostracism. Acts of violence did occur from time to time, directed in the main at blacks who did not observe the boycott.

The state Supreme Court imposed liability, joint and several, upon leaders and participants in the boycott, and upon the NAACP, for all of the merchants' lost earnings during a seven-year period on the basis of the common law tort of malicious interference with the merchants' business, holding that the existence of acts of physical force and violence and the use of force, violence, and threats to achieve the ends of the boycott deprived it of any First Amendment protection.

Reversing, the Court observed that the goals of the boycotters were legal and that most of their means were constitutionally protected; while violence was not protected, its existence alone did not deprive the other activities of First Amendment coverage. Thus, speeches and nonviolent picketing, both to inform the merchants of grievances and to encourage other blacks to join the boycott, were protected activities, and association for those purposes was also protected.¹⁵⁰ That some members of the group might have engaged in violence or might have advocated violence did not result in loss of protection for association, absent a showing that those associating had joined with intent to further the unprotected activities.¹⁵¹ Nor was protection to be denied because nonparticipants had been urged to join by speech, by picketing, by identification, by threats of social ostracism, and by other expressive acts: "[s]peech does not lose its protected character . . . simply because it may embarrass others or coerce them into action."¹⁵² The boycott had a disruptive

¹⁵⁰ NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co., 458 U.S. 886, 907–08 (1982).

¹⁵¹ *Id.* at 908.

¹⁵² *Id.* at 910. The Court cited *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516, 537 (1945), a labor picketing case, and *Organization for a Better Austin v. Keefe*, 402 U.S. 415, 419 (1971), a public issues picketing case, which had also relied on the labor cases. Compare *NLRB v. Retail Store Employees*, 447 U.S. 607, 618–19 (1980) (Justice Stevens concurring) (labor picketing that coerces or "signals" others to engage in activity that violates valid labor policy, rather than attempting to engage reason, prohibitable). To the contention that liability could be imposed on "store watchers" and on a group known as "Black Hats" who also patrolled stores and identified black patronizers of the businesses, the Court did not advert to the "signal" theory. "There is nothing unlawful in standing outside a store and recording names. Simi-

effect upon local economic conditions and resulted in loss of business for the merchants, but these consequences did not justify suppression of the boycott. Government may certainly regulate certain economic activities having an incidental effect upon speech (e.g., labor picketing or business conspiracies to restrain competition),¹⁵³ but that power of government does not extend to suppression of picketing and other boycott activities involving, as this case did, speech upon matters of public affairs with the intent of affecting governmental action and motivating private actions to achieve racial equality.¹⁵⁴

The critical issue, however, had been the occurrence of violent acts and the lower court's conclusion that they deprived otherwise protected conduct of protection. "The First Amendment does not protect violence No federal rule of law restricts a State from imposing tort liability for business losses that are caused by violence and by threats of violence. When such conduct occurs in the context of constitutionally protected activity, however, 'precision of regulation' is demanded Specifically, the presence of activity protected by the First Amendment imposes restraints on the grounds that may give rise to damages liability and on the persons who may be held accountable for those damages."¹⁵⁵ In other words, the States may impose damages for the consequences of violent conduct, but they may not award compensation for the consequences of nonviolent, protected activity.¹⁵⁶ Thus, the state courts had to compute, upon proof by the merchants, what damages had been the result of violence, and could not include losses suffered as a result of all the other activities comprising the boycott. And only those nonviolent persons who associated with others with an awareness of violence and an intent to further it could similarly be held liable.¹⁵⁷ Since most of the acts of violence had occurred

larly, there is nothing unlawful in wearing black hats, although such apparel may cause apprehension in others." *Id.* at 458 U.S., 925.

¹⁵³ *See, e.g.,* *FTC v. Superior Court Trial Lawyers Ass'n*, 493 U.S. 411 (1990) (upholding application of *per se* antitrust liability to trial lawyers association's boycott designed to force higher fees for representation of indigent defendants by court-appointed counsel).

¹⁵⁴ *Id.* at 912–15. In evaluating the permissibility of government regulation in this context that has an incidental effect on expression, the Court applied the standards of *United States v. O'Brien*, 391 U.S. 367, 376–77 (1968), which requires that the regulation be within the constitutional power of government, that it further an important or substantial governmental interest, that it be unrelated to the suppression of speech, and that it impose no greater restraint on expression than is essential to achievement of the interest.

¹⁵⁵ *Id.* at 458 U.S., 916–17.

¹⁵⁶ *Id.* at 917–18.

¹⁵⁷ *Id.* at 918–29, relying on a series of labor cases and on the subversive activities association cases, e.g., *Scales v. United States*, 367 U.S. 203 (1961), and *Noto v. United States*, 367 U.S. 290 (1961).

early on, in 1966, there was no way constitutionally that much if any of the later losses of the merchants could be recovered in damages.¹⁵⁸ As to the head of the local NAACP, the Court refused to permit imposition of damages based upon speeches that could be read as advocating violence, inasmuch as any violent acts that occurred were some time after the speeches, and a “clear and present danger” analysis of the speeches would not find them punishable.¹⁵⁹ The award against the NAACP fell with the denial of damages against its local head, and, in any event, the protected right of association required a rule that would immunize the NAACP without a finding that it “authorized—either actually or apparently—or ratified unlawful conduct.”¹⁶⁰

Claiborne Hardware is, thus, a seminal decision in the Court’s effort to formulate standards governing state power to regulate or to restrict expressive conduct that comes close to or crosses over the line to encompass some violent activities; it requires great specificity and the drawing of fine discriminations by government so as to reach only that portion of the activity that does involve violence or the threat of violence, and forecloses the kind of “public policy” limit on demonstrations that was approved in *Hughes v. Superior Court*.¹⁶¹

¹⁵⁸ 458 U.S. at 920–26. The Court distinguished *Milk Wagon Drivers Union v. Meadowmoor Dairies*, 312 U.S. 287 (1941), in which an injunction had been sustained against both violent and nonviolent activity, not on the basis of special rules governing labor picketing, but because the violence had been “pervasive.” 458 U.S. at 923.

¹⁵⁹ 458 U.S. at 926–29. The head’s “emotionally charged rhetoric . . . did not transcend the bounds of protected speech set forth in *Brandenburg v. Ohio*, 395 U.S. 444 (1969).”

¹⁶⁰ *Id.* at 931. In ordinary business cases, the rule of liability of an entity for actions of its agents is broader. E.g., *American Soc’y of Mech. Eng’rs v. Hydrolevel Corp.*, 456 U.S. 556 (1982). The different rule in cases of organizations formed to achieve political purposes rather than economic goals appears to require substantial changes in the law of agency with respect to such entities. *Note*, 96 *HARV. L. REV.* 171, 174–76 (1982).

¹⁶¹ “Concerted action is a powerful weapon. History teaches that special dangers are associated with conspiratorial activity. And yet one of the foundations of our society is the right of individuals to combine with other persons in pursuit of a common goal by lawful means.

“[P]etitioners’ ultimate objectives were unquestionably legitimate. The charge of illegality . . . derives from the means employed by the participants to achieve those goals. The use of speeches, marches, and threats of social ostracism cannot provide the basis for a damages award. But violent conduct is beyond the pale of constitutional protection.

“The taint of violence colored the conduct of some of the petitioners. They, of course, may be held liable for the consequences of their violent deeds. The burden of demonstrating that it colored the entire collective effort, however, is not satisfied by evidence that violence occurred or even that violence contributed to the success of the boycott. [The burden can be met only] by findings that adequately disclose the evidentiary basis for concluding that specific parties agreed to use unlawful means, that carefully identify the impact of such unlawful conduct, and that recog-

Leafletting, Handbilling, and the Like.—In *Lovell v. City of Griffin*,¹⁶² the Court struck down a permit system applying to the distribution of circulars, handbills, or literature of any kind. The First Amendment, the Court said, “necessarily embraces pamphlets and leaflets. These indeed have been historic weapons in the defense of liberty, as the pamphlets of Thomas Paine and others in our own history abundantly attest.”¹⁶³ State courts, responding to what appeared to be a hint in *Lovell* that prevention of littering and other interests might be sufficient to sustain a flat ban on literature distribution,¹⁶⁴ upheld total prohibitions and were reversed. “Mere legislative preferences or beliefs respecting matters of public convenience may well support regulation directed at other personal activities, but be insufficient to justify such as diminishes the exercise of rights so vital to the maintenance of democratic institutions We are of the opinion that the purpose to keep the streets clean and of good appearance is insufficient to justify an ordinance which prohibits a person rightfully on a public street from handing literature to one willing to receive it. Any burden imposed upon the city authorities in cleaning and caring for the streets as an indirect consequence of such distribution results from the constitutional protection of the freedom of speech and press.”¹⁶⁵ In *Talley v. California*,¹⁶⁶ the Court struck down an ordinance which banned all handbills that did not carry the name and address of the author, printer, and sponsor; conviction for violating the ordinance was set aside on behalf of one distributing leaflets urging boycotts against certain merchants because of their employment discrimination. The basis of the decision is not readily ascertainable. On the one hand, the Court celebrated anonymity. “Anonymous pamphlets, leaflets, brochures and even books have played an important role in the progress of mankind. Persecuted groups and sects from time to time throughout history have been able to criticize oppressive practices and laws either anonymously or not at all [I]dentification and fear of reprisal might deter perfectly peaceful discussion of public matters of importance.”¹⁶⁷ On the

nizes the importance of avoiding the imposition of punishment for constitutionally protected activity. . . . A court must be wary of a claim that the true color of a forest is better revealed by reptiles hidden in the weeds than by the foliage of countless freestanding trees.” 458 U.S. at 933–34.

¹⁶² 303 U.S. 444 (1938).

¹⁶³ *Id.* at 452.

¹⁶⁴ *Id.* at 451.

¹⁶⁵ *Schneider v. Town of Irvington*, 308 U.S. 147, 161, 162 (1939). The Court noted that the right to distribute leaflets was subject to certain obvious regulations, *id.* at 160, and called for a balancing, with the weight inclined to the First Amendment rights. *See also* *Jamison v. Texas*, 318 U.S. 413 (1943).

¹⁶⁶ 362 U.S. 60 (1960).

¹⁶⁷ *Id.* at 64, 65.

other hand, responding to the City's defense that the ordinance was aimed at providing a means to identify those responsible for fraud, false advertising, and the like, the Court noted that it "is in no manner so limited . . . [and] [t]herefore we do not pass on the validity of an ordinance limited to these or any other supposed evils."¹⁶⁸

The handbilling cases were distinguished in *City Council v. Taxpayers for Vincent*,¹⁶⁹ in which the Court held that a city may prohibit altogether the use of utility poles for posting of signs. While a city's concern over visual blight could be addressed by an anti-littering ordinance not restricting the expressive activity of distributing handbills, in the case of posting signs "it is the medium of expression itself" that creates the visual blight. Hence, a prohibition on posting signs, unlike a prohibition on distributing handbills, is narrowly tailored to curtail no more speech than necessary to accomplish the city's legitimate purpose.¹⁷⁰

Sound Trucks, Noise.—Physical disruption may occur by other means than the presence of large numbers of demonstrators. For example, the use of sound trucks to convey a message on the streets may disrupt the public peace and may disturb the privacy of persons off the streets. The cases, however, afford little basis for a general statement of constitutional principle. *Saia v. New York*,¹⁷¹ while it spoke of "loud-speakers as today indispensable instruments of effective public speech," held only that a particular prior licensing system was void. A five-to-four majority upheld a statute in *Kovacs v. Cooper*,¹⁷² which was ambiguous with regard to whether all sound trucks were banned or only "loud and raucous" trucks and which the state court had interpreted as having the latter meaning. In another case, the Court upheld an antinoise ordinance which the state courts had interpreted narrowly to bar only noise that actually or immediately threatened to disrupt normal school activity during school hours.¹⁷³ But the Court was careful to tie its ruling to the principle that the particular requirements

¹⁶⁸Id. at 64. In *Zwickler v. Koota*, 389 U.S. 241 (1967), the Court directed a lower court to consider the constitutionality of a statute which made it a criminal offense to publish or distribute election literature without identification of the name and address of the printer and of the persons sponsoring the literature. The lower court voided the law, but changed circumstances on a new appeal caused the Court to dismiss. *Golden v. Zwickler*, 394 U.S. 103 (1969).

¹⁶⁹466 U.S. 789 (1984).

¹⁷⁰Justice Brennan argued in dissent that adequate alternative forms of communication were not readily available because handbilling or other person-to-person methods would be substantially more expensive, and that the regulation for the sake of aesthetics was not adequately justified.

¹⁷¹334 U.S. 558, 561 (1948).

¹⁷²336 U.S. 77 (1949).

¹⁷³*Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104 (1972).

of education necessitated observance of rules designed to preserve the school environment.¹⁷⁴ More recently, reaffirming that government has “a substantial interest in protecting its citizens from unwelcome noise,” the Court applied time, place, and manner analysis to uphold New York City’s sound amplification guidelines designed to prevent excessive noise and assure sound quality at outdoor concerts in Central Park.¹⁷⁵

Door-to-Door Solicitation.—In another Jehovah’s Witness case, the Court struck down an ordinance forbidding solicitors or distributors of literature from knocking on residential doors in a community, the aims of the ordinance being to protect privacy, to protect the sleep of many who worked nightshifts, and to protect against burglars posing as canvassers. The five-to-four majority concluded that on balance “[t]he dangers of distribution can so easily be controlled by traditional legal methods, leaving to each householder the full right to decide whether he will receive strangers as visitors, that stringent prohibition can serve no purpose but that forbidden by the Constitution, the naked restriction of the dissemination of ideas.”¹⁷⁶

More recently, while striking down an ordinance because of vagueness, the Court observed that it “has consistently recognized a municipality’s power to protect its citizens from crime and undue annoyance by regulating soliciting and canvassing. A narrowly drawn ordinance, that does not vest in municipal officers the undefined power to determine what messages residents will hear, may serve these important interests without running afoul of the First Amendment.”¹⁷⁷ The Court indicated that its precedents supported measures that would require some form of notice to officials and the obtaining of identification in order that persons could canvas house-to-house for charitable or political purposes.

However, an ordinance which limited solicitation of contributions door-to-door by charitable organizations to those which use at least 75% of their receipts directly for charitable purposes, defined so as to exclude the expenses of solicitation, salaries, overhead, and other administrative expenses, was invalidated as overbroad.¹⁷⁸ A

¹⁷⁴ *Id.* at 117. Citing *Saia* and *Kovacs* as examples of reasonable time, place, and manner regulation, the Court observed: “If overamplified loudspeakers assault the citizenry, government may turn them down.” *Id.* at 116.

¹⁷⁵ *Ward v. Rock Against Racism*, 491 U.S. 781 (1989).

¹⁷⁶ *Martin v. City of Struthers*, 319 U.S. 141, 147 (1943).

¹⁷⁷ *Hynes v. Mayor of Oradell*, 425 U.S. 610, 616–17 (1976). Justices Brennan and Marshall did not agree with the part of the opinion approving the regulatory power. *Id.* at 623.

¹⁷⁸ *Village of Schaumburg v. Citizens for a Better Environment*, 444 U.S. 620 (1980). See also *Larson v. Valente*, 456 U.S. 228 (1982) (state law distinguishing between religious organizations and their solicitation of funds on basis of whether or

privacy rationale was rejected, inasmuch as just as much intrusion was likely by permitted solicitors as by unpermitted ones. A rationale of prevention of fraud was unavailing, inasmuch as it could not be said that all associations that spent more than 25% of their receipts on overhead were actually engaged in a profit making enterprise, and, in any event, more narrowly drawn regulations, such as disclosure requirements, could serve this governmental interest.

Shaumberg was extended in *Secretary of State of Maryland v. Joseph H. Munson Co.*,¹⁷⁹ and *Riley v. National Fed'n of the Blind*.¹⁸⁰ In *Munson* the Court invalidated a Maryland statute limiting professional fundraisers to 25% of the amount collected plus certain costs, and allowing waiver of this limitation if it would effectively prevent the charity from raising contributions. And in *Riley* the Court invalidated a North Carolina fee structure containing even more flexibility.¹⁸¹ The Court sees “no nexus between the percentage of funds retained by the fundraiser and the likelihood that the solicitation is fraudulent,” and is similarly hostile to any scheme that shifts the burden to the fundraiser to show that a fee structure is reasonable.¹⁸² Moreover, a requirement that fundraisers disclose to potential donors the percentage of donated funds previously used for charity was also invalidated in *Riley*, the Court indicating that the “more benign and narrowly tailored” alternative of disclosure to the state (accompanied by state publishing of disclosed percentages) could make the information publicly available without so threatening the effectiveness of solicitation.¹⁸³

The Problem of “Symbolic Speech.”—Very little expression is “mere” speech. If it is oral, it may be noisy enough to be disturbing,¹⁸⁴ and, if it is written, it may be litter;¹⁸⁵ in either case, it may amount to conduct that is prohibitable in specific cir-

ganizations received more than half of their total contributions from members or from public solicitation violates establishment clause). *Meyer v. Grant*, 486 U.S. 414 (1988) (criminal penalty on use of paid circulators to obtain signatures for ballot initiative suppresses political speech in violation of First and Fourteenth Amendments).

¹⁷⁹ 467 U.S. 947 (1984).

¹⁸⁰ 487 U.S. 781 (1988).

¹⁸¹ A fee of up to 20% of collected receipts was deemed reasonable, a fee between 20 and 35% was permissible if the solicitation involved advocacy or the dissemination of information, and a fee in excess of 35% was presumptively unreasonable, but could be upheld upon one of two showings: that advocacy or dissemination of information was involved, or that otherwise the charity’s ability to collect money or communicate would be significantly diminished.

¹⁸² 487 U.S. at 793.

¹⁸³ *Id.* at 800. North Carolina’s requirement for licensing of professional fundraisers was also invalidated in *Riley*, *id.* at 801–02.

¹⁸⁴ E.g., *Saia v. New York*, 334 U.S. 558 (1948); *Kovacs v. Cooper*, 336 U.S. 77 (1949).

¹⁸⁵ E.g., *Schneider v. Town of Irvington*, 308 U.S. 147 (1939).

cumstances.¹⁸⁶ Moving beyond these simple examples, one may see as well that conduct may have a communicative content, intended to express a point of view. Expressive conduct may consist in flying a particular flag as a symbol¹⁸⁷ or in refusing to salute a flag as a symbol.¹⁸⁸ Sit-ins and stand-ins may effectively express a protest about certain things.¹⁸⁹

Justice Jackson wrote: “There is no doubt that, in connection with the pledge, the flag salute is a form of utterance. Symbolism is a primitive but effective way of communicating ideas. The use of an emblem or flag to symbolize some system, idea, institution, or personality is a short cut from mind to mind.”¹⁹⁰ When conduct or action has a communicative content to it, governmental regulation or prohibition implicates the First Amendment, but this does not mean that such conduct or action is necessarily immune from governmental process. Thus, while the Court has had few opportunities to formulate First Amendment standards in this area, in upholding a congressional prohibition on draft-card burnings, it has stated the generally applicable rule. “[A] government regulation is sufficiently justified if it is within the constitutional power of Government; if it furthers an important or substantial governmental interest; if the governmental interest is unrelated to the suppression of free expression; and if the incidental restriction on alleged First Amendment freedom is no greater than is essential to the furtherance of that government interest.”¹⁹¹ The Court has suggested that this standard is virtually identical to that applied to time, place, or manner restrictions on expression.¹⁹²

Although almost unanimous in formulating and applying the test in *O'Brien*, the Court splintered when it had to deal with one

¹⁸⁶ Cf. *Cohen v. California*, 403 U.S. 15 (1971).

¹⁸⁷ *Stromberg v. California*, 283 U.S. 359 (1931).

¹⁸⁸ *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943).

¹⁸⁹ In *Brown v. Louisiana*, 383 U.S. 131 (1966), the Court held protected a peaceful, silent stand-in in a segregated public library. Speaking of speech and assembly, Justice Fortas said for the Court: “As this Court has repeatedly stated, these rights are not confined to verbal expression. They embrace appropriate types of action which certainly include the right in a peaceable and orderly manner to protest by silent and reproachful presence, in a place where the protestant has every right to be, the unconstitutional segregation of public facilities.” *Id.* at 141–42. See also *Garner v. Louisiana*, 368 U.S. 157, 185, 201 (1961) (Justice Harlan concurring). On a different footing is expressive conduct in a place where such conduct is prohibited for reasons other than suppressing speech. See *Clark v. Community for Creative Non-Violence*, 468 U.S. 288 (1984) (upholding Park Service restriction on overnight sleeping as applied to demonstrators wishing to call attention to the plight of the homeless).

¹⁹⁰ *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 632 (1943).

¹⁹¹ *United States v. O'Brien*, 391 U.S. 367, 377 (1968).

¹⁹² *Clark v. Community for Creative Non-Violence*, 468 U.S. 288, 298 & n.8 (1984).

of the more popular forms of “symbolic” conduct of the late 1960s and early 1970s—flag burning and other forms of flag desecration. The Court remains closely divided to this day. No unifying theory capable of application to a wide range of possible flag abuse actions emerged from the early cases. Thus, in *Street v. New York*,¹⁹³ the defendant had been convicted under a statute punishing desecration “by words or act” upon evidence that when he burned the flag he had uttered contemptuous words. The conviction was set aside because it might have been premised on his words alone or on his words and the act together, and no valid governmental interest supported penalizing verbal contempt for the flag.¹⁹⁴

A few years later the Court reversed two other flag desecration convictions, one on due process/vagueness grounds, the other under the First Amendment. were decided by the Court in a manner that indicated an effort to begin to resolve the standards of First Amendment protection of “symbolic conduct.” In *Smith v. Goguen*,¹⁹⁵ a statute punishing anyone who “publicly . . . treats contemptuously the flag of the United States . . .,” was held unconstitutionally vague, and a conviction for wearing trousers with a small United States flag sewn to the seat was overturned. The language subjected the defendant to criminal liability under a standard “so indefinite that police, court, and jury were free to react to nothing more than their own preferences for treatment of the flag.”¹⁹⁶

The First Amendment was the basis for reversal in *Spence v. Washington*,¹⁹⁷ in which a conviction under a statute punishing the display of a United States flag to which something is attached or superimposed was set aside; Spence had hung his flag from his apartment window upside down with a peace symbol taped to the front and back. The act, the Court thought, was a form of communication, and because of the nature of the act, the factual context and environment in which it was undertaken, the Court held it to be protected. The context included the fact that the flag was pri-

¹⁹³ 394 U.S. 576 (1969).

¹⁹⁴ *Id.* at 591–93. Four dissenters concluded that the First Amendment did not preclude a flat proscription of flag burning or flag desecration for expressive purposes. *Id.* at 594 (Chief Justice Warren), 609 (Justice Black), 610 (Justice White), and 615 (Justice Fortas). In *Radich v. New York*, 401 U.S. 531 (1971), *affg* 26 N.Y. 2d 114, 257 N.E. 2d 30 (1970), an equally divided Court, Justice Douglas not participating, sustained a flag desecration conviction of one who displayed sculptures in a gallery, using the flag in some apparently sexually bizarre ways to register a social protest. Defendant subsequently obtained his release on habeas corpus, *United States ex rel. Radich v. Criminal Court*, 459 F.2d 745 (2d Cir. 1972), cert. denied 409 U.S. 115 (1973).

¹⁹⁵ 415 U.S. 566 (1974).

¹⁹⁶ *Id.* at 578.

¹⁹⁷ 418 U.S. 405 (1974).

vately owned, that it was displayed on private property, and that there was no danger of breach of the peace. The nature of the act was that it was intended to express an idea and it did so without damaging the flag. The Court assumed that the State had a valid interest in preserving the flag as a national symbol, but whether that interest extended beyond protecting the physical integrity of the flag was left unclear.¹⁹⁸

The underlying assumption that flag burning could be prohibited as a means of protecting the flag's symbolic value was later rejected. Twice, in 1989 and again in 1990, the Court held that prosecutions for flag burning at a public demonstration violated the First Amendment. First, in *Texas v. Johnson*¹⁹⁹ the Court rejected a state desecration statute designed to protect the flag's symbolic value, and then in *United States v. Eichman*²⁰⁰ rejected a more limited federal statute purporting to protect only the flag's physical integrity. Both cases were decided by 5-to-4 votes, with Justice Brennan writing the Court's opinions.²⁰¹ The Texas statute invalidated in *Johnson* defined the prohibited act of "desecration" as any physical mistreatment of the flag that the actor knew would seriously offend other persons. This emphasis on causing offense to others meant that the law was not "unrelated to the suppression of free expression" and that consequently the deferential standard of *United States v. O'Brien* was inapplicable. Applying strict scrutiny, the Court ruled that the State's prosecution of someone who burned a flag at a political protest was not justified under the State's asserted interest in preserving the flag as a symbol of nationhood and national unity. The Court's opinion left little doubt that the existing Federal statute, 18 U.S.C. §700, and the flag desecration laws of 47 other states would suffer a similar fate in a similar case. Doubt remained, however, as to whether the Court

¹⁹⁸ *Id.* at 408–11, 412–13. Subsequently, the Court vacated, over the dissents of Chief Justice Burger and Justices White, Blackmun, and Rehnquist, two convictions for burning flags and sent them back for reconsideration in the light of *Goguen* and *Spence*. *Sutherland v. Illinois*, 418 U.S. 907 (1974); *Farrell v. Iowa*, 418 U.S. 907 (1974). The Court did, however, dismiss, "for want of a substantial federal question," an appeal from a flag desecration conviction of one who, with no apparent intent to communicate but in the course of "horseplay," blew his nose on a flag, simulated masturbation on it, and finally burned it. *Van Slyke v. Texas*, 418 U.S. 907 (1974).

¹⁹⁹ 491 U.S. 397 (1989).

²⁰⁰ 496 U.S. 310 (1990).

²⁰¹ In each case Justice Brennan's opinion for the Court was joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, Scalia, and Kennedy, and in each case Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justices White, Stevens, and O'Connor dissented. In *Johnson* the Chief Justice's dissent was joined by Justices White and O'Connor, and Justice Stevens dissented separately. In *Eichman* Justice Stevens wrote the only dissenting opinion, to which the other dissenters subscribed.

would uphold a “content-neutral” statute protecting the physical integrity of the flag.

Immediately following *Johnson*, Congress enacted a new flag protection statute providing punishment for anyone who “knowingly mutilates, defaces, physically defiles, burns, maintains on the floor or ground, or tramples upon any flag of the United States.”²⁰² The law was designed to be content-neutral, and to protect the “physical integrity” of the flag.²⁰³ Nonetheless, in upholding convictions of flag burners, the Court found that the law suffered from “the same fundamental flaw” as the Texas law in *Johnson*. The government’s underlying interest, characterized by the Court as resting upon “a perceived need to preserve the flag’s status as a symbol of our Nation and certain national ideals,”²⁰⁴ still related to the suppression of free expression. Support for this interpretation was found in the fact that most of the prohibited acts are usually associated with disrespectful treatment of the flag; this suggested to the Court “a focus on those acts likely to damage the flag’s symbolic value.”²⁰⁵ As in *Johnson*, such a law could not withstand “most exacting scrutiny” analysis.

The Court’s ruling in *Eichman* rekindled congressional efforts, postponed with enactment of the Flag Protection Act, to amend the Constitution to authorize flag desecration legislation at the federal and state levels. In both the House and the Senate these measures failed to receive the necessary two-thirds vote.²⁰⁶

RIGHTS OF ASSEMBLY AND PETITION

Background and Development

The right of petition took its rise from the modest provision made for it in chapter 61 of Magna Carta (1215).²⁰⁷ To this meagre beginning are traceable, in some measure, Parliament itself and its procedures in the enactment of legislation, the equity jurisdiction of the Lord Chancellor, and proceedings against the Crown by “petition of right.” Thus, while the King summoned Parliament for the purpose of supply, the latter—but especially the House of Com-

²⁰² The Flag Protection Act of 1989, Pub. L. 101–131.

²⁰³ See H.R. Rep. No. 231, 101st Cong., 1st Sess. 8 (1989) (“The purpose of the bill is to protect the physical integrity of American flags in all circumstances, regardless of the motive or political message of any flag burner”).

²⁰⁴ *United States v. Eichman*, 496 U.S. at 316.

²⁰⁵ *Id.* at 317.

²⁰⁶ The House defeated H.J. Res. 350 by vote of 254 in favor to 177 against (136 CONG. REC. H4086 (daily ed. June 21, 1990)); the Senate defeated S.J. Res. 332 by vote of 58 in favor to 42 against (136 CONG. REC. S8737 (daily ed. June 26, 1990)).

²⁰⁷ C. STEPHENSON & F. MARCHAM, *SOURCES OF ENGLISH CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY* 125 (1937).

mons—petitioned the King for a redress of grievances as its price for meeting the financial needs of the Monarch, and as it increased in importance it came to claim the right to dictate the form of the King's reply, until, in 1414, Commons declared itself to be "as well assenters as petitioners." Two hundred and fifty years later, in 1669, Commons further resolved that every commoner in England possessed "the inherent right to prepare and present petitions" to it "in case of grievance," and of Commons "to receive the same" and to judge whether they were "fit" to be received. Finally Chapter 5 of the Bill of Rights of 1689 asserted the right of the subjects to petition the King and "all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning to be illegal."²⁰⁸

Historically, therefore, the right of petition is the primary right, the right peaceably to assemble a subordinate and instrumental right, as if the First Amendment read: "the right of the people peaceably to assemble" in order to "petition the government."²⁰⁹ Today, however, the right of peaceable assembly is, in the language of the Court, "cognate to those of free speech and free press and is equally fundamental. . . . [It] is one that cannot be denied without violating those fundamental principles of liberty and justice which lie at the base of all civil and political institutions—principles which the Fourteenth Amendment embodies in the general terms of its due process clause. . . . The holding of meetings for peaceable political action cannot be proscribed. Those who assist in the conduct of such meetings cannot be branded as criminals on that score. The question . . . is not as to the auspices under which the meeting is held but as to its purposes; not as to the relation of the speakers, but whether their utterances transcend the bounds of the freedom of speech which the Constitution protects."²¹⁰ Furthermore, the right of petition has expanded. It is no longer confined to demands for "a redress of grievances," in any accurate meaning of these words, but comprehends demands for an exercise by the Government of its powers in furtherance of the interest and prosperity of the petitioners and of their views on politically contentious matters.²¹¹ The right extends to the "approach of citizens or groups of them to administrative agencies (which are both creatures of the legislature, and arms of the executive) and to courts, the third branch of Government. Certainly the right to petition extends to all departments of the Government. The right of ac-

²⁰⁸ 12 ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES 98 (1934).

²⁰⁹ *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542, 552 (1876), reflects this view.

²¹⁰ *De Jonge v. Oregon*, 299 U.S. 353, 364, 365 (1937). See also *Herndon v. Lowry*, 301 U.S. 242 (1937).

²¹¹ See *Eastern R.R. Presidents Conf. v. Noerr Motor Freight*, 365 U.S. 127 (1961).

cess to the courts is indeed but one aspect of the right of petition.”²¹²

The right of petition recognized by the First Amendment first came into prominence in the early 1830's, when petitions against slavery in the District of Columbia began flowing into Congress in a constantly increasing stream, which reached its climax in the winter of 1835. Finally on January 28, 1840, the House adopted as a standing rule: “That no petition, memorial, resolution, or other paper praying the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, or any State or Territories of the United States in which it now exists, shall be received by this House, or entertained in any way whatever.” Because of efforts of John Quincy Adams, this rule was repealed five years later.²¹³ For many years now the rules of the House of Representatives have provided that members having petitions to present may deliver them to the Clerk and the petitions, except such as in the judgment of the Speaker are of an obscene or insulting character, shall be entered on the Journal and the Clerk shall furnish a transcript of such record to the official reporters of debates for publication in the Record.²¹⁴ Even so, petitions for the repeal of the espionage and sedition laws and against military measures for recruiting resulted, in World War I, in imprisonment.²¹⁵ Processions for the presentation of petitions in the United States have not been particularly successful. In 1894 General Coxey of Ohio organized armies of unemployed to march on Washington and present petitions, only to see their leaders arrested for unlawfully walking on the grass of the Capitol. The march of the veterans on Washington in 1932 demanding bonus legislation was defended as an exercise of the right of petition. The Administration, however, regarded it as a threat against the Constitution and called out the army to expel the bonus marchers and burn their camps. Marches and encampments have become more common since, but the results have been mixed.

The Cruikshank Case.—The right of assembly was first before the Supreme Court in 1876²¹⁶ in the famous case of *United*

²¹² *California Motor Transport Co. v. Trucking Unlimited*, 404 U.S. 508, 510 (1972). See also *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886, 913–15 (1982); *Missouri v. NOW*, 620 F.2d 1301 (8th Cir.), cert. denied, 449 U.S. 842 (1980) (boycott of States not ratifying ERA may not be subjected to antitrust suits for economic losses because of its political nature).

²¹³ The account is told in many sources. E.g., S. BEMIS, *JOHN QUINCY ADAMS AND THE UNION*, chs. 17, 18 and pp. 446–47 (1956).

²¹⁴ Rule 22, ¶ 1, Rules of the House of Representatives, H.R. Doc. No. 256, 101st Congress, 2d sess. 571 (1991).

²¹⁵ 1918 ATT'Y GEN. ANN. REP. 48.

²¹⁶ See, however, *Crandall v. Nevada*, 73 U.S. (6 Wall.) 35 (1868), in which the Court gave as one of its reasons for striking down a tax on persons leaving the State

States v. Cruikshank.²¹⁷ The Enforcement Act of 1870²¹⁸ forbade conspiring or going onto the highways or onto the premises of another to intimidate any other person from freely exercising and enjoying any right or privilege granted or secured by the Constitution of the United States. Defendants had been indicted under this Act on charges of having deprived certain citizens of their right to assemble together peaceably with other citizens “for a peaceful and lawful purpose.” While the Court held the indictment inadequate because it did not allege that the attempted assembly was for a purpose related to the Federal Government, its dicta broadly declared the outlines of the right of assembly. “The right of the people peaceably to assemble for the purpose of petitioning Congress for a redress of grievances, or for anything else connected with the powers or the duties of the National Government, is an attribute of national citizenship, and, as such, under the protection of, and guaranteed by, the United States. The very idea of a government, republican in form, implies a right on the part of its citizens to meet peaceably for consultation in respect to public affairs and to petition for a redress of grievances. If it had been alleged in these counts that the object of the defendants was to prevent a meeting for such a purpose, the case would have been within the statute, and within the scope of the sovereignty of the United States.”²¹⁹ Absorption of the assembly and petition clauses into the liberty protected by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment means, or course, that the *Cruikshank* limitation is no longer applicable.²²⁰

The Hague Case.—Illustrative of this expansion is *Hague v. CIO*,²²¹ in which the Court, though splintered with regard to reasoning and rationale, struck down an ordinance which vested an uncontrolled discretion in a city official to permit or deny any group the opportunity to conduct a public assembly in a public place. Justice Roberts, in an opinion which Justice Black joined and with which Chief Justice Hughes concurred, found protection against state abridgment of the rights of assembly and petition in the privileges and immunities clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. “The privilege of a citizen of the United States to use the streets and parks for communication of views on national questions

its infringement of the right of every citizen to come to the seat of government and to transact any business he might have with it.

²¹⁷ 92 U.S. 542 (1876).

²¹⁸ Act of May 31, 1870, ch.114, 16 Stat. 141 (1870).

²¹⁹ *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542, 552–53 (1876).

²²⁰ *De Jonge v. Oregon*, 299 U.S. 353 (1937); *Hague v. CIO*, 307 U.S. 496 (1939); *Bridges v. California*, 314 U.S. 252 (1941); *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516 (1945).

²²¹ 307 U.S. 496 (1939).

may be regulated in the interest of all; it is not absolute, but relative, and must be exercised in subordination to the general comfort and convenience, and in consonance with peace and good order; but it must not, in the guise of regulation, be abridged or denied.”²²² Justices Stone and Reed invoked the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment for the result, thereby claiming the rights of assembly and petition for aliens as well as citizens. “I think respondents’ right to maintain it does not depend on their citizenship and cannot rightly be made to turn on the existence or non-existence of a purpose to disseminate information about the National Labor Relations Act. It is enough that petitioners have prevented respondents from holding meetings and disseminating information whether for the organization of labor unions or for any other lawful purpose.”²²³ This due process view of Justice Stone has carried the day over the privileges and immunities approach.

Later cases tend to merge the rights of assembly and petition into the speech and press clauses, and, indeed, all four rights may well be considered as elements of an inclusive right to freedom of expression. Certain conduct may call forth a denomination of petition²²⁴ or assembly,²²⁵ but there seems little question that no substantive issue turns upon whether one may be said to be engaged in speech or assembly or petition.

²²² *Id.* at 515. For another holding that the right to petition is not absolute, see *McDonald v. Smith*, 472 U.S. 479 (1985) (the fact that defamatory statements were made in the context of a petition to government does not provide absolute immunity from libel).

²²³ *Id.* at 525.

²²⁴ E.g., *United States v. Harriss*, 347 U.S. 612 (1954); *Eastern R.R. Presidents Conf. v. Noerr Motor Freight*, 365 U.S. 127 (1961).

²²⁵ E.g., *Coates v. City of Cincinnati*, 402 U.S. 611 (1971).

BEARING ARMS

SECOND AMENDMENT

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

In spite of extensive recent discussion and much legislative action with respect to regulation of the purchase, possession, and transportation of firearms, as well as proposals to substantially curtail ownership of firearms, there is no definitive resolution by the courts of just what right the Second Amendment protects. The opposing theories, perhaps oversimplified, are an “individual rights” thesis whereby individuals are protected in ownership, possession, and transportation, and a “states’ rights” thesis whereby it is said the purpose of the clause is to protect the States in their authority to maintain formal, organized militia units.¹ Whatever the Amendment may mean, it is a bar only to federal action, not extending to state² or private³ restraints. The Supreme Court has given effect to the dependent clause of the Amendment in the only case in which it has tested a congressional enactment against the constitutional prohibition, seeming to affirm individual protection but only in the context of the maintenance of a militia or other such public force.

In *United States v. Miller*,⁴ the Court sustained a statute requiring registration under the National Firearms Act of sawed-off

¹ A sampling of the diverse literature in which the same historical, linguistic, and case law background is the basis for strikingly different conclusions is: STAFF OF SUBCOM. ON THE CONSTITUTION, SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, 97TH CONGRESS, 2D SESS., THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS (Comm. Print 1982); DON B. KATES, HANDGUN PROHIBITION AND THE ORIGINAL MEANING OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT (1984); GUN CONTROL AND THE CONSTITUTION: SOURCES AND EXPLORATIONS ON THE SECOND AMENDMENT (Robert J. Cottrol, ed. 1993); STEPHEN P. HALBROOK, THAT EVERY MAN BE ARMED: THE EVOLUTION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT (1984); Symposium, *Gun Control*, 49 LAW & CONTEMP. PROBS. 1 (1986); Sanford Levinson, *The Embarrassing Second Amendment*, 99 YALE L.J. 637 (1989).

² *Presser v. Illinois*, 116 U.S. 252, 265 (1886). See also *Miller v. Texas*, 153 U.S. 535 (1894); *Robertson v. Baldwin*, 165 U.S. 275, 281–282 (1897). The non-application of the Second Amendment to the States is good law today. *Quilici v. Village of Morton Grove*, 695 F. 2d 261 (7th Cir. 1982), cert. denied, 464 U.S. 863 (1983).

³ *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542 (1875).

⁴ 307 U.S. 174 (1939). The defendants had been released on the basis of the trial court determination that prosecution would violate the Second Amendment and no briefs or other appearances were filed on their behalf; the Court acted on the basis of the Government’s representations.

shotguns. After reciting the original provisions of the Constitution dealing with the militia, the Court observed that “[w]ith obvious purpose to assure the continuation and render possible the effectiveness of such forces the declaration and guarantee of the Second Amendment were made. It must be interpreted with that end in view.”⁵ The significance of the militia, the Court continued, was that it was composed of “civilians primarily, soldiers on occasion.” It was upon this force that the States could rely for defense and securing of the laws, on a force that “comprised all males physically capable of acting in concert for the common defense,” who, “when called for service . . . were expected to appear bearing arms supplied by themselves and of the kind in common use at the time.”⁶ Therefore, “[i]n the absence of any evidence tending to show that possession or use of a ‘shotgun having a barrel of less than 18 inches in length’ at this time has some reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well-regulated militia, we cannot say that the Second Amendment guarantees the right to keep and bear such an instrument. Certainly it is not within judicial notice that this weapon is any part of the ordinary military equipment or that its use could contribute to the common defense.”⁷

Since this decision, Congress has placed greater limitations on the receipt, possession, and transportation of firearms,⁸ and proposals for national registration or prohibition of firearms altogether have been made.⁹ At what point regulation or prohibition of what classes of firearms would conflict with the Amendment, if at all, the *Miller* case does little more than cast a faint degree of illumination toward an answer.

⁵Id. at 178.

⁶Id. at 179.

⁷Id. at 178. In *Cases v. United States*, 131 F. 2d 916, 922 (1st Cir. 1942), cert. denied, 319 U.S. 770 (1943), the court, upholding a similar provision of the Federal Firearms Act, said: “Apparently, then, under the Second Amendment, the federal government can limit the keeping and bearing of arms by a single individual as well as by a group of individuals, but it cannot prohibit the possession or use of any weapon which has any reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well-regulated militia.” See *Lewis v. United States*, 445 U.S. 55, 65 n.8 (1980) (dictum: *Miller* holds that the “Second Amendment guarantees no right to keep and bear a firearm that does not have ‘some reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well regulated militia’”).

⁸Enacted measures include the Gun Control Act of 1968. 82 Stat. 226, 18 U.S.C. §§921–928. The Supreme Court’s dealings with these laws have all arisen in the context of prosecutions of persons purchasing or obtaining firearms in violation of a provisions against such conduct by convicted felons. *Lewis v. United States*, 445 U.S. 55 (1980); *Barrett v. United States*, 423 U.S. 212 (1976); *Scarborough v. United States*, 431 U.S. 563 (1977); *United States v. Bass*, 404 U.S. 336 (1971).

⁹E.g., NATIONAL COMMISSION ON REFORM OF FEDERAL CRIMINAL LAWS, WORKING PAPERS 1031–1058 (1970), and FINAL REPORT 246–247 (1971).

QUARTERING SOLDIERS

THIRD AMENDMENT

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

There has been no Supreme Court explication of this Amendment, which was obviously one guarantee of the preference for the civilian over the military.¹

¹In fact, save for the curious case of *Engblom v. Carey*, 677 F. 2d 957 (2d Cir. 1982), on remand, 572 F. Supp. 44 (S.D.N.Y.), aff'd. per curiam, 724 F.2d 28 (2d Cir. 1983), there has been no judicial explication at all.

FOURTH AMENDMENT

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

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SEARCH AND SEIZURE

FOURTH AMENDMENT

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

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

History and Scope of the Amendment

History.—Few provisions of the Bill of Rights grew so directly out of the experience of the colonials as the Fourth Amendment, embodying as it did the protection against the utilization of the “writs of assistance.” But while the insistence on freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures as a fundamental right gained expression in the Colonies late and as a result of experience,¹ there was also a rich English experience to draw on. “Every man’s house is his castle” was a maxim much celebrated in England, as was demonstrated in *Semayne’s Case*, decided in 1603.² A civil case of execution of process, *Semayne’s Case* nonetheless recognized the right of the homeowner to defend his house against unlawful entry even by the King’s agents, but at the same time recognized the authority of the appropriate officers to break and enter upon notice in order to arrest or to execute the King’s process. Most famous of the English cases was *Entick v. Carrington*,³ one of a series of civil actions against state officers who, pursuant to general warrants, had raided many homes and other places in search of materials

¹ Apparently the first statement of freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures appeared in *The Rights of the Colonists and a List of Infringements and Violations of Rights*, 1772, in the drafting of which Samuel Adams took the lead. 1 B. SCHWARTZ, *THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY* 199, 205–06 (1971).

² 5 Coke’s Rep. 91a, 77 Eng. Rep. 194 (K.B. 1604). One of the most forceful expressions of the maxim was that of William Pitt in Parliament in 1763: “The poorest man may in his cottage bid defiance to all the force of the crown. It may be frail—its roof may shake—the wind may blow through it—the storm may enter, the rain may enter—but the King of England cannot enter—all his force dares not cross the threshold of the ruined tenement.”

³ 19 Howell’s State Trials 1029, 95 Eng. 807 (1705).

connected with John Wilkes' polemical pamphlets attacking not only governmental policies but the King himself.⁴

Entick, an associate of Wilkes, sued because agents had forcibly broken into his house, broken into locked desks and boxes, and seized many printed charts, pamphlets and the like. In an opinion sweeping in terms, the court declared the warrant and the behavior it authorized subversive "of all the comforts of society," and the issuance of a warrant for the seizure of all of a person's papers rather than only those alleged to be criminal in nature "contrary to the genius of the law of England."⁵ Besides its general character, said the court, the warrant was bad because it was not issued on a showing of probable cause and no record was required to be made of what had been seized. *Entick v. Carrington*, the Supreme Court has said, is a "great judgment," "one of the landmarks of English liberty," "one of the permanent monuments of the British Constitution," and a guide to an understanding of what the Framers meant in writing the Fourth Amendment.⁶

In the colonies, smuggling rather than seditious libel afforded the leading examples of the necessity for protection against unreasonable searches and seizures. In order to enforce the revenue laws, English authorities made use of writs of assistance, which were general warrants authorizing the bearer to enter any house or other place to search for and seize "prohibited and uncustomed" goods, and commanding all subjects to assist in these endeavors. The writs once issued remained in force throughout the lifetime of the sovereign and six months thereafter. When, upon the death of George II in 1760, the authorities were required to obtain the issuance of new writs, opposition was led by James Otis, who attacked such writs on libertarian grounds and who asserted the invalidity of the authorizing statutes because they conflicted with English constitutionalism.⁷ Otis lost and the writs were issued and utilized, but his arguments were much cited in the colonies not only on the immediate subject but also with regard to judicial review.

Scope of the Amendment.—The language of the provision which became the Fourth Amendment underwent some modest

⁴ See also *Wilkes v. Wood*, 98 Eng. 489 (C.P. 1763); *Huckle v. Money*, 95 Eng. Rep. 768 (K.B. 1763), *aff'd* 19 Howell's State Trials 1002, 1028; 97 Eng. Rep. 1075 (K.B. 1765).

⁵ 5 Eng. Rep. 817, 818.

⁶ *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616, 626 (1886).

⁷ The arguments of Otis and others as well as much background material are contained in Quincy's MASSACHUSETTS REPORTS, 1761-1772, App. I, pp. 395-540, and in 2 LEGAL PAPERS OF JOHN ADAMS 106-47 (Wroth & Zobel eds., 1965). See also Dickerson, *Writs of Assistance as a Cause of the American Revolution*, in THE ERA OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: STUDIES INSCRIBED TO EVARTS BOUTELL GREENE 40 (R. Morris, ed., 1939).

changes on its passage through the Congress, and it is possible that the changes reflected more than a modest significance in the interpretation of the relationship of the two clauses. Madison's introduced version provided "The rights to be secured in their persons, their houses, their papers, and their other property, from all unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated by warrants issued without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, or not particularly describing the places to be searched, or the persons or things to be seized."⁸ As reported from committee, with an inadvertent omission corrected on the floor,⁹ the section was almost identical to the introduced version, and the House defeated a motion to substitute "and no warrant shall issue" for "by warrants issuing" in the committee draft. In some fashion, the rejected amendment was inserted in the language before passage by the House and is the language of the ratified constitutional provision.¹⁰

As noted above, the noteworthy disputes over search and seizure in England and the colonies revolved about the character of warrants. There were, however, lawful warrantless searches, primarily searches incident to arrest, and these apparently gave rise to no disputes. Thus, the question arises whether the Fourth Amendment's two clauses must be read together to mean that the only searches and seizures which are "reasonable" are those which meet the requirements of the second clause, that is, are pursuant to warrants issued under the prescribed safeguards, or whether the two clauses are independent, so that searches under warrant must comply with the second clause but that there are "reasonable" searches under the first clause which need not comply with the second clause.¹¹ This issue has divided the Court for some time, has

⁸ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 434-35 (June 8, 1789).

⁹ The word "secured" was changed to "secure" and the phrase "against unreasonable searches and seizures" was reinstated. *Id.* at 754 (August 17, 1789).

¹⁰ *Id.* It has been theorized that the author of the defeated revision, who was chairman of the committee appointed to arrange the amendments prior to House passage, simply inserted his provision and that it passed unnoticed. N. LASSON, *THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION* 101-03 (1937).

¹¹ The amendment was originally in one clause as quoted above; it was the insertion of the defeated amendment to the language which changed the text into two clauses and arguably had the effect of extending the protection against unreasonable searches and seizures beyond the requirements imposed on the issuance of warrants. It is also possible to read the two clauses together to mean that some seizures even under warrants would be unreasonable, and this reading has indeed been effectuated in certain cases, although for independent reasons. *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616 (1886); *Gouled v. United States*, 255 U.S. 298 (1921), overruled by *Warden v. Hayden*, 387 U.S. 294 (1967); *but see id.* at 303 (reserving the question whether "there are items of evidential value whose very nature precludes them from being the object of a reasonable search and seizure.")

seen several reversals of precedents, and is important for the resolution of many cases. It is a dispute which has run most consistently throughout the cases involving the scope of the right to search incident to arrest.¹² While the right to search the person of the arrestee without a warrant is unquestioned, how far afield into areas within and without the control of the arrestee a search may range is an interesting and crucial matter.

The Court has drawn a wavering line.¹³ In *Harris v. United States*,¹⁴ it approved as “reasonable” the warrantless search of a four-room apartment pursuant to the arrest of the man found there. A year later, however, a reconstituted Court majority set aside a conviction based on evidence seized by a warrantless search pursuant to an arrest and adopted the “cardinal rule that, in seizing goods and articles, law enforcement agents must secure and use search warrants wherever reasonably practicable.”¹⁵ This rule was set aside two years later by another reconstituted majority which adopted the premise that the test “is not whether it is reasonable to procure a search warrant, but whether the search was reasonable.” Whether a search is reasonable, the Court said, “must find resolution in the facts and circumstances of each case.”¹⁶ However, the Court soon returned to its emphasis upon the warrant. “The [Fourth] Amendment was in large part a reaction to the general warrants and warrantless searches that had so alienated the colonists and had helped speed the movement for independence. In the scheme of the Amendment, therefore, the requirement that ‘no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause,’ plays a crucial part.”¹⁷ Therefore, “the police must, whenever practicable, obtain advance judicial approval of searches and seizures through a warrant procedure.”¹⁸ Exceptions to searches under warrants were to

¹² Approval of warrantless searches pursuant to arrest first appeared in dicta in several cases. *Weeks v. United States*, 232 U.S. 383, 392 (1914); *Carroll v. United States*, 267 U.S. 132, 158 (1925); *Agnello v. United States*, 269 U.S. 20, 30 (1925). Whether or not there is to be a rule or a principle generally preferring or requiring searches pursuant to warrant to warrantless searches, however, has ramifications far beyond the issue of searches pursuant to arrest. *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297, 320 (1972).

¹³ Compare *Marron v. United States*, 275 U.S. 192 (1927), with *Go-Bart Importing Co. v. United States*, 282 U.S. 344 (1931), and *United States v. Lefkowitz*, 285 U.S. 452 (1932).

¹⁴ 331 U.S. 145 (1947).

¹⁵ *Trupiano v. United States*, 334 U.S. 699, 705 (1948). See also *McDonald v. United States*, 335 U.S. 451 (1948).

¹⁶ *United States v. Rabinowitz*, 339 U.S. 56, 66 (1950).

¹⁷ *Chimel v. California*, 395 U.S. 752, 761 (1969).

¹⁸ *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 20 (1968). In *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297, 321 (1972), Justice Powell explained that the “very heart” of the Amendment’s mandate is “that where practical, a governmental search and seizure should represent both the efforts of the officer to gather evidence of wrongful

be closely contained by the rationale undergirding the necessity for the exception, and the scope of a search under one of the exceptions was similarly limited.¹⁹

During the 1970s the Court was closely divided on which standard to apply.²⁰ For a while, the balance tipped in favor of the view that warrantless searches are per se unreasonable, with a few carefully prescribed exceptions.²¹ Gradually, guided by the variable expectation of privacy approach to coverage of the Fourth Amendment, the Court broadened its view of permissible exceptions and of the scope of those exceptions.²²

By 1992, it was no longer the case that the “warrants-with-narrow-exceptions” standard normally prevails over a “reasonableness” approach.²³ Exceptions to the warrant requirement have

acts and the judgment of the magistrate that the collected evidence is sufficient to justify invasion of a citizen's private premises or conversation.” Thus, what is “reasonable” in terms of a search and seizure derives content and meaning through reference to the warrant clause. *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 473–84 (1971). *See also* *Davis v. Mississippi*, 394 U.S. 721, 728 (1969); *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 356–58 (1967); *Warden v. Hayden*, 387 U.S. 294, 299 (1967).¹⁹ *Chimel v. California*, 395 U.S. 752, 762–64 (1969) (limiting scope of search incident to arrest). *See also* *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297 (1972) (rejecting argument that it was “reasonable” to allow President through Attorney General to authorize warrantless electronic surveillance of persons thought to be endangering the national security); *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347 (1967) (although officers acted with great self-restraint and reasonably in engaging in electronic seizures of conversations from telephone booth, self-imposition was not enough and magistrate's judgment required); *Preston v. United States*, 376 U.S. 364 (1964) (warrantless search of seized automobile not justified because not within rationale of exceptions to warrant clause). There were exceptions, e.g., *Cooper v. California*, 386 U.S. 58 (1967) (warrantless search of impounded car was reasonable); *United States v. Harris*, 390 U.S. 234 (1968) (warrantless inventory search of automobile).

²⁰ *See, e.g., Almeida-Sanchez v. United States*, 413 U.S. 266 (1973), Justices Stewart, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall adhered to the warrant-based rule, while Justices White, Blackmun, and Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger placed greater emphasis upon the question of reasonableness without necessary regard to the warrant requirement. *Id.* at 285. Justice Powell generally agreed with the former group of Justices, *id.* at 275 (concurring).

²¹ *E.g., G.M. Leasing Corp. v. United States*, 429 U.S. 338, 352–53 (1977) (unanimous); *Marshall v. Barlow's, Inc.*, 436 U.S. 307, 312 (1978); *Michigan v. Tyler*, 436 U.S. 499, 506 (1978); *Mincey v. Arizona*, 437 U.S. 385, 390 (1978) (unanimous); *Arkansas v. Sanders*, 442 U.S. 743, 758 (1979); *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798, 824–25 (1982).

²² *E.g., Chambers v. Maroney*, 399 U.S. 42 (1970) (warrantless search of automobile taken to police station); *Texas v. White*, 423 U.S. 67 (1975) (same); *New York v. Belton*, 453 U.S. 454 (1981) (search incident to arrest); *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798 (1982) (automobile search at scene). On the other hand, the warrant-based standard did preclude a number of warrantless searches. *E.g., Almeida-Sanchez v. United States*, 413 U.S. 266 (1973) (warrantless stop and search of auto by roving patrol near border); *Marshall v. Barlow's, Inc.*, 436 U.S. 307 (1978) (warrantless administrative inspection of business premises); *Mincey v. Arizona*, 437 U.S. 385 (1978) (warrantless search of home that was “homicide scene”).

²³ Of the 1992 Justices, only Justice Stevens has frequently sided with the warrants-with-narrow-exceptions approach. *See, e.g., Illinois v. Rodriguez*, 497 U.S. 177,

multiplied, tending to confine application of the requirement to cases that are exclusively “criminal” in nature. And even within that core area of “criminal” cases, some exceptions have been broadened. The most important category of exception is that of administrative searches justified by “special needs beyond the normal need for law enforcement.” Under this general rubric the Court has upheld warrantless searches by administrative authorities in public schools, government offices, and prisons, and has upheld drug testing of public and transportation employees.²⁴ In all of these instances the warrant and probable cause requirements are dispensed with in favor of a reasonableness standard that balances the government’s regulatory interest against the individual’s privacy interest; in all of these instances the government’s interest has been found to outweigh the individual’s. The broad scope of the administrative search exception is evidenced by the fact that an overlap between law enforcement objectives and administrative “special needs” does not result in application of the warrant requirement; instead, the Court has upheld warrantless inspection of automobile junkyards and dismantling operations in spite of the strong law enforcement component of the regulation.²⁵ In the law enforcement context, where search by warrant is still the general rule, there has also been some loosening of the requirement. For example, the Court has shifted focus from whether exigent circumstances justified failure to obtain a warrant, to whether an officer had a “reasonable” belief that an exception to the warrant requirement applied;²⁶ in another case the scope of a valid search “incident to arrest,” once limited to areas within the immediate reach of the arrested suspect, was expanded to a “protective sweep” of the entire home if arresting officers have a reasonable belief that the home harbors an individual who may pose a danger.²⁷

Another matter of scope recently addressed by the Court is the category of persons protected by the Fourth Amendment—who constitutes “the people.” This phrase, the Court determined, “refers to a class of persons who are part of a national community or who have otherwise developed sufficient connection with [the United States] to be considered part of that community.”²⁸ The Fourth Amendment therefore does not apply to the search and seizure by

189 (Justice Stevens joining Justice Marshall’s dissent); *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325, 370 (1985) (Justice Stevens dissenting); *California v. Acevedo*, 500 U.S. 565, 585 (1991) (Justice Stevens dissenting).

²⁴ See various headings *infra* under the general heading “Valid Searches and Seizures Without Warrants.”

²⁵ *New York v. Burger*, 482 U.S. 691 (1987).

²⁶ *Illinois v. Rodriguez*, 497 U.S. 177 (1990).

²⁷ *Maryland v. Buie*, 494 U.S. 325 (1990).

²⁸ *United States v. Verdugo-Urquidez*, 494 U.S. 259, 265 (1990).

United States agents of property that is owned by a nonresident alien and located in a foreign country. The community of protected people includes U.S. citizens who go abroad, and aliens who have voluntarily entered U.S. territory and developed substantial connections with this country. There is no resulting broad principle, however, that the Fourth Amendment constrains federal officials wherever and against whomever they act.

The Interest Protected.—For the Fourth Amendment to be applicable to a particular set of facts, there must be a “search” and a “seizure,” occurring typically in a criminal case, with a subsequent attempt to use judicially what was seized. Whether there was a search and seizure within the meaning of the Amendment, whether a complainant’s interests were constitutionally infringed, will often turn upon consideration of his interest and whether it was officially abused. What does the Amendment protect? Under the common law, there was no doubt. Said Lord Camden in *Entick v. Carrington*:²⁹ “The great end for which men entered in society was to secure their property. That right is preserved sacred and incommunicable in all instances where it has not been taken away or abridged by some public law for the good of the whole. . . . By the laws of England, every invasion of private property, be it ever so minute, is a trespass. No man can set foot upon my ground without my license but he is liable to an action though the damage be nothing” Protection of property interests as the basis of the Fourth Amendment found easy acceptance in the Supreme Court³⁰ and that acceptance controlled decision in numerous cases.³¹ For example, in *Olmstead v. United States*,³² one of the two premises underlying the holding that wiretapping was not covered by the Amendment was that there had been no actual physical invasion of the defendant’s premises; where there had been an invasion, a technical trespass, electronic surveillance was deemed subject to

²⁹ 19 Howell’s State Trials 1029, 1035, 95 Eng. Reg. 807, 817–18 (1765).

³⁰ *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616, 627 (1886); *Adams v. New York*, 192 U.S. 585, 598 (1904).

³¹ Thus, the rule that “mere evidence” could not be seized but rather only the fruits of crime, its instrumentalities, or contraband, turned upon the question of the right of the public to possess the materials or the police power to make possession by the possessor unlawful. *Gouled v. United States*, 255 U.S. 298 (1921), overruled by *Warden v. Hayden*, 387 U.S. 294 (1967). See also *Davis v. United States*, 328 U.S. 582 (1946). Standing to contest unlawful searches and seizures was based upon property interests, *United States v. Jeffers*, 342 U.S. 48 (1951); *Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257 (1960), as well as decision upon the validity of a consent to search. *Chapman v. United States*, 365 U.S. 610 (1961); *Stoner v. California*, 376 U.S. 483 (1964); *Frazier v. Culp*, 394 U.S. 731, 740 (1969).

³² 277 U.S. 438 (1928). See also *Goldman v. United States*, 316 U.S. 129 (1942) (detectaphone placed against wall of adjoining room; no search and seizure).

Fourth Amendment restrictions.³³ The Court later rejected this approach, however. “The premise that property interests control the right of the Government to search and seize has been discredited. . . . We have recognized that the principal object of the Fourth Amendment is the protection of privacy rather than property, and have increasingly discarded fictional and procedural barriers rested on property concepts.”³⁴ Thus, because the Amendment “protects people, not places,” the requirement of actual physical trespass is dispensed with and electronic surveillance was made subject to the Amendment’s requirements.³⁵

The test propounded in *Katz* is whether there is an expectation of privacy upon which one may “justifiably” rely.³⁶ “What a person knowingly exposes to the public, even in his own home or office, is not a subject of Fourth Amendment protection. But what he seeks to preserve as private, even in an area accessible to the public, may be constitutionally protected.”³⁷ That is, the “capacity to claim the protection of the Amendment depends not upon a property right in the invaded place but upon whether the area was one in which there was reasonable expectation of freedom from governmental intrusion.”³⁸

The two-part test that Justice Harlan suggested in *Katz*³⁹ has purported to guide the Court in its deliberations, but its consequences are unclear. On the one hand, there is no difference in result between many of the old cases premised on property concepts and more recent cases in which the reasonable expectation of

³³ *Silverman v. United States*, 365 U.S. 505 (1961) (spike mike pushed through a party wall until it hit a heating duct).

³⁴ *Warden v. Hayden*, 387 U.S. 294, 304 (1967).

³⁵ *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 353 (1967). *But see California v. Hodari D.*, 499 U.S. 621, 626 (1991) (Fourth Amendment “seizure” of the person is the same as a common law arrest; there must be either application of physical force or submission to the assertion of authority).

³⁶ 389 U.S. at 353. Justice Harlan, concurring, formulated a two pronged test for determining whether the privacy interest is paramount: “first that a person have exhibited an actual (subjective) expectation of privacy and, second, that the expectation be one that society is prepared to recognize as ‘reasonable.’” *Id.* at 361.

³⁷ *Id.* at 351–52.

³⁸ *Mancusi v. DeForte*, 392 U.S. 364, 368 (1968) (official had a reasonable expectation of privacy in an office he shared with others, although he owned neither the premises nor the papers seized). *Minnesota v. Olson*, 495 U.S. 91 (1990) (overnight guest in home has a reasonable expectation of privacy). *Cf. Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128 (1978).

³⁹ Justice Harlan’s opinion has been much relied upon. E.g., *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 19 (1968); *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128, 143–144 n.12 (1978); *Smith v. Maryland*, 442 U.S. 735, 740–41 (1979); *United States v. Salvucci*, 448 U.S. 83, 91–92 (1980); *Rawlings v. Kentucky*, 448 U.S. 98, 105–06 (1980).

privacy flows from ownership concepts.⁴⁰ On the other hand, many other cases have presented close questions that have sharply divided the Court.⁴¹ The first element, the “subjective expectation” of privacy, has largely dwindled as a viable standard, because, as Justice Harlan noted in a subsequent case, “our expectations, and the risks we assume, are in large part reflections of laws that translate into rules the customs and values of the past and present.”⁴² As for the second element, whether one has a “legitimate” expectation of privacy that society finds “reasonable” to recognize, the Court has said that “[l]egitimation of expectations of privacy by law must have a source outside of the Fourth Amendment, either by reference to concepts of real or personal property law or to understandings that are recognized and permitted by society.”⁴³ Thus, protection of the home is at the apex of Fourth Amendment coverage because of the right associated with ownership to exclude others;⁴⁴ but ownership of other things, i.e., automobiles, does not carry a similar high degree of protection.⁴⁵ That a person has taken normal precautions to maintain his privacy, that is, precautions customarily taken by those seeking to exclude others, is usually a significant factor in determining legitimacy of expectation.⁴⁶ Some expectations, the Court has held, are simply not those which society is prepared to accept.⁴⁷ While perhaps not

⁴⁰ E.g., *Alderman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 165 (1969) (home owner could object to electronic surveillance of conversations emanating from his home, even though he was not party to the conversations).

⁴¹ E.g., *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128 (1978) (4–1–4 decision: passengers in automobile who own neither the car nor the property seized had no legitimate expectation of privacy in areas searched).

⁴² *United States v. White*, 401 U.S. 745, 786 (1971). See *Smith v. Maryland*, 442 U.S. 735, 740 n.5 (1979) (government could not condition “subjective expectations” by, say, announcing that henceforth all homes would be subject to warrantless entry, and thus destroy the “legitimate expectation of privacy”).

⁴³ *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128, 144 n.12 (1978).

⁴⁴ E.g., *Alderman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 165 (1969); *Mincey v. Arizona*, 437 U.S. 385 (1978); *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573 (1980).

⁴⁵ E.g., *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798 (1982). See also *Donovan v. Dewey*, 452 U.S. 594 (1981) (commercial premises); *Maryland v. Macon*, 472 U.S. 463 (1985) (no legitimate expectation of privacy in denying to undercover officers allegedly obscene materials offered to public in bookstore).

⁴⁶ E.g., *United States v. Chadwick*, 433 U.S. 1, 11 (1977); *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 352 (1967). *But cf.* *South Dakota v. Opperman*, 428 U.S. 364 (1976) (no legitimate expectation of privacy in automobile left with doors locked and windows rolled up). In *Rawlings v. Kentucky*, 448 U.S. 98 (1980), the fact that defendant had dumped a cache of drugs into his companion’s purse, having known her for only a few days and knowing others had access to the purse, was taken to establish that he had no legitimate expectation the purse would be free from intrusion.

⁴⁷ E.g., *United States v. Miller*, 425 U.S. 435 (1976) (bank records); *Smith v. Maryland*, 442 U.S. 735 (1979) (numbers dialed from one’s telephone); *Hudson v. Palmer*, 468 U.S. 517 (1984) (prison cell); *Illinois v. Andreas*, 463 U.S. 765 (1983) (shipping container opened and inspected by customs agents and resealed and deliv-

clearly expressed in the opinions, what seems to have emerged is a balancing standard, which requires “an assessing of the nature of a particular practice and the likely extent of its impact on the individual’s sense of security balanced against the utility of the conduct as a technique of law enforcement.” As the intrusions grow more extensive and significantly jeopardize the sense of security of the individual, greater restraint of police officers through the warrant requirement may be deemed necessary.⁴⁸ On the other hand, the Court’s solicitude for law enforcement objectives may tilt the balance in the other direction.

Application of this balancing test, because of the Court’s weighing in of law enforcement investigative needs⁴⁹ and the Court’s subjective evaluation of privacy needs, has led to the creation of a two-tier or sliding-tier scale of privacy interests. The privacy test was originally designed to permit a determination that a Fourth Amendment protected interest had been invaded.⁵⁰ If it had been, then ordinarily a warrant was required, subject only to the narrowly defined exceptions, and the scope of the search under those exceptions was “strictly tied to and justified by the circumstances which rendered its initiation permissible.”⁵¹ But the Court now uses the test to determine whether the interest invaded is important or persuasive enough so that a warrant is required to justify it;⁵² if the individual has a lesser expectation of privacy, then the invasion may be justified, absent a warrant, by the reasonableness of the intrusion.⁵³ Exceptions to the warrant requirement are no

ered to the addressee); *California v. Greenwood*, 486 U.S. 35 (1988) (garbage in sealed plastic bags left at curb for collection).

⁴⁸ *United States v. White*, 401 U.S. 745, 786–87 (1971) (Justice Harlan dissenting).

⁴⁹ E.g., *Robbins v. California*, 453 U.S. 420, 429, 433–34 (1981) (Justice Powell concurring), quoted approvingly in *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798, 815–16 & n.21 (1982).

⁵⁰ *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 351–52 (1967).

⁵¹ *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 19 (1968).

⁵² The prime example is the home, so that for entries either to search or to arrest, “the Fourth Amendment has drawn a firm line at the entrance to the house. Absent exigent circumstances, that threshold may not reasonably be crossed without a warrant.” *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573, 590 (1980); *Steagald v. United States*, 451 U.S. 204, 212 (1981). And see *Mincey v. Arizona*, 437 U.S. 385 (1978).

⁵³ One has a diminished expectation of privacy in automobiles. *Arkansas v. Sanders*, 442 U.S. 753, 761 (1979) (collecting cases); *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798, 804–09 (1982). A person’s expectation of privacy in personal luggage and other closed containers is substantially greater than in an automobile, *United States v. Chadwick*, 433 U.S. 1, 13 (1977); *Arkansas v. Sanders*, 442 U.S. 753 (1979), although if the luggage or container is found in an automobile as to which there exists probable cause to search, the legitimate expectancy diminishes accordingly. *United States v. Ross*, *supra*. There is also a diminished expectation of privacy in a mobile home parked in a parking lot and licensed for vehicular travel. *California v. Carney*, 471 U.S. 386 (1985) (leaving open the question of whether the automobile exception

longer evaluated solely by the justifications for the exception, e.g., exigent circumstances, and the scope of the search is no longer tied to and limited by the justification for the exception.⁵⁴ The result has been a considerable expansion, beyond what existed prior to *Katz*, of the power of police and other authorities to conduct searches.

Arrests and Other Detentions.—That the Fourth Amendment was intended to protect against arbitrary arrests as well as against unreasonable searches was early assumed by Chief Justice Marshall⁵⁵ and is now established law.⁵⁶ At the common law, it was proper to arrest one who had committed a breach of the peace or a felony without a warrant,⁵⁷ and this history is reflected in the fact that the Fourth Amendment is satisfied if the arrest is made in a public place on probable cause, regardless of whether a warrant has been obtained.⁵⁸ However, in order to effectuate an arrest in the home, absent consent or exigent circumstances, police officers must have a warrant.⁵⁹ The Fourth Amendment applies to “seizures” and it is not necessary that a detention be a formal arrest in order to bring to bear the requirements of warrants or probable cause in instances in which warrants may be forgone.⁶⁰ Some

also applies to a “mobile” home being used as a residence and not adapted for immediate vehicular use).

⁵⁴ E.g., *Texas v. White*, 423 U.S. 67 (1975) (if probable cause to search automobile existed at scene, it can be removed to station and searched without warrant); *United States v. Robinson*, 414 U.S. 218 (1973) (once an arrest has been validly made, search pursuant thereto is so minimally intrusive in addition that scope of search is not limited by necessity of security of officer); *United States v. Edwards*, 415 U.S. 800 (1974) (incarcerated suspect; officers need no warrant to take his clothes for test because little additional intrusion). *But see Ybarra v. Illinois*, 444 U.S. 85 (1979) (officers on premises to execute search warrant of premises may not without more search persons found on premises).

⁵⁵ *Ex parte Burford*, 7 U.S. (3 Cr.) 448 (1806).

⁵⁶ *Giordenello v. United States*, 357 U.S. 480, 485–86 (1958); *United States v. Watson*, 423 U.S. 411, 416–18 (1976); *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573, 583–86 (1980); *Steagald v. United States*, 451 U.S. 204, 211–13 (1981).

⁵⁷ I. J. STEPHEN, *A HISTORY OF THE CRIMINAL LAW OF ENGLAND* 193 (1883).

⁵⁸ *United States v. Watson*, 423 U.S. 411 (1976). *See also United States v. Santana*, 427 U.S. 38 (1976) (sustaining warrantless arrest of suspect in her home when she was initially approached in her doorway and then retreated into house). However, a suspect arrested on probable cause but without a warrant is entitled to a prompt, nonadversary hearing before a magistrate under procedures designed to provide a fair and reliable determination of probable cause in order to keep the arrestee in custody. *Gerstein v. Pugh*, 420 U.S. 103 (1975).

⁵⁹ *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573 (1980) (voiding state law authorizing police to enter private residence without a warrant to make an arrest); *Steagald v. United States*, 451 U.S. 204 (1981) (officers with arrest warrant for A entered B’s home without search warrant and discovered incriminating evidence; violated Fourth Amendment in absence of warrant to search the home); *Hayes v. Florida*, 470 U.S. 811 (1985) (officers went to suspect’s home and took him to police station for fingerprinting).

⁶⁰ *United States v. Mendenhall*, 446 U.S. 544, 554 (1980) (opinion of Justice Stewart) (“[A] person has been ‘seized’ within the meaning of the Fourth Amend-

objective justification must be shown to validate all seizures of the person, including seizures that involve only a brief detention short of arrest, although the nature of the detention will determine whether probable cause or some reasonable and articulable suspicion is necessary.⁶¹

Until relatively recently, the legality of arrests was seldom litigated in the Supreme Court because of the rule that a person detained pursuant to an arbitrary seizure—unlike evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful search—remains subject to custody and presentation to court.⁶² But the application of self-incrimination and other exclusionary rules to the States and the heightening of their scope in state and federal cases alike brought forth the rule that verbal evidence, confessions, and other admissions, like all derivative evidence obtained as a result of unlawful seizures, could be excluded.⁶³ Thus, a confession made by one illegally in custody must be suppressed, unless the causal connection between the illegal arrest and the confession had become so attenuated that the latter should not be deemed “tainted” by the former.⁶⁴ Similarly, fingerprints and other physical evidence obtained as a result of an unlawful arrest must be suppressed.⁶⁵

ment only if, in view of all the circumstances surrounding the incident, a reasonable person would have believed that he was not free to leave”). See also *Reid v. Georgia*, 448 U.S. 438 (1980); *United States v. Brignoni-Ponce*, 422 U.S. 873, 878 (1975); *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 16–19 (1968). Apprehension by the use of deadly force is a seizure subject to the Fourth Amendment’s reasonableness requirement. See, e.g., *Tennessee v. Garner*, 471 U.S. 1 (1985) (police officer’s fatal shooting of a fleeing suspect); *Brower v. County of Inyo*, 489 U.S. 593 (1989) (police roadblock designed to end car chase with fatal crash).

⁶¹ *Adams v. Williams*, 407 U.S. 143, 146–49 (1972); *Delaware v. Prouse*, 440 U.S. 648, 661 (1979); *Brown v. Texas*, 443 U.S. 47, 51 (1979); *Reid v. Georgia*, 448 U.S. 438, 440 (1980); *Michigan v. Summers*, 452 U.S. 692 (1981).

⁶² *Ker v. Illinois*, 119 U.S. 436, 440 (1886); see also *Albrecht v. United States*, 273 U.S. 1 (1927); *Frisbie v. Collins*, 342 U.S. 519 (1952).

⁶³ *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471 (1963). Such evidence is the “fruit of the poisonous tree,” *Nardone v. United States*, 308 U.S. 338, 341 (1939), that is, evidence derived from the original illegality. Previously, if confessions were voluntary for purposes of the self-incrimination clause, they were admissible notwithstanding any prior official illegality. *Colombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568 (1961).

⁶⁴ Although there is a presumption that the illegal arrest is the cause of the subsequent confession, the presumption is rebuttable by a showing that the confession is the result of “an intervening . . . act of free will.” *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471, 486 (1963). The factors used to determine whether the taint has been dissipated are the time between the illegal arrest and the confession, whether there were intervening circumstances (such as consultation with others, *Miranda* warnings, etc.), and the degree of flagrancy and purposefulness of the official conduct. *Brown v. Illinois*, 422 U.S. 590 (1975) (*Miranda* warnings alone insufficient); *Dunaway v. New York*, 442 U.S. 200 (1979); *Taylor v. Alabama*, 457 U.S. 687 (1982). In *Johnson v. Louisiana*, 406 U.S. 356 (1972), the fact that the suspect had been taken before a magistrate who advised him of his rights and set bail, after which he confessed, established a sufficient intervening circumstance.

⁶⁵ *Davis v. Mississippi*, 394 U.S. 721 (1969); *Taylor v. Alabama*, 457 U.S. 687 (1982). In *United States v. Crews*, 445 U.S. 463 (1980), the Court, unanimously but

Searches and Inspections in Noncriminal Cases.—Certain early cases held that the Fourth Amendment was applicable only when a search was undertaken for criminal investigatory purposes,⁶⁶ and the Supreme Court until recently employed a reasonableness test for such searches without requiring either a warrant or probable cause in the absence of a warrant.⁶⁷ But in 1967, the Court held in two cases that administrative inspections to detect building code violations must be undertaken pursuant to warrant if the occupant objects.⁶⁸ “We may agree that a routine inspection of the physical condition of private property is a less hostile intrusion than the typical policeman’s search for the fruits and instrumentalities of crime. . . . But we cannot agree that the Fourth Amendment interests at stake in these inspection cases are merely ‘peripheral.’ It is surely anomalous to say that the individual and his private property are fully protected by the Fourth Amendment only when the individual is suspected of criminal behavior.”⁶⁹ Certain administrative inspections utilized to enforce regulatory schemes with regard to such items as alcohol and firearms are, however, exempt from the Fourth Amendment warrant requirement and may be authorized simply by statute.⁷⁰

Camara and *See* were reaffirmed in *Marshall v. Barlow’s, Inc.*,⁷¹ in which the Court held violative of the Fourth Amendment a provision of the Occupational Safety and Health Act which authorized federal inspectors to search the work area of any employment facility covered by the Act for safety hazards and violations of regulations, without a warrant or other legal process. The liquor

for a variety of reasons, held proper the identification in court of a defendant, who had been wrongly arrested without probable cause, by the crime victim. The court identification was not tainted by either the arrest or the subsequent in-custody identification. See also *Hayes v. Florida*, 470 U.S. 811, 815 (1985), suggesting in dictum that a “narrowly circumscribed procedure for fingerprinting detentions on less than probable cause” may be permissible.

⁶⁶In re *Strouse*, 23 Fed. Cas. 261 (No. 13,548) (D. Nev. 1871); In re *Meador*, 16 Fed. Cas. 1294, 1299 (No. 9375) (N.D. Ga. 1869).

⁶⁷*Abel v. United States*, 362 U.S. 217 (1960); *Frank v. Maryland*, 359 U.S. 360 (1959); *Oklahoma Press Pub. Co. v. Walling*, 327 U.S. 186 (1946).

⁶⁸*Camara v. Municipal Court*, 387 U.S. 523 (1967) (home); *See v. City of Seattle*, 387 U.S. 541 (1967) (commercial warehouse).

⁶⁹*Camara v. Municipal Court*, 387 U.S. 523, 530 (1967).

⁷⁰*Colonnade Catering Corp. v. United States*, 397 U.S. 72 (1970); *United States v. Biswell*, 406 U.S. 311 (1972). *Colonnade*, involving liquor, was based on the long history of close supervision of the industry. *Biswell*, involving firearms, introduced factors that were subsequently to prove significant. Thus, while the statute was of recent enactment, firearms constituted a pervasively regulated industry, so that dealers had no reasonable expectation of privacy, inasmuch as the law provides for regular inspections. Further, warrantless inspections were needed for effective enforcement of the statute.

⁷¹436 U.S. 307 (1978). Dissenting, Justice Stevens, with Justices Rehnquist and Blackmun, argued that not the warrant clause but the reasonableness clause should govern administrative inspections. *Id.* at 325.

and firearms exceptions were distinguished on the basis that those industries had a long tradition of close government supervision, so that a person in those businesses gave up his privacy expectations. But OSHA was a relatively recent statute and it regulated practically every business in or affecting interstate commerce; it was not open to a legislature to extend regulation and then follow it with warrantless inspections. Additionally, OSHA inspectors had unbounded discretion in choosing which businesses to inspect and when to do so, leaving businesses at the mercy of possibly arbitrary actions and certainly with no assurances as to limitation on scope and standards of inspections. Further, warrantless inspections were not necessary to serve an important governmental interest, inasmuch as most businesses would consent to inspection and it was not inconvenient to require OSHA to resort to an administrative warrant in order to inspect sites where consent was refused.⁷²

In *Donovan v. Dewey*,⁷³ however, *Barlow's* was substantially limited and a new standard emerged permitting extensive governmental inspection of commercial property,⁷⁴ absent warrants. Under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act, governing underground and surface mines (including stone quarries), federal officers are directed to inspect underground mines at least four times a year and surface mines at least twice a year, pursuant to extensive regulations as to standards of safety. The statute specifically provides for absence of advanced notice and requires the Secretary of Labor to institute court actions for injunctive and other relief in

⁷² Administrative warrants issued on the basis of less than probable cause but only on a showing that a specific business had been chosen for inspection on the basis of a general administrative plan would suffice. Even without a necessity for probable cause, the requirement would assure the interposition of a neutral officer to establish that the inspection was reasonable and was properly authorized. *Id.* at 321, 323. The dissenters objected that the warrant clause was being constitutionally diluted. *Id.* at 325. Administrative warrants were approved also in *Camara v. Municipal Court*, 387 U.S. 523, 538 (1967). Previously, one of the reasons given for finding administrative and noncriminal inspections not covered by the Fourth Amendment was the fact that the warrant clause would be as rigorously applied to them as to criminal searches and seizures. *Frank v. Maryland*, 359 U.S. 360, 373 (1959). See also *Almeida-Sanchez v. United States*, 413 U.S. 266, 275 (1973) (Justice Powell concurring) (suggesting a similar administrative warrant procedure empowering police and immigration officers to conduct roving searches of automobiles in areas near the Nation's borders); *id.* at 270 n.3 (indicating that majority Justices were divided on the validity of such area search warrants); *id.* at 288 (dissenting Justice White indicating approval); *United States v. Martinez-Fuerte*, 428 U.S. 543, 547 n.2, 562 n.15 (1976).

⁷³ 452 U.S. 594 (1981).

⁷⁴ There is no suggestion that warrantless inspections of homes is broadened. *Id.* at 598, or that warrantless entry under exigent circumstances is curtailed. See, e.g., *Michigan v. Tyler*, 436 U.S. 499 (1978) (no warrant required for entry by firefighters to fight fire; once there, firefighters may remain for reasonable time to investigate the cause of the fire).

cases in which inspectors are denied admission. Sustaining the statute, the Court proclaimed that government had a “greater latitude” to conduct warrantless inspections of commercial property than of homes, because of “the fact that the expectation of privacy that the owner of commercial property enjoys in such property differs significantly from the sanctity accorded an individual’s home, and that this privacy interest may, in certain circumstances, be adequately protected by regulatory schemes authorizing warrantless inspections.”⁷⁵

Dewey was distinguished from *Barlow’s* in several ways. First, *Dewey* involved a single industry, unlike the broad coverage in *Barlow’s*. Second, the OSHA statute gave minimal direction to inspectors as to time, scope, and frequency of inspections, while FMSHA specified a regular number of inspections pursuant to standards. Third, deference was due Congress’ determination that unannounced inspections were necessary if the safety laws were to be effectively enforced. Fourth, FMSHA provided businesses the opportunity to contest the search by resisting in the civil proceeding the Secretary had to bring if consent was denied.⁷⁶ The standard of a long tradition of government supervision permitting warrantless inspections was dispensed with, because it would lead to “absurd results,” in that new and emerging industries posing great hazards would escape regulation.⁷⁷ *Dewey* suggests, therefore, that warrantless inspections of commercial establishments are permissible so long as the legislature carefully drafts its statute.

Dewey was applied in *New York v. Burger*⁷⁸ to inspection of automobile junkyards and vehicle dismantling operations, a situation where there is considerable overlap between administrative and penal objectives. Applying the *Dewey* three-part test, the Court concluded that New York has a substantial interest in stemming the tide of automobile thefts, that regulation of vehicle dismantling reasonably serves that interest, and that statutory safeguards provided adequate substitute for a warrant requirement. The Court rejected the suggestion that the warrantless inspection provisions

⁷⁵ *Donovan v. Dewey*, 452 U.S. 594, 598–99 (1981).

⁷⁶ *Id.* at 596–97, 604–05. Pursuant to the statute, however, the Secretary has promulgated regulations providing for the assessment of civil penalties for denial of entry and *Dewey* had been assessed a penalty of \$1,000. *Id.* at 597 n.3. It was also true in *Barlow’s* that the Government resorted to civil process upon refusal to admit. 436 U.S. at 317 & n.12.

⁷⁷ *Donovan v. Dewey*, 452 U.S. 594, 606 (1981). Duration of regulation will now be a factor in assessing the legitimate expectation of privacy of a business. *Ibid. Accord*, *New York v. Burger*, 482 U.S. 691 (1987) (although duration of regulation of vehicle dismantling was relatively brief, history of regulation of junk business generally was lengthy, and current regulation of dismantling was extensive).

⁷⁸ 482 U.S. 691 (1987).

were designed as an expedient means of enforcing the penal laws, and instead saw narrower, valid regulatory purposes to be served: e.g., establishing a system for tracking stolen automobiles and parts, and enhancing the ability of legitimate businesses to compete. “[A] State can address a major social problem *both* by way of an administrative scheme *and* through penal sanctions,” the Court declared; in such circumstances warrantless administrative searches are permissible in spite of the fact that evidence of criminal activity may well be uncovered in the process.⁷⁹

In other contexts, the Court has also elaborated the constitutional requirements affecting administrative inspections and searches. Thus, in *Michigan v. Tyler*,⁸⁰ it subdivided the process by which an investigation of the cause of a fire may be conducted. Entry to fight the fire is, of course, an exception based on exigent circumstances, and no warrant or consent is needed; firemen on the scene may seize evidence relating to the cause under the plain view doctrine. Additional entries to investigate the cause of the fire must be made pursuant to warrant procedures governing administrative searches. Evidence of arson discovered in the course of such an administrative inspection is admissible at trial, but if the investigator finds probable cause to believe that arson has occurred and requires further access to gather evidence for a possible prosecution, he must obtain a criminal search warrant.⁸¹

One curious case has approved a system of “home visits” by welfare caseworkers, in which the recipients are required to admit the worker or lose eligibility for benefits.⁸²

In addition, there are now a number of situations, some of them analogous to administrative searches, where “‘special needs’ beyond normal law enforcement . . . justify departures from the usual warrant and probable cause requirements.”⁸³ In one of these

⁷⁹ 482 U.S. at 712 (emphasis original).

⁸⁰ 436 U.S. 499 (1978).

⁸¹ The Court also held that, after the fire was extinguished, if fire investigators were unable to proceed at the moment, because of dark, steam, and smoke, it was proper for them to leave and return at daylight without any necessity of complying with its mandate for administrative or criminal warrants. *Id.* at 510–11. *But cf.* *Michigan v. Clifford*, 464 U.S. 287 (1984) (no such justification for search of private residence begun at 1:30 p.m. when fire had been extinguished at 7 a.m.).

⁸² *Wyman v. James*, 400 U.S. 309 (1971). It is not clear what rationale the majority utilized. It appears to have proceeded on the assumption that a “home visit” was not a search and that the Fourth Amendment does not apply when criminal prosecution is not threatened. Neither premise is valid under *Camara* and its progeny, although *Camara* preceded *Wyman*. Presumably, the case would today be analyzed under the expectation of privacy/need/structural protection theory of the more recent cases.

⁸³ *Griffin v. Wisconsin*, 483 U.S. 868, 873 (1987) (administrative needs of probation system justify warrantless searches of probationers’ homes on less than prob-

cases the Court, without acknowledging the magnitude of the leap from one context to another, has taken the *Dewey/Burger* rationale—developed to justify warrantless searches of business establishments—and applied it to justify the significant intrusion into personal privacy represented by urinalysis drug testing. Because of the history of pervasive regulation of the railroad industry, the Court reasoned, railroad employees have a diminished expectation of privacy that makes mandatory urinalysis less intrusive and more reasonable.⁸⁴

With respect to automobiles, the holdings are mixed. Random stops of automobiles to check drivers' licenses, vehicle registrations, and safety conditions were condemned as too intrusive; the degree to which random stops would advance the legitimate governmental interests involved did not outweigh the individual's legitimate expectations of privacy.⁸⁵ On the other hand, in *South Dakota v. Opperman*,⁸⁶ the Court sustained the admission of evidence found when police impounded an automobile from a public street for multiple parking violations and entered the car to secure and inventory valuables for safekeeping. Marijuana was discovered in the glove compartment.

Searches and Seizures Pursuant to Warrant

Emphasis upon the necessity of warrants places the judgment of an independent magistrate between law enforcement officers and the privacy of citizens, authorizes invasion of that privacy only upon a showing that constitutes probable cause, and limits that invasion by specification of the person to be seized, the place to be

able cause); *Hudson v. Palmer*, 468 U.S. 517, 526 (1984) (no Fourth Amendment protection from search of prison cell); *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985) (simple reasonableness standard governs searches of students' persons and effects by public school authorities); *O'Connor v. Ortega*, 480 U.S. 709 (1987) (reasonableness test for work-related searches of employees' offices by government employer); *Skinner v. Railway Labor Executives' Ass'n*, 489 U.S. 602 (1989) (neither probable cause nor individualized suspicion is necessary for mandatory drug testing of railway employees involved in accidents or safety violations). All of these cases are discussed *infra* under the general heading "Valid Searches and Seizures Without Warrants."

⁸⁴ *Skinner*, *supra* n.83, 489 U.S. at 627.

⁸⁵ *Delaware v. Prouse*, 440 U.S. 648 (1979). Standards applied in this case had been developed in the contexts of automobile stops at fixed points or by roving patrols in border situations. *Almeida-Sanchez v. United States*, 413 U.S. 266 (1973); *United States v. Brignoni-Ponce*, 422 U.S. 873 (1975); *United States v. Ortiz*, 422 U.S. 891 (1975); *United States v. Martinez-Fuerte*, 428 U.S. 543 (1976).

⁸⁶ 428 U.S. 364 (1976). *See also Cady v. Dombrowski*, 413 U.S. 433 (1973) (sustaining admission of criminal evidence found when police conducted a warrantless search of an out-of-state policeman's automobile following an accident, in order to find and safeguard his service revolver). The Court in both cases emphasized the reduced expectation of privacy in automobiles and the noncriminal purposes of the searches.

searched, and the evidence to be sought.⁸⁷ While a warrant is issued *ex parte*, its validity may be contested in a subsequent suppression hearing if incriminating evidence is found and a prosecution is brought.⁸⁸

Issuance by Neutral Magistrate.—In numerous cases, the Court has referred to the necessity that warrants be issued by a “judicial officer” or a “magistrate.”⁸⁹ “The point of the Fourth Amendment, which often is not grasped by zealous officers, is not that it denies law enforcement the support of the usual inferences which reasonable men draw from evidence. Its protection consists in requiring that those inferences be drawn by a neutral and detached magistrate instead of being judged by the officer engaged in the often competitive enterprise of ferreting out crime. Any assumption that evidence sufficient to support a magistrate’s disinterested determination to issue a search warrant will justify the officers in making a search without a warrant would reduce the Amendment to a nullity and leave the people’s homes secure only in the discretion of police officers.”⁹⁰ These cases do not mean that only a judge or an official who is a lawyer may issue warrants, but they do stand for two tests of the validity of the power of the issuing party to so act. “He must be neutral and detached, and he must be capable of determining whether probable cause exists for the requested arrest or search.”⁹¹ The first test cannot be met when the issuing party is himself engaged in law enforcement activities,⁹²

⁸⁷ While the exceptions may be different as between arrest warrants and search warrants, the requirements for the issuance of the two are the same. *Aguilar v. Texas*, 378 U.S. 108, 112 n.3 (1964). Also, the standards by which the validity of warrants are to be judged are the same, whether federal or state officers are involved. *Ker v. California*, 374 U.S. 23 (1963).

⁸⁸ Most often, in the suppression hearings, the defendant will challenge the sufficiency of the evidence presented to the magistrate to constitute probable cause. *Spinelli v. United States*, 393 U.S. 410 (1969); *United States v. Harris*, 403 U.S. 573 (1971). He may challenge the veracity of the statements used by the police to procure the warrant and otherwise contest the accuracy of the allegations going to establish probable cause, but the Court has carefully hedged his ability to do so. *Franks v. Delaware*, 438 U.S. 154 (1978). He may also question the power of the official issuing the warrant, *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 449–53 (1971), or the specificity of the particularity required. *Marron v. United States*, 275 U.S. 192 (1927).

⁸⁹ *United States v. Lefkowitz*, 285 U.S. 452, 464 (1932); *Giordenello v. United States*, 357 U.S. 480, 486 (1958); *Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257, 270 (1960); *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 356 (1967); *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297, 321 (1972); *United States v. Chadwick*, 433 U.S. 1, 9 (1977); *Lo-Ji Sales v. New York*, 442 U.S. 319, 326 (1979).

⁹⁰ *Johnson v. United States*, 333 U.S. 10, 13–14 (1948).

⁹¹ *Shadwick v. City of Tampa*, 407 U.S. 345, 354 (1972).

⁹² *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 449–51 (1971) (warrant issued by state attorney general who was leading investigation and who as a justice of the peace was authorized to issue warrants); *Mancusi v. DeForte*, 392 U.S. 364, 370–72 (1968) (subpoena issued by district attorney could not qualify as a valid search

but the Court has not required that an issuing party have that independence of tenure and guarantee of salary which characterizes federal judges.⁹³ And in passing on the second test, the Court has been essentially pragmatic in assessing whether the issuing party possesses the capacity to determine probable cause.⁹⁴

Probable Cause.—The concept of “probable cause” is central to the meaning of the warrant clause. Neither the Fourth Amendment nor the federal statutory provisions relevant to the area define “probable cause;” the definition is entirely a judicial construct. An applicant for a warrant must present to the magistrate facts sufficient to enable the officer himself to make a determination of probable cause. “In determining what is probable cause . . . [w]e are concerned only with the question whether the affiant had reasonable grounds at the time of his affidavit . . . for the belief that the law was being violated on the premises to be searched; and if the apparent facts set out in the affidavit are such that a reasonably discreet and prudent man would be led to believe that there was a commission of the offense charged, there is probable cause justifying the issuance of a warrant.”⁹⁵ Probable cause is to be determined according to “the factual and practical considerations of everyday life on which reasonable and prudent men, not legal technicians, act.”⁹⁶ Warrants are favored in the law and utilization of them will not be thwarted by a hypertechnical reading of the sup-

warrant); *Lo-Ji Sales v. New York*, 442 U.S. 319 (1979) (justice of the peace issued open-ended search warrant for obscene materials, accompanied police during its execution, and made probable cause determinations at the scene as to particular items).

⁹³*Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257, 270–71 (1960) (approving issuance of warrants by United States Commissioners, many of whom were not lawyers and none of whom had any guarantees of tenure and salary); *Shadwick v. City of Tampa*, 407 U.S. 345 (1972) (approving issuance of arrest warrants for violation of city ordinances by city clerks who were assigned to and supervised by municipal court judges). The Court reserved the question “whether a State may lodge warrant authority in someone entirely outside the sphere of the judicial branch. Many persons may not qualify as the kind of ‘public civil officers’ we have come to associate with the term ‘magistrate.’ Had the Tampa clerk been entirely divorced from a judicial position, this case would have presented different considerations.” *Id.* at 352.

⁹⁴*Id.* at 350–54 (placing on defendant the burden of demonstrating that the issuing official lacks capacity to determine probable cause). *See also Connally v. Georgia*, 429 U.S. 245 (1977) (unsalaried justice of the peace who receives a sum of money for each warrant issued but nothing for reviewing and denying a warrant not sufficiently detached).

⁹⁵*Dumbra v. United States*, 268 U.S. 435, 439, 441 (1925). “[T]he term ‘probable cause’ . . . means less than evidence which would justify condemnation.” *Lock v. United States*, 11 U.S. (7 Cr.) 339, 348 (1813). *See Steele v. United States*, 267 U.S. 498, 504–05 (1925). It may rest upon evidence which is not legally competent in a criminal trial, *Draper v. United States*, 358 U.S. 307, 311 (1959), and it need not be sufficient to prove guilt in a criminal trial. *Brinegar v. United States*, 338 U.S. 160, 173 (1949). *See United States v. Ventresca*, 380 U.S. 102, 107–08 (1965).

⁹⁶*Brinegar v. United States*, 338 U.S. 160, 175 (1949).

porting affidavit and supporting testimony.⁹⁷ For the same reason, reviewing courts will accept evidence of a less “judicially competent or persuasive character than would have justified an officer in acting on his own without a warrant.”⁹⁸ Courts will sustain the determination of probable cause so long as “there was substantial basis for [the magistrate] to conclude that” there was probable cause.⁹⁹

Much litigation has concerned the sufficiency of the complaint to establish probable cause. Mere conclusory assertions are not enough.¹⁰⁰ In *United States v. Ventresca*,¹⁰¹ however, an affidavit by a law enforcement officer asserting his belief that an illegal distillery was being operated in a certain place, explaining that the belief was based upon his own observations and upon those of fellow investigators, and detailing a substantial amount of these personal observations clearly supporting the stated belief, was held to be sufficient to constitute probable cause. “Recital of some of the underlying circumstances in the affidavit is essential,” the Court said, observing that “where these circumstances are detailed, where reason for crediting the source of the information is given, and when a magistrate has found probable cause,” the reliance on the warrant process should not be deterred by insistence on too stringent a showing.¹⁰²

Requirements for establishing probable cause through reliance on information received from an informant has divided the Court in several cases. Although involving a warrantless arrest, *Draper v. United States*¹⁰³ may be said to have begun the line of cases. A previously reliable, named informant reported to an officer that the defendant would arrive with narcotics on a particular train, and described the clothes he would be wearing and the bag he

⁹⁷ *United States v. Ventresca*, 380 U.S. 102, 108–09 (1965).

⁹⁸ *Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257, 270–71 (1960).

⁹⁹ *Aguilar v. Texas*, 378 U.S. 108, 111 (1964). It must be emphasized that the issuing party “must judge for himself the persuasiveness of the facts relied on by a [complainant] to show probable cause.” *Giordenello v. United States*, 357 U.S. 480, 486 (1958). An insufficient affidavit cannot be rehabilitated by testimony after issuance concerning information possessed by the affiant but not disclosed to the magistrate. *Whiteley v. Warden*, 401 U.S. 560 (1971).

¹⁰⁰ *Byars v. United States*, 273 U.S. 28 (1927) (affiant stated he “has good reason to believe and does believe” that defendant has contraband materials in his possession); *Giordenello v. United States*, 357 U.S. 480 (1958) (complainant merely stated his conclusion that defendant had committed a crime). See also *Nathanson v. United States*, 290 U.S. 41 (1933).

¹⁰¹ 380 U.S. 102 (1965).

¹⁰² *Id.* at 109.

¹⁰³ 358 U.S. 307 (1959). For another case applying essentially the same probable cause standard to warrantless arrests as govern arrests by warrant, see *McCray v. Illinois*, 386 U.S. 300 (1967) (informant’s statement to arresting officers met *Aguilar* probable cause standard). See also *Whiteley v. Warden*, 401 U.S. 560, 566 (1971) (standards must be “at least as stringent” for warrantless arrest as for obtaining warrant).

would be carrying; the informant, however, gave no basis for his information. FBI agents met the train, observed that the defendant fully answered the description, and arrested him. The Court held that the corroboration of part of the informer's tip established probable cause to support the arrest. A case involving a search warrant, *Jones v. United States*,¹⁰⁴ apparently utilized a test of considering the affidavit as a whole to see whether the tip plus the corroborating information provided a substantial basis for finding probable cause, but the affidavit also set forth the reliability of the informer and sufficient detail to indicate that the tip was based on the informant's personal observation. *Aguilar v. Texas*¹⁰⁵ held insufficient an affidavit which merely asserted that the police had "reliable information from a credible person" that narcotics were in a certain place, and held that when the affiant relies on an informant's tip he must present two types of evidence to the magistrate. First, the affidavit must indicate the informant's basis of knowledge—the circumstances from which the informant concluded that evidence was present or that crimes had been committed—and, second, the affiant must present information which would permit the magistrate to decide whether or not the informant was trustworthy. Then, in *Spinelli v. United States*,¹⁰⁶ the Court applied *Aguilar* in a situation in which the affidavit contained both an informant's tip and police information of a corroborating nature.

The Court rejected the "totality" test derived from *Jones* and held that the informant's tip and the corroborating evidence must be separately considered. The tip was rejected because the affidavit contained neither any information which showed the basis of the tip nor any information which showed the informant's credibility. The corroborating evidence was rejected as insufficient because it did not establish any element of criminality but merely related to details which were innocent in themselves. No additional corroborating weight was due as a result of the bald police assertion that defendant was a known gambler, although the tip related to gambling. Returning to the totality test, however, the Court in *United States v. Harris*¹⁰⁷ approved a warrant issued largely on an informer's tip that over a two-year period he had purchased illegal whiskey from the defendant at the defendant's residence, most re-

¹⁰⁴ 362 U.S. 257 (1960).

¹⁰⁵ 378 U.S. 108 (1964).

¹⁰⁶ 393 U.S. 410 (1969). Both concurring and dissenting Justices recognized tension between *Draper* and *Aguilar*. See *id.* at 423 (Justice White concurring), *id.* at 429 (Justice Black dissenting and advocating the overruling of *Aguilar*).

¹⁰⁷ 403 U.S. 573 (1971). See also *Adams v. Williams*, 407 U.S. 143, 147 (1972) (approving warrantless stop of motorist based on informant's tip that "may have been insufficient" under *Aguilar* and *Spinelli* as basis for warrant).

cently within two weeks of the tip. The affidavit contained rather detailed information about the concealment of the whiskey, and asserted that the informer was a “prudent person,” that defendant had a reputation as a bootlegger, that other persons had supplied similar information about him, and that he had been found in control of illegal whiskey within the previous four years. The Court determined that the detailed nature of the tip, the personal observation thus revealed, and the fact that the informer had admitted to criminal behavior by his purchase of whiskey were sufficient to enable the magistrate to find him reliable, and that the supporting evidence, including defendant’s reputation, could supplement this determination.

The Court expressly abandoned the two-part *Aguilar-Spinelli* test and returned to the “totality of the circumstances” approach to evaluate probable cause based on an informant’s tip in *Illinois v. Gates*.¹⁰⁸ The main defect of the two-part test, Justice Rehnquist concluded for the Court, was in treating an informant’s reliability and his basis for knowledge as independent requirements. Instead, “a deficiency in one may be compensated for, in determining the overall reliability of a tip, by a strong showing as to the other, or by some other indicia of reliability.”¹⁰⁹ In evaluating probable cause, “[t]he task of the issuing magistrate is simply to make a practical, commonsense decision whether, given all the circumstances set forth in the affidavit before him, including the ‘veracity’ and ‘basis of knowledge’ of persons supplying hearsay information, there is a fair probability that contraband or evidence of a crime will be found in a particular place.”¹¹⁰

Particularity.—“The requirement that warrants shall particularly describe the things to be seized makes general searches under them impossible and prevents the seizure of one thing under a warrant describing another. As to what is to be taken, nothing is left to the discretion of the officer executing the warrant.”¹¹¹ This requirement thus acts to limit the scope of the search, inasmuch as the executing officers should be limited to

¹⁰⁸ 462 U.S. 213 (1983) (Justice Rehnquist’s opinion of the Court was joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices Blackmun, Powell, and O’Connor. Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens dissented.

¹⁰⁹ 462 U.S. at 213.

¹¹⁰ 462 U.S. at 238.

¹¹¹ *Marron v. United States*, 275 U.S. 192, 196 (1927). See *Stanford v. Texas*, 379 U.S. 476 (1965). Of course, police who are lawfully on the premises pursuant to a warrant may seize evidence of crime in “plain view” even if that evidence is not described in the warrant. *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403, U.S. 443, 464–71 (1971).

looking in places where the described object could be expected to be found.¹¹²

First Amendment Bearing on Probable Cause and Particularity.—Where the warrant process is used to authorize seizure of books and other items entitled either to First Amendment protection or to First Amendment consideration, the Court has required government to observe more exacting standards than in other cases.¹¹³ Seizure of materials arguably protected by the First Amendment is a form of prior restraint that requires strict observance of the Fourth Amendment. At a minimum, a warrant is required, and additional safeguards may be required for large-scale seizures. Thus, in *Marcus v. Search Warrant*,¹¹⁴ the seizure of 11,000 copies of 280 publications pursuant to warrant issued *ex parte* by a magistrate who had not examined any of the publications but who had relied on the conclusory affidavit of a policeman was voided. Failure to scrutinize the materials and to particularize the items to be seized was deemed inadequate, and it was further noted that police “were provided with no guide to the exercise of informed discretion, because there was no step in the procedure before seizure designed to focus searchingly on the question of obscenity.”¹¹⁵ A state procedure which was designed to comply with *Marcus* by the presentation of copies of books to be seized to the magistrate for his scrutiny prior to issuance of a warrant was nonetheless found inadequate by a plurality of the Court, which concluded that “since the warrant here authorized the sheriff to seize all copies of the specified titles, and since [appellant] was not afforded a hearing on the question of the obscenity even of the seven novels [seven of 59 listed titles were reviewed by the magistrate] before the warrant issued, the procedure was . . . constitutionally

¹¹²“This Court has held in the past that a search which is reasonable at its inception may violate the Fourth Amendment by virtue of its intolerable intensity and scope. *Kremen v. United States*, 353 U.S. 346 (1957); *Go-Bart Importing Co. v. United States*, 282 U.S. 344, 356–58 (1931); see *United States v. Di Re*, 332 U.S. 581, 586–87 (1948). The scope of the search must be ‘strictly tied to and justified by’ the circumstances which rendered its initiation permissible. *Warden v. Hayden*, 387 U.S. 294, 310 (1967) (Mr. Justice Fortas concurring); see, e.g., *Preston v. United States*, 376 U.S. 364, 367–368 (1964); *Agnello v. United States*, 296 U.S. 20, 30–31 (1925).” *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 18–19, (1968). See also *Andresen v. Maryland*, 427 U.S. 463, 470–82 (1976), and *id.* at 484, 492–93 (Justice Brennan dissenting). In *Stanley v. Georgia*, 394 U.S. 557, 569 (1969), Justices Stewart, Brennan, and White would have based decision on the principle that a valid warrant for gambling paraphernalia did not authorize police upon discovering motion picture films in the course of the search to project the films to learn their contents.

¹¹³*Marcus v. Search Warrant*, 367 U.S. 717, 730–31 (1961); *Stanford v. Texas*, 379 U.S. 476, 485 (1965).

¹¹⁴367 U.S. 717 (1961). See *Kingsley Books v. Brown*, 354 U.S. 436 (1957).

¹¹⁵*Marcus v. Search Warrant*, 367 U.S. 717, 732 (1961).

deficient.”¹¹⁶ Confusion remains, however, about the necessity for and the character of prior adversary hearings on the issue of obscenity. In a later decision the Court held that, with adequate safeguards, no pre-seizure adversary hearing on the issue of obscenity is required if the film is seized not for the purpose of destruction as contraband (the purpose in *Marcus and A Quantity of Books*), but instead to preserve a copy for evidence.¹¹⁷ It is constitutionally permissible to seize a copy of a film pursuant to a warrant as long as there is a prompt post-seizure adversary hearing on the obscenity issue. Until there is a judicial determination of obscenity, the Court advised, the film may continue to be exhibited; if no other copy is available either a copy of it must be made from the seized film or the film itself must be returned.¹¹⁸

The seizure of a film without the authority of a constitutionally sufficient warrant is invalid; seizure cannot be justified as incidental to arrest, inasmuch as the determination of obscenity may not be made by the officer himself.¹¹⁹ Nor may a warrant issue based “solely on the conclusory assertions of the police officer without any inquiry by the [magistrate] into the factual basis for the officer’s conclusions.”¹²⁰ Instead, a warrant must be “supported by affidavits setting forth specific facts in order that the issuing magistrate may ‘focus searchingly on the question of obscenity.’”¹²¹ This does not mean, however, that a higher standard of probable cause is required in order to obtain a warrant to seize materials protected by the First Amendment. “Our reference in *Roaden* to a ‘higher hurdle . . . of reasonableness’ was not intended to establish a ‘higher’ standard of probable cause for the issuance of a warrant to seize books or films, but instead related to the more basic requirement, imposed by that decision, that the police not rely on the ‘exigency’ exception to the Fourth Amendment warrant requirement, but instead obtain a warrant from a magistrate”¹²²

¹¹⁶ *A Quantity of Books v. Kansas*, 378 U.S. 205, 210 (1964).

¹¹⁷ *Heller v. New York*, 413 U.S. 483 (1973).

¹¹⁸ *Id.* at 492–93. *But cf.* *New York v. P.J. Video, Inc.*, 475 U.S. 868, 875 n.6 (1986), rejecting the defendant’s assertion, based on *Heller*, that only a single copy rather than all copies of allegedly obscene movies should have been seized pursuant to warrant.

¹¹⁹ *Roaden v. Kentucky*, 413 U.S. 496 (1973). *See also* *Lo-Ji Sales v. New York*, 442 U.S. 319 (1979); *Walter v. United States*, 447 U.S. 649 (1980). These special constraints are inapplicable when obscene materials are purchased, and there is consequently no Fourth Amendment search or seizure. *Maryland v. Macon*, 472 U.S. 463 (1985).

¹²⁰ *Lee Art Theatre, Inc. v. Virginia*, 392 U.S. 636, 637 (1968) (per curiam).

¹²¹ *New York v. P.J. Video, Inc.*, 475 U.S. 868, 873–74 (1986) (quoting *Marcus v. Search Warrant*, 367 U.S. 717, 732 (1961)).

¹²² *New York v. P.J. Video, Inc.*, 475 U.S. 868, 875 n.6 (1986).

In *Stanford v. Texas*,¹²³ a seizure of more than 2,000 books, pamphlets, and other documents pursuant to a warrant which merely authorized the seizure of books, pamphlets, and other written instruments “concerning the Communist Party of Texas” was voided. “[T]he constitutional requirement that warrants must particularly describe the ‘things to be seized’ is to be accorded the most scrupulous exactitude when the ‘things’ are books, and the basis for their seizure is the ideas which they contain. . . . No less a standard could be faithful to First Amendment freedoms.”¹²⁴

However, the First Amendment does not bar the issuance or execution of a warrant to search a newsroom to obtain photographs of demonstrators who had injured several policemen, although the Court appeared to suggest that a magistrate asked to issue such a warrant should guard against interference with press freedoms through limits on type, scope, and intrusiveness of the search.¹²⁵

Property Subject to Seizure.—There has never been any doubt that search warrants could be issued for the seizure of contraband and the fruits and instrumentalities of crime.¹²⁶ But in *Gouled v. United States*,¹²⁷ a unanimous Court limited the classes of property subject to seizures to these three and refused to permit a seizure of “mere evidence,” in this instance defendant’s papers which were to be used as evidence against him at trial. The Court recognized that there was “no special sanctity in papers, as distinguished from other forms of property, to render them immune from search and seizure,”¹²⁸ but their character as evidence rendered them immune. This immunity “was based upon the dual, related premises that historically the right to search for and seize property depended upon the assertion by the Government of a valid claim of superior interest, and that it was not enough that the purpose of the search and seizure was to obtain evidence to use in appre-

¹²³ 379 U.S. 476 (1965).

¹²⁴ *Id.* at 485–86. *See also* *Marcus v. Search Warrant*, 367 U.S. 717, 723 (1961).

¹²⁵ *Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547 (1978). *See id.* at 566 (containing suggestion mentioned in text), and *id.* at 566 (Justice Powell concurring) (more expressly adopting that position). In the Privacy Protection Act, Pub. L. No. 96–440, 94 Stat. 1879 (1980), 42 U.S.C. §2000aa, Congress provided extensive protection against searches and seizures not only of the news media and news people but also of others engaged in disseminating communications to the public, unless there is probable cause to believe the person protecting the materials has committed or is committing the crime to which the materials relate.

¹²⁶ *United States v. Lefkowitz*, 285 U.S. 452, 465–66 (1932). Of course, evidence seizable under warrant is subject to seizure without a warrant in circumstances in which warrantless searches are justified.

¹²⁷ 255 U.S. 298 (1921). *United States v. Lefkowitz*, 285 U.S. 452 (1932), applied the rule in a warrantless search of premises. The rule apparently never applied in case of a search of the person. *Cf. Schmerber v. California*, 384 U.S. 757 (1966).

¹²⁸ *Gouled v. United States*, 255 U.S. 298, 306 (1921).

hending and convicting criminals.”¹²⁹ More evaded than followed, the “mere evidence” rule was overturned in 1967.¹³⁰ It is now settled that such evidentiary items as fingerprints,¹³¹ blood,¹³² urine samples,¹³³ fingernail and skin scrapings,¹³⁴ voice and handwriting exemplars,¹³⁵ conversations,¹³⁶ and other demonstrative evidence may be obtained through the warrant process or without a warrant where “special needs” of government are shown.¹³⁷

However, some medically assisted bodily intrusions have been held impermissible, e.g., forcible administration of an emetic to induce vomiting,¹³⁸ and surgery under general anesthetic to remove a bullet lodged in a suspect’s chest.¹³⁹ Factors to be weighed in determining which medical tests and procedures are reasonable include the extent to which the procedure threatens the individual’s safety or health, “the extent of the intrusion upon the individual’s dignitary interests in personal privacy and bodily integrity,” and the importance of the evidence to the prosecution’s case.¹⁴⁰

¹²⁹ *Warden v. Hayden*, 387 U.S. 294, 303 (1967). See *Gouled v. United States*, 255 U.S. 298, 309 (1921). The holding was derived from dicta in *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616, 624–29 (1886).

¹³⁰ *Warden v. Hayden*, 387 U.S. 294 (1967). Justice Douglas dissented, wishing to retain the rule, *id.* at 312, and Justice Fortas with Chief Justice Warren concurred in the result while apparently wishing to retain the rule in warrant cases. *Id.* at 310, 312.

¹³¹ *Davis v. Mississippi*, 394 U.S. 721 (1969).

¹³² *Schmerber v. California*, 384 U.S. 757 (1966). *Skinner v. Railway Labor Executives’ Ass’n*, 489 U.S. 602 (1989) (warrantless blood testing for drug use by railroad employee involved in accident).

¹³³ *Skinner v. Railway Labor Executives’ Ass’n*, 489 U.S. 602 (1989) (warrantless drug testing of railroad employee involved in accident).

¹³⁴ *Cupp v. Murphy*, 412 U.S. 291 (1973) (sustaining warrantless taking of scrapings from defendant’s fingernails at the stationhouse, on the basis that it was a very limited intrusion and necessary to preserve evanescent evidence).

¹³⁵ *United States v. Dionisio*, 410 U.S. 1 (1973); *United States v. Mara*, 410 U.S. 19 (1973) (both sustaining grand jury subpoenas to produce voice and handwriting exemplars; no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to those items).

¹³⁶ *Berger v. New York*, 388 U.S. 41, 44 n.2 (1967). See also *id.* at 97 n.4, 107–08 (Justices Harlan and White concurring), 67 (Justice Douglas concurring).

¹³⁷ Another important result of *Warden v. Hayden* is that third parties not suspected of culpability in crime are subject to the issuance and execution of warrants for searches and seizures of evidence. *Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547, 553–60 (1978). Justice Stevens argued for a stiffer standard for issuance of warrants to nonsuspects, requiring in order to invade their privacy a showing that they would not comply with a less intrusive method, such as a subpoena. *Id.* at 577 (dissenting).

¹³⁸ *Rochin v. California*, 342 U.S. 165 (1952).

¹³⁹ *Winston v. Lee*, 470 U.S. 753 (1985).

¹⁴⁰ *Winston v. Lee*, 470 U.S. 753, 761–63 (1985). Chief Justice Burger concurred on the basis of his reading of the Court’s opinion “as not preventing detention of an individual if there are reasonable grounds to believe that natural bodily functions will disclose the presence of contraband materials secreted internally.” *id.* at 767. *Cf. United States v. Montoya de Hernandez*, 473 U.S. 531 (1985).

In *Warden v. Hayden*,¹⁴¹ Justice Brennan for the Court cautioned that the items there seized were not “‘testimonial’ or ‘communicative’ in nature, and their introduction therefore did not compel respondent to become a witness against himself in violation of the Fifth Amendment. . . . This case thus does not require that we consider whether there are items of evidential value whose very nature precludes them from being the object of a reasonable search and seizure.” This merging of Fourth and Fifth Amendment considerations derived from *Boyd v. United States*,¹⁴² the first case in which the Supreme Court considered at length the meaning of the Fourth Amendment. *Boyd* was a quasi-criminal proceeding for the forfeiture of goods alleged to have been imported in violation of law, and concerned a statute which authorized court orders to require defendants to produce any document which might “tend to prove any allegation made by the United States.”¹⁴³ That there was a self-incrimination problem the entire Court was in agreement, but Justice Bradley for a majority of the Justices also utilized the Fourth Amendment.

While the statute did not authorize a search but instead compulsory production, the Justice concluded that the law was well within the restrictions of the search and seizure clause.¹⁴⁴ With this point established, the Justice relied on Lord Camden’s opinion in *Entick v. Carrington*¹⁴⁵ for the proposition that seizure of items to be used as evidence only was impermissible. Justice Bradley announced that the “essence of the offence” committed by the Government against Boyd “is not the breaking of his doors, and the rummaging of his drawers . . . but it is the invasion of his indefeasible right of personal security, personal liberty and private property. . . . Breaking into a house and opening boxes and drawers are circumstances of aggravation; but any forcible and compulsory extortion of a man’s own testimony or of his private papers to be used as evidence to convict him of crime or to forfeit his goods, is within the condemnation of that judgment. In this regard the Fourth and Fifth Amendments run almost into each other.”¹⁴⁶

While it may be doubtful that the equation of search warrants with subpoenas and other compulsory process ever really amounted

¹⁴¹ 387 U.S. 294, 302–03 (1967). Seizure of a diary was at issue in *Hill v. California*, 401 U.S. 797, 805 (1971), but it had not been raised in the state courts and was deemed waived.

¹⁴² 116 U.S. 616 (1886).

¹⁴³ Act of June 22, 1874, § 5, 18 Stat. 187.

¹⁴⁴ *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616, 622 (1886).

¹⁴⁵ Howell’s State Trials 1029, 95 Eng. Rep. 807 (1765).

¹⁴⁶ *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616, 630 (1886).

to much of a limitation,¹⁴⁷ the present analysis of the Court dispenses with any theory of “convergence” of the two Amendments.¹⁴⁸ Thus, in *Andresen v. Maryland*,¹⁴⁹ police executed a warrant to search defendant’s offices for specified documents pertaining to a fraudulent sale of land, and the Court sustained the admission of the papers discovered as evidence at his trial. The Fifth Amendment was inapplicable, the Court held, because there had been no compulsion of defendant to produce or to authenticate the documents.¹⁵⁰ As for the Fourth Amendment, inasmuch as the “business records” seized were evidence of criminal acts, they were properly seizable under the rule of *Warden v. Hayden*; the fact that they were “testimonial” in nature, records in the defendant’s handwriting, was irrelevant.¹⁵¹ Acknowledging that “there are grave dangers inherent in executing a warrant authorizing a search and seizure of a person’s papers,” the Court’s response was to observe that while some “innocuous documents” would have to be examined to ascertain which papers were to be seized, authorities, just as with electronic “seizures” of conversations, “must take care to assure that they are conducted in a manner that minimizes unwarranted intrusions upon privacy.”¹⁵²

Although *Andresen* was concerned with business records, its discussion seemed equally applicable to “personal” papers, such as diaries and letters, as to which a much greater interest in privacy most certainly exists. The question of the propriety of seizure of such papers continues to be the subject of reservation in opinions,¹⁵³ but it is far from clear that the Court would accept any such exception should the issue be presented.¹⁵⁴

Execution of Warrants.—The manner of execution of warrants is generally governed by statute and rule, as to time of execution,¹⁵⁵ method of entry, and the like. It was a rule at common law

¹⁴⁷ E.g., *Oklahoma Press Pub Co. v. Walling*, 327 U.S. 186, 209–09 (1946).

¹⁴⁸ *Andresen v. Maryland*, 427 U.S. 463 (1976); *Fisher v. United States*, 425 U.S. 391, 405–14 (1976). *Fisher* states that “the precise claim sustained in *Boyd* would now be rejected for reasons not there considered.” *Id.* at 408.

¹⁴⁹ 427 U.S. 463 (1976).

¹⁵⁰ *Id.* at 470–77.

¹⁵¹ *Id.* at 478–84.

¹⁵² *Id.* at 482 n.11. Minimization, as required under federal law, has not proved to be a significant limitation. *Scott v. United States*, 425 U.S. 917 (1976).

¹⁵³ E.g., *United States v. Miller*, 425 U.S. 435, 440, 444 (1976); *Fisher v. United States*, 425 U.S. 391, 401 (1976); *California Bankers Ass’n v. Shultz*, 416 U.S. 21, 78–79 (1974) (Justice Powell concurring).

¹⁵⁴ See Note, *Formalism, Legal Realism, and Constitutionally Protected Privacy Under the Fourth and Fifth Amendments*, 90 HARV. L. REV. 945 (1977).

¹⁵⁵ Rule 41(c), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, provides, inter alia, that the warrant shall command its execution in the daytime, unless the magistrate “for reasonable cause shown” directs in the warrant that it be served at some other time.

that before an officer could break and enter he must give notice of his office, authority, and purpose and must in effect be refused admittance,¹⁵⁶ and until recently this has been a statutory requirement in the federal system¹⁵⁷ and generally in the States. In *Ker v. California*,¹⁵⁸ the Court considered the rule of announcement as a constitutional requirement, although a majority there found circumstances justifying entry without announcement. Recent federal laws providing for the issuance of warrants authorizing in certain circumstances “no-knock” entries to execute warrants will no doubt present the Court with opportunities to explore the configurations of the rule of announcement.¹⁵⁹ A statute regulating the expiration of a warrant and issuance of another “should be liberally construed in favor of the individual.”¹⁶⁰ Similarly, inasmuch as the existence of probable cause must be established by fresh facts, so the execution of the warrant should be done in timely fashion so as to ensure so far as possible the continued existence of probable cause.¹⁶¹

In executing a warrant for a search of premises and of named persons on the premises, police officers may not automatically search someone else found on the premises.¹⁶² If they can articulate some reasonable basis for fearing for their safety they may conduct a “patdown” of the person, but in order to search they must have probable cause particularized with respect to that person. However, in *Michigan v. Summers*,¹⁶³ the Court held that officers arriving to execute a warrant for the search of a house could detain, without being required to articulate any reasonable basis and necessarily therefore without probable cause, the owner or occupant of the house, whom they encountered on the front porch

See Jones v. United States, 357 U.S. 493, 498–500 (1958); *Gooding v. United States*, 416 U.S. 430 (1974). The rule is more relaxed for narcotics cases. 21 U.S.C. § 879(a).

¹⁵⁶ *Semayne's Case*, 5 Coke's Rep. 91a, 77 Eng. Rep. 194 (K.B. 1604).

¹⁵⁷ 18 U.S.C. § 3109. *See Miller v. United States*, 357 U.S. 301 (1958); *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471 (1963).

¹⁵⁸ 374 U.S. 23 (1963). *Ker* was an arrest warrant case, but no reason appears for differentiating search warrants. Eight Justices agreed that federal standards should govern and that the rule of announcement was of constitutional stature, but they divided 4-to-4 whether entry in this case had been pursuant to a valid exception. Justice Harlan who had dissented from the federal standards issue joined the four finding a justifiable exception to carry the result.

¹⁵⁹ In narcotics cases, magistrates are authorized to issue “no-knock” warrants if they find there is probable cause to believe (1) the property sought may, and if notice is given, will be easily and quickly destroyed or (2) giving notice will endanger the life or safety of the executing officer or another person. 21 U.S.C. § 879(b). *See also* D.C. Code, § 23–591.

¹⁶⁰ *Sgro v. United States*, 287 U.S. 206 (1932).

¹⁶¹ *Id.*

¹⁶² *Ybarra v. Illinois*, 444 U.S. 85 (1979) (patron in a bar), relying on and reaffirming *United States v. Di Re*, 332 U.S. 581 (1948) (occupant of vehicle may not be searched merely because there are grounds to search the automobile).

¹⁶³ 452 U.S. 692 (1981).

leaving the premises. Applying its intrusiveness test,¹⁶⁴ the Court determined that such a detention, which was “substantially less intrusive” than an arrest, was justified because of the law enforcement interests in minimizing the risk of harm to officers, facilitating entry and conduct of the search, and preventing flight in the event incriminating evidence is found.¹⁶⁵ Also, under some circumstances officers may search premises on the mistaken but reasonable belief that the premises are described in an otherwise valid warrant.¹⁶⁶

Although for purposes of execution, as for many other matters, there is little difference between search warrants and arrest warrants, one notable difference is that the possession of a valid arrest warrant cannot authorize authorities to enter the home of a third party looking for the person named in the warrant; in order to do that, they need a search warrant signifying that a magistrate has determined that there is probable cause to believe the person named is on the premises.¹⁶⁷

Valid Searches and Seizures Without Warrants

While the Supreme Court stresses the importance of warrants and has repeatedly referred to searches without warrants as “exceptional,”¹ it appears that the greater number of searches, as well as the vast number of arrests, take place without warrants. The Reporters of the American Law Institute Project on a Model Code of Pre-Arrest Procedure have noted “their conviction that, as a practical matter, searches without warrant and incidental to arrest have been up to this time, and may remain, of greater practical importance” than searches pursuant to warrants. “[T]he evidence on hand . . . compel[s] the conclusion that searches under warrants have played a comparatively minor part in law enforcement, except in connection with narcotics and gambling laws.”²

¹⁶⁴ *Supra*, p. 1208. See *Michigan v. Summers*, 452 U.S. 692, 696–701 (1981).

¹⁶⁵ *Id.* at 701–06. *Ybarra* was distinguished on the basis of its greater intrusiveness and the lack of sufficient connection with the premises. *Id.* at 695 n.4. By the time *Summers* was searched, police had probable cause to do so. *Id.* at 695. The warrant here was for contraband, *id.* at 701, and a different rule possibly may apply with respect to warrants for other evidence.

¹⁶⁶ *Maryland v. Garrison*, 480 U.S. 79 (1987) (officers reasonably believed there was only one “third floor apartment” in city row house when in fact there were two).

¹⁶⁷ *Steagald v. United States*, 451 U.S. 204 (1981). An arrest warrant is a necessary and sufficient authority to enter a suspect’s home to arrest him. *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573 (1980).

¹ E.g., *Johnson v. United States*, 333 U.S. 10, 14 (1948); *McDonald v. United States*, 335 U.S. 451, 453 (1948); *Camara v. Municipal Court*, 387 U.S. 523, 528–29 (1967); *G.M. Leasing Corp. v. United States*, 429 U.S. 338, 352–53, 355 (1977).

² American Law Institute, *A Model Code of Pre-Arrest Procedure*, Tent. Draft No. 3 (Philadelphia: 1970), xix.

Nevertheless, the Court frequently asserts that “the most basic constitutional rule in this area is that ‘searches conducted outside the judicial process, without prior approval by judge or magistrate, are *per se* unreasonable under the Fourth Amendment—subject only to a few specially established and well-delineated exceptions.”³ The exceptions are said to be “jealously and carefully drawn,”⁴ and there must be “a showing by those who seek exemption . . . that the exigencies of the situation made that course imperative.”⁵ While the record does indicate an effort to categorize the exceptions, the number and breadth of those exceptions have been growing.

Detention Short of Arrest: Stop-and-Frisk.—Arrests are subject to the requirements of the Fourth Amendment, but the courts have followed the common law in upholding the right of police officers to take a person into custody without a warrant if they have probable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a felony or has committed a misdemeanor in their presence.⁶ The probable cause is, of course, the same standard required to be met in the issuance of an arrest warrant, and must be satisfied by conditions existing prior to the policeman’s stop, what is discovered thereafter not sufficing to establish retroactively reasonable cause.⁷ There are, however, instances when a policeman’s suspicions will have been aroused by someone’s conduct or manner, but probable cause for placing such a person under arrest will be lacking.⁸ In *Terry v. Ohio*,⁹ the Court almost unanimously approved an on-the-street investigation by a police officer which involved “patting down” the subject of the investigation for weapons.

The case arose when a police officer observed three individuals engaging in conduct which appeared to him, on the basis of training and experience, to be the “casing” of a store for a likely armed robbery; upon approaching the men, identifying himself, and not receiving prompt identification, the officer seized one of the men,

³Coolidge v. New Hampshire, 403 U.S. 443, 454–55 (1971) (quoting *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347, 357 (1967)); *G.M. Leasing Corp. v. United States*, 429 U.S. 338, 352–53, 358 (1977).

⁴*Jones v. United States*, 357 U.S. 493, 499 (1958).

⁵*McDonald v. United States*, 335 U.S. 451, 456 (1948). In general, with regard to exceptions to the warrant clause, conduct must be tested by the reasonableness standard enunciated by the first clause of the Amendment, *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 20 (1968), and the Court’s development of its privacy expectation tests, *supra*, pp. 1206–09, substantially changed the content of that standard.

⁶*United States v. Watson*, 423 U.S. 411 (1976). See *supra*, p. 1209.

⁷*Henry v. United States*, 361 U.S. 98 (1959); *Johnson v. United States*, 333 U.S. 10, 16–17 (1948); *Sibron v. New York*, 392 U.S. 40, 62–63 (1968).

⁸“The police may not arrest upon mere suspicion but only on ‘probable cause.’” *Mallory v. United States*, 354 U.S. 449, 454 (1957).

⁹392 U.S. 1 (1968). Only Justice Douglas dissented. *Id.* at 35.

patted the exterior of his clothes, and discovered a gun. Chief Justice Warren for the Court wrote that the Fourth Amendment was applicable to the situation, applicable “whenever a police officer accosts an individual and restrains his freedom to walk away.”¹⁰ Since the warrant clause is necessarily and practically of no application to the type of on-the-street encounter present in *Terry*, the Chief Justice continued, the question was whether the policeman’s actions were reasonable. The test of reasonableness in this sort of situation is whether the police officer can point to “specific and articulable facts which, taken together with rational inferences from those facts,” would lead a neutral magistrate on review to conclude that a man of reasonable caution would be warranted in believing that possible criminal behavior was at hand and that both an investigative stop and a “frisk” was required.¹¹ Inasmuch as the conduct witnessed by the policeman reasonably led him to believe that an armed robbery was in prospect, he was as reasonably led to believe that the men were armed and probably dangerous and that his safety required a “frisk.” Because the object of the “frisk” is the discovery of dangerous weapons, “it must therefore be confined in scope to an intrusion reasonably designed to discover guns, knives, clubs, or other hidden instruments for the assault of the police officer.”¹²

Terry did not pass on a host of problems, including the grounds that could permissibly lead an officer to momentarily stop a person on the street or elsewhere in order to ask questions rather than frisk for weapons, the right of the stopped individual to refuse to cooperate, and the permissible response of the police to that refusal. Following that decision, the standard for stops for investigative purposes evolved into one of “reasonable suspicion of criminal activity.” That test permits some stops and questioning without probable cause in order to allow police officers to explore the foun-

¹⁰Id. at 16. *See id.* at 16–20.

¹¹Id. at 20, 21, 22.

¹²Id. at 23–27, 29. *See also* *Sibron v. New York*, 392 U.S. 40 (1968) (after policeman observed defendant speak with several known narcotics addicts, he approached him and placed his hand in defendant’s pocket, thus discovering narcotics; impermissible, because he lacked reasonable basis for frisk and in any event his search exceeded permissible scope of weapons frisk); *Adams v. Williams*, 407 U.S. 143 (1972) (acting on tip that defendant was sitting in his car with narcotics and firearm, police approached, asked defendant to step out, and initiated frisk and discovered weapon when he merely rolled window down; justifiable); *Pennsylvania v. Mimms*, 434 U.S. 106 (1977) (after validly stopping car, officer required defendant to get out of car, observed bulge under his jacket, and frisked him and seized weapon; while officer did not suspect driver of crime or have an articulable basis for safety fears, safety considerations justified his requiring driver to leave car).

dations of their suspicions.¹³ While not elaborating a set of rules governing the application of the tests, the Court was initially restrictive in recognizing permissible bases for reasonable suspicion.¹⁴ Extensive intrusions on individual privacy, e.g., transportation to the stationhouse for interrogation and fingerprinting, were invalidated in the absence of probable cause.¹⁵ More recently, however, the Court has taken less restrictive approaches.¹⁶

It took the Court some time to settle on a test for when a “seizure” has occurred, and the Court has recently modified its approach. The issue is of some importance, since it is at this point that Fourth Amendment protections take hold. The *Terry* Court recognized in dictum that “not all personal intercourse between policemen and citizens involves ‘seizures’ of persons,” and suggested that “[o]nly when the officer, by means of physical force or show of authority, has in some way restrained the liberty of a citizen may we conclude that a ‘seizure’ has occurred.”¹⁷ Years later Justice Stewart proposed a similar standard, that a person has been seized “only if, in view of all of the circumstances surrounding the incident, a reasonable person would have believed that he was not free to leave.”¹⁸ This reasonable perception standard was subse-

¹³In *United States v. Cortez*, 449 U.S. 411 (1981), a unanimous Court attempted to capture the “elusive concept” of the basis for permitting a stop. Officers must have “articulable reasons” or “founded suspicions,” derived from the totality of the circumstances. “Based upon that whole picture the detaining officer must have a particularized and objective basis for suspecting the particular person stopped of criminal activity.” *Id.* at 417–18. The inquiry is thus quite fact-specific. In the anonymous tip context, the same basic approach requiring some corroboration applies regardless of whether the standard is probable cause or reasonable suspicion; the difference is that less information, or less reliable information, can satisfy the lower standard. *Alabama v. White*, 496 U.S. 325 (1990).

¹⁴E.g., *Brown v. Texas*, 443 U.S. 47 (1979) (individual’s presence in high crime area gave officer no articulable basis to suspect him of crime); *Delaware v. Prouse*, 440 U.S. 648 (1979) (reasonable suspicion of a license or registration violation is necessary to authorize automobile stop; random stops impermissible); *United States v. Brignoni-Ponce*, 422 U.S. 873 (1975) (officers could not justify random automobile stop solely on basis of Mexican appearance of occupants); *Reid v. Georgia*, 448 U.S. 438 (1980) (no reasonable suspicion for airport stop based on appearance that suspect and another passenger were trying to conceal the fact that they were travelling together). *But cf.* *United States v. Martinez-Fuerte*, 428 U.S. 543 (1976) (halting vehicles at fixed checkpoints to question occupants as to citizenship and immigration status permissible, even if officers should act on basis of appearance of occupants).

¹⁵*Davis v. Mississippi*, 394 U.S. 721 (1969); *Dunaway v. New York*, 442 U.S. 200 (1979).

¹⁶*See, e.g.*, *United States v. Hensley*, 469 U.S. 221 (1985) (reasonable suspicion to stop a motorist may be based on a “wanted flyer” as long as issuance of the flyer has been based on reasonable suspicion); *United States v. Sokolow*, 490 U.S. 1, (1989) (airport stop based on drug courier profile may rely on a combination of factors that individually may be “quite consistent with innocent travel”).

¹⁷392 U.S. at 19, n.16.

¹⁸*United States v. Mendenhall*, 446 U.S. 544, 554 (1980).

quently endorsed by a majority of Justices,¹⁹ and was applied in several cases in which admissibility of evidence turned on whether a seizure of the person not justified by probable cause or reasonable suspicion had occurred prior to the uncovering of the evidence. No seizure occurred, for example, when INS agents seeking to identify illegal aliens conducted work force surveys within a garment factory; while some agents were positioned at exits, others systematically moved through the factory and questioned employees.²⁰ This brief questioning, even with blocked exits, amounted to “classic consensual encounters rather than Fourth Amendment seizures.”²¹ The Court also ruled that no seizure had occurred when police in a squad car drove alongside a suspect who had turned and run down the sidewalk when he saw the squad car approach. Under the circumstances (no siren, flashing lights, display of a weapon, or blocking of the suspect’s path), the Court concluded, the police conduct “would not have communicated to the reasonable person an attempt to capture or otherwise intrude upon [one’s] freedom of movement.”²²

Soon thereafter, however, the Court departed from the *Mendenhall* reasonable perception standard and adopted a more formalistic approach, holding that an actual chase with evident intent to capture did not amount to a “seizure” because the suspect did not comply with the officer’s order to halt. *Mendenhall*, said the Court in *California v. Hodari D.*, stated a “necessary” but not a “sufficient” condition for a seizure of the person through show of authority.²³ A Fourth Amendment “seizure” of the person, the Court determined, is the same as a common law arrest; there must be either application of physical force (or the laying on of hands), or submission to the assertion of authority.²⁴ Indications are, however, that *Hodari D.* does not signal the end of the reasonable perception standard, but merely carves an exception applicable to chases and perhaps other encounters between suspects and police.

Later in the same term the Court ruled that the *Mendenhall* “free-to-leave” inquiry was misplaced in the context of a police

¹⁹ See, e.g., *Florida v. Royer*, 460 U.S. 491 (1983), in which there was no opinion of the Court, but in which the test was used by the plurality of four, id. at 502, and also endorsed by dissenting Justice Blackmun, id. at 514.

²⁰ *INS v. Delgado*, 466 U.S. 210 (1984).

²¹ Id. at 221.

²² *Michigan v. Chesternut*, 486 U.S. 567, 575 (1988).

²³ 499 U.S. 621, 628 (1991). As in *Michigan v. Chesternut*, supra n.22, the suspect dropped incriminating evidence while being chased.

²⁴ Adherence to this approach would effectively nullify the Court’s earlier position that Fourth Amendment protections extend to “seizures that involve only a brief detention short of traditional arrest.” *United States v. Brignoni-Ponce*, 422 U.S. 873, 878 (1975), quoted in *INS v. Delgado*, 466 U.S., 210, 215 (1984).

sweep of a bus, but that a modified reasonable perception approach still governed.²⁵ In conducting a bus sweep, aimed at detecting illegal drugs and their couriers, police officers typically board a bus during a stopover at a terminal and ask to inspect tickets, identification, and sometimes luggage of selected passengers. The Court did not focus on whether an “arrest” had taken place, as adherence to the *Hodari D.* approach would have required, but instead suggested that the appropriate inquiry is “whether a reasonable person would feel free to decline the officers’ requests or otherwise terminate the encounter.”²⁶ “When the person is seated on a bus and has no desire to leave,” the Court explained, “the degree to which a reasonable person would feel that he or she could leave is not an accurate measure of the coercive effect of the encounter.”²⁷

A *Terry* search need not be limited to a stop and frisk of the person, but may extend as well to a protective search of the passenger compartment of a car if an officer possesses “a reasonable belief, based on specific and articulable facts . . . that the suspect is dangerous and . . . may gain immediate control of weapons.”²⁸ How lengthy a *Terry* detention may be varies with the circumstances. In approving a 20-minute detention of a driver made necessary by the driver’s own evasion of drug agents and a state police decision to hold the driver until the agents could arrive on the scene, the Court indicated that it is “appropriate to examine whether the police diligently pursued a means of investigation that was likely to confirm or dispel their suspicions quickly, during which time it was necessary to detain the defendant.”²⁹

Similar principles govern detention of luggage at airports in order to detect the presence of drugs; *Terry* “limitations applicable to investigative detentions of the person should define the permissible scope of an investigative detention of the person’s luggage on

²⁵ *Florida v. Bostick*, (1991).

²⁶ *Id.* at 2387.

²⁷ *Id.* The Court asserted that the case was “analytically indistinguishable from *Delgado*. Like the workers in that case [subjected to the INS “survey” at their workplace], Bostick’s freedom of movement was restricted by a factor independent of police conduct—i.e., by his being a passenger on a bus.” *Id.*

²⁸ *Michigan v. Long*, 463 U.S. 1032 (1983) (suspect appeared to be under the influence of drugs, officer spied hunting knife exposed on floor of front seat and searched remainder of passenger compartment). Similar reasoning has been applied to uphold a “protective sweep” of a home in which an arrest is made if arresting officers have a reasonable belief that the area swept may harbor another individual posing a danger to the officers or to others. *Maryland v. Buie*, 494 U.S. 325 (1990).

²⁹ *United States v. Sharpe*, 470 U.S. 675, 686 (1985). A more relaxed standard has been applied to detention of travelers at the border, the Court testing the reasonableness in terms of “the period of time necessary to either verify or dispel the suspicion.” *United States v. Montoya de Hernandez*, 473 U.S. 531, 544 (1985) (approving warrantless detention for more than 24 hours of traveler suspected of alimentary canal drug smuggling).

less than probable cause.”³⁰ The general rule is that “when an officer’s observations lead him reasonably to believe that a traveler is carrying luggage that contains narcotics, the principles of *Terry* . . . would permit the officer to detain the luggage briefly to investigate the circumstances that aroused his suspicion, provided that the investigative detention is properly limited in scope.”³¹ Seizure of luggage for an expeditious “canine sniff” by a dog trained to detect narcotics can satisfy this test even though seizure of luggage is in effect detention of the traveler, since the procedure results in “limited disclosure,” impinges only slightly on a traveler’s privacy interest in the contents of personal luggage, and does not constitute a search within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment.³² By contrast, taking a suspect to an interrogation room on grounds short of probable cause, retaining his air ticket, and retrieving his luggage without his permission taints consent given under such circumstances to open the luggage, since by then the detention had exceeded the bounds of a permissible *Terry* investigative stop and amounted to an invalid arrest.³³ But the same requirements for brevity of detention and limited scope of investigation are apparently inapplicable to border searches of international travelers, the Court having approved a 24-hour detention of a traveler suspected of smuggling drugs in her alimentary canal.³⁴

Search Incident to Arrest.—The common-law rule permitting searches of the person of an arrestee as an incident to the arrest has occasioned little controversy in the Court.³⁵ The dispute has centered around the scope of the search. Since it was the stated general rule that the scope of a warrantless search must be strictly tied to and justified by the circumstances which rendered its justification permissible, and since it was the rule that the justification of a search of the arrestee was to prevent destruction of evidence and to prevent access to a weapon,³⁶ it was argued to the court that a search of the person of the defendant arrested for a traffic offense, which discovered heroin in a crumpled cigarette package, was impermissible, inasmuch as there could have been no

³⁰ *United States v. Place*, 462 U.S. 696, 709 (1983).

³¹ *Id.* at 706.

³² 462 U.S. at 707. However, the search in *Place* was not expeditious, and hence exceeded Fourth Amendment bounds, when agents took 90 minutes to transport luggage to another airport for administration of the canine sniff.

³³ *Florida v. Royer*, 460 U.S. 491 (1983). On this much the plurality opinion of Justice White (*id.* at 503), joined by three other Justices, and the concurring opinion of Justice Brennan (*id.* at 509) were in agreement.

³⁴ *United States v. Montoya de Hernandez*, 473 U.S. 531 (1985).

³⁵ *Weeks v. United States*, 232 U.S. 383, 392 (1914); *Carroll v. United States*, 267 U.S. 132, 158 (1925); *Agnello v. United States*, 269 U.S. 20, 30 (1925).

³⁶ *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 19 (1968); *Chimel v. California*, 395 U.S. 752, 762, 763 (1969).

destructible evidence relating to the offense for which he was arrested and no weapon could have been concealed in the cigarette package. The Court rejected this argument, ruling that “no additional justification” is required for a custodial arrest of a suspect based on probable cause.³⁷

However, the Justices have long found themselves embroiled in argument about the scope of the search incident to arrest as it extends beyond the person to the area in which the person is arrested, most commonly either his premises or his vehicle. Certain early cases went both ways on the basis of some fine distinctions,³⁸ but in *Harris v. United States*,³⁹ the Court approved a search of a four-room apartment pursuant to an arrest under warrant for one crime and in which the search turned up evidence of another crime. A year later, in *Trupiano v. United States*,⁴⁰ a raid on a distillery resulted in the arrest of a man found on the premises and a seizure of the equipment; the Court reversed the conviction because the officers had had time to obtain a search warrant and had not done so. “A search or seizure without a warrant as an incident to a lawful arrest has always been considered to be a strictly limited right. It grows out of the inherent necessities of the situation at the time of the arrest. But there must be something more in the way of necessity than merely a lawful arrest.”⁴¹ This decision was overruled in *United States v. Rabinowitz*,⁴² in which officers arrested defendant in his one-room office pursuant to an arrest warrant and proceeded to search the room completely. The Court observed that the issue was not whether the officers had the time and opportunity to obtain a search warrant but whether the search incident to arrest was reasonable. Though *Rabinowitz* referred to searches of the area within the arrestee’s “immediate control,”⁴³ it

³⁷ *United States v. Robinson*, 414 U.S. 218, 235 (1973). See also *id.* at 237–38 (Justice Powell concurring). The Court applied the same rule in *Gustafson v. Florida*, 414 U.S. 260 (1973), involving a search of a motorist’s person following his custodial arrest for an offense for which a citation would normally have issued. Unlike the situation in *Robinson*, police regulations did not require the *Gustafson* officer to take the suspect into custody, nor did a departmental policy guide the officer as to when to conduct a full search. The Court found these differences inconsequential, and left for another day the problem of pretextual arrests in order to obtain basis to search. Soon thereafter, the Court upheld conduct of a similar search at the place of detention, even after a time lapse between the arrest and search. *United States v. Edwards*, 415 U.S. 800 (1974).

³⁸ Compare *Marron v. United States*, 275 U.S. 192 (1927), with *Go-Bart Importing Co. v. United States*, 282 U.S. 344 (1931), and *United States v. Lefkowitz*, 285 U.S. 452 (1932).

³⁹ 331 U.S. 145 (1947).

⁴⁰ 334 U.S. 699 (1948).

⁴¹ *Id.* at 708.

⁴² 339 U.S. 56 (1950).

⁴³ *Id.* at 64.

provided no standard by which this area was to be determined, and extensive searches were permitted under the rule.⁴⁴

In *Chimel v. California*,⁴⁵ however, a narrower view was asserted, the primacy of warrants was again emphasized, and a standard by which the scope of searches pursuant to arrest could be ascertained was set out. “When an arrest is made, it is reasonable for the arresting officer to search the person arrested in order to remove any weapons that the latter might seek to use in order to resist arrest or effect his escape. Otherwise, the officer’s safety might well be endangered, and the arrest itself frustrated. In addition, it is entirely reasonable for the arresting officer to search for and seize any evidence on the arrestee’s person in order to prevent its concealment or destruction. And the area into which an arrestee might reach in order to grab a weapon or evidentiary items must, of course, be governed by a like rule. A gun on a table or in a drawer in front of one who is arrested can be as dangerous to the arresting officer as one concealed in the clothing of the person arrested. There is ample justification, therefore, for a search of the arrestee’s person and the area ‘within his immediate control’—construing that phrase to mean the area from within which he might gain possession of a weapon or destructible evidence.

“There is no comparable justification, however, for routinely searching any room other than that in which an arrest occurs—or, for that matter, for searching through all the desk drawers or other closed or concealed areas in that room itself. Such searches, in the absence of well-recognized exceptions, may be made only under the authority of a search warrant.”⁴⁶

Although the viability of *Chimel* had been in doubt for some time as the Court refined and applied its analysis of reasonable

⁴⁴ Cf. *Chimel v. California*, 395 U.S. 752, 764–65 & n.10 (1969). But in *Kremen v. United States*, 353 U.S. 346 (1957), the Court held that the seizure of the entire contents of a house and the removal to F.B.I. offices 200 miles away for examination, pursuant to an arrest under warrant of one of the persons found in the house, was unreasonable. In decisions contemporaneous to and subsequent to *Chimel*, applying pre-*Chimel* standards because that case was not retroactive, *Williams v. United States*, 401 U.S. 646 (1971), the Court has applied *Rabinowitz* somewhat restrictively. See *Von Cleef v. New Jersey*, 395 U.S. 814 (1969), which followed *Kremen*; *Shipley v. California*, 395 U.S. 818 (1969), and *Vale v. Louisiana*, 399 U.S. 30 (1970) (both involving arrests outside the house with subsequent searches of the house); *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 455–57 (1971). Substantially extensive searches were, however, approved in *Williams v. United States*, 401 U.S. 646 (1971), and *Hill v. California*, 401 U.S. 797 (1971).

⁴⁵ 395 U.S. 752 (1969).

⁴⁶ Id. at 762–63.

and justifiable expectations of privacy,⁴⁷ it has in some but not all contexts survived the changed rationale. Thus, in *Mincey v. Arizona*,⁴⁸ the Court rejected a state effort to create a “homicide-scene” exception for a warrantless search of an entire apartment extending over four days. The occupant had been arrested and removed and it was true, the Court observed, that a person legally taken into custody has a lessened right of privacy in his person, but he does not have a lessened right of privacy in his entire house. And, in *United States v. Chadwick*,⁴⁹ emphasizing a person’s reasonable expectation of privacy in his luggage or other baggage, the Court held that, once police have arrested and immobilized a suspect, validly seized bags are not subject to search without a warrant.⁵⁰ Police may, however, in the course of jailing an arrested suspect conduct an inventory search of the individual’s personal effects, including the contents of a shoulder bag, since “the scope of a station-house search may in some circumstances be even greater than those supporting a search immediately following arrest.”⁵¹

Still purporting to reaffirm *Chimel*, the Court in *New York v. Belton*⁵² held that police officers who had made a valid arrest of the occupant of a vehicle could make a contemporaneous search of the entire passenger compartment of the automobile, including containers found therein. Believing that a fairly simple rule understandable to authorities in the field was desirable, the Court ruled “that articles inside the relatively narrow compass of the passenger compartment of an automobile are in fact generally, if not inevitably, within ‘the area into which an arrestee might reach in order to grab a weapon or evidentiary ite[m].’”⁵³

⁴⁷ *Supra*, pp. 1206–09. See, e.g., *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 492, 493, 510 (1971), in which the four dissenters advocated the reasonableness argument rejected in *Chimel*.

⁴⁸ 437 U.S. 385 (1978). The expectancy distinction is at 391.

⁴⁹ 433 U.S. 1 (1977). Defendant and his luggage, a footlocker, had been removed to the police station, where the search took place.

⁵⁰ If, on the other hand, a sealed shipping container had already been opened and resealed during a valid customs inspection, and officers had maintained surveillance through a “controlled delivery” to the suspect, there is no reasonable expectation of privacy in the contents of the container and officers may search it, upon the arrest of the suspect, without having obtained a warrant. *Illinois v. Andreas*, 463 U.S. 765 (1983).

⁵¹ *Illinois v. LaFayette*, 462 U.S. 640, 645 (1983) (inventory search) (following *South Dakota v. Opperman*, 428 U.S. 364 (1976)). Similarly, an inventory search of an impounded vehicle may include the contents of a closed container. *Colorado v. Bertine*, 479 U.S. 367 (1987). Inventory searches of closed containers must, however, be guided by a police policy containing standardized criteria for exercise of discretion. *Florida v. Wells*, 495 U.S. 1 (1990).

⁵² 453 U.S. 454 (1981).

⁵³ *Id.* at 460 (quoting *Chimel v. California*, 395 U.S. 752, 763 (1969)). In this particular instance, *Belton* had been removed from the automobile and handcuffed, but the Court wished to create a general rule removed from the fact-specific nature

Chimel has, however, been qualified by another consideration. Not only may officers search areas within the arrestee's immediate control in order to alleviate any threat posed by the arrestee, but they may extend that search if there may be a threat posed by "unseen third parties in the house." A "protective sweep" of the entire premises (including an arrestee's home) may be undertaken on less than probable cause if officers have a "reasonable belief," based on "articulable facts," that the area to be swept may harbor an individual posing a danger to those on the arrest scene.⁵⁴

Vehicular Searches.—In the early days of the automobile the Court created an exception for searches of vehicles, holding in *Carroll v. United States*⁵⁵ that vehicles may be searched without warrants if the officer undertaking the search has probable cause to believe that the vehicle contains contraband. The Court explained that the mobility of vehicles would allow them to be quickly moved from the jurisdiction if time were taken to obtain a warrant.⁵⁶

Initially the Court limited *Carroll's* reach, holding impermissible the warrantless seizure of a parked automobile merely because it is movable, and indicating that vehicles may be stopped only while moving or reasonably contemporaneously with movement.⁵⁷ Also, the Court ruled that the search must be reasonably contemporaneous with the stop, so that it was not permissible to remove the vehicle to the stationhouse for a warrantless search at the convenience of the police.⁵⁸

The Court next developed a reduced privacy rationale to supplement the mobility rationale, explaining that "the configuration, use, and regulation of automobiles often may dilute the reasonable

of any one case. "Container" here denotes any object capable of holding another object. It thus includes closed or open glove compartments, consoles, or other receptacles located anywhere within the passenger compartment, as well as luggage, boxes, bags, clothing, and the like. Our holding encompasses only the interior of the passenger compartment of an automobile and does not encompass the trunk." *Id.* at 460–61 n.4.

⁵⁴*Maryland v. Buie*, 494 U.S. 325, 334 (1990). This "sweep" is not to be a full-blown, "top-to-bottom" search, but only "a cursory inspection of those spaces where a person may be found." *Id.* at 335–36.

⁵⁵267 U.S. 132 (1925). *Carroll* was a Prohibition-era liquor case, whereas a great number of modern automobile cases involve drugs.

⁵⁶*Id.* at 153. See also *Husty v. United States*, 282 U.S. 694 (1931); *Scher v. United States*, 305 U.S. 251 (1938); *Brinegar v. United States*, 338 U.S. 160 (1949). All of these cases involved contraband, but in *Chambers v. Maroney*, 399 U.S. 42 (1970), the Court, without discussion, and over Justice Harlan's dissent, *id.* at 55, 62, extended the rule to evidentiary searches.

⁵⁷*Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 458–64 (1971). This portion of the opinion had the adherence of a plurality only, Justice Harlan concurring on other grounds, and there being four dissenters. *Id.* at 493, 504, 510, 523.

⁵⁸*Preston v. United States*, 376 U.S. 364 (1964); *Dyke v. Taylor Implement Mfg. Co.*, 391 U.S. 216 (1968).

expectation of privacy that exists with respect to differently situated property.”⁵⁹ “One has a lesser expectation of privacy in a motor vehicle because its function is transportation and it seldom serves as one’s residence or as the repository of personal effects. . . . It travels public thoroughfares where both its occupants and its contents are in plain view.”⁶⁰ While motor homes do serve as residences and as repositories for personal effects, and while their contents are often shielded from public view, the Court extended the automobile exception to them as well, holding that there is a diminished expectation of privacy in a mobile home parked in a parking lot and licensed for vehicular travel, hence “readily mobile.”⁶¹

The reduced expectancy concept has broadened police powers to conduct automobile searches without warrants, but they still must have probable cause to search a vehicle⁶² and they must have some “articulable suspicion” of criminal activity in order to make random stops of vehicles on the roads.⁶³ By contrast, fixed-checkpoint stops in the absence of any individualized suspicion have been upheld.⁶⁴ Once police have validly stopped a vehicle, they may also, based on articulable facts warranting a reasonable belief that weapons may be present, conduct a *Terry*-type protective search of those portions of the passenger compartment in which a weapon could be placed or hidden.⁶⁵ And, in the absence of such reasonable suspicion as to weapons, police may seize contraband

⁵⁹ *Arkansas v. Sanders*, 442 U.S. 753, 761 (1979).

⁶⁰ *Cardwell v. Lewis*, 417 U.S. 583, 590 (1974) (plurality opinion), *quoted in* *United States v. Chadwick*, 433 U.S. 1, 12 (1977). *See also* *United States v. Ortiz*, 422 U.S. 891, 896 (1975); *United States v. Martinez-Fuerte*, 428 U.S. 543, 561 (1976); *South Dakota v. Opperman*, 428 U.S. 364, 367–68 (1976); *Robbins v. California*, 453 U.S. 420, 424–25 (1981); *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798, 807 n.9 (1982).

⁶¹ *California v. Carney*, 471 U.S. 386, 393 (1985) (leaving open the question of whether the automobile exception also applies to a “mobile” home being used as a residence and not “readily mobile”).

⁶² *Almeida-Sanchez v. United States*, 413 U.S. 266 (1973) (roving patrols); *United States v. Ortiz*, 422 U.S. 891 (1975). *Cf.* *Colorado v. Bannister*, 449 U.S. 1 (1980).

⁶³ *Delaware v. Prouse*, 440 U.S. 648 (1979) (random stops of motorists to check driver’s license and registration papers and safety features of cars); *United States v. Brignoni-Ponce*, 422 U.S. 873 (1975) (roving patrols in areas near international borders on look-out for illegal aliens). In *Prouse*, the Court cautioned that it was not precluding the States from developing methods for spot checks that involve less intrusion or that do not involve unconstrained exercise of discretion. 440 U.S. at 648.

⁶⁴ *Michigan Dep’t of State Police v. Sitz*, 496 U.S. 444 (1990) (upholding a sobriety checkpoint at which all motorists are briefly stopped for preliminary questioning and observation for signs of intoxication). *See also* *United States v. Martinez-Fuerte*, 428 U.S. 543 (1976) (upholding border patrol checkpoint, over 60 miles from the border, for questioning designed to apprehend illegal aliens).

⁶⁵ *Michigan v. Long*, 463 U.S. 1032, 1049 (1983) (holding that contraband found in the course of such a search is admissible).

and suspicious items “in plain view” inside the passenger compartment.⁶⁶

Once police have probable cause to believe there is contraband in a vehicle, they may remove it from the scene to the stationhouse in order to conduct a search, without thereby being required to obtain a warrant. “[T]he justification to conduct such a warrantless search does not vanish once the car has been immobilized; nor does it depend upon a reviewing court’s assessment of the likelihood in each particular case that the car would have been driven away, or that its contents would have been tampered with, during the period required for the police to obtain a warrant.”⁶⁷ The Justices were evenly divided, however, on the propriety of warrantless seizure of an arrestee’s automobile from a public parking lot several hours after his arrest, its transportation to a police impoundment lot, and the taking of tire casts and exterior paint scrapings.⁶⁸ Because of the lessened expectation of privacy, inventory searches of impounded automobiles are justifiable in order to protect public safety and the owner’s property, and any evidence of criminal activity discovered in the course of the inventories is admissible in court.⁶⁹

It is not lawful for the police in undertaking a warrantless search of an automobile to extend the search to the passengers therein.⁷⁰ But because passengers in an automobile have no reasonable expectation of privacy in the interior area of the car, a warrantless search of the glove compartment and the spaces under the seats, which turned up evidence implicating the passengers, invaded no Fourth Amendment interest of the passengers.⁷¹ Luggage and other closed containers found in automobiles may also be subjected to warrantless searches based on probable cause, the same rule now applying whether the police have probable cause to search

⁶⁶ *Texas v. Brown*, 460 U.S. 730 (1983). Similarly, since there is no reasonable privacy interest in the vehicle identification number, required by law to be placed on the dashboard so as to be visible through the windshield, police may reach into the passenger compartment to remove items obscuring the number and may seize items in plain view while doing so. *New York v. Class*, 475 U.S. 106 (1986).

⁶⁷ *Michigan v. Thomas*, 458 U.S. 259, 261 (1982). See also *Chambers v. Maroney*, 399 U.S. 42 (1970); *Texas v. White*, 423 U.S. 67 (1975); *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798, 807 n.9 (1982).

⁶⁸ *Cardwell v. Lewis*, 417 U.S. 583 (1974). Justice Powell concurred on other grounds.

⁶⁹ *Cady v. Dombrowski*, 413 U.S. 433 (1973); *South Dakota v. Opperman*, 428 U.S. 364 (1976). See also *Cooper v. California*, 386 U.S. 58 (1967); *United States v. Harris*, 390 U.S. 234 (1968). Police, in conducting an inventory search of a vehicle, may open closed containers in order to inventory contents. *Colorado v. Bertine*, 479 U.S. 367 (1987).

⁷⁰ *United States v. Di Re*, 332 U.S. 581 (1948). While *Di Re* is now an old case, it appears still to control. See *Ybarra v. Illinois*, 444 U.S. 85, 94–96 (1979).

⁷¹ *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128 (1978).

only the containers⁷² or whether they have probable cause to search the automobile for something capable of being held in the container.⁷³

Vessel Searches.—Not only is the warrant requirement inapplicable to brief stops of vessels, but also none of the safeguards applicable to stops of automobiles on less than probable cause are necessary predicates to stops of vessels. In *United States v. Villamonte-Marquez*,⁷⁴ the Court upheld a random stop and boarding of a vessel by customs agents, lacking any suspicion of wrongdoing, for purpose of inspecting documentation. The boarding was authorized by statute derived from an act of the First Congress,⁷⁵ and hence had “an impressive historical pedigree” carrying with it a presumption of constitutionality. Moreover, “important factual differences between vessels located in waters offering ready access to the open sea and automobiles on principal thoroughfares in the border area” justify application of a less restrictive rule for vessel searches. The reason why random stops of vehicles have been held impermissible under the Fourth Amendment, the Court explained, is that stops at fixed checkpoints or roadblocks are both feasible and less subject to abuse of discretion by authorities. “But no reasonable claim can be made that permanent checkpoints would be practical on waters such as these where vessels can move in any direction at any time and need not follow established ‘avenues’ as automobiles must do.”⁷⁶ Because there is a “substantial” governmental interest in enforcing documentation laws, “especially in waters where the need to deter or apprehend smugglers is great,” the Court found the “limited” but not “minimal” intrusion occasioned by boarding for documentation inspection to be reasonable.⁷⁷ Dis-

⁷² *California v. Acevedo*, 500 U.S. 565 (1991) (overruling *Arkansas v. Sanders*, 442 U.S. 753 (1979)).

⁷³ *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798 (1982). A *Ross* search of a container found in an automobile need not occur soon after its seizure. *United States v. Johns*, 469 U.S. 478 (1985) (three-day time lapse). See also *Florida v. Jimeno*, 500 U.S. 248 (1991) (consent to search automobile for drugs constitutes consent to open containers within the car that might contain drugs).

⁷⁴ 462 U.S. 579 (1983). The opinion of the Court, written by Justice Rehnquist, was joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices White, Blackmun, Powell, and O'Connor. Justice Brennan's dissent was joined by Justice Marshall and, on mootness but not on the merits, by Justice Stevens.

⁷⁵ 19 U.S.C. §1581(a), derived from §31 of the Act of Aug. 4, 1790, ch. 35, 1 Stat. 164.

⁷⁶ 462 U.S. at 589. Justice Brennan's dissent argued that a fixed checkpoint was feasible in this case, involving a ship channel in an inland waterway. *id.* at 608 n.10. The fact that the Court's rationale was geared to the difficulties of law enforcement in the open seas suggests a reluctance to make exceptions to the general rule. Note as well the Court's later reference to this case as among those “reflect[ing] longstanding concern for the protection of the integrity of the border.” *United States v. Montoya de Hernandez*, 473 U.S. 531, 538 (1985).

⁷⁷ 462 U.S. at 593.

senting Justice Brennan argued that the Court for the first time was approving “a completely random seizure and detention of persons and an entry onto private, noncommercial premises by police officers, without any limitations whatever on the officers’ discretion or any safeguards against abuse.”⁷⁸

Consent Searches.—Fourth Amendment rights, like other constitutional rights, may be waived, and one may consent to search of his person or premises by officers who have not complied with the Amendment.⁷⁹ The Court, however, has insisted that the burden is on the prosecution to prove the voluntariness of the consent⁸⁰ and awareness of the right of choice.⁸¹ Reviewing courts must determine on the basis of the totality of the circumstances whether consent has been freely given or has been coerced. Actual knowledge of the right to refuse consent is not essential to the issue of voluntariness, and therefore police are not required to acquaint a person with his rights, as through a Fourth Amendment version of *Miranda* warnings.⁸² But consent will not be regarded as voluntary when the officer asserts his official status and claim of right and the occupant yields to these factors rather than makes his own determination to admit officers.⁸³ When consent is obtained through the deception of an undercover officer or an informer gaining admission without, of course, advising a suspect who he is, the Court has held that the suspect has simply assumed the risk that an invitee would betray him, and evidence obtained through the deception is admissible.⁸⁴

Additional issues arise in determining the validity of consent to search when consent is given not by the suspect but by a third

⁷⁸ 462 U.S. at 598. Justice Brennan contended that all previous cases had required some “discretion-limiting” feature such as a requirement of probable cause, reasonable suspicion, fixed checkpoints instead of roving patrols, and limitation of border searches to border areas, and that these principles set forth in *Delaware v. Prouse* (supra p. 1239, n.63) should govern. 462 U.S. at 599, 601.

⁷⁹ *Amos v. United States*, 255 U.S. 313 (1921); *Zap v. United States*, 328 U.S. 624 (1946); *Schneckloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218 (1973).

⁸⁰ *Bumper v. North Carolina*, 391 U.S. 543 (1968).

⁸¹ *Johnson v. United States*, 333 U.S. 10, 13 (1948).

⁸² *Schneckloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218, 231–33 (1973).

⁸³ *Amos v. United States*, 255 U.S. 313 (1921); *Johnson v. United States*, 333 U.S. 10 (1948); *Bumper v. North Carolina*, 391 U.S. 543 (1968).

⁸⁴ *On Lee v. United States*, 343 U.S. 747 (1952); *Lopez v. United States*, 373 U.S. 427 (1963); *Hoffa v. United States*, 385 U.S. 293 (1966); *Lewis v. United States*, 385 U.S. 206 (1966); *United States v. White*, 401 U.S. 745 (1971). *Cf. Osborn v. United States*, 385 U.S. 323 (1966) (prior judicial approval obtained before wired informer sent into defendant’s presence). Problems may be encountered by police, however, in special circumstances. *See Messiah v. United States*, 377 U.S. 201 (1964); *United States v. Henry*, 447 U.S. 264 (1980); *United States v. Karo*, 468 U.S. 705 (1984) (installation of beeper with consent of informer who sold container with beeper to suspect is permissible with prior judicial approval, but use of beeper to monitor private residence is not).

party. In the earlier cases, third party consent was deemed sufficient if that party “possessed common authority over or other sufficient relationship to the premises or effects sought to be inspected.”⁸⁵ Now, however, actual common authority over the premises is no longer required; it is enough if the searching officer had a reasonable but mistaken belief that the third party had common authority and could consent to the search.⁸⁶

Border Searches.—“That searches made at the border, pursuant to the longstanding right of the sovereign to protect itself by stopping and examining persons and property crossing into this country, are reasonable simply by virtue of the fact that they occur at the border, should, by now, require no extended demonstration.”⁸⁷ Authorized by the First Congress,⁸⁸ the customs search in these circumstances requires no warrant, no probable cause, not even the showing of some degree of suspicion that accompanies even investigatory stops.⁸⁹ Moreover, while prolonged detention of travelers beyond the routine customs search and inspection must be justified by the *Terry* standard of reasonable suspicion having a particularized and objective basis,⁹⁰ *Terry* protections as to the length and intrusiveness of the search do not apply.⁹¹

Inland stoppings and searches in areas away from the borders are a different matter altogether. Thus, in *Almeida-Sanchez v.*

⁸⁵United States v. Matlock, 415 U.S. 164, 171 (1974) (valid consent by woman with whom defendant was living and sharing the bedroom searched). See also *Chapman v. United States*, 365 U.S. 610 (1961) (landlord's consent insufficient); *Stoner v. California*, 376 U.S. 483 (1964) (hotel desk clerk lacked authority to consent to search of guest's room); *Frazier v. Culp*, 394 U.S. 731 (1969) (joint user of duffel bag had authority to consent to search).

⁸⁶*Illinois v. Rodriguez*, 497 U.S. 177 (1990). See also *Florida v. Jimeno*, 500 U.S. 248, 251 (1991) (it was “objectively reasonable” for officer to believe that suspect's consent to search his car for narcotics included consent to search containers found within the car).

⁸⁷*United States v. Ramsey*, 431 U.S. 606, 616 (1977) (sustaining search of incoming mail). See also *Illinois v. Andreas*, 463 U.S. 765 (1983) (opening by customs inspector of locked container shipped from abroad).

⁸⁸Act of July 31, 1789, ch. 5, §§23, §24, 1 Stat. 43. See 19 U.S.C. §§507, 1581, 1582.

⁸⁹*Carroll v. United States*, 267 U.S. 132, 154 (1925); *United States v. Thirty-Seven Photographs*, 402 U.S. 363, 376 (1971); *Almeida-Sanchez v. United States*, 413 U.S. 266, 272 (1973).

⁹⁰*United States v. Montoya de Hernandez*, 473 U.S. 531 (1985) (approving warrantless detention incommunicado for more than 24 hours of traveler suspected of alimentary canal drug smuggling).

⁹¹*Id.* A traveler suspected of alimentary canal drug smuggling was strip searched, and then given a choice between an abdominal x-ray or monitored bowel movements. Because the suspect chose the latter option, the court disavowed decision as to “what level of suspicion, if any, is required for . . . strip, body cavity, or involuntary x-ray searches.” *Id.* at 541 n.4.

United States,⁹² the Court held that a warrantless stop and search of defendant's automobile on a highway some 20 miles from the border by a roving patrol lacking probable cause to believe that the vehicle contained illegal aliens violated the Fourth Amendment. Similarly, the Court invalidated an automobile search at a fixed checkpoint well removed from the border; while agreeing that a fixed checkpoint probably gave motorists less cause for alarm than did roving patrols, the Court nonetheless held that the invasion of privacy entailed in a search was just as intrusive and must be justified by a showing of probable cause or consent.⁹³ On the other hand, when motorists are briefly stopped, not for purposes of a search but in order that officers may inquire into their residence status, either by asking a few questions or by checking papers, different results are achieved, so long as the stops are not truly random. Roving patrols may stop vehicles for purposes of a brief inquiry, provided officers are "aware of specific articulable facts, together with rational inferences from those facts, that reasonably warrant suspicion" that an automobile contains illegal aliens; in such a case the interference with Fourth Amendment rights is "modest" and the law enforcement interests served are significant.⁹⁴ Fixed checkpoints provide additional safeguards; here officers may halt all vehicles briefly in order to question occupants even in the absence of any reasonable suspicion that the particular vehicle contains illegal aliens.⁹⁵

⁹² 413 U.S. 266 (1973). Justices White, Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger would have found the search reasonable upon the congressional determination that searches by such roving patrols were the only effective means to police border smuggling. *Id.* at 285. Justice Powell, concurring, argued in favor of a general, administrative warrant authority not tied to particular vehicles, much like the type of warrant suggested for noncriminal administrative inspections of homes and commercial establishments for health and safety purposes, *id.* at 275, but the Court has not yet had occasion to pass on a specific case. *See United States v. Martinez-Fuerte*, 428 U.S. 543, 547 n.2, 562 n.15 (1976).

⁹³ *United States v. Ortiz*, 422 U.S. 891 (1975).

⁹⁴ *United States v. Brignoni-Ponce*, 422 U.S. 873 (1975). However, stopping of defendant's car solely because the officers observed the Mexican appearance of the occupants was unjustified. *Id.* at 886. *Contrast United States v. Cortez*, 449 U.S. 411 (1981), where border agents did have grounds for reasonable suspicion that the vehicle they stopped contained illegal aliens.

⁹⁵ *United States v. Martinez-Fuerte*, 428 U.S. 543 (1976). The Court deemed the intrusion on Fourth Amendment interests to be quite limited, even if officers acted on the basis of the Mexican appearance of the occupants in referring motorists to a secondary inspection area for questioning, whereas the elimination of the practice would deny to the Government its only practicable way to apprehend smuggled aliens and to deter the practice. Similarly, outside of the border/aliens context, the Court has upheld use of fixed "sobriety" checkpoints at which all motorists are briefly stopped for preliminary questioning and observation for signs of intoxication. *Michigan Dep't of State Police v. Sitz*, 496 U.S. 444 (1990).

“Open Fields.”—In *Hester v. United States*,⁹⁶ the Court held that the Fourth Amendment did not protect “open fields” and that, therefore, police searches in such areas as pastures, wooded areas, open water, and vacant lots need not comply with the requirements of warrants and probable cause. The Court’s announcement in *Katz v. United States*⁹⁷ that the Amendment protects “people not places” cast some doubt on the vitality of the open fields principle, but all such doubts were cast away in *Oliver v. United States*.⁹⁸ Invoking *Hester’s* reliance on the literal wording of the Fourth Amendment (open fields are not “effects”) and distinguishing *Katz*, the Court ruled that the open fields exception applies to fields that are fenced and posted. “[A]n individual may not legitimately demand privacy for activities conducted out of doors in fields, except in the area immediately surrounding the home.”⁹⁹ Nor may an individual demand privacy for activities conducted within outbuildings and visible by trespassers peering into the buildings from just outside.¹⁰⁰ Even within the curtilage and notwithstanding that the owner has gone to the extreme of erecting a 10-foot high fence in order to screen the area from ground-level view, there is no reasonable expectation of privacy from naked-eye inspection from fixed-wing aircraft flying in navigable airspace.¹⁰¹ Similarly, naked-eye inspection from helicopters flying even lower contravenes no reasonable expectation of privacy.¹⁰² And aerial photography of commercial facilities secured from ground-level public view is permissible, the

⁹⁶ 265 U.S. 57 (1924). See also *Air Pollution Variance Bd. v. Western Alfalfa Corp.*, 416 U.S. 86 (1974).

⁹⁷ 389 U.S. 347, 353 (1967). Cf. *Cady v. Dombrowski*, 413 U.S. 433, 450 (1973) (citing *Hester* approvingly).

⁹⁸ 466 U.S. 170 (1984) (approving warrantless intrusion past no trespassing signs and around locked gate, to view field not visible from outside property).

⁹⁹ *Id.* at 178. See also *California v. Greenwood*, 486 U.S. 35 (1988) (approving warrantless search of garbage left curbside “readily accessible to animals, children, scavengers, snoops, and other members of the public”).

¹⁰⁰ *United States v. Dunn*, 480 U.S. 294 (1987) (space immediately outside a barn, accessible only after crossing a series of “ranch-style” fences and situated one-half mile from the public road, constitutes unprotected “open field”).

¹⁰¹ *California v. Ciraolo*, 476 U.S. 207 (1986). Activities within the curtilage are nonetheless still entitled to some Fourth Amendment protection. The Court has described four considerations for determining whether an area falls within the curtilage: proximity to the home, whether the area is included within an enclosure also surrounding the home, the nature of the uses to which the area is put, and the steps taken by the resident to shield the area from view of passersby. *United States v. Dunn*, 480 U.S. 294 (1987) (barn 50 yards outside fence surrounding home, used for processing chemicals, and separated from public access only by series of livestock fences, by chained and locked driveway, and by one-half mile’s distance, is not within curtilage).

¹⁰² *Florida v. Riley*, 488 U.S. 445 (1989) (view through partially open roof of greenhouse).

Court finding such spaces more analogous to open fields than to the curtilage of a dwelling.¹⁰³

“Plain View.”—Somewhat similar in rationale is the rule that objects falling in the “plain view” of an officer who has a right to be in the position to have that view are subject to seizure without a warrant¹⁰⁴ or that if the officer needs a warrant or probable cause to search and seize his lawful observation will provide grounds therefor.¹⁰⁵ The plain view doctrine is limited, however, by the probable cause requirement: officers must have probable cause to believe that items in plain view are contraband before they may search or seize them.¹⁰⁶

The Court has analogized from the plain view doctrine to hold that once officers have lawfully observed contraband, “the owner’s privacy interest in that item is lost,” and officers may reseal a container, trace its path through a controlled delivery, and seize and reopen the container without a warrant.¹⁰⁷

Public Schools.—In *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*,¹⁰⁸ the Court set forth the principles governing searches by public school authorities. The Fourth Amendment applies to searches conducted by public school officials because “school officials act as representatives of the

¹⁰³ *Dow Chemical Co. v. United States*, 476 U.S. 227 (1986) (suggesting that aerial photography of the curtilage would be impermissible).

¹⁰⁴ *Washington v. Chrisman*, 455 U.S. 1 (1982) (officer lawfully in dorm room may seize marijuana seeds and pipe in open view); *United States v. Santana*, 427 U.S. 38 (1976) (“plain view” justification for officers to enter home to arrest after observing defendant standing in open doorway); *Harris v. United States*, 390 U.S. 234 (1968) (officer who opened door of impounded automobile and saw evidence in plain view properly seized it); *Ker v. California*, 374 U.S. 23 (1963) (officers entered premises without warrant to make arrest because of exigent circumstances seized evidence in plain sight). *Cf. Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 464–73 (1971), and *id.* at 510 (Justice White dissenting). *Maryland v. Buie*, 494 U.S. 325 (1990) (items seized in plain view during protective sweep of home incident to arrest); *Texas v. Brown*, 460 U.S. 730 (1983) (contraband on car seat in plain view of officer who had stopped car and asked for driver’s license); *New York v. Class*, 475 U.S. 106 (1986) (evidence seen while looking for vehicle identification number). There is no requirement that the discovery of evidence in plain view must be “inadvertent.” *See Horton v. California*, 496 U.S. 128 (1990) (in spite of Amendment’s particularity requirement, officers with warrant to search for *proceeds* of robbery may seize *weapons* of robbery in plain view).

¹⁰⁵ *Steele v. United States*, 267 U.S. 498 (1925) (officers observed contraband in view through open doorway; had probable cause to procure warrant). *Cf. Taylor v. United States*, 286 U.S. 1 (1932) (officers observed contraband in plain view in garage, warrantless entry to seize was unconstitutional).

¹⁰⁶ *Arizona v. Hicks*, 480 U.S. 321 (1987) (police lawfully in apartment to investigate shooting lacked probable cause to inspect expensive stereo equipment to record serial numbers).

¹⁰⁷ *Illinois v. Andreas*, 463 U.S. 765, 771 (1983) (locker customs agents had opened, and which was subsequently traced). *Accord, United States v. Jacobsen*, 466 U.S. 109 (1984) (inspection of package opened by private freight carrier who notified drug agents).

¹⁰⁸ 469 U.S. 325 (1985).

State, not merely as surrogates for the parents.”¹⁰⁹ However, “the school setting requires some easing of the restrictions to which searches by public authorities are ordinarily subject.”¹¹⁰ Neither the warrant requirement nor the probable cause standard is appropriate, the Court ruled. Instead, a simple reasonableness standard governs all searches of students’ persons and effects by school authorities.¹¹¹ A search must be reasonable at its inception, i.e., there must be “reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school.”¹¹² School searches must also be reasonably related in scope to the circumstances justifying the interference, and “not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.”¹¹³ In applying these rules, the Court upheld as reasonable the search of a student’s purse to determine whether the student, accused of violating a school rule by smoking in the lavatory, possessed cigarettes. The search for cigarettes uncovered evidence of drug activity held admissible in a prosecution under the juvenile laws.

Government Offices.—Similar principles apply to a public employer’s work-related search of its employees’ offices, desks, or file cabinets, except that in this context the Court distinguished searches conducted for law enforcement purposes. In *O’Connor v. Ortega*,¹¹⁴ a majority of Justices agreed, albeit on somewhat differing rationales, that neither a warrant nor a probable cause requirement should apply to employer searches “for noninvestigatory, work-related purposes, as well as for investigations of work-related misconduct.”¹¹⁵ Four Justices would require a case-by-case inquiry into the reasonableness of such searches;¹¹⁶ one would hold that such searches “do not violate the Fourth Amendment.”¹¹⁷

Prisons and Regulation of Probation.—Searches of prison cells by prison administrators are not limited even by a reasonableness standard, the Court having held that “the Fourth Amendment

¹⁰⁹ Id. at 336 (1984).

¹¹⁰ Id. at 340.

¹¹¹ This single rule, the Court explained, will permit school authorities “to regulate their conduct according to the dictates of reason and common sense.” 469 U.S. at 343. Rejecting the suggestion of dissenting Justice Stevens, the Court was “unwilling to adopt a standard under which the legality of a search is dependent upon a judge’s evaluation of the relative importance of various school rules.” Id. at n.9.

¹¹² 469 U.S. at 342.

¹¹³ Id.

¹¹⁴ 480 U.S. 709 (1987).

¹¹⁵ 480 U.S. at 725. Not at issue was whether there must be individualized suspicion for investigations of work-related misconduct.

¹¹⁶ This position was stated in Justice O’Connor’s plurality opinion, joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and by Justices White and Powell.

¹¹⁷ 480 U.S. at 732 (Scalia, J., concurring in judgment).

proscription against unreasonable searches does not apply within the confines of the prison cell.”¹¹⁸ Thus, prison administrators may conduct random “shakedown” searches of inmates’ cells without the need to adopt any established practice or plan, and inmates must look to the Eighth Amendment or to state tort law for redress against harassment, malicious property destruction, and the like.

Neither a warrant nor probable cause is needed for an administrative search of a probationer’s home. It is enough, the Court ruled in *Griffin v. Wisconsin*, that such a search was conducted pursuant to a valid regulation that itself satisfies the Fourth Amendment’s reasonableness standard (e.g., by requiring “reasonable grounds” for a search).¹¹⁹ “A State’s operation of a probation system, like its operation of a school, government office or prison, or its supervision of a regulated industry, . . . presents ‘special needs’ beyond normal law enforcement that may justify departures from the usual warrant and probable cause requirements.”¹²⁰ “Probation, like incarceration, is a form of criminal sanction,” the Court noted, and a warrant or probable cause requirement would interfere with the “ongoing [non-adversarial] supervisory relationship” required for proper functioning of the system.¹²¹

Drug Testing.—In two 1989 decisions the Court held that no warrant, probable cause, or even individualized suspicion is required for mandatory drug testing of certain classes of railroad and public employees. In each case, “special needs beyond the normal need for law enforcement” were identified as justifying the drug testing. In *Skinner v. Railway Labor Executives’ Ass’n*,¹²² the Court upheld regulations requiring railroads to administer blood, urine, and breath tests to employees involved in certain train accidents or violating certain safety rules; upheld in *National Treasury Employees Union v. Von Raab*¹²³ was a Customs Service screening program requiring urinalysis testing of employees seeking transfer or promotion to positions having direct involvement with drug interdiction, or to positions requiring the incumbent to carry firearms. The Court in *Skinner* found a “compelling” governmental interest in testing the railroad employees without any showing of individualized suspicion, since operation of trains by anyone impaired by drugs “can cause great human loss before any signs of impair-

¹¹⁸ *Hudson v. Palmer*, 468 U.S. 517, 526 (1984).

¹¹⁹ 483 U.S. 868 (1987) (search based on information from police detective that there was or might be contraband in probationer’s apartment).

¹²⁰ 483 U.S. at 873–74.

¹²¹ *Id.* at 718, 721.

¹²² 489 U.S. 602 (1989).

¹²³ 489 U.S. 656 (1989).

ment become noticeable.”¹²⁴ By contrast, the intrusions on privacy were termed “limited.” Blood and breath tests were passed off as routine; the urine test, while more intrusive, was deemed permissible because of the “diminished expectation of privacy” in employees having some responsibility for safety in a pervasively regulated industry.¹²⁵ The lower court’s emphasis on the limited effectiveness of the urine test (it detects past drug use but not necessarily the level of impairment) was misplaced, the Court ruled. It is enough that the test may provide some useful information for an accident investigation; in addition, the test may promote deterrence as well as detection of drug use.¹²⁶ In *Von Raab* the governmental interests underlying the Customs Service’s screening program were also termed “compelling”: to ensure that persons entrusted with a firearm and the possible use of deadly force not suffer from drug-induced impairment of perception and judgment, and that “front-line [drug] interdiction personnel [be] physically fit, and have unimpeachable integrity and judgment.”¹²⁷ The possibly “substantial” interference with privacy interests of these Customs employees was justified, the Court concluded, because, “[u]nlike most private citizens or government employees generally, they have a “diminished expectation of privacy.”¹²⁸

So far the Court has not ruled on a random drug testing program, having since *Skinner* and *Von Raab* refused to hear other challenges to drug testing.¹²⁹ Answers to remaining questions, *e.g.*,

¹²⁴ 489 U.S. at 628.

¹²⁵ *Id.* at 628.

¹²⁶ *Id.* at 631–32.

¹²⁷ *Von Raab*, 489 U.S. at 670–71. Dissenting Justice Scalia discounted the “feeble justifications” relied upon by the Court, believing instead that the “only plausible explanation” for the drug testing program was the “symbolism” of a government agency setting an example for other employers to follow. 489 U.S. at 686–87.

¹²⁸ *Id.* at 672.

¹²⁹ *See, e.g.*, *Policemen’s Benevolent Ass’n Local 318 v. Township of Washington*, 850 F.2d 133 (3d Cir. 1988), *cert. denied* 490 U.S. 1004 (1989) (random urinalysis testing of police officers upheld); *Copeland v. Philadelphia Police Dep’t*, 840 F.2d 1139 (3d Cir. 1988), *cert. denied* 490 U.S. 1004 (upholding testing of police officer based on “reasonable suspicion”); *Alverado v. WPPSS*, 759 P.2d 427 (Wash. 1988), *cert. denied* 490 U.S. 1004 (upholding pre-employment drug screening for nuclear power plant workers); *Harmon v. Thornburgh*, 878 F.2d 484 (D.C. Cir. 1989), *cert. denied sub nom.* *Bell v. Thornburgh*, 493 U.S. 1056 (1990) (approving random testing of Department of Justice employees with top secret security clearances); *National Fed’n of Fed. Employees v. Cheney*, 892 F.2d 98 (D.C. Cir. 1989) *cert. denied* 493 U.S. 1056 (1990) (upholding random testing of U.S. Army civilian employees in “critical” jobs, *e.g.*, aircraft crews and mechanics, security guards, and drug counselors); *Guiney v. Roache*, 873 F.2d 1557 (1st Cir. 1989), *cert. denied* 493 U.S. 963 (upholding random testing of Boston police officers who carry firearms or participate in drug interdiction); *AFGE v. Skinner*, 885 F.2d 884 (D.C. Cir. 1989), *cert. denied* 493 U.S. 923 (1990) (upholding random drug testing of three categories of DOT employees: motor vehicle operators, hazardous material inspectors, and aircraft mechanics); *Jones v. McKenzie*, 833 F.2d 335 (D.C. Cir. 1987), *vacated and remanded*

whether other drug testing programs not so closely tied to safety and security concerns serve “compelling” governmental interests, whether other classes of employees have a diminished expectation of privacy, and whether more intrusive testing procedures are permissible,¹³⁰ must therefore await future litigation.

Electronic Surveillance and the Fourth Amendment

The Olmstead Case.—With the invention of the microphone, the telephone, and the dictograph recorder, it became possible to “eavesdrop” with much greater secrecy and expediency. Inevitably, the use of electronic devices in law enforcement was challenged, and in 1928 the Court reviewed convictions obtained on the basis of evidence gained through taps on telephone wires in violation of state law. On a five-to-four vote, the Court held that wiretapping was not within the confines of the Fourth Amendment.¹³¹ Chief Justice Taft, writing the opinion of the Court, relied on two lines of argument for the conclusion. First, inasmuch as the Amendment was designed to protect one’s property interest in his premises, there was no search so long as there was no physical trespass on premises owned or controlled by a defendant. Second, all the evidence obtained had been secured by hearing, and the interception of a conversation could not qualify as a seizure, for the Amendment referred only to the seizure of tangible items. Furthermore, the violation of state law did not render the evidence excludible, since the exclusionary rule operated only on evidence seized in violation of the Constitution.¹³²

sub nom. Jenkins v. Jones, 490 U.S. 1001 (1989) (court of appeals had upheld testing of school bus drivers only in the context of a routine medical exam).

¹³⁰ In *Skinner* the Court emphasized that the FRA regulations “do not require” direct observation by a monitor (although, as the dissent pointed out, 489 U.S. at 646, the FRA Field Manual *did* so require) and that the sample is collected “in a medical environment” (id. at 626); the Customs screening program at issue in *Von Raab* similarly did not require direct observation of urination, and in addition gave job applicants advance notice of testing.

¹³¹ *Olmstead v. United States*, 277 U.S. 438 (1928).

¹³² Among the dissenters were Justice Holmes, who characterized “illegal” wiretapping as “dirty business,” id. at 470, and Justice Brandeis, who contributed to his opinion the famous peroration about government as “the potent, the omnipresent, teacher” which “breeds contempt for law” among the people by its example. Id. at 485. More relevant here was his lengthy argument rejecting the premises of the majority, an argument which later became the law of the land. (1) “To protect [the right to be left alone], every unjustifiable intrusion by the Government upon the privacy of the individual, whatever the means employed, must be deemed a violation of the Fourth Amendment.” Id. at 478. (2) “There is, in essence, no difference between the sealed letter and the private telephone message. . . . The evil incident to invasion of the privacy of the telephone is far greater than that involved in tampering with the mails. Whenever a telephone line is tapped, the privacy of the persons at both ends of the line is invaded and all conversations between them upon any subject . . . may be overheard.” Id. at 475–76.

Federal Communications Act.—Six years after the decision in the *Olmstead* case, Congress enacted the Federal Communications Act and included in §605 of the Act a broadly worded proscription on which the Court seized to place some limitation upon governmental wiretapping.¹³³ Thus, in *Nardone v. United States*,¹³⁴ the Court held that wiretapping by federal officers could violate §605 if the officers both intercepted and divulged the contents of the conversation they overheard, and that testimony in court would constitute a form of prohibited divulgence. Such evidence was therefore excluded, although wiretapping was not illegal under the Court's interpretation if the information was not used outside the governmental agency. Because §605 applied to intrastate as well as interstate transmissions,¹³⁵ there was no question about the applicability of the ban to state police officers, but the Court declined to apply either the statute or the due process clause to require the exclusion of such evidence from state criminal trials.¹³⁶ State efforts to legalize wiretapping pursuant to court orders were held by the Court to be precluded by the fact that Congress in §605 had intended to occupy the field completely to the exclusion of the States.¹³⁷

Nontelephonic Electronic Surveillance.—The trespass rationale of *Olmstead* was utilized in cases dealing with “bugging” of premises rather than with tapping of telephones. Thus, in *Goldman v. United States*,¹³⁸ the Court found no Fourth Amendment violation when a listening device was placed against a party wall so

¹³³Ch. 652, 48 Stat. 1103 (1934), providing, inter alia, that “. . . no person not being authorized by the sender shall intercept any communication and divulge or publish the existence, contents, purport, effect, or meaning of such intercepted communication to any person.” Nothing in the legislative history indicated what Congress had in mind in including this language. The section, which appeared at 47 U.S.C. §605, was rewritten by Title III of the Omnibus Crime Act of 1968, 82 Stat. 22, §803, so that the “regulation of the interception of wire or oral communications in the future is to be governed by” the provisions of Title III. S. REP. NO. 1097, 90th Cong., 2d Sess. 107–08 (1968).

¹³⁴302 U.S. 379 (1937). Derivative evidence, that is, evidence discovered as a result of information obtained through a wiretap, was similarly inadmissible, *Nardone v. United States*, 308 U.S. 338 (1939), although the testimony of witnesses might be obtained through the exploitation of wiretap information. *Goldstein v. United States*, 316 U.S. 114 (1942). Eavesdropping on a conversation on an extension telephone with the consent of one of the parties did not violate the statute. *Rathbun v. United States*, 355 U.S. 107 (1957).

¹³⁵*Weiss v. United States*, 308 U.S. 321 (1939).

¹³⁶*Schwartz v. Texas*, 344 U.S. 199 (1952). At this time, evidence obtained in violation of the Fourth Amendment could be admitted in state courts. *Wolf v. Colorado*, 338 U.S. 25 (1949). Although *Wolf* was overruled by *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643 (1961), it was some seven years later and after wiretapping itself had been made subject to the Fourth Amendment that *Schwartz* was overruled in *Lee v. Florida*, 392 U.S. 378 (1968).

¹³⁷*Bananti v. United States*, 355 U.S. 96 (1957).

¹³⁸316 U.S. 129 (1942).

that conversations were overheard on the other side. But when officers drove a “spike mike” into a party wall until it came into contact with a heating duct and thus broadcast defendant’s conversations, the Court determined that the trespass brought the case within the Amendment.¹³⁹ In so holding, the Court, without alluding to the matter, overruled in effect the second rationale of *Olmstead*, the premise that conversations could not be seized.

The Berger and Katz Cases.—In *Berger v. New York*,¹⁴⁰ the Court confirmed the obsolescence of the alternative holding in *Olmstead* that conversations could not be seized in the Fourth Amendment sense.¹⁴¹ *Berger* held unconstitutional on its face a state eavesdropping statute under which judges were authorized to issue warrants permitting police officers to trespass on private premises to install listening devices. The warrants were to be issued upon a showing of “reasonable ground to believe that evidence of crime may be thus obtained, and particularly describing the person or persons whose communications, conversations or discussions are to be overheard or recorded.” For the five-Justice majority, Justice Clark discerned several constitutional defects in the law. “First, . . . eavesdropping is authorized without requiring belief that any particular offense has been or is being committed; nor that the ‘property’ sought, the conversations, be particularly described.

“The purpose of the probable-cause requirement of the Fourth Amendment to keep the state out of constitutionally protected areas until it has reason to believe that a specific crime has been or is being committed is thereby wholly aborted. Likewise the statute’s failure to describe with particularity the conversations sought gives the officer a roving commission to ‘seize’ any and all conversations. It is true that the statute requires the naming of ‘the person or persons whose communications, conversations or discussions are to be overheard or recorded. . . .’ But this does no more than identify the person whose constitutionally protected area is to be invaded rather than ‘particularly describing’ the communications, conversations, or discussions to be seized. . . . Secondly, authorization of eavesdropping for a two-month period is the equivalent of a series of intrusions, searches, and seizures pursuant to a single showing of probable cause. Prompt execution is also avoided. During such a long and continuous (24 hours a day) period the con-

¹³⁹ *Silverman v. United States*, 365 U.S. 505 (1961). See also *Clinton v. Virginia*, 377 U.S. 158 (1964) (physical trespass found with regard to amplifying device stuck in a partition wall with a thumb tack).

¹⁴⁰ 388 U.S. 41 (1967).

¹⁴¹ *Id.* at 50–53.

versations of any and all persons coming into the area covered by the device will be seized indiscriminately and without regard to their connection with the crime under investigation. Moreover, the statute permits. . . extensions of the original two-month period—presumably for two months each—on a mere showing that such extension is ‘in the public interest.’ . . . Third, the statute places no termination date on the eavesdrop once the conversation sought is seized. . . . Finally, the statute’s procedure, necessarily because its success depends on secrecy, has no requirement for notice as do conventional warrants, nor does it overcome this defect by requiring some showing of special facts. On the contrary, it permits unconsented entry without any showing of exigent circumstances. Such a showing of exigency, in order to avoid notice, would appear more important in eavesdropping, with its inherent dangers, than that required when conventional procedures of search and seizure are utilized. Nor does the statute provide for a return on the warrant thereby leaving full discretion in the officer as to the use of seized conversations of innocent as well as guilty parties. In short, the statute’s blanket grant of permission to eavesdrop is without adequate judicial supervision or protective procedures.”¹⁴²

Both Justices Black and White in dissent accused the *Berger* majority of so construing the Fourth Amendment that no wire-tapping-eavesdropping statute could pass constitutional scrutiny,¹⁴³ and in *Katz v. United States*,¹⁴⁴ the Court in an opinion by one of the *Berger* dissenters, Justice Stewart, modified some of its language and pointed to Court approval of some types of statutorily-authorized electronic surveillance. Just as *Berger* had confirmed that one rationale of the *Olmstead* decision, the inapplicability of “seizure” to conversations, was no longer valid, *Katz* disposed of the other rationale. In the latter case, officers had affixed a listening device to the outside wall of a telephone booth regularly used by Katz and activated it each time he entered; since there had been no physical trespass into the booth, the lower courts held the Fourth Amendment not relevant. The Court disagreed, saying that “once it is recognized that the Fourth Amendment protects peo-

¹⁴² *Id.* at 58–60. Justice Stewart concurred because he thought that the affidavits in this case had not been sufficient to show probable cause, but he thought the statute constitutional in compliance with the Fourth Amendment. *Id.* at 68. Justice Black dissented, arguing that the Fourth Amendment was not applicable to electronic eavesdropping but that in any event the “search” authorized by the statute was reasonable. *Id.* at 70. Justice Harlan dissented, arguing that the statute with its judicial gloss was in compliance with the Fourth Amendment. *Id.* 89. Justice White thought both the statute and its application in this case were constitutional. *Id.* at 107.

¹⁴³ *Id.* at 71, 113.

¹⁴⁴ 389 U.S. 347 (1967).

ple—and not simply ‘areas’—against unreasonable searches and seizures, it becomes clear that the reach of that Amendment cannot turn upon the presence or absence of a physical intrusion into any given enclosure.”¹⁴⁵ Because the surveillance of Katz’s telephone calls had not been authorized by a magistrate, it was invalid; however, the Court thought that “it is clear that this surveillance was so narrowly circumscribed that a duly authorized magistrate, properly notified of the need for such investigation, specifically informed of the basis on which it was to proceed, and clearly apprised of the precise intrusion it would entail, could constitutionally have authorized, with appropriate safeguards, the very limited search and seizure that the Government asserts in fact took place.”¹⁴⁶ The notice requirement, which had loomed in *Berger* as an obstacle to successful electronic surveillance, was summarily disposed of.¹⁴⁷ Finally, Justice Stewart observed that it was unlikely that electronic surveillance would ever come under any of the established exceptions so that it could be conducted without prior judicial approval.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁵Id. at 353. “We conclude that the underpinnings of *Olmstead* and *Goldman* have been so eroded by our subsequent decisions that the ‘trespass’ doctrine there enunciated can no longer be regarded as controlling. The Government’s activities in electronically listening to and recording the petitioner’s words violated the privacy upon which he justifiably relied while using the telephone booth and thus constituted a ‘search and seizure’ within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment.” Id.

¹⁴⁶Id. at 354. The “narrowly circumscribed” nature of the surveillance was made clear by the Court in the immediately preceding passage. “[The Government agents] did not begin their electronic surveillance until investigation of the petitioner’s activities had established a strong probability that he was using the telephone in question to transmit gambling information to persons in other States, in violation of federal law. Moreover, the surveillance was limited, both in scope and in duration, to the specific purpose of establishing the contents of the petitioner’s unlawful telephonic communications. The agents confined their surveillance to the brief periods during which he used the telephone booth, and they took great care to overhear only the conversations of the petitioner himself.” Id. For similar emphasis upon precision and narrow circumscription, see *Osborn v. United States*, 385 U.S. 323, 329–30 (1966).

¹⁴⁷“A conventional warrant ordinarily serves to notify the suspect of an intended search In omitting any requirement of advance notice, the federal court . . . simply recognized, as has this Court, that officers need not announce their purpose before conducting an otherwise authorized search if such an announcement would provoke the escape of the suspect or the destruction of critical evidence.” 389 U.S. at 355 n.16.

¹⁴⁸Id. at 357–58. Justice Black dissented, feeling that the Fourth Amendment applied only to searches for and seizures of tangible things and not conversations. Id. at 364. Two “beeper” decisions support the general applicability of the warrant requirement if electronic surveillance will impair legitimate privacy interests. *Compare* *United States v. Knotts*, 460 U.S. 276 (1983) (no Fourth Amendment violation in relying on a beeper, installed without warrant, to aid in monitoring progress of a car on the public roads, since there is no legitimate expectation of privacy in destination of travel on the public roads), *with* *United States v. Karo*, 468 U.S. 705 (1984) (beeper installed without a warrant may not be used to obtain information as to the continuing presence of an item within a private residence).

Following *Katz*, Congress enacted in 1968 a comprehensive statute authorizing federal officers and permitting state officers pursuant to state legislation complying with the federal law to seek warrants for electronic surveillance to investigate violations of prescribed classes of criminal legislation.¹⁴⁹ The Court has not yet had occasion to pass on the federal statute and to determine whether its procedures and authorizations comport with the standards sketched in *Osborn*, *Berger*, and *Katz* or whether those standards are somewhat more flexible than they appear to be on the faces of the opinions.¹⁵⁰

Warrantless “National Security” Electronic Surveillance.—In *Katz v. United States*,¹⁵¹ Justice White sought to preserve for a future case the possibility that in “national security cases” electronic surveillance upon the authorization of the President or the Attorney General could be permissible without prior judicial approval. The Executive Branch then asserted the power to wiretap and to “bug” in two types of national security situations, against domestic subversion and against foreign intelligence operations, first basing its authority on a theory of “inherent” presidential power and then in the Supreme Court withdrawing to the argument that such surveillance was a “reasonable” search and seizure and therefore valid under the Fourth Amendment. Unanimously, the Court held that at least in cases of domestic subversive investigations, compliance with the warrant provisions of the Fourth Amendment was required.¹⁵² Whether or not a search was

¹⁴⁹ Title III of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, 82 Stat. 211, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510–20.

¹⁵⁰ The Court has interpreted the statute several times without reaching the constitutional questions. *United States v. Kahn*, 415 U.S. 143 (1974); *United States v. Giordano*, 416 U.S. 505 (1974); *United States v. Chavez*, 416 U.S. 562 (1974); *United States v. Donovan*, 429 U.S. 413 (1977); *Scott v. United States*, 436 U.S. 128 (1978); *Dalia v. United States*, 441 U.S. 238 (1979); *United States v. New York Telephone Co.*, 434 U.S. 159 (1977); *United States v. Caceres*, 440 U.S. 741 (1979). *Dalia supra*, did pass on one constitutional issue, whether the Fourth Amendment mandated specific warrant authorization for a surreptitious entry to install an authorized “bug.” See also *Smith v. Maryland*, 442 U.S. 735 (1979) (no reasonable expectation of privacy in numbers dialed on one’s telephone, so Fourth Amendment does not require a warrant to install “pen register” to record those numbers).

¹⁵¹ 389 U.S. 347, 363–64 (1967) (concurring opinion). Justices Douglas and Brennan rejected the suggestion. *Id.* at 359–60 (concurring opinion). When it enacted its 1968 electronic surveillance statute, Congress alluded to the problem in ambiguous fashion, 18 U.S.C. § 2511(3), which the Court subsequently interpreted as having expressed no congressional position at all. *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297, 302–08 (1972).

¹⁵² *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297 (1972). Chief Justice Burger concurred in the result and Justice White concurred on the ground that the 1968 law required a warrant in this case, and therefore did not reach the constitutional issue. *Id.* at 340. Justice Rehnquist did not participate. Justice Powell carefully noted that the case required “no judgment on the scope of the President’s

reasonable, wrote Justice Powell for the Court, was a question which derived much of its answer from the warrant clause; except in a few narrowly circumscribed classes of situations, only those searches conducted pursuant to warrants were reasonable. The Government's duty to preserve the national security did not override the guarantee that before government could invade the privacy of its citizens it must present to a neutral magistrate evidence sufficient to support issuance of a warrant authorizing that invasion of privacy.¹⁵³ This protection was even more needed in "national security cases" than in cases of "ordinary" crime, the Justice continued, inasmuch as the tendency of government so often is to regard opponents of its policies as a threat and hence to tread in areas protected by the First Amendment as well as by the Fourth.¹⁵⁴ Rejected also was the argument that courts could not appreciate the intricacies of investigations in the area of national security nor preserve the secrecy which is required.¹⁵⁵

The question of the scope of the President's constitutional powers, if any, remains judicially unsettled.¹⁵⁶ Congress has acted, however, providing for a special court to hear requests for warrants for electronic surveillance in foreign intelligence situations, and permitting the President to authorize warrantless surveillance to

surveillance power with respect to the activities of foreign powers, within or without this country." *Id.* at 308.

¹⁵³ The case contains a clear suggestion that the Court would approve a congressional provision for a different standard of probable cause in national security cases. "We recognize that domestic security surveillance may involve different policy and practical considerations from the surveillance of 'ordinary crime.' The gathering of security intelligence is often long range and involves the interrelation of various sources and types of information. The exact targets of such surveillance may be more difficult to identify than in surveillance operations against many types of crimes specified in Title III. Often, too, the emphasis of domestic intelligence gathering is on the prevention of unlawful activity or the enhancement of the Government's preparedness for some future crisis or emergency. . . . Different standards may be compatible with the Fourth Amendment if they are reasonable both in relation to the legitimate need of Government for intelligence information and the protected rights of our citizens. For the warrant application may vary according to the governmental interest to be enforced and the nature of citizen rights deserving protection. . . . It may be that Congress, for example, would judge that the application and affidavit showing probable cause need not follow the exact requirements of §2518 but should allege other circumstances more appropriate to domestic security cases. . . ." *Id.* at 322-23.

¹⁵⁴ *Id.* at 313-24.

¹⁵⁵ *Id.* at 320.

¹⁵⁶ See *United States v. Butenko*, 494 F.2d 593 (3d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 419 U.S. 881 (1974); *Zweibon v. Mitchell*, 516 F.2d 594 (D.C. Cir. 1975), *cert. denied*, 425 U.S. 944 (1976), *appeal after remand* 565 F.2d 742 (D.C. Cir. 1977), *on remand*, 444 F. Supp. 1296 (D.D.C. 1978), *aff'd. in part, rev'd. in part*, 606 F.2d 1172 (D.C. Cir. 1979), *cert. denied*, 453 U.S. 912 (1981); *Smith v. Nixon*, 606 F.2d 1183 (D.C. Cir. 1979), *cert. denied*, 453 U.S. 912 (1981); *United States v. Truong Dinh Hung*, 629 F.2d 908 (4th Cir. 1980), *after remand*, 667 F.2d 1105 (4th Cir. 1981); *Halkin v. Helms*, 690 F.2d 977 (D.C. Cir. 1982).

acquire foreign intelligence information provided that the communications to be monitored are exclusively between or among foreign powers and there is no substantial likelihood any “United States person” will be overheard.¹⁵⁷

Enforcing the Fourth Amendment: The Exclusionary Rule

A right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures is declared by the Fourth Amendment, but how one is to translate the guarantee into concrete terms is not specified. Several possible methods of enforcement have been suggested over time; however, the Supreme Court has settled, not without dissent, on only one as an effective means to make real the right.

Alternatives to the Exclusionary Rule.—Theoretically, there are several alternatives to the exclusionary rule. An illegal search and seizure may be criminally actionable and officers undertaking one thus subject to prosecution, but the examples when officers are criminally prosecuted for overzealous law enforcement are extremely rare.¹⁵⁸ A policeman who makes an illegal search and seizure is subject to internal departmental discipline which may be backed up in the few jurisdictions which have adopted them by the oversight of and participation of police review boards, but again the examples of disciplinary actions are exceedingly rare.¹⁵⁹ Persons who have been illegally arrested or who have had their privacy invaded will usually have a tort action available under state statutory or common law.

Moreover, police officers acting under color of state law who violate a person’s Fourth Amendment rights are subject to a suit for damages and other remedies¹⁶⁰ under a civil rights statute in federal courts.¹⁶¹ While federal officers and others acting under color of federal law are not subject jurisdictionally to this statute,

¹⁵⁷ Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, Pub. L. No. 95-511, 92 Stat. 1797, 50 U.S.C. §§ 1801-1811. See *United States v. Belfield*, 692 F.2d 141 (D.C. Cir. 1982) (upholding constitutionality of disclosure restrictions in Act).

¹⁵⁸ Edwards, *Criminal Liability for Unreasonable Searches and Seizures*, 41 VA. L. REV. 621 (1955).

¹⁵⁹ Goldstein, *Police Policy Formulation: A Proposal for Improving Police Performance*, 65 MICH. L. REV. 1123 (1967).

¹⁶⁰ If there are continuing and recurrent violations, federal injunctive relief would be available. Cf. *Lankford v. Gelston*, 364 F.2d 197 (4th Cir. 1966); *Wheeler v. Goodman*, 298 F. Supp. 935 (preliminary injunction), 306 F. Supp. 58 (permanent injunction) (W.D.N.C. 1969), *vacated on jurisdictional grounds*, 401 U.S. 987 (1971).

¹⁶¹ 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (1964). See *Monroe v. Pape*, 365 U.S. 167 (1961). In some circumstances, the officer’s liability may be attributed to the municipality. *Monell v. New York City Dep’t of Social Services*, 436 U.S. 658 (1978). These claims that officers have used excessive force in the course of an arrest or investigatory stop are to be analyzed under the Fourth Amendment, not under substantive due process. The test is “whether the officers’ actions are ‘objectively reasonable’ under the facts and circumstances confronting them.” *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 397 (1989).

the Supreme Court has recently held that a right to damages for violation of Fourth Amendment rights arises by implication out of the guarantees secured and that this right is enforceable in federal courts.¹⁶² While a damage remedy might be made more effectual,¹⁶³ a number of legal and practical problems stand in the way.¹⁶⁴ Police officers have available to them the usual common-law defenses, most important of which is the claim of good faith.¹⁶⁵ Federal officers are entitled to qualified immunity based on an objectively reasonable belief that a warrantless search later determined to violate the Fourth Amendment was supported by probable cause or exigent circumstances.¹⁶⁶ And on the practical side, persons subjected to illegal arrests and searches and seizures are often disreputable persons toward whom juries are unsympathetic, or they are indigent and unable to bring suit. The result, therefore, is that the Court has emphasized exclusion of unconstitutionally seized evidence in subsequent criminal trials as the only effective enforcement method.

Development of the Exclusionary Rule.—Exclusion of evidence as a remedy for Fourth Amendment violations found its beginning in *Boyd v. United States*,¹⁶⁷ which, as was noted above, involved not a search and seizure but a compulsory production of business papers which the Court likened to a search and seizure. Further, the Court analogized the Fifth Amendment's self-incrimination provision to the Fourth Amendment's protections to derive a rule which required exclusion of the compelled evidence because the defendant had been compelled to incriminate himself by producing it.¹⁶⁸ The *Boyd* case was closely limited to its facts and an

¹⁶² *Bivens v. Six Unknown Fed. Narcotics Agents*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971). The possibility had been hinted at in *Bell v. Hood*, 327 U.S. 678 (1946).

¹⁶³ See, e.g., Chief Justice Burger's dissent in *Bivens v. Six Unknown Fed. Narcotics Agents*, 403 U.S. 388, 411, 422–24 (1971), which suggests suit against the Government in a special tribunal and the abolition of the exclusionary rule.

¹⁶⁴ Foote, *Tort Remedies for Police Violations of Individual Rights*, 39 MINN. L. REV. 493 (1955).

¹⁶⁵ This is the rule in actions under 42 U.S.C. §1983, *Pierson v. Ray*, 386 U.S. 547 (1967), and on remand in *Bivens* the Court of Appeals promulgated the same rule to govern trial of the action. *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics*, 456 F.2d 1339 (2d Cir. 1972).

¹⁶⁶ *Anderson v. Creighton*, 483 U.S. 635 (1987). The dissenting Justices argued, inter alia, that such a principle is more appropriately applied as an affirmative defense, thereby allowing resolution of factual disputes prior to determining objective reasonableness of an officer's actions. 483 U.S. at 655 (Stevens, J.). See also *Malley v. Briggs*, 475 U.S. 335, 345 (1986) (qualified immunity protects police officers who applied for a warrant unless "a reasonably well-trained officer in [the same] position would have known that his affidavit failed to establish probable cause and that he should not have applied for a warrant").

¹⁶⁷ 116 U.S. 616 (1886).

¹⁶⁸ "We have already noticed the intimate relation between the two Amendments. They throw great light on each other. For the 'unreasonable searches and

exclusionary rule based on Fourth Amendment violations was rejected by the Court a few years later, with the Justices adhering to the common-law rule that evidence was admissible however acquired.¹⁶⁹

Nevertheless, ten years later the common-law view was itself rejected and an exclusionary rule propounded in *Weeks v. United States*.¹⁷⁰ *Weeks* had been convicted on the basis of evidence seized from his home in the course of two warrantless searches; some of the evidence consisted of private papers like those sought to be compelled in the *Boyd* case. Unanimously, the Court held that the evidence should have been excluded by the trial court. The Fourth Amendment, Justice Day said, placed on the courts as well as on law enforcement officers restraints on the exercise of power compatible with its guarantees. "The tendency of those who execute the criminal laws of the country to obtain convictions by means of unlawful searches and enforced confessions . . . should find no sanction in the judgment of the courts which are charged at all times with the support of the Constitution and to which people of all conditions have a right to appeal for the maintenance of such fundamental rights."¹⁷¹ The ruling is ambiguously based but seems to have had as its foundation an assumption that admission of illegally-seized evidence would itself violate the Amendment. "If letters and private documents can thus be seized and held and used in evidence against a citizen accused of an offense, the protection of the Fourth Amendment declaring his right to be secured against such searches and seizures is of no value, and, so far as those thus placed are concerned, might as well be stricken from the Constitu-

seizures' condemned in the Fourth Amendment are almost always made for the purpose of compelling a man to give evidence against himself, which in criminal cases is condemned in the Fifth Amendment; and compelling a man in a criminal case to be a witness against himself, which is condemned in the Fifth Amendment, throws light on the question as to what is an 'unreasonable search and seizure' within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment. And we have been unable to perceive that the seizure of a man's private books and papers to be used in evidence against him is substantially different from compelling him to be a witness against himself. We think it is within the clear intent and meaning of those terms." *Id.* at 633. It was this utilization of the Fifth Amendment's clearly required exclusionary rule, rather than one implied from the Fourth, on which Justice Black relied and absent a Fifth Amendment self-incrimination violation he did not apply such a rule. *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 661 (1961) (concurring opinion); *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 493, 496-500 (1971) (dissenting opinion). The theory of a "convergence" of the two Amendments has now been disavowed by the Court. *Supra*, pp. 1225-26.

¹⁶⁹ *Adams v. New York*, 192 U.S. 585 (1904). Since the case arose from a state court and concerned a search by state officers, it could have been decided simply by holding that the Fourth Amendment was inapplicable. *See National Safe Deposit Co. v. Stead*, 232 U.S. 58, 71 (1914).

¹⁷⁰ 232 U.S. 383 (1914).

¹⁷¹ *Id.* at 392.

tion. The efforts of the courts and their officials to bring the guilty to punishment, praiseworthy as they are, are not to be aided by the sacrifice of those great principles established by years of endeavor and suffering which have resulted in their embodiment in the fundamental law of the land.”¹⁷²

Because the Fourth Amendment did not restrict the actions of state officers,¹⁷³ there was no question about the application of an exclusionary rule in state courts¹⁷⁴ as a mandate of federal constitutional policy.¹⁷⁵ But in *Wolf v. Colorado*,¹⁷⁶ a unanimous Court held that freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures was such a fundamental right as to be protected against state violations by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.¹⁷⁷ However, the Court held that the right thus guaranteed did not require that the exclusionary rule be applied in the state courts, since there were other means to observe and enforce the right. “Granting that in practice the exclusion of evidence may be an effective way of deterring unreasonable searches, it is not for this Court to condemn as falling below the minimal standards assured

¹⁷² *Id.* at 393.

¹⁷³ *Smith v. Maryland*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 71, 76 (1855); *National Safe Deposit Co. v. Stead*, 232 U.S. 58, 71 (1914). *See supra*, p. 957.

¹⁷⁴ The history of the exclusionary rule in the state courts was surveyed by Justice Frankfurter in *Wolf v. Colorado*, 338 U.S. 25, 29, 33–38 (1949). The matter was canvassed again in *Elkins v. United States*, 364 U.S. 206, 224–32 (1960).

¹⁷⁵ During the period in which the Constitution did not impose any restrictions on state searches and seizures, the Court permitted the introduction in evidence in federal courts of items seized by state officers which had they been seized by federal officers would have been inadmissible, *Weeks v. United States*, 232 U.S. 383, 398 (1914), so long as no federal officer participated in the search, *Byars v. United States*, 273 U.S. 28 (1927), or the search was not made on behalf of federal law enforcement purposes. *Gambino v. United States*, 275 U.S. 310 (1927). This rule became known as the “silver platter doctrine” after the phrase coined by Justice Frankfurter in *Lustig v. United States*, 338 U.S. 74, 78–79 (1949): “The crux of that doctrine is that a search is a search by a federal official if he had a hand in it; it is not a search by a federal official if evidence secured by state authorities is turned over to the federal authorities on a silver platter.” In *Elkins v. United States*, 364 U.S. 206 (1960), the doctrine was discarded by a five-to-four majority which held that inasmuch as *Wolf v. Colorado*, 338 U.S. 25 (1949), had made state searches and seizures subject to federal constitutional restrictions through the Fourteenth Amendment’s due process clause, the “silver platter doctrine” was no longer constitutionally viable. During this same period, since state courts were free to admit any evidence no matter how obtained, evidence illegally seized by federal officers could be used in state courts, *Wilson v. Schnettler*, 365 U.S. 381 (1961), although the Supreme Court ruled out such a course if the evidence had first been offered in a federal trial and had been suppressed. *Rea v. United States*, 350 U.S. 214 (1956).

¹⁷⁶ 338 U.S. 25 (1949).

¹⁷⁷ “The security of one’s privacy against arbitrary intrusion by the police—which is at the core of the Fourth Amendment—is basic to a free society. It is therefore implicit in ‘the concept of ordered liberty’ and as such enforceable against the States through the Due Process Clause.” *Id.* at 27–28.

by the Due Process Clause a State's reliance upon other methods which, if consistently enforced, would be equally effective."¹⁷⁸

It developed, however, that the Court had not vested in the States total discretion in regard to the admissibility of evidence, as the Court proceeded to evaluate under the due process clause the methods by which the evidence had been obtained. Thus, in *Rochin v. California*,¹⁷⁹ evidence of narcotics possession had been obtained by forcible administration of an emetic to defendant at a hospital after officers had been unsuccessful in preventing him from swallowing certain capsules. The evidence, said Justice Frankfurter for the Court, should have been excluded because the police methods were too objectionable. "This is conduct that shocks the conscience. Illegally breaking into the privacy of the petitioner, the struggle to open his mouth and remove what was there, the forcible extraction of his stomach's contents . . . is bound to offend even hardened sensibilities. They are methods too close to the rack and screw."¹⁸⁰ The *Rochin* standard was limited in *Irvine v. California*,¹⁸¹ in which defendant was convicted of bookmaking activities on the basis of evidence secured by police who repeatedly broke into his house and concealed electronic gear to broadcast every conversation in the house. Justice Jackson's plurality opinion asserted that *Rochin* had been occasioned by the element of brutality, and that while the police conduct in *Irvine* was blatantly illegal the admissibility of the evidence was governed by *Wolf*, which should be consistently applied for purposes of guidance to state courts. The Justice also entertained considerable doubts about the efficacy of the exclusionary rule.¹⁸² *Rochin* emerged as the standard, however, in a later case in which the Court sustained the admissibility of the results of a blood test administered while defendant was unconscious in a hospital following a traffic accident, the Court observing the routine nature of the test and the minimal intrusion into bodily privacy.¹⁸³

¹⁷⁸ *Id.* at 31. Justices Douglas, Murphy, and Rutledge dissented with regard to the issue of the exclusionary rule and Justice Black concurred.

¹⁷⁹ 342 U.S. 165 (1952). The police had initially entered defendant's house without a warrant. Justices Black and Douglas concurred in the result on self-incrimination grounds.

¹⁸⁰ *Id.* at 172.

¹⁸¹ 347 U.S. 128 (1954).

¹⁸² *Id.* at 134–38. Justice Clark, concurring, announced his intention to vote to apply the exclusionary rule to the States when the votes were available. *Id.* at 138. Justices Black and Douglas dissented on self-incrimination grounds, *id.* at 139, and Justice Douglas continued to urge the application of the exclusionary rule to the States. *Id.* at 149. Justices Frankfurter and Burton dissented on due process grounds, arguing the relevance of *Rochin*. *Id.* at 142.

¹⁸³ *Breithaupt v. Abram*, 352 U.S. 432 (1957). Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black and Douglas dissented. Though a due process case, the results of the case

Then, in *Mapp v. Ohio*,¹⁸⁴ the Court held that the exclusionary rule should and did apply to the States. It was “logically and constitutionally necessary,” wrote Justice Clark for the majority, “that the exclusion doctrine—an essential part of the right to privacy—be also insisted upon as an essential ingredient of the right” to be secure from unreasonable searches and seizures. “To hold otherwise is to grant the right but in reality to withhold its privilege and enjoyment.”¹⁸⁵ Further, the Court then held that since illegally-seized evidence was to be excluded from both federal and state courts, the standards by which the question of legality was to be determined should be the same, regardless of whether the court in which the evidence was offered was state or federal.¹⁸⁶

The Foundations of the Exclusionary Rule.—Important to determination of such questions as the application of the exclusionary rule to the States and the ability of Congress to abolish or to limit it is the fixing of the constitutional source and the basis of the rule. For some time, it was not clear whether the exclusionary rule was derived from the Fourth Amendment, from some union of the Fourth and Fifth Amendments, or from the Court’s supervisory power over the lower federal courts. It will be recalled that in *Boyd*¹⁸⁷ the Court fused the search and seizure clause with the provision of the Fifth Amendment protecting against compelled self-incrimination. *Weeks v. United States*,¹⁸⁸ though the Fifth Amendment was mentioned, seemed to be clearly based on the Fourth Amendment. Nevertheless, in opinions following *Weeks* the Court clearly identified the basis for the exclusionary rule as the self-incrimination clause of the Fifth Amendment.¹⁸⁹ Then in

have been reaffirmed directly in a Fourth Amendment case. *Schmerber v. California*, 384 U.S. 757 (1966).

¹⁸⁴ 367 U.S. 643 (1961).

¹⁸⁵ *Id.* at 655–56. Justice Black concurred, doubting that the Fourth Amendment itself compelled adoption of an exclusionary rule but relying on the Fifth Amendment for authority. *Id.* at 661. Justice Stewart would not have reached the issue but would have reversed on other grounds, *id.* at 672, while Justices Harlan, Frankfurter, and Whittaker dissented, preferring to adhere to *Wolf*. *Id.* at 672. Justice Harlan advocated the overruling of *Mapp* down to the conclusion of his service on the Court. See *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 490 (1971) (concurring opinion).

¹⁸⁶ *Ker v. California*, 374 U.S. 23 (1963).

¹⁸⁷ *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616 (1886).

¹⁸⁸ 232 U.S. 383 (1914). Defendant’s room had been searched and papers seized by officers acting without a warrant. “If letters and private documents can thus be seized and held and used in evidence against a citizen accused of an offense, the protection of the Fourth Amendment declaring his right to be secure against such searches and seizures is of no value, and, so far as those thus placed are concerned, might as well be stricken from the Constitution.” *Id.* at 393.

¹⁸⁹ E.g., *Gouled v. United States*, 255 U.S. 298, 306, 307 (1921); *Amos v. United States*, 255 U.S. 313, 316 (1921); *Agnello v. United States*, 269 U.S. 20, 33–34 (1925); *McGuire v. United States*, 273 U.S. 95, 99 (1927). In *Olmstead v. United*

Mapp v. Ohio,¹⁹⁰ the Court tied the rule strictly to the Fourth Amendment, finding exclusion of evidence seized in violation of the Amendment to be the “most important constitutional privilege” of the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures, finding that the rule was “an essential part of the right of privacy” protected by the Amendment.

“This Court has ever since [*Weeks* was decided in 1914] required of federal law officers a strict adherence to that command which this Court has held to be a clear, specific, and *constitutionally required*—even if judicially implied—deterrent safeguard without insistence upon which the Fourth Amendment would have been reduced to a ‘form of words.’”¹⁹¹ It was a necessary step in the application of the rule to the States to find that the rule was of constitutional origin rather than a result of an exercise of the Court’s supervisory power over the lower federal courts, inasmuch as the latter could not constitutionally be extended to the state courts.¹⁹² In fact, Justice Frankfurter seemed to find the exclusionary rule to be based on the Court’s supervisory powers in *Wolf v. Colorado*¹⁹³ in declining to extend the rule to the States. That the

States, 277 U.S. 438, 462 (1928), Chief Justice Taft ascribed the rule both to the Fourth and the Fifth Amendments, while in dissent Justices Holmes and Brandeis took the view that the Fifth Amendment was violated by the admission of evidence seized in violation of the Fourth. *Id.* at 469, 478–79. Justice Black was the only modern proponent of this view. *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 661 (1961) (concurring opinion); *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 493, 496–500 (1971) (dissenting opinion). See, however, Justice Clark’s plurality opinion in *Ker v. California*, 374 U.S. 23, 30 (1963), in which he brought up the self-incrimination clause as a supplementary source of the rule, a position which he had discarded in *Mapp*.

¹⁹⁰367 U.S. 643, 656 (1961). *Wolf v. Colorado*, 338 U.S. 25, 28 (1949), also ascribed the rule to the Fourth Amendment exclusively.

¹⁹¹*Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 648 (1961) (emphasis supplied).

¹⁹²An example of an exclusionary rule not based on constitutional grounds may be found in *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332 (1943), and *Mallory v. United States*, 354 U.S. 449 (1957), in which the Court enforced a requirement that arrestees be promptly presented to a magistrate by holding that incriminating admissions obtained during the period beyond a reasonable time for presentation would be inadmissible. The rule was not extended to the States, cf. *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 598–602 (1961), but the Court’s resort to the self-incrimination clause in reviewing confessions made such application irrelevant in most cases in any event. For an example of a transmutation of a supervisory rule into a constitutional rule, see *McCarthy v. United States*, 394 U.S. 459 (1969), and *Boykin v. Alabama*, 395 U.S. 238 (1969).

¹⁹³*Weeks* “was not derived from the explicit requirements of the Fourth Amendment; . . . The decision was a matter of judicial implication.” 338 U.S. 25, 28 (1949). Justice Black was more explicit. “I agree with what appears to be a plain implication of the Court’s opinion that the federal exclusionary rule is not a command of the Fourth Amendment but is a judicially created rule of evidence which Congress might negate.” *Id.* at 39–40. He continued to adhere to the supervisory power basis in strictly search-and-seizure cases, *Berger v. New York*, 388 U.S. 41, 76 (1967) (dissenting), except where self-incrimination values were present. *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 661 (1961) (concurring). *And see id.* at 678 (Justice Harlan dissenting); *Elkins v. United States*, 364 U.S. 206, 216 (1960) (Justice Stewart for the Court).

rule is of constitutional origin *Mapp* establishes, but this does not necessarily establish that it is immune to statutory revision.

Suggestions appear in a number of cases, including *Weeks*, to the effect that admission of illegally-seized evidence is itself unconstitutional.¹⁹⁴ These were often combined with a rationale emphasizing “judicial integrity” as a reason to reject the proffer of such evidence.¹⁹⁵ Yet the Court permitted such evidence to be introduced into trial courts, when the defendant lacked “standing” to object to the search and seizure which produced the evidence¹⁹⁶ or when the search took place before the announcement of the decision extending the exclusionary rule to the States.¹⁹⁷ At these times, the Court turned to the “basic postulate of the exclusionary rule itself. The rule is calculated to prevent, not to repair. Its purpose is to deter—to compel respect for the constitutional guaranty in the only effectively available way—by removing the incentive to disregard it.”¹⁹⁸ “*Mapp* had as its prime purpose the enforcement of the Fourth Amendment through the inclusion of the exclusionary rule within its rights. This, it was found, was the only effective deterrent to lawless police action. Indeed, all of the cases since *Wolf* requiring the exclusion of illegal evidence have been based on the necessity for an effective deterrent to illegal police action.”¹⁹⁹

Narrowing Application of the Exclusionary Rule.—For as long as we have had the exclusionary rule, critics have attacked it, challenged its premises, disputed its morality.²⁰⁰ By the early

¹⁹⁴ “The tendency of those who execute the criminal laws of the country to obtain convictions by means of unlawful searches and enforced confessions . . . should find no sanction in the judgment of the courts which are charged at all times with the support of the Constitution” *Weeks v. United States*, 232 U.S. 383, 392 (1914). In *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 655, 657 (1961), Justice Clark maintained that “the Fourth Amendment include[s] the exclusion of the evidence seized in violation of its provisions” and that it, and the Fifth Amendment with regard to confessions “assures . . . that no man is to be convicted on unconstitutional evidence.” In *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1, 12, 13 (1968), Chief Justice Warren wrote: “Courts which sit under our Constitution cannot and will not be made party to lawless invasions of the constitutional rights of citizens by permitting unhindered governmental use of the fruits of such invasions. . . . A ruling admitting evidence in a criminal trial . . . has the necessary effect of legitimizing the conduct which produced the evidence.”

¹⁹⁵ *Elkins v. United States*, 364 U.S. 206, 222–23 (1960); *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 660 (1961). See *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332, 339–40 (1943).

¹⁹⁶ *Infra*, pp. 1269–70.

¹⁹⁷ *Linkletter v. Walker*, 381 U.S. 618 (1965).

¹⁹⁸ *Elkins v. United States*, 364 U.S. 206, 217 (1960).

¹⁹⁹ *Linkletter v. Walker*, 381 U.S. 618, 636–37 (1965). The Court advanced other reasons for its decision as well. *Id.* at 636–40.

²⁰⁰ Among the early critics were Judge Cardozo, *People v. Defore*, 242 N.Y. 13, 21, 150 N.E. 585, 587 (1926) (the criminal will go free “because the constable has blundered”); and Dean Wigmore, 8 J. WIGMORE, A TREATISE ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE 2183–84 (3d ed. 1940). For extensive discussion of criti-

1980s a majority of Justices had stated a desire either to abolish the rule or to sharply curtail its operation,²⁰¹ and numerous opinions had rejected all doctrinal bases save that of deterrence.²⁰² At the same time, these opinions voiced strong doubts about the efficacy of the rule as a deterrent, and advanced public interest values in effective law enforcement and public safety as reasons to discard the rule altogether or curtail its application.²⁰³ Thus, the Court emphasized the high costs of enforcing the rule to exclude reliable and trustworthy evidence, even when violations have been technical or in good faith, and suggested that such use of the rule may well “generat[e] disrespect for the law and administration of justice,”²⁰⁴ as well as free guilty defendants.²⁰⁵ No longer does the Court declare that “[t]he essence of a provision forbidding the acquisition of evidence in a certain way is that not merely evidence so acquired shall not be used before the Court but that it shall not be used at all.”²⁰⁶

Although the exclusionary rule has not been completely repudiated, its utilization has been substantially curbed. Initial decisions chipped away at the rule’s application. Defendants who themselves

cism and support, with citation to the literature, see 1 WAYNE R. LAFAVE, *SEARCH AND SEIZURE—A TREATISE ON THE FOURTH AMENDMENT* § 1.2 (2d ed. 1987).

²⁰¹ E.g., *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465, 496 (1976) (Chief Justice Burger: rule ought to be discarded now, rather than wait for a replacement as he argued earlier); *id.* at 536 (Justice White: modify rule to admit evidence seized illegally, but in good faith); *Schneekloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218, 261 (1973) (Justice Powell); *Brown v. Illinois*, 422 U.S. 590, 609 (1975) (Justice Powell); *Robbins v. California*, 453 U.S. 420, 437 (1981) (Justice Rehnquist); *California v. Minjares*, 443 U.S. 916 (1979) (Justice Rehnquist joined by Chief Justice Burger); *Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 510 (1971) (Justice Blackmun joining Justice Black’s dissent that “the Fourth Amendment supports no exclusionary rule”).

²⁰² E.g., *United States v. Janis*, 428 U.S. 433, 446 (1976) (deterrence is the “prime purpose” of the rule, “if not the sole one.”); *United States v. Calandra*, 414 U.S. 338, 347–48 (1974); *United States v. Peltier*, 422 U.S. 531, 536–39 (1975); *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465, 486 (1976); *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128, 134 n.3, 137–38 (1978); *Michigan v. DeFillippo*, 443 U.S. 31, 38 n.3 (1979). Thus, admission of the fruits of an unlawful search or seizure “work[s] no new Fourth Amendment wrong,” the wrong being “fully accomplished by the unlawful search or seizure itself,” *United States v. Calandara*, *supra*, 354, and the exclusionary rule does not “cure the invasion of the defendant’s rights which he has already suffered.” *Stone v. Powell*, *supra*, 540 (Justice White dissenting). “Judicial integrity” is not infringed by the mere admission of evidence seized wrongfully. “[T]he courts must not commit or encourage violations of the Constitution,” and the integrity issue is answered by whether exclusion would deter violations by others. *United States v. Janis*, *supra*, at 458 n.35; *United States v. Calandra*, *supra*, at 347, 354; *United States v. Peltier*, *supra*, at 538; *Michigan v. Tucker*, 417 U.S. 433, 450 n.25 (1974).

²⁰³ *United States v. Janis*, 428 U.S. 433, 448–54 (1976), contains a lengthy review of the literature on the deterrent effect of the rule and doubts about that effect. *See also Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465, 492 n.32 (1976).

²⁰⁴ *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. at 490, 491.

²⁰⁵ *Bivens v. Six Unknown Fed. Narcotics Agents*, 403 U.S. 388, 416 (1971) (Chief Justice Burger dissenting).

²⁰⁶ *Silverthorne Lumber Co. v. United States* 251 U.S. 385, 392 (1920).

were not subjected to illegal searches and seizures may not object to the introduction against themselves of evidence illegally obtained from co-conspirators or codefendants,²⁰⁷ and even a defendant whose rights have been infringed may find the evidence coming in, not as proof of guilt, but to impeach his testimony.²⁰⁸ Defendants who have been convicted after trials in which they were given a full and fair opportunity to raise claims of Fourth Amendment violations may not subsequently raise those claims on federal habeas corpus because of the costs outweighing the minimal deterrent effect.²⁰⁹ Evidence obtained through a wrongful search and seizure may sometimes be used in the criminal trial, if the prosecution can show a sufficient attenuation of the link between police misconduct and obtaining of the evidence.²¹⁰ If an arrest or a search which was valid at the time it was effectuated becomes bad through the subsequent invalidation of the statute under which the arrest or search was made, evidence obtained thereby is nonetheless admissible.²¹¹ A grand jury witness was not permitted to

²⁰⁷ E.g., *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128 (1978); *United States v. Salvucci*, 448 U.S. 83 (1980); *Rawlings v. Kentucky*, 448 U.S. 98 (1980). In *United States v. Payner*, 447 U.S. 727 (1980), the Court held it impermissible for a federal court to exercise its supervisory power to police the administration of justice in the federal system to suppress otherwise admissible evidence on the ground that federal agents had flagrantly violated the Fourth Amendment rights of third parties in order to obtain evidence to use against others when the agents knew that the defendant would be unable to challenge their conduct under the Fourth Amendment.

²⁰⁸ *United States v. Havens*, 446 U.S. 620 (1980); *Walder v. United States*, 347 U.S. 62 (1954). *Cf. Agnello v. United States*, 269 U.S. 20 (1925) (now vitiated by *Havens*). The impeachment exception applies only to the defendant's own testimony, and may not be extended to use illegally obtained evidence to impeach the testimony of other defense witnesses. *James v. Illinois*, 493 U.S. 307 (1990).

²⁰⁹ *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465 (1976).

²¹⁰ *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471, 487–88 (1963); *Alderman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 165, 180–85 (1969); *Brown v. Illinois*, 422 U.S. 590 (1975); *Taylor v. Alabama*, 457 U.S. 687 (1982). *United States v. Ceccolini*, 435 U.S. 268 (1978), refused to exclude the testimony of a witness discovered through an illegal search. Because a witness was freely willing to testify and therefore more likely to come forward, the application of the exclusionary rule was not to be tested by the standard applied to exclusion of inanimate objects. Deterrence would be little served and relevant and material evidence would be lost to the prosecution. In *New York v. Harris*, 495 U.S. 14 (1990), the Court refused to exclude a station-house confession made by a suspect whose arrest at his home had violated the Fourth Amendment because, even though probable cause had existed, no warrant had been obtained. And in *Segura v. United States*, 468 U.S. 796 (1984), evidence seized pursuant to warrant obtained after an illegal entry was admitted because there had been an independent basis for issuance of a warrant. This rule applies as well to evidence observed in plain view during the initial illegal search. *Murray v. United States*, 487 U.S. 533 (1988). *See also United States v. Karo*, 468 U.S. 705 (1984) (excluding consideration of tainted evidence, there was sufficient untainted evidence in affidavit to justify finding of probable cause and issuance of search warrant).

²¹¹ *Michigan v. DeFillippo*, 443 U.S. 31 (1979) (statute creating substantive criminal offense). Statutes that authorize unconstitutional searches and seizures but which have not yet been voided at the time of the search or seizure may not create

refuse to answer questions on the ground that they were based on evidence obtained from an unlawful search and seizure,²¹² and federal tax authorities were permitted to use in a civil proceeding evidence found to have been unconstitutionally seized from defendant by state authorities.²¹³

The most severe curtailment of the rule came in 1984 with adoption of a “good faith” exception. In *United States v. Leon*,²¹⁴ the Court created an exception for evidence obtained as a result of officers’ objective, good-faith reliance on a warrant, later found to be defective, issued by a detached and neutral magistrate. Justice White’s opinion for the Court²¹⁵ could find little benefit in applying the exclusionary rule where there has been good-faith reliance on an invalid warrant. Thus, there was nothing to offset the “substantial social costs exacted by the [rule].”²¹⁶ “The exclusionary rule is designed to deter police misconduct rather than to punish the errors of judges and magistrates,” and in any event the Court considered it unlikely that the rule could have much deterrent effect on the actions of truly neutral magistrates.²¹⁷ Moreover, the Court thought that the rule should not be applied “to deter objectively reasonable law enforcement activity,” and that “[p]enalizing the officer for the magistrate’s error . . . cannot logically contribute to the deterrence of Fourth Amendment violations.”²¹⁸ The Court also suggested some circumstances in which courts would be unable to find that officers’ reliance on a warrant was objectively reasonable: if the officers have been “dishonest or reckless in preparing their affidavit,” if it should have been obvious that the magistrate had “wholly abandoned” his neutral role, or if the warrant was obviously deficient on its face (e.g., lacking in particularity). The Court

this effect, however, *Torres v. Puerto Rico*, 442 U.S. 465 (1979); *Ybarra v. Illinois*, 444 U.S. 85 (1979). This aspect of *Torres* and *Ybarra* was to a large degree nullified by *Illinois v. Krull*, 480 U.S. 340 (1987), rejecting a distinction between substantive and procedural statutes and holding the exclusionary rule inapplicable in the case of a police officer’s objectively reasonable reliance on a statute later held to violate the Fourth Amendment.

²¹² *United States v. Calandra*, 414 U.S. 338 (1974).

²¹³ *United States v. Janis*, 428 U.S. 433 (1976). Similarly, the rule is inapplicable in civil proceedings for deportation of aliens. *INS v. Lopez-Mendoza*, 468 U.S. 1032 (1984).

²¹⁴ 468 U.S. 897 (1984). The same objectively reasonable “good-faith” rule now applies in determining whether officers obtaining warrants are entitled to qualified immunity from suit. *Malley v. Briggs*, 475 U.S. 335 (1986).

²¹⁵ The opinion was joined by Chief Justice Burger, and by Justices Blackmun, Powell, Rehnquist, and O’Connor. Justice Blackmun also added a separate concurring opinion. Dissents were filed by Justice Brennan, joined by Justice Marshall, and by Justice Stevens.

²¹⁶ 468 U.S. at 907.

²¹⁷ 468 U.S. at 916–17.

²¹⁸ 468 U.S. at 919, 921.

applied the *Leon* standard in *Massachusetts v. Sheppard*,²¹⁹ holding that an officer possessed an objectively reasonable belief that he had a valid warrant after he had pointed out to the magistrate that he had not used the standard form, and the magistrate had indicated that the necessary changes had been incorporated in the issued warrant.

The Court then extended *Leon* to hold that the exclusionary rule is inapplicable to evidence obtained by an officer acting in objectively reasonable reliance on a statute later held violative of the Fourth Amendment.²²⁰ Justice Blackmun's opinion for the Court reasoned that application of the exclusionary rule in such circumstances would have no more deterrent effect on officers than it would when officers reasonably rely on an invalid warrant, and no more deterrent effect on legislators who enact invalid statutes than on magistrates who issue invalid warrants.²²¹

It is unclear from the Court's analysis in *Leon* and its progeny whether a majority of the Justices would also support a good-faith exception for evidence seized without a warrant, although there is some language broad enough to apply to warrantless seizures.²²² It is also unclear what a good-faith exception would mean in the context of a warrantless search, since the objective reasonableness of an officer's action in proceeding without a warrant is already taken into account in determining whether there has been a Fourth Amendment violation.²²³ The Court's increasing willingness to uphold warrantless searches as not "unreasonable" under the Fourth

²¹⁹ 468 U.S. 981 (1984).

²²⁰ *Illinois v. Krull*, 480 U.S. 340 (1987). The same difficult-to-establish qualifications apply: there can be no objectively reasonable reliance "if, in passing the statute, the legislature wholly abandoned its responsibility to enact constitutional laws," or if "a reasonable officer should have known that the statute was unconstitutional." 480 U.S. at 355.

²²¹ Dissenting Justice O'Connor disagreed with this second conclusion, suggesting that the grace period "during which the police may freely perform unreasonable searches . . . creates a positive incentive [for legislatures] to promulgate unconstitutional laws," and that the Court's ruling "destroys all incentive on the part of individual criminal defendants to litigate the violation of their Fourth Amendment rights" and thereby obtain a ruling on the validity of the statute. 480 U.S. at 366, 369.

²²² The whole thrust of analysis in *Leon* dealt with reasonableness of reliance on a warrant. The Court several times, however, used language broad enough to apply to warrantless searches as well. See, e.g., 468 U.S. at 909 (quoting Justice White's concurrence in *Illinois v. Gates*): "the balancing approach that has evolved . . . 'forcefully suggest[s] that the exclusionary rule be more generally modified to permit the introduction of evidence obtained in the reasonable good-faith belief that a search or seizure was in accord with the Fourth Amendment'"; and *id.* at 919: "[the rule] cannot be expected, and should not be applied, to deter objectively reasonable law enforcement activity."

²²³ See Yale Kamisar, *Gates*, "Probable Cause," "Good Faith," and Beyond, 69 IOWA L. REV. 551, 589 (1984) (imposition of a good-faith exception on top of the "already diluted" standard for validity of a warrant "would amount to double dilution").

Amendment, however, may reduce the frequency with which the good-faith issue arises in the context of the exclusionary rule.²²⁴

Operation of the Rule: Standing.—The Court for a long period followed a rule of “standing” by which it determined whether a party was the appropriate person to move to suppress allegedly illegal evidence. Akin to Article III justiciability principles, which emphasize that one may ordinarily contest only those government actions that harm him, the standing principle in Fourth Amendment cases “require[d] of one who seeks to challenge the legality of a search as the basis for suppressing relevant evidence that he allege, and if the allegation be disputed that he establish, that he himself was the victim of an invasion of privacy.”²²⁵ The Court recently has departed from the concept of “standing” to telescope the inquiry into one inquiry rather than two. Finding that “standing” served no useful analytical purpose, the Court has held that the issue of exclusion is to be determined solely upon a resolution of the substantive question whether the claimant’s Fourth Amendment rights have been violated. “We can think of no decided cases of this Court that would have come out differently had we concluded . . . that the type of standing requirement . . . reaffirmed today is more properly subsumed under substantive Fourth Amendment doctrine. Rigorous application of the principle that the rights secured by this Amendment are personal, in place of a notion of ‘standing,’ will produce no additional situations in which evidence must be excluded. The inquiry under either approach is the same.”²²⁶ One must therefore show that “the disputed search and seizure has infringed an interest of the defendant which the Fourth Amendment was designed to protect.”²²⁷

The *Katz* reasonable expectation of privacy rationale has now displaced property-ownership concepts which previously might have supported either standing to suppress or the establishment of an interest that has been invaded. Thus, it is no longer sufficient

²²⁴ See, e.g., *Illinois v. Rodriguez*, 497 U.S. 177 (1990) (upholding search premised on officer’s reasonable but mistaken belief that a third party had common authority over premises and could consent to search); *Schneekloth v. Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218 (1973) (no requirement of knowing and intelligent waiver in consenting to warrantless search); *New York v. Belton*, 453 U.S. 454 (1981) (upholding warrantless search of entire interior of passenger car, including closed containers, as incident to arrest of driver); *United States v. Ross*, 456 U.S. 798 (1982) (upholding warrantless search of movable container found in a locked car trunk).

²²⁵ *Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257, 261 (1960). That is, the movant must show that he was “a victim of search or seizure, one against whom the search was directed, as distinguished from one who claims prejudice only through the use of evidence gathered as a consequence of search or seizure directed at someone else.” *Id.* See *Alderman v. United States*, 394 U.S. 165, 174 (1969).

²²⁶ *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128, 139 (1978).

²²⁷ *Id.* at 140.

to allege possession or ownership of seized goods to establish the interest, if a justifiable expectation of privacy of the defendant was not violated in the seizure.²²⁸ Also, it is no longer sufficient that one merely be lawfully on the premises in order to be able to object to an illegal search; rather, one must show some legitimate interest in the premises that the search invaded.²²⁹ The same illegal search might, therefore, invade the rights of one person and not of another.²³⁰ Again, the effect of the application of the privacy rationale has been to narrow considerably the number of people who can complain of an unconstitutional search.

²²⁸ Previously, when ownership or possession was the issue, such as a charge of possessing contraband, the Court accorded “automatic standing” to one on the basis, first, that to require him to assert ownership or possession at the suppression hearing would be to cause him to incriminate himself with testimony that could later be used against him, and, second, that the government could not simultaneously assert that defendant was in possession of the items and deny that it had invaded his interests. *Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257, 261–265 (1960). *See also* *United States v. Jeffers*, 342 U.S. 48 (1951). But in *Simmons v. United States*, 390 U.S. 377 (1968), the Court held inadmissible at the subsequent trial admissions made in suppression hearings. When it then held that possession alone was insufficient to give a defendant the interest to move to suppress, because he must show that the search itself invaded his interest, the second consideration was mooted as well, and thus the “automatic standing” rule was overturned. *United States v. Salvucci*, 448 U.S. 83 (1980) (stolen checks found in illegal search of apartment of the mother in defendant, in which he had no interest; defendant could not move to suppress on the basis of the illegal search); *Rawlings v. Kentucky*, 448 U.S. 98 (1980) (drugs belonging to defendant discovered in illegal search of friend’s purse, in which he had no privacy interest; admission of ownership insufficient to enable him to move to suppress).

²²⁹ *Rakas v. Illinois*, 439 U.S. 128 (1978) (passengers in automobile had no privacy interest in interior of the car; could not object to illegal search). *Jones v. United States*, 362 U.S. 257 (1960), had established rule that anyone legitimately on the premises could object; the rationale was discarded but the result in *Jones* was maintained because he was there with permission, he had his own key, his luggage was there, he had the right to exclude and therefore a legitimate expectation of privacy. Similarly maintained were the results in *United States v. Jeffers*, 342 U.S. 48 (1951) (hotel room rented by defendant’s aunts to which he had a key and permission to store things); *Mancusi v. DeForte*, 392 U.S. 364 (1968) (defendant shared office with several others; though he had no reasonable expectation of absolute privacy, he could reasonably expect to be intruded on only by other occupants and not by police).

²³⁰ E.g., *Rawlings v. Kentucky*, 448 U.S. 98 (1980) (fearing imminent police search, defendant deposited drugs in companion’s purse where they were discovered in course of illegal search; defendant had no legitimate expectation of privacy in her purse, so that *his* Fourth Amendment rights were not violated, although hers were).

FIFTH AMENDMENT

RIGHTS OF PERSONS

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RIGHTS OF PERSONS

FIFTH AMENDMENT

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

INDICTMENT BY GRAND JURY

The history of the grand jury is rooted in the common and civil law, extending back to Athens, pre-Norman England, and the Assize of Clarendon promulgated by Henry II.¹ The right seems to have been first mentioned in the colonies in the Charter of Liberties and Privileges of 1683, which was passed by the first assembly permitted to be elected in the colony of New York.² Included from the first in Madison's introduced draft of the Bill of Rights, the provision elicited no recorded debate and no opposition. "The grand jury is an English institution, brought to this country by the early colonists and incorporated in the Constitution by the Founders. There is every reason to believe that our constitutional grand jury was intended to operate substantially like its English progenitor. The basic purpose of the English grand jury was to provide a fair method for instituting criminal proceedings against persons believed to have committed crimes. Grand jurors were selected from the body of the people and their work was not hampered by rigid procedural or evidential rules. In fact, grand jurors could act on their own knowledge and were free to make their presentments

¹ Morse, *A Survey of the Grand Jury System*, 10 ORE. L. REV. 101 (1931).

² 1 BERNARD SCHWARTZ, *THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY* 162, 166 (1971). The provision read: "That in all Cases Capitall or Criminall there shall be a grand Inquest who shall first present the offence. . . ."

or indictments on such information as they deemed satisfactory. Despite its broad power to institute criminal proceedings the grand jury grew in popular favor with the years. It acquired an independence in England free from control by the Crown or judges. Its adoption in our Constitution as the sole method for preferring charges in serious criminal cases shows the high place it held as an instrument of justice. And in this country as in England of old the grand jury has convened as a body of laymen, free from technical rules, acting in secret, pledged to indict no one because of prejudice and to free no one because of special favor.”³

The prescribed constitutional function of grand juries in federal courts⁴ is to return criminal indictments, but the juries serve a considerably broader series of purposes as well. Principal among these is the investigative function, which is served through the fact that grand juries may summon witnesses by process and compel testimony and the production of evidence generally. Operating in secret, under the direction but not control of a prosecutor, not bound by many evidentiary and constitutional restrictions, such juries may examine witnesses in the absence of their counsel and without informing them of the object of the investigation or the place of the witnesses in it.⁵ The exclusionary rule is inapplicable

³ *Costello v. United States*, 350 U.S. 359, 362 (1956). “The grand jury is an integral part of our constitutional heritage which was brought to this country with the common law. The Framers, most of them trained in the English law and traditions, accepted the grand jury as a basic guarantee of individual liberty; notwithstanding periodic criticism, much of which is superficial, overlooking relevant history, the grand jury continues to function as a barrier to reckless or unfounded charges Its historic office has been to provide a shield against arbitrary or oppressive action, by insuring that serious criminal accusations will be brought only upon the considered judgment of a representative body of citizens acting under oath and under judicial instruction and guidance.” *United States v. Mandujano*, 425 U.S. 564, 571 (1976) (plurality opinion). *See id.* at 589–91 (Justice Brennan concurring).

⁴ This provision applies only in federal courts and is not applicable to the States, either as an element of due process or as a direct command of the Fourteenth Amendment. *Hurtado v. California*, 110 U.S. 516 (1884); *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319, 323 (1937); *Alexander v. Louisiana*, 405 U.S. 625, 633 (1972).

⁵ Witnesses are not entitled to have counsel present in the room. FED. R. CIV. P. 6(d). The validity of this restriction was asserted in dictum in *In re Groban*, 352 U.S. 330, 333 (1957), and inferentially accepted by the dissent in that case. *Id.* at 346–47 (Justice Black, distinguishing grand juries from the investigative entity before the Court). The decision in *Coleman v. Alabama*, 399 U.S. 1 (1970), deeming the preliminary hearing a “critical stage of the prosecution” at which counsel must be provided, called this rule in question, inasmuch as the preliminary hearing and the grand jury both determine whether there is probable cause with regard to a suspect. *See id.* at 25 (Chief Justice Burger dissenting). In *United States v. Mandujano*, 425 U.S. 564, 581 (1976) (plurality opinion), Chief Justice Burger wrote: “Respondent was also informed that if he desired he could have the assistance of counsel, but that counsel could not be inside the grand jury room. That statement was plainly a correct recital of the law. No criminal proceedings had been instituted against respondent, hence the Sixth Amendment right to counsel had not come into play.” By emphasizing the point of institution of criminal proceedings, relevant to the right

in grand jury proceedings, with the result that a witness called before a grand jury may be questioned on the basis of knowledge obtained through the use of illegally-seized evidence.⁶ In thus allowing the use of evidence obtained in violation of the Fourth Amendment, the Court nonetheless restated the principle that, while free of many rules of evidence that bind trial courts, grand juries are not unrestrained by constitutional consideration.⁷ A witness called before a grand jury is not entitled to be informed that he may be indicted for the offense under inquiry⁸ and the commission of per-

of counsel at line-ups and the like, the Chief Justice not only reasserted the absence of a right to counsel in the room but also, despite his having referred to it, cast doubt upon the existence of any constitutional requirement that a grand jury witness be permitted to consult with counsel out of the room, and, further, raised the implication that a witness or putative defendant unable to afford counsel would have no right to appointed counsel. Concurring, Justice Brennan argued that it was essential and constitutionally required for the protection of one's constitutional rights that he have access to counsel, appointed if necessary, accepting the likelihood, without agreeing, that consultation outside the room would be adequate to preserve a witness' rights, *Id.* at 602–09 (with Justice Marshall). Justices Stewart and Blackmun reserved judgment. *Id.* at 609. The dispute appears ripe for revisiting.

⁶*United States v. Calandra*, 414 U.S. 338 (1974). The Court has interpreted a provision of federal wiretap law, 18 U.S.C. §2515, to prohibit utilization of unlawful wiretap information as a basis for questioning witnesses before grand juries. *Gelbard v. United States*, 408 U.S. 41 (1972).

⁷“Of course, the grand jury's subpoena is not unlimited. It may consider incompetent evidence, but it may not itself violate a valid privilege, whether established by the Constitution, statutes, or the common law Although, for example, an indictment based on evidence obtained in violation of a defendant's Fifth Amendment privilege is nevertheless valid . . . , the grand jury may not force a witness to answer questions in violation of that constitutional guarantee. . . . Similarly, a grand jury may not compel a person to produce books and papers that would incriminate him. . . . The grand jury is also without power to invade a legitimate privacy interest protected by the Fourth Amendment. A grand jury's subpoena *duces tecum* will be disallowed if it is 'far too sweeping in its terms to be regarded as reasonable under the Fourth Amendment.' *Hale v. Henkel*, 201 U.S. 43, 76 (1906). Judicial supervision is properly exercised in such cases to prevent the wrong before it occurs.” *United States v. Calandra*, 414 U.S. 338, 346 (1974). *See also United States v. Dionisio*, 410 U.S. 1, 11–12 (1973). Grand juries must operate within the limits of the First Amendment and may not harass the exercise of speech and press rights. *Branzburg v. Hayes*, 408 U.S. 665, 707–08 (1972). Protection of Fourth Amendment interests is as extensive before the grand jury as before any investigative officers, *Silverthorne Lumber Co. v. United States*, 251 U.S. 385 (1920) (now highly qualified as to its scope, *supra*, p. 1265); *Hale v. Henkel*, 201 U.S. 43, 76–77 (1920), but not more so either. *United States v. Dionisio*, 410 U.S. 1 (1973) (subpoena to give voice exemplars); *United States v. Mara*, 410 U.S. 19 (1973) (handwriting exemplars). The Fifth Amendment's self-incrimination clause must be respected. *Blau v. United States*, 340 U.S. 159 (1950); *Hoffman v. United States*, 341 U.S. 479 (1951). On common-law privileges, *see Blau v. United States*, 340 U.S. 332 (1951) (husband-wife privilege); *Alexander v. United States*, 138 U.S. 353 (1891) (attorney-client privilege). The traditional secrecy of grand jury proceedings has been relaxed a degree to permit a limited discovery of testimony. *Compare Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. v. United States*, 360 U.S. 395 (1959), *with Dennis v. United States*, 384 U.S. 855 (1966). *See FED. R. CRIM. P.* 6(e) (secrecy requirements and exceptions).

⁸*United States v. Washington*, 431 U.S. 181 (1977). Because defendant when he appeared before the grand jury was warned of his rights to decline to answer

jury by a witness before the grand jury is punishable, irrespective of the nature of the warning given him when he appears and regardless of the fact that he may already be a putative defendant when he is called.⁹

Of greater significance were two cases in which the Court held the Fourth Amendment to be inapplicable to grand jury subpoenas requiring named parties to give voice exemplars and handwriting samples to the grand jury for identification purposes.¹⁰ According to the Court, the issue turned upon a two-tiered analysis—"whether either the initial compulsion of the person to appear before the grand jury, or the subsequent directive to make a voice recording is an unreasonable 'seizure' within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment."¹¹ First, a subpoena to appear was held not to be a seizure, because it entailed significantly less social and personal affront than did an arrest or an investigative stop, and because every citizen has an obligation, which may be onerous at times, to appear and give whatever aid he may to a grand jury.¹² Second, the directive to make a voice recording or to produce handwriting samples did not bring the Fourth Amendment into play because no one has any expectation of privacy in the characteristics of either his voice or his handwriting.¹³ Inasmuch as the Fourth Amendment was inapplicable, there was no necessity for the government to make a preliminary showing of the reasonableness of the grand jury requests.

Besides indictments, grand juries may also issue reports which may indicate nonindictable misbehavior, mis- or malfeasance of

questions on the basis of self-incrimination, the decision was framed in terms of those warnings, but the Court twice noted that it had not decided, and was not deciding, "whether any Fifth Amendment warnings whatever are constitutionally required for grand jury witnesses. . . ." *Id.* at 186, 190.

⁹United States v. Mandujano, 425 U.S. 564 (1976); United States v. Wong, 431 U.S. 174 (1977). Mandujano had been told of his right to assert the privilege against self-incrimination, of the consequences of perjury, and of his right to counsel, but not to have counsel with him in the jury room. Chief Justice Burger and Justices White, Powell, and Rehnquist took the position that no *Miranda* warning was required because there was no police custodial interrogation and that in any event commission of perjury was not excusable on the basis of lack of any warning. Justices Brennan, Marshall, Stewart, and Blackmun agreed that whatever rights a grand jury witness had, perjury was punishable and not to be excused. *Id.* at 584, 609. Wong was assumed on appeal not to have understood the warnings given her and the opinion proceeds on the premise that absence of warnings altogether does not preclude a perjury prosecution.

¹⁰United States v. Dionisio, 410 U.S. 1 (1973); United States v. Mara, 410 U.S. 19 (1973).

¹¹*Id.* at 9.

¹²*Id.* at 9-13.

¹³*Id.* at 13-15. The privacy rationale proceeds from *Katz v. United States*, 389 U.S. 347 (1967).

public officers, or other objectionable conduct.¹⁴ Despite the vast power of grand juries, there is little in the way of judicial or legislative response designed to impose some supervisory restrictions on them.¹⁵

Within the meaning of this article a crime is made “infamous” by the quality of the punishment which may be imposed.¹⁶ “What punishments shall be considered as infamous may be affected by the changes of public opinion from one age to another.”¹⁷ Imprisonment in a state prison or penitentiary, with or without hard labor,¹⁸ or imprisonment at hard labor in the workhouse of the District of Columbia,¹⁹ falls within this category. The pivotal question is whether the offense is one for which the court is authorized to award such punishment; the sentence actually imposed is immaterial. When an accused is in danger of being subjected to an infamous punishment if convicted, he has the right to insist that he shall not be put upon his trial, except on the accusation of a grand jury.²⁰ Thus, an act which authorized imprisonment at hard labor for one year, as well as deportation, of Chinese aliens found to be unlawfully within the United States, created an offense which could be tried only upon indictment.²¹ Counterfeiting,²² fraudulent alteration of poll books,²³ fraudulent voting,²⁴ and embezzlement,²⁵ have been declared to be infamous crimes. It is immaterial how Congress has classified the offense.²⁶ An act punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than six

¹⁴The grand jury “is a grand inquest, a body with powers of investigation and inquisition, the scope of whose inquiries is not to be limited narrowly by questions of propriety or forecasts of whether any particular individual will be found properly subject to an accusation of crime.” *Blair v. United States*, 250 U.S. 273, 281 (1919). On the reports function of the grand jury, see *In re Grand Jury January, 1969*, 315 F. Supp. 662 (D. Md. 1970), and *Report of the January 1970 Grand Jury (Black Panther Shooting)* (N.D. Ill., released May 15, 1970). Congress has now specifically authorized issuance of reports in cases concerning public officers and organized crime. 18 U.S.C. § 333.

¹⁵Congress has required that in the selection of federal grand juries, as well as petit juries, random selection of a fair cross section of the community is to take place, and has provided a procedure for challenging discriminatory selection by moving to dismiss the indictment. 28 U.S.C. §§ 1861–68. Racial discrimination in selection of juries is constitutionally proscribed in both state and federal courts. *Infra*, pp. 1854–57.

¹⁶*Ex parte Wilson*, 114 U.S. 417 (1885).

¹⁷*Id.* at 427.

¹⁸*Mackin v. United States*, 117 U.S. 348, 352 (1886).

¹⁹*United States v. Moreland*, 258 U.S. 433 (1922).

²⁰*Ex parte Wilson*, 114 U.S. 417, 426 (1885).

²¹*Wong Wing v. United States*, 163 U.S. 228, 237 (1896).

²²*Ex parte Wilson*, 114 U.S. 417 (1885).

²³*Mackin v. United States*, 117 U.S. 348 (1886).

²⁴*Parkinson v. United States*, 121 U.S. 281 (1887).

²⁵*United States v. DeWalt*, 128 U.S. 393 (1888).

²⁶*Ex parte Wilson*, 114 U.S. 417, 426 (1885).

months is a misdemeanor, which can be tried without indictment, even though the punishment exceeds that specified in the statutory definition of “petty offenses.”²⁷

A person can be tried only upon the indictment as found by the grand jury, and especially upon its language found in the charging part of the instrument.²⁸ A change in the indictment that does not narrow its scope deprives the court of the power to try the accused.²⁹ While additions to offenses alleged in an indictment are prohibited, the Court has now ruled that it is permissible “to drop from an indictment those allegations that are unnecessary to an offense that is clearly contained within it,” as, e.g., a lesser included offense.³⁰ There being no constitutional requirement that an indictment be presented by a grand jury in a body, an indictment delivered by the foreman in the absence of other grand jurors is valid.³¹ If valid on its face, an indictment returned by a legally constituted, non-biased grand jury satisfies the requirement of the Fifth Amendment and is enough to call for a trial on the merits; it is not open to challenge on the ground that there was inadequate or incompetent evidence before the grand jury.³²

The protection of indictment by grand jury extends to all persons except those serving in the armed forces. All persons in the regular armed forces are subject to court martial rather than grand jury indictment or trial by jury.³³ The exception’s limiting words “when in actual service in time of war or public danger” apply only to members of the militia, not to members of the regular armed forces. In *O’Callahan v. Parker*, the Court in 1969 held that offenses that are not “service connected” may not be punished under military law, but instead must be tried in the civil courts in the jurisdiction where the acts took place.³⁴ This decision was overruled, however, in 1987, the Court emphasizing the “plain lan-

²⁷ *Duke v. United States*, 301 U.S. 492 (1937).

²⁸ See *Stirone v. United States*, 361 U.S. 212 (1960), wherein a variation between pleading and proof was held to deprive petitioner of his right to be tried only upon charges presented in the indictment.

²⁹ *Ex parte Bain*, 121 U.S. 1, 12 (1887). *Ex parte Bain* was overruled in *United States v. Miller*, 471 U.S. 130 (1985), to the extent that it held that a narrowing of an indictment is impermissible.

³⁰ *United States v. Miller*, 471 U.S. 130, 144 (1985).

³¹ *Breese v. United States*, 226 U.S. 1 (1912).

³² *Costello v. United States*, 350 U.S. 359 (1956); *Lawn v. United States*, 355 U.S. 339 (1958); *United States v. Blue*, 384 U.S. 251 (1966). Cf. *Gelbard v. United States*, 408 U.S. 41 (1972).

³³ *Johnson v. Sayre*, 158 U.S. 109, 114 (1895). See also *Lee v. Madigan*, 358 U.S. 228, 232–35, 241 (1959).

³⁴ 395 U.S. 258 (1969); see also *Relford v. Commandant*, 401 U.S. 355 (1971) (offense committed on military base against persons lawfully on base was service connected). But courts-martial of civilian dependents and discharged servicemen have been barred. *Id.* See *supra*, pp. 316–19.

guage” of Art. I, §8, cl. 14,³⁵ and not directly addressing any possible limitation stemming from the language of the Fifth Amendment.³⁶ “The requirements of the Constitution are not violated where . . . a court-martial is convened to try a serviceman who was a member of the armed services at the time of the offense charged.”³⁷ Even under the service connection rule, it was held that offenses against the laws of war, whether committed by citizens or by alien enemy belligerents, could be tried by a military commission.³⁸

DOUBLE JEOPARDY

Development and Scope

“The constitutional prohibition against ‘double jeopardy’ was designed to protect an individual from being subjected to the hazards of trial and possible conviction more than once for an alleged offense. . . . The underlying idea, one that is deeply ingrained in at least the Anglo-American system of jurisprudence, is that the State with all its resources and power should not be allowed to make repeated attempts to convict an individual for an alleged offense, thereby subjecting him to embarrassment, expense and ordeal and compelling him to live in a continuing state of anxiety and insecurity, as well as enhancing the possibility that even though innocent he may be found guilty.”³⁹ The concept of double jeopardy goes far back in history, but its development was uneven and its meaning has varied. The English development, under the influence of Coke and Blackstone, came gradually to mean that a defendant at trial could plead former conviction or former acquittal as a special plea in bar to defeat the prosecution.⁴⁰ In this country, the

³⁵ This clause confers power on Congress to “make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces.”

³⁶ *Solorio v. United States*, 483 U.S. 435 (1987). A 5–4 majority favored overruling *O’Callahan*: Chief Justice Rehnquist’s opinion for the Court was joined by Justices White, Powell, O’Connor, and Scalia. Justice Stevens concurred in the judgment but thought it unnecessary to reexamine *O’Callahan*. Dissenting Justice Marshall, joined by Justices Brennan and Blackmun, thought the service connection rule justified by the language of the Fifth Amendment’s exception, based on the nature of cases (those “*arising in the land or naval forces*”) rather than the status of defendants.

³⁷ *Id.* at 450–51.

³⁸ *Ex parte Quirin*, 317 U.S. 1, 43, 44 (1942).

³⁹ *Green v. United States*, 355 U.S. 184, 187–88 (1957). The passage is often approvingly quoted by the Court. E.g., *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 35 (1978); *United States v. DiFrancesco*, 449 U.S. 117, 127–28 (1980). For a comprehensive effort to assess the purposes of application of the clause, see Westen & Drubel, *Toward a General Theory of Double Jeopardy*, 1978 SUP. CT. REV. 81.

⁴⁰ M. FRIEDLAND, *DOUBLE JEOPARDY* (1969), part I; *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 32–36 (1978), and *id.* at 40 (Justice Powell dissenting); *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332, 340 (1975).

common-law rule was in some cases limited to this rule and in other cases extended to bar a new trial even though the former trial had not concluded in either an acquittal or a conviction. The rule's elevation to fundamental status by its inclusion in several state bills of rights following the Revolution continued the differing approaches.⁴¹ Madison's version of the guarantee as introduced in the House of Representatives read: "No person shall be subject, except in cases of impeachment, to more than one punishment or trial for the same offense."⁴² Opposition in the House proceeded on the proposition that the language could be construed to prohibit a second trial after a successful appeal by a defendant and would therefore either constitute a hazard to the public by freeing the guilty or, more likely, result in a detriment to defendants because appellate courts would be loath to reverse convictions if no new trial could follow, but a motion to strike "or trial" from the clause failed.⁴³ As approved by the Senate, however, and accepted by the House for referral to the States, the present language of the clause was inserted.⁴⁴

Throughout most of its history, this clause was binding only against the Federal Government. In *Palko v. Connecticut*,⁴⁵ the Court rejected an argument that the Fourteenth Amendment incorporated all the provisions of the first eight Amendments as limitations on the States and enunciated the due process theory under which most of those Amendments do now apply to the States. Some guarantees in the Bill of Rights, Justice Cardozo wrote, were so fundamental that they are "of the very essence of the scheme of ordered liberty" and "neither liberty nor justice would exist if they were sacrificed."⁴⁶ But the double jeopardy clause, like many other procedural rights of defendants, was not so fundamental; it could be absent and fair trials could still be had. Of course, a defendant's due process rights, absent double jeopardy consideration per se,

⁴¹J. SIGLER, DOUBLE JEOPARDY—THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LEGAL AND SOCIAL POLICY 21–27 (1969). The first bill of rights which expressly adopted a double jeopardy clause was the New Hampshire Constitution of 1784. "No subject shall be liable to be tried, after an acquittal, for the same crime or offence." Art. I, Sec. XCI, 4 F. THORPE, THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTION, reprinted in H.R. Doc. No. 357, 59th Congress, 2d Sess. 2455 (1909). A more comprehensive protection was included in the Pennsylvania Declaration of Rights of 1790, which had language almost identical to the present Fifth Amendment provision. Id. at 3100.

⁴²1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 434 (June 8, 1789).

⁴³Id. at 753.

⁴⁴2 BERNARD SCHWARTZ, THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 1149, 1165 (1971). In *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 40 (1978) (dissenting), Justice Powell attributed to inadvertence the broadening of the "rubric" of double jeopardy to incorporate the common law rule against dismissal of the jury prior to verdict, a question the majority passed over as being "of academic interest only." Id. at 34 n.10.

⁴⁵302 U.S. 319 (1937).

⁴⁶Id. at 325, 326.

might be violated if the State “creat[ed] a hardship so acute and shocking as to be unendurable,” but that was not the case in *Palko*.⁴⁷ In *Benton v. Maryland*,⁴⁸ however, the Court concluded “that the double jeopardy prohibition . . . represents a fundamental ideal in our constitutional heritage. . . . Once it is decided that a particular Bill of Rights guarantee is ‘fundamental to the American scheme of justice,’ . . . the same constitutional standards apply against both the State and Federal Governments.” Therefore, the double jeopardy limitation now applies to both federal and state governments and state rules on double jeopardy, with regard to such matters as when jeopardy attaches, must be considered in the light of federal standards.⁴⁹

In a federal system, different units of government may have different interests to serve in the definition of crimes and the enforcement of their laws, and where the different units have overlapping jurisdictions a person may engage in conduct that will violate the laws of more than one unit.⁵⁰ Although the Court had long accepted in dictum the principle that prosecution by two governments of the same defendant for the same conduct would not constitute double jeopardy,⁵¹ it was not until *United States v. Lanza*⁵² that the conviction in federal court of a person previously convicted in a state court for performing the same acts was sustained. “We have here two sovereignties, deriving power from different sources, capable of dealing with the same subject-matter within the same territory . . . Each government in determining what shall be an offense against its peace and dignity is exercising its own sovereignty, not that of the other.”⁵³ The “dual sovereignty” doctrine is not only tied into the existence of two sets of laws often serving different federal-state purposes and the now overruled principle that the double jeopardy clause restricts only the national government and not the States,⁵⁴ but it also reflects practical considerations that undesirable consequences could follow an overruling of

⁴⁷ *Id.* at 328.

⁴⁸ 395 U.S. 784, 794–95 (1969).

⁴⁹ *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 37–38 (1978). But see *id.* at 40 (Justices Powell and Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger dissenting) (standard governing States should be more relaxed).

⁵⁰ The problem was recognized as early as *Houston v. Moore*, 18 U.S. (5 Wheat.) 1 (1820), and the rationale of the doctrine was confirmed within thirty years. *Fox v. Ohio*, 46 U.S. (5 How.) 410 (1847); *United States v. Marigold*, 50 U.S. (9 How.) 560 (1850); *Moore v. Illinois*, 55 U.S. (14 How.) 13 (1852).

⁵¹ *Id.* And see cases cited in *Bartkus v. Illinois*, 359 U.S. 121, 132 n.19 (1959), and *Abbate v. United States*, 359 U.S. 187, 192–93 (1959).

⁵² 260 U.S. 377 (1922).

⁵³ *Id.* at 382. See also *Hebert v. Louisiana*, 272 U.S. 312 (1924); *Screws v. United States*, 325 U.S. 91, 108 (1945); *Jerome v. United States*, 318 U.S. 101 (1943).

⁵⁴ *Benton v. Maryland*, 395 U.S. 784 (1969), extended the clause to the States.

the doctrine. Thus, a State might preempt federal authority by first prosecuting and providing for a lenient sentence (as compared to the possible federal sentence) or acquitting defendants who had the sympathy of state authorities as against federal law enforcement.⁵⁵ The application of the clause to the States has therefore worked no change in the “dual sovereign” doctrine.⁵⁶ Of course, when in fact two different units of the government are subject to the same sovereign, the double jeopardy clause does bar separate prosecutions by them for the same offense.⁵⁷ The dual sovereignty doctrine has also been applied to permit successive prosecutions by two states for the same conduct.⁵⁸

The clause speaks of being put in “jeopardy of life or limb,” which as derived from the common law, generally referred to the possibility of capital punishment upon conviction, but it is now settled that the clause protects with regard “to every indictment or information charging a party with a known and defined crime or misdemeanor, whether at the common law or by statute.”⁵⁹ Despite the Clause’s literal language, it can apply as well to sanctions that

⁵⁵ Reaffirmation of the doctrine against double jeopardy claims as to the Federal Government and against due process claims as to the States occurred in *Abbate v. United States*, 359 U.S. 187 (1959), and *Bartkus v. Illinois*, 359 U.S. 121 (1959), both cases containing extensive discussion and policy analyses. The Justice Department follows a policy of generally not duplicating a state prosecution brought and carried out in good faith, *see* *Petite v. United States*, 361 U.S. 529, 531 (1960); *Rinaldi v. United States*, 434 U.S. 22 (1977), and several provisions of federal law forbid a federal prosecution following a state prosecution. E.g., 18 U.S.C. §§ 659, 660, 1992, 2117. The Brown Commission recommended a general statute to this effect, preserving discretion in federal authorities to proceed upon certification by the Attorney General that a United States interest would be unduly harmed if there were no federal prosecution. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON REFORM OF FEDERAL CRIMINAL LAWS, FINAL REPORT 707 (1971).

⁵⁶ *United States v. Wheeler*, 435 U.S. 313 (1978) (dual sovereignty doctrine permits federal prosecution of an Indian for statutory rape following his plea of guilty in a tribal court to contributing to the delinquency of a minor, both charges involving the same conduct; tribal law stemmed from the retained sovereignty of the tribe and did not flow from the Federal Government).

⁵⁷ *Grafton v. United States*, 206 U.S. 333 (1907) (trial by military court-martial precluded subsequent trial in territorial court); *Waller v. Florida*, 397 U.S. 387 (1970) (trial by municipal court precluded trial for same offense by state court). It was assumed in an early case that refusal to answer questions before one House of Congress could be punished as a contempt by that body and by prosecution by the United States under a misdemeanor statute, *In re Chapman*, 166 U.S. 661, 672 (1897), but there had been no dual proceedings in that case and it seems highly unlikely that the case would now be followed. Cf. *Colombo v. New York*, 405 U.S. 9 (1972).

⁵⁸ *Heath v. Alabama*, 474 U.S. 82 (1985) (defendant crossed state line in course of kidnap murder, was prosecuted for murder in both states).

⁵⁹ *Ex parte Lange*, 85 U.S. (18 Wall.) 163, 169 (1874). The clause generally has no application in noncriminal proceedings. *Helvering v. Mitchell*, 303 U.S. 391 (1938); *One Lot Emerald Cut Stones v. United States*, 409 U.S. 232 (1972) (forfeiture proceedings; one must ask whether the proceedings are remedial or punitive).

are civil in form if they clearly are applied in a manner that constitutes “punishment.”⁶⁰

Because one prime purpose of the clause is the protection against the burden of multiple trials, a defendant who raises and loses a double jeopardy claim during pretrial or trial may immediately appeal the ruling, a rare exception to the general rule prohibiting appeals from nonfinal orders.⁶¹

During the 1970s especially, the Court decided an uncommonly large number of cases raising double jeopardy claims.⁶² Instead of the clarity that often emerges from intense consideration of a particular issue, however, double jeopardy doctrine has descended into a state of “confusion,” with the Court acknowledging that its decisions “can hardly be characterized as models of consistency and clarity.”⁶³ In large part, the re-evaluation of doctrine and principle has not resulted in the development of clear and consistent guidelines because of the differing emphases of the Justices upon the purposes of the clause and the consequent shifting coalition of majorities based on highly technical distinctions and individualistic fact patterns. Thus, some Justices have expressed the belief that the purpose of the clause is only to protect final judgments relating to culpability, either of acquittal or conviction, and that English common law rules designed to protect the defendant’s right to go to the first jury picked had early in our jurisprudence become confused with the double jeopardy clause. While they accept the present understanding, they do so as part of the Court’s superintending of the federal courts and not because the understanding is part and parcel of the clause; in so doing, of course, they are likely to find more prosecutorial discretion in the trial process.⁶⁴ Oth-

⁶⁰ The clause applies in juvenile court proceedings which are formally civil. *Breed v. Jones*, 421 U.S. 519 (1975). See also *United States v. Halper*, 490 U.S. 435 (1989) (civil penalty under the False Claims Act constitutes punishment if it is overwhelmingly disproportionate to compensating the government for its loss, and if it can be explained only as serving retributive or deterrent purposes); *United States v. One Assortment of 89 Firearms*, 465 U.S. 354 (1984) (in determining whether a forfeiture proceeding is remedial or punitive, congressional preference for a civil sanction will be overridden only by “the clearest proof” to the contrary).

⁶¹ *Abney v. United States*, 431 U.S. 651 (1977).

⁶² See *United States v. DiFrancesco*, 449 U.S. 117, 126–27 (1980) (citing cases).

⁶³ *Burks v. United States*, 437 U.S. 1, 9, 15 (1978). One result is instability in the law. Thus, *Burks* overruled, to the extent inconsistent, four cases decided between 1950 and 1960, and *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82 (1978), overruled a case decided just three years earlier, *United States v. Jenkins*, 420 U.S. 358 (1975).

⁶⁴ See *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 40 (1978) (dissenting opinion). Justice Powell, joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist, argued that with the double jeopardy clause so interpreted the due process clause could be relied on to prevent prosecutorial abuse during the trial designed to abort the trial and obtain a second one. *Id.* at 50. All three have joined, indeed, in some instances, have authored, opinions adverting to the role of the double jeopardy clause in protecting against such

ers have expressed the view that the clause not only protects the integrity of final judgments but, more important, that it protects the accused against the strain and burden of multiple trials, which would also enhance the ability of government to convict.⁶⁵ Still other Justices have engaged in a form of balancing of defendants' rights with society's rights to determine when reprosecution should be permitted when a trial ends prior to a final judgment not hinged on the defendant's culpability.⁶⁶ Thus, the basic area of disagreement, though far from the only one, centers on the trial from the attachment of jeopardy to the final judgment.

Reprosecution Following Mistrial

The common law generally required that the previous trial must have ended in a judgment, of conviction or acquittal, but the constitutional rule is that jeopardy attaches much earlier, in jury trials when the jury is sworn, and in trials before a judge without a jury, when the first evidence is presented.⁶⁷ Therefore, if after jeopardy attaches the trial is terminated for some reason, it may be that a second trial, even if the termination was erroneous, is barred.⁶⁸ The reasons the Court has given for fixing the attach-

prosecutorial abuse. E.g., *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 92–94 (1978); *Oregon v. Kennedy*, 456 U.S. 667 (1982) (but narrowing scope of concept).

⁶⁵ *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 101 (1978) (dissenting opinion) (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens).

⁶⁶ Thus, Justice Blackmun has enunciated positions recognizing a broad right of defendants much like the position of the latter three Justices, *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 38 (1978) (concurring), and he joined Justice Stevens' concurrence in *Oregon v. Kennedy*, 456 U.S. 667, 681 (1982), but he also joined the opinions in *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82 (1978), and *Arizona v. Washington*, 434 U.S. 497 (1978) (Justice Blackmun concurring only in the result).

⁶⁷ The rule traces back to *United States v. Perez*, 22 U.S. (9 Wheat.) 579 (1824). See also *Kepner v. United States*, 195 U.S. 100 (1904); *Downum v. United States*, 372 U.S. 734 (1963) (trial terminated just after jury sworn but before any testimony taken). In *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28 (1978), the Court held this standard of the attachment of jeopardy was "at the core" of the clause and it therefore binds the States. *But see id.* at 40 (Justice Powell dissenting). An accused is not put in jeopardy by preliminary examination and discharge by the examining magistrate, *Collins v. Loisel*, 262 U.S. 426 (1923), by an indictment which is quashed, *Taylor v. United States*, 207 U.S. 120, 127 (1907), or by arraignment and pleading to the indictment. *Bassing v. Cady*, 208 U.S. 386, 391–92 (1908). A defendant may be tried after preliminary proceedings that present no risk of final conviction. E.g., *Ludwig v. Massachusetts*, 427 U.S. 618, 630–32 (1976) (conviction in prior summary proceeding does not foreclose trial in a court of general jurisdiction, where defendant has absolute right to demand a trial *de novo* and thus set aside the first conviction); *Swisher v. Brady*, 438 U.S. 204 (1978) (double jeopardy not violated by procedure under which masters hear evidence and make preliminary recommendations to juvenile court judge, who may confirm, modify, or remand).

⁶⁸ *Cf. United States v. Jorn*, 400 U.S. 470 (1971); *Downum v. United States*, 372 U.S. 734 (1963). "Even if the first trial is not completed, a second prosecution may be grossly unfair. It increases the financial and emotional burden on the accused, prolongs the period in which he is stigmatized by an unresolved accusation of

ment of jeopardy at a point prior to judgment and thus making some terminations of trials before judgment final insofar as the defendant is concerned is that a defendant has a “valued right to have his trial completed by a particular tribunal.”⁶⁹ The reason the defendant’s right is so “valued” is that he has a legitimate interest in completing the trial “once and for all” and “conclud[ing] his confrontation with society,”⁷⁰ so as to be spared the expense and ordeal of repeated trials, the anxiety and insecurity of having to live with the possibility of conviction, and the possibility that the prosecution may strengthen its case with each try as it learns more of the evidence and of the nature of the defense.⁷¹ These reasons both inform the determination when jeopardy attaches and the evaluation of the permissibility of retrial depending upon the reason for a trial’s premature termination.

A mistrial may be the result of “manifest necessity,”⁷² such as where, for example, the jury cannot reach a verdict⁷³ or circumstances plainly prevent the continuation of the trial.⁷⁴ Difficult has been the answer, however, when the doctrine of “manifest necessity” has been called upon to justify a second trial following a mistrial granted by the trial judge because of some event within the prosecutor’s control or because of prosecutorial misconduct or because of error or abuse of discretion by the judge himself. There must ordinarily be a balancing of the defendant’s right in having the trial completed against the public interest in fair trials designed to end in just judgments.⁷⁵ Thus, when, after jeopardy attached, a mistrial was granted because of a defective indictment, the Court held that retrial was not barred; a trial judge “properly exercises his discretion” in cases in which an impartial verdict cannot be reached or in which a verdict on conviction would have to be reversed on appeal because of an obvious error. “If an error

wrongdoing, and may even enhance the risk that an innocent defendant may be convicted. The danger of such unfairness to the defendant exists whenever a trial is aborted before it is completed. Consequently, as a general rule, the prosecutor is entitled to one, and only one, opportunity to require an accused to stand trial.” *Arizona v. Washington*, 434 U.S. 497, 503–05 (1978).

⁶⁹ *Wade v. Hunter*, 336 U.S. 684, 689 (1949).

⁷⁰ *United States v. Jorn*, 400 U.S. 470, 486 (1971) (plurality opinion).

⁷¹ *Arizona v. Washington*, 434 U.S. 497, 503–05 (1978); *Crist v. Bretz*, 437 U.S. 28, 35–36 (1978). See Westen & Drubel, *Toward a General Theory of Double Jeopardy*, 1978 SUP. CT. REV. 81, 86–97.

⁷² *United States v. Perez*, 22 U.S. (9 Wheat.) 579, 580 (1824).

⁷³ *Id.*; *Logan v. United States*, 144 U.S. 263 (1892).

⁷⁴ *Simmons v. United States*, 142 U.S. 148 (1891) (juror’s impartiality became questionable during trial); *Thompson v. United States*, 155 U.S. 271 (1884) (discovery during trial that one of the jurors had served on the grand jury which indicted defendant and was therefore disqualified); *Wade v. Hunter*, 336 U.S. 684 (1949) (court-martial discharged because enemy advancing on site).

⁷⁵ *Illinois v. Somerville*, 410 U.S. 458, 463 (1973).

could make reversal on appeal a certainty, it would not serve 'the ends of public justice' to require that the Government proceed with its proof when, if it succeeded before the jury, it would automatically be stripped of that success by an appellate court."⁷⁶ On the other hand, when, after jeopardy attached, a prosecutor successfully moved for a mistrial because a key witness had inadvertently not been served and could not be found, the Court held a retrial barred, because the prosecutor knew prior to the selection and swearing of the jury that the witness was unavailable.⁷⁷ Although this case appeared to establish the principle that an error of the prosecutor or of the judge leading to a mistrial could not constitute a "manifest necessity" for terminating the trial, *Somerville* distinguished and limited *Downum* to situations in which the error lends itself to prosecutorial manipulation, in being the sort of instance which the prosecutor could use to abort a trial that was not proceeding successfully and to obtain a new trial in which his advantage would be increased.⁷⁸

Another kind of case arises when the prosecutor moves for mistrial because of prejudicial misconduct by the defense. In *Arizona v. Washington*,⁷⁹ defense counsel in his opening statement made prejudicial comments about the prosecutor's past conduct, and the prosecutor's motion for a mistrial was granted over defendant's objections. The Court ruled that retrial was not barred by double jeopardy. Granting that in a strict, literal sense, mistrial was not "necessary" because the trial judge could have given limiting instructions to the jury, the Court held that the highest degree of respect should be given to the trial judge's evaluation of the likelihood of the impairment of the impartiality of one or more jurors. As long as support for a mistrial order can be found in the trial record, no specific statement of "manifest necessity" need be made by the trial judge.⁸⁰

Emphasis upon the trial judge's discretion has an impact upon the cases in which it is the judge's error, in granting *sua sponte* a

⁷⁶Id. at 464.

⁷⁷*Downum v. United States*, 372 U.S. 734 (1963).

⁷⁸*Illinois v. Somerville*, 410 U.S. 458, 464–65, 468–69 (1973).

⁷⁹434 U.S. 497 (1978).

⁸⁰"Manifest necessity" characterizes the burden the prosecutor must shoulder in justifying retrial. Id. at 505–06. But "necessity" cannot be interpreted literally; it means rather a "high degree" of necessity, and some instances, such as hung juries, easily meet that standard. Id. at 506–07. In a situation like that presented in this case, great deference must be paid to the trial judge's decision because he was in the best position to determine the extent of the possible bias, having observed the jury's response, and to respond by the course he deems best suited to deal with it. Id. at 510–14. Here, "the trial judge acted responsibly and deliberately, and accorded careful consideration to respondent's interest in having the trial concluded in a single proceeding. [H]e exercised 'sound discretion'. . . ." Id. at 516.

mistrial or granting the prosecutor's motion. The cases are in doctrinal disarray. Thus, in *Gori v. United States*,⁸¹ the Court permitted retrial of the defendant when the trial judge had, on his own motion and with no indication of the wishes of defense counsel, declared a mistrial because he thought the prosecutor's line of questioning was intended to expose the defendant's criminal record, which would have constituted prejudicial error. Although the Court thought the judge's action was an abuse of discretion, it approved retrial on the conclusion that the judge's decision had been taken for defendant's benefit. This rationale was disapproved in the next case, in which the trial judge discharged the jury erroneously and in abuse of his discretion, because he disbelieved the prosecutor's assurance that certain witnesses had been properly apprised of their constitutional rights.⁸² Refusing to permit retrial, the Court observed that the "doctrine of manifest necessity stands as a command to trial judges not to foreclose the defendant's option [to go to the first jury and perhaps obtain an acquittal] until a scrupulous exercise of judicial discretion leads to the conclusion that the ends of public justice would not be served by a continuation of the proceedings."⁸³ The later cases appear to accept *Jorn* as an example of a case where the trial judge "acts irrationally or irresponsibly." But if the trial judge acts deliberately, giving prosecution and defense the opportunity to explain their positions, and according respect to defendant's interest in concluding the matter before the one jury, then he is entitled to deference. This approach perhaps rehabilitates the result if not the reasoning in *Gori* and maintains the result and much of the reasoning of *Jorn*.⁸⁴

Of course, "a motion by the defendant for mistrial is ordinarily assumed to remove any barrier to reprosecution, even if the defendant's motion is necessitated by a prosecutorial or judicial error."⁸⁵ "Such a motion by the defendant is deemed to be a deliberate election on his part to forgo his valued right to have his guilt or innocence determined before the first trier of fact."⁸⁶ In *United States v. Dinitz*,⁸⁷ the trial judge had excluded defendant's principal at-

⁸¹ 367 U.S. 364 (1961). See also *United States v. Tateo*, 377 U.S. 463 (1964) (reprosecution permitted after the setting aside of a guilty plea found to be involuntary because of coercion by the trial judge).

⁸² *United States v. Jorn*, 400 U.S. 470, 483 (1971).

⁸³ *Id.* at 485. The opinion of the Court was by a plurality of four, but two other Justices joined it after first arguing that jurisdiction was lacking to hear the Government's appeal.

⁸⁴ *Arizona v. Washington*, 434 U.S. 497, 514, 515-16 (1978). See also *Illinois v. Somerville*, 410 U.S. 458, 462, 465-66, 469-71 (1973) (discussing *Gori* and *Jorn*).

⁸⁵ *United States v. Jorn*, 400 U.S. 470, 485 (1971) (plurality opinion).

⁸⁶ *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 93 (1978).

⁸⁷ 424 U.S. 600 (1976). See also *Lee v. United States*, 432 U.S. 23 (1977) (defendant's motion to dismiss because the information was improperly drawn made

torney for misbehavior and had then given defendant the option of recess while he appealed the exclusion, a mistrial, or continuation with an assistant defense counsel. Holding that the defendant could be retried after he chose a mistrial, the Court reasoned that, while the exclusion might have been in error, it was not done in bad faith to goad the defendant into requesting a mistrial or to prejudice his prospects for acquittal. The defendant's choice, even though difficult, to terminate the trial and go on to a new trial should be respected and a new trial not barred. To hold otherwise would necessitate requiring the defendant to shoulder the burden and anxiety of proceeding to a probable conviction followed by an appeal, which if successful would lead to a new trial, and neither the public interest nor defendant's interests would thereby be served.

But the Court has also reserved the possibility that the defendant's motion might be necessitated by prosecutorial or judicial overreaching motivated by bad faith or undertaken to harass or prejudice, and in those cases retrial would be barred. It was unclear what prosecutorial or judicial misconduct would constitute such overreaching,⁸⁸ but in *Oregon v. Kennedy*,⁸⁹ the Court adopted a narrow "intent" test, so that "[o]nly where the governmental conduct in question is intended to 'goad' the defendant into moving for a mistrial may a defendant raise the bar of double jeopardy to a second trial after having succeeded in aborting the first on his own motion." Therefore, ordinarily, a defendant who moves for or acquiesces in a mistrial is bound by his decision and may be required to stand for retrial.

Reprosecution Following Acquittal.—That a defendant may not be retried following an acquittal is "the most fundamental rule in the history of double jeopardy jurisprudence."⁹⁰ "[T]he law attaches particular significance to an acquittal. To permit a second trial after an acquittal, however mistaken the acquittal may have been, would present an unacceptably high risk that the Govern-

after opening statement and renewed at close of evidence was functional equivalent of mistrial and when granted did not bar retrial, Court emphasizing that defendant by his timing brought about foreclosure of opportunity to stay before the same trial).

⁸⁸ Compare *United States v. Dinitz*, 424 U.S. 600, 611 (1976), with *United States v. Tateo*, 377 U.S. 463, 468 n.3 (1964).

⁸⁹ 456 U.S. 667, 676 (1982). The Court thought a broader standard requiring an evaluation of whether acts of the prosecutor or the judge prejudiced the defendant would be unmanageable and would be counterproductive because courts would be loath to grant motions for mistrials knowing that reprosecution would be barred. *Id.* at 676–77. The defendant had moved for mistrial after the prosecutor had asked a key witness a prejudicial question. Four Justices concurred, noting that the question did not constitute overreaching or harassment and objecting both to the Court's reaching the broader issue and to its narrowing the exception. *Id.* at 681.

⁹⁰ *United States v. Martin Linen Supply Co.*, 430 U.S. 564, 571 (1977).

ment, with its vastly superior resources, might wear down the defendant so that 'even though innocent he may be found guilty.'" ⁹¹ While in other areas of double jeopardy doctrine consideration is given to the public-safety interest in having a criminal trial proceed to an error-free conclusion, no such balancing of interests is permitted with respect to acquittals, "no matter how erroneous," no matter even if they were "egregiously erroneous." ⁹²

The acquittal being final, there is no governmental appeal constitutionally possible from such a judgment. This was firmly established in *Kepner v. United States*, ⁹³ which arose under a Philippines appeals system in which the appellate court could make an independent review of the record, set aside the trial judge's decision, and enter a judgment of conviction. ⁹⁴ Previously, under the due process clause, there was no barrier to state provision for prosecutorial appeals from acquittals. ⁹⁵ But there are instances in which the trial judge will dismiss the indictment or information without intending to acquit or in circumstances in which retrial would not be barred, and the prosecution, of course, has an interest in seeking on appeal to have errors corrected. Until 1971, however, the law providing for federal appeals was extremely difficult to apply and insulated from review many purportedly erroneous legal rulings, ⁹⁶ but in that year Congress enacted a new statute permitting appeals in all criminal cases in which indictments are dis-

⁹¹ *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 91 (1978) (quoting *Green v. United States*, 355 U.S. 184, 188 (1957)). For the conceptually related problem of trial for a "separate" offense arising out of the same "transaction," see *infra*, pp. 1299-1302.

⁹² *Burks v. United States*, 437 U.S. 1, 16 (1978); *Fong Foo v. United States*, 369 U.S. 141, 143 (1962). For evaluation of those interests of the defendant that might support the absolute rule of finality, and rejection of all such interests save the right of the jury to acquit against the evidence and the trial judge's ability to temper legislative rules with leniency, see Westin & Drubel, *Toward a General Theory of Double Jeopardy*, 1978 SUP. CT. REV. 81, 122-37.

⁹³ 195 U.S. 100 (1904). The case interpreted not the constitutional provision but a statutory provision extending double jeopardy protection to the Philippines. The Court has described the case, however, as correctly stating constitutional principles. See, e.g., *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332, 346 n.15 (1975); *United States v. DiFrancesco*, 449 U.S. 117, 113 n.13 (1980).

⁹⁴ In dissent, Justice Holmes, joined by three other Justices, propounded a theory of "continuing jeopardy," so that until the case was finally concluded one way or another, through judgment of conviction or acquittal, and final appeal, there was no second jeopardy no matter how many times a defendant was tried. *Id.* at 134. The Court has numerous times rejected any concept of "continuing jeopardy." E.g., *Green v. United States*, 355 U.S. 184, 192 (1957); *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332, 351-53 (1975); *Breed v. Jones*, 421 U.S. 519, 533-35 (1975).

⁹⁵ *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319 (1937). *Palko* is no longer viable. Cf. *Greene v. Massey*, 437 U.S. 19 (1978).

⁹⁶ The Criminal Appeals Act of 1907, 34 Stat. 1246, was "a failure . . . , a most unruly child that has not improved with age." *United States v. Sisson*, 399 U.S. 267, 307 (1970). See also *United States v. Oppenheimer*, 242 U.S. 85 (1916); *Fong Foo v. United States*, 369 U.S. 141 (1962).

missed, except in those cases in which the double jeopardy clause prohibits further prosecution.⁹⁷ In part because of the new law, the Court has dealt in recent years with a large number of problems in this area.

Acquittal by Jury.—Little or no controversy accompanies the rule that once a jury has acquitted a defendant, government may not, through appeal of the verdict or institution of a new prosecution, place the defendant on trial again. Thus, the Court early held that, when the results of a trial are set aside because the first indictment was invalid or for some reason the trial's results were voidable, a judgment of acquittal must nevertheless remain undisturbed.⁹⁸

Acquittal by the Trial Judge.—Similarly, when a trial judge acquits a defendant, that action concludes the matter.⁹⁹ There is no possibility of retrial for the same offense.¹⁰⁰ But it may be difficult at times to determine whether the trial judge's action was in fact an acquittal or was a dismissal or some other action which the prosecution may be able to appeal. The question is "whether the ruling of the judge, whatever its label, actually represents a resolution, correct or not, of some or all of the factual elements of the offense charged."¹⁰¹ Thus, an appeal by the Government was held barred in a case in which the deadlocked jury had been discharged, and the trial judge had granted the defendant's motion for a judgment of acquittal under the appropriate federal rule, explicitly based on the judgment that the Government had not proved facts

⁹⁷Title III of the Omnibus Crime Control Act, Pub. L. No. 91-644, 84 Stat. 1890, 18 U.S.C. §3731. Congress intended to remove all statutory barriers to governmental appeal and to allow appeals whenever the Constitution would permit, so that interpretation of the statute requires constitutional interpretation as well. *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332, 337 (1974). See *Sanabria v. United States*, 437 U.S. 54, 69 n.23 (1978), and *id.* at 78 (Justice Stevens concurring).

⁹⁸In *United States v. Ball*, 163 U.S. 662 (1896), three defendants were placed on trial, Ball was acquitted and the other two were convicted, the two appealed and obtained a reversal on the ground that the indictment had been defective, and all three were again tried and all three were convicted. Ball's conviction was set aside as violating the clause; the trial court's action was not void but only voidable, and Ball had taken no steps to void it while the Government could not take such action. Similarly, in *Benton v. Maryland*, 395 U.S. 784 (1969), the defendant was convicted of burglary but acquitted of larceny; the conviction was set aside on his appeal because the jury had been unconstitutionally chosen. He was again tried and convicted of both burglary and larceny, but the larceny conviction was held to violate the double jeopardy clause. On the doctrine of "constructive acquittals" by conviction of a lesser included offense, see *infra*, p. 1294.

⁹⁹*United States v. Martin Linen Supply Co.*, 430 U.S. 564, 570-72 (1977); *Sanabria v. United States* 437 U.S. 54, 63-65 (1978); *Finch v. United States*, 433 U.S. 676 (1977).

¹⁰⁰In *Fong Foo v. United States*, 369 U.S. 141 (1962), the Court acknowledged that the trial judge's action in acquitting was "based upon an egregiously erroneous foundation," but it was nonetheless final and could not be reviewed. *Id.* at 143.

¹⁰¹*United States v. Martin Linen Supply Co.*, 430 U.S. 564, 571 (1977).

constituting the offense.¹⁰² Even if, as happened in *Sanabria v. United States*,¹⁰³ the trial judge erroneously excludes evidence and then acquits on the basis that the remaining evidence is insufficient to convict, the judgment of acquittal produced thereby is final and unreviewable.

Some limited exceptions do exist with respect to the finality of trial judge acquittal. First, because a primary purpose of the due process clause is the prevention of successive trials and not of prosecution appeals *per se*, it is apparently the case that if the trial judge permits the case to go to the jury, which convicts, and the judge thereafter enters a judgment of acquittal, even one founded upon his belief that the evidence does not establish guilt, the prosecution may appeal, because the effect of a reversal would be not a new trial but reinstatement of the jury's verdict and judgment thereon.¹⁰⁴ Second, if the trial judge enters or grants a motion of acquittal, even one based on the conclusion that the evidence is insufficient to convict, the prosecution may appeal if jeopardy had not yet attached in accordance with the federal standard.¹⁰⁵

Trial Court Rulings Terminating Trial Before Verdict.—

If, after jeopardy attaches, a trial judge grants a motion for mistrial, ordinarily the defendant is subject to retrial;¹⁰⁶ if, after jeopardy attaches, but before a jury conviction occurs, the trial judge acquits, perhaps on the basis that the prosecution has presented insufficient evidence or that the defendant has proved a requisite defense such as insanity or entrapment, the defendant is not sub-

¹⁰² *Id.* at 570–76. See also *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 87–92 (1978); *Smalis v. Pennsylvania*, 476 U.S. 140 (1986) (demurrer sustained on basis of insufficiency of evidence is acquittal).

¹⁰³ 437 U.S. 54 (1978). The double jeopardy applications of an appellate court's reversal for insufficient evidence are discussed *infra*, pp. 1294–95.

¹⁰⁴ In *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332 (1975), following a jury verdict to convict, the trial judge granted defendant's motion to dismiss on the ground of prejudicial delay, not a judgment of acquittal; the Court permitted a government appeal because reversal would have resulted in reinstatement of the jury's verdict, not in a retrial. In *United States v. Jenkins*, 420 U.S. 358, 365 (1975), the Court assumed, on the basis of *Wilson*, that a trial judge's acquittal of a defendant following a jury conviction could be appealed by the government because, again, if the judge's decision were set aside there would be no further proceedings at trial. In overruling *Jenkins* in *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82 (1978), the Court noted the assumption and itself assumed that a judgment of acquittal bars appeal only when a second trial would be necessitated by reversal. *Id.* at 91 n.7.

¹⁰⁵ *Serfass v. United States*, 420 U.S. 377 (1975) (after request for jury trial but before attachment of jeopardy judge dismissed indictment because of evidentiary insufficiency; appeal allowed); *United States v. Sanford*, 429 U.S. 14 (1976) (judge granted mistrial after jury deadlock, then four months later dismissed indictment for insufficient evidence; appeal allowed, because granting mistrial had returned case to pretrial status).

¹⁰⁶ *Supra*, pp. 1284–88.

ject to retrial.¹⁰⁷ However, it may be that the trial judge will grant a motion to dismiss that is neither a mistrial nor an acquittal, but is instead a termination of the trial in defendant's favor based on some decision not relating to his factual guilt or innocence, such as prejudicial preindictment delay.¹⁰⁸ The prosecution may not simply begin a new trial but must seek first to appeal and overturn the dismissal, a course that was not open to federal prosecutors until enactment of the 1971 law.¹⁰⁹ That law has resulted in tentative and uncertain rulings with respect to when such dismissals may be appealed and further proceedings directed. In the first place, it is unclear in many instances whether a judge's ruling is a mistrial, a dismissal, or an acquittal.¹¹⁰ In the second place, because the Justices have such differing views about the policies underlying the double jeopardy clause, determinations of which dismissals preclude appeals and further proceedings may result from shifting coalitions and from revised perspectives. Thus, the Court first fixed the line between permissible and impermissible appeals at the point at which further proceedings would have had to take place in the trial court if the dismissal were reversed. If the only thing that had to be done was to enter a judgment on a guilty verdict after reversal, appeal was constitutional and permitted under the statute;¹¹¹ if further proceedings, such as continuation of the trial or some further factfinding, was necessary, appeal was not permitted.¹¹² Now, but by a close division of the Court, the determining factor is not whether further proceedings must be had but whether the action of the trial judge, whatever its label, correct or not, resolved some or all of the factual elements of the offense charged in defendant's favor, whether, that is, the court made some determination related to the defendant's factual guilt or inno-

¹⁰⁷ *Supra*, p. 1290.

¹⁰⁸ *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332 (1975) (preindictment delay); *United States v. Jenkins*, 420 U.S. 358 (1975) (determination of law based on facts adduced at trial; ambiguous whether judge's action was acquittal or dismissal); *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82 (1978) (preindictment delay).

¹⁰⁹ *Supra*, pp. 1289–90. *See* *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 84–86 (1978); *United States v. Sisson*, 399 U.S. 267, 291–96 (1970).

¹¹⁰ *Cf. Lee v. United States*, 432 U.S. 23 (1977).

¹¹¹ *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332 (1975) (after jury guilty verdict, trial judge dismissed indictment on grounds of preindictment delay; appeal permissible because upon reversal all trial judge had to do was enter judgment on the jury's verdict).

¹¹² *United States v. Jenkins*, 420 U.S. 358 (1975) (after presentation of evidence in bench trial, judge dismissed indictment; appeal impermissible because if dismissal was reversed there would have to be further proceedings in the trial court devoted to resolving factual issues going to elements of offense charged and resulting in supplemental findings).

cence.¹¹³ Such dismissals relating to guilt or innocence are functional equivalents of acquittals, whereas all other dismissals are functional equivalents of mistrials.

Reprosecution Following Conviction

A basic purpose of the double jeopardy clause is to protect a defendant “against a second prosecution for the same offense after conviction.”¹¹⁴ It is “settled” that “no man can be twice lawfully punished for the same offense.”¹¹⁵ Of course, the defendant’s interest in finality, which informs much of double jeopardy jurisprudence, is quite attenuated following conviction, and he will most likely appeal, whereas the prosecution will ordinarily be content with its judgment.¹¹⁶ The situation involving reprosecution ordinarily arises, therefore, only in the context of successful defense appeals and controversies over punishment.

Reprosecution After Reversal on Defendant’s Appeal.—

Generally, a defendant who is successful in having his conviction set aside on appeal may be tried again for the same offense, the assumption being made in the first case on the subject that, by appealing, a defendant has “waived” his objection to further prosecution by challenging the original conviction.¹¹⁷ Although it has char-

¹¹³United States v. Scott, 437 U.S. 82 (1978) (at close of evidence, court dismissed indictment for preindictment delay; ruling did not go to determination of guilt or innocence, but, like a mistrial, permitted further proceedings that would go to factual resolution of guilt or innocence). The Court thought that double jeopardy policies were resolvable by balancing the defendant’s interest in having the trial concluded in one proceeding against the government’s right to one complete opportunity to convict those who have violated the law. The defendant chose to move to terminate the proceedings and, having made a voluntary choice, is bound to the consequences, including the obligation to continue in further proceedings. *Id.* at 95–101. The four dissenters would have followed *Jenkins*, and accused the Court of having adopted too restrictive a definition of acquittal. Their view is that the rule against retrials after acquittal does not, as the Court believed, “safeguard determination of innocence; rather, it is that a retrial following a final judgment for the accused necessarily threatens intolerable interference with the constitutional policy against multiple trials.” *Id.* at 101, 104 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens). They would, therefore, treat dismissals as functional equivalents of acquittals, whenever further proceedings would be required after reversals.

¹¹⁴North Carolina v. Pearce, 395 U.S. 711, 717 (1969).

¹¹⁵Ex parte Lange, 85 U.S. (18 Wall.) 163 (1873). For the conceptually-related problem of trial for a “separate” offense arising out of the same transaction, *see infra*, pp. 1299–1301.

¹¹⁶A prosecutor dissatisfied with the punishment imposed upon the first conviction might seek another trial in order to obtain a greater sentence. *Cf. Ciucci v. Illinois*, 356 U.S. 571 (1958) (under due process clause, double jeopardy clause not then applying to States).

¹¹⁷United States v. Ball, 163 U.S. 662 (1896). The English rule precluded a new trial in these circumstances, and circuit Justice Story adopted that view. *United States v. Gilbert*, 25 Fed. Cas. 1287 (No. 15,204) (C.C.D.Mass. 1834). The history is briefly surveyed in Justice Frankfurter’s dissent in *Green v. United States*, 355 U.S. 184, 200–05 (1957).

acterized the “waiver” theory as “totally unsound and indefensible,”¹¹⁸ the Court has been hesitant in formulating a new theory in maintaining the practice.¹¹⁹

An exception to full application of the retrial rule exists, however, when defendant on trial for an offense is convicted of a lesser offense and succeeds in having that conviction set aside. Thus, in *Green v. United States*,¹²⁰ defendant had been placed on trial for first degree murder but convicted of second degree murder; the Court held that, following reversal of that conviction, he could not be tried again for first degree murder, although he certainly could be for second degree murder, on the theory that the first verdict was an implicit acquittal of the first degree murder charge.¹²¹ Even though the Court thought the jury’s action in the first trial was clearly erroneous, the double jeopardy clause required that the jury’s implicit acquittal be respected.¹²²

Still another exception arises out of appellate reversals grounded on evidentiary insufficiency. Thus, in *Burks v. United States*,¹²³

¹¹⁸ *Green v. United States*, 355 U.S. 184, 197 (1957). The more recent cases continue to reject a “waiver” theory. E.g., *United States v. Dinitz*, 424 U.S. 600, 609 n.11 (1976); *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 99 (1978).

¹¹⁹ Justice Holmes in dissent in *Kepner v. United States*, 195 U.S. 100, 134 (1904), rejected the “waiver” theory and propounded a theory of “continuing jeopardy,” which also continues to be rejected. See *supra*, p. 1289 n.94. In some cases, a concept of “election” by the defendant has been suggested, *United States v. Scott*, 437 U.S. 82, 93 (1978); *Jeffers v. United States*, 432 U.S. 137, 152–54 (1977), but it is not clear how this formulation might differentiate itself from “waiver.” Chief Justice Burger has suggested that “probably a more satisfactory explanation” for permissibility of retrial in this situation “lies in analysis of the respective interests involved,” *Breed v. Jones*, 421 U.S. 519, 533–35 (1975), and a determination that on balance the interests of both prosecution and defense are well served by the rule. See *United States v. Tateo*, 377 U.S. 463, 466 (1964); *Tibbs v. Florida*, 457 U.S. 31, 39–40 (1982).

¹²⁰ 355 U.S. 184 (1957).

¹²¹ The decision necessarily overruled *Trono v. United States*, 199 U.S. 521 (1905), although the Court purported to distinguish the decision. *Green v. United States*, 355 U.S. 184, 194–97 (1957). See also *Brantley v. Georgia*, 217 U.S. 284 (1910) (no due process violation where defendant is convicted of higher offense on second trial).

¹²² See also *Price v. Georgia*, 398 U.S. 323 (1970). The defendant was tried for murder and was convicted of involuntary manslaughter. He obtained a reversal, was again tried for murder, and again convicted of involuntary manslaughter. Acknowledging that, after reversal, Price could have been tried for involuntary manslaughter, the Court nonetheless reversed the second conviction because he had been subjected to the hazard of twice being tried for murder, in violation of the double jeopardy clause, and the effect on the jury of the murder charge being pressed could have prejudiced him to the extent of the second conviction. *But cf. Morris v. Mathews*, 475 U.S. 237 (1986) (inadequate showing of prejudice resulting from reducing jeopardy-barred conviction for aggravated murder to non-jeopardy-barred conviction for first degree murder). “To prevail in a case like this, the defendant must show that, but for the improper inclusion of the jeopardy-barred charge, the result of the proceeding probably would have been different.” *Id.* at 247.

¹²³ 437 U.S. 1 (1978).

the appellate court set aside the defendant's conviction on the basis that the prosecution had failed to rebut defendant's proof of insanity. In directing that the defendant could not be retried, the Court observed that if the trial court "had so held in the first instance, as the reviewing court said it should have done, a judgment of acquittal would have been entered and, of course, petitioner could not be retried for the same offense. . . . [I]t should make no difference that the reviewing court, rather than the trial court, determined the evidence to be insufficient."¹²⁴ The policy underlying the clause of not allowing the prosecution to make repeated efforts to convict forecloses giving the prosecution another opportunity to supply evidence which it failed to muster in the first proceeding. On the other hand, if a reviewing court reverses a jury conviction because of its disagreement on the *weight* rather than the *sufficiency* of the evidence, retrial is permitted; the appellate court's decision does not mean that acquittal was the only proper course, hence the deference required for acquittals is not merited.¹²⁵ Also, the *Burks* rule does not bar reprosecution following a reversal based on erroneous admission of evidence, even if the remaining properly admitted evidence would be insufficient to convict.¹²⁶

Sentence Increases.—The double jeopardy clause protects against imposition of multiple punishment for the same offense.¹²⁷ The application of the principle leads, however, to a number of complexities. In a simple case, it was held that where a court inadvertently imposed both a fine and imprisonment for a crime for which the law authorized one or the other but not both, it could

¹²⁴Id. at 10–11. See also *Greene v. Massey*, 437 U.S. 19 (1978) (remanding for determination whether appellate majority had reversed for insufficient evidence or whether some of the majority had based decision on trial error); *Hudson v. Louisiana*, 450 U.S. 40 (1981) (*Burks* applies where appellate court finds some but insufficient evidence adduced, not only where it finds no evidence). *Burks* was distinguished in *Justices of Boston Municipal Court v. Lydon*, 466 U.S. 294 (1984), holding that a defendant who had elected to undergo a bench trial with no appellate review but with right of trial *de novo* before a jury (and with appellate review available) could not bar trial *de novo* and reverse his bench trial conviction by asserting that the conviction had been based on insufficient evidence. The two-tiered system in effect gave the defendant two chances at acquittal; under those circumstances jeopardy was not terminated by completion of the first entirely optional stage.

¹²⁵*Tibbs v. Florida*, 457 U.S. 31 (1982). The decision was 5-to-4, the dissent arguing that weight and insufficiency determinations should be given identical double jeopardy clause treatment. Id. at 47 (Justices White, Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun).

¹²⁶*Lockhart v. Nelson*, 488 U.S. 33 (1988) (state may reprosecute under habitual offender statute even though evidence of a prior conviction was improperly admitted; at retrial, state may attempt to establish other prior convictions as to which no proof was offered at prior trial).

¹²⁷Ex parte *Lange*, 85 U.S. (18 Wall.) 163, 173 (1874); *North Carolina v. Pearce*, 395 U.S. 711, 717 (1969). For the application of the principle in cases in which the same conduct has violated more than one criminal statute, see *infra*, pp. 1297–99.

not, after the fine had been paid and the defendant had entered his short term of confinement, recall the defendant and change its judgment by sentencing him to imprisonment only.¹²⁸ But the Court has held that the imposition of a sentence does not from the moment of imposition have the finality that a judgment of acquittal has. Thus, it has long been recognized that in the same term of court and before the defendant has begun serving the sentence the court may recall him and increase his sentence.¹²⁹ Moreover, a defendant who is retried after he is successful in overturning his first conviction is not protected by the double jeopardy clause against receiving a greater sentence upon his second conviction.¹³⁰ An exception exists with respect to capital punishment, the Court having held that government may not again seek the death penalty on retrial when on the first trial the jury had declined to impose a death sentence.¹³¹

Applying and modifying these principles, the Court narrowly approved the constitutionality of a statutory provision for sentencing of “dangerous special offenders,” which authorized prosecution appeals of sentences and permitted the appellate court to affirm, reduce, or increase the sentence.¹³² The Court held that the provision did not offend the double jeopardy clause. Sentences had never carried the finality that attached to acquittal, and its precedents indicated to the Court that imposition of a sentence less than the maximum was in no sense an “acquittal” of the higher sentence. Appeal resulted in no further trial or other proceedings to which

¹²⁸ *Ex parte Lange*, 85 U.S. (18 Wall.) 163 (1874).

¹²⁹ *Bozza v. United States*, 330 U.S. 160 (1947). See also *Pollard v. United States*, 352 U.S. 354, 359–60 (1957) (imposition of prison sentence two years after court imposed an invalid sentence of probation approved). Dicta in some cases had cast doubt on the constitutionality of the practice. *United States v. Benz*, 282 U.S. 304, 307 (1931). However, *United States v. DiFrancesco*, 449 U.S. 117, 133–36, 138–39 (1980), upholding a statutory provision allowing the United States to appeal a sentence imposed on a “dangerous special offender,” removes any doubt on that score. The Court there reserved decision on whether the government may appeal a sentence that the defendant has already begun to serve.

¹³⁰ *North Carolina v. Pearce*, 395 U.S. 711, 719–21 (1969). See also *Chaffin v. Stynchcombe*, 412 U.S. 17, 23–24 (1973). The principle of implicit acquittal of an offense drawn from *Green v. United States*, 355 U.S. 184 (1957), does not similarly apply to create an implicit acquittal of a higher sentence. *Pearce* does hold that a defendant must be credited with the time served against his new sentence. *Supra*, 395 U.S. at 717–19.

¹³¹ *Bullington v. Missouri*, 451 U.S. 430 (1981). Four Justices dissented. *Id.* at 447 (Justices Powell, White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger). The Court disapproved *Stroud v. United States* 251 U.S. 15 (1919), although formally distinguishing it. *Bullington* was followed in *Arizona v. Rumsey*, 467 U.S. 203 (1984), also involving a separate sentencing proceeding in which a life imprisonment sentence amounted to an acquittal on imposition of the death penalty. *Rumsey* was decided by 7–2 vote, with only Justices White and Rehnquist dissenting.

¹³² *United States v. DiFrancesco*, 449 U.S. 117 (1980). Four Justices dissented. *Id.* at 143, 152 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens).

a defendant might be subjected, only the imposition of a new sentence. An increase in a sentence would not constitute multiple punishment, the Court continued, inasmuch as it would be within the allowable sentence and the defendant could have no legitimate expectation of finality in the sentence as first given because the statutory scheme alerted him to the possibility of increase. Similarly upheld as within the allowable range of punishment contemplated by the legislature was a remedy for invalid multiple punishments under consecutive sentences: a shorter felony conviction was vacated, and time served was credited to the life sentence imposed for felony-murder. Even though the first sentence had been commuted and hence fully satisfied at the time the trial court revised the second sentence, the resulting punishment was “no greater than the legislature intended,” hence there was no double jeopardy violation.¹³³

“For the Same Offence”

Sometimes as difficult as determining when a defendant has been placed in jeopardy is determining whether he was placed in jeopardy for the same offense. As noted previously, the same conduct may violate the laws of two different sovereigns, and a defendant may be proceeded against by both because each may have different interests to serve.¹³⁴ The same conduct may transgress two or more different statutes, because laws reach lesser and greater parts of one item of conduct, or may violate the same statute more than once, as when one robs several people in a group at the same time.

Legislative Discretion as to Multiple Sentences.—It frequently happens that one activity of a criminal nature will violate one or more laws or that one or more violations may be charged.¹³⁵ Although the question is not totally free of doubt, it appears that the double jeopardy clause does not limit the legislative power to split a single transaction into separate crimes so as to give the

¹³³ Jones v. Thomas, 491 U.S. 376, 381–82 (1989).

¹³⁴ Supra, pp. 1281–82.

¹³⁵ There are essentially two kinds of situations here. There are “double-description” cases in which criminal law contains more than one prohibition for conduct arising out of a single transaction. E.g., Gore v. United States, 357 U.S. 386, 392–93 (1958) (one sale of narcotics resulted in three separate counts: (1) sale of drugs not in pursuance of a written order, (2) sale of drugs not in the original stamped package, and (3) sale of drugs with knowledge that they had been unlawfully imported). And there are “unit-of-prosecution” cases in which the same conduct may violate the same statutory prohibition more than once. E.g., Bell v. United States, 349 U.S. 81 (1955) (defendant who transported two women across state lines for an immoral purpose in one trip in same car indicted on two counts of violating Mann Act). See Westen & Drubel, *Toward a General Theory of Double Jeopardy*, 1978 SUP. CT. REV. 81, 111–22.

prosecution a choice of charges that may be tried in one proceeding, thereby making multiple punishments possible for essentially one transaction.¹³⁶ “Where a legislature specifically authorizes cumulative punishment under two statutes, regardless of whether those two statutes proscribe the ‘same’ conduct under *Blockburger*, a court’s task of statutory construction is at an end and . . . the trial court or jury may impose cumulative punishment under such statutes in a single trial.”¹³⁷ The clause does, however, create a rule of construction, a presumption against the judiciary imposing multiple punishments for the same transaction unless Congress has “spoken in language that is clear and definite”¹³⁸ to pronounce its intent that multiple punishments indeed be imposed. The commonly used test in determining whether Congress would have wanted to punish as separate offenses conduct occurring in the same transaction, absent otherwise clearly expressed intent, is the “same evidence” rule. The rule, announced in *Blockburger v. United States*,¹³⁹ “is that where the same act or transaction constitutes a violation of two distinct statutory provisions, the test to be applied to determine whether there are two offenses or only one, is whether each provision requires proof of a fact which the other does not.” Thus, in *Gore v. United States*,¹⁴⁰ the Court held that defendant’s one act of selling narcotics had violated three distinct criminal statutes, each of which required proof of a fact not required by the oth-

¹³⁶ *Albernaz v. United States*, 450 U.S. 333, 343–44 (1981) (defendants convicted on separate counts of conspiracy to import marijuana and conspiracy to distribute marijuana, both charges relating to the same marijuana.) The concurrence objected that the clause does preclude multiple punishments for separate statutory offenses unless each requires proof of a fact that the others do not. *Id.* at 344. Inasmuch as the case involved separate offenses which met this test, *Albernaz* strictly speaking is not a square holding and previous dicta is otherwise, but *Albernaz* is well-considered dicta in view of the positions of at least four of its Justices who have objected to the dicta in other cases suggesting a constitutional restraint by the clause. *Whalen v. United States*, 445 U.S. 684, 695, 696, 699 (1980) (Justices White, Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger).

¹³⁷ *Missouri v. Hunter*, 459 U.S. 359 (1983) (separate offenses of “first degree robbery,” defined to include robbery under threat of violence, and “armed criminal action”). Only Justices Marshall and Stevens dissented, arguing that the legislature should not be totally free to prescribe multiple punishment for the same conduct, and that the same rules should govern multiple prosecutions and multiple punishments.

¹³⁸ *United States v. Universal C.I.T. Corp.*, 344 U.S. 218, 221–22 (1952).

¹³⁹ 284 U.S. 299, 304 (1932). This case itself was not a double jeopardy case, but it derived the rule from *Gavieres v. United States*, 220 U.S. 338, 342 (1911), which was a double jeopardy case. *See also* *Carter v. McClaughry*, 183 U.S. 365 (1902); *Morgan v. Devine*, 237 U.S. 632 (1915); *Albrecht v. United States*, 273 U.S. 1 (1927); *Pinkerton v. United States*, 328 U.S. 640 (1946); *American Tobacco Co. v. United States*, 328 U.S. 781 (1946); *United States v. Michener*, 331 U.S. 789 (1947); *Pereira v. United States*, 347 U.S. 1 (1954); *Callanan v. United States*, 364 U.S. 587 (1961).

¹⁴⁰ 357 U.S. 386 (1958).

ers; prosecuting him on all three counts in the same proceeding was therefore permissible.¹⁴¹ So too, the same evidence rule does not upset the “established doctrine” that, for double jeopardy purposes, “a conspiracy to commit a crime is a separate offense from the crime itself,”¹⁴² or the related principle that Congress may prescribe that predicate offenses and “continuing criminal enterprise” are separate offenses.¹⁴³ On the other hand, in *Whalen v. United States*,¹⁴⁴ the Court determined that a defendant could not be separately punished for rape and for killing the same victim in the perpetration of the rape, because it is not the case that each statute requires proof of a fact that the other does not, and no indication existed in the statutes and the legislative history that Congress wanted the separate offenses punished.¹⁴⁵ In this as in other areas, a guilty plea ordinarily precludes collateral attack.¹⁴⁶

Successive Prosecutions for “the Same Offense.”—Successive prosecutions raise fundamental double jeopardy concerns extending beyond those raised by enhanced and multiple punishments. It is more burdensome for a defendant to face charges in separate proceedings, and if those proceedings are strung out over a lengthy period the defendant is forced to live in a continuing state of uncertainty. At the same time, multiple prosecutions allow the state to hone its trial strategies through successive attempts at

¹⁴¹ See also *Albernaz v. United States*, 450 U.S. 333 (1981); *Iannelli v. United States*, 420 U.S. 770 (1975) (defendant convicted on two counts, one of the substantive offense, one of conspiracy to commit the substantive offense; defense raised variation of *Blockburger* test, Wharton’s Rule requiring that one may not be punished for conspiracy to commit a crime when the nature of the crime necessitates participation of two or more persons for its commission; Court recognized Wharton’s Rule as a double-jeopardy inspired presumption of legislative intent but held that congressional intent in this case was “clear and unmistakable” that both offenses be punished separately).

¹⁴² *United States v. Felix*, 112 S. Ct. 1377, 1385 (1992).

¹⁴³ *Garrett v. United States*, 471 U.S. 773 (1985) (“continuing criminal enterprise” is a separate offense under the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970).

¹⁴⁴ 445 U.S. 684 (1980).

¹⁴⁵ The Court reasoned that a conviction for killing in the course of rape could not be had without providing all of the elements of the offense of rape. See also *Jeffers v. United States*, 432 U.S. 137 (1977) (no indication in legislative history Congress intended defendant to be prosecuted both for conspiring to distribute drugs and for distributing drugs in concert with five or more persons); *Simpson v. United States*, 435 U.S. 6 (1978) (defendant improperly prosecuted both for committing bank robbery with a firearm and for using a firearm to commit a felony); *Bell v. United States*, 349 U.S. 81 (1955) (simultaneous transportation of two women across state lines for immoral purposes one violation of Mann Act rather than two).

¹⁴⁶ *United States v. Broce*, 488 U.S. 563 (1989) (defendant who pled guilty to two separate conspiracy counts is barred from collateral attack alleging that in fact there was only one conspiracy and that double jeopardy applied).

conviction.¹⁴⁷ In *Brown v. Ohio*,¹⁴⁸ the Court, apparently for the first time, applied the same evidence test to bar successive prosecutions in state court for different statutory offenses involving the same conduct. The defendant had been convicted of “joyriding,” of operating a motor vehicle without the owner’s consent, and was then prosecuted and convicted of stealing the same automobile. Because the state courts had conceded that joyriding was a lesser included offense of auto theft, the Court observed that each offense required the same proof and for double jeopardy purposes met the *Blockburger* test. The second conviction was overturned.¹⁴⁹ Application of the same principles resulted in a holding that a prior conviction of failing to reduce speed to avoid an accident did not preclude a second trial for involuntary manslaughter, inasmuch as failing to reduce speed was not a necessary element of the statutory offense of manslaughter, unless the prosecution in the second trial had to prove failing to reduce speed to establish this particular offense.¹⁵⁰ In *Grady v. Corbin*,¹⁵¹ the Court modified the *Brown* approach, stating that the appropriate focus is on same conduct rather than same evidence. A subsequent prosecution is barred, the Court explained, if the government, to establish an essential element of an offense, will prove conduct that constitutes an offense for which the defendant has already been prosecuted.¹⁵² The *Brown* Court had noted some limitations applicable to its holding,¹⁵³ and more have emerged subsequently. Principles appro-

¹⁴⁷ See *Grady v. Corbin*, 495 U.S. 508, 518–19 (1990).

¹⁴⁸ 432 U.S. 161 (1977). Cf. *In re Nielson*, 131 U.S. 176 (1889) (prosecution of Mormon for adultery held impermissible following his conviction for cohabiting with more than one woman, even though second prosecution required proof of an additional fact—that he was married to another woman).

¹⁴⁹ See also *Harris v. Oklahoma*, 433 U.S. 682 (1977) (defendant who had been convicted of felony murder for participating in a store robbery with another person who shot a store clerk could not be prosecuted for robbing the store, since store robbery was a lesser-included crime in the offense of felony murder).

¹⁵⁰ *Illinois v. Vitale*, 447 U.S. 410 (1980).

¹⁵¹ 495 U.S. 508 (1990).

¹⁵² *Id.* at 521 (holding that the state could not prosecute a traffic offender for negligent homicide because it would attempt to prove conduct for which the defendant had already been prosecuted—driving while intoxicated and failure to keep to the right of the median).

¹⁵³ The Court suggested that if the legislature had provided that joyriding is a separate offense for each day the vehicle is operated without the owner’s consent, so that the two indictments each specifying a different date on which the offense occurred would have required different proof, the result might have been different, but this, of course, met the *Blockburger* problem. *Brown v. Ohio*, 432 U.S. 161, 169 n.8 (1977). The Court also suggested that an exception might be permitted where the State is unable to proceed on the more serious charge at the outset because the facts necessary to sustain that charge had not occurred or had not been discovered. *Id.* at 169 n.7. See also *Jeffers v. United States*, 432 U.S. 137, 150–54 (1977) (plurality opinion) (exception where defendant elects separate trials); *Ohio v. Johnson*, 467 U.S. 493 (1984) (trial court’s acceptance of guilty plea to lesser included offense and

appropriate in the “classically simple” lesser-included offense and related situations are not readily transposable to “multilayered conduct” governed by the law of conspiracy and continuing criminal enterprise, and it remains the law that “a substantive crime and a conspiracy to commit that crime are not the ‘same offense’ for double jeopardy purposes.”¹⁵⁴

The “Same Transaction” Problem.—The same conduct may also give rise to multiple offenses in a way that would satisfy the *Blockburger* test if that conduct victimizes two or more individuals, and therefore constitutes a separate offense as to each of them. In *Hoag v. New Jersey*,¹⁵⁵ before the double jeopardy clause was applied to the States, the Court found no due process problem in successive trials arising out of a tavern hold-up in which five customers were robbed. *Ashe v. Swenson*,¹⁵⁶ however, presented the Court with the *Hoag* fact situation directly under the double jeopardy clause. The defendant had been acquitted at trial of robbing one player in a poker game; the defense offered no testimony and did not contest evidence that a robbery had taken place and that each of the players had lost money. A second trial was held on a charge that the defendant had robbed a second of the seven poker players, and on the basis of stronger identification testimony the defendant was convicted. Reversing the conviction, the Court held that the doctrine of collateral estoppel¹⁵⁷ was a constitutional rule made applicable to the States through the double jeopardy clause. Because the only basis upon which the jury could have acquitted the defendant at his first trial was a finding that he was not present at the robbery, hence was not one of the robbers, the State could not relitigate that issue; with that issue settled, there could be no conviction.¹⁵⁸ Several Justices would have gone further and required a compulsory joinder of all charges against a defendant

dismissal of remaining charges over prosecution’s objections does not bar subsequent prosecution on those “remaining” counts).

¹⁵⁴ *United States v. Felix*, 112 S. Ct. 1377, 1384 (1992).

¹⁵⁵ 356 U.S. 464 (1958). See also *Ciucci v. Illinois*, 356 U.S. 571 (1958).

¹⁵⁶ 397 U.S. 436 (1970).

¹⁵⁷ “‘Collateral estoppel’ is an awkward phrase . . . [which] means simply that when an issue of ultimate fact has once been determined by a final judgment, that issue cannot again be litigated between the same parties in any future lawsuit.” *Id.* at 443. First developed in civil litigation, the doctrine was applied in a criminal case in *United States v. Oppenheimer*, 242 U.S. 85 (1916). See also *Sealfon v. United States*, 332 U.S. 575 (1948).

¹⁵⁸ *Ashe v. Swenson*, 397 U.S. 436, 466 (1970). See also *Harris v. Washington*, 404 U.S. 55 (1971); *Turner v. Arkansas*, 407 U.S. 366 (1972). *Cf. Dowling v. United States*, 493 U.S. 342 (1990), in which the Court concluded that the defendant’s presence at an earlier crime for which he had been acquitted had not necessarily been decided in his acquittal. *Dowling* is distinguishable from *Ashe*, however, because in *Dowling* the evidence relating to the first conviction was not a necessary element of the second offense.

growing out of a single criminal act, occurrence, episode, or transaction, except where a crime is not discovered until prosecution arising from the same transaction has begun or where the same jurisdiction does not have cognizance of all the crimes.¹⁵⁹ But the Court has “steadfastly refused to adopt the ‘single transaction’ view of the Double Jeopardy Clause.”¹⁶⁰

SELF-INCRIMINATION

Development and Scope

Source of this clause was the maxim “*nemo tenetur seipsum accusare*,” that “no man is bound to accuse himself.” The maxim is but one aspect of two different systems of law enforcement which competed in England for acceptance; the accusatorial and the inquisitorial. In the accusatorial system, which predated the reign of Henry II but was expanded and extended by him, first the community and then the state by grand and petit juries proceeded against alleged wrongdoers through the examination of others, and in the early years through examination of the defendant as well. The inquisitorial system, which developed in the ecclesiastical courts, compelled the alleged wrongdoer to affirm his culpability through the use of the oath *ex officio*. Under the oath, an official had the power to make a person before him take an oath to tell the truth to the full extent of his knowledge as to all matters about which he would be questioned; before administration of the oath the person was not advised of the nature of the charges against him, or whether he was accused of crime, and was also not informed of the nature of the questions to be asked.¹⁶¹

The use of this oath in Star Chamber proceedings, especially to root out political heresies, combined with opposition to the ecclesiastical oath *ex officio*, led over a long period of time to general acceptance of the principle that a person could not be required to accuse himself under oath in any proceeding before an official tribunal seeking information looking to a criminal prosecution, or before a magistrate investigating an accusation against him with or

¹⁵⁹ *Ashe v. Swenson*, 397 U.S. 436, 448 (1970) (Justices Brennan, Douglas, and Marshall concurring). Justices Brennan and Marshall adhered to their position in *Brown v. Ohio*, 432 U.S. 161, 170 (1977) (concurring); and *Thompson v. Oklahoma*, 429 U.S. 1053 (1977) (dissenting from denial of certiorari).

¹⁶⁰ *Garrett v. United States*, 471 U.S. 773, 790 (1985). Earlier, the approach had been rejected by Chief Justice Burger in *Ashe v. Swenson*, 397 U.S. 436, 468 (1970) (dissenting), by him and Justice Blackmun in *Harris v. Washington*, 404 U.S. 55, 57 (1971) (dissenting), and, perhaps, by Justice Rehnquist in *Turner v. Arkansas*, 407 U.S. 366, 368 (1972) (dissenting).

¹⁶¹ Maguire, *Attack of the Common Lawyers on the Oath Ex Officio as Administered in the Ecclesiastical Courts in England*, in *ESSAYS IN HISTORY AND POLITICAL THEORY IN HONOR OF CHARLES HOWARD MCILWAIN* 199 (C. Wittke ed. 1936).

without oath, or under oath in a court of equity or a court of common law.¹⁶² The precedents in the colonies are few in number, but following the Revolution six states had embodied the privilege against self-incrimination in their constitutions,¹⁶³ and the privilege was one of those recommended by several state ratifying conventions for inclusion in a federal bill of rights.¹⁶⁴ Madison's version of the clause read "nor shall be compelled to be a witness against himself,"¹⁶⁵ but upon consideration by the House an amendment was agreed to insert "in any criminal case" in the provision.¹⁶⁶

The historical studies cited demonstrate that in England and the colonies the privilege was narrower than the interpretation now prevailing, a common situation reflecting the gradual expansion, or occasional contracting, of constitutional guarantees based on the judicial application of the policies underlying the guarantees in the context of new factual patterns and practices. The difficulty is that the Court has generally failed to articulate the policy objectives underlying the privilege, usually citing a "complex of values" when it has attempted to state the interests served by it.¹⁶⁷ Commonly mentioned in numerous cases was the assertion that the

¹⁶²The traditional historical account is 8 J. WIGMORE, A TREATISE ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE §2250 (J. McNaughton rev. 1961), but more recent historical studies have indicated that Dean Wigmore was too grudging of the privilege. LEONARD LEVY, ORIGINS OF THE FIFTH AMENDMENT: THE RIGHT AGAINST SELF-INCRIMINATION (1968); Morgan, *The Privilege Against Self-Incrimination*, 34 MINN. L. REV. 1 (1949).

¹⁶³3 F. THORPE, THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTIONS, *reprinted in* H. Doc. No. 357, 59th Congress, 2d sess. 1891 (1909) (Massachusetts); 4 *id.* at 2455 (New Hampshire); 5 *id.* at 2787 (North Carolina), 3038 (Pennsylvania); 6 *id.* at 3741 (Vermont); 7 *id.* at 3813 (Virginia).

¹⁶⁴Amendments were recommended by an "Address" of a minority of the Pennsylvania convention after they had been voted down as a part of the ratification action, 2 BERNARD SCHWARTZ, THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 628, 658, 664 (1971), and then the ratifying conventions of Massachusetts, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, and New York formally took this step.

¹⁶⁵1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 434 (June 8, 1789).

¹⁶⁶*Id.* at 753 (August 17, 1789).

¹⁶⁷"It reflects many of our fundamental values and most noble aspirations; our unwillingness to subject those suspected of crime to the cruel trilemma of self-accusation, perjury or contempt; our preference for an accusatorial rather than an inquisitorial system of criminal justice; our fear that self-incriminating statements will be elicited by inhumane treatment and abuses; our sense of fair play which dictates 'a fair state-individual balance by requiring the government to leave the individual alone until good cause is shown for disturbing him and by requiring the government in its contest with the individual to shoulder the entire load, . . .'; our respect for the inviolability of the human personality and of the right of each individual 'to a private enclave where he may lead a private life,' . . . , our distrust of self-deprecatory statement; and our realization that the privilege, while sometimes 'a shelter to the guilty,' is often 'a protection to the innocent.'" *Murphy v. Waterfront Comm'n*, 378 U.S. 52, 55 (1954). A dozen justifications have been suggested for the privilege. 8 J. WIGMORE, A TREATISE ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE 2251 (J. McNaughton rev. 1961).

privilege was designed to protect the innocent and to further the search for truth.¹⁶⁸ It appears now, however, that the Court has rejected both of these as inapplicable and has settled upon the principle that the clause serves two interrelated interests: the preservation of an accusatorial system of criminal justice, which goes to the integrity of the judicial system, and the preservation of personal privacy from unwarranted governmental intrusion.¹⁶⁹ In order to protect these interests and to preserve these values, the privilege “is not to be interpreted literally.” Rather, the “sole concern [of the privilege] is, as its name indicates, with the danger to a witness forced to give testimony leading to the infliction of penalties affixed to the criminal acts.”¹⁷⁰

“The privilege afforded not only extends to answers that would in themselves support a conviction . . . but likewise embraces those which would furnish a link in the chain of evidence needed to prosecute [I]f the witness, upon interposing his claim, were required to prove the hazard . . . he would be compelled to surrender the very protection which the privilege is designed to guarantee. To sustain the privilege, it need only be evident from the implications of the question, in the setting in which it is asked, that a responsive answer to the question or an explanation of why it cannot be answered might be dangerous because injurious disclosure could result.”¹⁷¹ Thus, a judge who would deny a claim of the privilege must be “perfectly clear, from a careful consideration of all the circumstances in the case, that the witness is mistaken, and that the

¹⁶⁸ E.g. *Twining v. New Jersey*, 211 U.S. 78, 91 (1908); *Ullmann v. United States*, 350 U.S. 422, 426 (1956); *Quinn v. United States*, 349 U.S. 155, 162–63 (1955).

¹⁶⁹ “[T]he basic purposes that lie behind the privilege against self-incrimination do not relate to protecting the innocent from conviction, but rather to preserving the integrity of a judicial system in which even the guilty are not to be convicted unless the prosecution ‘shoulder the entire load.’ . . .

“The basic purpose of a trial is the determination of truth, and it is self-evident that to deny a lawyer’s help through the technical intricacies of a criminal trial or to deny a full opportunity to appeal a conviction because the accused is poor is to impede that purpose and to infect a criminal proceeding with the clear danger of convicting the innocent. . . . By contrast, the Fifth Amendment’s privilege against self-incrimination is not an adjunct to the ascertainment of truth. That privilege, like the guarantees of the Fourth Amendment, stands as a protection of quite different constitutional values—values reflecting the concern of our society for the right of each individual to be let alone.” *Tehan v. United States ex rel. Shott*, 382 U.S. 406, 415, 416 (1966); *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 460 (1966); *Schmerber v. California*, 384 U.S. 757, 760–765 (1966). See also *California v. Byers*, 402 U.S. 424, 448–58 (1971) (Justice Harlan concurring). For a critical modern view of the privilege, see Friendly, *The Fifth Amendment Tomorrow: The Case for Constitutional Change*, 37 U. CIN. L. REV. 671 (1968).

¹⁷⁰ *Ullmann v. United States*, 350 U.S. 422, 438–39 (1956).

¹⁷¹ *Hoffman v. United States*, 341 U.S. 479, 486–87 (1951). See also *Emspak v. United States*, 349 U.S. 190 (1955); *Blau v. United States*, 340 U.S. 159 (1950); *Blau v. United States*, 340 U.S. 332 (1951).

answer[s] cannot possibly have such tendency' to incriminate."¹⁷² The witness must have reasonable cause to apprehend danger from an answer, but he may not be the sole judge of the validity of his claim. While the trial judge may not require a witness to disclose so much of the danger as to render the privilege nugatory, he must determine whether there is a reasonable apprehension of incrimination by considering the circumstances of the case, his knowledge of matters surrounding the inquiry, and the nature of the evidence which is demanded from the witness.¹⁷³ One must explicitly claim his privilege or he will be deemed to have waived it, and waiver may be found where the witness has answered some preliminary questions but desires to stop at a certain point.¹⁷⁴

The privilege against self-incrimination is a personal one and cannot be utilized by or on behalf of any organization, such as a corporation. Thus, a corporation cannot object on self-incrimination grounds to a subpoena of its records and books or to the compelled testimony of those corporate agents who have been given personal immunity from criminal prosecution.¹⁷⁵ Neither may a corporate official with custody of corporate documents which incriminate him personally resist their compelled production on the assertion of his personal privilege.¹⁷⁶

¹⁷² 341 U.S. at 488 (quoting *Temple v. Commonwealth*, 75 Va. 892, 898 (1881)). For an application of these principles, see *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1, 11–14 (1964), and *id.* at 33 (Justices White and Stewart dissenting). Where government is seeking to enforce an essentially noncriminal statutory scheme through compulsory disclosure, some Justices would apparently relax the *Hoffman* principles. *Cf.* *California v. Byers*, 402 U.S. 424 (1971) (plurality opinion).

¹⁷³ *Hoffman v. United States*, 341 U.S. 479 (1951); *Mason v. United States*, 244 U.S. 362 (1917).

¹⁷⁴ *Rogers v. United States*, 340 U.S. 367 (1951); *United States v. Monia*, 317 U.S. 424 (1943). The "waiver" concept here as in other recent cases has been pronounced "analytically [un]sound," with the Court preferring to reserve the term "waiver" "for the process by which one affirmatively renounces the protection of the privilege." *Garner v. United States*, 424 U.S. 648, 654, n.9 (1976). Thus, the Court has settled upon the concept of "compulsion" as applied to "cases where disclosures are required in the face of claim of privilege." *Id.* "[I]n the ordinary case, if a witness under compulsion to testify makes disclosures instead of claiming the privilege, the Government has not 'compelled' him to incriminate himself." *Id.* at 654. Similarly, the Court has enunciated the concept of "voluntariness" to be applied in situations where it is claimed that a particular factor denied the individual a "free choice to admit, to deny, or to refuse to answer." *Id.* at 654 n.9, 656–65.

¹⁷⁵ *United States v. White*, 322 U.S. 694, 701 (1944); *Baltimore & O.R.R. v. ICC*, 221 U.S. 612, 622 (1911); *Hale v. Henkel*, 201 U.S. 43, 69–70, 74–75 (1906).

¹⁷⁶ *United States v. White*, *supra*, 699–700; *Wilson v. United States*, 221 U.S. 361, 384–385 (1911). But the government may make no evidentiary use of the act of production in proceeding individually against the corporate custodian. *Braswell v. United States*, 487 U.S. 99 (1988). *Cf.* *George Campbell Painting Corp. v. Reid*, 392 U.S. 286 (1968); *United States v. Rylander*, 460 U.S. 752 (1983) (witness who had failed to appeal production order and thus had burden in contempt proceeding to show inability to then produce records could not rely on privilege to shift this evidentiary burden).

A witness has traditionally been able to claim the privilege in any proceeding whatsoever in which testimony is legally required when his answer might be used against him in that proceeding or in a future criminal proceeding or when it might be exploited to uncover other evidence against him.¹⁷⁷ Conversely, there is no valid claim on the ground that the information sought can be used in proceedings which are not criminal in nature.¹⁷⁸ The Court in recent years has also applied the privilege to situations, such as police interrogation of suspects, in which there is no *legal* compulsion to speak.¹⁷⁹ What the privilege protects against is compulsion of “testimonial” disclosures; requiring a person in custody to stand or walk in a police lineup, to speak prescribed words, to model particular clothing, or to give samples of handwriting, fingerprints, or blood does not compel him to incriminate himself within the mean-

¹⁷⁷ Thus, not only may a defendant or a witness in a criminal trial, including a juvenile proceeding, *In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1, 42–57 (1967), claim the privilege but so may a party or a witness in a civil court proceeding, *McCarthy v. Arndstein*, 266 U.S. 34 (1924), a potential defendant or any other witness before a grand jury, *Reina v. United States*, 364 U.S. 507 (1960); *Counselman v. Hitchcock*, 142 U.S. 547, 563 (1892), or a witness before a legislative inquiry, *Watkins v. United States*, 354 U.S. 178, 195–96 (1957); *Quinn v. United States*, 349 U.S. 155 (1955); *Emspak v. United States*, 349 U.S. 190 (1955), or before an administrative body. *In re Groban*, 352 U.S. 330, 333, 336–37, 345–46 (1957); *ICC v. Brimson*, 154 U.S. 447, 478–80 (1894).

¹⁷⁸ *Allen v. Illinois*, 478 U.S. 364 (1986) (declaration that person is “sexually dangerous” under Illinois law is not a criminal proceeding); *Minnesota v. Murphy*, 465 U.S. 420, 435 n.7 (1984) (revocation of probation is not a criminal proceeding, hence “there can be no valid claim of the privilege on the ground that the information sought can be used in revocation proceedings”). In *Murphy*, the Court went on to explain that “a State may validly insist on answers to even incriminating questions and hence sensibly administer its probation system, as long as it recognizes that the required answers may not be used in a criminal proceeding and thus eliminates the threat of incrimination. Under such circumstances, a probationer’s ‘right to immunity as a result of his compelled testimony would not be at stake’ . . . and nothing in the Federal Constitution would prevent a State from revoking probation for a refusal to answer . . .” *Id.*

¹⁷⁹ *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966).

ing of the clause,¹⁸⁰ although compelling him to produce private papers may.¹⁸¹

The protection is against “compulsory” incrimination, and traditionally the Court has treated within the clause only those compulsions which arise from legally enforceable obligations, culminating in imprisonment for refusal to testify or to produce documents.¹⁸² But the compulsion need not be imprisonment; it can as

¹⁸⁰*Schmerber v. California*, 384 U.S. 757, 764 (1966); *United States v. Wade*, 388 U.S. 218, 221–23 (1967); *Holt v. United States*, 218 U.S. 245, 252 (1910). In *California v. Byers*, 402 U.S. 424 (1971), four Justices believed that requiring any person involved in a traffic accident to stop and give his name and address did not involve testimonial compulsion and therefore the privilege was inapplicable, *id.* at 431–34 (Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart, White, and Blackmun), but Justice Harlan, *id.* at 434 (concurring), and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall, *id.* at 459, 464 (dissenting), disagreed. In *South Dakota v. Neville*, 459 U.S. 553 (1983), the Court indicated as well that a State may compel a motorist suspected of drunk driving to submit to a blood alcohol test, and may also give the suspect a choice about whether to submit, but use his refusal to submit to the test as evidence against him. The Court rested its evidentiary ruling on absence of coercion, preferring not to apply the sometimes difficult distinction between testimonial and physical evidence. In another case, involving roadside videotaping of a drunk driving suspect, the Court found that the slurred nature of the suspect’s speech, as well as his answers to routine booking questions as to name, address, weight, height, eye color, date of birth, and current age, were not testimonial in nature. *Pennsylvania v. Muniz*, 496 U.S. 582 (1990). On the other hand, the suspect’s answer to a request to identify the date of his sixth birthday was considered testimonial. *Id.*

¹⁸¹*Fisher v. United States*, 425 U.S. 391 (1976), however, holds that compelling a taxpayer by subpoena to produce documents produced by his accountants from his own papers does not involve testimonial self-incrimination and is not barred by the privilege. “[T]he Fifth Amendment does not independently proscribe the compelled production of every sort of incriminating evidence but applies only when the accused is compelled to make a *testimonial* communication that is incriminating.” *Id.* at 408 (emphasis by Court). Even if the documents contained the writing of the person being compelled to produce them, that would be insufficient to trigger the privilege, unless the government had compelled him to write in the first place. *Id.* at 410 n.11. Only if by complying with the subpoena the person would be making a communication that was both “testimonial” and “incriminating,” such as by conceding the existence of the papers or indicating that these are the papers sought, would he have a valid claim of privilege, and even there one would have to evaluate the facts and circumstances of the particular case to reach a determination. *Id.* at 410. Even further removed from the protection of the privilege is seizure pursuant to a search warrant of business records in the handwriting of the defendant. *Andresen v. Maryland*, 427 U.S. 463 (1976). A court order compelling a target of a grand jury investigation to sign a consent directive authorizing foreign banks to disclose records of any and all accounts over which he had a right of withdrawal is not testimonial in nature, since the factual assertions are required of the banks and not of the target. *Doe v. United States*, 487 U.S. 201 (1988). But in *United States v. Doe*, 465 U.S. 605 (1984), the Court distinguished *Fisher*, upholding lower courts’ findings that the act of producing tax records implicates the privilege because it would compel admission that the records exist, that they were in the taxpayer’s possession, and that they are authentic. Similarly, a juvenile court’s order to produce a child implicates the privilege, because the act of compliance “would amount to testimony regarding [the subject’s] control over and possession of [the child].” *Baltimore Dep’t of Social Services v. Bouknight*, 493 U.S. 549, 555 (1990).

¹⁸²E.g., *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39 (1968) (criminal penalties attached to failure to register and make incriminating admissions); *Malloy v. Hogan*,

well be termination of public employment¹⁸³ or disbarment of a lawyer¹⁸⁴ as a legal consequence of a refusal to make incriminating admissions. In extending the concept of coercion, however, the Court has not developed a clear doctrinal explanation to identify the differences between permissible and impermissible coercion. As a general rule, it may be said that all of these cases involve the ordering of some feature of a trial in such a way that a defendant must choose between or among rights, with one choice being to risk or to submit to self-incriminating disclosures by his actions.

It has long been the rule that a defendant who takes the stand in his own behalf cannot then claim the privilege to defeat cross-examination on matters reasonably related to the subject matter of his direct examination,¹⁸⁵ and that such a defendant may be impeached by proof of prior convictions.¹⁸⁶ But in *Griffin v. California*,¹⁸⁷ the Court refused to permit prosecutorial or judicial comment to the jury upon a defendant's refusal to take the stand in his own behalf, because such comment was a "penalty imposed by courts for exercising a constitutional privilege" and "[i]t cuts down

378 U.S. 1 (1964) (contempt citation on refusal to testify). See also *South Dakota v. Neville*, 459 U.S. 553 (1983) (no compulsion in introducing evidence of suspect's refusal to submit to blood alcohol test, since state could have forced suspect to take test and need not have offered him a choice); *Selective Service System v. Minnesota Public Interest Research Group*, 468 U.S. 841 (1984) (no coercion in requirement that applicants for federal financial assistance for higher education reveal whether they have registered for draft).

¹⁸³*Garrity v. New Jersey*, 385 U.S. 493 (1967); *Gardner v. Broderick*, 392 U.S. 273 (1968); *Uniformed Sanitation Men Ass'n v. Commissioner of Sanitation*, 392 U.S. 280 (1968). See also *Lefkowitz v. Turley*, 414 U.S. 70 (1973), holding unconstitutional state statutes requiring the disqualification for five years of contractors doing business with the State if at any time they refused to waive immunity and answer questions respecting their transactions with the State. The State can require employees or contractors to respond to inquiries, but only if it offers them immunity sufficient to supplant the privilege against self-incrimination. See also *Lefkowitz v. Cunningham*, 431 U.S. 801 (1977).

¹⁸⁴*Spevack v. Klein*, 385 U.S. 511 (1967).

¹⁸⁵*Brown v. Walker*, 161 U.S. 591, 597–98 (1896); *Fitzpatrick v. United States*, 178 U.S. 304, 314–16 (1900); *Brown v. United States*, 356 U.S. 148 (1958).

¹⁸⁶*Spencer v. Texas*, 385 U.S. 554, 561 (1967); cf. *Michelson v. United States*, 335 U.S. 469 (1948).

¹⁸⁷380 U.S. 609, 614 (1965). The result had been achieved in federal court through statutory enactment. 18 U.S.C. § 3481. See *Wilson v. United States*, 149 U.S. 60 (1893). In *Carter v. Kentucky*, 450 U.S. 288 (1981), the Court held that the self-incrimination clause required a State, upon defendant's request, to give a cautionary instruction to the jurors that they must disregard defendant's failure to testify and not draw any adverse inferences from it. This result, too, had been accomplished in the federal courts through statutory construction. *Bruno v. United States*, 308 U.S. 287 (1939). In *Lakeside v. Oregon*, 435 U.S. 333 (1978), the Court held that a court may give such an instruction, even over defendant's objection. *Carter v. Kentucky* was applied in *James v. Kentucky*, 466 U.S. 341 (1983) (request for jury "admonition" sufficient to invoke right to "instruction").

on the privilege by making its assertion costly.”¹⁸⁸ Prosecutors’ comments violating the *Griffin* rule can nonetheless constitute harmless error.¹⁸⁹ Neither may a prosecutor impeach a defendant’s trial testimony through use of the fact that upon his arrest and receipt of a *Miranda* warning he remained silent and did not give the police the exculpatory story he told at trial.¹⁹⁰ But where the defendant took the stand and testified, the Court permitted the impeachment use of his pre-arrest silence when that silence had in no way been officially encouraged, through a *Miranda* warning or otherwise.¹⁹¹

Further, the Court held inadmissible at the subsequent trial a defendant’s testimony at a hearing to suppress evidence wrongfully seized, since use of the testimony would put the defendant to an impermissible choice between asserting his right to remain silent and invoking his right to be free of illegal searches and seizures.¹⁹² The Court also proscribed the introduction at a second trial of the defendant’s testimony at his first trial, given to rebut a confession which was subsequently held inadmissible, since the testimony was in effect “fruit of the poisonous tree,” and had been “coerced” from the defendant through use of the confession.¹⁹³ Most potentially far-reaching was a holding that invalidated the penalty structure of a statute under which defendants could escape a possible death sentence by entering a guilty plea; the statute “needlessly encourage[d]” waivers of defendant’s Fifth Amendment right to plead not guilty and his Sixth Amendment right to a jury trial.¹⁹⁴

While this “needless encouragement” test assessed the nature of the choice required to be made by defendants against the

¹⁸⁸ While the *Griffin* rule continues to apply when the prosecutor on his own initiative asks the jury to draw an adverse inference from a defendant’s silence, it does not apply to a prosecutor’s “fair response” to a defense counsel’s allegation that the government had denied his client the opportunity to explain his actions. *United States v. Robinson*, 485 U.S. 25, 32 (1988).

¹⁸⁹ *Chapman v. California*, 386 U.S. 18 (1967); *United States v. Hasting*, 461 U.S. 499 (1983).

¹⁹⁰ *Doyle v. Ohio*, 426 U.S. 610 (1976). Post-arrest silence, the Court stated, is inherently ambiguous, and to permit use of the silence would be unfair since the *Miranda* warning told the defendant he could be silent. The same result had earlier been achieved under the Court’s supervisory power over federal trials in *United States v. Hale*, 422 U.S. 171 (1975). The same principles apply to bar a prosecutor’s use of *Miranda* silence as evidence of an arrestee’s sanity. *Wainwright v. Greenfield*, 474 U.S. 284 (1986).

¹⁹¹ *Jenkins v. Anderson*, 447 U.S. 231 (1980). *Cf. Baxter v. Palmigiano*, 425 U.S. 308 (1976) (prison disciplinary hearing may draw adverse inferences from inmate’s assertion of privilege so long as this was not the sole basis of decision against him).

¹⁹² *Simmons v. United States*, 390 U.S. 377 (1968). The rationale of the case was subsequently limited to Fourth Amendment grounds in *McGautha v. California*, 402 U.S. 183, 210–13 (1971).

¹⁹³ *Harrison v. United States*, 392 U.S. 219 (1968).

¹⁹⁴ *Jackson v. United States*, 390 U.S. 570, 583 (1968).

strength of the governmental interest in the system requiring the choice, the Court soon devolved another test stressing the voluntariness of the choice. A guilty plea entered by a defendant who correctly understands the consequences of the plea is voluntary unless coerced or obtained under false pretenses; moreover, there is no impermissible coercion where the defendant has the effective assistance of counsel.¹⁹⁵ The Court in an opinion by Justice Harlan then formulated still another test in holding that a defendant in a capital case in which the jury in one process decides both guilt and sentence could be put to a choice between remaining silent on guilt or admitting guilt and being able to put on evidence designed to mitigate the possible sentence. The pressure to take the stand in response to the sentencing issue, said the Court, was not so great as to impair the policies underlying the self-incrimination clause, policies described in this instance as proscription of coercion and of cruelty in putting the defendant to an undeniably “hard” choice.¹⁹⁶ Similarly, it has been held that requiring a defendant to give notice to the prosecution before trial of his intention to rely on an alibi defense and to give the names and addresses of witnesses who will support it does not violate the clause.¹⁹⁷ Neither does it violate a defendant’s self-incrimination privilege to create a presumption upon the establishment of certain basic facts which the jury may utilize to infer defendant’s guilt unless he rebuts the presumption.¹⁹⁸

¹⁹⁵ *Parker v. North Carolina*, 397 U.S. 790 (1970); *Brady v. United States*, 397 U.S. 742 (1970); *McMann v. Richardson*, 397 U.S. 759 (1970). Parker and Brady entered guilty pleas to avoid the death penalty when it became clear that the prosecution had solid evidence of their guilt; Richardson pled guilty because of his fear that an allegedly coerced confession would be introduced into evidence.

¹⁹⁶ *McGautha v. California*, 402 U.S. 183, 210–20 (1971). When the Court subsequently required bifurcated trials in capital cases, it was on the basis of the Eighth Amendment, and represented no withdrawal from the position described here. *Cf. Corbett v. New Jersey*, 439 U.S. 212 (1978); *Bordenkircher v. Hayes*, 434 U.S. 357 (1978).

¹⁹⁷ *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 80–86 (1970). The compulsion of choice, Justice White argued for the Court, proceeded from the strength of the State’s case and not from the disclosure requirement. That is, the rule did not affect whether or not the defendant chose to make an alibi defense and to call witnesses, but merely required him to accelerate the timing. It appears, however, that in *Brooks v. Tennessee*, 406 U.S. 605 (1972), the Court utilized the “needless encouragement” test in striking down a state rule requiring the defendant to testify before any other defense witness or to forfeit the right to testify at all. In the Court’s view, this impermissibly burdened the defendant’s choice whether to testify or not. Another prosecution discovery effort was approved in *United States v. Nobles*, 422 U.S. 233 (1975), in which a defense investigator’s notes of interviews with prosecution witnesses were ordered disclosed to the prosecutor for use in cross-examination of the investigator. The Court discerned no compulsion upon defendant to incriminate himself.

¹⁹⁸ “The same situation might present itself if there were no statutory presumption and a *prima facie* case of concealment with knowledge of unlawful importation

The obligation to testify is not relieved by this clause, if, regardless of whether incriminating answers are given, a prosecution is precluded,¹⁹⁹ or if the result of the answers is not incrimination, but rather harm to reputation or exposure to infamy or disgrace.²⁰⁰ The clause does not prevent a public employer from discharging an employee who, in an investigation specifically and narrowly directed at the performance of the employee's official duties, refuses to cooperate and to provide the employer with the desired information on grounds of self-incrimination.²⁰¹ But it is unclear under what other circumstances a public employer may discharge an employee who has claimed his privilege before another investigating agency.²⁰²

Finally, the rules established by the clause and the judicial interpretations are applicable against the States to the same degree that they apply to the Federal Government,²⁰³ and neither sovereign can compel discriminatory admissions which would incriminate the person in the other jurisdiction.²⁰⁴

were made by the evidence. The necessity of an explanation by the accused would be quite as compelling in that case as in this; but the constraint upon him to give testimony would arise there, as it arises here, simply from the force of circumstances and not from any form of compulsion forbidden by the Constitution." *Yee Hem v. United States*, 268 U.S. 178, 185 (1925), quoted with approval in *Turner v. United States*, 396 U.S. 398, 418 n.35 (1970). Justices Black and Douglas dissented on self-incrimination grounds. *Id.* at 425. *And see* *United States v. Gainey*, 380 U.S. 63, 71, 74 (1965) (dissenting opinions). For due process limitations on such presumptions, *see* discussion under the Fourteenth Amendment, *infra*.

¹⁹⁹ Prosecution may be precluded by tender of immunity, *infra*, pp. 1312–15, or by pardon, *Brown v. Walker*, 161 U.S. 591, 598–99 (1896). The effect of a mere tender of pardon by the President remains uncertain. *Cf.* *Burdick v. United States*, 236 U.S. 79 (1915) (acceptance necessary, and self-incrimination is possible in absence of acceptance); *Biddle v. Perovich*, 274 U.S. 480 (1927) (acceptance not necessary to validate commutation of death sentence to life imprisonment).

²⁰⁰ *Brown v. Walker*, 161 U.S. 591, 605–06 (1896); *Ullmann v. United States*, 350 U.S. 422, 430–31 (1956). Minorities in both cases had contended for a broader rule. *Walker*, 161 U.S. at 631 (Justice Field dissenting); *Ullmann*, 350 U.S. at 454 (Justice Douglas dissenting).

²⁰¹ *Gardner v. Broderick*, 392 U.S. 273, 278 (1968). Testimony compelled under such circumstances is, even in the absence of statutory immunity, barred from use in a subsequent criminal trial by force of the Fifth Amendment itself. *Garrity v. New Jersey*, 385 U.S. 493 (1967). However, unlike public employees, persons subject to professional licensing by government appear to be able to assert their privilege and retain their licenses. *Cf.* *Spevack v. Klein*, 385 U.S. 511 (1967) (lawyer may not be disbarred solely because he refused on self-incrimination grounds to testify at a disciplinary proceeding), *approved in* *Gardner v. Broderick*, 392 U.S. at 277–78. Justices Harlan, Clark, Stewart, and White dissented generally. 385 U.S. 500, 520, 530.

²⁰² *See* *Slochower v. Board of Education*, 350 U.S. 551 (1956), *limited by* *Lerner v. Casey*, 357 U.S. 468 (1958), and *Nelson v. County of Los Angeles*, 362 U.S. 1 (1960), which were in turn apparently limited by *Garrity* and *Gardner*.

²⁰³ *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1 (1964), (overruling *Twining v. New Jersey*, 211 U.S. 78 (1908), and *Adamson v. California*, 332 U.S. 46 (1947)).

²⁰⁴ *Murphy v. Waterfront Comm'n*, 378 U.S. 52 (1964), (overruling *United States v. Murdock*, 284 U.S. 141 (1931) (Federal Government could compel a witness

The Power To Compel Testimony and Disclosure

Immunity.—“Immunity statutes, which have historical roots deep in Anglo-American jurisprudence, are not incompatible [with the values of the self-incrimination clause]. Rather they seek a rational accommodation between the imperatives of the privilege and the legitimate demands of government to compel citizens to testify. The existence of these statutes reflects the importance of testimony, and the fact that many offenses are of such a character that the only persons capable of giving useful testimony are those implicated in the crime.”²⁰⁵ Apparently the first immunity statute was enacted by Parliament in 1710²⁰⁶ and it was widely copied in the colonies. The first federal immunity statute was enacted in 1857, and immunized any person who testified before a congressional committee from prosecution for any matter “touching which” he had testified.²⁰⁷

Revised in 1862 so as merely to prevent the use of the congressional testimony at a subsequent prosecution of any congressional witness,²⁰⁸ the statute was soon rendered unenforceable by the ruling in *Counselman v. Hitchcock*²⁰⁹ that an analogous limited

to give testimony which might incriminate him under state law), *Knapp v. Schweitzer*, 357 U.S. 371 (1958) (State may compel a witness to give testimony which might incriminate him under federal law), and *Feldman v. United States*, 322 U.S. 487 (1944) (testimony compelled by a State may be introduced into evidence in the federal courts)). *Murphy* held that a State could compel testimony under a grant of immunity but that since the State could not extend the immunity to federal courts the Supreme Court would not permit the introduction of evidence into federal courts which had been compelled by a State or which had been discovered because of state compelled testimony. The result was apparently a constitutionally compelled one arising from the Fifth Amendment itself, 378 U.S. at 75–80, rather than one taken pursuant to the Court’s supervisory power as Justice Harlan would have preferred. *Id.* at 80 (concurring). Congress has power to confer immunity in state courts as well as in federal in order to elicit information, *Adams v. Maryland*, 347 U.S. 179 (1954), but whether Congress must do so or whether the immunity would be conferred simply through the act of compelling the testimony *Murphy* did not say.

Whether testimony could be compelled by either the Federal Government or a State that could incriminate a witness in a foreign jurisdiction is unsettled, see *Zicarelli v. New Jersey State Comm’n of Investigation*, 406 U.S. 472, 480, 481 (1972) (reserving question), but an affirmative answer seems unlikely. *Cf. Murphy*, *supra*, 378 U.S. at 58–63, 77.

²⁰⁵ *Kastigar v. United States*, 406 U.S. 441, 445–46 (1972). It has been held that the Fifth Amendment itself precludes the use as criminal evidence of compelled admissions, *Garrity v. New Jersey*, 385 U.S. 493 (1967), but this case and dicta in others is unreconciled with the cases that find that one may “waive” though inadvertently the privilege and be required to testify and incriminate oneself. *Rogers v. United States*, 340 U.S. 367 (1951).

²⁰⁶ 9 Anne, c. 14, 3–4 (1710). See *Kastigar v. United States*, 406 U.S. 441, 445 n.13 (1972).

²⁰⁷ Ch. 19, 11 Stat. 155 (1857). There was an exception for perjury committed while testifying before Congress.

²⁰⁸ Ch. 11, 12 Stat. 333 (1862).

²⁰⁹ 142 U.S. 547 (1892). The statute struck down was ch. 13, 15 Stat. 37 (1868).

immunity statute was unconstitutional because it did not confer an immunity coextensive with the privilege it replaced. *Counselman* was ambiguous with regard to its grounds because it identified two faults in the statute: it did not proscribe “derivative” evidence²¹⁰ and it only prohibited future use of the compelled testimony.²¹¹ The latter language accentuated a division between adherents of “transactional” immunity and of “use” immunity which has continued to the present.²¹² In any event, following *Counselman*, Congress enacted a statute which conferred transactional immunity as the price for being able to compel testimony,²¹³ and the Court sustained this law in a five-to-four decision.²¹⁴

“The 1893 statute has become part of our constitutional fabric and has been included ‘in substantially the same terms, in virtually all of the major regulatory enactments of the Federal Government.’”²¹⁵ So spoke Justice Frankfurter in 1956, broadly reaffirming *Brown v. Walker* and upholding the constitutionality of a federal immunity statute.²¹⁶ Because all but one of the immunity acts passed after *Brown v. Walker* were transactional immunity statutes,²¹⁷ the question of the constitutional sufficiency of use im-

²¹⁰ *Counselman v. Hitchcock*, 142 U.S. 547, 564 (1892). *And see id.* at 586.

²¹¹ *Id.* at 585–86.

²¹² “Transactional” immunity means that once a witness has been compelled to testify about an offense, he may never be prosecuted for that offense, no matter how much independent evidence might come to light; “use” immunity means that no testimony compelled to be given and no evidence derived from or obtained because of the compelled testimony may be used if the person were subsequently prosecuted on independent evidence for the offense.

²¹³ Ch. 83, 27 Stat. 443 (1893).

²¹⁴ *Brown v. Walker*, 161 U.S. 591 (1896). The majority reasoned that one was excused from testifying only if there could be legal detriment flowing from his act of testifying. If a statute of limitations had run or if a pardon had been issued with regard to a particular offense, a witness could not claim the privilege and refuse to testify, no matter how much other detriment, such as loss of reputation, would attach to his admissions. Therefore, since the statute acted as a pardon or amnesty and relieved the witness of all legal detriment, he must testify. The four dissenters contended essentially that the privilege protected against being compelled to incriminate oneself regardless of any subsequent prosecutorial effort, *id.* at 610, and that a witness was protected against infamy and disparagement as much as prosecution. *Id.* at 628.

²¹⁵ *Ullmann v. United States*, 350 U.S. 422, 438 (1956), (quoting *Shapiro v. United States*, 335 U.S. 1, 6 (1948)).

²¹⁶ “[The] sole concern [of the privilege] is . . . with the danger to a witness forced to give testimony leading to the infliction of ‘penalties affixed to the criminal acts’. . . . Immunity displaces the danger. Once the reason for the privilege ceases, the privilege ceases.” *Id.* at 438–39. The internal quotation is from *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616, 634 (1886).

²¹⁷ *Kastigar v. United States*, 406 U.S. 441, 457–58 (1972); *Piccirillo v. New York*, 400 U.S. 548, 571 (1971) (Justice Brennan dissenting). The exception was an immunity provision of the bankruptcy laws, 30 Stat. 548 (1898), 11 U.S.C. §25(a)(10), repealed by 84 Stat. 931 (1970). The right of a bankrupt to insist on his privilege against self-incrimination as against this statute was recognized in *McCarthy v. Arndstein*, 266 U.S. 34, 42 (1924), “because the present statute fails to afford

munity did not arise, although dicta in cases dealing with immunity continued to assert the necessity of the former type of grant.²¹⁸ But beginning in 1964, when it applied the self-incrimination clause to the States, the Court was faced with the problem which arose because a State could grant immunity only in its own courts and not in the courts of another State or of the United States.²¹⁹ On the other hand, to foreclose the States from compelling testimony because they could not immunize a witness in a subsequent “foreign” prosecution would severely limit state law enforcement efforts. Therefore, the Court emphasized the “use” restriction rationale of *Counselman* and announced that as a “constitutional rule, a state witness could not be compelled to incriminate himself under federal law unless federal authorities were precluded from using either his testimony or evidence derived from it,” and thus formulated a use restriction to that effect.²²⁰ Then, while refusing to adopt the course because of statutory interpretation reasons, the Court indicated that use restriction in a federal regulatory scheme requiring the reporting of incriminating information was “in principle an attractive and apparently practical resolution of the difficult problem before us,” citing *Murphy* with apparent approval.²²¹

Congress thereupon enacted a statute replacing all prior immunity statutes and adopting a use-immunity restriction only.²²² Soon tested, this statute was sustained in *Kastigar v. United*

complete immunity from a prosecution.” The statute also failed to prohibit the use of derivative evidence. *Arndstein v. McCarthy*, 254 U.S. 71 (1920).

²¹⁸ E.g., *Hale v. Henkel*, 201 U.S. 43, 67 (1906); *United States v. Monia*, 317 U.S. 424, 425, 428 (1943); *Smith v. United States*, 337 U.S. 137, 141, 146 (1949); *United States v. Murdock*, 284 U.S. 141, 149 (1931); *Adams v. Maryland*, 347 U.S. 179, 182 (1954). In *Ullmann v. United States*, 350 U.S. 422, 436–37 (1956), Justice Frankfurter described the holding of *Counselman* as relating to the absence of a prohibition on the use of derivative evidence.

²¹⁹ *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1 (1964), extended the clause to the States. That Congress could immunize a federal witness from state prosecution and, of course, extend use immunity to state courts, was held in *Adams v. Maryland*, 347 U.S. 179 (1954), and had been recognized in *Brown v. Walker*, 161 U.S. 591 (1896).

²²⁰ *Murphy v. Waterfront Comm’n*, 378 U.S. 52, 77–99 (1964). Concurring, Justices White and Stewart argued at length in support of the constitutional sufficiency of use immunity and the lack of a constitutional requirement of transactional immunity. *Id.* at 92. See also *Gardner v. Broderick*, 392 U.S. 273 (1968); *Uniformed Sanitation Men Ass’n v. Commissioner of Sanitation*, 392 U.S. 280 (1968); *Garrity v. New Jersey*, 385 U.S. 493 (1967), recognizing the propriety of compelling testimony with a use restriction attached.

²²¹ *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39, 58 (1968).

²²² Organized Crime Control Act of 1970, Pub. L. No. 91–452, §201(a), 84 Stat. 922, 18 U.S.C. §§6002–03. Justice Department officials have the authority under the Act to decide whether to seek immunity, and courts will not apply “constructive” use immunity absent compliance with the statute’s procedures. *United States v. Doe*, 465 U.S. 605 (1984).

States.²²³ “[P]rotection coextensive with the privilege is the degree of protection which the Constitution requires,” wrote Justice Powell for the Court, “and is all that the Constitution requires. . . .”²²⁴ “Transactional immunity, which accords full immunity from prosecution for the offense to which the compelled testimony relates, affords the witness considerably broader protection than does the Fifth Amendment privilege. The privilege has never been construed to mean that one who invokes it cannot subsequently be prosecuted. Its sole concern is to afford protection against being ‘forced to give testimony leading to the infliction of ‘penalties affixed to . . . criminal acts.’” Immunity from the use of compelled testimony and evidence derived directly and indirectly therefrom affords this protection. It prohibits the prosecutorial authorities from using the compelled testimony in *any* respect, and it therefore insures that the testimony cannot lead to the infliction of criminal penalties on the witness.”²²⁵

Required Records Doctrine.—While the privilege is applicable to one’s papers and effects,²²⁶ it does not extend to corporate persons, hence corporate records, as has been noted, are subject to compelled production.²²⁷ In fact, however, the Court has greatly narrowed the protection afforded in this area to natural persons by developing the “required records” doctrine. That is, it has held “that the privilege which exists as to private papers cannot be maintained in relation to ‘records required by law to be kept in order that there may be suitable information of transactions which are the appropriate subjects of governmental regulation and the en-

²²³ 406 U.S. 441 (1972). A similar state statute was sustained in *Zicarelli v. New Jersey State Comm’n of Investigation*, 406 U.S. 472 (1972).

²²⁴ *Kastigar v. United States*, 406 U.S. 441, 459 (1972).

²²⁵ *Id.* at 453. Joining Justice Powell in the opinion were Justices Stewart, White, and Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger. Justices Douglas and Marshall dissented, contending that a ban on use could not be enforced even if a use ban was constitutionally adequate. *Id.* at 462, 467. Justices Brennan and Rehnquist did not participate but Justice Brennan’s views that transactional immunity was required had been previously stated. *Piccirillo v. New York*, 400 U.S. 548, 552 (1971) (dissenting). *See also* *New Jersey v. Portash*, 440 U.S. 451 (1979) (prosecution use of defendant’s immunized testimony to impeach him at trial violates self-incrimination clause). Neither the clause nor the statute prevents the perjury prosecution of an immunized witness or the use of all his testimony to prove the commission of perjury. *United States v. Apfelbaum*, 445 U.S. 115 (1980). *See also* *United States v. Wong*, 431 U.S. 174 (1977); *United States v. Mandujano*, 425 U.S. 564 (1976). Because use immunity is limited, a witness granted use immunity for grand jury testimony may validly invoke his Fifth Amendment privilege in a civil deposition proceeding when asked whether he had “so testified” previously, the deposition testimony not being covered by the earlier immunity. *Pillsbury Co. v. Conboy*, 459 U.S. 248 (1983).

²²⁶ *Boyd v. United States*, 116 U.S. 616 (1886). *Supra*, p. 1225. *But see* *Fisher v. United States*, 425 U.S. 391 (1976).

²²⁷ *Supra*, p. 1305.

forcement of restrictions validly established.’”²²⁸ This exception developed out of, as Justice Frankfurter showed in dissent, the rule that documents which are part of the official records of government are wholly outside the scope of the privilege; public records are the property of government and are always accessible to inspection. Because government requires certain records to be kept to facilitate the regulation of the business being conducted, so the reasoning goes, the records become public at least to the degree that government could always scrutinize them without hindrance from the record-keeper. “If records merely because required to be kept by law *ipso facto* become public records, we are indeed living in glass houses. Virtually every major public law enactment—to say nothing of State and local legislation—has record-keeping provisions. In addition to record-keeping requirements, is the network of provisions for filing reports. Exhaustive efforts would be needed to track down all the statutory authority, let alone the administrative regulations, for record-keeping and reporting requirements. Unquestionably they are enormous in volume.”²²⁹

“It may be assumed at the outset that there are limits which the Government cannot constitutionally exceed in requiring the keeping of records which may be inspected by an administrative agency and may be used in prosecuting statutory violations committed by the recordkeeper himself.”²³⁰ But the only limit which the Court suggested in *Shapiro* was that there must be “a sufficient relation between the activity sought to be regulated and the public concern so that the Government can constitutionally regulate or forbid the basic activity concerned, and can constitutionally require the keeping of particular records, subject to inspection by the Administrator.”²³¹ That there are limits established by the self-incrimination clause itself rather than by a subject matter jurisdiction test is evident in the Court’s consideration of reporting and disclosure requirements implicating but not directly involving the required-records doctrine.

²²⁸ *Shapiro v. United States*, 335 U.S. 1, 33 (1948), (quoting *Davis v. United States*, 328 U.S. 582, 589–90 (1946), (quoting in turn *Wilson v. United States*, 221 U.S. 361, 380 (1911))). *Wilson* is the source of the required-records doctrine in its dicta, the holding in the case being the familiar one that a corporate officer cannot claim the privilege against self-incrimination to refuse to surrender corporate records in his custody. *Cf. Heike v. United States*, 227 U.S. 131 (1913). *Davis* was a search and seizure case and dealt with gasoline ration coupons which were government property even though in private possession. *See Shapiro*, *supra*, 36, 56–70 (Justice Frankfurter dissenting).

²²⁹ *Id.* at 51.

²³⁰ *Id.* at 32.

²³¹ *Id.*

Reporting and Disclosure.—The line of cases begins with *United States v. Sullivan*²³² in which a unanimous Court held that the Fifth Amendment did not privilege a bootlegger in not filing an income tax return because the filing would have disclosed the illegality in which he was engaged. “It would be an extreme if not an extravagant application of the Fifth Amendment to say that it authorized a man to refuse to state the amount of his income because it had been made in crime.” Justice Holmes stated for the Court. However, “[i]f the form of return provided called for answers that the defendant was privileged from making he could have raised the objection in the return” Utilizing its taxing power to reach gambling activities over which it might not have had jurisdiction otherwise,²³³ Congress enacted a complicated statute imposing an annual occupational tax on gamblers and an excise tax on all their wages, and coupled the tax with an annual registration requirement under which each gambler must file with the IRS a declaration of his business with identification of his place of business and his employees and agents, filings which were made available to state and local law enforcement agencies. These requirements were upheld by the Court against self-incrimination challenges on the three grounds that (1) the privilege did not excuse a complete failure to file, (2) since the threshold decision to gamble was voluntary, the required disclosures were not compulsory, and (3) since registration required disclosure only of prospective conduct, the privilege, limited to past or present acts, did not apply.²³⁴

Constitutional limitations appeared, however, in *Albertson v. SACB*,²³⁵ which struck down under the self-incrimination clause an order pursuant to statute requiring registration by individual members of the Communist Party or associated organizations. “In *Sullivan* the questions in the income tax return were neutral on their face and directed at the public at large, but here they are di-

²³² 274 U.S. 259, 263, 264 (1927). *Sullivan* was reaffirmed in *Garner v. United States*, 424 U.S. 648 (1976), holding that a taxpayer’s privilege against self-incrimination was not violated when he failed to claim his privilege on his tax returns, and instead gave incriminating information leading to conviction. One must assert one’s privilege to alert the Government to the possibility that it is seeking to obtain incriminating material. It is not coercion forbidden by the clause that upon a claim of the privilege the Government could seek an indictment for failure to file, since a valid claim of privilege cannot be the basis of a conviction. The taxpayer was not entitled to a judicial ruling on the validity of his claim and an opportunity to reconsider if the ruling went against him, irrespective of whether a good-faith erroneous assertion of the privilege could subject him to prosecution, a question not resolved.

²³³ The expansion of the commerce power would now obviate reliance on the taxing power.

²³⁴ *United States v. Kahriger*, 345 U.S. 22 (1953); *Lewis v. United States*, 348 U.S. 419 (1955).

²³⁵ 382 U.S. 70 (1965).

rected at a highly selective group inherently suspect of criminal activities. Petitioners' claims are not asserted in an essentially noncriminal and regulatory area of inquiry, but against an inquiry in an area permeated with criminal statutes, where response to any of the form's questions in context might involve the petitioners in the admission of a crucial element of a crime."²³⁶

The gambling tax reporting scheme was next struck down by the Court.²³⁷ Because of the pervasiveness of state laws prohibiting gambling, said Justice Harlan for the Court, "the obligations to register and to pay the occupational tax created for petitioner 'real and appreciable,' and not merely 'imaginary and unsubstantial,' hazards of self-incrimination."²³⁸ Overruling *Kahriger* and *Lewis*, the Court rejected its earlier rationales. Registering *per se* would have exposed a gambler to dangers of state prosecution, so *Sullivan* did not apply.²³⁹ Any contention that the voluntary engagement in gambling "waived" the self-incrimination claim, because there is "no constitutional right to gamble," would nullify the privilege.²⁴⁰ And the privilege was not governed by a "rigid chronological distinction" so that it protected only past or present conduct, but also reached future self-incrimination the danger of which is not specu-

²³⁶ *Id.* at 79. The decision was unanimous, Justice White not participating. The same issue had been held not ripe for adjudication in *Communist Party v. SACB*, 367 U.S. 1, 105–10 (1961).

²³⁷ *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39 (1968) (occupational tax); *Grosso v. United States*, 390 U.S. 62 (1968) (wagering excise tax). In *Haynes v. United States*, 390 U.S. 85 (1968), the Court struck down a requirement that one register a firearm that it was illegal to possess. The following Term on the same grounds the Court voided a statute prohibiting the possession of marijuana without having paid a transfer tax and registering. *Leary v. United States*, 395 U.S. 6 (1969); *United States v. Covington*, 395 U.S. 57 (1969). However, a statute was upheld which prohibited the sale of narcotics to a person who did not have a written order on a prescribed form, since the requirement caused the self-incrimination of the buyer but not the seller, the Court viewing the statute as actually a flat proscription on sale rather than a regulatory measure. *Minor v. United States*, 396 U.S. 87 (1969). The congressional response was reenactment of the requirements coupled with use immunity. *United States v. Freed*, 401 U.S. 601 (1971).

²³⁸ *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39, 48 (1968).

²³⁹ "Every element of these requirements would have served to incriminate petitioners; to have required him to present his claim to Treasury officers would have obliged him 'to prove guilt to avoid admitting it.'" *Id.* at 50.

²⁴⁰ "The question is not whether petitioner holds a 'right' to violate state law, but whether, having done so, he may be compelled to give evidence against himself. The constitutional privilege was intended to shield the guilty and imprudent as well as the innocent and foresighted; if such an inference of antecedent choice were alone enough to abrogate the privilege's protection, it would be excluded from the situations in which it has historically been guaranteed, and withheld from those who most require it." *Id.* at 51. *But cf.* *California v. Byers*, 402 U.S. 424, 434 (1971) (plurality opinion), in which it is suggested that because there is no "right" to leave the scene of an accident a requirement that a person involved in an accident stop and identify himself does not violate the self-incrimination clause.

lative and insubstantial.²⁴¹ Significantly, then, Justice Harlan turned to distinguishing the statutory requirements here from the “required records” doctrine of *Shapiro*. “First, petitioner . . . was not . . . obliged to keep and preserve records ‘of the same kind as he has customarily kept’; he was required simply to provide information, unrelated to any records which he may have maintained, about his wagering activities. This requirement is not significantly different from a demand that he provide oral testimony Second, whatever ‘public aspects’ there were to the records at issue in *Shapiro*, there are none to the information demanded from Marchetti. The Government’s anxiety to obtain information known to a private individual does not without more render that information public; if it did, no room would remain for the application of the constitutional privilege. Nor does it stamp information with a public character that the Government has formalized its demands in the attire of a statute; if this alone were sufficient, the constitutional privilege could be entirely abrogated by any Act of Congress. Third, the requirements at issue in *Shapiro* were imposed in ‘an essentially non-criminal and regulatory area of inquiry’ while those here are directed to a ‘selective group inherently suspect of criminal activities.’ The United States’ principal interest is evidently the collection of revenue, and not the punishment of gamblers, . . . but the characteristics of the activities about which information is sought, and the composition of the groups to which inquiries are made, readily distinguish this situation from that in *Shapiro*.”²⁴²

Most recent of this line of cases is *California v. Byers*,²⁴³ which indicates that the Court has yet to settle on an ascertainable standard for judging self-incrimination claims in cases where government is asserting an interest other than criminal law enforcement. *Byers* sustained the constitutionality of a statute which required the driver of any automobile involved in an accident to stop and give his name and address. The state court had held that a driver who reasonably believed that compliance with the statute would result in self-incrimination could refuse to comply. A plurality of the Court, however, determined that *Sullivan* and *Shapiro* applied and not the *Albertson-Marchetti* line of cases, because the

²⁴¹ *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39, 52–54 (1968). “The central standard for the privilege’s application has been whether the claimant is confronted by substantial and ‘real,’ and not merely trifling or imaginary, hazards of incrimination. This principle does not permit the rigid chronological distinctions adopted in *Kahriger* and *Lewis*. We see no reason to suppose that the force of the constitutional prohibition is diminished merely because confession of a guilty purpose precedes the act which it is subsequently employed to evidence.” *Id.* at 53–54. *Cf.* *United States v. Freed*, 401 U.S. 601, 605–07 (1971).

²⁴² *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39, 57 (1968).

²⁴³ 402 U.S. 424 (1971)

purpose of the statute was to promote the satisfaction of civil liabilities resulting from automobile accidents and not criminal prosecutions, and because the statute was directed to all drivers and not to a group which was either “highly selective” or “inherently suspect of criminal activities.” The combination of a noncriminal motive with the general character of the requirement made too slight for reliance the possibility of incrimination.²⁴⁴ Justice Harlan concurred to make up the majority on the disposition of the case, disagreeing with the plurality’s conclusion that the stop and identification requirement did not compel incrimination.²⁴⁵ However, the Justice thought that where there is no governmental purpose to enforce a criminal law and instead government is pursuing other legitimate regulatory interests, it is permissible to apply a balancing test between the government’s interest and the individual’s interest. When he balanced the interests protected by the Amendment—protection of privacy and maintenance of an accusatorial system—with the noncriminal purpose, the necessity for self-reporting as a means of securing information, and the nature of the disclosures required, Justice Harlan voted to sustain the statute.²⁴⁶ *Byers* was applied in *Baltimore Dep’t of Social Services v. Bouknight*²⁴⁷ to uphold a juvenile court’s order that the mother of a child under the court’s supervision produce the child. Although in this case the mother was suspected of having abused or murdered her child, the order was justified for “compelling reasons unrelated to criminal law enforcement”: concern for the child’s safety.²⁴⁸ Moreover, be-

²⁴⁴ *Id.* at 427–31 (Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart, White, and Blackmun).

²⁴⁵ “The California Supreme Court was surely correct in considering that the decisions of this Court have made it clear that invocation of the privilege is not limited to situations where the purpose of the inquiry is to get an incriminating answer . . . [I]t must be recognized that a reading of our more recent cases . . . suggests the conclusion that the applicability of the privilege depends exclusively on a determination that, from the individual’s point of view, there are ‘real’ and not ‘imaginary’ risks of self-incrimination in yielding to state compulsion. Thus, *Marchetti* and *Grosso* . . . start from an assumption of a non-prosecutorial governmental purpose in the decision to tax gambling revenues; those cases go on to apply what in another context I have called the ‘real danger v. imaginary possibility standard . . .’ A judicial tribunal whose position with respect to the elaboration of constitutional doctrine is subordinate to that of this Court certainly cannot be faulted for reading these opinions as indicating that the ‘inherently-suspect-class’ factor is relevant only as an indicium of genuine incriminating risk as assessed from the individual’s point of view.” *Id.* at 437–38.

²⁴⁶ *Id.* at 448–58. The four dissenters argued that it was unquestionable that *Byers* would have faced real risks of self-incrimination by compliance with the statute and that this risk was sufficient to invoke the privilege. *Id.* at 459, 464 (Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall).

²⁴⁷ 493 U.S. 549 (1990).

²⁴⁸ *Id.* at 561. By the same token, the Court concluded that the targeted group—persons who care for children pursuant to a juvenile court’s custody order—is not a group “inherently suspect of criminal activities” in the *Albertson-Marchetti* sense.

cause the mother had custody of her previously abused child only as a result of the juvenile court's order, the Court analogized to the required records cases to conclude that the mother had submitted to the requirements of the civil regulatory regime as the child's "custodian."

Confessions: Police Interrogation, Due Process, and Self-Incrimination

"In criminal trials, in the courts of the United States, wherever a question arises whether a confession is incompetent because not voluntary, the issue is controlled by that portion of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, commanding that no person 'shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself.'" ²⁴⁹ This language in an 1897 case marked a sharp if unacknowledged break with the doctrine of previous cases in which the Court had applied the common-law test of voluntariness to determine the admissibility of confessions, and, while the language was never expressly disavowed in subsequent cases, the Court seems nevertheless to have proceeded along due process standards rather than self-incrimination analysis. Because the self-incrimination clause for most of this period was not applicable to the States, the admissibility of confessions in state courts was determined under due process standards developed from common-law voluntariness principles. It was only after the Court extended the self-incrimination clause to the States that a divided Court reaffirmed and extended the 1897 ruling and imposed on both federal and state trial courts new rules for admitting or excluding confessions and other admissions made to police during custodial interrogation. ²⁵⁰ Though recent research tends to treat as oversimplified Wigmore's conclusion that "there never was any historical connection . . . between the constitutional clause and the confession-doctrine," ²⁵¹ the fact is that the contention, coupled with the inapplicability of the self-incrimination clause to the States, was apparently the basis until recently for the Supreme Court's adjudication of confession cases.

²⁴⁹ *Bram v. United States*, 168 U.S. 532, 542 (1897).

²⁵⁰ *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966).

²⁵¹ 3 J. WIGMORE, A TREATISE ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE §823, at 250 n.5 (3d ed. 1940); see also vol. 8 *id.*, §2266 (McNaughton rev. 1961). It appears that while the two rules did develop separately, they did stem from some of the same considerations, and, in fact, the confession rule may be considered in important respects to be an off-shoot of the privilege against self-incrimination. See L. LEVY, ORIGINS OF THE FIFTH AMENDMENT—THE RIGHT AGAINST SELF-INCRIMINATION 325–32, 495 n.43 (1968). See also *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 581–84, especially 583 n.25 (1961) (Justice Frankfurter announcing judgment of the Court).

The Common Law Rule.—Not until the latter part of the eighteenth century did there develop a rule excluding coerced confessions from admission at trial; prior to that time, even confessions obtained by torture were admissible. As the rule developed in England and in early United States jurisprudence, the rationale was the unreliability of the confession's contents when induced by a promise of benefit or a threat of harm.²⁵² In its first decision on the admissibility of confessions, the Court adopted the common-law rule, stressing that while a "voluntary confession of guilt is among the most effectual proofs in the law, from the very nature of such evidence it must be subjected to careful scrutiny and received with great caution." "[T]he presumption upon which weight is given to such evidence, namely, that one who is innocent will not imperil his safety or prejudice his interests by an untrue statement, ceases when the confession appears to have been made either in consequence of inducements of a temporal nature, held out by one in authority, touching the charge preferred, or because of a threat or promise by or in the presence of such person, which, operating upon the fears or hopes of the accused, in reference to the charge, deprives him of that freedom of will or self-control essential to make his confession voluntary within the meaning of the law."²⁵³ Subsequent cases followed essentially the same line of thought.²⁵⁴ Then, in *Bram v. United States*²⁵⁵ the Court assimilated the common-law rule thus mentioned as a command of the Fifth Amendment and indicated that henceforth a broader standard for judging admissibility was to be applied.²⁵⁶ Though this rule²⁵⁷ and the case itself were subsequently approved in several cases,²⁵⁸ the Court could hold within a few years that a confession should not be excluded merely because the authorities had not warned a sus-

²⁵² 3 J. WIGMORE, A TREATISE ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE §823 (3d ed. 1940); *Developments in the Law—Confessions*, 79 Harv. L. Rev. 935, 954–59 (1966).

²⁵³ *Hopt v. Utah*, 110 U.S. 574, 584–85 (1884). Utah at this time was a territory and subject to direct federal judicial supervision.

²⁵⁴ *Pierce v. United States*, 160 U.S. 335 (1896); *Sparf v. United States*, 156 U.S. 51 (1895). In *Wilson v. United States*, 162 U.S. 613 (1896), failure to provide counsel or to warn the suspect of his right to remain silent was held to have no effect on the admissibility of a confession but was only to be considered in assessing its credibility.

²⁵⁵ 168 U.S. 532 (1897). "[T]he generic language of the [Fifth] Amendment was but a crystallization of the doctrine as to confessions, well settled when the Amendment was adopted. . . ." *Id.* at 543.

²⁵⁶ *Id.* at 549.

²⁵⁷ *Ziang Sun Wan v. United States*, 266 U.S. 1, 14–15 (1924). This case first held that the circumstances of detention and interrogation were relevant and perhaps controlling on the question of admissibility of a confession.

²⁵⁸ *Burdeau v. McDowell*, 256 U.S. 465, 475 (1921); *Powers v. United States*, 223 U.S. 303, 313 (1912); *Shotwell Mfg. Co. v. United States*, 371 U.S. 342, 347 (1963).

pect of his right to remain silent,²⁵⁹ and more than once later Courts could doubt “whether involuntary confessions are excluded from federal criminal trials on the ground of a violation of the Fifth Amendment’s protection against self-incrimination, or from a rule that forced confessions are untrustworthy. . . .”²⁶⁰

McNabb-Mallory Doctrine.—Perhaps one reason the Court did not squarely confront the application of the self-incrimination clause to police interrogation and the admissibility of confessions in federal courts was that in *McNabb v. United States*²⁶¹ it promulgated a rule excluding confessions obtained after an “unnecessary delay” in presenting a suspect for arraignment after arrest.²⁶² This rule, developed pursuant to the Court’s supervisory power over the lower federal courts²⁶³ and hence not applicable to the States as a constitutional rule would have been,²⁶⁴ was designed to implement the guarantees assured to a defendant by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure,²⁶⁵ and was clearly informed with concern over incommunicado interrogation and coerced confessions.²⁶⁶ While the Court never attempted to specify a minimum time after which delay in presenting a suspect for arraignment would invalidate confessions, Congress in 1968 legislated to set a six-hour pe-

²⁵⁹ *Powers v. United States*, 223 U.S. 303 (1912).

²⁶⁰ *United States v. Carignan*, 342 U.S. 36, 41 (1951). See also *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332, 346 (1943); *Brown v. Mississippi*, 297 U.S. 278, 285 (1936); *Stein v. New York*, 346 U.S. 156, 191 n.35 (1953).

²⁶¹ 318 U.S. 332 (1943). See also *Anderson v. United States*, 318 U.S. 350 (1943).

²⁶² In *Upshaw v. United States*, 335 U.S. 410 (1948), the Court rejected lower court interpretations that delay in arraignment was but one factor in determining the voluntariness of a confession, and held that a confession obtained after a thirty-hour delay was inadmissible per se. *Mallory v. United States*, 354 U.S. 449 (1957), held that any confession obtained during an unnecessary delay in arraignment was inadmissible. A confession obtained during a lawful delay before arraignment was admissible. *United States v. Mitchell*, 322 U.S. 65 (1944).

²⁶³ *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332, 340 (1943); *Upshaw v. United States*, 335 U.S. 410, 414 n.2 (1948). *Burns v. Wilson*, 346 U.S. 137, 145 n.12 (1953), indicated that because the Court had no supervisory power over courts-martial, the rule did not apply in military courts.

²⁶⁴ *Gallegos v. Nebraska*, 342 U.S. 55, 60, 63–64, 71–73 (1951); *Stein v. New York*, 346 U.S. 156, 187–88 (1953); *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 599–602 (1961) (Justice Frankfurter announcing judgment of the Court).

²⁶⁵ Rule 5(a) requiring prompt arraignment was promulgated in 1946, but the Court in *McNabb* relied on predecessor statutes, some of which required prompt arraignment. Cf. *Mallory v. United States*, 354 U.S. 449, 451–54 (1957). Rule 5(b) requires that the magistrate at arraignment must inform the suspect of the charge against him, must warn him that what he says may be used against him, must tell him of his right to counsel and his right to remain silent, and must also provide for the terms of bail.

²⁶⁶ *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332, 343 (1943); *Mallory v. United States*, 354 U.S. 449, 452–53 (1957).

riod for interrogation following arrest before the suspect must be presented.²⁶⁷

State Confession Cases.—In its first encounter with a confession case arising from a state court, the Supreme Court set aside a conviction based solely on confessions of the defendants which had been extorted from them through repeated whippings with ropes and studded belts.²⁶⁸ For some thirty years thereafter the Court attempted through a consideration of the “totality of the circumstances” surrounding interrogation to determine whether a confession was “voluntary” and admissible or “coerced” and inadmissible. During this time, the Court was balancing, in Justice Frankfurter’s explication, a view that police questioning of suspects was indispensable in solving many crimes, on the one hand, with the conviction that the interrogation process is not to be used to overreach persons who stand helpless before it.²⁶⁹ “The ultimate test remains that which has been the only clearly established test in Anglo-American courts for two hundred years: the test of voluntariness. Is the confession the product of an essentially free and unconstrained choice by its maker? If it is, if he has willed to confess, it may be used against him. If it is not, if his will has been overborne and his capacity for self-determination critically impaired, the use of his confession offends due process.”²⁷⁰ Obviously, a court seeking to determine whether the making of a confession was voluntary operated under a severe handicap, inasmuch as the interrogation process was in secret with only police and the suspect witness to it, and inasmuch as the concept of voluntariness referred to the defendant’s mental condition.²⁷¹ Despite, then, a bountiful number of cases, binding precedents were few.

²⁶⁷ The provision was part of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, 82 Stat. 210, 18 U.S.C. §3501(c).

²⁶⁸ *Brown v. Mississippi*, 297 U.S. 278 (1936). “[T]he question of the right of the State to withdraw the privilege against self-incrimination is not here involved. The compulsion to which the quoted statements refer is that of the processes of justice by which the accused may be called as a witness and required to testify. Compulsion by torture to extort a confession is a different matter. . . . It would be difficult to conceive of methods more revolting to the sense of justice than those taken to procure the confessions of these petitioners, and the use of the confessions thus obtained as the basis for conviction and sentence was a clear denial of due process.” *Id.* at 285, 286.

²⁶⁹ *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 570–602 (1961) (announcing judgment of the Court).

²⁷⁰ *Id.* at 602.

²⁷¹ “The inquiry whether, in a particular case, a confession was voluntarily or involuntarily made involves, at the least, a three-phased process. First, there is the business of finding the crude historical facts, the external ‘phenomenological’ occurrences and events surrounding the confession. Second, because the concept of ‘voluntariness’ is one which concerns a mental state, there is the imaginative recreation, largely inferential, of internal, ‘psychological’ fact. Third, there is the application to this psychological fact of standards for judgment informed by the larger legal con-

On the one hand, many of the early cases disclosed rather clear instances of coercion of a nature that the Court could little doubt produced involuntary confessions. Not only physical torture,²⁷² but other overtly coercive tactics as well have been condemned. *Chambers v. Florida*²⁷³ held that five days of prolonged questioning following arrests without warrants and incommunicado detention made the subsequent confessions involuntary. *Ashcraft v. Tennessee*²⁷⁴ held inadmissible a confession obtained near the end of a 36-hour period of practically continuous questioning, under powerful electric lights, by relays of officers, experienced investigators, and highly trained lawyers. Similarly, *Ward v. Texas*,²⁷⁵ voided a conviction based on a confession obtained from a suspect who had been arrested illegally in one county and brought some 100 miles away to a county where questioning began, and who had then been questioned continuously over the course of three days while being driven from county to county and being told falsely of a danger of lynching. "Since *Chambers v. State of Florida*, . . . this Court has recognized that coercion can be mental as well as physical and that the blood of the accused is not the only hallmark of an unconstitutional inquisition. A number of cases have demonstrated, if demonstrations were needed, that the efficiency of the rack and thumbscrew can be matched, given the proper subject, by more sophisticated modes of 'persuasion'. A prolonged interrogation of the accused who is ignorant of his rights and who has been cut off from the moral support of friends and relatives is not infrequently an effective technique of terror."²⁷⁶

ceptions ordinarily characterized as rules of law but which, also, comprehend both induction from, and anticipation of, factual circumstances." *Id.* at 603. See *Developments in the Law—Confessions*, 79 Harv. L. Rev. 935, 973–82 (1966).

²⁷² *Brown v. Mississippi*, 297 U.S. 278 (1936).

²⁷³ 309 U.S. 227 (1940).

²⁷⁴ 322 U.S. 143 (1944). Dissenting, Justices Jackson, Frankfurter, and Roberts protested that "interrogation *per se* is not, while violence *per se* is, an outlaw." A confession made after interrogation was not truly "voluntary" because all questioning is "inherently coercive," because it puts pressure upon a suspect to talk. Thus, in evaluating a confession made after interrogation, the Court must, they insisted, determine whether the suspect was in possession of his own will and self-control and not look alone to the length or intensity of the interrogation. They accused the majority of "read[ing] an indiscriminating hostility to mere interrogation into the Constitution" and preparing to bar all confessions made after questioning. *Id.* at 156. A possible result of the dissent was the decision in *Lyons v. Oklahoma*, 322 U.S. 596 (1944), which stressed deference to state-court factfinding in assessing the voluntariness of confessions.

²⁷⁵ 316 U.S. 547 (1942). See also *Canty v. Alabama*, 309 U.S. 629 (1940); *White v. Texas*, 310 U.S. 530 (1940); *Lomax v. Texas*, 313 U.S. 544 (1941); *Vernon v. Alabama*, 313 U.S. 540 (1941).

²⁷⁶ *Blackburn v. Alabama*, 361 U.S. 199, 206 (1960).

While the Court would not hold that prolonged questioning by itself made a resultant confession involuntary,²⁷⁷ it did increasingly find coercion present even in intermittent questioning over a period of days of incommunicado detention.²⁷⁸ In *Stein v. New York*,²⁷⁹ however, the Court affirmed convictions of experienced criminals who had confessed after twelve hours of intermittent questioning over a period of thirty-two hours of incommunicado detention. While the questioning was less intensive than in the prior cases, Justice Jackson for the majority stressed that the correct approach was to balance “the circumstances of pressure against the power of resistance of the person confessing. What would be overpowering to the weak of will or mind might be utterly ineffective against an experienced criminal.”²⁸⁰ But by the time *Haynes v. Washington*²⁸¹ was decided, holding inadmissible a confession made by an experienced criminal because of the “unfair and inherently coercive context” in which the statement was made, it was clear that the Court was adhering to a rule which found coercion in the fact of prolonged interrogation without regard to the individual characteristics of the suspect.²⁸² However, the age and intel-

²⁷⁷ *Lisenba v. California*, 314 U.S. 219 (1941).

²⁷⁸ *Watts v. Indiana*, 338 U.S. 49 (1949) (Suspect held incommunicado without arraignment for seven days without being advised of his rights. He was held in solitary confinement in a cell with no place to sleep but the floor and questioned each day except Sunday by relays of police officers for periods ranging in duration from three to nine-and-one-half hours); *Turner v. Pennsylvania*, 338 U.S. 62 (1949) (suspect held on suspicion for five days without arraignment and without being advised of his rights. He was questioned by relays of officers for periods briefer than in *Watts* during both days and nights); *Harris v. South Carolina*, 338 U.S. 68 (1949) (Suspect in murder case arrested in Tennessee on theft warrant, taken to South Carolina, and held incommunicado. He was questioned for three days for periods as long as 12 hours, not advised of his rights, not told of the murder charge, and denied access to friends and family while being told his mother might be arrested for theft). Justice Jackson dissented in the latter two cases, willing to hold that a confession obtained under lengthy and intensive interrogation should be admitted short of a showing of violence or threats of it and especially if the truthfulness of the confession may be corroborated by independent means. *Id.* at 57.

²⁷⁹ 346 U.S. 156 (1953).

²⁸⁰ *Id.* at 185.

²⁸¹ 373 U.S. 503 (1963) (confession obtained some 16 hours after arrest but interrogation over this period consumed little more than two hours; he was refused in his requests to call his wife and told that his cooperation was necessary before he could communicate with his family).

²⁸² *Id.* at 514. *See also Spano v. New York*, 360 U.S. 315 (1959). (After eight hours of almost continuous questioning, suspect was induced to confess by rookie policeman who was a childhood friend and who played on suspect's sympathies by falsely stating that his job as a policeman and the welfare of his family was at stake); *Rogers v. Richmond*, 365 U.S. 534 (1961) (suspect resisted questioning for six hours but yielded when officers threatened to bring his invalid wife to headquarters). More recent cases include *Davis v. North Carolina*, 384 U.S. 737 (1966) (escaped convict held incommunicado 16 days but periods of interrogation each day were about an hour each); *Greenwald v. Wisconsin*, 390 U.S. 519 (1968); *Darwin v. Connecticut*, 391 U.S. 346 (1968).

ligence of suspects have been repeatedly cited by the Court in appropriate cases as demonstrating the particular susceptibility of the suspects to even mild coercion.²⁸³ But a suspect's mental state alone—even insanity—is insufficient to establish involuntariness absent some coercive police activity.²⁸⁴

Where, however, interrogation was not so prolonged that the Court would deem it “inherently coercive,” the “totality of the circumstances” was looked to in determining admissibility. Although in some of the cases a single factor may well be thought to stand out as indicating the involuntariness of the confession,²⁸⁵ generally the recitation of factors, including not only the age and intelligence of the suspect but also such things as the illegality of the arrest, the incommunicado detention, the denial of requested counsel, the denial of access to friends, the employment of trickery, and other things, seemed not to rank any factor above the others.²⁸⁶ Of course, confessions may be induced through the exploitation of some illegal action, such as an illegal arrest²⁸⁷ or an unlawful search and seizure,²⁸⁸ and when that occurs the confession is inadmissible. Where police obtain a subsequent confession after obtaining one that is inadmissible as involuntary, the Court will not assume that the subsequent confession was similarly involuntary, but will independently evaluate whether the coercive actions which produced the first continued to produce the later confession.²⁸⁹

From the Voluntariness Standard to Miranda.—Invocation by the Court of a self-incrimination standard for judging the fruits of police interrogation was no unheralded novelty in *Miranda v. Ar-*

²⁸³ *Gallegos v. Colorado*, 370 U.S. 49 (1962); *Blackburn v. Alabama*, 361 U.S. 199 (1960); *Fikes v. Alabama*, 352 U.S. 191 (1957); *Payne v. Arkansas*, 356 U.S. 560 (1958); *Reck v. Pate*, 367 U.S. 433 (1961); *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568 (1961). The suspect in *Spano v. New York*, 360 U.S. 315 (1959), was a 25-year-old foreigner with a history of emotional instability. The fact that the suspect was a woman was apparently significant in *Lynumn v. Illinois*, 372 U.S. 528 (1963), in which officers threatened to have her children taken from her and to have her taken off the welfare relief rolls.

²⁸⁴ *Colorado v. Connelly*, 479 U.S. 157 (1986).

²⁸⁵ E.g., *Leyra v. Denno*, 347 U.S. 556 (1954) (confession obtained by psychiatrist trained in hypnosis from a physically and emotionally exhausted suspect who had already been subjected to three days of interrogation); *Townsend v. Sain*, 372 U.S. 293 (1963) (suspect was administered drug with properties of “truth serum” to relieve withdrawal pains of narcotics addiction, although police probably were not aware of drug’s side effects).

²⁸⁶ E.g., *Johnson v. New Jersey*, 384 U.S. 719 (1966); *Davis v. North Carolina*, 384 U.S. 737 (1966); *Ashdown v. Utah*, 357 U.S. 426 (1958); *Thomas v. Arizona*, 356 U.S. 390 (1958).

²⁸⁷ *Wong Sun v. United States*, 371 U.S. 471 (1963).

²⁸⁸ *Fahy v. Connecticut*, 375 U.S. 85 (1963).

²⁸⁹ *United States v. Bayer*, 331 U.S. 532 (1947); *Lyons v. Oklahoma*, 322 U.S. 596 (1944); *Leyra v. Denno*, 347 U.S. 556 (1954); *Darwin v. Connecticut*, 391 U.S. 346 (1968).

izona.²⁹⁰ The rationale of the confession cases changed over time to one closely approximating the foundation purposes the Court has attributed to the self-incrimination clause. Historically, the basis of the rule excluding coerced and involuntary confessions was their untrustworthiness, their unreliability.²⁹¹ It appears that this basis informed the Court's judgment in the early state confession cases²⁹² as it had in earlier cases from the lower federal courts.²⁹³ But in *Lisenba v. California*,²⁹⁴ Justice Roberts drew a distinction between the confession rule and the standard of due process. "[T]he fact that the confessions have been conclusively adjudged by the decision below to be admissible under State law, notwithstanding the circumstances under which they were made, does not answer the question whether due process was lacking. The aim of the rule that a confession is inadmissible unless it was voluntarily made is to exclude false evidence. Tests are invoked to determine whether the inducement to speak was such that there is a fair risk the confession is false. . . . The aim of the requirement of due process is not to exclude presumptively false evidence, but to prevent fundamental unfairness in the use of evidence, whether true or false." Over the next several years, while the Justices continued to use the terminology of voluntariness, the Court accepted at different times the different rationales of trustworthiness and constitutional fairness.²⁹⁵

Ultimately, however, those Justices who chose to ground the exclusionary rule on the latter consideration predominated, so that in *Rogers v. Richmond*²⁹⁶ Justice Frankfurter spoke for six other

²⁹⁰ 384 U.S. 436 (1966).

²⁹¹ 3 J. WIGMORE, A TREATISE ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE § 882, at 246 (3d ed. 1940).

²⁹² *Brown v. Mississippi*, 297 U.S. 278 (1936); *Chambers v. Florida*, 309 U.S. 227 (1940); *White v. Texas*, 310 U.S. 530 (1940).

²⁹³ *Hopt v. Utah*, 110 U.S. 574 (1884); *Wilson v. United States*, 162 U.S. 613 (1896).

²⁹⁴ 314 U.S. 219, 236 (1941).

²⁹⁵ Compare *Ashcraft v. Tennessee*, 322 U.S. 143 (1944), with *Lyons v. Oklahoma*, 322 U.S. 596 (1944), and *Malinski v. New York*, 324 U.S. 401 (1945). In *Watts v. Indiana*, 338 U.S. 49 (1949), *Harris v. South Carolina*, 338 U.S. 68 (1949), and *Turner v. Pennsylvania*, 338 U.S. 62 (1949), five Justices followed the due process-fairness standard while four adhered to a trustworthiness rationale. See *id.* at 57 (Justice Jackson concurring and dissenting). In *Stein v. New York*, 346 U.S. 156, 192 (1953), the trustworthiness rationale had secured the adherence of six Justices. The primary difference between the two standards is the admissibility under the trustworthiness standard of a coerced confession if its trustworthiness can be established, if, that is, it can be corroborated.

²⁹⁶ 365 U.S. 534, 540–41 (1961). Similar expressions may be found in *Spano v. New York*, 360 U.S. 315 (1959), and *Blackburn v. Alabama*, 361 U.S. 199 (1960). See also *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 583 n.25 (1961), in which Justice Frankfurter, announcing the judgment of the Court, observed that "the conceptions underlying the rule excluding coerced confessions and the privilege against self-incrimination have become, to some extent, assimilated."

Justices in writing: “Our decisions under that [Fourteenth] Amendment have made clear that convictions following the admission into evidence of confessions which are involuntary, i.e., the product of coercion, either physical or psychological, cannot stand. This is so not because such confessions are unlikely to be true but because the methods used to extract them offend an underlying principle in the enforcement of our criminal law: that ours is an accusatorial and not an inquisitorial system—a system in which the State must establish guilt by evidence independently and freely secured and may not by coercion prove its charges against an accused out of his own mouth.” Nevertheless, the Justice said in another case, “[n]o single litmus-paper test for constitutionally impermissible interrogation has been evolved.”²⁹⁷ Three years later, however, in *Malloy v. Hogan*,²⁹⁸ in the process of applying the self-incrimination clause to the States, Justice Brennan for the Court reinterpreted the line of cases since *Brown v. Mississippi*²⁹⁹ to conclude that the Court had initially based its rulings on the common-law confession rationale, but that beginning with *Lisenba v. California*,³⁰⁰ a “federal standard” had been developed. The Court had engaged in a “shift [which] reflects recognition that the American system of criminal prosecution is accusatorial, not inquisitorial, and that the Fifth Amendment privilege is its essential mainstay.” Today, continued Justice Brennan, “the admissibility of a confession in a state criminal prosecution is tested by the same standard applied in federal prosecutions since 1897,” when *Bram v. United States* had announced that the self-incrimination clause furnished the basis for admitting or excluding evidence in federal courts.³⁰¹

One week after the decision in *Malloy v. Hogan*, the Court essayed to define the rules of admissibility of confessions in different terms than its previous case; while it continued to emphasize voluntariness, it did so in self-incrimination terms rather than in due process terms. In *Escobedo v. Illinois*,³⁰² it held inadmissible the confession obtained from a suspect in custody who had repeatedly requested and had repeatedly been refused an opportunity to con-

²⁹⁷ *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 601 (1961). The same thought informs the options of the Court in *Haynes v. Washington*, 373 U.S. 503 (1963).

²⁹⁸ 378 U.S. 1 (1964).

²⁹⁹ 297 U.S. 278 (1936).

³⁰⁰ 314 U.S. 219 (1941).

³⁰¹ *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1, 6–7 (1964). Protesting that this was “*post facto* reasoning at best,” Justice Harlan contended that the “majority is simply wrong” in asserting that any of the state confession cases represented anything like a self-incrimination basis for the conclusions advanced. *Id.* at 17–19. *Bram v. United States*, 168 U.S. 532 (1897), is discussed *supra*, p. 1321.

³⁰² 378 U.S. 478 (1964). Joining Justice Goldberg in the majority were Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, and Brennan. Justices Clark, Harlan, Stewart, and White dissented. *Id.* at 492, 493, 495.

sult with his retained counsel, who was present at the police station seeking to gain access to Escobedo.³⁰³ While *Escobedo* appeared in the main to be a Sixth Amendment right-to-counsel case, the Court at several points emphasized, in terms that clearly implicated self-incrimination considerations, that the suspect had not been warned of his constitutional rights.³⁰⁴

Miranda v. Arizona.—The Sixth Amendment holding of *Escobedo* was deemphasized and the Fifth Amendment self-incrimination rule made preeminent in *Miranda v. Arizona*,³⁰⁵ in which the Court summarized its holding as follows: “[T]he prosecution may not use statements, whether exculpatory or inculpatory, stemming from custodial interrogation of the defendant unless it demonstrates the use of procedural safeguards effective to secure the privilege against self-incrimination. By custodial interrogation, we mean questioning initiated by law enforcement officers after a person has been taken into custody or otherwise deprived of his freedom of action in any significant way. As for the procedural safeguards to be employed, unless other fully effective means are devised to inform accused persons of their right of silence and to assure a continuous opportunity to exercise it, the following measures are required. Prior to any questioning, the person must be warned that he has a right to remain silent, that any statement he does make may be used as evidence against him, and that he has a right to the presence of an attorney, either retained or appointed. The defendant may waive effectuation of these rights, provided the waiver is made voluntarily, knowingly and intelligently. If, however, he indicates in any manner and at any stage of the process that he wishes to consult with an attorney before speaking there can be no questioning. Likewise, if the individual is alone and indicates in any manner that he does not wish to be interrogated, the police may not question him. The mere fact that he may have an-

³⁰³ Previously, it had been held that a denial of a request to consult counsel was but one of the factors to be considered in assessing voluntariness. *Crooker v. California*, 357 U.S. 433 (1958); *Cicenia v. Lagay*, 357 U.S. 504 (1958). Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, and Brennan were prepared in these cases to impose a requirement of right to counsel per se. Post-indictment interrogation without the presence of counsel seemed doomed after *Spano v. New York*, 360 U.S. 315 (1959), and this was confirmed in *Massiah v. United States*, 377 U.S. 201 (1964). See discussion under Sixth Amendment, *infra*.

³⁰⁴ *Escobedo v. Illinois*, 378 U.S. 478, 485, 491 (1964) (both pages containing assertions of the suspect’s “absolute right to remain silent” in the context of police warnings prior to interrogation).

³⁰⁵ 384 U.S. 436, 444–45 (1966). In *Johnson v. New Jersey*, 384 U.S. 719 (1966), the Court held that neither *Escobedo* nor *Miranda* was to be applied retroactively. In cases where trials commenced after the decisions were announced, the due process “totality of circumstances” test was to be the key. *Cf. Davis v. North Carolina*, 384 U.S. 737 (1966).

swered some questions or volunteered some statements on his own does not deprive him of the right of refrain from answering any further inquiries until he has consulted with an attorney and thereafter consents to be questioned.”

The basis for the Court’s conclusions was the determination that police interrogation as conceived and practiced was inherently coercive and that this compulsion, though informal and legally sanctionless, was contrary to the protection assured by the self-incrimination clause, the protection afforded in a system of criminal justice which convicted a defendant on the basis of evidence independently secured and not out of his own mouth. In the Court’s view, this had been the law in the federal courts since 1897, and the application of the clause to the States in 1964 necessitated the application of the principle in state courts as well. Therefore, the clause requires that police interrogation practices be so structured as to secure to suspects that they not be stripped of the ability to make a free and rational choice between speaking and not speaking. The warnings and the provision of counsel were essential, the Court said, to this type of system.³⁰⁶ “In these cases,” said Chief Justice Warren, “we might not find the defendants’ statements to have been involuntary in traditional terms.”³⁰⁷ The acknowledgment that the decision considerably expanded upon previous doctrine, even if the assimilation of self-incrimination values by the confession-exclusion rule be considered complete, was more clearly made a week after *Miranda* when, in denying retroactivity to that case and to *Escobedo*, the Court asserted that law enforcement officers had relied justifiably upon prior cases, “now no longer binding,” which treated the failure to warn a suspect of his rights or the failure to grant access to counsel as one of the factors to be considered.³⁰⁸ It was thus not the application of the self-incrimination clause to police interrogation in *Miranda* that constituted a major change from precedent but rather the series of warnings and guar-

³⁰⁶ Justices Clark, Harlan, Stewart, and White dissented, finding no historical support for the application of the clause to police interrogation and rejecting the policy considerations for the extension put forward by the majority. *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 499, 504, 526 (1966). Justice White argued that while the Court’s decision was not compelled or even strongly suggested by the Fifth Amendment, its history, and the judicial precedents, this did not preclude the Court from making new law and new public policy grounded in reason and experience, but he contended that the change made in *Miranda* was ill-conceived because it arose from a view of interrogation as inherently coercive and because the decision did not adequately protect society’s interest in detecting and punishing criminal behavior. *Id.* at 531–45.

³⁰⁷ *Id.* at 457. For the continuing recognition of the difference between the traditional involuntariness test and the *Miranda* test, see *Michigan v. Tucker*, 417 U.S. 433, 443–46 (1974); *Mincey v. Arizona*, 437 U.S. 385, 396–402 (1978).

³⁰⁸ *Johnson v. New Jersey*, 384 U.S. 719, 731 (1966).

antees which the Court imposed as security for the observance of the privilege.

While the Court's decision rapidly became highly controversial and the source of much political agitation, including a prominent role in the 1968 presidential election, the Court has continued to adhere to it,³⁰⁹ albeit not without considerable qualification. In 1968, Congress enacted a statute designed to set aside *Miranda* in the federal courts and to reinstate the traditional voluntariness test; an effort to enact a companion provision applicable to the state courts was defeated.³¹⁰ The statute, however, appears to lie unimplemented because of constitutional doubts about it,³¹¹ and changing membership of the Court has resulted only in some curtailment of the case's principles.

In one respect, though, it appears that the Court, by suggesting that *Miranda* claims could be disallowed in most instances in federal habeas corpus cases, has constructed a rationale that could lead to a substantial limitation on *Miranda's* operation.³¹² This potential limitation flows from the analysis in *Michigan v. Tucker*,³¹³ in which the Court was confronted with the question whether *Miranda* required the exclusion of the testimony of a witness who had been discovered because of the defendant's statement during interrogation following an inadequate *Miranda* warning.³¹⁴ The interrogation had taken place prior to *Miranda*, but the trial had followed the Court's decision,³¹⁵ leading to the exclusion of defendant's statement but not of the testimony of the witness. The actual holding of the Court and the concurrence of two Justices turned on the fact that the interrogation preceded *Miranda* and that warnings had been given, although not the full *Miranda* warnings; thus, in

³⁰⁹ See, e.g., *Rhode Island v. Innis*, 446 U.S. 291, 304 (1980) (Chief Justice Burger concurring) ("The meaning of *Miranda* has become reasonably clear and law enforcement practices have adjusted to its strictures; I would neither overrule *Miranda*, disparage it, nor extend it at this late date.")

³¹⁰ Pub. L. No. 90-351, § 701(a), 82 Stat. 210, 18 U.S.C. § 3501. See S. Rept. No. 1097, 90th Congress, 2d sess. 37-53 (1968).

³¹¹ *But cf.* *United States v. Crocker*, 510 F.2d 1129 (10th Cir. 1975).

³¹² A similar limitation applies to search and seizure exclusionary claims under *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465 (1976). See *supra*, pp. 1265-66. The issue of *Stone's* application to *Miranda* was reserved in *Wainwright v. Sykes*, 433 U.S. 72, 87 n.11 (1977). See *Brewer v. Williams*, 430 U.S. 387, 413-14 (1977) (Justice Powell concurring), and *id.* at 426-28 (Chief Justice Burger dissenting). Notice, however, that if *Miranda* claims were made subject to *Stone*, the traditional voluntariness test of admitting confessions and admissions, with its varying emphases on reliability, trustworthiness, and constitutional fairness, might well qualify those claims for exemption from *Powell* (see *Rose v. Mitchell*, 443 U.S. 545 (1979)), and could reduce the value in the Court's perspective of limiting habeas claims raising *Miranda* issues.

³¹³ 417 U.S. 433 (1974).

³¹⁴ It is not clear that the witness' testimony was suppressible in any event. *Cf.* *United States v. Ceccolini*, 435 U.S. 268 (1978) (a Fourth Amendment case).

³¹⁵ See *Johnson v. New Jersey*, 384 U.S. 719 (1966).

some respects, the decision is in the line of retroactivity cases. But of great possible significance was the language of the Court in considering “whether the police conduct complained of directly infringed upon respondent’s rights against compulsory self-incrimination or whether it instead violated only the prophylactic rules developed to protect that right.”³¹⁶ Finding that the defendant’s statement had not been coerced or otherwise procured in violation of his privilege, the Court found that good-faith, inadvertent error in not fully complying with the “prophylactic” *Miranda* rules did not require exclusion of the testimony, because the error preceded *Miranda*, because exclusion would not deter wrongful conduct, and because admission would not implicate the trial court in the use of possibly untrustworthy evidence.³¹⁷ Obviously, dividing the question in this way between a constitutional right and a judicially-created enforcement mechanism permits courts a considerable degree of flexibility to apply or not apply the exclusionary rule previously thought to be fairly rigid under *Miranda*.³¹⁸

In any event, the Court has established several lines of decisions interpreting *Miranda*.

First, persons who are questioned while they are in *custody* must be given the *Miranda* warnings. *Miranda* applies to “questioning initiated by law enforcement officers after a person has been taken into custody or otherwise deprived of his freedom of action in any significant way.”³¹⁹ Clearly, a suspect detained in jail is in custody, even if the detention is for some offense other than the one about which he is questioned.³²⁰ If he is placed under ar-

³¹⁶ *Michigan v. Tucker*, 417 U.S. 433, 439 (1974). Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger joined the opinion of the Court. Justices Brennan and Marshall concurred on retroactivity grounds, *id.* at 453, and Justice Stewart noted he could have joined this opinion as well. *Id.* Justice White, continuing to think *Miranda* was wrongly decided, concurred because he did not think the “fruits” of a *Miranda* violation should be excluded. *Id.* at 460.

³¹⁷ *Id.* at 446–52. The similarity with opinions interpreting the search and seizure exclusionary rule is striking. *Supra*, pp. 1264–69.

³¹⁸ While the exclusionary rule may not be directly mandated by the constitutional provision in issue, it must be a constitutional standard, because if it were not the Court could not impose it on the States. See Monaghan, *Foreword: Constitutional Common Law*, 89 HARV. L. REV. 1 (1975); Schrock, Welsh & Collins, *Interrogational Rights: Reflections on Miranda v. Arizona*, 52 SO. CAL. L. REV. 1 (1978).

³¹⁹ *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 444 (1966).

³²⁰ *Mathis v. United States*, 391 U.S. 1 (1968) (suspect in state jail questioned by federal officer about a federal crime). But even though a suspect is in jail, hence in custody “in a technical sense,” a conversation with an undercover agent does not create a coercive, police-dominated environment and does not implicate *Miranda* if the suspect does not know that he is conversing with a government agent. *Illinois v. Perkins*, 110 S. Ct. 2394 (1990).

rest, even if he is in his own home, the questioning is custodial.³²¹ But the fact that a suspect may be present in a police station does not, in the absence of indicia that he was in custody, mean that the questioning is custodial,³²² and the fact that he is in his home or other familiar surroundings will ordinarily lead to a conclusion that the inquiry was noncustodial.³²³ As with investigative stops under the Fourth Amendment, there is a wide variety of police-citizen contacts, and the Supreme Court has not explored at any length the application of *Miranda* to questioning on the street and elsewhere in situations in which the police have not asserted authority sufficient to place the citizen in custody.³²⁴

Second, persons who are *interrogated* while they are in custody must be given the *Miranda* warnings. It is not necessary under *Miranda* that the police squarely ask a question. The breadth of the interrogation concept is demonstrated in *Rhode Island v. Innis*.³²⁵ There, police had apprehended the defendant as a murder suspect but had not found the weapon used. While he was being transported to police headquarters in a squad car, the defendant, who had been given the *Miranda* warnings and had asserted he wished to consult a lawyer before submitting to questioning, was not asked questions by the officers. However, the officers engaged in conversation among themselves, in which they indicated that a school for handicapped children was near the crime scene and that they hoped the weapon was found before a child discovered it and was

³²¹ *Orozco v. Texas*, 394 U.S. 324 (1969) (four policemen entered suspect's bedroom at 4 a.m. and questioned him; though not formally arrested, he was in custody).

³²² *Oregon v. Mathiason*, 429 U.S. 492 (1977) (suspect came voluntarily to police station to be questioned, he was not placed under arrest while there, and he was allowed to leave at end of interview, even though he was named by victim as culprit, questioning took place behind closed doors, and he was falsely informed his fingerprints had been found at scene of crime). See also *Minnesota v. Murphy*, 465 U.S. 420 (1984) (required reporting to probationary officer is not custodial situation).

³²³ *Beckwith v. United States*, 425 U.S. 341 (1976) (IRS agents' interview with taxpayer in private residence was not a custodial interrogation, although inquiry had "focused" on him).

³²⁴ Cf. *United States v. Mendenhall*, 446 U.S. 544 (1980); *Reid v. Georgia*, 448 U.S. 438 (1980); *Brown v. Texas*, 443 U.S. 47 (1979); *Berkemer v. McCarty*, 468 U.S. 420, 440 (1984) (roadside questioning of motorist stopped for traffic violation is not custodial interrogation until his "freedom of action is curtailed to a 'degree associated with formal arrest'").

³²⁵ 446 U.S. 291 (1980). A remarkably similar factual situation was presented in *Brewer v. Williams*, 430 U.S. 387 (1977), which was decided under the Sixth Amendment. In *Brewer*, and also in *Massiah v. United States*, 377 U.S. 201 (1964), and *United States v. Henry*, 447 U.S. 264 (1980), the Court has had difficulty in expounding on what constitutes interrogation for Sixth Amendment counsel purposes. The *Innis* Court indicated that the definitions are not the same for each Amendment. 446 U.S. at 300 n.4.

injured. The defendant then took them to the weapon's hiding place.

Unanimously rejecting a contention that *Miranda* would have been violated only by express questioning, the Court said: "We conclude that the *Miranda* safeguards come into play whenever a person in custody is subjected to either express questioning or its functional equivalent. That is to say, the term 'interrogation' under *Miranda* refers not only to express questioning, but also to any words or actions on the part of the police (other than those normally attendant to arrest and custody) that the police should know are reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response from the suspect. The latter portion of this definition focuses primarily upon the perceptions of the suspect, rather than the intent of the police. This focus reflects the fact that the *Miranda* safeguards were designed to vest a suspect in custody with an added measure of protection against coercive police practices, without regard to objective proof of the underlying intent of the police."³²⁶ A divided Court then concluded that the officers' conversation did not amount to a functional equivalent of questioning and that the evidence was admissible.³²⁷

In *Estelle v. Smith*,³²⁸ the Court held that a court-ordered jailhouse interview with the defendant by a psychiatrist seeking to determine his competency to stand trial, when the defense had raised no issue of insanity or incompetency, constituted interrogation for *Miranda* purposes; the psychiatrist's conclusions about the defendant's dangerousness were inadmissible at the capital sentencing phase of the trial because the defendant had not been given his *Miranda* warnings prior to the interview. That the defendant had been questioned by a psychiatrist designated to conduct a neutral competency examination, rather than by a police officer, was "immaterial," the Court concluded, since the psychiatrist's testimony at the penalty phase changed his role from one of neutrality to that of an agent of the prosecution.³²⁹ Other instances of questioning in less formal contexts in which the issues of custody and interroga-

³²⁶ *Rhode Island v. Innis*, 446 U.S. 291, 300–01 (1980).

³²⁷ *Id.* at 302–04. Justices Marshall, Brennan, and Stevens dissented, *Id.* at 305, 307. Similarly, the Court found no functional equivalent of interrogation when police allowed a suspect's wife to talk to him in the presence of a police officer who openly tape recorded the conversation. *Arizona v. Mauro*, 481 U.S. 520 (1987). *See also Illinois v. Perkins*, 496 U.S. 292 (1990) (absence of coercive environment makes *Miranda* inapplicable to jail cell conversation between suspect and police undercover agent).

³²⁸ 451 U.S. 454 (1981).

³²⁹ *Id.* at 467.

tion intertwine, e.g., in on-the-street encounters, await explication by the Court.

Third, before a suspect in custody is interrogated, he must be given *full* warnings, or the *equivalent*, of his *rights*. *Miranda*, of course, required express warnings to be given to an in-custody suspect of his right to remain silent, that anything he said may be used as evidence against him, that he has a right to counsel, and that if he cannot afford counsel he is entitled to an appointed attorney.³³⁰ The Court recognized that “other fully effective means” could be devised to convey the right to remain silent,³³¹ but it was firm that the prosecution was not permitted to show that an unwarned suspect knew of his rights in some manner.³³² But it is not necessary that the police give the warnings as a verbatim recital of the words in the *Miranda* opinion itself, so long as the words used “fully conveyed” to a defendant his rights.³³³

Fourth, once a warned suspect asserts his *right to silence* and requests *counsel*, the police must scrupulously respect his assertion of right. The *Miranda* Court strongly stated that once a warned suspect “indicates in any manner, at any time prior to or during questioning, that he wishes to remain silent, the interrogation must cease.” Further, if the suspect indicates he wishes the assistance of counsel before interrogation, the questioning must cease until he has counsel.³³⁴ At least with respect to counsel, the Court has created practically a *per se* rule barring the police from continuing or from reinitiating interrogation with a suspect requesting counsel until counsel is present, save only that the suspect himself may initiate further proceedings. Thus, in *Edwards v. Arizona*,³³⁵ the Court ruled that *Miranda* had been violated when police reinitiated questioning after the suspect had requested counsel. Questioning had ceased as soon as the suspect had requested counsel, and the suspect had been returned to his cell. Questioning had resumed the following day only after different police officers had confronted the suspect and again warned him of his rights; the suspect agreed to talk and thereafter incriminated himself. Nonetheless, the Court held, “when an accused has invoked his right to

³³⁰ *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 444 (1966). *See id.* at 469–73.

³³¹ *Id.*

³³² *Id.* at 469.

³³³ *California v. Prysock*, 453 U.S. 355 (1981). Rephrased, the test is whether the warnings “*reasonably* conveyed” a suspect’s rights, the Court adding that reviewing courts “need not examine *Miranda* warnings as if construing a will or defining the terms of an easement.” *Duckworth v. Egan*, 492 U.S. 195, 203 (1989) (upholding warning that included possibly misleading statement that a lawyer would be appointed “if and when you go to court”).

³³⁴ *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 472, 473–74 (1966).

³³⁵ 451 U.S. 477 (1981).

have counsel present during custodial interrogation, a valid waiver of that right cannot be established by showing only that he responded to further police-initiated custodial interrogation even if he has been advised of this rights. We further hold that an accused . . . , having expressed his desire to deal with the police only through counsel, is not subject to further interrogation by the authorities until counsel has been made available to him, unless the accused himself initiates further communication, exchanges, or conversations with the police.”³³⁶ The *Edwards* rule bars police-initiated questioning stemming from a separate investigation as well as questioning relating to the crime for which the suspect was arrested.³³⁷

However, the suspect must specifically ask for counsel; if he requests the assistance of someone else he thinks may be helpful to him, that is not a valid assertion of *Miranda* rights.³³⁸ Moreover, the rigid *Edwards* rule is not applicable to other aspects of the warnings. That is, if the suspect asserts his right to remain silent, the questioning must cease, but officers are not precluded from subsequently initiating a new round of interrogation, provided only that they again give the *Miranda* warnings.³³⁹

Fifth, a properly warned suspect may *waive* his *Miranda* rights and submit to custodial interrogation. *Miranda* recognized that a suspect may voluntarily and knowingly give up his rights and re-

³³⁶ *Id.* at 484–85. The decision was unanimous, but three concurrences objected to a special rule limiting waivers with respect to counsel to suspect-initiated further exchanges. *Id.* at 487, 488 (Chief Justice Burger and Justices Powell and Rehnquist). In *Oregon v. Bradshaw*, 462 U.S. 1039 (1983), the Court held, albeit without a majority of Justices in complete agreement as to rationale, that an accused who had initiated further conversations with police had knowingly and intelligently waived his right to have counsel present. So too, an accused who expressed a willingness to talk to police, but who refused to make a written statement without presence of counsel, was held to have waived his rights with respect to his oral statements. *Connecticut v. Barrett*, 479 U.S. 523 (1987). The Court has held that *Edwards* should not be applied retroactively to a conviction that had become final. *Solem v. Stumes*, 465 U.S. 638 (1984), but that *Edwards* does apply to cases pending on appeal at the time it was decided. *Shea v. Louisiana*, 470 U.S. 51 (1985).

³³⁷ *Arizona v. Roberson*, 486 U.S. 675 (1988). By contrast, the Sixth Amendment right to counsel is offense-specific, and does not bar questioning about a crime unrelated to the crime for which the suspect has been charged. *See McNeil v. Wisconsin*, 501 U.S. 171 (1991).

³³⁸ *Fare v. Michael C.*, 442 U.S. 707 (1979) (juvenile requested to see his parole officer, rather than counsel). Also, waivers signed by the accused following *Miranda* warnings are not vitiated by police having kept from the accused information that an attorney had been retained for him by a relative. *Moran v. Burbine*, 475 U.S. 412 (1986).

³³⁹ *Michigan v. Mosley*, 423 U.S. 96 (1975) (suspect given *Miranda* warnings at questioning for robbery, requested cessation of interrogation, and police complied; some two hours later, a different policeman interrogated suspect about a murder, gave him a new *Miranda* warning, and suspect made incriminating admission; since police “scrupulously honored” suspect’s request, admission valid).

spond to questioning, but the Court cautioned that the prosecution bore a “heavy burden” to establish that a valid waiver had occurred.³⁴⁰ While the waiver need not be express in order for it to be valid,³⁴¹ neither may a suspect’s silence or similar conduct constitute a waiver.³⁴² It must be shown that the suspect was competent to understand and appreciate the warning and to be able to waive his rights.³⁴³ Essentially, resolution of the issue of waiver “must be determined on ‘the particular facts and circumstances surrounding that case, including the background, experience, and conduct of the accused.’”³⁴⁴

Sixth, the admissions of an unwarned or improperly warned suspect *may not be used* directly against him at trial, but the Court has permitted some use for other purposes, such as impeachment. A confession or other incriminating admissions obtained in violation of *Miranda* may not, of course, be introduced against him at trial for purposes of establishing guilt³⁴⁵ or for determining the sentence, at least in bifurcated trials in capital cases,³⁴⁶ and neither may the “fruits” of such a confession or admission be used.³⁴⁷ The Court, in opinions which bespeak a sense of necessity to narrowly construe *Miranda*, has broadened the permissible impeachment purposes for which unlawful confessions and admissions may

³⁴⁰ *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 475 (1966).

³⁴¹ *North Carolina v. Butler*, 441 U.S. 369 (1979).

³⁴² *Id.* at 373. But silence, “coupled with an understanding of his rights and a course of conduct indicating waiver,” may support a conclusion of waiver. *Id.*

³⁴³ *Tague v. Louisiana*, 444 U.S. 469 (1980). A knowing and intelligent waiver need not be predicated on complete disclosure by police of the intended line of questioning, hence an accused’s signed waiver following arrest for one crime is not invalidated by police having failed to inform him of intent to question him about another crime. *Colorado v. Spring*, 479 U.S. 564 (1987).

³⁴⁴ *North Carolina v. Butler*, 441 U.S. 369, 374–75 (1979) (quoting *Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458, 464 (1938)). In *Oregon v. Elstad*, 470 U.S. 298 (1985), the Court held that a confession following a *Miranda* warning is not necessarily tainted by an earlier confession obtained without a warning, as long as the earlier confession had been voluntary. *And see Moran v. Burbine*, 475 U.S. 412 (1986) (signed waivers following *Miranda* warnings not vitiated by police having kept from suspect information that attorney had been retained for him by relative).

³⁴⁵ *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 479 (1966).

³⁴⁶ *Estelle v. Smith*, 451 U.S. 454 (1981). The Court has yet to consider the applicability of the ruling in a noncapital, nonbifurcated trial case.

³⁴⁷ *Cf. Harrison v. United States*, 392 U.S. 219 (1968) (after confessions obtained in violation of *McNabb-Mallory* were admitted against him, defendant took the stand to rebut them and made damaging admissions; after his first conviction was reversed, he was retried without the confessions, but the prosecutor introduced his rebuttal testimony from the first trial; Court reversed conviction because testimony was tainted by the admission of the confessions). *But see Michigan v. Tucker*, 417 U.S. 433 (1974). Confessions may be the poisonous fruit of other constitutional violations, such as illegal searches or arrests. E.g., *Brown v. Illinois*, 422 U.S. 590 (1975); *Dunaway v. New York*, 442 U.S. 200 (1979); *Taylor v. Alabama*, 457 U.S. 687 (1982).

be used.³⁴⁸ Thus, in *Harris v. New York*,³⁴⁹ the Court held that the prosecution could use statements, obtained in violation of *Miranda*, to impeach the defendant's testimony if he voluntarily took the stand and denied commission of the offense. Subsequently, in *Oregon v. Hass*,³⁵⁰ the Court permitted impeachment use of a statement made by the defendant after police had ignored his request for counsel following his *Miranda* warning. Such impeachment material, however, must still meet the standard of voluntariness associated with the pre-*Miranda* tests for the admission of confessions and statements.³⁵¹

The Court has created a "public safety" exception to the *Miranda* warning requirement, but has refused to create another exception for misdemeanors and lesser offenses. In *New York v. Quarles*,³⁵² the Court held admissible a recently apprehended suspect's response in a public supermarket to the arresting officer's demand to know the location of a gun that the officer had reason to believe the suspect had just discarded or hidden in the supermarket. The Court, in an opinion by Justice Rehnquist,³⁵³ declined to place officers in the "untenable position" of having to make instant decisions as to whether to proceed with *Miranda* warnings and thereby increase the risk to themselves or to the public or whether to dispense with the warnings and run the risk that resulting evidence will be excluded at trial. While acknowledging that the exception itself will "lessen the desirable clarity of the rule," the Court predicted that confusion would be slight: "[w]e think that police officers can and will distinguish almost instinctively between

³⁴⁸ Under *Walter v. United States*, 347 U.S. 62 (1954), the defendant not only denied the offense of which he was accused (sale of drugs), but also asserted he had never dealt in drugs. The prosecution was permitted to impeach him concerning heroin seized illegally from his home two years before. The Court observed that the defendant could have denied the offense without making the "sweeping" assertions, as to which the government could impeach him.

³⁴⁹ 401 U.S. 222 (1971). The defendant had denied only the commission of the offense. The Court observed that it was only "speculative" to think that impermissible police conduct would be encouraged by permitting such impeachment, a resort to deterrence analysis being contemporaneously used to ground the Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule, whereas the defendant's right to testify was the obligation to testify truthfully and the prosecution could impeach him for committing perjury. See also *United States v. Havens*, 446 U.S. 620 (1980) (Fourth Amendment).

³⁵⁰ 420 U.S. 714 (1975). By contrast, a defendant may not be impeached by evidence of his silence after police have warned him of his right to remain silent. *Doyle v. Ohio*, 426 U.S. 610 (1976).

³⁵¹ E.g., *Mincey v. Arizona*, 437 U.S. 385 (1978); *New Jersey v. Portash*, 440 U.S. 450 (1979).

³⁵² 467 U.S. 649 (1984).

³⁵³ The Court's opinion was joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices White, Blackmun, and Powell. Justice O'Connor would have ruled inadmissible the suspect's response, but not the gun retrieved as a result of the response, and Justices Marshall, Brennan, and Stevens dissented.

questions necessary to secure their own safety or the safety of the public and questions designed solely to elicit testimonial evidence from a suspect.”³⁵⁴ No such compelling justification was offered for a *Miranda* exception for lesser offenses, however, and protecting the rule’s “simplicity and clarity” counseled against creating one.³⁵⁵ “[A] person subjected to custodial interrogation is entitled to the benefit of the procedural safeguards enunciated in *Miranda*, regardless of the nature or severity of the offense of which he is suspected or for which he was arrested.”³⁵⁶

The Operation of the Exclusionary Rule

Supreme Court Review.—The Court’s review of the question of admissibility of confessions or other incriminating statements is designed to prevent the foreclosure of the very question to be decided by it, the issue of voluntariness under the due process standard, the issue of the giving of the requisite warnings and the subsequent waiver, if there is one, under the *Miranda* rule. Recurring to Justice Frankfurter’s description of the inquiry as a “three-phased process” in due process cases at least,³⁵⁷ it can be seen that the Court’s self-imposed rules of restraint on review of lower-court factfinding greatly influenced the process. The finding of facts surrounding the issue of coercion—the length of detention, circumstances of interrogation, use of violence or of tricks and ruses, et cetera—is the proper function of the trial court which had the advantage of having the witnesses before it. “This means that all testimonial conflict is settled by the judgment of the state courts. Where they have made explicit findings of fact, those findings conclude us and form the basis of our review—with the one *caveat*, necessarily, that we are not to be bound by findings wholly lacking support in evidence.”³⁵⁸

However, the conclusions of the lower courts as to how the accused reacted to the circumstances of his interrogation, and as to the legal significance of how he reacted, are subject to open review. “No more restricted scope of review would suffice adequately to protect federal constitutional rights. For the mental state of involuntariness upon which the due process question turns can never be affirmatively established other than circumstantially—

³⁵⁴ 467 U.S. at 658–59.

³⁵⁵ *Berkemer v. McCarty*, 468 U.S. 420, 432 (1984).

³⁵⁶ 468 U.S. at 434.

³⁵⁷ *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 603–06 (1961).

³⁵⁸ *Id.* at 603. See *Ashcraft v. Tennessee*, 322 U.S. 143, 152–53 (1944); *Lyons v. Oklahoma*, 322 U.S. 596, 602–03 (1944); *Watts v. Indiana*, 338 U.S. 49, 50–52 (1949); *Gallegos v. Nebraska*, 342 U.S. 55, 60–62 (1951); *Stein v. New York*, 346 U.S. 156, 180–82 (1953); *Payne v. Arkansas*, 356 U.S. 560, 561–62 (1958).

that is, by inference; and it cannot be competent to the trier of fact to preclude our review simply by declining to draw inferences which the historical facts compel. Great weight, of course, is to be accorded to the inferences which are drawn by the state courts. In a dubious case, it is appropriate . . . that the state court's determination should control. But where, on the uncontested external happenings, coercive forces set in motion by state law enforcement officials are unmistakably in action; where these forces, under all the prevailing states of stress, are powerful enough to draw forth a confession; where, in fact, the confession does come forth and is claimed by the defendant to have been extorted from him; and where he has acted as a man would act who is subjected to such an extracting process—where this is all that appears in the record—a State judgment that the confession was voluntary cannot stand.”³⁵⁹ *Miranda*, of course, does away with the judgments about the effect of lack of warnings, and the third phase, the legal determination of the interaction of the first two phases, is determined solely by two factual determinations: whether the warnings were given and if so whether there was a valid waiver. Presumably, supported determinations of these two facts by trial courts would preclude independent review by the Supreme Court. Yet, the Court has been clear that it may and will independently review the facts when the factfinding has such a substantial effect on constitutional rights.³⁶⁰

Procedure in the Trial Courts.—The Court has placed constitutional limitations upon the procedures followed by trial courts for determining the admissibility of confessions and other incriminating admissions. Three procedures were developed over time to deal with the question of admissibility when involuntariness was claimed. By the orthodox method, the trial judge heard all the evidence on voluntariness in a separate and preliminary hearing, and if he found the confession involuntary the jury never received it, while if he found it voluntary the jury received it with the right to consider its weight and credibility, which consideration included the circumstances of its making. By the New York method, the judge first reviewed the confession under a standard leading to its exclusion only if he found it not possible that “reasonable men could differ over the [factual] inferences to be drawn” from it; oth-

³⁵⁹ *Culombe v. Connecticut*, 367 U.S. 568, 605 (1961). See *Watts v. Indiana*, 338 U.S. 49, 51 (1949); *Malinski v. New York*, 324 U.S. 401, 404, 417 (1945).

³⁶⁰ “In cases in which there is a claim of denial of rights under the Federal Constitution this Court is not bound by the conclusions of lower courts, but will re-examine the evidentiary basis on which those conclusions are founded.” *Niemotko v. Maryland*, 340 U.S. 268, 271 (1951); *Time, Inc. v. Pape*, 401 U.S. 279, 284 (1971), and cases cited therein.

erwise, the jury would receive the confession with instructions to first determine its voluntariness and to consider it if it were voluntary and to disregard it if it were not. By the Massachusetts method, the trial judge himself determined the voluntariness question and if he found the confession involuntary the jury never received it; if he found it to have been voluntarily made he permitted the jury to receive it with instructions that the jurors should make their own independent determination of voluntariness.³⁶¹

The New York method was upheld against constitutional attack in *Stein v. New York*,³⁶² but eleven years later a five-to-four decision in *Jackson v. Denno*,³⁶³ found it inadequate to protect the due process rights of defendants. The procedure did not, the Court held, ensure a “reliable determination on the issue of voluntariness” and did not sufficiently guarantee that convictions would not be grounded on involuntary confessions. Since there was only a general jury verdict of guilty, it was impossible to determine whether the jury had first focused on the issue of voluntariness and then either had found the confession voluntary and considered it on the question of guilt or had found it involuntary, disregarded it, and reached a conclusion of guilt on wholly independent evidence. It was doubtful that a jury could appreciate the values served by the exclusion of involuntary confessions and put out of mind the content of the confession no matter what was determined with regard to its voluntariness. The rule was reiterated in *Sims v. Georgia*,³⁶⁴ in which the Court voided a state practice permitting the judge to let the confession go to the jury for the ultimate decision on voluntariness, upon an initial determination merely that the prosecution had made out a prima facie case that the confession was voluntary. The Court has interposed no constitutional objection to utilization of either the orthodox or the Massachusetts method for determining admissibility.³⁶⁵ It has held that the prosecution bears the burden of establishing voluntariness by a prepon-

³⁶¹ *Jackson v. Denno*, 378 U.S. 368, 410–23 (1964) (appendix to opinion of Justice Black concurring in part and dissenting in part).

³⁶² 346 U.S. 156, 170–79 (1953). Significant to the Court’s conclusion on this matter was the further conclusion of the majority that coerced confessions were inadmissible solely because of their unreliability; if their trustworthiness could be established the utilization of an involuntary confession violated no constitutional prohibition. This conception was contrary to earlier cases and was subsequently repudiated. See *Jackson v. Denno*, 378 U.S. 368, 383–87 (1964).

³⁶³ 378 U.S. 368 (1964). On the sufficiency of state court determinations, see *Swenson v. Stidham*, 409 U.S. 224 (1972); *La Vallee v. Della Rose*, 410 U.S. 690 (1973).

³⁶⁴ 385 U.S. 538 (1967).

³⁶⁵ *Jackson v. Denno*, 378, 378 U.S. 368 and n.8 (1964); *Lego v. Twomey*, 404 U.S. 477, 489–90 (1972) (rejecting contention that jury should be required to pass on voluntariness following judge’s determination).

derance of the evidence, rejecting a contention that it should be determined only upon proof beyond a reasonable doubt,³⁶⁶ or by clear and convincing evidence.³⁶⁷

DUE PROCESS

History and Scope

“It is now the settled doctrine of this Court that the Due Process Clause embodies a system of rights based on moral principles so deeply imbedded in the traditions and feelings of our people as to be deemed fundamental to a civilized society as conceived by our whole history. Due Process is that which comports with the deepest notions of what is fair and right and just.”¹ The content of due process is “a historical product”² that traces all the way back to chapter 39 of Magna Carta, in which King John promised that “[n]o free man shall be taken or imprisoned or disseized or exiled or in any way destroyed, nor will we go upon him nor send upon him, except by the lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.”³ The phrase “due process of law” first appeared in a statutory rendition of this chapter in 1354. “No man of what state or condition he be, shall be put out of his lands or tenements nor taken, nor disinherited, nor put to death, without he be brought to answer by due process of law.”⁴ Though Magna Carta was in essence the result of a struggle over interest between the King and his barons,⁵ this particular clause over time transcended any such limitation of scope, and throughout the fourteenth century par-

³⁶⁶ *Lego v. Twomey*, 404 U.S. 477 (1972).

³⁶⁷ *Colorado v. Connelly*, 479 U.S. 157 (1986).

¹ *Solesbee v. Balkcom*, 339 U.S. 9, 16 (1950) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting). Due process is violated if a practice or rule “offends some principle of justice so rooted in the traditions and conscience of our people as to be ranked as fundamental.” *Snyder v. Massachusetts*, 291 U.S. 97, 105 (1934).

² *Jackman v. Rosenbaum Co.*, 260 U.S. 22, 31 (1922).

³ Text and commentary on this chapter may be found in W. MCKECHNIE, *MAGNA CARTA—A COMMENTARY ON THE GREAT CHARTER OF KING JOHN 375–95* (Glasgow, 2d rev. ed. 1914). The chapter became chapter 29 in the Third Reissue of Henry III in 1225. *Id.* at 504, and see 139–59. As expanded, it read: “No free man shall be taken or imprisoned or deprived of his freehold or his liberties or free customs, or outlawed or exiled, or in any manner destroyed, nor shall we come upon him or send against him, except by a legal judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.” See also J. HOLT, *MAGNA CARTA 226–29* (Cambridge: 1965). The 1225 reissue also added to chapter 29 the language of chapter 40 of the original text: “To no one will we sell, to no one will we deny or delay right or justice.” This 1225 reissue became the standard text thereafter.

⁴ 28 Edw. III, c. 3. See F. THOMPSON, *MAGNA CARTA—ITS ROLE IN THE MAKING OF THE ENGLISH CONSTITUTION, 1300–1629*, 86–97 (1948), recounting several statutory reconfirmations. Note that the limitation of “free man” had given way to the all-inclusive delineation.

⁵ W. MCKECHNIE, *MAGNA CARTA—A COMMENTARY ON THE GREAT CHARTER OF KING JOHN* (Glasgow: 2d rev. ed. 1914); J. HOLT, *MAGNA CARTA* (Cambridge: 1965).

liamentary interpretation expanded far beyond the intention of any of its drafters.⁶ The understanding which the founders of the American constitutional system, and those who wrote the due process clauses, brought to the subject they derived from Coke, who in his *Second Institutes* expounded the proposition that the term “by law of the land” was equivalent to “due process of law,” which he in turn defined as “by due process of the common law,” that is, “by the indictment or presentment of good and lawful men . . . or by writ original of the Common Law.”⁷ The significance of both terms was procedural, but there was in Coke’s writings on chapter 29 a rudimentary concept of substantive restrictions, which did not develop in England because of parliamentary supremacy, but which was to flower in the United States.

The term “law of the land” was early the preferred expression in colonial charters and declarations of rights, which gave way to the term “due process of law,” although some state constitutions continued to employ both terms. Whichever phraseology was used, the expression seems generally to have occurred in close association with precise safeguards of accused persons, but, as is true of the Fifth Amendment here under consideration, the provision also suggests some limitations on substance because of its association with the guarantee of just compensation upon the taking of private property for public use.⁸

Scope of the Guaranty.—Standing by itself, the phrase “due process” would seem to refer solely and simply to procedure, to process in court, and therefore to be so limited that “due process of law” would be what the legislative branch enacted it to be. But that is not the interpretation which has been placed on the term. “It is manifest that it was not left to the legislative power to enact any process which might be devised. The article is a restraint on the legislative as well as on the executive and judicial powers of the government, and cannot be so construed as to leave congress

⁶F. THOMPSON, *MAGNA CARTA—ITS ROLE IN THE MAKING OF THE ENGLISH CONSTITUTION, 1300–1629* (Minneapolis: 1948).

⁷SIR EDWARD COKE, *INSTITUTES OF THE LAWS OF ENGLAND*, Part II, 50–51 (London: 1641). For a review of the influence of Magna Carta and Coke on the colonies and the new nation, see, e.g., A. HOWARD, *THE ROAD FROM RUNNYMEDE—MAGNA CARTA AND CONSTITUTIONALISM IN AMERICA* (1968).

⁸The 1776 Constitution of Maryland, for example, in its declaration of rights, used the language of Magna Carta including the “law of the land” phrase in a separate article, 3 F. THORPE, *THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTIONS*, H. Doc. No. 357, 59th Congress, 2d Sess. 1688 (1909), whereas Virginia used the clause in a section of guarantees of procedural rights in criminal cases. 7 *id.* at 3813. New York in its constitution of 1821 was the first State to pick up “due process of law” from the United States Constitution. 5 *id.* at 2648.

free to make any process 'due process of law' by its mere will."⁹ All persons within the territory of the United States are entitled to its protection, including corporations,¹⁰ aliens,¹¹ and presumptively citizens seeking readmission to the United States,¹² but States as such are not so entitled.¹³ It is effective in the District of Columbia¹⁴ and in territories which are part of the United States,¹⁵ but it does not apply of its own force to unincorporated territories.¹⁶ Nor does it reach enemy alien belligerents tried by military tribunals outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States.¹⁷

Early in our judicial history, a number of jurists attempted to formulate a theory of natural rights—natural justice, which would limit the power of government, especially with regard to the property rights of persons.¹⁸ State courts were the arenas in which this struggle was carried out prior to the Civil War. Opposing the "vested rights" theory of protection of property were jurists who argued first, that the written constitution was the supreme law of the State and that judicial review could look only to that document in scrutinizing legislation and not to the "unwritten law" of "natural rights," and second, that the "police power" of government enabled legislatures to regulate the use and holding of property in the public interest, subject only to the specific prohibitions of the written constitution. The "vested rights" jurists thus found in the "law of the land" and the "due process" clauses of the state constitutions a restriction upon the substantive content of legislation, which prohibited, regardless of the matter of procedure, a certain kind or degree of exertion of legislative power altogether.¹⁹ Thus, Chief Justice Taney was not innovating when in his opinion in the *Dred Scott* case he pronounced, without elaboration, that one of the reasons the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional was that an

⁹*Murray's Lessee v. Hoboken Land and Improvement Co.* 59 U.S. (18 How.) 272, 276 (1856). Webster had made the argument as counsel in *Trustees of Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 518–82 (1819). *And see* Chief Justice Shaw's opinion in *Jones v. Robbins*, 74 Mass. (8 Gray) 329 (1857).

¹⁰*Sinking Fund Cases*, 99 U.S. 700, 719 (1879).

¹¹*Wong Wing v. United States*, 163 U.S. 228, 238 (1896).

¹²*United States v. Ju Toy*, 198 U.S. 253, 263 (1905); *cf.* *Quon Quon Poy v. Johnson*, 273 U.S. 352 (1927).

¹³*South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 323–24 (1966).

¹⁴*Wight v. Davidson*, 181 U.S. 371, 384 (1901).

¹⁵*Lovato v. New Mexico*, 242 U.S. 199, 201 (1916).

¹⁶*Public Utility Comm'rs v. Ynchausti & Co.*, 251 U.S. 401, 406 (1920).

¹⁷*Johnson v. Eisentrager*, 339 U.S. 763 (1950); *In re Yamashita*, 327 U.S. 1 (1946). Justices Rutledge and Murphy in the latter case argued that the due process clause applies to every human being, including enemy belligerents.

¹⁸Compare the remarks of Justices Chase and Iredell in *Calder v. Bull*, 3 U.S. (3 Dall.) 386, 388–89, 398–99 (1798).

¹⁹The full account is related in E. CORWIN, *LIBERTY AGAINST GOVERNMENT* ch. 3 (1948). The pathbreaking decision of the era was *Wynhamer v. The People*, 13 N.Y. 378 (1856).

act of Congress which deprived “a citizen of his liberty or property merely because he came himself or brought his property into a particular territory of the United States, and who had committed no offence against the laws, could hardly be dignified with the name of due process of law.”²⁰ Following the War, with the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment’s due process clause, substantive due process interpretations were urged on the Supreme Court with regard to state legislation; first resisted, the arguments came in time to be accepted, and they imposed upon both federal and state legislation a firm judicial hand which was not to be removed until the crisis of the 1930’s, and which today in non-economic legislation continues to be reasserted.

“It may prevent confusion, and relieve from repetition, if we point out that some of our cases arose under the provisions of the Fifth and others under those of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. While the language of those Amendments is the same, yet as they were engrafted upon the Constitution at different times and in widely different circumstances of our national life, it may be that questions may arise in which different constructions and applications of their provisions may be proper.”²¹ The most obvious difference between the two due process clauses is that the Fifth Amendment clause as it binds the Federal Government coexists with a number of other express provisions in the Bill of Rights guaranteeing fair procedure and non-arbitrary action, such as jury trials, grand jury indictments, and nonexcessive bail and fines, as well as just compensation, whereas the Fourteenth Amendment clause as it binds the States has been held to contain implicitly not only the standards of fairness and justness found within the Fifth Amendment’s clause but also to contain many guarantees that are expressly set out in the Bill of Rights. In that sense, the two clauses are not the same thing, but insofar as they do impose such implicit requirements of fair trials, fair hearings, and the like, which exist separately from, though they are informed with, express constitutional guarantees, the interpretation of the two clauses is substantially if not wholly the same. Save for areas in which the particularly national character of the Federal Government requires separate treatment, discussion of the meaning of due process is largely reserved for the section on the Fourteenth Amendment. Finally, it should be noted that some Fourteenth Amendment interpretations have been carried back to broaden interpretations of the Fifth Amendment’s due

²⁰ *Scott v. Sandford*, 60 U.S. (19 How.) 393, 450 (1857).

²¹ *French v. Barber Asphalt Paving Co.*, 181 U.S. 324, 328 (1901).

process clause, such as, e.g., the development of equal protection standards as an aspect of Fifth Amendment due process.

Procedural Due Process

In 1855, the Court first attempted to assess its standards for judging what was due process. At issue was the constitutionality of summary proceedings under a distress warrant to levy on the lands of a government debtor. The Court first ascertained that Congress was not free to make any process “due process.” “To what principles, then are we to resort to ascertain whether this process, enacted by congress, is due process? To this the answer must be twofold. We must examine the constitution itself, to see whether this process be in conflict with any of its provisions. If not found to be so, we must look to those settled usages and modes of proceedings existing in the common and statute law of England, before the emigration of our ancestors and which are shown not to have been unsuited to their civil and political condition by having been acted on by them after the settlement of this country.” A survey of history disclosed that the law in England seemed always to have contained a summary method for recovering debts owned the Crown not unlike the law in question. Thus, “tested by the common and statute law of England prior to the emigration of our ancestors, and by the laws of many of the States at the time of the adoption of this amendment, the proceedings authorized by the act of 1820 cannot be denied to be due process of law. . . .”²²

This formal approach to the meaning of due process could obviously have limited both Congress and the state legislatures in the development of procedures unknown to English law. But when California’s abandonment of indictment by grand jury was challenged, the Court refused to be limited by the fact that such proceeding was the English practice and that Coke had indicated that it was a proceeding required as “the law of the land.” The meaning of the Court in *Murray’s Lessee* was “that a process of law, which is not otherwise forbidden, must be taken to be due process of law, if it can show the sanction of settled usage both in England and in this country; but it by no means follows that nothing else can be due process of law.” To hold that only historical, traditional procedures can constitute due process, the Court said, “would be to deny every quality of the law but its age, and to render it incapable

²² *Murray’s Lessee v. Hoboken Land and Improvement Co.*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 272, 276–77, 280 (1856). A similar approach was followed in Fourteenth Amendment due process interpretation in *Davidson v. City of New Orleans*, 96 U.S. 97 (1878), and *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113 (1877).

of progress or improvement.”²³ Therefore, in observing the due process guarantee, it was concluded, the Court must look “not [to] particular forms of procedures, but [to] the very substance of individual rights to life, liberty, and property.” The due process clause prescribed “the limits of those fundamental principles of liberty and justice which lie at the base of all our civil and political institutions. . . . It follows that any legal proceeding enforced by public authority, whether sanctioned by age and custom, or newly devised in the discretion of the legislative power, in furtherance of the general public good, which regards and preserves these principles of liberty and justice, must be held to be due process of law.”²⁴

Generally.—The phrase “due process of law” does not necessarily imply a proceeding in a court or a plenary suit and trial by jury in every case where personal or property rights are involved.²⁵ “In all cases, that kind of procedure is due process of law which is suitable and proper to the nature of the case, and sanctioned by the established customs and usages of the courts.”²⁶ What is unfair in one situation may be fair in another.²⁷ “The precise nature of the interest that has been adversely affected, the manner in which this was done, the reasons for doing it, the available alternatives to the procedure that was followed, the protection implicit in the office of the functionary whose conduct is challenged, the balance of hurt complained of and good accomplished—these are some of the considerations that must enter into the judicial judgment.”²⁸

Administrative Proceedings: A Fair Hearing.—With respect to action taken by administrative agencies, the Court has held that the demands of due process do not require a hearing at the initial stage, or at any particular point in the proceeding, so long as a hearing is held before the final order becomes effective.²⁹ In *Bowles v. Willingham*,³⁰ the Court sustained orders fixing maximum rents issued without a hearing at any stage, saying “where Congress has provided for judicial review after the regulations or

²³ *Hurtado v. California*, 110 U.S. 516, 528–29 (1884).

²⁴ *Id.* at 531–32, 535, 537. This flexible approach has been the one followed by the Court. E.g., *Twining v. New Jersey*, 211 U.S. 78 (1908); *Powell v. Alabama*, 287 U.S. 45 (1932); *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319 (1937); *Snyder v. Massachusetts*, 291 U.S. 97 (1934).

²⁵ *Davidson v. City of New Orleans*, 96 U.S. 97, 102 (1878); *Public Clearing House v. Coyne*, 194 U.S. 497, 508 (1904).

²⁶ *Ex parte Wall*, 107 U.S. 265, 289 (1883).

²⁷ *Compare Murray’s Lessee v. Hoboken Land & Improvement Co.*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 272 (1856), with *Ng Fung Ho v. White*, 259 U.S. 276 (1922).

²⁸ *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Comm. v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123, 163 (1951) (Justice Frankfurter concurring).

²⁹ *Opp Cotton Mills v. Administrator*, 312 U.S. 126, 152, 153 (1941).

³⁰ 321 U.S. 503, 521 (1944).

orders have been made effective it has done all that due process under the war emergency requires.” But where, after consideration of charges brought against an employer by a complaining union, the National Labor Relations Board undertook to void an agreement between an employer and another independent union, the latter was entitled to notice and an opportunity to participate in the proceedings.³¹ Although a taxpayer must be afforded a fair opportunity for hearing in connection with the collection of taxes,³² collection by distraint of personal property is lawful if the taxpayer is allowed a hearing thereafter.³³

When the Constitution requires a hearing it requires a fair one, held before a tribunal which meets currently prevailing standards of impartiality.³⁴ A party must be given an opportunity not only to present evidence, but also to know the claims of the opposing party and to meet them. Those who are brought into contest with the Government in a quasi-judicial proceeding aimed at control of their activities are entitled to be fairly advised of what the Government proposes and to be heard upon the proposal before the final command is issued.³⁵ But a variance between the charges and findings will not invalidate administrative proceedings where the record shows that at no time during the hearing was there any

³¹ Consolidated Edison Co. v. NLRB, 305 U.S. 197 (1938).

³² Central of Georgia Ry. v. Wright, 207 U.S. 127 (1907); Lipke v. Lederer, 259 U.S. 557 (1922).

³³ Phillips v. Commissioner, 283 U.S. 589 (1931). Cf. Springer v. United States, 102 U.S. 586, 593 (1881); Passavant v. United States, 148 U.S. 214 (1893). The collection of taxes is, however, very nearly a wholly unique area. See Perez v. Ledesma, 401 U.S. 82, 127 n.17 (1971) (Justice Brennan concurring in part and dissenting in part). On the limitations on private prejudgment collection, see Sniadach v. Family Finance Corp., 395 U.S. 337 (1969).

³⁴ Wong Yang Sung v. McGrath, 339 U.S. 33, 50 (1950). But see Arnett v. Kennedy, 416 U.S. 134, 170 n.5 (Justice Powell), 196–99 (Justice White) (1974) (hearing before probably-partial officer at pretermination stage).

³⁵ Margan v. United States, 304 U.S. 1, 18–19 (1938). The Court has experienced some difficulty with application of this principle to administrative hearings and subsequent review in selective service cases. Compare Gonzales v. United States, 348 U.S. 407 (1955) (conscientious objector contesting his classification before appeals board must be furnished copy of recommendation submitted by Department of Justice; only by being appraised of the arguments and conclusions upon which recommendations were based would he be enabled to present his case effectively), with United States v. Nugent, 346 U.S. 1 (1953) (in auxiliary hearing which culminated in Justice Department’s report and recommendation, it is sufficient that registrant be provided with resume of adverse evidence in FBI report because the “imperative needs of mobilization and national vigilance” mandate a minimum of “litigious interruption”), and Gonzales v. United States, 364 U.S. 59 (1960) (five-to-four decision finding no due process violation when petitioner (1) at departmental proceedings was not permitted to rebut statements attributed to him by his local board, because the statements were in his file and he had opportunity to rebut both before hearing officer and appeal board, nor (2) at trial was denied access to hearing officer’s notes and report, because he failed to show any need and did have Department recommendations).

misunderstanding as to the basis of the complaint.³⁶ The mere admission of evidence which would be inadmissible in judicial proceedings does not vitiate the order of an administrative agency.³⁷ A provision that such a body shall not be controlled by rules of evidence does not, however, justify orders without a foundation in evidence having rational probative force. Hearsay may be received in an administrative hearing and may constitute by itself substantial evidence in support of an agency determination, provided that there are present factors which assure the underlying reliability and probative value of the evidence and, at least in the case at hand, where the claimant before the agency had the opportunity to subpoena the witnesses and cross-examine them with regard to the evidence.³⁸ While the Court has recognized that in some circumstances a “fair hearing” implies a right to oral argument,³⁹ it has refused to lay down a general rule that would cover all cases.⁴⁰

In the light of the historically unquestioned power of a commanding officer summarily to exclude civilians from the area of his command, and applicable Navy regulations which confirm this authority, together with a stipulation in the contract between a restaurant concessionaire and the Naval Gun Factory forbidding employment on the premises of any person not meeting security requirements, due process was not denied by the summary exclusion on security grounds of the concessionaire’s cook, without hearing or advice as to the basis for the exclusion. The Fifth Amendment does not require a trial-type hearing in every conceivable case of governmental impairment of private interest.⁴¹ Since the Civil Rights

³⁶ *NLRB v. Mackay Radio & Tel. Co.*, 304 U.S. 333, 349–50 (1938).

³⁷ *Western Chem. Co. v. United States*, 271 U.S. 268 (1926). *See also* *United States v. Abilene & So. Ry.*, 265 U.S. 274, 288 (1924).

³⁸ *Richardson v. Perales*, 402 U.S. 389 (1971).

³⁹ *Londoner v. Denver*, 210 U.S. 373 (1908).

⁴⁰ *FCC v. WJR*, 337 U.S. 265, 274–77 (1949). *See also* *Inland Empire Council v. Millis*, 325 U.S. 697, 710 (1945). *See* Administrative Procedure Act, 60 Stat. 237 (1946), 5 U.S.C §§1001–1011. *Cf.* *Link v. Wabash R.R.*, 370 U.S. 626, 637, 646 (1962), wherein the majority rejected Justice Black’s dissenting thesis that the dismissal with prejudice of a damage suit without notice to the client and grounded upon the dilatory tactics of his attorney, and the latter’s failure to appear at a pre-trial conference, amounted to a taking of property without due process of law.

⁴¹ *Cafeteria & Restaurant Workers Union v. McElroy*, 367 U.S. 886, 900–01 (1961). Four dissenters, Justices Brennan, Black, Douglas, and Chief Justice Warren, emphasized the inconsistency between the Court’s acknowledgment that the cook had a right not to have her entry badge taken away for arbitrary reasons, and its rejection of her right to be told in detail the reasons for such action. The case has subsequently been cited as involving an “extraordinary situation.” *Boddie v. Connecticut*, 401 U.S. 371, 379 (1971); *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 264 n.10 (1970).

Manifesting a disposition to adjudicate on non-constitutional grounds dismissals of employees under the Federal Loyalty Program, the Court, in *Peters v. Hobby*, 349 U.S. 331 (1955), invalidated, as in excess of its delegated authority, a finding of rea-

Commission acts solely as an investigative and fact-finding agency and makes no adjudications, the Court, in *Hannah v. Larche*,⁴² upheld supplementary rules of procedure adopted by the Commission, independently of statutory authorization, under which state electoral officials and others accused of discrimination and summoned to appear at its hearings, are not apprised of the identity

sonable doubt as to the loyalty of the petitioner by a Loyalty Review Board which, on its own initiative, reopened his case after he had twice been cleared by his Agency Loyalty Board, and arrived at its conclusion on the basis of adverse information not offered under oath and supplied by informants, not all of whom were known to the Review Board and none of whom was disclosed to petitioner for cross-examination by him. The Board was found not to possess any power to review on its own initiative. Concurring, Justices Douglas and Black condemned as irreconcilable with due process and fair play the use of faceless informers whom the petitioner is unable to confront and cross-examine.

In *Cole v. Young*, 351 U.S. 536 (1956), also decided on the basis of statutory interpretation, there is an intimation that grave due process issues would be raised by the application to federal employees, not occupying sensitive positions, of a measure which authorized, in the interest of national security, summary suspensions and unreviewable dismissals of allegedly disloyal employees by agency heads. In *Service v. Dulles*, 354 U.S. 363 (1957), and *Vitarelli v. Seaton*, 359 U.S. 535 (1959), the Court nullified dismissals for security reasons by invoking an established rule of administrative law to the effect that an administrator must comply with procedures outlined in applicable agency regulations, notwithstanding that such regulations conform to more rigorous substantive and procedural standards than are required by Congress or that the agency action is discretionary in nature. In both of the last cited decisions, dismissals of employees as security risks were set aside by reason of the failure of the employing agency to conform the dismissal to its established security regulations. See *Accardi v. Shaughnessy*, 347 U.S. 260 (1954).

Again avoiding constitutional issues, the Court, in *Greene v. McElroy*, 360 U.S. 474 (1959), invalidated the security clearance procedure required of defense contractors by the Defense Department as being unauthorized either by law or presidential order. However, the Court suggested that it would condemn, on grounds of denial of due process, any enactment or Executive Order which sanctioned a comparable department security clearance program, under which a defense contractor's employee could have his security clearance revoked without a hearing at which he had the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses. Justices Frankfurter, Harlan, and Whittaker concurred without passing on the validity of such procedure, if authorized. Justice Clark dissented. See also the dissenting opinions of Justices Douglas and Black in *Beard v. Stahr*, 370 U.S. 41, 43 (1962), and in *Williams v. Zuckert*, 371 U.S. 531, 533 (1963).

⁴² 363 U.S. 420, 493, 499 (1960). Justices Douglas and Black dissented on the ground that when the Commission summons a person accused of violating a federal election law with a view to ascertaining whether the accusation may be sustained, it acts in lieu of a grand jury or a committing magistrate, and therefore should be obligated to afford witnesses the procedural protection herein denied. Congress subsequently amended the law to require that any person who is defamed, degraded, or incriminated by evidence or testimony presented to the Commission be afforded the opportunity to appear and be heard in executive session, with a reasonable number of additional witnesses requested by him, before the Commission can make public such evidence or testimony. Further, any such person, before the evidence or testimony is released, must be afforded an opportunity to appear publicly to state his side and to file verified statements with the Commission which it must release with any report or other document containing defaming, degrading, or incriminating evidence or testimony. Pub. L. No. 91-521, § 4, 84 Stat. 1357 (1970), 42 U.S.C. § 1975a(e). Cf. *Jenkins v. McKeithen*, 395 U.S. 411 (1969).

of their accusers, and witnesses, including the former, are not accorded a right to confront and cross-examine witnesses or accusers testifying at such hearings. Such procedural rights, the Court maintained, have not been granted by grand juries, congressional committees, or administrative agencies conducting purely fact-finding investigations in no way determining private rights.

Aliens: Entry and Deportation.—To aliens who have never been naturalized or acquired any domicile or residence in the United States, the decision of an executive or administrative officer, acting within powers expressly conferred by Congress, with regard to whether or not they shall be permitted to enter the country, is due process of law.⁴³ Since the status of a resident alien returning from abroad is equivalent to that of an entering alien, his exclusion by the Attorney General without a hearing, on the basis of secret, undisclosed information, also is deemed consistent with due process.⁴⁴ The complete authority of Congress in the matter of admission of aliens justifies delegation of power to executive officers to enforce the exclusion of aliens afflicted with contagious diseases by imposing upon the owner of the vessel bringing any such alien into the country a money penalty, collectible before and as a condition of the grant of clearance.⁴⁵ If the person seeking admission claims American citizenship, the decision of the Secretary of Labor may be made final, but it must be made after a fair hearing, however summary, and must find adequate support in the evidence. A decision based upon a record from which relevant and probative evidence has been omitted is not a fair hearing.⁴⁶ Where the statute made the decision of an immigration inspector final unless an appeal was

⁴³United States v. Ju Toy, 198 U.S. 253, 263 (1905). See also *The Japanese Immigrant Case*, 189 U.S. 86, 100 (1903). Cf. *United States ex rel. Knauff v. Shaughnessy*, 338 U.S. 537 (1950).

⁴⁴*Shaughnessy v. United States ex rel. Mezel*, 345 U.S. 206 (1953). The long continued detention on Ellis Island of a non-deportable alien does not change his status or give rise to any right of judicial review. In dissent, Justices Black and Douglas maintained that the protracted confinement on Ellis Island without a hearing could not be reconciled with due process. Also dissenting, Justices Frankfurter and Jackson contended that when indefinite commitment on Ellis Island becomes the means of enforcing exclusion, due process requires that a hearing precede such deprivation of liberty.

Cf. *Kwong Hai Chew v. Colding*, 344 U.S. 590, 596 (1953), wherein the Court, after acknowledging that resident aliens held for deportation are entitled to procedural due process, ruled that as a matter of law the Attorney General must accord notice of the charges and a hearing to a resident alien seaman who is sought to be "expelled" upon his return from a voyage overseas. The *Knauff* case was distinguished on the ground that the seaman's status was not that of an entrant, but rather that of a resident alien. And see *Leng May Ma v. Barber*, 357 U.S. 185 (1958).

⁴⁵*Oceanic Navig. Co. v. Stranahan*, 214 U.S. 320 (1909).

⁴⁶*Kwock Jan Fat v. White*, 253 U.S. 454, 457 (1920). See also *Chin Yow v. United States*, 208 U.S. 8 (1908).

taken to the Secretary of the Treasury, a person who failed to take such an appeal did not, by an allegation of citizenship, acquire a right to a judicial hearing on habeas corpus.⁴⁷

Deportation proceedings are not criminal prosecutions within the meaning of the Bill of Rights.⁴⁸ The authority to deport is drawn from the power of Congress to regulate the entrance of aliens and impose conditions upon their continued liberty to reside within the United States. Findings of fact reached by executive officers after a fair, though summary deportation hearing may be made conclusive.⁴⁹ In *Wong Yang Sung v. McGrath*,⁵⁰ however, the Court intimated that a hearing before a tribunal which did not meet the standards of impartiality embodied in the Administrative Procedure Act⁵¹ might not satisfy the requirements of due process of law. To avoid such constitutional doubts, the Court construed the law to disqualify immigration inspectors as presiding officers in deportation proceedings. Except in time of war, deportation without a fair hearing or on charges unsupported by any evidence is a de-

⁴⁷United States v. Sing Tuck, 194 U.S. 161 (1904). See also *Quon Quon Poy v. Johnson*, 273 U.S. 352, 358 (1927).

⁴⁸*Harisiades v. Shaughnessy*, 342 U.S. 580 (1952). But this fact does not mean that a person may be deported on the basis of judgment reached on the civil standard of proof, that is, by a preponderance of the evidence. Rather, the Court has held, a deportation order may only be entered if it is found by clear, unequivocal, and convincing evidence that the facts alleged as grounds for deportation are true. *Woodby v. INS*, 385 U.S. 276 (1966). *Woodby*, and similar rulings, were the result of statutory interpretation and were not constitutionally compelled. *Vance v. Terrazas*, 444 U.S. 252, 266–67 (1980).

⁴⁹*Zakonaite v. Wolf*, 226 U.S. 272 (1912). See *Jay v. Boyd*, 351 U.S. 345 (1956), wherein the Court emphasized that suspension of deportation is not a matter of right, but of grace, like probation or parole, and accordingly an alien is not entitled to a hearing which contemplates full disclosure of the considerations, specifically, information of a confidential nature pertaining to national security, which induced administrative officers to deny suspension. In four dissenting opinions, Chief Justice Warren, together with Justices Black, Frankfurter, and Douglas, found irreconcilable with a fair hearing and due process the delegation by the Attorney General of his discretion to an inferior officer and the vesting of the latter with power to deny a suspension on the basis of undisclosed evidence which may amount to no more than uncorroborated hearsay.

⁵⁰339 U.S. 33 (1950). See also *Kimm v. Rosenberg*, 363 U.S. 405, 408, 410, 415 (1960), wherein the Court ruled that when, at a hearing on his petition for suspension of a deportation order, an alien invoked the Fifth Amendment in response to questions as to Communist Party membership, and contended that the burden of proving such affiliation was on the Government, it was incumbent on the alien to supply the information inasmuch as the Government had no statutory discretion to suspend deportation of a Communist. Justices Douglas, Black, Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren dissented on the ground that exercise of the privilege is a neutral act, supporting neither innocence nor guilt and may not be utilized as evidence of dubious character. Justice Brennan also thought the Government was requiring the alien to prove non-membership when no one had intimated that he was a Communist.

⁵¹5 U.S.C. §§ 551 et seq.

nial of due process which may be corrected on habeas corpus.⁵² In contrast with the decision in *United States v. Ju Toy*⁵³ that a person seeking entrance to the United States was not entitled to a judicial hearing on his claim of citizenship, a person arrested and held for deportation is entitled to a day in court if he denies that he is an alien.⁵⁴ A closely divided Court has ruled that in time of war the deportation of an enemy alien may be ordered summarily by executive action; due process of law does not require the courts to determine the sufficiency of any hearing which is gratuitously afforded to the alien.⁵⁵

Judicial Review of Administrative Proceedings.—To the extent that constitutional rights are involved, due process of law imports a judicial review of the action of administrative or executive officers. This proposition is undisputed so far as questions of law are concerned, but the extent to which the courts should and will go in reviewing determinations of fact has been a highly controversial issue. In *St. Joseph Stock Yards Co. v. United States*,⁵⁶ the Court held that upon review of an order of the Secretary of Agriculture establishing maximum rates for services rendered by a stockyard company, due process required that the court exercise its independent judgment upon the facts to determine whether the rates were confiscatory.⁵⁷ Subsequent cases sustaining rate orders of the Federal Power Commission have not dealt explicitly with this point.⁵⁸ The Court has said simply that a person assailing such an order “carries the heavy burden of making a convincing showing that it is invalid because it is unjust and unreasonable in its consequences.”⁵⁹

⁵² *Vajtauer v. Commissioner of Immigration*, 273 U.S. 103, 106 (1927). See also *Mahler v. Eby*, 264 U.S. 32, 41 (1924).

Although in *Heikkila v. Barber*, 345 U.S. 229 (1953), the Court held that a deportation order under the Immigration Act of 1917 might be challenged only by habeas corpus, in *Shaughnessy v. Pedreiro*, 349 U.S. 48 (1955), it established that, under the Immigration Act of 1952, 8 U.S.C. §1101, the validity of a deportation order also may be contested in an action for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief. Also, a collateral challenge must be permitted to the use of a deportation proceeding as an element of a criminal offense where effective judicial review of the deportation order has been denied. *United States v. Mendoza-Lopez*, 481 U.S. 828 (1987).

⁵³ 198 U.S. 253 (1905).

⁵⁴ *Ng Fung Ho v. White*, 259 U.S. 276, 281 (1922).

⁵⁵ *Ludecke v. Watkins*, 335 U.S. 160 (1948). Three of the four dissenting Justices, Douglas, Murphy, and Rutledge, argued that even an enemy alien could not be deported without a fair hearing.

⁵⁶ 298 U.S. 38 (1936).

⁵⁷ *Id.* at 51–54. Justices Brandeis, Stone, and Cardozo, while concurring in the result, took exception to this proposition.

⁵⁸ *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575, 586 (1942); *FPC v. Hope Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591 (1944).

⁵⁹ *FPC v. Hope Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591, 602 (1944).

There has been a division of opinion in the Supreme Court with regard to what extent, if at all, proceedings before military tribunals should be reviewed by the courts for the purpose of determining compliance with the due process clause. In *In re Yamashita*,⁶⁰ the majority denied a petition for certiorari and petitions for writs of habeas corpus to review the conviction of a Japanese war criminal by a military commission sitting in the Philippine Islands. It held that since the military commission, in admitting evidence to which objection was made, had not violated any act of Congress, a treaty, or a military command defining its authority, its ruling on evidence and on the mode of conducting the proceedings were not reviewable by the courts. Again, in *Johnson v. Eisentrager*,⁶¹ the Court overruled a lower court decision, which in reliance upon the dissenting opinion in the *Yamashita* case, had held that the due process clause required that the legality of the conviction of enemy alien belligerents by military tribunals should be tested by the writ of habeas corpus.

Without dissent, the Court, in *Hiatt v. Brown*,⁶² reversed the judgment of a lower court which had discharged a prisoner serving a sentence imposed by a court-martial because of errors whereby the prisoner had been deprived of due process of law. The Court held that the court below had erred in extending its review, for the purpose of determining compliance with the due process clause, to such matters as the propositions of law set forth in the staff judge advocate's report, the sufficiency of the evidence to sustain conviction, the adequacy of the pre-trial investigation, and the competence of the law member and defense counsel. In summary, Justice Clark wrote: "In this case the court-martial had jurisdiction of the person accused and the offense charged, and acted within its lawful powers. The correction of any errors it may have committed is for the military authorities which are alone authorized to review its decision."⁶³ Similarly, in *Burns v. Wilson*,⁶⁴ the Court denied a petition for the writ to review a conviction by a military tribunal on the Island of Guam wherein the petitioners asserted that their imprisonment resulted from proceedings violative of their basic constitutional rights. Four Justices, with whom Justice Minton concurred, maintained that judicial review is limited to determining whether the military tribunal, or court-martial, had given fair consideration to each of petitioners' allegations, and does not embrace

⁶⁰ 327 U.S. 1 (1946).

⁶¹ 339 U.S. 763 (1950). Justices Douglas, Black, and Burton dissented.

⁶² 339 U.S. 103 (1950).

⁶³ *Id.* at 111.

⁶⁴ 346 U.S. 137, 140-41, 146, 147, 148, 150, 153 (1953).

an opportunity “to prove de novo” what petitioners had “failed to prove in the military courts.” According to Justice Minton, however, if the military court had jurisdiction, its action is not reviewable.

Substantive Due Process

Justice Harlan, dissenting in *Poe v. Ullman*,⁶⁵ observed that one view of due process, “ably and insistently argued . . . , sought to limit the provision to a guarantee of procedural fairness.” But, he continued, due process “in the consistent view of this Court has ever been a broader concept Were due process merely a procedural safeguard it would fail to reach those situations where the deprivation of life, liberty or property was accomplished by legislation which by operating in the future could, given even the fairest possible procedure in application to individuals, nevertheless destroy the enjoyment of all three. . . . Thus the guaranties of due process, though having their roots in Magna Carta’s ‘*per legem terrae*’ and considered as procedural safeguards ‘against executive usurpation and tyranny,’ have in this country ‘become bulwarks also against arbitrary legislation.’”

Discrimination.—“Unlike the Fourteenth Amendment, the Fifth contains no equal protection clause and it provides no guaranty against discriminatory legislation by Congress.”⁶⁶ At other times, however, the Court assumed that “discrimination, if gross enough, is equivalent to confiscation and subject under the Fifth Amendment to challenge and annulment.”⁶⁷ The theory that was to prevail seems first to have been enunciated by Chief Justice Taft, who observed that the due process and equal protection clauses are “associated” and that “[i]t may be that they overlap, that a violation of one may involve at times the violation of the other, but the spheres of the protection they offer are not coterminous. . . . [Due process] tends to secure equality of law in the sense that it makes a required minimum of protection for every one’s right of life, liberty and property, which the Congress or the legislature may not withhold. Our whole system of law is predicated on the general, fundamental principle of equality of application of the law.”⁶⁸ Thus, in *Bolling v. Sharpe*,⁶⁹ a companion case to *Brown*

⁶⁵ 367 U.S. 497, 540, 541 (1961). The internal quotation is from *Hurtado v. California*, 110 U.S. 516, 532 (1884). Development of substantive due process is noted, *supra*, pp. 1343–47 and is treated *infra*, under the Fourteenth Amendment.

⁶⁶ *Detroit Bank v. United States*, 317 U.S. 329, 337 (1943); *Helvering v. Lerner Stores Corp.*, 314 U.S. 463, 468 (1941).

⁶⁷ *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 548, 585 (1937). See also *Currin v. Wallace*, 306 U.S. 1, 13–14 (1939).

⁶⁸ *Truax v. Corrigan*, 257 U.S. 312, 331 (1921). See also *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 320 U.S. 81, 100 (1943).

⁶⁹ 347 U.S. 497, 499–500 (1954).

v. Board of Education,⁷⁰ the Court held that segregation of pupils in the public schools of the District of Columbia violated the due process clause. “The Fifth Amendment, which is applicable in the District of Columbia, does not contain an equal protection clause as does the Fourteenth Amendment which applies only to the states. But the concepts of equal protection and due process, both stemming from our American ideal of fairness, are not mutually exclusive. The ‘equal protection of the laws’ is a more explicit safeguard of prohibited unfairness than ‘due process of law,’ and, therefore, we do not imply that the two are always interchangeable phrases. But, as this Court has recognized, discrimination may be so unjustifiable as to be violative of due process.

“Although the Court has not assumed to define ‘liberty’ with any great precision, that term is not confined to mere freedom from bodily restraint. Liberty under law extends to the full range of conduct which the individual is free to pursue, and it cannot be restricted except for a proper governmental objective. Segregation in public education is not reasonably related to any proper governmental objective and thus it imposes on Negro children of the District of Columbia a burden that constitutes an arbitrary deprivation of their liberty in violation of the Due Process Clause.

“In view of our decision that the Constitution prohibits the states from maintaining racially segregated public schools, it would be unthinkable that the same Constitution would impose a lesser duty on the Federal Government.”

“Equal protection analysis in the Fifth Amendment area,” the Court has said, “is the same as that under the Fourteenth Amendment.”⁷¹ So saying, the court has applied much of its Fourteenth Amendment jurisprudence to strike down sex classifications in federal legislation,⁷² reached classifications with an adverse impact upon illegitimates,⁷³ and invalidated some welfare assistance pro-

⁷⁰ 347 U.S. 483 (1954). With respect to race discrimination, the Court had earlier utilized its supervisory authority over the lower federal courts and its power to construe statutes to reach results it might have based on the equal protection clause if the cases had come from the States. E.g., *Hurd v. Hodge*, 334 U.S. 24 (1948); *Steele v. Louisville & Nashville R.R.*, 323 U.S. 192 (1944); *Railroad Trainmen v. Howard*, 343 U.S. 768 (1952). See also *Thiel v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 328 U.S. 217 (1946).

⁷¹ *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 93 (1976); *Weinberger v. Wiesenfeld*, 420 U.S. 636, 638 n.2 (1975).

⁷² *Frontiero v. Richardson*, 411 U.S. 677 (1973); *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199 (1977). But see *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57 (1981); *Califano v. Jobst*, 434 U.S. 47 (1977).

⁷³ Compare *Jimenez v. Weinberger*, 417 U.S. 628 (1974) with *Mathews v. Lucas*, 427 U.S. 495 (1976).

visions with some interesting exceptions.⁷⁴ However, almost all legislation involves some degree of classification among particular categories of persons, things, or events, and, just as the equal protection clause itself does not outlaw “reasonable” classifications, neither is the due process clause any more intolerant of the great variety of social and economic legislation typically containing what must be arbitrary line-drawing.⁷⁵ Thus, for example, the Court has sustained a law imposing greater punishment for an offense involving rights of property of the United States than for a like offense involving the rights of property of a private person.⁷⁶ A veterans’ law which extended certain educational benefits to all veterans who had served “on active duty” and thereby excluded conscientious objectors from eligibility was held to be sustainable, it being rational for Congress to have determined that the disruption caused by military service was qualitatively and quantitatively different from that caused by alternative service, and for Congress to have so provided to make military service more attractive.⁷⁷

“The federal sovereign, like the States, must govern impartially. . . . [B]ut . . . there may be overriding national interests which justify selective federal legislation that would be unacceptable for an individual State.”⁷⁸ The paramount federal power over immigration and naturalization is the principal example, although

⁷⁴ *Department of Agriculture v. Murry*, 413 U.S. 508 (1973). See also *Department of Agriculture v. Moreno*, 413 U.S. 528 (1973).

⁷⁵ *Richardson v. Belcher*, 404 U.S. 78, 81 (1971); *Lyng v. Castillo*, 477 U.S. 635 (1986) (Food Stamp Act limitation of benefits to households of related persons who prepare meals together). With respect to courts and criminal legislation, see *Hurtado v. United States*, 410 U.S. 578 (1973); *Marshall v. United States*, 414 U.S. 417 (1974); *United States v. MacCollom*, 426 U.S. 317 (1976).

⁷⁶ *Hill v. United States ex rel. Weiner*, 300 U.S. 105, 109 (1937). See also *District of Columbia v. Brooke*, 214 U.S. 138 (1909); *Panama R.R. v. Johnson*, 264 U.S. 375 (1924); *Detroit Bank v. United States*, 317 U.S. 329 (1943).

⁷⁷ *Johnson v. Robison*, 415 U.S. 361 (1974). See also *Schlesinger v. Ballard*, 419 U.S. 498 (1975) (military law that classified men more adversely than women deemed rational because it had the effect of compensating for prior discrimination against women). *Wayte v. United States*, 470 U.S. 598 (1985) (selective prosecution of persons who turned themselves in or were reported by others as having failed to register for the draft does not deny equal protection, there being no showing that these men were selected for prosecution because of their protest activities).

⁷⁸ *Hampton v. Mow Sun Wong*, 426 U.S. 88, 100 (1976). Thus, the power over immigration and aliens permitted federal discrimination on the basis of alienage, *Hampton*, supra (employment restrictions like those previously voided when imposed by States), durational residency, *Mathews v. Diaz*, 426 U.S. 67 (1976) (similar rules imposed by States previously voided), and illegitimacy, *Fiallo v. Bell*, 430 U.S. 787 (1977) (similar rules by States would be voided). Racial preferences and discriminations in immigration have had a long history, e.g., *The Chinese Exclusion Cases*, 130 U.S. 581 (1889), and the power continues today, e.g., *Dunn v. INS*, 499 F.2d 856, 858 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 419 U.S. 1106 (1975); *Narenji v. Civiletti*, 617 F.2d 745, 748 (D.C. Cir. 1979), cert. denied, 446 U.S. 957 (1980), although Congress has removed most such classifications from the statute books.

there are undoubtedly others, of the national government being able to classify upon some grounds—alienage, naturally, but also other suspect and quasi-suspect categories as well—that would result in invalidation were a state to enact them. The instances may be relatively few, but they do exist.

Congressional Police Measures.—Numerous regulations of a police nature, imposed under powers specifically granted to the Federal Government, have been sustained over objections based on the due process clause. Congress may require the owner of a vessel entering United States ports, and on which alien seamen are afflicted with specified diseases, to bear the expense of hospitalizing such persons.⁷⁹ It may prohibit the transportation in interstate commerce of filled milk⁸⁰ or the importation of convict-made goods into any State where their receipt, possession, or sale is a violation of local law.⁸¹ It may require employers to bargain collectively with representatives of their employees chosen in a manner prescribed by law, to reinstate employees discharged in violation of law, and to permit use of a company-owned hall for union meetings.⁸² Subject to First Amendment considerations, Congress may regulate the postal service to deny its facilities to persons who would use them for purposes contrary to public policy.⁸³

Congressional Regulation of Public Utilities.—Inasmuch as Congress, in giving federal agencies jurisdiction over various public utilities, usually has prescribed standards substantially identical with those by which the Supreme Court has tested the validity of state action, the review of agency orders seldom has turned on constitutional issues. In two cases, however, maximum rates prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture for stockyard companies were sustained only after detailed consideration of numerous items excluded from the rate base or from operating expenses, apparently on the assumption that error with respect to any such item would render the rates confiscatory and void.⁸⁴ A few years later, in *FPC v. Hope Gas Co.*,⁸⁵ the Court adopted an entirely dif-

⁷⁹ *United States v. New York S.S. Co.*, 269 U.S. 304 (1925).

⁸⁰ *United States v. Carolene Products Co.*, 304 U.S. 144 (1938); *Carolene Products Co. v. United States*, 323 U.S. 18 (1944).

⁸¹ *Kentucky Whip & Collar Co. v. Illinois Cent. R.R.*, 299 U.S. 334 (1937).

⁸² E.g., *Virginian Ry. v. System Federation No. 40*, 300 U.S. 515 (1937); *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*, 301 U.S. 1 (1937); *Railway Employees' Dep't v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (1956); *NLRB v. Stowe Spinning Co.*, 336 U.S. 226 (1949); *NLRB v. Mackay Radio & Tel. Co.*, 304 U.S. 333 (1938).

⁸³ *Ex parte Jackson*, 96 U.S. 727 (1878); *Rowan v. Post Office Dep't*, 397 U.S. 728 (1970).

⁸⁴ *St. Joseph Stock Yards Co. v. United States*, 298 U.S. 38 (1936); *Denver Union Stock Yards Co. v. United States*, 304 U.S. 470 (1938).

⁸⁵ 320 U.S. 591 (1944). The result of this case had been foreshadowed by the opinion of Justice Stone in *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575, 586

ferent approach. It took the position that the validity of the Commission's order depended upon whether the impact or total effect of the order is just and reasonable, rather than upon the method of computing the rate base. Rates which enable a company to operate successfully, to maintain its financial integrity, to attract capital, and to compensate its investors for the risks assumed cannot be condemned as unjust and unreasonable even though they might produce only a meager return in a rate base computed by the "present fair value" method.

Orders prescribing the form and contents of accounts kept by public utility companies,⁸⁶ and statutes requiring a private carrier to furnish the Interstate Commerce Commission with information for valuing its property⁸⁷ have been sustained against the objection that they were arbitrary and invalid. An order of the Secretary of Commerce directed to a single common carrier by water requiring it to file a summary of its books and records pertaining to its rates was also held not to violate the Fifth Amendment.⁸⁸

Congressional Regulation of Railroads.—Legislation or administrative orders pertaining to railroads have been challenged repeatedly under the due process clause but seldom with success. Orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission establishing through routes and joint rates have been sustained,⁸⁹ as has its division of joint rates to give a weaker group of carriers a greater share of such rates where the proportion allotted to the stronger group was adequate to avoid confiscation.⁹⁰ The recapture of one half of the earnings of railroads in excess of a fair net operating income, such recaptured earnings to be available as a revolving fund for loans to weaker roads, was held valid on the ground that any carrier earning an excess held it as trustee.⁹¹ An order enjoining certain steam railroads from discriminating against an electric railroad by denying it reciprocal switching privileges did not violate the Fifth Amendment even though its practical effect was to admit the electric road to a part of the business being adequately handled by the steam roads.⁹² Similarly, the fact that a rule concerning the allot-

(1942), to the effect that the Commission was not bound to the use of any single formula or combination of formulas in determining rates.

⁸⁶ *A. T. & T. Co. v. United States*, 299 U.S. 232 (1936); *United States v. New York Tel. Co.*, 326 U.S. 638 (1946); *Northwestern Co. v. FPC*, 321 U.S. 119 (1944).

⁸⁷ *Valvoline Oil Co. v. United States*, 308 U.S. 141 (1939); *Champlin Rfg. Co. v. United States*, 329 U.S. 29 (1946).

⁸⁸ *Isbrandtsen-Moller Co. v. United States*, 300 U.S. 146 (1937).

⁸⁹ *St. Louis S.W. Ry. v. United States*, 245 U.S. 136, 143 (1917).

⁹⁰ *New England Divisions Case*, 261 U.S. 184 (1923).

⁹¹ *Dayton-Goose Creek Ry. v. United States*, 263 U.S. 456, 481, 483 (1924).

⁹² *Chicago, I. & L. Ry. v. United States*, 270 U.S. 287 (1926). *Cf.* *Seaboard Air Line Ry. v. United States*, 254 U.S. 57 (1920).

ment of coal cars operated to restrict the use of private cars did not amount to a taking of property.⁹³ Railroad companies were not denied due process of law by a statute forbidding them to transport in interstate commerce commodities which have been manufactured, mined or produced by them.⁹⁴ An order approving a lease of one railroad by another, upon condition that displaced employees of the lessor should receive partial compensation for the loss suffered by reason of the lease⁹⁵ is consonant with due process of law. A law prohibiting the issuance of free passes was held constitutional even as applied to abolish rights created by a prior agreement whereby the carrier bound itself to issue such passes annually for life, in settlement of a claim for personal injuries.⁹⁶ A non-arbitrary Interstate Commerce Commission order establishing a non-compensatory rate for carriage of certain commodities does not violate the due process or just compensation clauses as long as the public interest thereby is served and the rates as a whole yield just compensation.⁹⁷

Occasionally, however, regulatory action has been held invalid under the due process clause. An order issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission relieving short line railroads from the obligation to pay the usual fixed sum per day rental for cars used on foreign roads for a space of two days was held to be arbitrary and invalid.⁹⁸ A retirement act which made eligible for pensions all persons who had been in the service of any railroad within one year prior to the adoption of the law, counted past unconnected service of an employee toward the requirement for a pension without any contribution therefor, and treated all carriers as a single employer and pooled their assets, without regard to their individual obligations, was held unconstitutional.⁹⁹

Taxation.—In laying taxes, the Federal Government is less narrowly restricted by the Fifth Amendment than are the States by the Fourteenth. The Federal Government may tax property belonging to its citizens, even if such property is never situated within the jurisdiction of the United States,¹⁰⁰ and it may tax the income of a citizen resident abroad, which is derived from property located at his residence.¹⁰¹ The difference is explained by the fact that pro-

⁹³ Assigned Car Cases, 274 U.S. 564, 575 (1927).

⁹⁴ United States v. Delaware & Hudson Co., 213 U.S. 366, 405, 411, 415 (1909).

⁹⁵ United States v. Lowden, 308 U.S. 225 (1939).

⁹⁶ Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Mottley, 219 U.S. 467 (1911).

⁹⁷ B. & O. R.R. v. United States, 345 U.S. 146 (1953).

⁹⁸ Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry. v. United States, 284 U.S. 80 (1931).

⁹⁹ Railroad Retirement Bd. v. Alton R.R., 295 U.S. 330 (1935). *But cf.* Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co., 428 U.S. 1, 19 (1976).

¹⁰⁰ United States v. Bennett, 232 U.S. 299, 307 (1914).

¹⁰¹ Cook v. Tait, 265 U.S. 47 (1924).

tection of the Federal Government follows the citizen wherever he goes, whereas the benefits of state government accrue only to persons and property within the State's borders. The Supreme Court has said that, in the absence of an equal protection clause, "a claim of unreasonable classification or inequality in the incidence or application of a tax raises no question under the Fifth Amendment. . . ." ¹⁰² It has sustained, over charges of unfair differentiation between persons, a graduated income tax, ¹⁰³ a higher tax on oleomargarine than on butter, ¹⁰⁴ an excise tax on "puts" but not on "call," ¹⁰⁵ a tax on the income of business operated by corporations but not on similar enterprises carried on by individuals, ¹⁰⁶ an income tax on foreign corporations, based on their income from sources within the United States, while domestic corporations are taxed on income from all sources, ¹⁰⁷ a tax on foreign-built but not upon domestic yachts, ¹⁰⁸ a tax on employers of eight or more persons, with exemptions for agricultural labor and domestic service, ¹⁰⁹ a gift tax law embodying a plan of graduations and exemptions under which donors of the same amount might be liable for different sums, ¹¹⁰ an Alaska statute imposing license taxes only on nonresident fisherman, ¹¹¹ an act which taxed the manufacture of oil and fertilizer from herring at a higher rate than similar processing of other fish or fish offal, ¹¹² an excess profits tax which defined "invested capital" with reference to the original cost of the property rather than to its present value, ¹¹³ an undistributed profits tax in the computation of which special credits were allowed to certain taxpayers, ¹¹⁴ an estate tax upon the estate of a deceased spouse in respect of the moiety of the surviving spouse where the effect of the dissolution of the community is to enhance the value of the survivor's moiety, ¹¹⁵ and a tax on nonprofit mutual insurers although such insurers organized before a certain date were exempt inas-

¹⁰² *Helvering v. Lerner Stores Co.*, 314 U.S. 463, 468 (1941). *But see supra*, pp. 1356–59.

¹⁰³ *Brushaber v. Union Pac. R.R.*, 240 U.S. 1, 24 (1916).

¹⁰⁴ *McCray v. United States*, 195 U.S. 27, 61 (1904).

¹⁰⁵ *Treat v. White*, 181 U.S. 264 (1901).

¹⁰⁶ *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*, 220 U.S. 107 (1911).

¹⁰⁷ *National Paper Co. v. Bowers*, 266 U.S. 373 (1924).

¹⁰⁸ *Billings v. United States*, 232 U.S. 261, 282 (1914).

¹⁰⁹ *Steward Machine Co. v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 548 (1937); *Helvering v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 619 (1937).

¹¹⁰ *Bromley v. McCaughn*, 280 U.S. 124 (1929).

¹¹¹ *Haavik v. Alaska Packers' Ass'n*, 263 U.S. 510 (1924).

¹¹² *Alaska Fish Co. v. Smith*, 255 U.S. 44 (1921).

¹¹³ *LaBelle Iron Works v. United States*, 256 U.S. 377 (1921).

¹¹⁴ *Helvering v. Northwest Steel Mills*, 311 U.S. 46 (1940).

¹¹⁵ *Fernandez v. Wiener*, 326 U.S. 340 (1945); *cf. Coolidge v. Long*, 282 U.S. 582 (1931).

much as a continuing exemption for all insurers would have led to their multiplication to the detriment of other federal programs.¹¹⁶

Retroactive Taxes.—It has been customary from the beginning for Congress to give some retroactive effect to its tax laws, usually making them effective from the beginning of the tax year or from the date of introduction of the bill that became the law.¹¹⁷ Application of an income tax statute to the entire calendar year in which enactment took place has never, barring some peculiar circumstance, been deemed to deny due process.¹¹⁸ “Taxation is neither a penalty imposed on the taxpayer nor a liability which he assumes by contract. It is but a way of apportioning the cost of government among those who in some measure are privileged to enjoy its benefits and must bear its burdens. Since no citizen enjoys immunity from that burden, its retroactive imposition does not necessarily infringe due process, and to challenge the present tax it is not enough to point out that the taxable event, the receipt of income, antedated the statute.”¹¹⁹ A special income tax on profits realized by the sale of silver, retroactive for 35 days, which was approximately the period during which the silver purchase bill was before Congress, was held valid.¹²⁰ An income tax law, made retroactive to the beginning of the calendar year in which it was adopted, was found constitutional as applied to the gain from the sale, shortly before its enactment, of property received as a gift during the year.¹²¹ Retroactive assessment of penalties for fraud or negligence,¹²² or of an additional tax on the income of a corporation used to avoid a surtax on its shareholder,¹²³ does not deprive the taxpayer of property without due process of law.

An additional excise tax imposed upon property still held for sale, after one excise tax had been paid by a previous owner, does not violate the due process clause.¹²⁴ Similarly upheld were a transfer tax measured in part by the value of property held jointly

¹¹⁶United States v. Maryland Savings-Share Ins. Corp., 400 U.S. 4 (1970).

¹¹⁷United States v. Darusmont, 449 U.S. 292, 296–97 (1981).

¹¹⁸Stockdale v. Insurance Companies, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 323, 331, 332 (1874); Brushaber v. Union Pac. R.R., 240 U.S. 1, 20 (1916); Cooper v. United States, 280 U.S. 409, 411 (1930); Milliken v. United States, 283 U.S. 15, 21 (1931); Reinecke v. Smith, 289 U.S. 172, 175 (1933); United States v. Hudson, 299 U.S. 498, 500–01 (1937); Welch v. Henry, 305 U.S. 134, 146, 148–50 (1938); Fernandez v. Wiener, 326 U.S. 340, 355 (1945); United States v. Darusmont, 449 U.S. 292, 297 (1981).

¹¹⁹Welch v. Henry, 305 U.S. 134, 146–47 (1938).

¹²⁰United States v. Hudson, 299 U.S. 498 (1937). See also Stockdale v. Insurance Companies, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 323, 331, 341 (1874); Brushaber v. Union Pac. R.R., 240 U.S. 1, 20 (1916); Lynch v. Hornby, 247 U.S. 339, 343 (1918).

¹²¹Cooper v. United States, 280 U.S. 409 (1930); see also Reinecke v. Smith, 289 U.S. 172 (1933).

¹²²Helvering v. Mitchell, 303 U.S. 391 (1938).

¹²³Helvering v. National Grocery Co., 304 U.S. 282 (1938).

¹²⁴Patton v. Brady, 184 U.S. 608 (1902).

by a husband and wife, including that which comes to the joint tenancy as a gift from the decedent spouse¹²⁵ and the inclusion in the gross income of the settlor of income accruing to a revocable trust during any period when the settlor had power to revoke or modify it.¹²⁶

However, the Court has treated differently gift taxes imposed retroactively upon gifts that were made and completely vested before the enactment of the taxing statute,¹²⁷ at least in part on the basis that such imposition unfairly treats a taxpayer who could have altered his behavior to avoid the tax if it could have been anticipated by him at the time the transaction was effected. Also, a conclusive presumption that gifts made within two years of death were made in contemplation of death was condemned as arbitrary and capricious, even with respect to subsequent transfers.¹²⁸

Deprivation of Property: Retroactive Legislation.—Federal regulation of future action, based upon rights previously acquired by the person regulated, is not prohibited by the Constitution. So long as the Constitution authorizes the subsequently enacted legislation, the fact that its provisions limit or interfere with previously acquired rights does not ordinarily condemn it. The imposition upon coal mine operators, and ultimately coal consumers, of the liability of compensating former employees, who had terminated work in the industry before passage of the law, for black lung disabilities contracted in the course of their work, was sustained by the Court as a rational measure to spread the costs of the employees' disabilities to those who had profited from the fruits of their labor.¹²⁹ Legislation readjusting rights and burdens is not unlawful solely because it upsets otherwise settled expectations, but it must take account of the realities previously existing, i.e., that the danger may not have been known or appreciated, or that actions might have been taken in reliance upon the current state of the law; therefore, legislation imposing liability on the basis of deterrence or of blameworthiness might not have passed muster. The Court has applied *Turner Elkhorn* in upholding retroactive applica-

¹²⁵ *Tyler v. United States*, 281 U.S. 497 (1930); *United States v. Jacobs*, 306 U.S. 363 (1939).

¹²⁶ *Reinecke v. Smith*, 289 U.S. 172 (1933).

¹²⁷ *Untermeyer v. Anderson*, 276 U.S. 440 (1928); *Blodgett v. Holden*, 275 U.S. 142 (1927), modified, 276 U.S. 594 (1928); *Nichols v. Coolidge*, 274 U.S. 531 (1927). *Untermeyer* was distinguished in *United States v. Hemme*, 476 U.S. 558 (1986), upholding retroactive application of unified estate and gift taxation to a taxpayer as to whom the overall impact was minimal and not oppressive.

¹²⁸ *Heiner v. Donnan*, 285 U.S. 312 (1932).

¹²⁹ *Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co.*, 428 U.S. 1, 14–20 (1976). *But see id.* at 38 (Justice Powell concurring) (questioning application of retroactive cost-spreading).

tion of pension plan termination provisions to cover the period of congressional consideration, declaring that the test for retroactive application of legislation adjusting economic burdens is merely whether “the retroactive application . . . is itself justified by a rational legislative purpose.”¹³⁰

Rent regulations were sustained as applied to prevent execution of a judgment of eviction rendered by a state court before the enabling legislation was passed.¹³¹ For the reason that “those who do business in the regulated field cannot object if the legislative scheme is buttressed by subsequent amendments to achieve the legislative end,” no vested right to use housing, built with the aid of FHA mortgage insurance for transient purposes, was acquired by one obtaining insurance under an earlier section of the National Housing Act, which, though silent in this regard, was contemporaneously construed as barring rental to transients, and was later modified by an amendment which expressly excluded such use.¹³² An order by an Area Rent Director reducing an unapproved rental and requiring the landlord to refund the excess previously collected, was held, with one dissenting vote, not to be the type of retroactivity which is condemned by law.¹³³ The application of a statute providing for tobacco marketing quotas, to a crop planted prior to its enactment, was held not to deprive the producers of property without due process of law since it operated, not upon production, but upon the marketing of the product after the act was passed.¹³⁴

In the exercise of its comprehensive powers over revenue, finance, and currency, Congress may make Treasury notes legal tender in payment of debts previously contracted¹³⁵ and may invalidate provisions in private contracts calling for payment in gold coin,¹³⁶ but rights against the United States arising out of contract

¹³⁰*Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. v. R.A. Gray & Co.*, 467 U.S. 717, 730 (1984). *Accord*, *United States v. Sperry Corp.*, 493 U.S. 52, 65 (1989) (upholding imposition of user fee on claimants paid by Iran-United States Claims Tribunal prior to enactment of fee statute).

¹³¹*Fleming v. Rhodes*, 331 U.S. 100, 107 (1947).

¹³²*FHA v. The Darlington, Inc.*, 358 U.S. 84, 89–91, 92–93 (1958). Dissenting, Justices Harlan, Frankfurter, and Whittaker maintained that under the due process clause the United States, in its contractual relations, is bound by the same rules as private individuals unless the action taken falls within the general federal regulatory power.

¹³³*Woods v. Stone*, 333 U.S. 472 (1948).

¹³⁴*Mulford v. Smith*, 307 U.S. 38 (1939). An increase in the penalty for production of wheat in excess of quota was valid as applied retroactively to wheat already planted, where Congress concurrently authorized a substantial increase in the amount of the loan that might be made to cooperating farmers upon stored “farm marketing excess wheat.” *Wickard v. Filburn*, 317 U.S. 111 (1942).

¹³⁵*Legal Tender Cases (Knox v. Lee)*, 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 457, 551 (1871).

¹³⁶*Norman v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 294 U.S. 240 (1935).

are more strongly protected by the due process clause. Hence, a law purporting to abrogate a clause in government bonds calling for payment in gold coin was invalid,¹³⁷ and a statute abrogating contracts of war risk insurance was held unconstitutional as applied to outstanding policies.¹³⁸

The due process clause has been successfully invoked to defeat retroactive invasion or destruction of property rights in a few cases. A revocation by the Secretary of the Interior of previous approval of plats and papers showing that a railroad was entitled to land under a grant was held void as an attempt to deprive the company of its property without due process of law.¹³⁹ The exception of the period of federal control from the time limit set by law upon claims against carriers for damages caused by misrouting of goods, was read as prospective only because the limitation was an integral part of the liability, not merely a matter of remedy, and would violate the Fifth Amendment if retroactive.¹⁴⁰

Bankruptcy Legislation.—In acting pursuant to its power to enact uniform bankruptcy legislation, Congress has regularly authorized retrospective impairment of contractual obligations,¹⁴¹ but the due process clause (by itself or infused with takings principles) constitutes a limitation upon Congress' power to deprive persons of more secure forms of property, such as the rights secured creditors have to obtain repayment of a debt. The Court had long followed a rule of construction favoring prospective-only application of bankruptcy laws, absent a clear showing of congressional intent,¹⁴² but it was not until 1935 that the Court actually held unconstitutional a retrospective law. Struck down by the Court was the Frazier-Lemke Act, which by its terms applied only retrospectively, and which authorized a court to stay proceedings for the foreclosure of

¹³⁷ *Perry v. United States*, 294 U.S. 330 (1935).

¹³⁸ *Lynch v. United States*, 292 U.S. 571 (1934). See also *De La Rama S.S. Co. v. United States*, 344 U.S. 386 (1953). Notice that these kinds of cases are precisely the ones that would be condemned under the contract clause, even under the relaxed scrutiny now employed, if the action were taken by a State. E.g., *United States Trust Co. v. New Jersey*, 431 U.S. 1 (1977). "Less searching standards" are imposed by the Due Process Clauses than by the Contract Clause. *Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. v. R.A. Gray & Co.*, 467 U.S. 717, 733 (1984). Also, statutory reservation of the right to amend an agreement can defuse most such constitutional issues. *Bowen v. Public Agencies Opposed to Social Security Entrapment*, 477 U.S. 41 (1986) (amendment of Social Security Act to prevent termination by state when termination notice already filed).

¹³⁹ *Noble v. Union River Logging R.R.*, 147 U.S. 165 (1893).

¹⁴⁰ *Danzer Co. v. Gulf R.R.*, 268 U.S. 633 (1925).

¹⁴¹ E.g., *Hanover National Bank v. Moyses*, 186 U.S. 181, 188 (1902); *Continental Illinois Nat'l Bank & Trust Co. v. Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry.*, 294 U.S. 648, 673-75 (1935).

¹⁴² *Holt v. Henley*, 232 U.S. 637, 639-40 (1914). See also *Auffm'ordt v. Rasin*, 102 U.S. 620, 622 (1881).

a mortgage for five years, the debtor to remain in possession at a reasonable rental, with the option of purchasing the property at its appraised value at the end of the stay. The Act offended the Fifth Amendment, the Court held, because it deprived the creditor of substantial property rights acquired prior to the passage of the act.¹⁴³ However, a modified law, under which the stay was subject to termination by the court and which continued the right of the creditor to have the property sold to pay the debt, was sustained.¹⁴⁴

Without violation of the due process clause, the sale of collateral under the terms of a contract may be enjoined, if such sale would hinder the preparation or consummation of a proposed railroad reorganization, provided the injunction does no more than delay the enforcement of the contract.¹⁴⁵ A provision that claims resulting from rejection of an unexpired lease should be treated as on a parity with provable debts, but limited to an amount equal to three years rent, was held not to amount to a taking of property without due process of law, since it provided a new and more certain remedy for a limited amount, in lieu of an existing remedy inefficient and uncertain in result.¹⁴⁶ A right of redemption allowed by state law upon foreclosure of a mortgage was unavailing to defeat a plan for reorganization of a debtor corporation where the trial court found that the claims of junior lienholders had no value.¹⁴⁷

Right to Sue the Government.—A right to sue the Government on a contract is a privilege, not a property right protected by the Constitution.¹⁴⁸ The right to sue for recovery of taxes paid may be conditioned upon an appeal to the Commissioner and his refusal to refund.¹⁴⁹ There was no denial of due process when Congress took away the right to sue for recovery of taxes, where the claim for recovery was without substantial equity, having arisen from the

¹⁴³ *Louisville Joint Stock Land Bank v. Radford*, 295 U.S. 555 (1935).

¹⁴⁴ *Wright v. Vinton Branch*, 300 U.S. 440 (1937). The relatively small modifications that the Court accepted as making the difference in validity, and the fact that subsequently the Court interpreted the statute so as to make smaller the modifications, *John Hancock Mutual Life Ins. Co. v. Bartels*, 308 U.S. 180, 184 & n.3 (1939); *Wright v. Union Central Ins. Co.*, 311 U.S. 273, 278–79 (1940), has created differences of opinion with respect to whether *Radford* remains sound law. *Cf. Helvering v. Griffiths*, 318 U.S. 371, 400–01 & n.52 (1943) (suggesting *Radford* might not have survived *Vinton Branch*).

¹⁴⁵ *Continental Illinois Nat'l Bank & Trust Co. v. Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry.*, 294 U.S. 648 (1935).

¹⁴⁶ *Kuchner v. Irving Trust Co.*, 299 U.S. 445 (1937).

¹⁴⁷ *In re 620 Church Street Corp.*, 299 U.S. 24 (1936). In the context of Congress' plan to save major railroad systems, *see Regional Rail Reorganization Act Cases*, 419 U.S. 102 (1974).

¹⁴⁸ *Lynch v. United States*, 292 U.S. 571, 581 (1934).

¹⁴⁹ *Dodge v. Osborn*, 240 U.S. 118 (1916).

mistake of administrative officials in allowing the statute of limitations to run before collecting a tax.¹⁵⁰ The denial to taxpayers of the right to sue for refund of processing and floor stock taxes collected under a law subsequently held unconstitutional, and the substitution of a new administrative procedure for the recovery of such sums, was held valid.¹⁵¹ Congress may cut off the right to recover taxes illegally collected by ratifying the imposition and collection thereof, where it could lawfully have authorized such exactions prior to their collection.¹⁵²

Congressional Power to Abolish Common Law Judicial Actions.—Similarly, it is clearly settled that “[a] person has no property, no vested interest, in any rule of the common law.”¹⁵³ It follows, therefore, that Congress in its discretion may abolish common law actions, replacing them with other judicial actions or with administrative remedies at its discretion. There is slight intimation in some of the cases that if Congress does abolish a common law action it *must* either duplicate the recovery or provide a reasonable substitute remedy.¹⁵⁴ Such a holding seems only remotely likely,¹⁵⁵ but some difficulties may be experienced with respect to legislation that retrospectively affects rights to sue, such as shortening or lengthening statutes of limitation, and the like, although these have typically risen in state contexts. In one interesting decision, the Court did sustain an award of additional compensation under the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act, made pursuant to a private act of Congress passed after expiration of the period for review of the original award, directing the Commission to review the case and issue a new order, the challenge being made by the employer and insurer.¹⁵⁶

Deprivation of Liberty: Economic Legislation.—The proscription of deprivation of liberty without due process, insofar as substantive due process was involved, was long restricted to invoca-

¹⁵⁰ *Graham & Foster v. Goodcell*, 282 U.S. 409 (1931).

¹⁵¹ *Anniston Mfg. Co. v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 337 (1937).

¹⁵² *United States v. Heinszen & Co.*, 206 U.S. 370, 386 (1907).

¹⁵³ *Second Employers’ Liability Cases*, 223 U.S. 1, 50 (1912). See also *Silver v. Silver*, 280 U.S. 117, 122 (1929) (a state case).

¹⁵⁴ The intimation stems from *New York Central R.R. v. White*, 243 U.S. 188 (1917) (a state case, involving the constitutionality of a workmen’s compensation law). While denying any person’s vested interest in the continuation of any particular right to sue, *id.* at 198, the Court did seem twice to suggest that abolition without a reasonable substitute would raise due process problems. *Id.* at 201. In *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Env’tl. Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 87–92 (1978), it noticed the contention but passed it by because the law at issue was a reasonable substitute.

¹⁵⁵ It is more likely with respect to congressional provision of a statutory substitute for a cause of action arising directly out of a constitutional guarantee. E.g., *Carlson v. Green*, 446 U.S. 14, 18–23 (1980).

¹⁵⁶ *Paramino Co. v. Marshall*, 309 U.S. 370 (1940).

tion against legislation deemed to abridge liberty of contract.¹⁵⁷ The two leading cases invalidating federal legislation, however, have both been overruled, as the Court adopted a very restrained standard of review of economic legislation.¹⁵⁸ The Court's "hands-off" policy with regard to reviewing economic legislation is quite pronounced.¹⁵⁹

NATIONAL EMINENT DOMAIN POWER

Overview

"The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution says 'nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.' This is a tacit recognition of a preexisting power to take private property for public use, rather than a grant of new power."¹⁶⁰ Eminent domain "appertains to every independent government. It requires no constitutional recognition; it is an attribute of sovereignty."¹⁶¹ In the early years of the nation the federal power of eminent domain lay dormant,¹⁶² and it was not until 1876 that its existence was recognized by the Supreme Court. In *Kohl v. United States*¹⁶³ any doubts were laid to rest, as the Court affirmed that the power was as necessary to the existence of the National Government as it was to the existence of any State. The federal power of eminent domain is, of course, limited by the grants of power in the Constitution, so that property may only be taken for the effectuation of a granted power,¹⁶⁴ but once this is conceded the ambit of national powers is so wide-ranging that vast numbers of objects

¹⁵⁷ See "liberty of contract" heading under Fourteenth Amendment, *infra*.

¹⁵⁸ *Adair v. United States*, 208 U.S. 161 (1908), overruled in substance by *Phelps Dodge Corp. v. NLRB*, 313 U.S. 177 (1941); *Adkins v. Children's Hospital*, 261 U.S. 525 (1923), overruled by *West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish*, 300 U.S. 379 (1937).

¹⁵⁹ E.g., *United States Railroad Retirement Board v. Fritz*, 449 U.S. 166 (1981); *Schweiker v. Wilson*, 450 U.S. 221 (1981).

¹⁶⁰ *United States v. Carmack*, 329 U.S. 230, 241–42 (1946). The same is true of "just compensation" clauses in state constitutions. *Boom Co. v. Patterson*, 98 U.S. 403, 406 (1879). For in-depth analysis of the eminent domain power, see 1 NICHOLS' THE LAW OF EMINENT DOMAIN (J. Sackman, 3d rev. ed. 1973); and R. Meltz, *When the United States Takes Property: Legal Principles*, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE REPORT 91–339 A (1991) (revised periodically).

¹⁶¹ *Boom Co. v. Patterson*, 98 U.S. 403, 406 (1879).

¹⁶² Prior to this time, the Federal Government pursued condemnation proceedings in state courts and commonly relied on state law. *Kohl v. United States*, 91 U.S. 367, 373 (1876); *United States v. Jones*, 109 U.S. 513 (1883). The first general statutory authority for proceedings in federal courts was not enacted until 1888. Act of Aug. 1, 1888, ch. 728, 25 Stat. 357. See 1 NICHOLS' THE LAW OF EMINENT DOMAIN § 1.24 (J. Sackman, 3d rev. ed. 1973).

¹⁶³ 91 U.S. 367 (1876).

¹⁶⁴ *United States v. Gettysburg Electric Ry.*, 160 U.S. 668, 679 (1896).

may be effected.¹⁶⁵ This prerogative of the National Government can neither be enlarged nor diminished by a State.¹⁶⁶ Whenever lands in a State are needed for a public purpose, Congress may authorize that they be taken, either by proceedings in the courts of the State, with its consent, or by proceedings in the courts of the United States, with or without any consent or concurrent act of the State.¹⁶⁷

“Prior to the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment,” the power of eminent domain of state governments “was unrestrained by any federal authority.”¹⁶⁸ The just compensation provision of the Fifth Amendment did not apply to the States,¹⁶⁹ and at first the contention that the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment afforded property owners the same measure of protection against the States as the Fifth Amendment did against the Federal Government was rejected.¹⁷⁰ However, within a decade the Court rejected the opposing argument that the amount of compensation to be awarded in a state eminent domain case is solely a matter of local law. On the contrary, the Court ruled, although a state “legislature may prescribe a form of procedure to be observed in the taking of private property for public use, . . . it is not due process of law if provision be not made for compensation. . . . The mere form of the proceeding instituted against the owner . . . cannot convert the process used into due process of law, if the necessary result be to deprive him of his property without compensation.”¹⁷¹ While the guarantees of just compensation flow from two

¹⁶⁵ E.g., *California v. Central Pacific Railroad*, 127 U.S. 1, 39 (1888) (highways); *Luxton v. North River Bridge Co.*, 153 U.S. 525 (1894) (interstate bridges); *Cherokee Nation v. Southern Kansas Ry.*, 135 U.S. 641 (1890) (railroads); *Albert Hanson Lumber Co. v. United States* 261 U.S. 581 (1923) (canal); *Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288 (1936) (hydroelectric power). “Once the object is within the authority of Congress, the right to realize it through the exercise of eminent domain is clear. For the power of eminent domain is merely the means to the end.” *Berman v. Parker*, 348 U.S. 26, 33 (1954).

¹⁶⁶ *Kohl v. United States*, 91 U.S. 367 374 (1876).

¹⁶⁷ *Chappell v. United States*, 160 U.S. 499, 510 (1896). The fact that land included in a federal reservoir project is owned by a state, or that its taking may impair the state’s tax revenue, or that the reservoir will obliterate part of the state’s boundary and interfere with the state’s own project for water development and conservation, constitutes no barrier to the condemnation of the land by the United States. *Oklahoma ex rel. Phillips v. Guy F. Atkinson Co.*, 313 U.S. 508 (1941). So too, land held in trust and used by a city for public purposes may be condemned. *United States v. Carmack*, 329 U.S. 230 (1946).

¹⁶⁸ *Green v. Frazier*, 253 U.S. 233, 238 (1920).

¹⁶⁹ *Barron v. Baltimore*, 32 U.S. (7 Pet.) 243 (1833).

¹⁷⁰ *Davidson v. City of New Orleans*, 96 U.S. 97 (1878). The Court attached most weight to the fact that both due process and just compensation were guaranteed in the Fifth Amendment while only due process was contained in the Fourteenth, and refused to equate the missing term with the present one.

¹⁷¹ *Chicago B. & Q. R.R. v. City of Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226, 233, 236–37 (1897). See also *Sweet v. Rechel*, 159 U.S. 380, 398 (1895).

different sources, the standards used by the Court in dealing with the issues appear to be identical, and both federal and state cases will be dealt with herein without expressly continuing to recognize the two different bases for the rulings.

It should be borne in mind that while the power of eminent domain, though it is inherent in organized governments, may only be exercised through legislation or through legislative delegation, usually to another governmental body, the power may be delegated as well to private corporations, such as public utilities, railroad and bridge companies, when they are promoting a valid public purpose. Such delegation has long been approved.¹⁷²

Public Use

Explicit in the just compensation clause is the requirement that the taking of private property be for a public use; the Court has long accepted the principle that one is deprived of his property in violation of this guarantee if a State takes the property for any reason other than a public use.¹⁷³ The question whether a particular intended use is a public use is clearly a judicial one,¹⁷⁴ but the Court has always insisted on a high degree of judicial deference to the legislative determination. “The role of the judiciary in determining whether that power is being exercised for a public purpose is an extremely narrow one.”¹⁷⁵ When it is state action being challenged under the Fourteenth Amendment, there is the additional factor of the Court’s willingness to defer to the highest court of the State in resolving such an issue.¹⁷⁶ As early as 1908, the Court was obligated to admit that notwithstanding its retention of the power of judicial review, “no case is recalled where this Court has condemned as a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment a taking upheld by the State court as a taking for public uses. . . .”¹⁷⁷ How-

¹⁷² *Noble v. Oklahoma City*, 297 U.S. 481 (1936); *Luxton v. North River Bridge Co.*, 153 U.S. 525 (1895). One of the earliest examples is *Curtiss v. Georgetown & Alexandria Turnpike Co.*, 10 U.S. (6 Cr.) 233 (1810).

¹⁷³ *Fallbrook Irrigation Dist. v. Bradley*, 164 U.S. 112, 158–59 (1896); *Cole v. La Grange*, 113 U.S. 1, 6 (1885).

¹⁷⁴ “It is well established that in considering the application of the Fourteenth Amendment to cases of expropriation of private property, the question what is a public use is a judicial one.” *City of Cincinnati v. Vester*, 281 U.S. 439, 444 (1930).

¹⁷⁵ *Berman v. Parker*, 348 U.S. 26, 32 (1954) (federal eminent domain power in District of Columbia).

¹⁷⁶ *Green v. Frazier*, 253 U.S. 283, 240 (1920); *City of Cincinnati v. Vester*, 281 U.S. 439, 446 (1930). *And see Hawaii Housing Auth. v. Midkiff*, 467 U.S. 229 (1984) (appeals court erred in applying more stringent standard to action of state legislature).

¹⁷⁷ *Hairston v. Danville & Western Ry.*, 208 U.S. 598, 607 (1908). An act of condemnation was voided as not for a public use in *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Nebraska*, 164 U.S. 403 (1896), but the Court read the state court opinion as acknowledging this fact, thus not bringing it within the literal content of this statement.

ever, in a 1946 case involving federal eminent domain power, the Court cast considerable doubt upon the power of courts to review the issue of public use. “We think that it is the function of Congress to decide what type of taking is for a public use and that the agency authorized to do the taking may do so to the full extent of its statutory authority.”¹⁷⁸ There is some suggestion that “the scope of the judicial power to determine what is a ‘public use’” may be different as between Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment cases, with greater power in the latter type of cases than in the former,¹⁷⁹ but it may well be that the case simply stands for the necessity for great judicial restraint.¹⁸⁰ Once it is admitted or determined that the taking is for a public use and is within the granted authority, the necessity or expediency of the particular taking is exclusively in the legislature or the body to which the legislature has delegated the decision, and is not subject to judicial review.¹⁸¹

At an earlier time, the factor of judicial review would have been vastly more important than it is now, inasmuch as the prevailing judicial view was that the term “public use” was synonymous with “use by the public” and that if there was no duty upon the taker to permit the public as of right to use or enjoy the property taken, the taking was invalid. But this view was rejected some time ago.¹⁸² The modern conception of public use equates it with the police power in the furtherance of the public interest. No definition of the reach or limits of the power is possible, the Court has said, because such “definition is essentially the product of legislative determinations addressed to the purposes of government, purposes neither abstractly nor historically capable of complete definition. . . . Public safety, public health, morality, peace and quiet, law and order—these are some of the . . . traditional application[s] of the police power. . . .” Effectuation of these matters being within the authority of the legislature, the power to achieve them through the exercise of eminent domain is established. “For the power of

¹⁷⁸ *United States ex rel. TVA v. Welch*, 327 U.S. 546, 551–52 (1946). Justices Reed and Frankfurter and Chief Justice Stone disagreed with this view. *Id.* at 555, 557 (concurring).

¹⁷⁹ *Id.* at 552.

¹⁸⁰ *Id.* So it seems to have been considered in *Berman v. Parker*, 348 U.S. 26, 32 (1954).

¹⁸¹ *Rindge Co. v. Los Angeles County*, 262 U.S. 700, 709 (1923); *Bragg v. Weaver*, 251 U.S. 57, 58 (1919); *Berman v. Parker*, 358 U.S. 26, 33 (1954). “When the legislature’s purpose is legitimate and its means are not irrational, our cases make clear that empirical debates over the wisdom of takings . . . are not to be carried out in federal courts. *Hawaii Housing Auth. v. Midkiff*, 467 U.S. 229, 242–43 (1984).

¹⁸² *Clark v. Nash*, 198 U.S. 361 (1905); *Mt. Vernon-Woodberry Cotton Duck Co. v. Alabama Interstate Power Co.*, 240 U.S. 30, 32 (1916).

eminent domain is merely the means to the end.”¹⁸³ Traditionally, eminent domain has been utilized to facilitate transportation, the supplying of water, and the like,¹⁸⁴ but the use of the power to establish public parks, to preserve places of historic interest, and to promote beautification has substantial precedent.¹⁸⁵

The Supreme Court has approved generally the widespread use of the power of eminent domain by federal and state governments in conjunction with private companies to facilitate urban renewal, destruction of slums, erection of low-cost housing in place of deteriorated housing, and the promotion of aesthetic values as well as economic ones. In *Berman v. Parker*,¹⁸⁶ a unanimous Court ob-

¹⁸³ *Berman v. Parker*, 348 U.S. 26, 32, 33 (1954).

¹⁸⁴ E.g., *Kohl v. United States*, 91 U.S. 367 (1876) (public buildings); *Chicago M. & S.P. Ry. v. City of Minneapolis*, 232 U.S. 430 (1914) (canal); *Long Island Water Supply Co. v. Brooklyn*, 166 U.S. 685 (1897) (condemnation of privately owned water supply system formerly furnishing water to municipality under contract); *Mt. Vernon-Woodberry Cotton Duck Co. v. Alabama Interstate Power Co.*, 240 U.S. 30 (1916) (land, water, and water rights condemned for production of electric power by public utility); *Dohany v. Rogers*, 281 U.S. 362 (1930) (land taken for purpose of exchange with a railroad company for a portion of its right-of-way required for widening a highway); *Delaware, L. & W.R.R. v. Morristown*, 276 U.S. 182 (1928) (establishment by a municipality of a public hack stand upon driveway maintained by railroad upon its own terminal grounds to afford ingress and egress to its patrons); *Clark v. Nash*, 198 U.S. 361 (1905) (right-of-way across neighbor's land to enlarge irrigation ditch for water without which land would remain valueless); *Strickley v. Highland Boy Mining Co.*, 200 U.S. 527 (1906) (right of way across a placer mining claim for aerial bucket line). In *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Nebraska*, 164 U.S. 403 (1896), however, the Court held that it was an invalid use when a State attempted to compel, on payment of compensation, a railroad, which had permitted the erection of two grain elevators by private citizens on its right-of-way, to grant upon like terms a location to another group of farmers to erect a third grain elevator for their own benefit.

¹⁸⁵ E.g., *Shoemaker v. United States*, 147 U.S. 282 (1893) (establishment of public park in District of Columbia); *Rindge Co. v. Los Angeles County*, 262 U.S. 700 (1923) (scenic highway); *Brown v. United States*, 263 U.S. 78 (1923) (condemnation of property near town flooded by establishment of reservoir in order to locate a new townsite, even though there might be some surplus lots to be sold); *United States v. Gettysburg Electric Ry.*, 160 U.S. 668 (1896), and *Roe v. Kansas ex rel. Smith*, 278 U.S. 191 (1929) (historic sites). When time is deemed to be of the essence, Congress takes land directly by statute, authorizing procedures by which owners of appropriated land may obtain just compensation. See, e.g., Pub. L. No. 90-545, § 3, 82 Stat. 931 (1968), 16 U.S.C. § 79(c) (taking land for creation of Redwood National Park); Pub. L. No. 93-444, 88 Stat. 1304 (1974) (taking lands for addition to Piscataway Park, Maryland); Pub. L. No. 100-647, § 10002 (1988) (taking lands for addition to Mannassas National Battlefield Park).

¹⁸⁶ 348 U.S. 26, 32-33 (1954) (citations omitted). Rejecting the argument that the project was illegal because it involved the turning over of condemned property to private associations for redevelopment, the Court said: “Once the object is within the authority of Congress, the means by which it will be attained is also for Congress to determine. Here one of the means chosen is the use of private enterprise for redevelopment of the area. Appellants argue that this makes the project a taking from one businessman for the benefit of another businessman. But the means of executing the project are for Congress and Congress alone to determine, once the public purpose has been established. The public end may be as well or better served

served: “The concept of the public welfare is broad and inclusive. The values it represents are spiritual as well as physical, aesthetic as well as monetary. It is within the power of the legislature to determine that the community should be beautiful as well as healthy, spacious as well as clean, well-balanced as well as carefully patrolled.” For “public use,” then, it may well be that “public interest” or “public welfare” is the more correct phrase. *Berman* was applied in *Hawaii Housing Auth. v. Midkiff*,¹⁸⁷ upholding the Hawaii Land Reform Act as a “rational” effort to “correct deficiencies in the market determined by the state legislature to be attributable to land oligopoly.” Direct transfer of land from lessors to lessees was permissible, the Court held, there being no requirement “that government possess and use property at some point during a taking.”¹⁸⁸ “The ‘public use’ requirement is . . . coterminous with the scope of a sovereign’s police powers,” the Court concluded.¹⁸⁹

Just Compensation

“When . . . [the] power [of eminent domain] is exercised it can only be done by giving the party whose property is taken or whose use and enjoyment of such property is interfered with, full and adequate compensation, not excessive or exorbitant, but just compensation.”¹⁹⁰ The Fifth Amendment’s guarantee “that private property shall not be taken for a public use without just compensation was designed to bar Government from forcing some people alone to bear public burdens which, in all fairness and justice, should be borne by the public as a whole.”¹⁹¹

The just compensation required by the Constitution is that which constitutes “a full and perfect equivalent for the property taken.”¹⁹² Originally the Court required that the equivalent be in

through an agency of private enterprise than through a department of government—or so the Congress might conclude.” *Id.* at 33–34 (citations omitted).

¹⁸⁷ 467 U.S. 229, 243 (1984).

¹⁸⁸ 467 U.S. at 243.

¹⁸⁹ 467 U.S. at 240. *See also* *Ruckelshaus v. Monsanto Co.*, 467 U.S. 986, 1014 (1984) (required data disclosure by pesticide registrants, primarily for benefit of later registrants, has a “conceivable public character”).

¹⁹⁰ *Backus v. Fort Street Union Depot Co.*, 169 U.S. 557, 573, 575 (1898).

¹⁹¹ *Armstrong v. United States*, 364 U.S. 40, 49 (1960). “The political ethics reflected in the Fifth Amendment reject confiscation as a measure of justice.” *United States v. Cors*, 337 U.S. 325, 332 (1949). There is no constitutional prohibition against confiscation of enemy property, but aliens not so denominated are entitled to the protection of this clause. *Compare* *United States v. Chemical Foundation*, 272 U.S. 1 (1926) *and* *Stoehr v. Wallace*, 255 U.S. 239 (1921), *with* *Silesian-American Corp. v. Clark*, 332 U.S. 469 (1947), *Russian Fleet v. United States*, 282 U.S. 481 (1931), *and* *Guessefeldt v. McGrath*, 342 U.S. 308 (1952).

¹⁹² *Monongahela Navigation Co. v. United States*, 148 U.S. 312, 326 (1893). The owner’s loss, not the taker’s gain, is the measure of such compensation. *United States ex rel. TVA v. Powelson*, 319 U.S. 266, 281 (1943); *United States v. Miller*,

money, not in kind,¹⁹³ but more recently has cast some doubt on this assertion.¹⁹⁴ Just compensation is measured “by reference to the uses for which the property is suitable, having regard to the existing business and wants of the community, or such as may be reasonably expected in the immediate future.’ . . . [but] ‘mere possible or imaginary uses or the speculative schemes of its proprietor, are to be excluded.’”¹⁹⁵ The general standard thus is the market value of the property, i.e., what a willing buyer would pay a willing seller.¹⁹⁶ If fair market value does not exist or cannot be calculated, resort must be had to other data which will yield a fair compensation.¹⁹⁷ However, the Court is resistant to alternative standards, having repudiated reliance on the cost of substitute facilities.¹⁹⁸ Just compensation is especially difficult to compute in wartime, when enormous disruptions in supply and governmentally imposed price ceilings totally skew market conditions. Holding that the reasons which underlie the rule of market value when a free market exists apply as well where value is measured by a government-fixed ceiling price, the Court permitted owners of cured pork and black pepper to recover only the ceiling price for the commodities, despite findings by the Court of Claims that the replacement cost of the meat exceeded its ceiling price and that the pepper had a “retention value” in excess of that price.¹⁹⁹ By a five-to-four decision, the Court ruled that the Government was not obliged to pay

317 U.S. 369, 375 (1943); *Roberts v. New York City*, 295 U.S. 264 (1935). The value of the property to the government for its particular use is not a criterion. *United States v. Chandler-Dunbar Co.*, 229 U.S. 53 (1913); *United States v. Twin City Power Co.*, 350 U.S. 222 (1956). Attorneys’ fees and expenses are not embraced in the concept. *Dohany v. Rogers*, 281 U.S. 362 (1930).

¹⁹³ *Van Horne’s Lessee v. Dorrance*, 2 U.S. (2 Dall.) 304, 315 (C.C. Pa. 1795); *United States v. Miller*, 317 U.S. 369, 373 (1943).

¹⁹⁴ *Regional Rail Reorganization Act Cases*, 419 U.S. 102, 150–51 (1974).

¹⁹⁵ *Chicago B. & Q. R.R. v. Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226, 250 (1897); *McGovern v. City of New York*, 229 U.S. 363, 372 (1913). See also *Boom Co. v. Patterson*, 98 U.S. 403 (1879); *McCandless v. United States*, 298 U.S. 342 (1936).

¹⁹⁶ *United States v. Miller*, 317 U.S. 369, 374 (1943); *United States ex rel. TVA v. Powelson*, 319 U.S. 266, 275 (1943). See also *United States v. New River Collieries Co.*, 262 U.S. 341 (1923); *Olson v. United States*, 292 U.S. 264 (1934); *Kimball Laundry Co. v. United States*, 338 U.S. 1 (1949). Exclusion of the value of improvements made by the Government under a lease was held constitutional. *Old Dominion Land Co. v. United States*, 269 U.S. 55 (1925).

¹⁹⁷ *United States v. Miller*, 317 U.S. 369, 374 (1943).

¹⁹⁸ *United States v. 564.54 Acres of Land*, 441 U.S. 506 (1979) (condemnation of church-run camp); *United States v. 50 Acres of Land*, 469 U.S. 24 (1984) (condemnation of city-owned landfill). In both cases the Court determined that market value was ascertainable.

¹⁹⁹ *United States v. Felin & Co.*, 334 U.S. 624 (1948); *United States v. Commodities Trading Corp.*, 339 U.S. 121 (1950). And see *Vogelstein & Co. v. United States*, 262 U.S. 337 (1923).

the present market value of a tug when the value had been greatly enhanced as a consequence of the Government's wartime needs.²⁰⁰

Illustrative of the difficulties in applying the fair market standard of just compensation are two cases decided by five-to-four votes, one in which compensation was awarded and one in which it was denied. Held entitled to compensation for the value of improvements on leased property for the life of the improvements and not simply for the remainder of the term of the lease was a company that, while its lease had no renewal option, had occupied the land for nearly 50 years and had every expectancy of continued occupancy under a new lease. Just compensation, the Court said, required taking into account the possibility that the lease would be renewed, inasmuch as a willing buyer and a willing seller would certainly have placed a value on the possibility.²⁰¹ However, when the Federal Government condemned privately owned grazing land of a rancher who had leased adjacent federally owned grazing land, it was held that the compensation owed need not include the value attributable to the proximity to the federal land. The result would have been different if the adjacent grazing land had been privately owned, but the general rule is that government need not pay for value that it itself creates.²⁰²

Interest.—Ordinarily, property is taken under a condemnation suit upon the payment of the money award by the condemner, and no interest accrues.²⁰³ If, however, the property is taken in fact before payment is made, just compensation includes an increment which, to avoid use of the term “interest,” the Court has called “an amount sufficient to produce the full equivalent of that value paid contemporaneously with the taking.”²⁰⁴ If the owner and the Government enter into a contract which stipulates the purchase price for lands to be taken, with no provision for interest, the Fifth

²⁰⁰ *United States v. Cors*, 337 U.S. 325 (1949). *And see* *United States v. Toronto Navigation Co.*, 338 U.S. 396 (1949).

²⁰¹ *Almota Farmers Elevator & Warehouse Co. v. United States*, 409 U.S. 470 (1973). The dissent argued that since upon expiration of the lease only salvage value of the improvements could be claimed by the lessee, just compensation should be limited to that salvage value. *Id.* at 480.

²⁰² *United States v. Fuller*, 409 U.S. 488 (1973). The dissent argued that the principle denying compensation for governmentally created value should apply only when the Government was in fact acting in the use of its own property; here the Government was acting only as a condemner. *Id.* at 494.

²⁰³ *Danforth v. United States*, 308 U.S. 271, 284 (1939); *Kirby Forest Industries v. United States*, 467 U.S. 1 (1984) (no interest due in straight condemnation action for period between filing of notice of *lis pendens* and date of taking).

²⁰⁴ *United States v. Klamath Indians*, 304 U.S. 119, 123 (1938); *Jacobs v. United States*, 290 U.S. 13, 17 (1933); *Kirby Forest Industries v. United States*, 467 U.S. 1 (1984) (substantial delay between valuation and payment necessitates procedure for modifying award to reflect value at time of payment).

Amendment is inapplicable and the landowner cannot recover interest even though payment of the purchase price is delayed.²⁰⁵ Where property of a citizen has been mistakenly seized by the Government and it is converted into money which is invested, the owner is entitled in recovering compensation to an allowance for the use of his property.²⁰⁶

Rights for Which Compensation Must Be Made.—If real property is condemned the market value of that property must be paid to the owner. But there are many kinds of property and many uses of property which cause problems in computing just compensation. It is not only the full fee simple interest in land that is compensable “property,” but also such lesser interests as easements²⁰⁷ and leaseholds.²⁰⁸ If only a portion of a tract is taken, the owner’s compensation includes any element of value arising out of the relation of the part taken to the entire tract.²⁰⁹ On the other hand, if the taking has in fact benefited the owner, the benefit may be set off against the value of the land condemned,²¹⁰ although any supposed benefit which the owner may receive in common with all from the public use to which the property is appropriated may not be set off.²¹¹ When certain lands were condemned for park purposes, with resulting benefits set off against the value of the property taken, the subsequent erection of a fire station on the property instead was held not to have deprived the owner of any part of his just compensation.²¹²

Interests in intangible as well as tangible property are subject to protection under the Taking Clause. Thus compensation must be paid for the taking of contract rights,²¹³ patent rights,²¹⁴ and trade secrets.²¹⁵ So too, the franchise of a private corporation is property which cannot be taken for public use without compensation. Upon condemnation of a lock and dam belonging to a navigation company, the Government was required to pay for the fran-

²⁰⁵ *Albrecht v. United States*, 329 U.S. 599 (1947).

²⁰⁶ *Henkels v. Sutherland*, 271 U.S. 298 (1926); *see also Phelps v. United States*, 274 U.S. 341 (1927).

²⁰⁷ *United States v. Welch*, 217 U.S. 333 (1910).

²⁰⁸ *United States v. General Motors*, 323 U.S. 373 (1945).

²⁰⁹ *Bauman v. Ross*, 167 U.S. 548 (1897); *Sharp v. United States*, 191 U.S. 341, 351–52, 354 (1903). Where the taking of a strip of land across a farm closed a private right-of-way, an allowance was properly made for the value of the easement. *United States v. Welch*, 217 U.S. 333 (1910).

²¹⁰ *Bauman v. Ross*, 167 U.S. 548 (1897).

²¹¹ *Monongahela Navigation Co. v. United States*, 148 U.S. 312, 326 (1893).

²¹² *Reichelderfer v. Quinn*, 287 U.S. 315, 318 (1932).

²¹³ *Lynch v. United States*, 292 U.S. 571, 579 (1934); *Omnia Commercial Corp. v. United States*, 261 U.S. 502, 508 (1923).

²¹⁴ *James v. Campbell*, 104 U.S. 356, 358 (1882). *See also Hollister v. Benedict Mfg. Co.*, 113 U.S. 59, 67 (1885).

²¹⁵ *Ruckelshaus v. Monsanto Co.*, 467 U.S. 986 (1984).

chise to take tolls as well as for the tangible property.²¹⁶ The frustration of a private contract by the requisitioning of the entire output of a steel manufacturer is not a taking for which compensation is required,²¹⁷ but government requisitioning from a power company of all the electric power which could be produced by use of the water diverted through its intake canal, thereby cutting off the supply of a lessee which had a right, amounting to a corporeal hereditament under state law, to draw a portion of that water, entitles the lessee to compensation for the rights taken.²¹⁸ When, upon default of a ship-builder, the Government, pursuant to contract with him, took title to uncompleted boats, the material men, whose liens under state laws had attached when they supplied the shipbuilder, had a compensable interest equal to whatever value these liens had when the Government “took” or destroyed them in perfecting its title.²¹⁹ As a general matter, there is no property interest in the continuation of a rule of law.²²⁰ And, even though state participation in the social security system was originally voluntary, a state had no property interest in its right to withdraw from the program when Congress had expressly reserved the right to amend the law and the agreement with the state.²²¹ Similarly, there is no right to the continuation of governmental welfare benefits.²²²

Consequential Damages.—The Fifth Amendment requires compensation for the taking of “property,” hence does not require payment for losses or expenses incurred by property owners or tenants incidental to or as a consequence of the taking of real property, if they are not reflected in the market value of the property taken.²²³ “Whatever of property the citizen has the Government may take. When it takes the property, that is, the fee, the lease, whatever, he may own, terminating altogether his interest, under the established law it must pay him for what is taken, not more; and he must stand whatever indirect or remote injuries are properly comprehended within the meaning of ‘consequential damage’

²¹⁶ *Monongahela Navigation Co. v. United States*, 148 U.S. 312, 345 (1983).

²¹⁷ *Omnia Commercial Co. v. United States*, 261 U.S. 502 (1923).

²¹⁸ *International Paper Co. v. United States*, 282 U.S. 399 (1931).

²¹⁹ *Armstrong v. United States*, 364 U.S. 40, 50 (1960).

²²⁰ *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Env'tl. Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 88 n.32 (1978).

²²¹ *Bowen v. Public Agencies Opposed to Social Security Entrapment*, 477 U.S. 41 (1986).

²²² “Congress is not, by virtue of having instituted a social welfare program, bound to continue it at all, much less at the same benefit level.” *Bowen v. Gilliard*, 483 U.S. 587, 604 (1987).

²²³ *Mitchell v. United States*, 267 U.S. 341 (1925); *United States ex rel. TVA v. Powelson*, 319 U.S. 266 (1943); *United States v. Petty Motor Co.*, 327 U.S. 372 (1946). For consideration of the problem of fair compensation in government-supervised bankruptcy reorganization proceedings, see *New Haven Inclusion Cases*, 399 U.S. 392, 489–95 (1970).

as that conception has been defined in such cases. Even so the consequences often are harsh. For these whatever remedy may exist lies with Congress.”²²⁴ An exception to the general principle has been established by the Court where only a temporary occupancy is assumed; then the taking body must pay the value which a hypothetical long-term tenant in possession would require when leasing to a temporary occupier requiring his removal, including in the market value of the interest the reasonable cost of moving out the personal property stored in the premises, the cost of storage of goods against their sale, and the cost of returning the property to the premises.²²⁵ Another exception to the general rule occurs with a partial taking, in which the government takes less than the entire parcel of land and leaves the owner with a portion of what he had before; in such a case compensation includes any diminished value of the remaining portion (“severance damages”) as well as the value of the taken portion.²²⁶

Enforcement of Right to Compensation.—The nature and character of the tribunal to determine compensation is in the discretion of the legislature, and may be a regular court, a special legislative court, a commission, or an administrative body.²²⁷ Proceedings to condemn land for the benefit of the United States are brought in the federal district court for the district in which the land is located.²²⁸ The estimate of just compensation is not required to be made by a jury but may be made by a judge or entrusted to a commission or other body.²²⁹ Federal courts may ap-

²²⁴ *United States v. General Motors Corp.*, 323 U.S. 373, 382 (1945).

²²⁵ *United States v. General Motors Corp.*, 323 U.S. 373 (1945). In *Kimball Laundry Co. v. United States*, 338 U.S. 1 (1949), the Government seized the tenant's plant for the duration of the war, which turned out to be less than the full duration of the lease, and, having no other means of serving its customers, the laundry suspended business for the period of military occupancy; the Court narrowly held that the Government must compensate for the loss in value of the business attributable to the destruction of its “trade routes,” that is, for the loss of customers built up over the years and for the continued hold of the laundry upon their patronage. See also *United States v. Pewee Coal Co.*, 341 U.S. 114 (1951) (in temporary seizure, Government must compensate for losses attributable to increased wage payments by the Government).

²²⁶ *United States v. Miller*, 317 U.S. 369, 375–76 (1943). “On the other hand,” the Court added, “if the taking has in fact benefitted the remainder, the benefit may be set off against the value of the land taken.” *Id.*

²²⁷ *United States v. Jones*, 109 U.S. 513 (1883); *Bragg v. Weaver*, 251 U.S. 57 (1919).

²²⁸ 28 U.S.C. §1403. On the other hand, inverse condemnation actions (claims that the United States has taken property without compensation) are governed by the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. §1491(a)(1), which vests the Court of Federal Claims (formerly the Claims Court) with jurisdiction over claims against the United States “founded . . . upon the Constitution.” See *Presault v. ICC*, 494 U.S. 1 (1990).

²²⁹ *Bauman v. Ross*, 167 U.S. 548 (1897). Even when a jury is provided to determine the amount of compensation, it is the rule at least in federal court that the trial judge is to instruct the jury with regard to the criteria and this includes deter-

point a commission in condemnation actions to resolve the compensation issue.²³⁰ If a body other than a court is designated to determine just compensation, its decision must be subject to judicial review,²³¹ although the scope of review may be limited by the legislature.²³² When the judgment of a state court with regard to the amount of compensation is questioned, the Court's review is restricted. "All that is essential is that in some appropriate way, before some properly constituted tribunal, inquiry shall be made as to the amount of compensation, and when this has been provided there is that due process of law which is required by the Federal Constitution."²³³ "[T]here must be something more than an ordinary honest mistake of law in the proceedings for compensation before a party can make out that the State has deprived him of his property unconstitutionally."²³⁴ Unless, by its rulings of law, the state court prevented a complainant from obtaining substantially any compensation, its findings as to the amount of damages will not be overturned on appeal, even though as a consequence of error therein the property owner received less than he was entitled to.²³⁵

When Property Is Taken

The issue whether one's property has been "taken" with the consequent requirement of just compensation can hardly arise when government institutes condemnation proceedings directed to it. Where, however, physical damage results to property because of government action, or where regulatory action limits activity on the property or otherwise deprives it of value, whether there has been a taking in the Fifth Amendment sense becomes critical.

Government Activity Not Directed at the Property.—The older cases proceeded on the basis that the requirement of just compensation for property taken for public use referred only to "direct appropriation, and not to consequential injuries resulting from

mination of "all issues" other than the precise issue of the amount of compensation, so that the judge decides those matters relating to what is computed in making the calculation. *United States v. Reynolds*, 397 U.S. 14 (1970).

²³⁰ Rule 71A(h), Fed. R. Civ. P. These commissions have the same powers as a court-appointed master.

²³¹ *Monongahela Navigation Co. v. United States*, 148 U.S. 312, 327 (1893).

²³² *Long Island Water Supply Co. v. Brooklyn*, 166 U.S. 685 (1897). In federal courts, reports of Rule 71A commissions are to be accepted by the court unless "clearly erroneous." Fed. R. Civ. P. 53(e)(2).

²³³ *Backus v. Fort Street Union Depot Co.*, 169 U.S. 557, 569, (1898).

²³⁴ *McGovern v. City of New York*, 229 U.S. 363, 370–71 (1913).

²³⁵ *Id.* at 371. *And see* *Provo Bench Canal Co. v. Tanner*, 239 U.S. 323 (1915); *Appleby v. City of Buffalo*, 221 U.S. 524 (1911).

the exercise of lawful power.”²³⁶ Accordingly, a variety of consequential injuries were held not to constitute takings: damage to abutting property resulting from the authorization of a railroad to erect tracts, sheds, and fences over a street;²³⁷ similar deprivations, lessening the circulation of light and air and impairing access to premises, resulting from the erection of an elevated viaduct over a street, or resulting from the changing of a grade in the street.²³⁸ Nor was government held liable for the extra expense which the property owner must obligate in order to ward off the consequence of the governmental action, such as the expenses incurred by a railroad in planking an area condemned for a crossing, constructing gates, and posting gatemen,²³⁹ or by a landowner in raising the height of the dikes around his land to prevent their partial flooding consequent to private construction of a dam under public licensing.²⁴⁰

But the Court also decided long ago that land can be “taken” in the constitutional sense by physical invasion or occupation by the government, as occurs when government floods land.²⁴¹ A later formulation was that “[p]roperty is taken in the constitutional sense when inroads are made upon an owner’s use of it to an extent that, as between private parties, a servitude has been acquired either by agreement or in course of time.”²⁴² It was thus held that the government had imposed a servitude for which it must compensate the owner on land adjoining its fort when it repeatedly fired the guns at the fort across the land and had established a fire control service there.²⁴³ In two major cases, the Court held that the lessees or operators of airports were required to compensate the owners of adjacent land when the noise, glare, and fear of injury occasioned by the low altitude overflights during takeoffs and landings made the land unfit for the use to which the owners had applied it.²⁴⁴ Eventually, the term “inverse condemnation” came to

²³⁶ *Legal Tender Cases*, 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 457, 551 (1871). The Fifth Amendment “has never been supposed to have any bearing upon, or to inhibit laws that indirectly work harm and loss to individuals,” the Court explained.

²³⁷ *Meyer v. City of Richmond*, 172 U.S. 82 (1898).

²³⁸ *Sauer v. City of New York*, 206 U.S. 536 (1907). *But see* the litigation in the state courts cited by Justice Cardozo in *Roberts v. City of New York*, 295 U.S. 264, 278–82 (1935).

²³⁹ *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. City of Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226 (1897).

²⁴⁰ *Manigault v. Springs*, 199 U.S. 473 (1905).

²⁴¹ *Pumpelly v. Green Bay Co.*, 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 166, 177–78 (1872).

²⁴² *United States v. Dickinson*, 331 U.S. 745, 748 (1947).

²⁴³ *Portsmouth Harbor Land & Hotel Co. v. United States*, 260 U.S. 327 (1922). *Cf.* *Portsmouth Harbor Land & Hotel Co. v. United States*, 250 U.S. 1 (1919); *Peabody v. United States*, 231 U.S. 530 (1913).

²⁴⁴ *United States v. Causby*, 328 U.S. 256 (1946); *Griggs v. Allegheny County*, 369 U.S. 84 (1962). A corporation chartered by Congress to construct a tunnel and operate railway trains therein was held liable for damages in a suit by one whose

be used to refer to such cases where the government has not instituted formal condemnation proceedings, but instead the property owner has sued for just compensation, claiming that governmental action or regulation has “taken” his property.²⁴⁵

Navigable Waters.—The repeated holdings that riparian ownership is subject to the power of Congress to regulate commerce constitute an important reservation to the developing law of liability in the taking area. When damage results consequentially from an improvement to a river’s navigable capacity, or from an improvement on a nonnavigable river designed to affect navigability elsewhere, it is generally not a taking of property but merely an exercise of a servitude to which the property is always subject.²⁴⁶ This exception does not apply to lands above the ordinary high-water mark of a stream,²⁴⁷ hence is inapplicable to the damage the Government may do to such “fast lands” by causing overflows, by erosion, and otherwise, consequent on erection of dams or other improvements.²⁴⁸ And, when previously nonnavigable waters are made navigable by private investment, government may not, without paying compensation, simply assert a navigation servitude and direct the property owners to afford public access.²⁴⁹

Regulatory Takings.—While it is established that government may take private property, with compensation, to promote the public interest, that interest also may be served by regulation of property use pursuant to the police power, and for years there was broad dicta that no one may claim damages due to a police regulation designed to secure the common welfare, especially in the

property was so injured by smoke and gas forced from the tunnel as to amount to a taking. *Richards v. Washington Terminal Co.*, 233 U.S. 546 (1914).

²⁴⁵The phrase ‘inverse condemnation’ generally describes a cause of action against a government defendant in which a landowner may recover just compensation for a ‘taking’ of his property under the Fifth Amendment, even though formal condemnation proceedings in exercise of the sovereign’s power of eminent domain have not been instituted by the government entity.” *San Diego Gas & Electric Co. v. City of San Diego*, 450 U.S. 621, 638 n.2 (1981) (Justice Brennan dissenting). See also *United States v. Clarke*, 445 U.S. 253, 257 (1980); *Agins v. City of Tiburon*, 447 U.S. 255, 258 n.2 (1980).

²⁴⁶*Gibson v. United States*, 166 U.S. 269 (1897); *Lewis Blue Point Oyster Co. v. Briggs*, 229 U.S. 82 (1913); *United States v. Chandler-Dunbar Water Power Co.*, 229 U.S. 53 (1913); *United States v. Appalachian Power Co.*, 311 U.S. 377 (1940); *United States v. Commodore Park, Inc.*, 324 U.S. 386 (1945); *United States v. Willow River Power Co.*, 324 U.S. 499 (1945); *United States v. Twin City Power Co.*, 350 U.S. 222 (1956); *United States v. Rands*, 389 U.S. 121 (1967).

²⁴⁷*United States v. Virginia Elec. & Power Co.*, 365 U.S. 624, 628 (1961).

²⁴⁸*United States v. Lynah*, 188 U.S. 445 (1903); *United States v. Cress*, 243 U.S. 316 (1917); *Jacobs v. United States*, 290 U.S. 13 (1933); *United States v. Dickinson*, 331 U.S. 745 (1947); *United States v. Kansas City Ins. Co.*, 339 U.S. 799 (1950); *United States v. Virginia Electric & Power Co.*, 365 U.S. 624 (1961).

²⁴⁹*Kaiser Aetna v. United States*, 444 U.S. 164 (1979); *Vaughn v. Vermillion Corp.*, 444 U.S. 206 (1979).

area of health and safety regulations.²⁵⁰ “The distinguishing characteristic between eminent domain and the police power is that the former involves the *taking* of property because of its need for the public use while the latter involves the *regulation* of such property to prevent the use thereof in a manner that is detrimental to the public interest.”²⁵¹ But regulation may deprive an owner of most or all beneficial use of his property and may destroy the values of the property for the purposes to which it is suited.²⁵² The older cases flatly denied the possibility of compensation for this diminution of property values,²⁵³ but the Court in 1922 established as a general principle that “if regulation goes too far it will be recognized as a taking.”²⁵⁴

In the *Mahon* case, Justice Holmes for the Court, over Justice Brandeis’ vigorous dissent, held unconstitutional a state statute prohibiting subsurface mining in regions where it presented a danger of subsidence for homeowners. The homeowners had purchased by deeds which reserved to the coal companies ownership of subsurface mining rights and which held the companies harmless for damage caused by subsurface mining operations. The statute thus gave the homeowners more than they had been able to obtain through contracting, and at the same time deprived the coal companies of the entire value of their subsurface estates. The Court observed that “[f]or practical purposes, the right to coal consists in the right to mine,” and that the statute, by making it “commercially impracticable to mine certain coal,” had essentially “the same effect for constitutional purposes as appropriating or destroying it.”²⁵⁵ The regulation, therefore, in precluding the companies from

²⁵⁰ *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623, 668–69 (1887). See also *The Legal Tender Cases*, 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 457, 551 (1871); *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. City of Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226, 255 (1897); *Omnia Commercial Co. v. United States*, 261 U.S. 502 (1923); *Norman v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 294 U.S. 240 (1935).

²⁵¹ 1 NICHOLS’ *THE LAW OF EMINENT DOMAIN* §1.42 (J. Sackman, 3d rev. ed. 1973).

²⁵² E.g., *Hadacheck v. Sebastian*, 239 U.S. 394 (1915) (ordinance upheld restricting owner of brick factory from continuing his use after residential growth surrounding factory made use noxious, even though value of property was reduced by more than 90%); *Miller v. Schoene*, 276 U.S. 272 (1928) (no compensation due owner’s loss of red cedar trees ordered destroyed because they were infected with rust that threatened contamination of neighboring apple orchards: preferment of public interest in saving cash crop to property interest in ornamental trees was rational).

²⁵³ *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623, 668–69 (1887) (ban on manufacture of liquor greatly devalued plaintiff’s plant and machinery; no taking possible simply because of legislation deeming a use injurious to public health and welfare).

²⁵⁴ *Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon*, 260 U.S. 393, 415 (1922). See also *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*, 112 S. Ct. 2886, 2895 (1992) (a regulation that deprives a property owner of *all* beneficial use of his property requires compensation, unless the owner’s proposed use is one prohibited by background principles of property or nuisance law existing at the time the property was acquired).

²⁵⁵ 260 U.S. at 414–15.

exercising any mining rights whatever, went “too far.”²⁵⁶ However, when presented 65 years later with a very similar restriction on coal mining, the Court upheld it in *Keystone Bituminous Coal Ass’n v. DeBenedictis*.²⁵⁷ Unlike its precursor, the Court explained, the newer law “does not merely involve a balancing of the private economic interests of coal companies against the private interests of the surface owners.”²⁵⁸ Instead, the state had identified “important public interests” (e.g., conservation, protection of water supplies, preservation of land values for taxation) and had broadened the law to apply regardless of whether the surface and mineral estates were in separate ownership. A second factor distinguishing *Keystone* from *Mahon*, the Court explained, was the absence of proof that the new subsidence law made it “commercially impracticable” for the coal companies to continue mining.²⁵⁹ The Court rejected efforts to define separate segments of property for taking purposes—either the coal in place under protected structures, or the “support estate” recognized under Pennsylvania law.²⁶⁰ Economic impact is measured by reference to the property as a whole; consideration of the coal placed off limits to mining as merely part of a larger estate and not as a separate estate undermined the commercial impracticability argument.

The Court had been early concerned with the imposition upon one or a few individuals of the costs of furthering the public interest.²⁶¹ But it was with respect to zoning that the Court first experienced some difficulty in this regard. The Court’s first zoning case

²⁵⁶ *Id.* at 415. In dissent, Justice Brandeis argued that a restriction imposed to abridge the owner’s exercise of his rights in order to prohibit a noxious use or to protect the public health and safety simply could not be a taking, because the owner retained his interest and his possession. *Id.* at 416.

²⁵⁷ 480 U.S. 470 (1987). The decision was 5–4. Justice Stevens’ opinion of the Court was joined by Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Blackmun; Chief Justice Rehnquist’s dissent was joined by Justices Powell, O’Connor, and Scalia.

²⁵⁸ 480 U.S. at 485.

²⁵⁹ *Id.* at 495–96.

²⁶⁰ *Id.* at 498–502. How to define the property interest to be measured for diminution in value or economic impact remains largely unresolved. Recent dictum suggests that the answer to segmentation “may lie in how the owner’s reasonable expectations have been shaped by the State’s law of property—*i.e.*, whether and to what degree the State’s law has accorded legal recognition and protection to the particular interest in land. . . .” *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*, 112 S. Ct. 2886, 2894 n.7 (1992). Application of this test could have led to invalidation in *Keystone*, inasmuch as Pennsylvania law recognized a support estate allegedly totally eliminated by the mining restriction.

²⁶¹ *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Walters*, 294 U.S. 405 (1935) (government may not require railroad at its own expense to separate the grade of a railroad track from that of an interstate highway). *See also* *Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Co. v. State Comm’n*, 294 U.S. 613 (1935); *Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. v. Public Utility Comm’n*, 346 U.S. 346 (1953), and *compare* the Court’s two decisions in *Georgia Ry. & Electric Co. v. City of Decatur*, 295 U.S. 165 (1935), and 297 U.S. 620 (1936).

involved a real estate company's challenge to a comprehensive municipal zoning ordinance, alleging that the ordinance prevented development of its land for industrial purposes and thereby reduced its value from \$10,000 an acre to \$2,500 an acre.²⁶² Acknowledging that zoning was of recent origin, the Court observed that it must find its justification in the police power and be evaluated by the constitutional standards applied to exercises of the police power. After considering traditional nuisance law, the Court determined that the public interest was served by segregation of incompatible land uses and the ordinance was thus valid on its face; whether its application to diminish property values in any particular case was also valid would depend, the Court said, upon a finding that it was not "clearly arbitrary and unreasonable, having no substantial relation to the public health, safety, morals, or general welfare."²⁶³ A few years later the Court, again relying on due process rather than taking law, did invalidate the application of a zoning ordinance to a tract of land, finding that the tract would be rendered nearly worthless and that to exempt the tract would impair no substantial municipal interest.²⁶⁴ But then the Court withdrew from the land-use scene for about 50 years, leaving the States and their municipalities mostly free to develop increasingly more comprehensive zoning techniques.²⁶⁵

As governmental regulation of property has expanded over the years—in terms of zoning and land use controls, environmental regulations, and the like—the Court never developed, as it admitted, a "set formula to determine where regulation ends and taking begins."²⁶⁶ Rather, as one commentator remarked, its decisions constitute a "crazy quilt pattern" of judgments.²⁶⁷ Nonetheless, the

²⁶² Village of Euclid v. Ambler Realty Co., 272 U.S. 365 (1926).

²⁶³ Id. at 395. See also Zahn v. Board of Public Works, 274 U.S. 325 (1927).

²⁶⁴ Nectow v. City of Cambridge, 277 U.S. 183 (1928).

²⁶⁵ But see Village of Belle Terre v. Boraas, 416 U.S. 1 (1974) (considering and sustaining single-family zoning as applied to group of college students sharing a house), and Moore v. City of East Cleveland, 431 U.S. 494 (1977) (considering and voiding single-family zoning so strictly construed as to bar a grandmother from living with two grandchildren of different children). Some due process cases were also considered. Eubank v. City of Richmond, 226 U.S. 137 (1912); Washington ex rel. Seattle Trust Co. v. Roberge, 278 U.S. 116 (1928); City of Eastlake v. Forest City Enterprises, 426 U.S. 668 (1976).

²⁶⁶ Penn Central Transp. Co. v. City of New York, 438 U.S. 104, 124 (1978). The phrase appeared first in Goldblatt v. Town of Hempstead, 369 U.S. 590, 594 (1962).

²⁶⁷ Dunham, Griggs v. Allegheny County in *Perspective: Thirty Years of Supreme Court Expropriation Law*, 1962 SUP. CT. REV. 63. For an effort to ground taking jurisprudence in its philosophical precepts, see Michelman, *Property, Utility, and Fairness: Comments on the Ethical Foundations of 'Just Compensation' Law*, 80 HARV. L. REV. 1165 (1967). A comprehensive analysis of the law in context is *Developments in the Law-Zoning*, 91 HARV. L. REV. 1427 (1978).

Court has now formulated general principles that guide many of its decisions in the area.

In *Penn Central Transportation Co. v. City of New York*,²⁶⁸ the Court, while cautioning that regulatory takings cases require “essentially ad hoc, factual inquiries,” nonetheless laid out general guidance for determining whether a regulatory taking has occurred. “The economic impact of the regulation on the claimant and, particularly, the extent to which the regulation has interfered with reasonable investment-backed expectations are . . . relevant considerations. So too, is the character of the governmental action. A ‘taking’ may more readily be found when the interference with property can be characterized as a physical invasion by government than when interference arises from some public program adjusting the benefits and burdens of economic life to promote the common good.”²⁶⁹

At issue in *Penn Central* was the City’s landmarks preservation law, as applied to deny approval to construct a 53-story office building atop Grand Central Terminal. The Court upheld the landmarks law against Penn Central’s takings claim through application of the principles set forth above. The economic impact on Penn Central was considered: the Company could still make a “reasonable return” on its investment by continuing to use the facility as a rail terminal with office rentals and concessions, and the City specifically permitted owners of landmark sites to transfer to other sites the right to develop those sites beyond the otherwise permissible zoning restrictions, a valuable right which mitigated the burden otherwise to be suffered by the owner. As for the character of the governmental regulation, the Court found the landmarks law to be an economic regulation rather than a governmental appropriation of property, the preservation of historic sites being a permissible goal and one which served the public interest.²⁷⁰

Justice Holmes began his analysis in *Mahon* with the observation that “[g]overnment hardly could go on if to some extent values incident to property could not be diminished without paying for every . . . change in the general law,”²⁷¹ and *Penn Central’s* economic impact standard also leaves ample room for recognition of this principle. Thus, the Court can easily hold that a mere permit requirement does not amount to a taking,²⁷² nor does a simple rec-

²⁶⁸ 438 U.S. 104 (1978). Justices Rehnquist and Stevens and Chief Justice Burger dissented. *Id.* at 138.

²⁶⁹ *Id.* at 124 (citations omitted).

²⁷⁰ *Id.* at 124–28, 135–38.

²⁷¹ 260 U.S. at 413.

²⁷² *United States v. Riverside Bayview Homes*, 474 U.S. 121 (1985) (requirement that permit be obtained for filling privately-owned wetlands is not a taking,

ordination requirement.²⁷³ The tests become more useful, however, when compliance with regulation becomes more onerous.

Several times the Court has relied on the concept of “distinct (or “reasonable”) investment-backed expectations” first introduced in *Penn Central*. In *Ruckelshaus v. Monsanto Co.*,²⁷⁴ the Court used the concept to determine whether a taking had resulted from the government’s disclosure of trade secret information submitted with applications for pesticide registrations. Disclosure of data that had been submitted from 1972 to 1978, a period when the statute guaranteed confidentiality and thus “formed the basis of a reasonable investment-backed expectation,” would have destroyed the property value of the trade secret and constituted a taking.²⁷⁵ Following 1978 amendments setting forth conditions of data disclosure, however, applicants voluntarily submitting data in exchange for the economic benefits of registration had no reasonable expectation of additional protections of confidentiality.²⁷⁶ Relying less heavily on the concept but rejecting an assertion that reasonable investment backed-expectations had been upset, the Court in *Connolly v. Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.*²⁷⁷ upheld retroactive imposition of liability for pension plan withdrawal on the basis that employers had at least constructive notice that Congress might buttress the legislative scheme to accomplish its legislative aim that employees receive promised benefits. On the other hand, a federal ban on the sale of artifacts made from eagle feathers was sustained as applied to the existing inventory of a commercial dealer in such artifacts, the Court not directly addressing the ban’s obvious interference with investment-backed expectations.²⁷⁸ The Court merely noted that the ban served a substantial public purpose in protecting the eagle from extinction, that the owner still

although permit denial resulting in prevention of economically viable use of land may be).

²⁷³ *Texaco v. Short*, 454 U.S. 516 (1982) (state statute deeming mineral claims lapsed upon failure of putative owners to take prescribed steps is not a taking); *United States v. Locke*, 471 U.S. 84 (1984) (reasonable regulation of recordation of mining claim is not a taking).

²⁷⁴ 467 U.S. 986 (1984).

²⁷⁵ 467 U.S. at 1011.

²⁷⁶ 467 U.S. at 1006–07. Similarly, disclosure of data submitted before the confidentiality guarantee was placed in the law did not frustrate reasonable expectations, the Trade Secrets Act merely protecting against “unauthorized” disclosure. *Id.* at 1008–10.

²⁷⁷ 475 U.S. 211 (1986). In addition, see *Kaiser Aetna v. United States*, 444 U.S. 164, 179 (1979) (involving frustration of “expectancies” developed through improvements to private land and governmental approval of permits), and *PruneYard Shopping Center v. Robins*, 447 U.S. 74, 84 (1980) (characterizing and distinguishing *Kaiser Aetna* as involving interference with “reasonable investment backed expectations”).

²⁷⁸ *Andrus v. Allard*, 444 U.S. 51 (1979).

had viable economic uses for his holdings, such as displaying them in a museum and charging admission, and that he still had the value of possession.²⁷⁹

In the course of its opinion in *Penn Central* the Court rejected the principle that no compensation is required when regulation bans a noxious or harmful effect of land use.²⁸⁰ The principle, it had been contended, followed from several earlier cases, including *Goldblatt v. Town of Hempstead*.²⁸¹ In that case, after the town had expanded around an excavation used by a company for mining sand and gravel, the town enacted an ordinance that in effect terminated further mining at the site. Declaring that no compensation was owed, the Court stated that “[a] prohibition simply upon the use of property for purposes that are declared, by valid legislation, to be injurious to the health, morals, or safety of the community, cannot, in any just sense, be deemed a taking or an appropriation of property for the public benefit. Such legislation does not disturb the owner in the control or use of his property for lawful purposes, nor restrict his right to dispose of it, but is only a declaration by the State that its use by any one, for certain forbidden purposes, is prejudicial to the public interests.”²⁸² In *Penn Central*, however, the Court denied that there was any such test and that prior cases had turned on the concept. “These cases are better understood as resting not on any supposed ‘noxious’ quality of the prohibited uses but rather on the ground that the restrictions were reasonably related to the implementation of a policy—not unlike historic preservation—expected to produce a widespread public benefit and applicable to all similarly situated property.”²⁸³ More recently, in *Lucas*

²⁷⁹ Similarly, the Court in *Goldblatt* had pointed out that the record contained no indication that the mining prohibition would reduce the value of the property in question. 369 U.S. at 594. *Contrast* *Hodel v. Irving*, 481 U.S. 704 (1987), where the Court found insufficient justification for a complete abrogation of the right to pass on to heirs interests in certain fractionated property. Note as well the differing views expressed in *Irving* as to whether that case limits *Andrus v. Allard* to its facts. *Id.* at 718 (Justice Brennan concurring, 719 (Justice Scalia concurring)). *And see* the suggestion in *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*, 112 S. Ct. 2886, 2899–900 (1992), that *Allard* may rest on a distinction between permissible regulation of personal property, on the one hand, and real property, on the other.

²⁸⁰ The dissent was based upon this test. 438 U.S. at 144–46.

²⁸¹ 369 U.S. 590 (1962). *Hadacheck v. Sebastian*, 239 U.S. 394 (1915), and, perhaps, *Miller v. Schoene*, 276 U.S. 272 (1928), also fall under this heading, although *Schoene* may also be assigned to the public peril line of cases.

²⁸² *Id.* at 593 (quoting *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623, 668–69 (1887)). The Court posited a two-part test. First, the interests of the public required the interference, and, second, the means were reasonably necessary for the accomplishment of the purpose and were not unduly oppressive of the individual. *Id.* at 595. The test was derived from *Lawton v. Steele*, 152 U.S. 133, 137 (1894) (holding that state officers properly destroyed fish nets that were banned by state law in order to preserve certain fisheries from extinction).

²⁸³ 438 U.S. at 133–34 n.30.

v. South Carolina Coastal Council,²⁸⁴ the Court explained “noxious use” analysis as merely an early characterization of police power measures that do not require compensation. “[N]oxious use logic cannot serve as a touchstone to distinguish regulatory ‘takings’—which require compensation—from regulatory deprivations that do not require compensation.”²⁸⁵

Penn Central is not the only guide to when a regulatory taking has occurred; other criteria have emerged from other cases before and after *Penn Central*. The Court has long recognized a *per se* takings rule for physical invasions: when government permanently²⁸⁶ occupies or authorizes someone else to occupy property, the action constitutes a taking and compensation must be paid regardless of the public interests served by the occupation or the extent of damage to the parcel as a whole.²⁸⁷ The modern case dealt with a law that required landlords to permit a cable television company to install its cable facilities upon their buildings; although the equipment occupied only about 1 1/2 cubic feet of space on the exterior of each building and had only de minimis economic impact, a divided Court held that the regulation authorized a permanent physical occupation of the property and thus constituted a taking.²⁸⁸

A second *per se* taking rule is of more recent vintage. Land use controls constitute takings, the Court stated in *Agins v. City of Tiburon*, if they do not “substantially advance legitimate govern-

²⁸⁴ 112 S. Ct. 2886 (1992).

²⁸⁵ *Id.* at 2899. The *Penn Central* majority also rejected the dissent’s contention, 438 U.S. at 147–50, that regulation of property use constitutes a taking unless it spreads its distribution of benefits and burdens broadly so that each person burdened has at the same time the enjoyment of the benefit of the restraint upon his neighbors. The Court deemed it immaterial that the landmarks law has a more severe impact on some landowners than on others: “Legislation designed to promote the general welfare commonly burdens some more than others.” *Id.* at 133–34.

²⁸⁶ By contrast, the *per se* rule is inapplicable to *temporary* physical occupations of land. *Loretto v. Teleprompter Manhattan CATV Corp.*, 458 U.S. 419, 428, 434 (1982); *PruneYard Shopping Center v. Robins*, 447 U.S. 74, 84 (1980).

²⁸⁷ The rule emerged from cases involving flooding of lands and erection of poles for telegraph lines, e.g., *Pumpelly v. Green Bay Co.*, 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 166 (1872); *City of St. Louis v. Western Union Telegraph Co.*, 148 U.S. 92 (1893); *Western Union Telegraph Co. v. Pennsylvania R.R.*, 195 U.S. 540 (1904).

²⁸⁸ *Loretto v. Teleprompter Manhattan CATV Corp.*, 458 U.S. 419 (1982). *Loretto* was distinguished in *FCC v. Florida Power Corp.*, 480 U.S. 245 (1987); regulation of the rates that utilities may charge cable companies for pole attachments does not constitute a taking in the absence of any requirement that utilities allow attachment and acquiesce in physical occupation of their property. *See also Yee v. City of Escondido*, 112 S. Ct. 1522 (1992) (no physical occupation was occasioned by regulations in effect preventing mobile home park owners from setting rents or determining who their tenants would be; owners could still determine whether their land would be used for a trailer park and could evict tenants in order to change the use of their land).

mental interests,”²⁸⁹ or if they deny a property owner “economically viable use of his land.”²⁹⁰ This second *Agins* criterion creates a categorical rule: “when the owner of real property has been called upon to sacrifice *all* economically beneficial uses in the name of the common good, that is, to leave his property economically idle, he has suffered a taking.”²⁹¹ The only exceptions, the Court explained in *Lucas*, are for those restrictions that come with the property as title encumbrances or other legally enforceable limitations. Regulations “so severe” as to prohibit all economically beneficial use of land “cannot be newly legislated or decreed (without compensation), but must inhere in the title itself, in the restrictions that background principles of the State’s law of property and nuisance already place upon land ownership. A law or decree with such an effect must, in other words, do no more than duplicate the result that could have been achieved in the courts—by adjacent land owners (or other uniquely affected persons) under the State’s law of private nuisance, or by the State under its complementary power to abate [public] nuisances . . . , or otherwise.”²⁹² Thus, while there is no broad “noxious use” exception separating police power regulations from takings, there is a much narrower exception based on the law of nuisance and related principles.

The “or otherwise” reference, the Court explained in *Lucas*,²⁹³ was principally directed to cases holding that in times of great public peril, such as war, spreading municipal fires, and the like, property may be taken and destroyed without necessitating compensation. Thus, in *United States v. Caltex*,²⁹⁴ the owners of property de-

²⁸⁹ This test was derived from *Nectow v. City of Cambridge*, 277 U.S. 183 (1928), a due process case.

²⁹⁰ 447 U.S. 255, 260 (1980).

²⁹¹ *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*, 112 S. Ct. 2886, 2895 (1992). The *Agins/Lucas* total deprivation rule does not create an all-or-nothing situation, since “the landowner whose deprivation is one step short of complete” may still be able to recover through application of the *Penn Central* economic impact and “distinct [or reasonable] investment-backed expectations” criteria. *Id.* at 2895 n.8 (1992).

²⁹² *Id.* at 2900. The emphasis on title suggests that the timing of governmental regulation in relation to title transfer may be important. But there are apparently limits to how far this principle may be carried. In *Nollan v. California Coastal Comm’n*, 483 U.S. 825 (1987), in which Justice Scalia also authored the Court’s opinion, the Court rejected the suggestion that title was encumbered by an easement imposed by a regulation that antedated property transfer. “So long as the Commission could not have deprived the prior owners of the [beach access] easement without compensating them, the prior owners must be understood to have transferred their full property rights in conveying the lot.” *Id.* at 834 n.2.

²⁹³ 112 S. Ct. at 2900 n.16.

²⁹⁴ 344 U.S. 149 (1952). In dissent, Justices Black and Douglas advocated the applicability of a test formulated by Justice Brandeis in *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Walters*, 294 U.S. 405, 429 (1935), a regulation case, to the effect that “when particular individuals are singled out to bear the cost of advancing the public conven-

stroyed by retreating United States armies in Manila during World War II were held not entitled to compensation, and in *United States v. Central Eureka Mining Co.*,²⁹⁵ the Court held that a federal order suspending the operations of a nonessential gold mine for the duration of the war in order to redistribute the miners, unaccompanied by governmental possession and use or a forced sale of the facility, was not a taking entitling the owner to compensation for loss of profits. Finally, the Court held that when federal troops occupied several buildings during a riot in order to dislodge rioters and looters who had already invaded the buildings, the action was taken as much for the owners' benefit as for the general public benefit and the owners must bear the costs of the damage inflicted on the buildings subsequent to the occupation.²⁹⁶

The first prong of the *Agins* test,²⁹⁷ focusing on whether land use controls "substantially advance legitimate governmental interests," was applied in *Nollan v. California Coastal Commission*.²⁹⁸ There the Court held that extraction of a public access easement across a strip of beach as a condition for a permit to enlarge a beachfront home did not "substantially advance" the state's legitimate interest in preserving public view of the beach from the street in front of the lot. The easement instead was designed to allow the public to walk back and forth along the beach between two public beaches. "[U]nless the permit condition serves the same governmental purpose as the development ban," the Court concluded, "the building restriction is not a valid regulation of land use but 'an out-and-out plan of extortion.'" ²⁹⁹ The future importance of *Nollan* will depend in large measure on how broadly its principles are applied. Unlimited application of a substantial advancement test could herald decreased deference to legislative judgments as to appropriate regulation of property, and a resurrection of substantive due process analysis.³⁰⁰ Confined to its holding, however, *Nollan* may be

ience, that imposition must bear some reasonable relation to the evils to be eradicated or the advantages to be secured."

²⁹⁵ 357 U.S. 155 (1958). In dissent, Justice Harlan argued for the test stated above. *Id.* at 179. *See supra*, n.6.

²⁹⁶ *National Bd. of YMCA v. United States*, 395 U.S. 85 (1969). "An undertaking by the Government to reduce the menace from flood damages which were inevitable but for the Government's work does not constitute the Government a taker of all lands not fully and wholly protected. When undertaking to safeguard a large area from existing flood hazards, the Government does not owe compensation under the Fifth Amendment to every landowner which it fails to or cannot protect." *United States v. Sponenbarger*, 308 U.S. 256, 265 (1939).

²⁹⁷ *Agins v. City of Tiburon*, 447 U.S. 255, 260 (1980).

²⁹⁸ 483 U.S. 825 (1987).

²⁹⁹ *Id.* at 837.

³⁰⁰ Dissenting Justice Brennan argued that the Court was requiring "a degree of exactitude that is inconsistent with our standard for reviewing the rationality of a state's exercise of its police power for the welfare of its citizens." 483 U.S. at 842-

relatively unexceptional. The Court's frame of reference was that requiring a property owner to convey outright a public easement across his property would ordinarily and undeniably constitute a taking; the question posed was "whether requiring [the easement] to be conveyed as a condition for issuing a land use permit alters the outcome."³⁰¹ However, for many conditions attached to permits (e.g., building code requirements relating to safety, quality of materials, or soundness of construction) the starting point is different: these conditions do not stand alone. And, even where *Nollan* issues apparently could be raised (as, e.g., with respect to requirements that subdivision developers dedicate land for recreation needs generated by their developments), it may often be possible to establish that the condition "substantially advances" the same legitimate governmental purpose served by the permit requirement.³⁰² Important to *Nollan's* application will be how narrowly or how broadly a reviewing court is willing to construe the public interests underlying the regulation of property.³⁰³

Following the *Penn Central* decision, the Court grappled with the issue of the appropriate remedy property owners should pursue in objecting to land use regulations.³⁰⁴ The remedy question arises

43. Justice Scalia's opinion for the Court denied that the standards "are the same as those applied to due process or equal protection claims," indicating further that "a broad range of governmental purposes and regulations satisfies these requirements." *Id.* at 834 n.3, 834–35. For analysis, see N. Lawrence, *Means, Motives, and Takings: The Nexus Test of Nollan v. California Coastal Commission*, 12 HARV. ENVTL. L. REV. 231 (1988). Note as well that *Lucas* also manifests decreased deference to legislative judgments; destruction of all beneficial use of property cannot be justified through legislative findings of necessity, but only by reference to background principles of property law.

³⁰¹ *Id.* at 834.

³⁰² Justice Scalia, author of the Court's opinion in *Nollan*, amplified his views in a concurring and dissenting opinion in *Pennell v. City of San Jose*, 485 U.S. 1 (1988), explaining that "common zoning regulations requiring subdividers to observe lot-size and set-back restrictions, and to dedicate certain areas to public streets, are in accord with [constitutional requirements] because the proposed property use would otherwise be the cause of" the social evil (e.g., congestion) that the regulation seeks to remedy. By contrast, the Justice asserted, a rent control restriction pegged to individual tenant hardship lacks such cause-and-effect relationship and is in reality an attempt to impose on a few individuals public burdens that "should be borne by the public as a whole." 485 U.S. at 20, 22.

³⁰³ Compare *Pioneer Trust and Savings Bank v. Village of Mount Prospect*, 22 Ill.2d 375, 176 N.E.2d 799 (1961) (required dedication of land for school and playground is invalid as resulting from the total development of the community, rather than being specifically and uniquely attributable to the developer's activity) with *Associated Home Builders v. City of Walnut Creek*, 94 Cal. Rptr. 630, 484 P.2d 606, 610 (1971) (exaction can be justified on the basis of "general public need for recreational facilities caused by present and future subdivisions"). The *Nollan* Court cited the *Mount Prospect* case approvingly, while contrasting the California rule. 483 U.S. at 839.

³⁰⁴ See, e.g., *Agins v. City of Tiburon*, 447 U.S. 255 (1980) (issue not reached because property owners challenging development density restrictions had not sub-

because there are two possible constitutional objections to be made to regulations that go “too far” in reducing the value of property or which do not substantially advance a legitimate governmental interest. The regulation may be invalidated as a denial of due process, or may be deemed a taking requiring compensation, at least for the period in which the regulation was in effect. The Court finally resolved the issue in *First English Evangelical Lutheran Church v. County of Los Angeles*, holding that, when land use regulation is held to be a taking, compensation is due for the period of implementation prior to the holding.³⁰⁵ The Court recognized that, even though government may elect in such circumstances to discontinue regulation and thereby avoid compensation for a permanent property deprivation, “no subsequent action by the government can relieve it of the duty to provide compensation for the period during which the taking was effective.”³⁰⁶

The process of describing general criteria to guide resolution of regulatory taking claims, begun in *Penn Central*, has reduced to some extent the ad hoc character of takings law. It is nonetheless true that not all cases fit neatly into the categories delimited to date, and that still other cases that might be so categorized are explained in different terms by the Court. The overriding objective, the Court frequently reminds us, is to vitalize the Fifth Amendment’s protection against government “forcing some people alone to bear public burdens which, in all fairness and justice, should be borne by the public as a whole.”³⁰⁷ Thus a taking may be found if the effect of regulation is enrichment of the government itself rather than adjustment of the benefits and burdens of economic life in promotion of the public good.³⁰⁸ Similarly, the Court looks

mitted a development plan); *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Reclamation Ass’n*, 452 U.S. 264, 293–97 (1981), and *Hodel v. Indiana*, 452 U.S. 314, 333–36 (1981) (rejecting facial taking challenges to federal strip mining law).

³⁰⁵ 482 U.S. 304 (1987). The decision was 6–3, Chief Justice Rehnquist’s opinion of the Court being joined by Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, Powell, and Scalia, and Justice Stevens’ dissent being joined in part by Justices Blackmun and O’Connor. The position the Court adopted had been advocated by Justice Brennan in a dissenting opinion in *San Diego Gas & Elec. Co. v. City of San Diego*, 450 U.S. 621, 636 (1981) (dissenting from Court’s holding that state court decision was not “final judgment” under 28 U.S.C. §1257).

³⁰⁶ 482 U.S. at 321.

³⁰⁷ *Armstrong v. United States*, 364 U.S. 40, 49 (1960). For other incantations of this fairness principle, see *Penn Central*, 438 U.S. at 123–24; and *Andrus v. Alford*, 444 U.S. 51, 65 (1979).

³⁰⁸ *Webb’s Fabulous Pharmacies v. Beckwith*, 449 U.S. 155 (1980) (government retained the interest derived from funds it required to be deposited with the clerk of the county court as a precondition to certain suits; the interest earned was not reasonably related to the costs of using the courts, since a separate statute required payment for the clerk’s services). By contrast, a charge for governmental services “not so clearly excessive as to belie [its] purported character as [a] user fee” does not qualify as a taking. *United States v. Sperry Corp.*, 493 U.S. 52, 62 (1989).

askance at governmental efforts to secure public benefits at a landowner's expense—"government actions that may be characterized as acquisitions of resources to permit or facilitate uniquely public functions."³⁰⁹

On the other side of the coin, the nature as well as the extent of property interests affected by governmental regulation sometimes takes on importance. The Court emphasizes that the taking of one "strand" or "stick" in the "bundle" of property rights does not necessarily constitute a taking as long as the property as a whole retains economic viability,³¹⁰ but some strands are more important than others. The right to exclude others from one's land is so basic to ownership that extinguishment of this right ordinarily constitutes a taking.³¹¹ Similarly valued is the right to pass on property to one's heirs.³¹²

Even though takings were found or assumed in the recent decisions in *First English*, *Nollan*, and *Lucas*, considerable obstacles remain for future litigants challenging regulatory restrictions on land use. As suggested above, regulatory takings will most likely remain difficult to establish in spite of *Nollan*. The *Lucas* fact situation, in which governmental regulation rendered property "valueless," may prove to be relatively rare (although how the "segmentation" issue³¹³ is handled may prove pivotal in this regard). And even if a taking can be established, the Court cautioned in *First English* that its holding was limited "to the facts presented [a taking was assumed] and [did] not deal with the quite different questions that would arise in the case of normal delays in obtaining building per-

³⁰⁹ Penn Central Transp. Co. v. New York City, 438 U.S. 104, 128 (1978). In addition to the cases cited there, see also *Kaiser Aetna v. United States*, 444 U.S. 164, 180 (1979) (viewed as governmental effort to turn private pond into "public aquatic park"); *Nollan v. California Coastal Comm'n*, 483 U.S. 825 (1987) ("extortion" of beachfront easement for public as permit condition unrelated to purpose of permit).

³¹⁰ *Andrus v. Allard*, 444 U.S. 51, 65-66 (1979) (denial of most profitable use of artifacts—the right to sell them—does not constitute a taking, since rights to possession, transportation, display, donation, and devise were retained).

³¹¹ *Nollan v. California Coastal Comm'n*, 483 U.S. 825, 831-32 (1987) (physical occupation occurs with public easement that eliminates right to exclude others); *Kaiser Aetna v. United States*, 444 U.S. 164 (1979) (imposition of navigation servitude requiring public access to a privately-owned pond was a taking under the circumstances; owner's commercially valuable right to exclude others was taken, and requirement amounted to "an actual physical invasion"). *But see PruneYard Shopping Center v. Robins*, 447 U.S. 74, 84 (1980) (requiring shopping center to permit individuals to exercise free expression rights on property onto which public had been invited was not destructive of right to exclude others or "so essential to the use or economic value of [the] property" as to constitute a taking).

³¹² *Hodel v. Irving*, 481 U.S. 704 (1987) (complete abrogation of the right to pass on to heirs fractionated interests in lands constitutes a taking).

³¹³ See n.260, supra.

mits, changes in zoning ordinances, variances, and the like.”³¹⁴ Failure to incur such delays can result in dismissal of an as-applied taking claim on ripeness grounds. In *Williamson County Regional Planning Comm’n v. Hamilton Bank*,³¹⁵ for example, the landowner had failed to seek a variance following a planning commission’s rejection of a subdivision plat, and had failed to pursue state inverse condemnation procedures. Similarly, in *MacDonald, Sommer & Frates v. County of Yolo*,³¹⁶ the landowner had failed to obtain a “final and authoritative determination of the type and intensity of development legally permitted on the . . . property.” As the Court explained, “[a] court cannot determine whether a regulation has gone ‘too far’ unless it knows how far the regulation goes.”³¹⁷ The landowner had been denied approval for one subdivision plan calling for intense development, but that one denial had not foreclosed “the possibility that some deveopment [would] be permitted.”³¹⁸ So too, a challenge to a municipal rent control ordinance was considered “premature” in the absence of evidence that a tenant hardship provision had in fact ever been applied to reduce what would otherwise be considered to be a reasonable rent increase.³¹⁹ Facial challenges present the same difficulties—without pursuing administrative remedies, a claimant often lacks evidence that a statute’s effect is to deny all economically viable uses of property.³²⁰

³¹⁴ 482 U.S. at 321.

³¹⁵ 473 U.S. 172 (1985).

³¹⁶ 477 U.S. 340 (1986).

³¹⁷ *Id.* at 348.

³¹⁸ *Id.* at 352.

³¹⁹ *Pennell v. City of San Jose*, 485 U.S. 1 (1988).

³²⁰ *See, e.g., Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Reclamation Ass’n*, 452 U.S. 264, 295–97 (1981) (facial challenge to surface mining law rejected); *United States v. Riverside Bayview Homes*, 474 U.S. 121, 127 (1985) (mere permit requirement does not itself take property).

SIXTH AMENDMENT

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RIGHTS OF ACCUSED IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

SIXTH AMENDMENT

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

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

Coverage

Criminal prosecutions in the District of Columbia¹ and in incorporated territories² must conform to this Amendment, but those in the unincorporated territories need not do so.³ In upholding a trial before a United States consul of a United States citizen for a crime committed within the jurisdiction of a foreign nation, the Court specifically held that this Amendment reached only citizens and others within the United States or who were brought to the United States for trial for alleged offenses committed elsewhere, and not to citizens residing or temporarily sojourning abroad.⁴ It is clear that this holding no longer is supportable after *Reid v. Covert*,⁵ but it is not clear what the constitutional rule is. All of the

¹ *Callan v. Wilson*, 127 U.S. 540 (1888).

² *Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145 (1879). See also *Lovato v. New Mexico*, 242 U.S. 199 (1916).

³ *Balzac v. Puerto Rico*, 258 U.S. 298, 304–05 (1922); *Dorr v. United States*, 195 U.S. 138 (1904). These holdings are, of course, merely one element of the doctrine of the Insular Cases, *De Lima v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 1 (1901); and *Downes v. Bidwell*, 182 U.S. 244 (1901), concerned with the “Constitution following the flag.” *Supra*, pp. 324–25. Cf. *Rasmussen v. United States*, 197 U.S. 516 (1905).

⁴ *In re Ross*, 140 U.S. 453 (1891).

⁵ 354 U.S. 1 (1957) (holding that civilian dependents of members of the Armed Forces overseas could not constitutionally be tried by court-martial in time of peace for capital offenses committed abroad). Four Justices, Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren, disapproved *Ross* as “resting . . . on a fundamental misconception” that the Constitution did not limit the actions of the United States Government wherever it acted, *id.* at 5–6, 10–12, and evinced some doubt with regard to the *Insular Cases* as well. *Id.* at 12–14. Justices Frankfurter and Harlan, concur-

rights guaranteed in this Amendment are so fundamental that they have been made applicable against state abridgment by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.⁶

Offenses Against the United States.—There are no common-law offenses against the United States. Only those acts which Congress has forbidden, with penalties for disobedience of its command, are crimes.⁷ Actions to recover penalties imposed by act of Congress generally but not invariably have been held not to be criminal prosecutions,⁸ as is true also of deportation proceedings,⁹ but contempt proceedings which were at one time not considered to be criminal prosecutions are no longer within that category.¹⁰ To what degree Congress may make conduct engaged in outside the territorial limits of the United States a violation of federal criminal law is a matter not yet directly addressed by the Court.¹¹

RIGHT TO A SPEEDY AND PUBLIC TRIAL

Speedy Trial

Source and Rationale.—The right to a speedy trial may be derived from a provision of Magna Carta and it was a right so interpreted by Coke.¹² Much the same language was incorporated

ring, would not accept these strictures, but were content to limit *Ross* to its particular factual situation and to distinguish the *Insular Cases*. Id. at 41, 65. Cf. *Middendorf v. Henry*, 425 U.S. 25, 33–42 (1976) (declining to decide whether there is a right to counsel in a court-martial, but ruling that the summary court-martial involved in the case was not a “criminal prosecution” within the meaning of the Amendment).

⁶ Citation is made in the sections dealing with each provision.

⁷ *United States v. Hudson & Goodwin*, 11 U.S. (7 Cr.) 32 (1812); *United States v. Coolidge*, 14 U.S. (1 Wheat.) 415 (1816); *United States v. Britton*, 108 U.S. 199, 206 (1883); *United States v. Eaton*, 144 U.S. 677, 687 (1892).

⁸ *Oceanic Navigation Co. v. Stranaham*, 214 U.S. 320 (1909); *Hepner v. United States*, 213 U.S. 103 (1909); *United States v. Regan*, 232 U.S. 37 (1914).

⁹ *United States ex rel. Turner v. Williams*, 194 U.S. 279, 289 (1904); *Zakonaite v. Wolf*, 226 U.S. 272 (1912).

¹⁰ *Compare In re Debs*, 158 U.S. 564 (1895), with *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194 (1968).

¹¹ See *United States v. Bowman*, 260 U.S. 94 (1922) (treating question as a matter of statutory interpretation); NATIONAL COMMISSION ON REFORM OF FEDERAL CRIMINAL LAWS, WORKING PAPERS 69–76 (1970). Congress has recently asserted the authority by criminalizing various terrorist acts committed abroad against U.S. nationals. See, e.g., prohibitions against hostage taking and air piracy contained in Pub. L. No. 98–473, ch. XX; 18 U.S.C. § 1203 and 49 U.S.C. app. §§ 1471, 72; and prohibitions against killing or doing physical violence to a U.S. national abroad contained in Pub. L. No. 99–399, § 1202(a), 100 Stat. 896 (1986); 18 U.S.C. § 2331. Extraterritorial jurisdiction under the hostage taking and air piracy laws was upheld by an appeals court in *United States v. Yunis*, 924 F.2d 1086 (D.C. Cir. 1991).

¹² “We will sell to no man, we will not deny or defer to any man either justice or right.” Ch. 40 of the 1215 Magna Carta, a portion of ch. 29 of the 1225 reissue. *Klopper v. North Carolina*, 386 U.S. 213, 223–24 (1967).

into the Virginia Declaration of Rights of 1776¹³ and from there into the Sixth Amendment. Unlike other provisions of the Amendment, this guarantee can be attributable to reasons which have to do with the rights of and infliction of harms to both defendants and society. The provision is “an important safeguard to prevent undue and oppressive incarceration prior to trial, to minimize anxiety and concern accompanying public accusation and to limit the possibility that long delay will impair the ability of an accused to defend himself.”¹⁴ The passage of time alone may lead to the loss of witnesses through death or other reasons and the blurring of memories of available witnesses. But on the other hand, “there is a societal interest in providing a speedy trial which exists separate from and at times in opposition to the interests of the accused.” Persons in jail must be supported at considerable public expense and often families must be assisted as well. Persons free in the community may commit other crimes, may be tempted over a lengthening period of time to “jump” bail, and may be able to use the backlog of cases to engage in plea bargaining for charges or sentences which do not give society justice. And delay often retards the deterrent and rehabilitative effects of the criminal law.¹⁵

Application and Scope.—Because the guarantee of a speedy trial “is one of the most basic rights preserved by our Constitution,” it is one of those “fundamental” liberties embodied in the Bill of Rights which the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment makes applicable to the States.¹⁶ The protection afforded by this guarantee “is activated only when a criminal prosecution has begun and extends only to those persons who have been ‘accused’ in the course of that prosecution.” Invocation of the right need not await indictment, information, or other formal charge but begins with the actual restraints imposed by arrest if those restraints precede the formal preferring of charges.¹⁷ Possible prejudice that

¹³7 F. THORPE, THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTIONS, H. Doc. No. 357, 59th Congress, 2d Sess. 8, 3813 (1909).

¹⁴United States v. Ewell, 383 U.S. 116, 120 (1966). See also *Klopfer v. North Carolina*, 386 U.S. 213, 221–22 (1967); *Smith v. Hoey*, 393 U.S. 374, 377–379 (1969); *Dickey v. Florida*, 389 U.S. 30, 37–38 (1970).

¹⁵*Barker v. Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 519 (1972); *Dickey v. Florida*, 398 U.S. 30, 42 (1970) (Justice Brennan concurring). Congress by the Speedy Trial Act of 1974, Pub. L. No. 93–619, 88 Stat. 2076, 18 U.S.C. §§3161–74, has codified the law with respect to the right, intending “to give effect to the sixth amendment right to a speedy trial.” S. Rep. No. 1021, 93d Congress, 2d Sess. 1 (1974).

¹⁶*Klopfer v. North Carolina*, 386 U.S. 213, 226 (1967).

¹⁷United States v. Marion, 404 U.S. 307, 313, 320, 322 (1971). Justices Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall disagreed, arguing that the “right to a speedy trial is the right to be brought to trial speedily which would seem to be as relevant to pretrial indictment delays as it is to post-indictment delays,” but concurring because they did not think the guarantee violated under the facts of the case. *Id.* at 328. In *United States v. MacDonald*, 456 U.S. 1 (1982), the Court held the clause was not impli-

may result from delays between the time government discovers sufficient evidence to proceed against a suspect and the time of instituting those proceedings is guarded against by statutes of limitation, which represent a legislative judgment with regard to permissible periods of delay.¹⁸ In two cases, the Court held that the speedy trial guarantee had been violated by States which preferred criminal charges against persons who were already incarcerated in prisons of other jurisdictions following convictions on other charges when those States ignored the defendants' requests to be given prompt trials and made no effort through requests to prison authorities to obtain custody of the prisoners for purposes of trial.¹⁹ A state practice permitting the prosecutor to take *nolle prosequi* with leave, which discharged the accused from custody but left him subject at any time thereafter to prosecution at the discretion of the prosecutor, the statute of limitations being tolled, was condemned as violative of the guarantee.²⁰

When the Right is Denied.—"The right of a speedy trial is necessarily relative. It is consistent with delays and depends upon circumstances. It secures rights to a defendant. It does not preclude the rights of public justice."²¹ No length of time is per se too long to pass scrutiny under this guarantee,²² but on the other hand nei-

cated by the action of the United States when, in May of 1970, it proceeded with a charge of murder against defendant under military law but dismissed the charge in October of that year, and he was discharged in December. In June of 1972, the investigation was reopened and an investigation was begun, but a grand jury was not convened until August of 1974, and MacDonald was not indicted until January of 1975. The period between dismissal of the first charge and the later indictment had none of the characteristics which called for application of the speedy trial clause. The period between arrest and indictment must be considered in evaluating a speedy trial claim. *Marion* and *MacDonald* were applied in *United States v. Loud Hawk*, 474 U.S. 302 (1986), holding the speedy trial guarantee inapplicable to the period during which the government appealed dismissal of an indictment, since during that time the suspect had not been subject to bail or otherwise restrained.

¹⁸*United States v. Marion*, 404 U.S. 307, 322-23 (1971). *Cf. United States v. Toussie*, 397 U.S. 112, 114-15 (1970). In some circumstances, pre-accusation delay could constitute a due process violation but not a speedy trial problem. If prejudice results to a defendant because of the government's delay, a court should balance the degree of prejudice against the reasons for delay given by the prosecution. *Marion*, supra, at 324; *United States v. Lovasco*, 431 U.S. 783 (1977); *United States v. MacDonald*, 456 U.S. 1, 8 (1982).

¹⁹*Smith v. Hooley*, 393 U.S. 374 (1969); *Dickey v. Florida*, 398 U.S. 30 (1970).

²⁰*Klopfer v. North Carolina*, 386 U.S. 213 (1967). In *Pollard v. United States*, 352 U.S. 354 (1957), the majority assumed and the dissent asserted that sentence is part of the trial and that too lengthy or unjustified a delay in imposing sentence could run afoul of this guarantee.

²¹*Beavers v. Haubert*, 198 U.S. 77, 87 (1905) (holding that the guarantee could not be invoked by a defendant first indicted in one district to prevent removal to another district where he had also been indicted).

²²*Cf. Pollard v. United States*, 352 U.S. 354 (1957); *United States v. Ewell*, 383 U.S. 116 (1966). *See United States v. Provoo*, 350 U.S. 857 (1955), affg 17 F.R.D. 183 (D. Md. 1955).

ther does the defendant have to show actual prejudice by delay.²³ The Court rather has adopted an ad hoc balancing approach. “We can do little more than identify some of the factors which courts should assess in determining whether a particular defendant has been deprived of his right. Though some might express them in different ways, we identify four such factors: Length of delay, the reason for the delay, the defendant’s assertion of his right, and prejudice to the defendant.”²⁴ The fact of delay triggers an inquiry and is dependent on the circumstances of the case. Reasons for delay will vary. A deliberate delay for advantage will weigh heavily, whereas the absence of a witness would justify an appropriate delay, and such factors as crowded dockets and negligence will fall between these other factors.²⁵ It is the duty of the prosecution to bring a defendant to trial, and the failure of the defendant to demand the right is not to be construed as a waiver of the right;²⁶ yet, the defendant’s acquiescence in delay when it works to his advantage should be considered against his later assertion that he was denied the guarantee, and the defendant’s responsibility for the delay would be conclusive. Finally, a court should look to the possible prejudices and disadvantages suffered by a defendant during a delay.²⁷

A determination that a defendant has been denied his right to a speedy trial results in a decision to dismiss the indictment or to reverse a conviction in order that the indictment be dismissed.²⁸

²³United States v. Marion, 404 U.S. 307, 320 (1971); *Barker v. Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 536 (1972) (Justice White concurring).

²⁴*Barker v. Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 530 (1972). For the federal courts, Congress under the Speedy Trial Act of 1974 imposed strict time deadlines, replacing the *Barker* factors.

²⁵*Barker v. Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 531 (1972). Delays caused by the prosecution’s interlocutory appeal will be judged by the *Barker* factors, of which the second—the reason for the appeal—is the most important. *United States v. Loud Hawk*, 474 U.S. 302 (1986) (no denial of speedy trial, since prosecution’s position on appeal was strong, and there was no showing of bad faith or dilatory purpose). If the interlocutory appeal is taken by the defendant, he must “bear the heavy burden of showing an unreasonable delay caused by the prosecution [or] wholly unjustifiable delay by the appellate court” in order to win dismissal on speedy trial grounds. *Id.* at 316.

²⁶*Id.* at 528. *See generally id.* at 523–29. Waiver is “an intentional relinquishment or abandonment of a known right or privilege,” *Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458, 464 (1938), and it is not to be presumed but must appear from the record to have been intelligently and understandingly made. *Carnley v. Cochran*, 369 U.S. 506, 516 (1962).

²⁷*Barker v. Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 532 (1972).

²⁸*Strunk v. United States*, 412 U.S. 434 (1973). A trial court denial of a motion to dismiss on speedy trial grounds is not an appealable order under the “collateral order” exception to the finality rule. One must raise the issue on appeal from a conviction. *United States v. MacDonald*, 435 U.S. 850 (1977).

Public Trial

“This nation’s accepted practice of guaranteeing a public trial to an accused has its roots in our English common law heritage. The exact date of its origin is obscure, but it likely evolved long before the settlement of our land as an accompaniment of the ancient institution of jury trial. In this country the guarantee to an accused of the right to a public trial first appeared in a state constitution in 1776. Following the ratification in 1791 of the Federal Constitution’s Sixth Amendment . . . most of the original states and those subsequently admitted to the Union adopted similar constitutional provisions. Today almost without exception every state by constitution, statute, or judicial decision, requires that all criminal trials be open to the public.

“The traditional Anglo-American distrust for secret trials has been variously ascribed to the notorious use of this practice by the Spanish Inquisition, to the excesses of the English Court of Star Chamber, and to the French monarchy’s abuse of the letter de cachet. All of these institutions obviously symbolized a menace to liberty. . . . Whatever other benefits the guarantee to an accused that his trial be conducted in public may confer upon our society, the guarantee has always been recognized as a safeguard against any attempt to employ our courts as instruments of persecution.”²⁹ The purposes of the requirement of open trials are multiple: it helps to assure the criminal defendant a fair and accurate adjudication of guilt or innocence, it provides a public demonstration of fairness, it discourages perjury, the misconduct of participants, and decisions based on secret bias or partiality. The Court has also expatiated upon the therapeutic value to the community of open trials to enable the public to see justice done and the fulfillment of the urge for retribution that people feel upon the commission of some kinds of crimes.³⁰ Because of the near universality of the guarantee in this country, the Supreme Court has had little occasion to deal with the right. It is a right so fundamental that it is protected against state deprivation by the due process clause,³¹ but it is not

²⁹In *re Oliver*, 333 U.S. 257, 266–70 (1948) (citations omitted). Other panegyrics to the value of openness, accompanied with much historical detail, are *Gannett Co. v. DePasquale*, 443 U.S. 368, 406, 411–33 (1979) (Justice Blackmun concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555, 564–73 (1980) (plurality opinion of Chief Justice Burger); *id.* at 589–97 (Justice Brennan concurring); *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Superior Court*, 457 U.S. 596, 603–07 (1982).

³⁰*Estes v. Texas*, 381 U.S. 532, 538–39 (1965); *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555, 569–73 (1980) (plurality opinion of Chief Justice Burger); *id.* at 593–97 (Justice Brennan concurring).

³¹In *re Oliver*, 333 U.S. 257 (1948); *Levine v. United States*, 362 U.S. 610 (1960). Both cases were contempt proceedings which were not then “criminal pros-

so absolute that reasonable regulation designed to forestall prejudice from publicity and disorderly trials is foreclosed.³² The banning of television cameras from the courtroom and the precluding of live telecasting of a trial is not a denial of the right,³³ although the Court does not inhibit televised trials under the proper circumstances.³⁴

The Court has borrowed from First Amendment cases in protecting the right to a public trial. Closure of trials or pretrial proceedings over the objection of the accused may be justified only if the state can show “an overriding interest based on findings that closure is essential to preserve higher values and is narrowly tailored to serve that interest.”³⁵ In *Waller v. Georgia*,³⁶ the Court held that an accused’s Sixth Amendment rights had been violated by closure of all 7 days of a suppression hearing in order to protect persons whose phone conversations had been taped, when less than 2½ hours of the hearing had been devoted to playing the tapes. The need for openness at suppression hearings “may be particularly strong,” the Court indicated, due to the fact that the conduct of police and prosecutor is often at issue.³⁷ However, an accused’s Sixth Amendment-based request for closure must meet the same stringent test applied to governmental requests to close proceedings: there must be “specific findings . . . demonstrating that first, there is a substantial probability that the defendant’s right to a fair trial will be prejudiced by publicity that closure would prevent, and second, reasonable alternatives to closure cannot adequately protect the defendant’s fair trial rights.”³⁸

The Sixth Amendment guarantee is apparently a personal right of the defendant, which he may in some circumstances waive in conjunction with the prosecution and the court.³⁹ The First Amendment, however, has been held to protect public and press ac-

ecutions” to which the Sixth Amendment applied (for the modern rule see *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194 (1968)), so that the cases were wholly due process holdings. Cf. *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555, 591 n.16 (1980) (Justice Brennan concurring).

³² Cf. *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966); *Nebraska Press Ass’n v. Stuart*, 427 U.S. 539 (1976).

³³ *Estes v. Texas*, 381 U.S. 532 (1965). Cf. *Nixon v. Warner Communications*, 435 U.S. 589, 610 (1978).

³⁴ *Chandler v. Florida*, 449 U.S. 560 (1981).

³⁵ *Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court*, 464 U.S. 501, 510 (1984) (*Press-Enterprise I*).

³⁶ 467 U.S. 39 (1984).

³⁷ *Waller v. Georgia*, 467 U.S. 39, 47 (1984) (indicating that the *Press-Enterprise I* standard governs such 6th Amendment cases).

³⁸ *Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court*, 478 U.S. 1, 14 (1986) (*Press-Enterprise II*).

³⁹ *Gannett Co. v. DePasquale*, 443 U.S. 368 (1979).

cess to trials in all but the most extraordinary circumstances,⁴⁰ hence a defendant's request for closure of his trial must be balanced against the public and press right of access. Before such a request for closure will be honored, there must be "specific findings . . . demonstrating that first, there is a substantial probability that the defendant's right to a fair trial will be prejudiced by publicity that closure would prevent, and second, reasonable alternatives to closure cannot adequately protect the defendant's fair trial rights."⁴¹

RIGHT TO TRIAL BY IMPARTIAL JURY

Jury Trial

By the time the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights were drafted and ratified, the institution of trial by jury was almost universally revered, so revered that its history had been traced back to Magna Carta.⁴² The jury began in the form of a grand or presentment jury with the role of inquest and was started by Frankish conquerors to discover the King's rights. Henry II regularized this type of proceeding to establish royal control over the machinery of justice, first in civil trials and then in criminal trials. Trial by petit jury was not employed at least until the reign of Henry III, in which the jury was first essentially a body of witnesses, called for their knowledge of the case; not until the reign of Henry VI did it become the trier of evidence. It was during the Seventeenth Century that the jury emerged as a safeguard for the criminally accused.⁴³ Thus, in the Eighteenth Century, Blackstone could commemorate the institution as part of a "strong and two-fold barrier . . . between the liberties of the people and the prerogative of the crown" because "the truth of every accusation . . . [must] be confirmed by the unanimous suffrage of twelve of his equals and neighbors indifferently chosen and superior to all suspicion."⁴⁴ The right was guaranteed in the constitutions of the original 13 States, was guaranteed in the body of the Constitu-

⁴⁰ *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555 (1980); *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Superior Court*, 457 U.S. 596 (1982). See also *Gannett Co. v. DePasquale*, 443 U.S. 368, 397 (1979) (Justice Powell concurring).

⁴¹ *Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court*, 478 U.S. 1 (1986). See First Amendment discussion supra pp. 1105–08.

⁴² Historians no longer accept this attribution. Thayer, *The Jury and Its Development*, 5 HARV. L. REV. 249, 265 (1892), and the Court has noted this. *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 151 n.16 (1968).

⁴³ W. FORSYTH, HISTORY OF TRIAL BY JURY (London: 1852).

⁴⁴ W. BLACKSTONE, COMMENTARIES ON THE LAWS OF ENGLAND *349-*350 (T. Cooley 4th ed. 1896). The other of the "two-fold barrier" was, of course, indictment by grand jury.

tion⁴⁵ and in the Sixth Amendment, and the constitution of every State entering the Union thereafter in one form or another protected the right to jury trial in criminal cases.⁴⁶ “Those who emigrated to this country from England brought with them this great privilege ‘as their birthright and inheritance, as a part of that admirable common law which had fenced around and interposed barriers on every side against the approaches of arbitrary power.’”⁴⁷

“The guarantees of jury trial in the Federal and State Constitutions reflect a profound judgment about the way in which law should be enforced and justice administered. A right to jury trial is granted to criminal defendants in order to prevent oppression by the Government. Those who wrote our constitutions knew from history and experience that it was necessary to protect against unfounded criminal charges brought to eliminate enemies and against judges too responsive to the voice of higher authority. The framers of the constitutions strove to create an independent judiciary but insisted upon further protection against arbitrary action. Providing an accused with the right to be tried by a jury of his peers gave him an inestimable safeguard against the corrupt overzealous prosecutor and against the compliant, biased, or eccentric judge. . . . [T]he jury trial provisions . . . reflect a fundamental decision about the exercise of official power—a reluctance to entrust plenary powers over the life and liberty of the citizen to one judge or to a group of judges. Fear of unchecked power . . . found expression in the criminal law in this insistence upon community participation in the determination of guilt or innocence.”⁴⁸

Because “a general grant of jury trial for serious offenses is a fundamental right, essential for preventing miscarriages of justice and for assuring that fair trials are provided for all defendants,” the Sixth Amendment provision is binding on the States through the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.⁴⁹ But inasmuch as it cannot be said that every criminal trial or any particular trial which is held without a jury is unfair,⁵⁰ it is possible for

⁴⁵ In Art III, § 2.

⁴⁶ *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 153 (1968).

⁴⁷ *Thompson v. Utah*, 170 U.S. 343, 349–50 (1898), quoting 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1773 (1833).

⁴⁸ *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 155–56 (1968). At other times the function of accurate factfinding has been emphasized. E.g., *McKeiver v. Pennsylvania*, 403 U.S. 528, 543 (1971). While federal judges may comment upon the evidence, the right to a jury trial means that the judge must make clear to the jurors that such remarks are advisory only and that the jury is the final determiner of all factual questions. *Quercia v. United States*, 289 U.S. 466 (1933).

⁴⁹ *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 158–59 (1968).

⁵⁰ *Id.* at 159. Thus, state trials conducted before *Duncan* was decided were held to be valid still. *DeStefano v. Woods*, 392 U.S. 631 (1968).

a defendant to waive the right and go to trial before a judge alone.⁵¹

The Attributes of the Jury.—It was previously the position of the Court that the right to a jury trial meant “a trial by jury as understood and applied at common law, and includes all the essential elements as they were recognized in this country and England when the Constitution was adopted.”⁵² It had therefore been held that this included trial by a jury of 12 persons⁵³ who must reach a unanimous verdict⁵⁴ and that the jury trial must be held during the first court proceeding and not *de novo* at the first appellate stage.⁵⁵ However, as it extended the guarantee to the States, the Court indicated that at least some of these standards were open to re-examination,⁵⁶ and in subsequent cases it has done so. In *Williams v. Florida*,⁵⁷ the Court held that the fixing of jury size at 12 was “a historical accident” which, while firmly established when the Sixth Amendment was proposed and ratified, was not required as an attribute of the jury system, either as a matter of

⁵¹ *Patton v. United States*, 281 U.S. 276 (1930). As with other waivers, this one must be by the express and intelligent consent of the defendant. A waiver of jury trial must also be with the consent of the prosecution and the sanction of the court. A refusal by either the prosecution or the court to defendant’s request for consent to waive denies him no right since he then gets what the Constitution guarantees, a jury trial. *Singer v. United States*, 380 U.S. 24 (1965). It may be a violation of defendant’s rights to structure the trial process so as effectively to encourage him “needlessly” to waive or to penalize the decision to go to the jury, but the standards here are unclear. Compare *United States v. Jackson*, 390 U.S. 570 (1968), with *Brady v. United States*, 397 U.S. 742 (1970), and *McMann v. Richardson*, 397 U.S. 759 (1970), and see also *State v. Funicello*, 60 N.J. 60, 286 A.2d 55 (1971), cert. denied, 408 U.S. 942 (1972).

⁵² *Patton v. United States*, 281 U.S. 276, 288 (1930).

⁵³ *Thompson v. Utah*, 170 U.S. 343 (1898). Dicta in other cases was to the same effect. *Maxwell v. Dow*, 176 U.S. 581, 586 (1900); *Rassmussen v. United States*, 197 U.S. 516, 519 (1905); *Patton v. United States*, 281 U.S. 276, 288 (1930).

⁵⁴ *Andres v. United States*, 333 U.S. 740 (1948). See dicta in *Maxwell v. Dow*, 176 U.S. 581, 586 (1900); *Patton v. United States*, 281 U.S. 276, 288 (1930).

⁵⁵ *Callan v. Wilson*, 127 U.S. 540 (1888). Preserving *Callan*, as being based on Article II, § 2, as well as on the Sixth Amendment and being based on a more burdensome procedure, the Court in *Ludwig v. Massachusetts*, 427 U.S. 618 (1976), approved a state two-tier system under which persons accused of certain crimes must be tried in the first instance in the lower tier without a jury and if convicted may appeal to the second tier for a trial *de novo* by jury. Applying a due process standard, the Court, in an opinion by Justice Blackmun, found that neither the imposition of additional financial costs upon a defendant, nor the imposition of increased psychological and physical hardships of two trials, nor the potential of a harsher sentence on the second trial impermissibly burdened the right to a jury trial. Justices Stevens, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall dissented. *Id.* at 632. See also *North v. Russell*, 427 U.S. 328 (1976).

⁵⁶ *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 158 n.30 (1968); *DeStefano v. Woods*, 392 U.S. 631, 632–33 (1968).

⁵⁷ 399 U.S. 78 (1970). Justice Marshall would have required juries of 12 in both federal and state courts, *id.* at 116, while Justice Harlan contended that the Sixth Amendment required juries of 12, although his view of the due process standard was that the requirement was not imposed on the States. *Id.* at 117.

common-law background⁵⁸ or by any ascertainment of the intent of the framers.⁵⁹ Being bound neither by history nor framers' intent, the Court thought the "relevant inquiry . . . must be the function that the particular feature performs and its relation to the purposes of the jury trial." The size of the jury, the Court continued, bore no discernable relationship to the purposes of jury trial—the prevention of oppression and the reliability of factfinding. Furthermore, there was little reason to believe that any great advantage accrued to the defendant by having a jury composed of 12 rather than six, which was the number at issue in the case, or that the larger number appreciably increased the variety of viewpoints on the jury. A jury should be large enough to promote group deliberation, free from outside attempts at intimidation, and to provide a fair possibility that a cross-section of the community will be represented on it, but the Court did not speculate whether there was a minimum permissible size and it recognized the propriety of conditioning jury size on the seriousness of the offense.⁶⁰

When the unanimity rule was reconsidered, the division of the Justices was such that different results were reached for state and federal courts.⁶¹ Applying the same type of analysis as that used in *Williams*, four Justices acknowledged that unanimity was a common-law rule but observed for the reasons reviewed in *Williams* that it seemed more likely than not that the framers of the Sixth Amendment had not intended to preserve the requirement within the term "jury." Therefore, the Justices undertook a functional

⁵⁸The development of 12 as the jury size is traced in *Williams*, 399 U.S. at 86–92.

⁵⁹*Id.* at 92–99. While the historical materials were scanty, the Court thought it more likely than not that the framers of the Bill of Rights did not intend to incorporate into the word "jury" all its common-law attributes. This conclusion was drawn from the extended dispute between House and Senate over inclusion of a "vicinage" requirement in the clause, which was a common law attribute, and the elimination of language attaching to jury trials their "accustomed requisites." *But see id.* at 123 n.9 (Justice Harlan).

⁶⁰*Id.* at 99–103. In *Ballew v. Georgia*, 435 U.S. 223 (1978), the Court unanimously, but with varying expressions of opinion, held that conviction by a unanimous five-person jury in a trial for a nonpetty offense deprived an accused of his right to trial by jury. While readily admitting that the line between six and five members is not easy to justify, the Justices believed that reducing a jury to five persons in nonpetty cases raised substantial doubts as to the fairness of the proceeding and proper functioning of the jury to warrant drawing the line at six.

⁶¹*Apodaca v. Oregon*, 406 U.S. 404 (1972), involved a trial held after decision in *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145 (1968), and thus concerned whether the Sixth Amendment itself required jury unanimity, while *Johnson v. Louisiana*, 406 U.S. 356 (1972), involved a pre-*Duncan* trial and thus raised the question whether due process required jury unanimity. *Johnson* held, five-to-four, that the due process requirement of proof of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt was not violated by a conviction on a nine-to-three jury vote in a case in which punishment was necessarily at hard labor.

analysis of the jury and could not discern that the requirement of unanimity materially affected the role of the jury as a barrier against oppression and as a guarantee of a commonsense judgment of laymen. The Justices also determined that the unanimity requirement is not implicated in the constitutional requirement of proof beyond a reasonable doubt, and is not necessary to preserve the feature of the requisite cross-section representation on the jury.⁶² Four dissenting Justices thought that omitting the unanimity requirement would undermine the reasonable doubt standard, would permit a majority of jurors simply to ignore those interpreting the facts differently, and would permit oppression of dissenting minorities.⁶³ Justice Powell, on the other hand, thought that unanimity was mandated in federal trials by history and precedent and that it should not be departed from; however, because it was the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment which imposed the basic jury-trial requirement on the States, he did not believe that it was necessary to impose all the attributes of a federal jury on the States. He therefore concurred in permitting less-than-unanimous verdicts in state courts.⁶⁴

Criminal Proceedings to Which the Guarantee Applies.—

Although the Sixth Amendment provision does not differentiate among types of criminal proceedings in which the right to a jury trial is or is not present, the Court has always excluded petty offenses from the guarantee in federal courts, defining the line between petty and serious offenses either by the maximum punishment available⁶⁵ or by the nature of the offense.⁶⁶ This line has been adhered to in the application of the Sixth Amendment to the States⁶⁷ and the Court has now held “that no offense can be deemed ‘petty’ for purposes of the right to trial by jury where im-

⁶² *Apodaca v. Oregon*, 406 U.S. 404 (1972) (Justices White, Blackmun, and Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger). Justice Blackmun indicated a doubt that any closer division than nine-to-three in jury decisions would be permissible. *Id.* at 365.

⁶³ *Id.* at 414, and *Johnson v. Louisiana*, 406 U.S. 356, 380, 395, 397, 399 (1972) (Justices Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall).

⁶⁴ *Id.* at 366. *Burch v. Louisiana*, 441 U.S. 130 (1979), however, held that conviction by a non-unanimous six-person jury in a state criminal trial for a nonpetty offense, under a provision permitting conviction by five out of six jurors, violated the right of the accused to trial by jury. Acknowledging that the issue was “close” and that no bright line illuminated the boundary between permissible and impermissible, the Court thought the near-uniform practice throughout the Nation of requiring unanimity in six-member juries required nullification of the state policy. *See also Brown v. Louisiana*, 447 U.S. 323 (1980) (*Burch* held retroactive).

⁶⁵ *District of Columbia v. Clawans*, 300 U.S. 617 (1937); *Schick v. United States*, 195 U.S. 65 (1904); *Callan v. Wilson*, 127 U.S. 540 (1888).

⁶⁶ *District of Columbia v. Colts*, 282 U.S. 63 (1930).

⁶⁷ *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 159–62 (1968); *Dyke v. Taylor Implement Mfg. Co.*, 391 U.S. 216 (1968).

prisonment for more than six months is authorized.”⁶⁸ The Court has also made some changes in the meaning attached to the term “criminal proceeding.” Previously, it had been applied only to situations in which a person has been accused of an offense by information or presentment.⁶⁹ Thus, a civil action to collect statutory penalties and punitive damages, because not technically criminal, has been held to implicate no right to jury trial.⁷⁰ But more recently the Court has held denationalization to be punishment which Congress may not impose without adhering to the guarantees of the Fifth and Sixth Amendments,⁷¹ and the same type of analysis could be used with regard to other sanctions. In a long line of cases, the Court had held that no constitutional right to jury trial existed in trials of criminal contempt.⁷² But in *Bloom v. Illinois*,⁷³ the Court announced that “[o]ur deliberations have convinced us . . . that serious contempts are so nearly like other serious crimes that they are subject to the jury trial provisions of the Constitution . . . and that the traditional rule is constitutionally infirm insofar as it permits other than petty contempts to be tried without honoring a demand for a jury trial.” At least in state systems and probably in the federal system as well, there is no constitutional right

⁶⁸*Baldwin v. New York*, 399 U.S. 66, 69 (1970). Justices Black and Douglas would have required a jury trial in all criminal proceedings in which the sanction imposed bears the indicia of criminal punishment. *Id.* at 74 (concurring); *Cheff v. Schnackenberg*, 384 U.S. 373, 384, 386 (1966) (dissenting). Chief Justice Burger and Justices Harlan and Stewart objected to setting this limitation at six months for the States, preferring to give them greater leeway. *Baldwin*, *supra*, at 76; *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 117, 143 (1970) (dissenting). No jury trial was required when the trial judge suspended sentence and placed defendant on probation for three years. *Frank v. United States*, 395 U.S. 147 (1969). There is a presumption that offenses carrying a maximum imprisonment of six months or less are “petty,” although it is possible that such an offense could be pushed into the “serious” category if the legislature tacks on onerous penalties not involving incarceration. No jury trial is required, however, when the maximum sentence is six months in jail, a fine not to exceed \$1,000, a 90-day driver’s license suspension, and attendance at an alcohol abuse education course. *Blanton v. City of North Las Vegas*, 489 U.S. 538, 542–44 (1989).

⁶⁹*United States v. Zucker*, 161 U.S. 475, 481 (1896).

⁷⁰*Id.* See also *Oceanic Steam Navigation Co. v. Stranahan*, 214 U.S. 320 (1909); *Hepner v. United States*, 213 U.S. 103 (1909).

⁷¹*Kennedy v. Mendoza-Martinez*, 372 U.S. 144 (1963).

⁷²E.g., *Green v. United States*, 356 U.S. 165, 183–87 (1958), and cases cited; *United States v. Burnett*, 376 U.S. 681, 692–700 (1964), and cases cited. A Court plurality in *Cheff v. Schnackenberg*, 384 U.S. 373 (1966), held, asserting the Court’s supervisory power over the lower federal courts, that criminal contempt sentences in excess of six months imprisonment could not be imposed without a jury trial or adequate waiver.

⁷³391 U.S. 194, 198 (1968). Justices Harlan and Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 215. As in other cases, the Court drew the line between serious and petty offenses at six months, but because, unlike other offenses, no maximum punishments are usually provided for contempts it indicated the actual penalty imposed should be looked to. *Id.* at 211. And see *Dyke v. Taylor Implement Mfg. Co.*, 391 U.S. 216 (1968).

to a jury trial in juvenile proceedings.⁷⁴ In capital cases there is no requirement that a jury impose the death penalty⁷⁵ or make the factual findings upon which a death sentence must rest.⁷⁶

Impartial Jury

Impartiality as a principle of the right to trial by jury is served not only by the Sixth Amendment, which is as applicable to the States as to the Federal Government,⁷⁷ but as well by the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth,⁷⁸ and perhaps the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, and the Court's supervisory power has been directed to the issue in the federal system.⁷⁹ Prior to the Court's extension of a right to jury trials in state courts, it was firmly established that if a State chose to provide juries they must be impartial ones.⁸⁰

Impartiality is a two-fold requirement. First, "the selection of a petit jury from a representative cross section of the community is an essential component of the Sixth Amendment."⁸¹ This re-

⁷⁴ *McKeiver v. Pennsylvania*, 403 U.S. 528 (1971).

⁷⁵ *Spaziano v. Florida*, 468 U.S. 447, 459 (1984).

⁷⁶ *Hildwin v. Florida*, 490 U.S. 638, 640–41 (1989) (per curiam) ("the Sixth Amendment does not require that the specific findings authorizing the imposition of the sentence of death be made by the jury"); *Clemons v. Mississippi*, 494 U.S. 738 (1990) (appellate court may reweigh aggravating and mitigating factors and uphold imposition of death penalty even though jury relied on an invalid aggravating factor); *Walton v. Arizona*, 497 U.S. 639 (1990) (judge may make requisite findings as to existence of aggravating and mitigating circumstances).

⁷⁷ *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717 (1961); *Turner v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 466 (1965); *Parker v. Gladden*, 385 U.S. 363 (1966); *Witherspoon v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 510 (1968); *Gonzales v. Beto*, 405 U.S. 1052 (1972).

⁷⁸ Thus, it violates the Equal Protection Clause to exclude African Americans from grand and petit juries, *Strauder v. West Virginia*, 100 U.S. 303 (1880); *Alexander v. Louisiana*, 405 U.S. 625 (1972), whether defendant is or is not an African American, *Peters v. Kiff*, 407 U.S. 493 (1972), and exclusion of potential jurors because of their national ancestry is unconstitutional, at least where defendant is of that ancestry as well, *Hernandez v. Texas*, 347 U.S. 475 (1954); *Castaneda v. Partida*, 430 U.S. 482 (1977).

⁷⁹ In the exercise of its supervisory power over the federal courts, the Court has permitted any defendant to challenge the arbitrary exclusion from jury service of his own or any other class. *Glasser v. United States*, 315 U.S. 60, 83–87 (1942); *Thiel v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 328 U.S. 217, 220 (1946); *Ballard v. United States*, 329 U.S. 187 (1946). In *Taylor v. Louisiana*, 419 U.S. 522 (1975), and *Duren v. Missouri*, 439 U.S. 357 (1979), male defendants were permitted to challenge the exclusion of women as a Sixth Amendment violation.

⁸⁰ *Turner v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 466 (1965).

⁸¹ *Taylor v. Louisiana*, 419 U.S. 522, 528 (1975). See also *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 100 (1970); *Brown v. Allen*, 344 U.S. 443, 474 (1953). In *Fay v. New York*, 332 U.S. 261 (1947), and *Moore v. New York*, 333 U.S. 565 (1948), the Court in 5-to-4 decisions upheld state use of "blue ribbon" juries from which particular groups, such as laborers and women, had been excluded. With the extension of the jury trial provision and its fair cross section requirement to the States, the opinions in these cases must be considered tenuous, but the Court has reiterated that defendants are not entitled to a jury of any particular composition. *Taylor*, *supra*, at 538.

quirement applies only to jury panels or venires from which petit juries are chosen, and not to the composition of the petit juries themselves.⁸² “In order to establish a prima facie violation of the fair-cross-section requirement, the defendant must show (1) that the group alleged to be excluded is a ‘distinctive’ group in the community; (2) that the representation of this group in venires from which juries are selected is not fair and reasonable in relation to the number of such persons in the community; and (3) that this underrepresentation is due to systematic exclusion of the group in the jury-selection process.”⁸³ Thus, in one case the Court voided a selection system under which no woman would be called for jury duty unless she had previously filed a written declaration of her desire to be subject to service, and, in another it invalidated a state selection system granting women who so requested an automatic exemption from jury service.⁸⁴ While disproportion alone is insufficient to establish a prima facie showing of unlawful exclusion, a statistical showing of disparity combined with a demonstration of the easy manipulability of the selection process can make out a prima facie case.⁸⁵

Second, there must be assurance that the jurors chosen are unbiased, i.e., willing to decide the case on the basis of the evidence presented. The Court has held that in the absence of an actual showing of bias, a defendant in the District of Columbia is not denied an impartial jury when he is tried before a jury composed primarily of government employees.⁸⁶ A violation of a defendant’s

Congress has implemented the constitutional requirement by statute in federal courts by the Federal Jury Selection and Service Act of 1968, Pub. L. No. 90-274, 82 Stat. 53, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1861 et seq.

⁸²Lockhart v. McCree, 476 U.S. 162 (1986). “We have never invoked the fair cross-section principle to invalidate the use of either for-cause or peremptory challenges to prospective jurors, or to require petit juries, as opposed to jury panels or venires, to reflect the composition of the community at large.” 476 U.S. at 173. The explanation is that the fair cross-section requirement “is a means of assuring, not a *representative* jury (which the Constitution does not demand), but an *impartial* one (which it does).” Holland v. Illinois, 493 U.S. 474, 480 (1990) (emphasis original).

⁸³Duren v. Missouri, 439 U.S. 357, 364 (1979).

⁸⁴Taylor v. Louisiana, 419 U.S. 522 (1975); Duren v. Missouri, 439 U.S. 357 (1979).

⁸⁵Castaneda v. Partida, 430 U.S. 482 (1977) (Mexican-American defendant successfully made out prima facie case of intentional exclusion of persons of his ethnic background by showing a substantial underrepresentation of Mexican-Americans based on a comparison of the group’s proportion in the total population of eligible jurors to the proportion called, and this in the face of the fact that Mexican-Americans controlled the selection process).

⁸⁶Frazier v. United States, 335 U.S. 497 (1948); Dennis v. United States, 339 U.S. 162 (1950). On common-law grounds, the Court in Crawford v. United States, 212 U.S. 183 (1909), disqualified such employees, but a statute removing the disqualification because of the increasing difficulty in finding jurors in the District of Columbia was sustained in United States v. Wood, 299 U.S. 123 (1936).

right to an impartial jury does occur, however, when the jury or any of its members is subjected to pressure or influence which could impair freedom of action; the trial judge should conduct a hearing in which the defense participates to determine whether impartiality has been undermined.⁸⁷ Exposure of the jury to possibly prejudicial material and disorderly courtroom activities may deny impartiality and must be inquired into.⁸⁸ Private communications, contact, or tampering with a jury, or the creation of circumstances raising the dangers thereof, is not to be condoned.⁸⁹ When the locality of the trial has been saturated with publicity about a defendant, so that it is unlikely that he can obtain a disinterested jury, he is constitutionally entitled to a change of venue.⁹⁰ It is undeniably a violation of due process to subject a defendant to trial in an atmosphere of mob or threatened mob domination.⁹¹

Because it is too much to expect that jurors can remain uninfluenced by evidence they receive even though they are instructed to use it for only a limited purpose and to disregard it for other purposes, the Court will not permit a confession to be submitted to the jury without a prior determination by the trial judge that it is admissible. A defendant is denied due process, therefore, if he is convicted by a jury that has been instructed to first determine the voluntariness of a confession and then to disregard the confession if it is found to be inadmissible.⁹² Similarly invalid is a jury instruction in a joint trial to consider a confession only with regard

⁸⁷ *Remmer v. United States*, 350 U.S. 377 (1956) (attempted bribe of a juror reported by him to authorities); *Smith v. Phillips*, 455 U.S. 209 (1982) (during trial one of the jurors had been actively seeking employment in the District Attorney's office).

⁸⁸ E.g., *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717 (1961); *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966). Exposure of the jurors to knowledge about the defendant's prior criminal record and activities is not alone sufficient to establish a presumption of reversible prejudice, but on *voir dire* jurors should be questioned about their ability to judge impartially. *Murphy v. Florida*, 421 U.S. 794 (1975). The Court indicated that under the same circumstances in a federal trial it would have overturned the conviction pursuant to its supervisory power. *Id.* at 797-98, citing *Marshall v. United States*, 360 U.S. 310 (1959). Essentially, the defendant must make a showing of prejudice which the court then may inquire into. *Chandler v. Florida*, 449 U.S. 560, 575, 581 (1981); *Smith v. Phillips*, 455 U.S. 209, 215-18 (1982); *Patton v. Yount*, 467 U.S. 1025 (1984).

⁸⁹ *Remmer v. United States*, 347 U.S. 227 (1954). See *Turner v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 466 (1965) (placing jury in charge of two deputy sheriffs who were principal prosecution witnesses at defendant's jury trial denied him his right to an impartial jury); *Parker v. Gladden*, 385 U.S. 363 (1966) (influence on jury by prejudiced bailiff). Cf. *Gonzales v. Beto*, 405 U.S. 1052 (1972).

⁹⁰ *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717 (1961) (felony); *Groppi v. Wisconsin*, 400 U.S. 505 (1971) (misdemeanor).

⁹¹ *Frank v. Mangum*, 237 U.S. 309 (1915); *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717 (1961); *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966).

⁹² *Jackson v. Denno*, 378 U.S. 368 (1964) (overruling *Stein v. New York*, 346 U.S. 156 (1953)).

to the defendant against whom it is admissible, and to disregard that confession as against a co-defendant which it implicates.⁹³

In *Witherspoon v. Illinois*,⁹⁴ the Court held that the exclusion in capital cases of jurors conscientiously scrupled about capital punishment, without inquiring whether they could consider the imposition of the death penalty in the appropriate case, violated a defendant's constitutional right to an impartial jury. Inasmuch as the jury is given broad discretion whether or not to fix the penalty at death, the Court ruled, the jurors must reflect "the conscience of the community" on the issue, and the automatic exclusion of all scrupled jurors "stacked the deck" and made of the jury a tribunal "organized to return a verdict of death."⁹⁵ A court may not refuse a defendant's request to examine potential jurors to determine whether they would vote automatically to impose the death penalty; general questions about fairness and willingness to follow the law are inadequate.⁹⁶

The proper standard for exclusion is "whether the juror's views would 'prevent or substantially impair the performance of his duties as a juror in accordance with his instructions and his oath.'"⁹⁷ Thus the juror need not indicate that he would "automatically" vote against the death penalty, and his "bias [need not] be proved with 'unmistakable clarity.'"⁹⁸ Persons properly excludable under *Witherspoon* may also be excluded from the guilt/innocence phase of a bifurcated capital trial.⁹⁹ It had been argued that to exclude such persons from the guilt/innocence phase would result in a jury

⁹³*Bruton v. United States*, 391 U.S. 123 (1968) (overruling *Delli Paoli v. United States*, 352 U.S. 232 (1957)). The rule applies to the States. *Roberts v. Russell*, 392 U.S. 293 (1968). *But see Nelson v. O'Neil*, 402 U.S. 622 (1971) (co-defendant's out-of-court statement is admissible against defendant if co-defendant takes the stand and denies having made the statement).

⁹⁴391 U.S. 510 (1968).

⁹⁵*Id.* at 519, 521, 523. The Court thought the problem went only to the issue of the sentence imposed and saw no evidence that a jury from which death scrupled persons had been excluded was more prone to convict than were juries on which such person sat. *Cf. Bumper v. North Carolina*, 391 U.S. 543, 545 (1968). The *Witherspoon* case was given added significance when in *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280 (1976), and *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325 (1976), the Court held mandatory death sentences unconstitutional and ruled that the jury as a representative of community mores must make the determination as guided by legislative standards. *See also Adams v. Texas*, 448 U.S. 38 (1980) (holding *Witherspoon* applicable to bifurcated capital sentencing procedures and voiding a statute permitting exclusion of any juror unable to swear that the existence of the death penalty would not affect his deliberations on any issue of fact).

⁹⁶*Morgan v. Illinois*, 112 S. Ct. 2222 (1992).

⁹⁷*Wainwright v. Witt*, 469 U.S. 412, 424 (1985), (quoting *Adams v. Texas*, 448 U.S. 38, 45 (1980)).

⁹⁸*Wainwright v. Witt*, 469 U.S. at 424. *Accord*, *Darden v. Wainwright*, 477 U.S. 168 (appropriateness of exclusion should be determined by context, including excluded juror's understanding based on previous questioning of other jurors).

⁹⁹*Lockhart v. McCree*, 476 U.S. 162 (1986).

somewhat more predisposed to convict, and that this would deny the defendant a jury chosen from a fair cross-section. The Court rejected this, concluding that “it is simply not possible to define jury impartiality . . . by reference to some hypothetical mix of individual viewpoints.”¹⁰⁰ Moreover, the state has “an entirely proper interest in obtaining a single jury that could impartially decide all of the issues in [a] case,” and need not select separate panels and duplicate evidence for the two distinct but interrelated functions.¹⁰¹ For the same reasons, there is no violation of the right to an impartial jury if a defendant for whom capital charges have been dropped is tried, along with a codefendant still facing capital charges, before a “death qualified” jury.¹⁰²

Exclusion of one juror qualified under *Witherspoon* constitutes reversible error, and the exclusion may not be subjected to harmless error analysis.¹⁰³ However, a court’s error in refusing to dismiss for cause a prospective juror prejudiced in favor of the death penalty does not deprive a defendant of his right to trial by an impartial jury if he is able to exclude the juror through exercise of a peremptory challenge.¹⁰⁴ The relevant inquiry is “on the jurors who ultimately sat,” the Court declared, rejecting as overly broad the assertion in *Gray* that the focus instead should be on “whether the composition of the jury panel as a whole could have been affected by the trial court’s error.”¹⁰⁵

It is the function of the *voir dire* to give the defense and the prosecution the opportunity to inquire into, or have the trial judge inquire into, possible grounds of bias or prejudice that potential jurors may have, and to acquaint the parties with the potential jurors.¹⁰⁶ It is good ground for challenge for cause that a juror has formed an opinion on the issue to be tried, but not every opinion which a juror may entertain necessarily disqualifies him. The judge must determine whether the nature and strength of the opinion raise a presumption against impartiality.¹⁰⁷ It suffices for the judge to question potential jurors about their ability to put aside what they had heard or read about the case, listen to the evidence with an open mind, and render an impartial verdict; the judge’s refusal to go further and question jurors about the contents of news

¹⁰⁰ 476 U.S. at 183.

¹⁰¹ *Id.* at 180.

¹⁰² *Buchanan v. Kentucky*, 483 U.S. 402 (1987).

¹⁰³ *Gray v. Mississippi*, 481 U.S. 648 (1987).

¹⁰⁴ *Ross v. Oklahoma*, 487 U.S. 81 (1987).

¹⁰⁵ *Id.* at 86, 87.

¹⁰⁶ *Lewis v. United States*, 146 U.S. 370 (1892); *Pointer v. United States*, 151 U.S. 396 (1894).

¹⁰⁷ *Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145 (1879). See *Witherspoon v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 510, 513–15, 522 n.21 (1968).

reports to which they had been exposed did not violate the Sixth Amendment.¹⁰⁸ Under some circumstances, it may be constitutionally required that questions specifically directed to the existence of racial bias must be asked. Thus, in a situation in which defendant, a black man, alleged that he was being prosecuted on false charges because of his civil rights activities in an atmosphere perhaps open to racial appeals, prospective jurors must be asked about their racial prejudice, if any.¹⁰⁹ A similar rule applies in some capital trials, where the risk of racial prejudice “is especially serious in light of the complete finality of the death sentence.” A defendant accused of an interracial capital offense is entitled to have prospective jurors informed of the victim’s race and questioned as to racial bias.¹¹⁰ But in circumstances not suggesting a significant likelihood of racial prejudice infecting a trial, as when the facts are merely that the defendant is black and the victim white, the Constitution is satisfied by a more generalized but thorough inquiry into the impartiality of the veniremen.¹¹¹

Although government is not constitutionally obligated to allow peremptory challenges, typically a system of peremptory challenges has existed in criminal trials, in which both prosecution and defense may, without stating any reason, excuse a certain number of prospective jurors.¹¹² While, in *Swain v. Alabama*,¹¹³ the Court held that a prosecutor’s purposeful exclusion of members of a specific racial group from the jury would violate the Equal Protection Clause, it posited so difficult a standard of proof that defendants could seldom succeed. The *Swain* standard of proof was relaxed in *Batson v. Kentucky*,¹¹⁴ with the result that a defendant may now establish an equal protection violation resulting from a prosecutor’s

¹⁰⁸ *Mu’Min v. Virginia*, 500 U.S. 415 (1991).

¹⁰⁹ *Ham v. South Carolina*, 409 U.S. 524 (1973).

¹¹⁰ *Turner v. Murray*, 476 U.S. 28 (1986). The quote is from a section of Justice White’s opinion not adopted as opinion of the Court. *Id.* at 35.

¹¹¹ *Ristaino v. Ross*, 424 U.S. 589 (1976). The Court noted that under its supervisory power it would require a federal court faced with the same circumstances to propound appropriate questions to identify racial prejudice if requested by the defendant. *Id.* at 597 n.9. See *Aldridge v. United States*, 283 U.S. 308 (1931). *But see* *Rosales-Lopez v. United States*, 451 U.S. 182 (1981), in which the trial judge refused a defense request to inquire about possible bias against Mexicans. A plurality apparently adopted a rule that, all else being equal, the judge should necessarily inquire about racial or ethnic prejudice only in cases of violent crimes in which the defendant and victim are members of different racial or ethnic groups, *id.* at 192, a rule rejected by two concurring Justices. *Id.* at 194. Three dissenting Justices thought the judge must always ask when defendant so requested. *Id.* at 195.

¹¹² *Cf. Stilson v. United States*, 250 U.S. 583, 586 (1919), an older case holding that it is no violation of the guarantee to limit the number of peremptory challenges to each defendant in a multi-party trial.

¹¹³ 380 U.S. 202 (1965).

¹¹⁴ 476 U.S. 79 (1986).

use of peremptory challenges to systematically exclude blacks from the jury.¹¹⁵ A violation can occur whether or not the defendant and the excluded jurors are of the same race.¹¹⁶ Racially discriminatory use of peremptory challenges does not, however, constitute a violation of the Sixth Amendment, the Court ruled in *Holland v. Illinois*.¹¹⁷ The Sixth Amendment “no more forbids the prosecutor to strike jurors on the basis of race than it forbids him to strike them on the basis of innumerable other generalized characteristics.”¹¹⁸ To rule otherwise, the Court reasoned, “would cripple the device of peremptory challenge” and thereby undermine the Amendment’s goal of “impartiality with respect to both contestants.”¹¹⁹

The restraint on racially discriminatory use of peremptory challenges is now a two-way street. The Court ruled in 1992 that a criminal defendant’s use of peremptory challenges to exclude jurors on the basis of race constitutes “state action” in violation of the Equal Protection Clause.¹²⁰ Disputing the contention that this limitation would undermine “the contribution of the peremptory challenge to the administration of justice,” the Court nonetheless asserted that such a result would in any event be “too high” a price to pay. “It is an affront to justice to argue that a fair trial includes the right to discriminate against a group of citizens based upon their race.”¹²¹ It followed, therefore, that the limitation on peremptory challenges does not violate a defendant’s right to an impartial jury. While a defendant has “the right to an impartial jury that can view him without racial animus,” this means that “there should be a mechanism for removing those [jurors] who would be incapable of confronting and suppressing their racism,” not that the defendant may remove jurors on the basis of race or racial stereotypes.¹²²

¹¹⁵ See discussion under “Equal Protection and Race,” *infra* p. 1839.

¹¹⁶ *Powers v. Ohio*, 499 U.S. 400 (1991) (defendant has standing to raise equal protection rights of excluded juror of different race).

¹¹⁷ 493 U.S. 474 (1990). *But see* *Trevino v. Texas*, 112 S. Ct. 1547 (1992) (claim of Sixth Amendment violation resulting from racially discriminatory use of peremptory challenges treated as sufficient to raise equal protection claim under *Swain* and *Batson*).

¹¹⁸ 493 U.S. at 487.

¹¹⁹ *Id.* at 484. As a consequence, a defendant who uses a peremptory challenge to correct the court’s error in denying a for-cause challenge may have no Sixth Amendment cause of action. Peremptory challenges “are a means to achieve the end of an impartial jury. So long as the jury that sits is impartial, the fact that the defendant had to use a peremptory challenge to achieve that result does not mean the Sixth Amendment was violated.” *Ross v. Oklahoma*, 487 U.S. 81, 88 (1987). Similarly, there is no due process violation, at least where state statutory law requires use of peremptory challenges to cure erroneous refusals by the court to excuse jurors for cause. “It is for the State to determine the number of peremptory challenges allowed and to define their purpose and the manner of their exercise.” *Id.*

¹²⁰ *Georgia v. McCollum*, 112 S. Ct. 2348 (1992).

¹²¹ *Id.* at 2358.

¹²² *Id.* at 2358–59.

PLACE OF TRIAL—JURY OF THE VICINAGE

Article III, §2 requires that federal criminal cases be tried by jury in the State and district in which the offense was committed,¹²³ but much criticism arose over the absence of any guarantee that the jury be drawn from the “vicinage” or neighborhood of the crime.¹²⁴ Madison’s efforts to write into the Bill of Rights an express vicinage provision were rebuffed by the Senate, and the present language was adopted as a compromise.¹²⁵ The provisions limit the Federal Government only.¹²⁶

An accused cannot be tried in one district under an indictment showing that the offense was committed in another;¹²⁷ the place where the offense is charged to have been committed determines the place of trial.¹²⁸ In a prosecution for conspiracy, the accused may be tried in any State and district where an overt act was performed.¹²⁹ Where a United States Senator was indicted for agreeing to receive compensation for services to be rendered in a proceeding before a government department, and it appeared that a tentative arrangement for such services was made in Illinois and confirmed in St. Louis, the defendant was properly tried in St. Louis, although he was not physically present in Missouri when notice of ratification was dispatched.¹³⁰ The offense of obtaining transportation of property in interstate commerce at less than the carrier’s published rates,¹³¹ or the sending of excluded matter through the mails,¹³² may be made triable in any district through which the forbidden transportation is conducted. By virtue of a presumption that a letter is delivered in the district to which it is addressed, the offense of scheming to defraud a corporation by mail

¹²³“The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crime shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by law have directed.”

¹²⁴“Vicinage” means neighborhood, and “vicinage of the jury” means jury of the neighborhood or, in medieval England, jury of the County. 4 W. BLACKSTONE, COMMENTARIES ON THE LAWS OF ENGLAND *350-351 (T. Cooley 4th ed. 1899). See 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1775-85 (1833).

¹²⁵The controversy is conveniently summarized in *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78, 92-96 (1970).

¹²⁶*Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Alabama*, 128 U.S. 96, 101 (1888).

¹²⁷*Salinger v. Loisel*, 265 U.S. 224 (1924).

¹²⁸*Beavers v. Henkel*, 194 U.S. 73, 83 (1904). For some more recent controversies about the place of the commission of the offense, see *United States v. Cores*, 356 U.S. 405 (1958), and *Johnston v. United States*, 351 U.S. 215 (1956).

¹²⁹*Brown v. Elliott*, 225 U.S. 392 (1912); *Hyde v. United States*, 225 U.S. 347 (1912); *Haas v. Henkel*, 216 U.S. 462 (1910).

¹³⁰*Burton v. United States*, 202 U.S. 344 (1906).

¹³¹*Armour Packing Co. v. United States*, 209 U.S. 56 (1908).

¹³²*United States v. Johnson*, 323 U.S. 273, 274 (1944).

was held to have been committed in that district although the letter was posted elsewhere.¹³³ The Constitution does not require any preliminary hearing before issuance of a warrant for removal of an accused to the court having jurisdiction of the charge.¹³⁴ The assignment of a district judge from one district to another, conformably to statute, does not create a new judicial district whose boundaries are undefined nor subject the accused to trial in a district not established when the offense with which he is charged was committed.¹³⁵ For offenses against federal laws not committed within any State, Congress has the sole power to prescribe the place of trial; such an offense is not local and may be tried at such place as Congress may designate.¹³⁶ The place of trial may be designated by statute after the offense has been committed.¹³⁷

NOTICE OF ACCUSATION

The constitutional right to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation entitles the defendant to insist that the indictment apprise him of the crime charged with such reasonable certainty that he can make his defense and protect himself after judgment against another prosecution on the same charge.¹³⁸ No indictment is sufficient if it does not allege all of the ingredients that constitute the crime. Where the language of a statute is, according to the natural import of the words, fully descriptive of the offense, it is sufficient if the indictment follows the statutory phraseology,¹³⁹ but where the elements of the crime have to be ascertained by reference to the common law or to other statutes, it is not sufficient to set forth the offense in the words of the statute. The facts necessary to bring the case within the statutory definition must also be alleged.¹⁴⁰ If an offense cannot be accurately and clearly described without an allegation that the accused is not within an exception contained in the statutes, an indictment which does not contain such allegation is defective.¹⁴¹ Despite the omission of obscene particulars, an indictment in general language is good if the

¹³³ *Hagner v. United States*, 285 U.S. 427, 429 (1932).

¹³⁴ *United States ex rel. Hughes v. Gault*, 271 U.S. 142 (1926). *Cf. Tinsley v. Treat*, 205 U.S. 20 (1907); *Beavers v. Henkel*, 194 U.S. 73, 84 (1904).

¹³⁵ *Lamar v. United States*, 241 U.S. 103 (1916).

¹³⁶ *Jones v. United States*, 137 U.S. 202, 211 (1890); *United States v. Dawson*, 56 U.S. (15 How.) 467, 488 (1853).

¹³⁷ *Cook v. United States*, 138 U.S. 157, 182 (1891). *See also United States v. Socony-Vacuum Oil Co.*, 310 U.S. 150, 250–54 (1940); *United States v. Johnson*, 323 U.S. 273 (1944).

¹³⁸ *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542, 544, 558 (1876); *United States v. Simmons*, 96 U.S. 360 (1878); *Bartell v. United States*, 227 U.S. 427 (1913); *Burton v. United States*, 202 U.S. 344 (1906).

¹³⁹ *Potter v. United States*, 155 U.S. 438, 444 (1894).

¹⁴⁰ *United States v. Carll*, 105 U.S. 611 (1882).

¹⁴¹ *United States v. Cook*, 84 U.S. (17 Wall.) 168, 174 (1872).

unlawful conduct is described so as reasonably to inform the accused of the nature of the charge sought to be established against him.¹⁴² The Constitution does not require the Government to furnish a copy of the indictment to an accused.¹⁴³ The right to notice of accusation is so fundamental a part of procedural due process that the States are required to observe it.¹⁴⁴

CONFRONTATION

“The primary object of the constitutional provision in question was to prevent depositions of *ex parte* affidavits . . . being used against the prisoner in lieu of a personal examination and cross-examination of the witness in which the accused has an opportunity not only of testing the recollection and sifting the conscience of the witness, but of compelling him to stand face to face with the jury in order that they may look at him, and judge by his demeanor upon the stand and the manner in which he gives his testimony whether he is worthy of belief”¹⁴⁵ The right of confrontation is “[o]ne of the fundamental guarantees of life and liberty . . . long deemed so essential for the due protection of life and liberty that it is guarded against legislative and judicial action by provisions in the Constitution of the United States and in the constitutions of most if not of all the States composing the Union.”¹⁴⁶ Before 1965, when the Court held the right to be protected against state abridgment,¹⁴⁷ it had little need to clarify the relationship between the right of confrontation and the hearsay rule,¹⁴⁸ inasmuch as its supervisory powers over the inferior federal courts permitted it to control the admission of hearsay on this basis.¹⁴⁹ Thus, on the basis of the Confrontation Clause, it had concluded that evidence given at a preliminary hearing could not be used at the trial if the

¹⁴² *Rosen v. United States*, 161 U.S. 29, 40 (1896).

¹⁴³ *United States v. Van Duzee*, 140 U.S. 169, 173 (1891).

¹⁴⁴ *In re Oliver*, 333 U.S. 257, 273 (1948); *Cole v. Arkansas*, 333 U.S. 196, 201 (1948); *Rabe v. Washington*, 405 U.S. 313 (1972).

¹⁴⁵ *Mattox v. United States*, 156 U.S. 237, 242–43 (1895).

¹⁴⁶ *Kirby v. United States*, 174 U.S. 47, 55, 56 (1899). *Cf.* *Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400, 404–05 (1965). The right may be waived but it must be a knowing, intelligent waiver uncoerced from defendant. *Brookhart v. Janis*, 384 U.S. 1 (1966).

¹⁴⁷ *Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400 (1965) (overruling *West v. Louisiana*, 194 U.S. 258 (1904)); *see also* *Stein v. New York*, 346 U.S. 156, 195–96 (1953).

¹⁴⁸ Hearsay is the prior out-of-court statements of a person, offered affirmatively for the truth of the matters asserted, presented at trial either orally by another person or in written form. *Hickory v. United States*, 151 U.S. 303, 309 (1894); *Southern Ry. v. Gray*, 241 U.S. 333, 337 (1916); *Bridges v. Wixon*, 326 U.S. 135 (1945).

¹⁴⁹ Thus, while it had concluded that the co-conspirator exception to the hearsay rule was consistent with the Confrontation Clause, *Delaney v. United States*, 263 U.S. 586, 590 (1924), the Court’s formulation of the exception and its limitations was pursuant to its supervisory powers. *Lutwak v. United States*, 344 U.S. 604 (1953); *Krulewitch v. United States*, 336 U.S. 440 (1949).

absence of the witness was attributable to the negligence of the prosecution,¹⁵⁰ but that if a witness' absence had been procured by the defendant, testimony given at a previous trial on a different indictment could be used at the subsequent trial.¹⁵¹ It had also recognized the admissibility of dying declarations¹⁵² and of testimony given at a former trial by a witness since deceased.¹⁵³ The prosecution was not permitted to use a judgment of conviction against other defendants on charges of theft in order to prove that the property found in the possession of defendant now on trial was stolen.¹⁵⁴

In a series of decisions beginning in 1965, the Court seemed to equate the Confrontation Clause with the hearsay rule, positing that a major purpose of the clause was "to give the defendant charged with crime an opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses against him," unless one of the hearsay exceptions applies.¹⁵⁵ Thus, in *Pointer v. Texas*,¹⁵⁶ the complaining witness had testified at a preliminary hearing at which he was not cross-examined and the defendant was not represented by counsel; by the time of trial, the witness had moved to another State and the prosecutor made no effort to obtain his return. Offering the preliminary hearing testimony violated defendant's right of confrontation. In *Douglas v.*

¹⁵⁰ *Motes v. United States*, 178 U.S. 458 (1900).

¹⁵¹ *Reynolds v. United States*, 98 U.S. 145 (1879).

¹⁵² *Kirby v. United States*, 174 U.S. 47, 61 (1899); *Robertson v. Baldwin*, 165 U.S. 275, 282 (1897).

¹⁵³ *Mattox v. United States*, 156 U.S. 237, 240 (1895).

¹⁵⁴ *Kirby v. United States*, 174 U.S. 47 (1899), and *Dowdell v. United States*, 221 U.S. 325 (1911), recognized the inapplicability of the clause to the admission of documentary evidence to establish collateral facts, admissible under the common law, to permit certification as an additional record to the appellate court of the events of the trial.

¹⁵⁵ *Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400, 406–07 (1965); *Douglas v. Alabama*, 380 U.S. 415, 418 (1965). "The right to confrontation is basically a trial right. It includes both the opportunity to cross-examine and the occasion for the jury to weigh the demeanor of the witness." *Barber v. Page*, 390 U.S. 719, 725 (1968). Unjustified limitation of defendant's right to cross-examine witnesses presented against him at trial may constitute a confrontation clause violation. *Smith v. Illinois*, 390 U.S. 129 (1968), or a denial of due process, *Alford v. United States*, 282 U.S. 687 (1931); and *In re Oliver*, 333 U.S. 257 (1948).

¹⁵⁶ 380 U.S. 400 (1965). Justices Harlan and Stewart concurred on due process grounds, rejecting the "incorporation" holding. *Id.* at 408, 409. *See also* *Barber v. Page*, 390 U.S. 719 (1968), in which the Court refused to permit the State to use the preliminary hearing testimony of a witness in a federal prison in another State at the time of trial. The Court acknowledged the hearsay exception permitting the use of such evidence when a witness was unavailable but refused to find him "unavailable" when the State had made no effort to procure him; *Mancusi v. Stubbs*, 408 U.S. 204 (1972), in which the Court permitted the State to assume the unavailability of a witness because he now resided in Sweden and to use the transcript of the witness' testimony at a former trial.

Alabama,¹⁵⁷ the prosecution called as a witness the defendant's alleged accomplice, and when the accomplice refused to testify, pleading his privilege against self-incrimination, the prosecutor read to him to "refresh" his memory a confession in which he implicated defendant. Because defendant could not cross-examine the accomplice with regard to the truth of the confession, the Court held the Confrontation Clause had been violated. In *Bruton v. United States*,¹⁵⁸ the use at a joint trial of a confession made by one of the defendants was held to violate the confrontation rights of the other defendant who was implicated by it because he could not cross-examine the codefendant not taking the stand.¹⁵⁹ The Court continues to view as "presumptively unreliable accomplices' confessions that incriminate defendants."¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁷ 380 U.S. 415 (1965). See also *Smith v. Illinois*, 390 U.S. 129 (1968) (informer as prosecution witness permitted to identify himself by alias and to conceal his true name and address; Confrontation Clause violated because defense could not effectively cross-examine); *Davis v. Alaska*, 415 U.S. 308 (1974) (state law prohibiting disclosure of identity of juvenile offenders could not be applied to preclude cross-examination of witness about his juvenile record when object was to allege possible bias on part of witness). Cf. *Chambers v. Mississippi*, 410 U.S. 284 (1973); *United States v. Nobles*, 422 U.S. 233, 240–41 (1975).

¹⁵⁸ 391 U.S. 123 (1968). The Court in this case equated confrontation with the hearsay rule, first emphasizing "that the hearsay statement inculcating petitioner was clearly inadmissible against him under traditional rules of evidence", *id.* at 128 n.3, and then observing that "[t]he reason for excluding this evidence as an *evidentiary* matter also requires its exclusion as a *constitutional* matter." *Id.* at 136 n.12 (emphasis by Court). *Bruton* was applied retroactively in a state case in *Roberts v. Russell*, 392 U.S. 293 (1968). Where, however, the codefendant takes the stand in his own defense, denies making the alleged out-of-court statement implicating defendant, and proceeds to testify favorably to the defendant concerning the underlying facts, the defendant has not been denied his right of confrontation under *Bruton*, *Nelson v. O'Neil*, 402 U.S. 622 (1971). In two cases, violations of the rule in *Bruton* have been held to be "harmless error" in the light of the overwhelming amount of legally admitted evidence supporting conviction. *Harrington v. California*, 395 U.S. 250 (1969); *Schneble v. Florida*, 405 U.S. 427 (1972). *Bruton* was held inapplicable, however, when the nontestifying codefendant's confession was redacted to omit any reference to the defendant, and was circumstantially incriminating only as the result of other evidence properly introduced. *Richardson v. Marsh*, 481 U.S. 200 (1987).

¹⁵⁹ In *Parker v. Randolph*, 442 U.S. 62 (1979), the Court was evenly divided on the question whether interlocking confessions may be admitted without violating the clause. Four Justices held that admission of such confessions is proper, even though neither defendant testifies, if the judge gives the jury a limiting instruction. Four Justices held that a harmless error analysis should be applied, although they then divided over its meaning in this case. The former approach was rejected in favor of the latter in *Cruz v. New York*, 481 U.S. 186 (1987). The appropriate focus is on reliability, the Court indicated, and "the defendant's confession may be considered at trial in assessing whether his codefendant's statements are supported by sufficient 'indicia of reliability' to be directly admissible against him (assuming the 'unavailability of the codefendant' despite the lack of opportunity for cross-examination)." 481 U.S. at 193–94.

¹⁶⁰ *Lee v. Illinois*, 476 U.S. 530, 541 (1986).

More recently, however, the Court has moved away from these cases. “While . . . hearsay rules and the Confrontation Clause are generally designed to protect similar values it is quite a different thing to suggest that the overlap is complete and that the Confrontation Clause is nothing more or less than a codification of the rules of hearsay and their exceptions as they existed historically at common law. Our decisions have never established such a congruence; indeed, we have more than once found a violation of confrontation values even though the statements in issue were admitted under an arguably recognized hearsay exception The converse is equally true: merely because evidence is admitted in violation of a long-established hearsay rule does not lead to the automatic conclusion that confrontation rights have been denied.”¹⁶¹

Further, the Court in *California v. Green*¹⁶² upheld the use at trial as substantive evidence of two prior statements made by a witness who at the trial claimed that he had been under the influence of LSD at the time of the occurrence of the events in question and that he could therefore neither deny nor affirm the truth of his prior statements. One of the earlier statements was sworn testimony given at a preliminary hearing at which the defendant was represented by counsel with the opportunity to cross-examine the witness; that statement was admissible because it had been subjected to cross-examination earlier, the Court held, and that was all that was required. The other statement had been made to policemen during custodial interrogation, had not been under oath, and, of course, had not been subject to cross-examination, but the Court deemed it admissible because the witness had been present at the trial and could have been cross-examined then. “[T]he Confrontation Clause does not require excluding from evidence the prior statements of a witness who concedes making the statements, and who may be asked to defend or otherwise explain the inconsistency between his prior and his present version of the events in question, thus opening himself to full cross-examination at trial as to both

¹⁶¹ *California v. Green*, 399 U.S. 149, 155–56 (1970); *Dutton v. Evans*, 400 U.S. 74, 80–86 (1970). Compare *id.* at 93, 94, 95 (Justice Harlan concurring), *with id.* at 100, 105 n.7 (Justice Marshall dissenting). See also *United States v. Inadi*, 475 U.S. 387 (1986).

¹⁶² 399 U.S. 149 (1970).

stories.”¹⁶³ But in *Dutton v. Evans*,¹⁶⁴ the Court upheld the use as substantive evidence at trial of a statement made by a witness whom the prosecution could have produced but did not. Presentation of a statement by a witness who is under oath, in the presence of the jury, and subject to cross-examination by the defendant is only one way of complying with the Confrontation Clause, four Justices concluded. Thus, at least in the absence of prosecutorial misconduct or negligence and where the evidence is not “crucial” or “devastating,” the Confrontation Clause is satisfied if the circumstances of presentation of out-of-court statements are such that “the trier of fact [has] a satisfactory basis for evaluating the truth of the [hearsay] statement,” and this is to be ascertained in each case by focusing on the reliability of the proffered hearsay statement, that is, by an inquiry into the likelihood that cross-examination of the declarant at trial could successfully call into question the declaration’s apparent meaning or the declarant’s sincerity, perception, or memory.¹⁶⁵

¹⁶³Id. at 164. Justice Brennan dissented. Id. at 189. See also *Nelson v. O’Neil*, 402 U.S. 622 (1971). “The Confrontation Clause includes no guarantee that every witness called by the prosecution will refrain from giving testimony that is marred by forgetfulness, confusion, or evasion. To the contrary, the Confrontation Clause is generally satisfied when the defense is given a full and fair opportunity to probe and expose these infirmities through cross-examination.” *Delaware v. Fensterer*, 474 U.S. 15, 21–22 (1985) (per curiam) (expert witness testified as to conclusion, but could not remember basis for conclusion). See also *United States v. Owens*, 484 U.S. 554 (1988) (testimony as to previous, out-of-court identification statement is not barred by witness’ inability, due to memory loss, to explain the basis for his identification).

¹⁶⁴400 U.S. 74 (1970). The statement was made by an alleged co-conspirator of the defendant on trial and was admissible under the co-conspirator exception to the hearsay rule permitting the use of a declaration by one conspirator against all his fellow conspirators. The state rule permitted the use of a statement made during the concealment stage of the conspiracy while the federal rule permitted use of a statement made only in the course of and in furtherance of the conspiracy. Id. at 78, 81–82.

¹⁶⁵Id. at 86–89. The quoted phrase is at 89, (quoting *California v. Green*, 399 U.S. 149, 161 (1970)). Justice Harlan concurred to carry the case, on the view that (1) the Confrontation Clause requires only that any testimony actually given at trial must be subject to cross-examination, but (2) in the absence of countervailing circumstances introduction of prior recorded testimony—“trial by affidavit”—would violate the clause. Id. at 93, 95, 97. Justices Marshall, Black, Douglas, and Brennan dissented, id. at 100, arguing for adoption of a rule that: “The incriminatory extrajudicial statement of an alleged accomplice is so inherently prejudicial that it cannot be introduced unless there is an opportunity to cross-examine the declarant, whether or not his statement falls within a genuine exception to the hearsay rule.” Id. at 110–11. The Clause protects defendants against use of substantive evidence against them, but does not bar rebuttal of the defendant’s own testimony. *Tennessee v. Street*, 471 U.S. 409 (1985) (use of accomplice’s confession not to establish facts as to defendant’s participation in the crime, but instead to support officer’s rebuttal of defendant’s testimony as to circumstances of defendant’s confession; presence of officer assured right of cross-examination).

In *Ohio v. Roberts*,¹⁶⁶ the Court explained that it had construed the clause “in two separate ways to restrict the range of admissible hearsay.” First, there is a rule of “necessity,” under which in the usual case “the prosecution must either produce, or demonstrate the unavailability of, the declarant whose statement it wishes to use against the defendant.” Second, “once a witness is shown to be unavailable . . . , the Clause countenances only hearsay marked with such trustworthiness that ‘there is no material departure from the reason of the general rule.’”¹⁶⁷ That is, if the hearsay declarant is not present for cross-examination at trial, the “statement is admissible only if it bears adequate ‘indicia of reliability.’ Reliability can be inferred without more in a case where the evidence falls within a firmly rooted hearsay exception. In other cases, the evidence must be excluded, at least absent a showing of particularized guarantees of trustworthiness.”¹⁶⁸

Roberts was narrowed in *United States v. Inadi*,¹⁶⁹ holding that the rule of “necessity” is confined to use of testimony from a prior judicial proceeding, and is inapplicable to co-conspirators’ out-of-court statements. The latter—at least those “made while the conspiracy is in progress”—have “independent evidentiary significance of [their] own”; hence in-court testimony is not a necessary or valid substitute.¹⁷⁰ Similarly, evidence embraced within such firmly rooted exceptions to the hearsay rule as those for spontaneous declarations and statements made for medical treatment” is not barred from trial by the Confrontation Clause.¹⁷¹ Particularized guarantees of trustworthiness inherent in the circumstances under which a statement is made must be shown for admission of other hearsay evidence not covered by a “firmly rooted exception;” evidence tending to corroborate the truthfulness of a statement may not be relied upon as a bootstrap.¹⁷²

¹⁶⁶ 448 U.S. 56 (1980). The witness was absent from home and her parents testified they did not know where she was or how to get in touch with her. The State’s sole effort to locate her was to deliver a series of subpoenas to her parents’ home. Over the objection of three dissenters, the Court held this to be an adequate basis to demonstrate her unavailability. *Id.* at 74–77.

¹⁶⁷ *Id.* at 65 (quoting *Snyder v. Massachusetts*, 291 U.S. 97, 107 (1934)).

¹⁶⁸ *Id.* at 66. Applying *Roberts*, the Court held that the fact that defendant’s and codefendant’s confessions “interlocked” on a number of points was not a sufficient indicium of reliability, since the confessions diverged on the critical issues of the respective roles of the two defendants. *Lee v. Illinois*, 476 U.S. 530 (1986).

¹⁶⁹ 475 U.S. 387 (1986).

¹⁷⁰ *Id.* at 394–95.

¹⁷¹ *White v. Illinois*, 112 S. Ct. 736, 743 (1992).

¹⁷² *Idaho v. Wright*, 497 U.S. 805, 822–23 (1990) (insufficient evidence of trustworthiness of statements made by child sex crime victim to her pediatrician; statements were admitted under a “residual” hearsay exception rather than under a firmly rooted exception).

Contrasting approaches to the Confrontation Clause were taken by the Court in two cases involving state efforts to protect child sex crime victims from trauma while testifying. In *Coy v. Iowa*,¹⁷³ the Court held that the right of confrontation is violated by a procedure, authorized by statute, placing a one-way screen between complaining child witnesses and the defendant, thereby sparing the witnesses from viewing the defendant. This conclusion was reached even though the witnesses could be viewed by the defendant's counsel and by the judge and jury, even though the right of cross-examination was in no way limited, and even though the state asserted a strong interest in protecting child sex-abuse victims from further trauma.¹⁷⁴ The Court's opinion by Justice Scalia declared that a defendant's right during his trial to *face-to-face* confrontation with his accusers derives from "the irreducible literal meaning of the clause," and traces "to the beginnings of Western legal culture."¹⁷⁵ Squarely rejecting the Wigmore view "that the only essential interest preserved by the right was cross-examination,"¹⁷⁶ the Court emphasized the importance of face-to-face confrontation in eliciting truthful testimony.

Coy's interpretation of the Clause, though not its result, was rejected in *Maryland v. Craig*.¹⁷⁷ In *Craig* the Court upheld Maryland's use of one-way, closed circuit television to protect a child witness in a sex crime from viewing the defendant. As in *Coy*, procedural protections other than confrontation were afforded: the child witness must testify under oath, is subject to cross examination, and is viewed by the judge, jury, and defendant. The critical factual difference between the two cases was that Maryland required a case-specific finding that the child witness would be traumatized by presence of the defendant, while the Iowa procedures struck down in *Coy* rested on a statutory presumption of trauma. But the difference in approach is explained by the fact that Justice O'Connor's views, expressed in a concurring opinion in *Coy*, became the opinion of the Court in *Craig*.¹⁷⁸ Beginning with the propo-

¹⁷³ 487 U.S. 1012 (1988).

¹⁷⁴ On this latter point, the Court indicated that only "individualized findings," rather than statutory presumption, could suffice to create an exception to the rule. 487 U.S. at 1021.

¹⁷⁵ *Id.* at 1015, 1021 (1988).

¹⁷⁶ *Id.* at 1018 n.2.

¹⁷⁷ 497 U.S. 836 (1990).

¹⁷⁸ *Coy* was decided by a 6–2 vote. Justice Scalia's opinion of the Court was joined by Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, Stevens, and O'Connor; Justice O'Connor's separate concurring opinion was joined by Justice White; Justice Blackmun's dissenting opinion was joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist; and Justice Kennedy did not participate. In *Craig*, a 5–4 decision, Justice O'Connor's opinion of the Court was joined by the two *Coy* dissenters and by Justices White and Kennedy. Justice Scalia's dissent was joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens.

sition that the Confrontation Clause does not, as evidenced by hearsay exceptions, grant an absolute right to face-to-face confrontation, the Court in *Craig* described the Clause as “reflect[ing] a preference for face-to-face confrontation.”¹⁷⁹ This preference can be overcome “only where denial of such confrontation is necessary to further an important public policy and only where the reliability of the testimony is otherwise assured.”¹⁸⁰ Relying on the traditional and “transcendent” state interest in protecting the welfare of children, on the significant number of state laws designed to protect child witnesses, and on “the growing body of academic literature documenting the psychological trauma suffered by child abuse victims,”¹⁸¹ the Court found a state interest sufficiently important to outweigh a defendant’s right to face-to-face confrontation. Reliability of the testimony was assured by the “rigorous adversarial testing [that] preserves the essence of effective confrontation.”¹⁸² All of this, of course, would have led to a different result in *Coy* as well, but *Coy* was distinguished with the caveat that “[t]he requisite finding of necessity must of course be a case-specific one;” Maryland’s required finding that a child witness would suffer “serious emotional distress” if not protected was clearly adequate for this purpose.¹⁸³

In another case involving child sex crime victims, the Court held that there is no right of face-to-face confrontation at an in-chambers hearing to determine the competency of a child victim to testify, since the defendant’s attorney participated in the hearing, and since the procedures allowed “full and effective” opportunity to cross-examine the witness at trial and request reconsideration of the competency ruling.¹⁸⁴ And there is no absolute right to confront witnesses with relevant evidence impeaching those witnesses; failure to comply with a rape shield law’s notice requirement can validly preclude introduction of evidence relating to a witness’s prior sexual history.¹⁸⁵

¹⁷⁹ 497 U.S. at 849 (emphasis original).

¹⁸⁰ *Id.* at 850. Dissenting Justice Scalia objected that face-to-face confrontation “is not a preference ‘reflected’ by the Confrontation Clause [but rather] a constitutional right unqualifiedly guaranteed,” and that the Court “has applied ‘interest-balancing’ analysis where the text of the Constitution simply does not permit it.” *Id.* at 863, 870.

¹⁸¹ *Id.* at 855.

¹⁸² *Id.* at 857.

¹⁸³ *Id.* at 855.

¹⁸⁴ *Kentucky v. Stincer*, 482 U.S. 730, 744 (1987).

¹⁸⁵ *Michigan v. Lucas*, 500 U.S. 145 (1991).

COMPULSORY PROCESS

The provision requires, of course, that the defendant be afforded legal process to compel witnesses to appear,¹⁸⁶ but another apparent purpose of the provision was to make inapplicable in federal trials the common-law rule that in cases of treason or felony the accused was not allowed to introduce witnesses in his defense.¹⁸⁷ “The right to offer the testimony of witnesses, and to compel their attendance, if necessary, is in plain terms the right to present a defense, the right to present the defendant’s version of the facts as well as the prosecution’s to the jury so it may decide where the truth lies. Just as an accused has the right to confront the prosecution’s witnesses for the purpose of challenging their testimony, he has the right to present his own witnesses to establish a defense. This right is a fundamental element of due process of law,” applicable to states by way of the Fourteenth Amendment, and the right is violated by a state law providing that coparticipants in the same crime could not testify for one another.¹⁸⁸

The right to present witnesses is not absolute, however; a court may refuse to allow a defense witness to testify when the court finds that defendant’s counsel willfully failed to identify the witness in a pretrial discovery request and thereby attempted to gain a tactical advantage.¹⁸⁹

In *Pennsylvania v. Ritchie*, the Court indicated that requests to compel the government to reveal the identity of witnesses or produce exculpatory evidence should be evaluated under due process rather than compulsory process analysis, adding that “compulsory process provides no *greater* protections in this area than due process.”¹⁹⁰

ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL

Development of an Absolute Right to Counsel at Trial

Neither in the Congress which proposed what became the Sixth Amendment guarantee that the accused is to have the assistance of counsel nor in the state ratifying conventions is there any

¹⁸⁶ *United States v. Cooper*, 4 U.S. (4 Dall.) 341 (C.C. Pa. 1800) (Justice Chase on circuit).

¹⁸⁷ 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1786 (1833). See *Rosen v. United States*, 245 U.S. 467 (1918).

¹⁸⁸ *Washington v. Texas*, 388 U.S. 14, 19–23 (1967). Texas did permit coparticipants to testify for the prosecution.

¹⁸⁹ *Taylor v. Illinois*, 484 U.S. 400 (1988).

¹⁹⁰ 480 U.S. 39, 56 (1987) (ordering trial court review of files of child services agency to determine whether they contain evidence material to defense in child abuse prosecution).

indication of the understanding associated with the language employed. The development of the common-law principle in England had denied to anyone charged with a felony the right to retain counsel, while the right was afforded in misdemeanor cases, a rule ameliorated in practice, however, by the judicial practice of allowing counsel to argue points of law and then generously interpreting the limits of "legal questions." The colonial and early state practice in this country was varied, ranging from the existent English practice to appointment of counsel in a few States where needed counsel could not be retained.¹⁹¹ Contemporaneously with the proposal and ratification of the Sixth Amendment, Congress enacted two statutory provisions which seemed to indicate an understanding that the guarantee was limited to assuring that a person wishing and able to afford counsel would not be denied that right.¹⁹² It was not until the 1930's that the Supreme Court began expanding the clause to its present scope.

Powell v. Alabama.—The expansion began in *Powell v. Alabama*,¹⁹³ in which the Court set aside the convictions of eight black youths sentenced to death in a hastily carried-out trial without benefit of counsel. Due process, Justice Sutherland said for the Court, always requires the observance of certain fundamental personal rights associated with a hearing, and "the right to the aid of counsel is of this fundamental character." This observation was about the right to retain counsel of one's choice and at one's expense, and included an eloquent statement of the necessity of counsel. "The right to be heard would be, in many cases, of little avail if it did not comprehend the right to be heard by counsel. Even the intelligent and educated layman has small and sometimes no skill in the science of law. If charged with crimes, he is incapable, generally, of determining for himself whether the indictment is good or bad. He is unfamiliar with the rules of evidence. Left without the aid of counsel he may be put on trial without a proper charge, and convicted upon incompetent evidence, or evidence irrelevant to

¹⁹¹ W. BEANEY, THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL IN AMERICAN COURTS 8-26 (1955).

¹⁹² Section 35 of the Judiciary Act of 1789, ch. 20, 1 Stat. 73, provided that in federal courts parties could manage and plead their own causes personally or by the assistance of counsel as provided by the rules of court. The Act of April 30, 1790, ch. 9, 1 Stat. 118, provided: Every person who is indicted of treason or other capital crime, "shall be allowed to make his full defense by counsel learned in the law; and the court before which he is tried, or some judge thereof, shall immediately, upon his request, assign to him such counsel not exceeding two, as he may desire, and they shall have free access to him at all reasonable hours." It was apparently the practice almost invariably to appoint counsel for indigent defendants charged with noncapital crimes, although it may be assumed that the practice fell short often of what is now constitutionally required. W. BEANEY, THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL IN AMERICAN COURTS 29-30 (1955).

¹⁹³ 287 U.S. 45 (1932).

the issue or otherwise inadmissible. He lacks both the skill and knowledge adequately to prepare his defense, even though he have a perfect one. He requires the guiding hand of counsel at every step in the proceedings against him. Without it, though he be not guilty, he faces the danger of conviction because he does not know how to establish his innocence.”¹⁹⁴

The failure to afford the defendants an opportunity to retain counsel violated due process, but the Court acknowledged that as indigents the youths could not have retained counsel. Therefore, the Court concluded, under the circumstances—“the ignorance and illiteracy of the defendants, their youth, the circumstances of public hostility, the imprisonment and the close surveillance of the defendants by the military forces, the fact that their friends and families were all in other states and communication with them necessarily difficult, and above all that they stood in deadly peril of their lives”—“the necessity of counsel was so vital and imperative that the failure of the trial court to make an effective appointment of counsel was likewise a denial of due process within the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment.” The holding was narrow. “[I]n a capital case, where the defendant is unable to employ counsel, and is incapable adequately of making his own defense because of ignorance, feeble mindedness, illiteracy, or the like, it is the duty of the court, whether requested or not, to assign counsel for him as a necessary requisite of due process of law”¹⁹⁵

Johnson v. Zerbst.—Next step in the expansion came in *Johnson v. Zerbst*,¹⁹⁶ in which the Court announced an absolute rule requiring appointment of counsel for federal criminal defendants who could not afford to retain a lawyer. The right to assistance of counsel, Justice Black wrote for the Court, “is necessary to insure fundamental human rights of life and liberty.” Without stopping to distinguish between the right to retain counsel and the right to have counsel provided if the defendant cannot afford to hire one, the Justice quoted Justice Sutherland’s invocation of the necessity of legal counsel for even the intelligent and educated layman and said: “The Sixth Amendment withholds from federal courts, in all criminal proceedings, the power and authority to deprive an accused of his life or liberty unless he has or waives the assistance of counsel.”¹⁹⁷ Any waiver, the Court ruled, must be by the intelligent choice of the defendant, will not be presumed from

¹⁹⁴ Id. at 68–69.

¹⁹⁵ Id. at 71.

¹⁹⁶ 304 U.S. 458 (1938).

¹⁹⁷ Id. at 462, 463.

a silent record, and must be determined by the trial court before proceeding in the absence of counsel.¹⁹⁸

Betts v. Brady and Progeny.—An effort to obtain the same rule in the state courts in all criminal proceedings was rebuffed in *Betts v. Brady*.¹⁹⁹ Justice Roberts for the Court observed that the Sixth Amendment would compel the result only in federal courts but that in state courts the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment “formulates a concept less rigid and more fluid” than those guarantees embodied in the Bill of Rights, although a state denial of a right protected in one of the first eight Amendments might “in certain circumstances” be a violation of due process. The question was rather “whether the constraint laid by the Amendment upon the national courts expresses a rule so fundamental and essential to a fair trial, and so, to due process of law, that it is made obligatory upon the States by the Fourteenth Amendment.”²⁰⁰ Examining the common-law rules, the English practice, and the state constitutions, laws and practices, the Court concluded that it was the “considered judgment of the people, their representatives and their courts that appointment of counsel is not a fundamental right essential to a fair trial.” Want of counsel in a particular case might result in a conviction lacking in fundamental fairness and so necessitate the interposition of constitutional restriction upon state practice, but this was not the general rule.²⁰¹ Justice Black in dissent argued that the Fourteenth Amendment made the Sixth applicable to the States and required the appointment of counsel, but that even on the Court’s terms counsel was a fundamental right and appointment was required by due process.²⁰²

Over time the Court abandoned the “special circumstances” language of *Powell v. Alabama*²⁰³ when capital cases were involved and finally in *Hamilton v. Alabama*,²⁰⁴ held that in a capital case

¹⁹⁸Id. at 464–465. The standards for a valid waiver were tightened in *Walker v. Johnston*, 312 U.S. 275 (1941), setting aside a guilty plea made without assistance of counsel, by a ruling requiring that a defendant appearing in court be advised of his right to counsel and asked whether or not he wished to waive the right. See also *Von Moltke v. Gillies*, 332 U.S. 708 (1948); *Carnley v. Cochran*, 369 U.S. 506 (1962).

¹⁹⁹316 U.S. 455 (1942).

²⁰⁰Id. at 461–62, 465.

²⁰¹Id. at 471, 473.

²⁰²Id. at 474 (joined by Justices Douglas and Murphy).

²⁰³287 U.S. 45, 71 (1932).

²⁰⁴368 U.S. 52 (1961). Earlier cases employing the “special circumstances” language were *Williams v. Kaiser*, 323 U.S. 471 (1945); *Tompkins v. Missouri*, 323 U.S. 485 (1945); *Hawk v. Olson*, 326 U.S. 271 (1945); *De Meerleer v. Michigan*, 329 U.S. 663 (1947); *Marino v. Ragen*, 332 U.S. 561 (1947); *Haley v. Ohio*, 332 U.S. 596 (1948). Dicta appeared in several cases thereafter suggesting an absolute right to

a defendant need make no showing of particularized need or of prejudice resulting from absence of counsel; henceforth, assistance of counsel was a constitutional requisite in capital cases. In non-capital cases, developments were such that Justice Harlan could assert that “the ‘special circumstances’ rule has continued to exist in form while its substance has been substantially and steadily eroded.”²⁰⁵ The rule was designed to afford some certainty in the determination of when failure to appoint counsel would result in a trial lacking in “fundamental fairness.” Generally, the Court developed three categories of prejudicial factors, often overlapping in individual cases, which required the furnishing of assistance of counsel. There were (1) the personal characteristics of the defendant which made it unlikely he could obtain an adequate defense of his own,²⁰⁶ (2) the technical complexity of the charges or of possible defenses to the charges,²⁰⁷ and (3) events occurring at trial that raised problems of prejudice.²⁰⁸ The last characteristic especially had been utilized by the Court to set aside convictions occurring in

counsel in capital cases. *Bute v. Illinois*, 333 U.S. 640, 674 (1948); *Uveges v. Pennsylvania*, 335 U.S. 437, 441 (1948). A state court decision finding a waiver of the right in a capital case was upheld in *Carter v. Illinois*, 329 U.S. 173 (1946).

²⁰⁵ *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335, 350 (1963).

²⁰⁶ Youth and immaturity (*Moore v. Michigan*, 355 U.S. 155 (1957); *Pennsylvania ex rel. Herman v. Claudy*, 350 U.S. 116 (1956); *Uveges v. Pennsylvania*, 335 U.S. 437 (1948); *Wade v. Mayo*, 334 U.S. 672 (1948); *Marino v. Ragen*, 332 U.S. 561 (1947); *De Meerleer v. Michigan*, 329 U.S. 663 (1947)), inexperience (*Moore v. Michigan*, *supra* (limited education), *Uveges v. Pennsylvania*, *supra*), and insanity or mental abnormality (*Massey v. Moore*, 348 U.S. 105 (1954); *Palmer v. Ashe*, 342 U.S. 134 (1951)), were commonly-cited characteristics of the defendant demonstrating the necessity for assistance of counsel.

²⁰⁷ Technicality of the crime charged (*Moore v. Michigan*, 355 U.S. 155 (1957); *Pennsylvania ex rel. Herman v. Claudy*, 350 U.S. 116 (1956); *Williams v. Kaiser*, 323 U.S. 471 (1945)), or the technicality of a possible defense (*Rice v. Olson*, 324 U.S. 786 (1945); *McNeal v. Culver*, 365 U.S. 109 (1961)), were commonly cited.

²⁰⁸ The deliberate or careless overreaching by the court or the prosecutor (*Gibbs v. Burke*, 337 U.S. 772 (1949); *Townsend v. Burke*, 334 U.S. 736 (1948); *Palmer v. Ashe*, 342 U.S. 134 (1951); *White v. Ragen*, 324 U.S. 760 (1945)), prejudicial developments during the trial (*Cash v. Culver*, 358 U.S. 633 (1959); *Gibbs v. Burke*, *supra*), and questionable proceedings at sentencing (*Townsend v. Burke*, *supra*), were commonly cited.

the absence of counsel,²⁰⁹ and the last case rejecting a claim of denial of assistance of counsel had been decided in 1950.²¹⁰

Gideon v. Wainwright.—Against this background, a unanimous Court in *Gideon v. Wainwright*²¹¹ overruled *Betts v. Brady* and held “that in our adversary system of criminal justice, any person haled into court, who is too poor to hire a lawyer, cannot be assured a fair trial unless counsel is provided for him.”²¹² Justice Black, a dissenter in the 1942 decision, asserted for the Court that *Betts* was an “abrupt break” with earlier precedents, citing *Powell* and *Johnson v. Zerbst*. Rejecting the *Betts* reasoning, the Court decided that the right to assistance of counsel is “fundamental” and the Fourteenth Amendment does make the right constitutionally required in state courts.²¹³ The Court’s opinion in *Gideon* left unanswered the question whether the right to assistance of counsel was claimable by defendants charged with misdemeanors or serious misdemeanors as well as with felonies, and it was not until recently that the Court held that the right applies to any misdemeanor case in which imprisonment is imposed—that no person may be sentenced to jail who was convicted in the absence of counsel, unless he validly waived his right.²¹⁴ The right to the assistance of counsel exists in juvenile proceedings also.²¹⁵

²⁰⁹*Hudson v. North Carolina*, 363 U.S. 697 (1960), held that an unrepresented defendant had been prejudiced when his co-defendant’s counsel plead his client guilty in the presence of the jury, the applicable state rules to avoid prejudice in such situation were unclear, and the defendant in any event had taken no steps to protect himself. The case seemed to require reversal of any conviction when the record contained a prejudicial occurrence that under state law might have been prevented or ameliorated. *Carnley v. Cochran*, 369 U.S. 506 (1962), reversed a conviction because the unrepresented defendant failed to follow some advantageous procedure that a lawyer might have utilized. *Chewning v. Cunningham*, 368 U.S. 443 (1962), found that a lawyer might have developed several defenses and adopted several tactics to defeat a charge under a state recidivist statute, and that therefore the unrepresented defendant had been prejudiced.

²¹⁰*Quicksal v. Michigan*, 339 U.S. 660 (1950). See also *Canizio v. New York*, 327 U.S. 82 (1946); *Foster v. Illinois*, 332 U.S. 134 (1947); *Gayes v. New York*, 332 U.S. 145 (1947); *Bute v. Illinois*, 333 U.S. 640 (1948); *Gryger v. Burke*, 334 U.S. 728 (1948). Cf. *White v. Ragen*, 324 U.S. 760 (1945).

²¹¹372 U.S. 335 (1963).

²¹²*Id.* at 344.

²¹³*Id.* at 342–43, 344. Justice Black, of course, believed the Fourteenth Amendment made applicable to the States all the provisions of the Bill of Rights, *Adamson v. California*, 332 U.S. 46, 71 (1947), but for purposes of delivering the opinion of the Court followed the due process absorption doctrine. Justice Douglas, concurring, maintained the incorporation position. *Gideon*, *supra*, at 345. Justice Harlan concurred, objecting both to the Court’s manner of overruling *Betts v. Brady* and to the incorporation implications of the opinion. *Id.* at 349.

²¹⁴*Scott v. Illinois*, 440 U.S. 367 (1979), adopted a rule of actual punishment and thus modified *Argersinger v. Hamlin*, 407 U.S. 25 (1972), which had held counsel required if imprisonment were possible.

²¹⁵*In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1 (1967). See also *Specht v. Patterson*, 386 U.S. 605 (1967).

Because the absence of counsel when a defendant is convicted or pleads guilty goes to the fairness of the proceedings and undermines the presumption of reliability that attaches to a judgment of a court, *Gideon* has been held fully retroactive, so that convictions obtained in the absence of counsel without a valid waiver are not only voidable,²¹⁶ but also may not be subsequently used either to support guilt in a new trial or to enhance punishment upon a valid conviction.²¹⁷

Protection of the Right to Retained Counsel.—The Sixth Amendment has also been held to protect absolutely the right of a defendant to retain counsel of his choice and to be represented in the fullest measure by the person of his choice. Thus, in *Chandler v. Fretag*,²¹⁸ when a defendant appearing to plead guilty on a house-breaking charge was orally advised for the first time that, because of three prior convictions for felonies, he would be tried also as an habitual criminal and if convicted would be sentenced to life imprisonment, the court's denial of his request for a continuance in order to consult an attorney was a violation of his Fourteenth Amendment due process rights. "Regardless of whether petitioner would have been entitled to the appointment of counsel, his right to be heard through his own counsel was unqualified. . . . A necessary corollary is that a defendant must be given a reasonable opportunity to employ and consult with counsel; otherwise, the right to be heard by counsel would be of little worth."²¹⁹ But the right to retain counsel of choice does not bar operation of forfeiture provisions, even if the result is to deny to a defendant the where-withal to employ counsel. In *Caplin & Drysdale v. United States*,²²⁰ the Court upheld a federal statute requiring forfeiture to

²¹⁶ *Pickelsimer v. Wainwright*, 375 U.S. 2 (1963); *Doughty v. Maxwell*, 376 U.S. 202 (1964); *Kitchens v. Smith*, 401 U.S. 847 (1971). See *Linkletter v. Walker*, 381 U.S. 618, 639 (1965).

²¹⁷ *Burgett v. Texas*, 389 U.S. 109 (1967) (admission of record of prior counselless conviction at trial with instruction to jury to regard it only for purposes of determining sentence if it found defendant guilty but not to use it in considering guilt inherently prejudicial); *United States v. Tucker*, 404 U.S. 443 (1972) (error for sentencing judge in 1953 to have relied on two previous convictions at which defendant was without counsel); *Loper v. Beto*, 405 U.S. 473 (1972) (error to have permitted counseled defendant in 1947 trial to have his credibility impeached by introduction of prior uncounseled convictions in the 1930's; Chief Justice Burger and Justices Blackmun, Powell, and Rehnquist dissented); *Baldasar v. Illinois*, 446 U.S. 222 (1980) (although under *Scott v. Illinois*, 440 U.S. 367 (1979), an uncounseled misdemeanor conviction is valid if defendant is not incarcerated, such a conviction nonetheless may not be used under an enhanced penalty statute to convert a subsequent misdemeanor into a felony with a prison term).

²¹⁸ 348 U.S. 3 (1954).

²¹⁹ *Id.* at 9, 10. See also *House v. Mayo*, 324 U.S. 42 (1945); *Hawk v. Olson*, 326 U.S. 271 (1945); *Reynolds v. Cochran*, 365 U.S. 525 (1961).

²²⁰ 491 U.S. 617 (1989).

the government of property and proceeds derived from drug-related crimes constituting a “continuing criminal enterprise,”²²¹ even though a portion of the forfeited assets had been used to retain defense counsel. While a defendant may spend his own money to employ counsel, the Court declared, “[a] defendant has no Sixth Amendment right to spend another person’s money for services rendered by an attorney, even if those funds are the only way that defendant will be able to retain the attorney of his choice.”²²² Because the statute vests title to the forfeitable assets in the United States at the time of the criminal act,²²³ the defendant has no right to give them to a “third party” even if the purpose is to exercise a constitutionally protected right.²²⁴

Whenever defense counsel is representing two or more defendants and asserts in timely fashion to the trial judge that because of possible conflicts of interest between or among his clients he is unable to render effective assistance, the judge must examine the claim carefully, and unless he finds the risk too remote he must permit or appoint separate counsel.²²⁵ Subsequently, the Court elaborated upon this principle and extended it.²²⁶ First, the Sixth Amendment right to counsel applies to defendants who retain private counsel as well as to defendants served by appointed counsel. Second, judges are not automatically required to initiate an inquiry into the propriety of multiple representation, being able to assume in the absence of undefined “special circumstances” that no conflict exists. Third, to establish a violation, a defendant must show an “actual conflict of interest which adversely affected his lawyer’s performance.” Once it is established that a conflict affected the lawyer’s action, however, prejudice need not be proved.²²⁷

“[T]he right to the assistance of counsel has been understood to mean that there can be no restrictions upon the function of counsel in defending a criminal prosecution in accord with the traditions of the adversary factfinding process that has been

²²¹ 21 U.S.C. §853.

²²² 491 U.S. at 626.

²²³ The statute was interpreted in *United States v. Monsanto*, 491 U.S. 600 (1989), as requiring forfeiture of all assets derived from the covered offenses, and as making no exception for assets the defendant intends to use for his defense.

²²⁴ Dissenting Justice Blackmun, joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens, described the Court’s ruling as allowing the Sixth Amendment right to counsel of choice to be “outweighed by a legal fiction.” 491 U.S. at 644 (dissenting from both *Caplin & Drysdale* and *Monsanto*).

²²⁵ *Holloway v. Arkansas*, 435 U.S. 475 (1978). Counsel had been appointed by the court.

²²⁶ *Cuyler v. Sullivan*, 446 U.S. 335 (1980).

²²⁷ *Id.* at 348–50. For earlier cases presenting more direct violations of defendant’s rights, see *Glasser v. United States*, 315 U.S. 60 (1942); *United States v. Hayman*, 342 U.S. 205 (1952); and *Ellis v. United States*, 365 U.S. 674 (1958).

constitutionalized in the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments.”²²⁸ So saying, the Court invalidated a statute empowering every judge in a nonjury criminal trial to deny the parties the right to make a final summation before rendition of judgment which had been applied in the specific case to prevent defendant’s counsel from making a summation. The opportunity to participate fully and fairly in the adversary factfinding process includes counsel’s right to make a closing argument. And, in *Geders v. United States*,²²⁹ the Court held that a trial judge’s order preventing defendant from consulting his counsel during a 17-hour overnight recess between his direct and cross-examination, in order to prevent tailoring of testimony or “coaching,” deprived defendant of his right to assistance of counsel and was invalid.²³⁰ Other direct and indirect restraints upon counsel and his discretion have been found to be in violation of the Amendment.²³¹ Governmental investigative agents may interfere as well with the relationship of defense and counsel.²³²

Effective Assistance of Counsel.—“[T]he right to counsel is the right to the effective assistance of counsel.”²³³ From the beginning of the cases holding that counsel must be appointed for defendants unable to afford to retain a lawyer, the Court has indicated that appointment must be made in a manner that affords “effective aid in the preparation and trial of the case.”²³⁴ Of course, the government must not interfere with representation, either through the manner of appointment or through the imposition of restrictions upon appointed or retained counsel that would impede his ability fairly to provide a defense,²³⁵ but the Sixth Amendment

²²⁸ *Herring v. New York*, 422 U.S. 853, 857 (1975).

²²⁹ 425 U.S. 80 (1976).

²³⁰ *Geders* was distinguished in *Perry v. Leeke*, 488 U.S. 272 (1989), in which the Court upheld a trial court’s order that the defendant and his counsel not consult during a 15-minute recess between the defendant’s direct testimony and his cross-examination.

²³¹ E.g., *Ferguson v. Georgia*, 365 U.S. 570 (1961) (where defendant was prevented by statute from giving sworn testimony in his defense, the refusal of a state court to permit defense counsel to question him to elicit his unsworn statement denied due process because it denied him assistance of counsel); *Brooks v. Tennessee*, 406 U.S. 605 (1972) (alternative holding) (statute requiring defendant to testify prior to any other witness for defense or to forfeit the right to testify denied him due process by depriving him of decision of counsel on questions whether to testify and when).

²³² *United States v. Morrison*, 449 U.S. 361 (1981) (Court assumed that investigators who met with defendant, on another matter, without knowledge or permission of counsel and who disparaged counsel and suggested she could do better without him interfered with counsel, but held that in absence of showing of adverse consequences to representation, dismissal of indictment was inappropriate remedy).

²³³ *McMann v. Richardson*, 397 U.S. 759, 771 n.14 (1970).

²³⁴ *Powell v. Alabama*, 287 U.S. 45, 71–72 (1932); *Glasser v. United States*, 315 U.S. 60, 70 (1942).

²³⁵ E.g., *Glasser v. United States*, 315 U.S. 60 (1942) (trial court required defendant and codefendant to be represented by same appointed counsel despite diver-

goes further than that. “The right to counsel prevents the States from conducting trials at which persons who face incarceration must defend themselves without adequate legal assistance.”²³⁶ That is, a criminal trial initiated and conducted by government is state action which may be so fundamentally unfair that no conviction obtained thereby may be allowed to stand, irrespective of the possible fact that government did nothing itself to bring about the unfairness. Thus, ineffective assistance provided by retained counsel provides a basis for finding a Sixth Amendment denial in a trial.²³⁷

The trial judge must not only refrain from creating a situation of ineffective assistance, but may well be obligated under certain circumstances to inquire whether defendant’s counsel, because of a possible conflict of interest or otherwise, is rendering or may render ineffective assistance.²³⁸ A much more difficult issue is presented when a defendant on appeal or in a collateral proceeding alleges that his counsel was incompetent or was not competent enough to provide effective assistance. While the Court touched on the question in 1970,²³⁹ it was not until 1984, in *Strickland v. Washington*,²⁴⁰ that the Court articulated a general test for ineffective assistance of counsel in criminal trials and in capital sentencing proceedings.²⁴¹

gent interests); *Geders v. United States*, 425 U.S. 80 (1976) (trial judge barred consultation between defendant and attorney overnight); *Herring v. New York*, 422 U.S. 853 (1975) (application of statute to bar defense counsel from making final summation).

²³⁶ *Cuyler v. Sullivan*, 446 U.S. 335, 344 (1980).

²³⁷ *Id.* at 342–45. *But see* *Wainwright v. Torna*, 455 U.S. 586 (1982) (summarily holding that defendant may not raise ineffective assistance claim in context of proceeding in which he had no constitutional right to counsel).

²³⁸ *Holloway v. Arkansas*, 435 U.S. 475 (1978) (public defender representing three defendants alerted trial judge to possibility of conflicts of interest; judge should have appointed different counsel or made inquiry into possibility of conflicts); *Cuyler v. Sullivan*, 446 U.S. 335 (1980) (trial judge had no obligation to inquire into adequacy of multiple representation, with possible conflict of interest, in absence of raising of issue by defendant or counsel); *Wood v. Georgia*, 450 U.S. 261 (1981) (where counsel retained by defendants’ employer had conflict between their interests and employer’s, and all the facts were known to trial judge, he should have inquired further); *Wheat v. United States*, 486 U.S. 153 (1988) (district court correctly denied defendant’s waiver of right to conflict-free representation; separate representation order is justified by likelihood of attorney’s conflict of interest).

²³⁹ In *McMann v. Richardson*, 397 U.S. 759, 768–71 (1970), the Court observed that whether defense counsel provided adequate representation, in advising a guilty plea, depended not on whether a court would retrospectively consider his advice right or wrong “but on whether that advice was within the range of competence demanded of attorneys in criminal cases.” *See also* *Tollett v. Henderson*, 411 U.S. 258, 266–69 (1973); *United States v. Agurs*, 427 U.S. 97, 102 n.5 (1976).

²⁴⁰ 466 U.S. 668 (1984).

²⁴¹ *Strickland* involved capital sentencing, and the Court left open the issue of what standards might apply in ordinary sentencing, where there is generally far

There are two components to the test: deficient attorney performance and resulting prejudice to the defense so serious as to bring the outcome of the proceeding into question. Although the gauge of effective attorney performance is an objective standard of reasonableness, the Court concluded that “[j]udicial scrutiny of counsel’s performance must be highly deferential.” Strategic choices made after thorough investigation of relevant law and facts are “virtually unchallengeable,” as are “reasonable” decisions making investigation unnecessary.²⁴² In order to establish prejudice resulting from attorney error, the defendant “must show that there is a reasonable probability that, but for counsel’s unprofessional errors, the result of the proceeding would have been different. A reasonable probability is a probability sufficient to undermine confidence in the outcome.”²⁴³ In *Strickland*, neither part of the test was satisfied. The attorney’s decision to forego character and psychological evidence in the capital sentencing proceeding in order to avoid evidence of the defendant’s criminal history was deemed “the result of reasonable professional judgment,” and prejudice could not be shown because “the overwhelming aggravating factors” outweighed whatever evidence of good character could have been presented.²⁴⁴ In *Hill v. Lockhart*,²⁴⁵ the Court applied the *Strickland* test to attorney decisions in plea bargaining, holding that a defendant must show a reasonable probability that, but for counsel’s errors, he would not have pleaded guilty.

There are times when prejudice may be presumed, i.e. there can be “circumstances that are so likely to prejudice the accused that the cost of litigating their effect in a particular case is unjustified.”²⁴⁶ These situations include actual or constructive denial of counsel, and denial of such basics as the right to effective cross-examination. However, “[a]part from circumstances of that magnitude

more discretion than in capital sentencing, or in the guilt/innocence phase of a capital trial. 466 U.S. at 686.

²⁴² 466 U.S. at 689–91. The obligation is to stay within the wide range of legitimate, lawful, professional conduct; there is no obligation to assist the defendant in presenting perjured testimony. *Nix v. Whiteside*, 475 U.S. 157 (1986). See also *Georgia v. McCollum*, 112 S. Ct. 2348 (1992) (no right to carry out through counsel the racially discriminatory exclusion of jurors during voir dire). Also, “effective” assistance of counsel does not guarantee the accused a “meaningful relationship” of “rapport” with his attorney such that he is entitled to a continuance in order to change attorneys during a trial. *Morris v. Slappy*, 461 U.S. 1 (1983). See also *Jones v. Barnes*, 463 U.S. 745 (1983) (no obligation to present on appeal all nonfrivolous issues requested by defendant; appointed counsel may exercise his professional judgement in determining which issues are best raised on appeal).

²⁴³ 466 U.S. at 694.

²⁴⁴ 466 U.S. at 699. *Accord*, *Darden v. Wainwright*, 477 U.S. 168 (1986) (decision not to introduce mitigating evidence).

²⁴⁵ 474 U.S. 52 (1985).

²⁴⁶ *United States v. Cronin*, 466 U.S. 648, 658 (1984).

. . . there is generally no basis for finding a Sixth Amendment violation unless the accused can show [prejudice].”²⁴⁷

Self-Representation.—The Court has held that the Sixth Amendment, in addition to guaranteeing the right to retained or appointed counsel, also guarantees a defendant the right to represent himself.²⁴⁸ It is a right the defendant must adopt knowingly and intelligently; under some circumstances the trial judge may deny the authority to exercise it, as when the defendant simply lacks the competence to make a knowing or intelligent waiver of counsel or when his self-representation is so disruptive of orderly procedures that the judge may curtail it.

The essential elements of self-representation were spelled out in *McKaskle v. Wiggins*,²⁴⁹ a case involving the self-represented defendant’s rights vis-a-vis “standby counsel” appointed by the trial court. The “core of the *Faretta* right” is that the defendant “is entitled to preserve actual control over the case he chooses to present to the jury,” and consequently, standby counsel’s participation “should not be allowed to destroy the jury’s perception that the defendant is representing himself.”²⁵⁰ But participation of standby counsel even in the jury’s presence and over the defendant’s objection does not violate the defendant’s Sixth Amendment rights when serving the basic purpose of aiding the defendant in complying with routine courtroom procedures and protocols and thereby relieving the trial judge of these tasks.²⁵¹

Right to Assistance of Counsel in Nontrial Situations

Judicial Proceedings Before Trial.—Dicta in *Powell v. Alabama*²⁵² indicated that “during perhaps the most critical period of the proceedings . . . that is to say, from the time of their arraignment until the beginning of their trial, when consultation, thor-

²⁴⁷ 466 U.S. at 659 n.26 (finding no inherently prejudicial circumstances in appointment of real estate attorney with no criminal law experience to defend mail fraud “check kiting” charges with approximately one month’s preparation time). On the other hand, an attorney’s failure to advise a client of his right to appeal, and of his right to an attorney on appeal, amounts to “a substantial showing” of denial of the right to effective counsel. *Lozada v. Deeds*, 498 U.S. 430, 432 (1991) (per curiam).

²⁴⁸ *Faretta v. California*, 422 U.S. 806 (1975). Even if the defendant exercises his right to his detriment, the Constitution ordinarily guarantees him the opportunity to do so. A defendant who represents himself cannot thereafter complain that the quality of his defense denied him effective assistance of counsel. *Id.* at 834–35 n.46. Related to the right of self-representation is the right to testify in one’s own defense. *Rock v. Arkansas*, 483 U.S. 44 (1987) (per se rule excluding all hypnotically refreshed testimony violates right).

²⁴⁹ 465 U.S. 168 (1984).

²⁵⁰ *Id.* at 178.

²⁵¹ *Id.* at 184.

²⁵² 287 U.S. 45, 57 (1932).

oughgoing investigation and preparation [are] vitally important, the defendants . . . [are] as much entitled to such aid [of counsel] during that period as at the trial itself.” This language has gradually been expanded upon and the Court has developed a concept of “a critical stage in a criminal proceeding” as indicating when the defendant must be represented by counsel. Thus, in *Hamilton v. Alabama*,²⁵³ the Court noted that arraignment under state law was a “critical stage” because the defense of insanity had to be pleaded then or lost, pleas in abatement had to be made then, and motions to quash on the ground of racial exclusion of grand jurors or that the grand jury was improperly drawn had to be made then. *White v. Maryland*²⁵⁴ set aside a conviction obtained at a trial at which defendant’s plea of guilty, entered at a preliminary hearing where he was without counsel, was introduced as evidence against him at trial. Finally in *Coleman v. Alabama*,²⁵⁵ the Court denominated a preliminary hearing as a “critical stage” necessitating counsel even though the only functions of the hearing were to determine probable cause to warrant presenting the case to a grand jury and to fix bail; no defense was required to be presented at that point and nothing occurring at the hearing could be used against the defendant at trial. The Court hypothesized that a lawyer might by skilled examination and cross-examination expose weaknesses in the prosecution’s case and thereby save the defendant from being bound over, and could in any event preserve for use in cross-examination at trial and impeachment purposes testimony he could elicit at the hearing; he could discover as much as possible of the prosecution’s case against defendant for better trial preparation; and he could influence the court in such matters as bail and psychiatric examination. The result seems to be that reached in pre-*Gideon* cases in which a defendant was entitled to counsel if a lawyer might have made a difference.²⁵⁶

Custodial Interrogation.—At first, the Court followed the rule of “fundamental fairness,” assessing whether under all the circumstances a defendant was so prejudiced by the denial of access

²⁵³ 368 U.S. 52 (1961).

²⁵⁴ 373 U.S. 59 (1963).

²⁵⁵ 399 U.S. 1 (1970). Justice Harlan concurred solely because he thought the precedents compelled him to do so, *id.* at 19, while Chief Justice Burger and Justice Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 21, 25. Inasmuch as the role of counsel at the preliminary hearing stage does not necessarily have the same effect upon the integrity of the factfinding process as the role of counsel at trial, *Coleman* was denied retroactive effect in *Adams v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 278 (1972). Justice Blackmun joined Chief Justice Burger in pronouncing *Coleman* wrongly decided. *Id.* at 285, 286. *Hamilton* and *White*, however, were held to be retroactive in *Arsenault v. Massachusetts*, 393 U.S. 5 (1968).

²⁵⁶ Compare *Hudson v. North Carolina*, 363 U.S. 697 (1960), with *Chewning v. Cunningham*, 368 U.S. 443 (1962), and *Carnley v. Cochran*, 369 U.S. 506 (1962).

to counsel that his subsequent trial was tainted.²⁵⁷ It was held in *Spano v. New York*²⁵⁸ that under the totality of circumstances a confession obtained in a post-indictment interrogation was involuntary, and four Justices wished to place the holding solely on the basis that post-indictment interrogation in the absence of defendant's lawyer was a denial of his right to assistance of counsel. That holding was made in *Massiah v. United States*,²⁵⁹ in which federal officers caused an informer to elicit from the already-indicted defendant, who was represented by a lawyer, incriminating admissions which were secretly overheard over a broadcasting unit. Then, in *Escobedo v. Illinois*,²⁶⁰ the Court held that preindictment interrogation was a violation of the Sixth Amendment. But *Miranda v. Arizona*²⁶¹ switched from reliance on the Sixth Amendment to the Fifth Amendment's self-incrimination clause, although that case still placed great emphasis upon police warnings with regard to counsel and foreclosure of interrogation in the absence of counsel without a valid waiver by defendant.

Massiah was reaffirmed and in some respects expanded by the Court. Thus, in *Brewer v. Williams*,²⁶² the right to counsel was found violated when police elicited from defendant incriminating admissions not through formal questioning but rather through a series of conversational openings designed to play on the defendant's known weakness. The police conduct occurred in the post-arraignment period in the absence of defense counsel and despite assurances to the attorney that defendant would not be questioned in his absence. *United States v. Henry*²⁶³ held that government agents violated the Sixth Amendment right to counsel when they contacted the cellmate of an indicted defendant and promised him payment under a contingent fee arrangement if he would "pay attention" to incriminating remarks initiated by the defendant and others. The Court concluded that even if the government agents did not intend the informant to take affirmative steps to elicit incrimi-

²⁵⁷ *Crooker v. California*, 357 U.S. 433 (1958) (five-to-four decision); *Cicenia v. Lagay*, 357 U.S. 504 (1958) (five-to-three).

²⁵⁸ 360 U.S. 315 (1959).

²⁵⁹ 377 U.S. 201 (1964). See also *McLeod v. Ohio*, 381 U.S. 356 (1965) (applying *Massiah* to the States, in a case not involving trickery but in which defendant was endeavoring to cooperate with the police). But see *Hoffa v. United States*, 385 U.S. 293 (1966). Cf. *Milton v. Wainwright*, 407 U.S. 371 (1972).

²⁶⁰ 378 U.S. 478 (1964).

²⁶¹ 384 U.S. 436 (1966).

²⁶² 430 U.S. 387 (1977). Chief Justice Burger and Justices White, Blackmun, and Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 415, 429, 438. Compare *Rhode Island v. Innis*, 446 U.S. 291 (1980), decided on self-incrimination grounds under similar facts.

²⁶³ 447 U.S. 264 (1980) Justices Blackmun, White, and Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 277, 289. But cf. *Weatherford v. Bursey*, 429 U.S. 545 (1977).

nating statements from the defendant in the absence of counsel, the agents must have known that result would follow.

The Court has extended the *Edwards v. Arizona*²⁶⁴ rule protecting in-custody requests for counsel to post-arraignment situations where the right derives from the Sixth Amendment rather than the Fifth. Thus, the Court held in *Michigan v. Jackson*, “if police initiate interrogation after a defendant’s assertion, at an arraignment or similar proceeding, of his right to counsel, any waiver of the defendant’s right to counsel for that police-initiated interrogation is invalid.”²⁶⁵ The Court concluded that “the reasons for prohibiting the interrogation of an uncounseled prisoner who has asked for the help of a lawyer are even stronger after he has been formally charged with an offense than before.”²⁶⁶ The protection, however, is not as broad under the Sixth Amendment as it is under the Fifth. While *Edwards* has been extended to bar custodial questioning stemming from a separate investigation as well as questioning relating to the crime for which the suspect was arrested,²⁶⁷ this extension does not apply for purposes of the Sixth Amendment right to counsel. The Sixth Amendment right is “offense-specific,” and so also is “its *Michigan v. Jackson* effect of invalidating subsequent waivers in police-initiated interviews.”²⁶⁸ Therefore, while a defendant who has invoked his Sixth Amendment right to counsel with respect to the offense for which he is being prosecuted may not waive that right, he may waive his *Miranda*-based right not to be interrogated about unrelated and uncharged offenses.

The remedy for violation of the Sixth Amendment rule is exclusion from evidence of statements so obtained.²⁶⁹ And, while the basis for the Sixth Amendment exclusionary rule—to protect the right to a fair trial—differs from that of the Fourth Amendment rule—to deter illegal police conduct—exceptions to the Fourth Amendment’s exclusionary rule can apply as well to the Sixth. In *Nix v. Williams*,²⁷⁰ the Court held the “inevitable discovery” exception applicable to defeat exclusion of evidence obtained as a result of an interrogation violating the accused’s Sixth Amendment rights.

²⁶⁴ 451 U.S. 477 (1981).

²⁶⁵ 475 U.S. 625, 636 (1986).

²⁶⁶ 475 U.S. at 631. If a prisoner does not ask for the assistance of counsel, however, and voluntarily waives his rights following a *Miranda* warning, these reasons disappear. Moreover, although the right to counsel is more difficult to waive at trial than before trial, “whatever standards suffice for *Miranda*’s purposes will also be sufficient [for waiver of Sixth Amendment rights] in the context of postindictment questioning.” *Patterson v. Illinois*, 487 U.S. 285, 298 (1988).

²⁶⁷ *Arizona v. Roberson*, 486 U.S. 675 (1988).

²⁶⁸ *McNeil v. Wisconsin*, 501 U.S. 171, 175 (1991). The reason why the right is “offense-specific” is that “it does not attach until a prosecution is commenced.” *Id.*

²⁶⁹ See *Michigan v. Jackson*, 475 U.S. 625 (1986).

²⁷⁰ 467 U.S. 431 (1984).

“Exclusion of physical evidence that would inevitably have been discovered adds nothing to either the integrity or fairness of a criminal trial.”²⁷¹ Also, an exception to the Sixth Amendment exclusionary rule has been recognized for the purpose of impeaching the defendant’s trial testimony.²⁷²

Lineups and Other Identification Situations.—The concept of the “critical stage” was again expanded and its rationale formulated in *United States v. Wade*,²⁷³ which, with *Gilbert v. California*,²⁷⁴ held that lineups are a critical stage and that in-court identification of defendants based on out-of-court lineups or show-ups without the presence of defendant’s counsel is inadmissible. The Sixth Amendment guarantee, said Justice Brennan, was intended to do away with the common-law limitation of assistance of counsel to matters of law, excluding matters of fact. The abolition of the fact-law distinction took on new importance due to the changes in investigation and prosecution since adoption of the Sixth Amendment. “When the Bill of Rights was adopted there were no organized police forces as we know them today. The accused confronted the prosecutor and the witnesses against him and the evidence was marshalled, largely at the trial itself. In contrast, today’s law enforcement machinery involves critical confrontations of the accused by the prosecution at pretrial proceedings where the results might well settle the accused’s fate and reduce the trial itself to a mere formality. In recognition of these realities of modern criminal prosecution, our cases have construed the Sixth Amendment guarantee to apply to ‘critical’ stages of the proceedings. . . . The plain wording of this guarantee thus encompasses counsel’s assistance whenever necessary to assure a meaningful ‘defence.’”²⁷⁵

“It is central to [the principle of *Powell v. Alabama*] that in addition to counsel’s presence at trial, the accused is guaranteed that he need not stand alone against the State at any stage of the prosecution, formal or informal, in court or out, where counsel’s absence might derogate from the accused’s right to a fair trial.”²⁷⁶ Counsel’s presence at a lineup is constitutionally necessary because the lineup stage is filled with numerous possibilities for errors, both inadvertent and intentional, which cannot adequately be discovered

²⁷¹ 467 U.S. at 446.

²⁷² *Michigan v. Harvey*, 494 U.S. 344 (1990) (postarrest statement taken in violation of Sixth Amendment is admissible to impeach defendant’s inconsistent trial testimony).

²⁷³ 388 U.S. 218 (1967).

²⁷⁴ 388 U.S. 263 (1967).

²⁷⁵ *United States v. Wade*, 388 U.S. 218, 224–25 (1967) (citations omitted).

²⁷⁶ *Id.* at 226 (citations omitted).

and remedied at trial.²⁷⁷ However, because there was less certainty and frequency of possible injustice at this stage, the Court held that the two cases were to be given prospective effect only; more egregious instances, where identification had been based upon lineups conducted in a manner that was unnecessarily suggestive and conducive to irreparable mistaken identification, could be invalidated under the due process clause.²⁷⁸ The *Wade-Gilbert* rule is inapplicable to other methods of obtaining identification and other evidentiary material relating to the defendant, such as blood samples, handwriting exemplars, and the like, because there is minimal risk that the absence of counsel might derogate from the defendant's right to a fair trial.²⁷⁹

In *United States v. Ash*,²⁸⁰ the Court redefined and modified its "critical stage" analysis. According to the Court, the "core purpose" of the guarantee of counsel is to assure assistance at trial "when the accused was confronted with both the intricacies of the law and the advocacy of the public prosecutor." But assistance would be less than meaningful in the light of developments in criminal investigation and procedure if it were limited to the formal trial itself; therefore, counsel is compelled at "pretrial events that might appropriately be considered to be parts of the trial itself. At these newly emerging and significant events, the accused was confronted, just as at trial, by the procedural system, or by his expert adversary, or by both."²⁸¹ Therefore, unless at the pretrial stage there was involved the physical presence of the accused at a trial-like confrontation at which the accused requires the guiding

²⁷⁷ *Id.* at 227–39. Previously, the manner of an extra-judicial identification affected only the weight, not the admissibility, of identification testimony at trial. Justices White, Harlan, and Stewart dissented, denying any objective need for the Court's per se rule and doubting its efficacy in any event. *Id.* at 250.

²⁷⁸ *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293 (1967).

²⁷⁹ *Gilbert v. California*, 388 U.S. 263, 265–67 (1967) (handwriting exemplars); *Schmerber v. California*, 384 U.S. 757, 765–66 (1966) (blood samples).

²⁸⁰ 413 U.S. 300 (1973). Justices Brennan, Douglas, and Marshall dissented. *Id.* at 326.

²⁸¹ *Id.* at 309–10, 312–13. Justice Stewart, concurring on other grounds, rejected this analysis, *id.* at 321, as did the three dissenters. *Id.* at 326, 338–344. "The fundamental premise underlying all of this Court's decisions holding the right to counsel applicable at 'critical' pretrial proceedings, is that a 'stage' of the prosecution must be deemed 'critical' for the purposes of the Sixth Amendment if it is one at which the presence of counsel is necessary 'to protect the fairness of the trial itself.'" *Id.* at 339 (Justice Brennan dissenting). Examination of defendant by court-appointed psychiatrist to determine his competency to stand trial, after his indictment, was a "critical" stage, and he was entitled to the assistance of counsel before submitting to it. *Estelle v. Smith*, 451 U.S. 454, 469–71 (1981). Constructive notice is insufficient to alert counsel to psychiatric examination to assess future dangerousness of an indicted client. *Satterwhite v. Texas*, 486 U.S. 249 (1987) (also subjecting *Estelle v. Smith* violations to harmless error analysis in capital cases).

hand of counsel, the Sixth Amendment does not guarantee the assistance of counsel.

Since the defendant was not present when witnesses to the crime viewed photographs of possible guilty parties, since therefore there was no trial-like confrontation, and since the possibilities of abuse in a photographic display are discoverable and reconstructable at trial by examination of witnesses, an indicted defendant is not entitled to have his counsel present at such a display.²⁸²

Both *Wade* and *Gilbert* had already been indicted and counsel had been appointed to represent them when their lineups were conducted, a fact noted in the opinions and in subsequent ones,²⁸³ but the cases in which the rulings were denied retroactive application involved preindictment lineups.²⁸⁴ Nevertheless, in *Kirby v. Illinois*²⁸⁵ the Court held that no right to counsel existed with respect to lineups that precede some formal act of charging a suspect. The Sixth Amendment does not become operative, explained Justice Stewart's plurality opinion, until "the initiation of adversary judicial criminal proceedings—whether by way of formal charge, preliminary hearings, indictment, information, or arraignment. . . . The initiation of judicial criminal proceedings is far from a mere formalism. It is the starting point of our whole system of adversary criminal justice. For it is only then that the Government has committed itself to prosecute, and only then that the adverse positions of Government and defendant have solidified. It is then that a defendant finds himself faced with the prosecutorial forces of organized society, and immersed in the intricacies of substantive and procedural criminal law. It is this point, therefore, that marks the commencement of the 'criminal prosecutions' to which alone the explicit guarantees of the Sixth Amendment are applicable."²⁸⁶ The

²⁸² 413 U.S. at 317–21. On the due process standards of identification procedure, see *infra* p. 1752.

²⁸³ *United States v. Wade*, 388 U.S. 218, 219, 237 (1967); *Gilbert v. California*, 388 U.S. 263, 269, 272 (1967); *Simmons v. United States*, 390 U.S. 377, 382–83 (1968).

²⁸⁴ *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293 (1967); *Foster v. California*, 394 U.S. 440 (1969); *Coleman v. Alabama*, 399 U.S. 1 (1970).

²⁸⁵ 406 U.S. 682, 689 (1972).

²⁸⁶ *Id.* at 689–90. Justices Brennan, Douglas, and Marshall, dissenting, argued that it had never previously been doubted that *Wade* and *Gilbert* applied in preindictment lineup situations and that in any event the rationale of the rule was no different whatever the formal status of the case. *Id.* at 691. Justice White, a dissenter in *Wade* and *Gilbert*, dissented simply on the basis that those two cases controlled this one. *Id.* at 705. Indictment, as the quotation from *Kirby* indicates, is not a necessary precondition. Any initiation of judicial proceedings suffices. E.g., *Brewer v. Williams*, 430 U.S. 387 (1977) (suspect had been seized pursuant to an arrest warrant, arraigned, and committed by court). *United States v. Gouveia*, 467 U.S. 180 (1984) (Sixth Amendment attaches as of arraignment—there is no right to coun-

Court's distinguishing of the underlying basis for *Miranda v. Arizona*²⁸⁷ left that case basically unaffected by *Kirby*, but it appears that *Escobedo v. Illinois*,²⁸⁸ and perhaps other cases, is greatly restricted thereby.

Post-Conviction Proceedings.—Counsel is required at the sentencing stage,²⁸⁹ and the Court has held that where sentencing was deferred after conviction and the defendant was placed on probation, he must be afforded counsel at a hearing on revocation of probation and imposition of the deferred sentence.²⁹⁰ Beyond this stage, however, it would appear that the issue of counsel at hearings on the granting of parole or probation, the revocation of parole which has been imposed following sentencing, and prison disciplinary hearings will be determined according to due process and equal protection standards rather than by further expansion of the Sixth Amendment.²⁹¹

Noncriminal and Investigatory Proceedings.—Commitment proceedings which lead to the imposition of essentially criminal punishment are subject to the due process clause and require the assistance of counsel.²⁹² A state administrative investigation by a fire marshal inquiring into the causes of a fire was held not to be a criminal proceeding and hence, despite the fact that the petitioners had been committed to jail for noncooperation, not the type of hearing at which counsel was requisite.²⁹³ Another decision refused to extend the right to counsel to investigative proceedings antedating a criminal prosecution, and sustained the contempt conviction of private detectives who refused to testify before a judge

sel for prison inmates placed under administrative segregation during a lengthy investigation of their participation in prison crimes).

²⁸⁷ “[T]he *Miranda* decision was based exclusively upon the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment privilege against compulsory self-incrimination, upon the theory that custodial *interrogation* is inherently coercive.” 406 U.S. 688, (Emphasis by Court).

²⁸⁸ “But *Escobedo* is not apposite here for two distinct reasons. First, the Court in retrospect perceived that the ‘prime purpose’ of *Escobedo* was not to vindicate the constitutional right to counsel as such, but, like *Miranda*, ‘to guarantee full effectuation of the privilege against self-incrimination. . . .’ *Johnson v. New Jersey*, 384 U.S. 719, 729. Secondly, and perhaps even more important for purely practical purposes, the Court has limited the holding of *Escobedo* to its own facts, *Johnson v. New Jersey*, *supra*, at 733–34, and those facts are not remotely akin to the facts of the case before us.” *Id.* at 689. *But see id.* at 693 n.3 (Justice Brennan dissenting).

²⁸⁹ *Townsend v. Burke*, 334 U.S. 736 (1948).

²⁹⁰ *Mempa v. Rhay*, 389 U.S. 128 (1967) (applied retroactively in *McConnell v. Rhay*, 393 U.S. 2 (1968)).

²⁹¹ Counsel is not a guaranteed right in prison disciplinary proceedings. *Wolff v. McDonnell*, 418 U.S. 539, 560–70 (1974); *Baxter v. Palmigiano*, 425 U.S. 308, 314–15 (1976). Other cases are assembled *infra* under analysis of the Fourteenth Amendment due process clause.

²⁹² *Specht v. Patterson*, 386 U.S. 605 (1967).

²⁹³ *In re Groban*, 352 U.S. 330 (1957). Four Justices dissented.

authorized to conduct a non-prosecutorial, fact-finding inquiry akin to a grand jury proceeding, and who based their refusal on the ground that their counsel were required to remain outside the hearing room.²⁹⁴

²⁹⁴ *Anonymous v. Baker*, 360 U.S. 287 (1959). Four Justices dissented.

SEVENTH AMENDMENT

CIVIL TRIALS

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CIVIL TRIALS

SEVENTH AMENDMENT

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

TRIAL BY JURY IN CIVIL CASES

The Right and the Characteristics of the Civil Jury

History.—On September 12, 1787, as the Convention was in its final stages, Mr. Williamson of North Carolina “observed to the House that no provision was yet made for juries in Civil cases and suggested the necessity of it.” The comment elicited some support and the further observation that because of the diversity of practice in civil trials in the States it would be impossible to draft a suitable provision.¹ When on September 15 it was moved that a clause be inserted in Article III, §2, to guarantee that “a trial by jury shall be preserved as usual in civil cases,” this objection seems to have been the only one urged in opposition and the motion was defeated.² The omission, however, was cited by many opponents of ratification and “was pressed with an urgency and zeal . . . well-nigh preventing its ratification.”³ A guarantee of right to jury in civil cases was one of the amendments urged on Congress by the ratifying conventions⁴ and it was included from the first among Madison’s proposals to the House.⁵ It does not appear that the text

¹ 2 M. FARRAND, RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787, at 587 (rev. ed. 1937).

² *Id.* at 628.

³ J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1757 (1833). “[I]t is a most important and valuable amendment; and places upon the high ground of constitutional right the inestimable privilege of a trial by jury in civil cases, a privilege scarcely inferior to that in criminal cases, which is conceded by all to be essential to political and civil liberty.” *Id.* at 1762.

⁴ J. ELLIOTT, THE DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON THE ADOPTION OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION 326 (2d ed. 1836) (New Hampshire); 2 *id.* at 399–414 (New York); 3 *id.* at 658 (Virginia).

⁵ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 436 (1789). “In suits at common law, between man and man, the trial by jury, as one of the best securities to the rights of the people, ought to remain inviolate.”

of the proposed amendment or its meaning was debated during its passage.⁶

Composition and Functions of Civil Jury.—Traditionally, the Supreme Court has treated the Seventh Amendment as preserving the right of trial by jury in civil cases as it “existed under the English common law when the amendment was adopted.”⁷ The right was to “a trial by a jury of twelve men, in the presence and under the superintendence of a judge empowered to instruct them on the law and to advise them on the facts and (except in acquittal of a criminal charge) to set aside their verdict if in his opinion it is against the law or the evidence.”⁸ Decision of the jury must be by unanimous verdict.⁹ In *Colgrove v. Battin*,¹⁰ however, the Court by a five-to-four vote held that rules adopted in a federal district court authorizing civil juries composed of six persons were permissible under the Seventh Amendment and congressional enactments. By the reference in the Amendment to the “common law,” the Court thought, “the Framers of the Seventh Amendment were concerned with preserving the *right* of trial by jury in civil cases where it existed at common law, rather than the various incidents of trial by jury.”¹¹

The Amendment has for its primary purpose the preservation of “the common law distinction between the province of the court and that of the jury, whereby, in the absence of express or implied consent to the contrary, issues of law are resolved by the court and issues of fact are to be determined by the jury under appropriate

⁶It is simply noted in 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 760 (1789), that on August 18 the House “considered and adopted” the committee version: “In suits at common law, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved.” On September 7, the SENATE JOURNAL states that this provision was adopted after insertion of “where the consideration exceeds twenty dollars.” 2 B. SCHWARTZ, THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 1150 (1971).

⁷*Baltimore & Carolina Line v. Redman*, 295 U.S. 654, 657 (1913); *Parsons v. Bedford*, 28 U.S. (3 Pet.) 433, 446–48 (1830).

⁸*Capital Traction Co. v. Hof*, 174 U.S. 1, 13 (1899).

⁹*Maxwell v. Dow*, 176 U.S. 581 (1900); *American Publishing Co. v. Fisher*, 166 U.S. 464 (1897); *Springville v. Thomas*, 166 U.S. 707 (1897).

¹⁰413 U.S. 149 (1973). Justices Marshall and Stewart dissented on constitutional and statutory grounds, *id.* at 166, while Justices Douglas and Powell relied only on statutory grounds without reaching the constitutional issue. *Id.* at 165, 188.

¹¹*Id.* at 155–56. The Court did not consider what number less than six, if any, would fail to satisfy the Amendment’s requirements. “What is required for a ‘jury’ is a number large enough to facilitate group deliberation combined with a likelihood of obtaining a representative cross section of the community. . . . It is undoubtedly true that at some point the number becomes too small to accomplish these goals . . .” *Id.* at 160 n.16. Application of similar reasoning has led the Court to uphold elimination of the unanimity as well as the 12-person requirement for criminal trials. See *Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78 (1970) (jury size); *Apodaca v. Oregon*, 406 U.S. 404 (1972) (unanimity); and discussion *supra* pp. 1408–10.

instructions by the court.”¹² But it “does not exact the retention of old forms of procedure” nor does it “prohibit the introduction of new methods of ascertaining what facts are in issue” or new rules of evidence.¹³ Those matters which were tried by a jury in England in 1791 are to be so tried today and those matters which, as in equity, were tried by the judge in England in 1791 are to be so tried today,¹⁴ and when new rights and remedies are created “the right of action should be analogized to its historical counterpart, at law or in equity, for the purpose of determining whether there is a right of jury trial,” unless Congress has expressly prescribed the mode of trial.¹⁵

Courts in Which the Guarantee Applies.—The Amendment governs only courts which sit under the authority of the United States,¹⁶ including courts in the territories¹⁷ and the District of Columbia,¹⁸ and does not apply generally to state courts.¹⁹ But when a state court is enforcing a federally created right, of which the right to trial by jury is a substantial part, the States may not eliminate trial by jury as to one or more elements.²⁰ Ordinarily, a federal court enforcing a state-created right will follow its own rules with regard to the allocation of functions between judge and jury, a rule the Court based on the “interests” of the federal court system, eschewing reliance on the Seventh Amendment but noting its influence.²¹

Waiver of the Right.—Parties may enter into a stipulation waiving a jury and submitting the case to the court upon an agreed

¹² *Baltimore & Carolina Line v. Redman*, 295 U.S. 654, 657 (1935); *Walker v. New Mexico & So. Pac. R.R.*, 165 U.S. 593, 596 (1897); *Gasoline Products Co. v. Champlin Ref. Co.*, 283 U.S. 494, 497–99 (1931); *Dimick v. Schiedt*, 293 U.S. 474, 476, 485–86 (1935).

¹³ *Gasoline Products Co. v. Champlin Ref. Co.*, 283 U.S. 494, 498 (1931); *Ex parte Peterson*, 253 U.S. 300, 309 (1920).

¹⁴ *Parsons v. Bedford*, 28 U.S. (3 Pet.) 433, 446–47 (1830); *Slocum v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 228 U.S. 364, 377–78 (1913); *Baltimore & Carolina Line v. Redman*, 295 U.S. 654, 657 (1935); *Dimick v. Schiedt*, 293 U.S. 474, 476 (1935). *But see* *Ross v. Bernhard*, 396 U.S. 531 (1970), which may foreshadow a new analysis.

¹⁵ *Luria v. United States*, 231 U.S. 9, 27–28 (1913).

¹⁶ *Pearson v. Yewdall*, 95 U.S. 294, 296 (1877); *Edwards v. Elliott*, 88 U.S. (21 Wall.) 532, 557 (1874); *The Justices v. Murray*, 76 U.S. (9 Wall.) 274, 277 (1870); *Walker v. Sauvinet*, 92 U.S. 90 (1876); *St. Louis & K.C. Land Co. v. Kansas City*, 241 U.S. 419 (1916).

¹⁷ *Webster v. Reid*, 52 U.S. (11 How.) 437, 460 (1851); *Kennon v. Gilmer*, 131 U.S. 22, 28 (1889).

¹⁸ *Capital Traction Co. v. Hof*, 174 U.S. 1, 5 (1899).

¹⁹ *Minneapolis & St. Louis R.R. v. Bombolis*, 241 U.S. 211 (1916). *See also* *Melancon v. McKeithen*, 345 F. Supp. 105 (E.D.La.) (three-judge court), *aff'd. per curiam*, 409 U.S. 943 (1972); *Alexander v. Virginia*, 413 U.S. 836 (1973).

²⁰ *Dice v. Akron, C. & Y. R.R.*, 342 U.S. 359 (1952). Four dissenters contended that the ruling was contrary to the unanimous decision in *Bombolis*.

²¹ *Byrd v. Blue Ridge Rural Elec. Coop.*, 356 U.S. 525 (1958) (citing *Herron v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 283 U.S. 91 (1931)).

statement of facts, even without any legislative provision for waiver.²² Prior to adoption of the Federal Rules, Congress had, “by statute, provided for the trial of issues of fact in civil cases by the court without the intervention of a jury, only when the parties waive their right to a jury by a stipulation in writing.”²³ Under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, any party may make a timely demand for a trial by jury of any issue triable of right by a jury by serving upon the other parties a demand therefor in writing, and failure so to serve a demand constitutes a waiver of the right.²⁴ However, a waiver is not to be implied from a request for a directed verdict.²⁵

Application of the Amendment

Cases “at Common Law”.—The coverage of the Amendment is “limited to rights and remedies peculiarly legal in their nature, and such as it was proper to assert in courts of law and by the appropriate modes and proceedings of courts of law.”²⁶ The term “common law” was used in contradistinction to suits in which equitable rights alone were recognized at the time of the framing of the Amendment and equitable remedies were administered.²⁷ Illustrative of the Court’s course of decision on this subject are two unanimous decisions holding that civil juries were required, one in a suit by a landlord to recover possession of real property from a tenant allegedly behind on rent, the other in a suit for damages for alleged racial discrimination in the rental of housing in violation of federal law. In the former case, the Court reasoned that its Seventh Amendment precedents “require[ed] trial by jury in actions unheard of at common law, provided that the action involves rights and remedies of the sort traditionally enforced in an action at law, rather than in an action at equity or admiralty.”²⁸ The statutory cause of action, the Court found, had several counterparts in the

²² *Henderson’s Distilled Spirits*, 81 U.S. (14 Wall.) 44, 53 (1872); *Rogers v. United States*, 141 U.S. 548, 554 (1891); *Parsons v. Armor*, 28 U.S. (3 Pet.) 413 (1830); *Campbell v. Boyreau*, 62 U.S. (21 How.) 223 (1859).

²³ *Baylis v. Travellers’ Ins. Co.*, 113 U.S. 316, 321 (1885). The provision did not preclude other kinds of waivers, *Duignan v. United States*, 274 U.S. 195, 198 (1927), though every reasonable presumption was indulged against a waiver. *Hodges v. Easton*, 106 U.S. 408, 412 (1883).

²⁴ FED. R. CIV. P. 38.

²⁵ *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Kennedy*, 301 U.S. 389 (1937); FED. R. CIV. P. 50(a).

²⁶ *Shields v. Thomas*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 253, 262 (1856).

²⁷ *Parsons v. Bedford*, 28 U.S. (3 Pet.) 443, 447 (1830); *Barton v. Barbour*, 104 U.S. 126, 133 (1881). Formerly, it did not apply to cases where recovery of money damages was incidental to equitable relief even though damages might have been recovered in an action at law. *Clark v. Wooster*, 119 U.S. 322, 325 (1886); *Pease v. Rathbun-Jones Eng. Co.*, 243 U.S. 273, 279 (1917). *But see Dairy Queen v. Wood*, 369 U.S. 469 (1962), discussed *infra*, p. 1459.

²⁸ *Pernell v. Southall Realty*, 416 U.S. 363 (1974).

common law, all of which involved a right to trial by jury. In the latter case, the plaintiff had argued that the Amendment was inapplicable to new causes of action created by congressional action, but the Court disagreed. “The Seventh Amendment does apply to actions enforcing statutory rights, and requires a jury trial upon demand, if the statute creates legal rights and remedies, enforceable in an action for damages in the ordinary courts of law.”²⁹

Omission of provision for a jury has been upheld in a number of other cases on the ground that the suit in question was not a suit at common law within the meaning of the Amendment, or that the issues raised were not peculiarly legal in their nature.³⁰

The amendment does not apply to cases in admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, in which the trial is by a court without a jury,³¹ nor does it reach statutory proceedings unknown to the common law, such as an application to a court of equity to enforce an order

²⁹ *Curtis v. Loether*, 415 U.S. 189, 194 (1974). “A damage action under the statute sounds basically in tort—the statute merely defines a new legal duty and authorizes the court to compensate a plaintiff for the injury caused by the defendants’ wrongful breach. . . . [T]his cause of action is analogous to a number of tort actions recognized at common law.” *Id.* at 195. *See also* *Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers Local 391 v. Terry*, 494 U.S. 558 (1990) (suit against union for back pay for breach of duty of fair representation is a suit for compensatory damages, hence plaintiff is entitled to a jury trial); *Wooddell v. International Bhd. of Electrical Workers Local 71*, 112 S. Ct. 494 (1991) (similar suit against union for money damages entitles union member to jury trial; a claim for injunctive relief was incidental to the damages claim).

³⁰ Among such actions or issues were, e.g., (1) enforcement of claims against the United States, *McElrath v. United States*, 102 U.S. 426, 440 (1880); *see also* *Galloway v. United States*, 319 U.S. 372, 388 (1943); (2) suit under a territorial statute authorizing a special nonjury tribunal to hear claims against a municipality having no legal obligation but based on moral obligation only, *Guthrie National Bank v. Guthrie*, 173 U.S. 528, 534 (1899); *see also* *United States v. Realty Co.*, 163 U.S. 427, 439 (1896); *New Orleans v. Clark*, 95 U.S. 644, 653 (1877); (3) cancellation of a naturalization certificate for fraud, *Luria v. United States*, 231 U.S. 9, 27 (1913); (4) reversal of an order to deport an alien, *Gee Wah Lee v. United States*, 25 F.2d 107 (5th Cir. 1928), cert. denied, 277 U.S. 608 (1928); (5) damages for patent infringement, *Filer & Stowell Co. v. Diamond Iron Works*, 270 F. 489 (2d Cir. 1921), cert. denied, 256 U.S. 691 (1921); (6) reversal of an award under the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act, *Crowell v. Benson*, 285 U.S. 22, 45 (1932); and (7) reversal of a decision of customs appraisers on the value of imports, *Auffmordt v. Hedden*, 137 U.S. 310, 329 (1890); (8) a summary disposition by referee in bankruptcy of issues regarding voidable preferences as asserted and proved by the trustee, *Katchen v. Landy*, 382 U.S. 323 (1966); and (9) a determination by a judge in calculating just compensation in a federal eminent domain proceeding of the issue as to whether the condemned lands were originally within the scope of the government’s project or were adjacent lands later added to the plan, *United States v. Reynolds*, 397 U.S. 14 (1970).

³¹ *Parsons v. Bedford*, 28 U.S. (3 Pet.) 443 (1830); *Waring v. Clarke*, 46 U.S. (5 How.) 441, 460 (1847); *Romero v. International Terminal Operating Co.*, 358 U.S. 354 (1959). *But see* *Fitzgerald v. United States Lines*, 374 U.S. 16 (1963).

of an administrative body.³² Thus, when Congress committed to administrative determination the finding of a violation of the Occupational Safety and Health Act with a discretion to fix a fine for a violation, the charged party being able to obtain judicial review of the administrative proceeding in a federal court of appeal and the fine being collectible in a suit in federal court, the argument that the absence of a jury trial in the process for a charged party violated the Seventh Amendment was unanimously rejected. “At least in cases in which ‘public rights’ are being litigated—e.g., cases in which the Government sues in its sovereign capacity to enforce public rights created by statutes within the power of Congress to enact—the Seventh Amendment does not prohibit Congress from assigning the factfinding function and initial adjudication to an administrative forum with which the jury would be incompatible.”³³

On the other hand, if Congress assigns such cases to Article III courts, a jury may be required. In *Tull v. United States*,³⁴ the Court ruled that the Amendment requires trial by jury in civil actions to determine liability for civil penalties under the Clean Water Act, but not to assess the amount of penalty. The penal nature of the Clean Water Act’s civil penalty remedy distinguishes it from restitution-based remedies available in equity courts, and therefore makes it a remedy of the type that could be imposed only by courts of law.³⁵ On the other hand, a jury need not invariably determine the remedy in a trial in which it must determine liability. Because the Court viewed assessment of the amount of penalty as involving neither the “substance” nor a “fundamental element” of a common-law right to trial by jury, it held permissible the Act’s assignment of that task to the trial judge.

More recently still, the Court relied on a broadened concept of “public rights” to define the limits of congressional power to assign causes of action to tribunals in which jury trials are unavailable. In *Granfinanciera, S.A. v. Nordberg*,³⁶ the Court declared that Congress “lacks the power to strip parties contesting matters of private right of their constitutional right to a trial by jury.” The Seventh Amendment test, the Court indicated, is the same as the Article III test for whether Congress may assign adjudication of a

³²NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp., 301 U.S. 1, 48 (1937). See also *ICC v. Brimson*, 154 U.S. 447, 488 (1894); *Yakus v. United States*, 321 U.S. 414, 447 (1944).

³³*Atlas Roofing Co. v. OSHRC*, 430 U.S. 442, 450 (1977).

³⁴481 U.S. 412 (1987).

³⁵The statute itself specified only a maximum amount for the penalty; the Court derived its “punitive” characterization from indications in legislative history that Congress desired consideration of the need for retribution and deterrence as well as the need for restitution.

³⁶492 U.S. 33, 51–52 (1989).

claim to a non-Article III tribunal.³⁷ As a general matter, “public rights” involve “the relationship between the Government and persons subject to its authority,” while “private rights” relate to “the liability of one individual to another.”³⁸ While finding room for “some debate,” the Court determined that a bankruptcy trustee’s right to recover for a fraudulent conveyance “is more accurately characterized as a private rather than a public right,” at least where the defendant had not submitted a claim against the bankruptcy estate.³⁹

The Continuing Law-Equity Distinction.—The use of the term “common law” in the Amendment as indicating those cases in which the right to jury trial was to be preserved reflected, of course, the division of the English and United States legal systems into separate law and equity jurisdictions, in which actions cognizable in courts of law generally were triable to a jury while in equity there was no right to a jury. In the federal court system there were unitary courts having jurisdiction in both law and equity, but distinct law and equity procedures, including the use or nonuse of the jury. Adoption of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in 1938 merged law and equity into a single civil jurisdiction and established uniform rules of procedure. Legal and equitable claims which previously had to be brought as separate causes of action on different “sides” of the court could now be joined in a single action, and in some instances, such as compulsory counterclaims, had to be joined in one action.⁴⁰ But the traditional distinction be-

³⁷ “[I]f a statutory cause of action . . . is not a ‘public right’ for Article III purposes, then Congress may not assign its adjudication to a specialized non-Article III court lacking ‘the essential attributes of the judicial power.’ And if the action must be tried under the auspices of an Article III court, then the Seventh Amendment affords the parties the right to a jury trial whenever the cause of action is legal in nature. Conversely, if Congress may assign the adjudication of a statutory cause of action to a non-Article III tribunal, then the Seventh Amendment poses no independent bar to the adjudication of that action by a nonjury factfinder.” *Id.* at 53–54 (citation omitted).

³⁸ *Id.* at 51 n.8 (quoting *Crowell v. Benson*, 285 U.S. 22, 50, 51 (1932)). The Court qualified certain statements in *Atlas Roofing* and in the process refined its definition of “public rights.” There are some “public rights” cases, the Court explained, in which “the Federal Government is not a party in its sovereign capacity,” but which involve “statutory rights that are integral parts of a public regulatory scheme.” It is in cases of this nature that Congress may “dispense with juries as factfinders through its choice of an adjudicative forum.” This does not mean, however, that Congress may assign “at least the initial factfinding in *all* cases involving controversies entirely between private parties to administrative tribunals or other tribunals not involving juries, so long as they are established as adjuncts to Article III courts.” 492 U.S. at 55 n.10 (emphasis added).

³⁹ *Id.* at 55. On the other hand, a creditor who does submit a claim against the bankruptcy estate subjects himself to the bankruptcy court’s equitable power, and is not entitled to a jury trial when subsequently sued by the bankruptcy trustee to recover preferential monetary transfers. *Langenkamp v. Culp*, 498 U.S. 42 (1990).

⁴⁰ 5 J. MOORE, FEDERAL PRACTICE §§ 38.01–38.05 (2d ed. 1971).

tween law and equity for purposes of determining when there was a constitutional right to trial by jury remained and led to some difficulty.⁴¹

This difficulty has been resolved by stressing the fundamental nature of the jury trial right and protecting it against diminution

⁴¹ Under the old equity rules it had been held that the absolute right to a trial of the facts by a jury could not be impaired by any blending with a claim, properly cognizable at law, of a demand for equitable relief in aid of the legal action or during its pendency. *Hipp v. Babin*, 60 U.S. (19 How.) 271, 278 (1857). The Seventh Amendment was interpreted to mean that equitable and legal issues could not be tried in the same suit, so that such aid in the federal courts had to be sought in separate proceedings. *Scott v. Neely*, 140 U.S. 106, 109 (1891); *Bennett v. Butterworth*, 52 U.S. (11 How.) 669 (1850); *Lewis v. Cocks*, 90 U.S. (23 Wall.) 466, 470 (1874); *Killian v. Ebbinghaus*, 110 U.S. 568, 573 (1884); *Buzard v. Houston*, 119 U.S. 347, 351 (1886). Where an action at law evoked an equitable counterclaim the trial judge would order the legal issues to be separately tried after the disposition of the equity issues. In this procedure, however, *res judicata* and collateral estoppel could operate so as to curtail the litigant's right to a jury finding on factual issues common to both claims. But priority of scheduling was considered to be a matter of discretion. Federal statutes prohibiting courts of the United States from sustaining suits in equity where the remedy was complete at law served to guard the right of trial by jury and were liberally construed. *Schoenthal v. Irving Trust Co.*, 287 U.S. 92, 94 (1932).

Nor was the distinction between law and equity to be obliterated by state legislation. *Thompson v. Railroad Companies*, 73 U.S. (6 Wall.) 134 (1868). So, where state law, in advance of judgment, treated the whole proceeding upon a simple contract, including determination of validity and of amount due, as an equitable proceeding, it brought the case within the federal equity jurisdiction upon removal. Ascertainment of plaintiff's demand being properly by action at law, however, the fact that the equity court had power to summon a jury on occasion did not afford an equivalent of the right of trial by jury secured by the Seventh Amendment. *Whitehead v. Shattuck*, 138 U.S. 146 (1891); *Buzard v. Houston*, 119 U.S. 347 (1886); *Greeley v. Lowe*, 155 U.S. 58, 75 (1894). But where state law gave an equitable remedy, such as to quiet title to land, the federal courts enforced it, if it did not obstruct the rights of the parties as to trial by jury. *Clark v. Smith*, 38 U.S. (13 Pet.) 195 (1839); *Holland v. Challen*, 110 U.S. 15 (1884); *Reynolds v. Crawfordville Bank*, 112 U.S. 405 (1884); *Chapman v. Brewer*, 114 U.S. 158 (1885); *Cummings v. National Bank*, 101 U.S. 153, 157 (1879); *United States v. Landram*, 118 U.S. 81 (1886); *More v. Steinbach*, 127 U.S. 70 (1888). *Cf. Ex parte Simons*, 247 U.S. 321 (1918).

By the inclusion in the Law and Equity Act of 1915 of §274(b) of the Judicial Code, 38 Stat. 956, the transfer of cases to the other side of the court was made possible. The new procedure permitted legal questions arising in an equity action to be determined therein without sending the case to the law side. This section also permitted equitable defenses to be interposed in an action at law. The same order was preserved as under the system of separate courts. The equitable issues were disposed of first, and if a legal issue remained, it was triable by a jury. *Enelow v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 293 U.S. 379 (1935). *See also Liberty Oil Co. v. Condon Bank*, 260 U.S. 235 (1922). There was no provision for legal counterclaims in an equitable action, for the reason that Equity Rule 30, requiring the answer to a bill in equity to state any counterclaim arising out of the same transaction, was not intended to change the line between law and equity and was construed as referring to equitable counterclaims only. *American Mills Co. v. American Surety Co.*, 260 U.S. 360, 364 (1922); *Stamey v. United States*, 37 F.2d 188 (W.D. Wash. 1929). Equitable jurisdiction existing at the time of the filing of the bill was not disturbed by the subsequent availability of legal remedies, and the scheduling was discretionary. *American Life Ins. Co. v. Stewart*, 300 U.S. 203 (1937).

through resort to equitable principles. In *Beacon Theatres v. Westover*,⁴² the Court held that a district court erred in trying all issues itself in an action in which the plaintiff sought a declaratory judgment and an injunction barring the defendant from instituting an antitrust action against it, and the defendant had filed a counterclaim alleging violation of the antitrust laws and asking for treble damages. It did not matter, the Court ruled, that the equitable claims had been filed first and the law counterclaims involved allegations common to the equitable claims. Subsequent jury trial of these issues would probably be precluded by collateral estoppel, hence “only under the most imperative circumstances which in view of the flexible procedures of the Federal Rules we cannot now anticipate, can the right to a jury trial of legal issues be lost through prior determination of equitable claims.”⁴³ Then in *Dairy Queen v. Wood*,⁴⁴ in which the plaintiff sought several types of relief, including an injunction and an accounting for money damages, the Court held that, even though the claim for legal relief was incidental to the equitable relief sought, the Seventh Amendment required that the issues pertaining to that legal relief be tried before a jury, because the primary rights being adjudicated were legal in character. Thus, the rule that emerged was that legal claims must be tried before equitable ones and before a jury if the litigant so wished.⁴⁵

In *Ross v. Bernhard*,⁴⁶ the Court further held that the right to a jury trial depends on the nature of the issue to be tried rather than the procedural framework in which it is raised. The case involved a stockholder derivative action,⁴⁷ which has always been considered to be a suit in equity. The Court agreed that the action

⁴² 359 U.S. 500 (1959).

⁴³ *Id.* at 510–11.

⁴⁴ 369 U.S. 469 (1962).

⁴⁵ If legal and equitable claims are joined, and the court erroneously dismisses the legal claims and decides common issues in the equitable action, the plaintiff cannot be collaterally estopped from relitigating those common issues in a jury trial. *Lytle v. Household Manufacturing, Inc.*, 494 U.S. 545 (1990).

⁴⁶ 396 U.S. 531 (1970).

⁴⁷ The stockholders' derivative action is a creation of equity made necessary by the traditional concept of “the corporate entity” or the “concept of separate personality.” That is, the corporation is an entity distinct and separate from its shareholders. Thus, while shareholders were relieved from unlimited liability for corporate liabilities, the complementary result was that harm to the corporation did not confer any right of action upon a shareholder to sue to right that harm. But if the harm were caused by the abuse of those who managed and controlled the corporation, the corporation naturally would not proceed against them and the common law courts would not allow the shareholders to bring an action running to the “separate personality” of the corporation; equity thus permitted a derivative action in which the shareholder is permitted to set in motion the adjudication of a cause of action belonging to the corporation. Prunty, *The Shareholders' Derivative Suit: Notes on Its Derivation*, 32 N.Y.U. L. REV. 980 (1957).

was equitable but asserted that it involved two separable claims. The first, the stockholder's standing to sue for a corporation is an equitable issue; the second, the corporation's claim asserted by the stockholder, may be either equitable or legal. Because the 1938 merger of law and equity in the federal courts eliminated any procedural obstacles to transferring jurisdiction to the law side once the equitable issue of standing was decided, the Court continued, if the corporation's claim being asserted by the stockholder was legal in nature, it should be heard on the law side and before a jury.⁴⁸ Whether this analysis will be followed in other areas so that the right to a jury trial extends to all legal issues in actions formerly within equity's concurrent jurisdiction is a question now open.⁴⁹

Procedures Limiting Jury's Role.—As was noted above, the primary purpose of the Amendment was to preserve the historic line separating the province of the jury from that of the judge, without at the same time preventing procedural improvement which did not transgress this line. Elucidating this formula, the Court has achieved the following results: it is constitutional for a federal judge, in the course of trial, to express his opinion upon the facts, provided all questions of fact are ultimately submitted to the jury,⁵⁰ to call the jury's attention to parts of the evidence he deems of special importance,⁵¹ being careful to distinguish between matters of law and matters of opinion in relation thereto,⁵² to inform the jury when there is not sufficient evidence to justify a verdict, that such is the case,⁵³ to require a jury to answer specific interrogatories in addition to rendering a general verdict,⁵⁴ to direct the

⁴⁸Justices Stewart and Harlan and Chief Justice Burger dissented, arguing that the Seventh Amendment did not expand the right to a jury trial, that the Rules simply preserved the right as it had existed, and that it was error to think that the two could somehow "magically interact" to enlarge the right in a way that neither did alone. *Ross v. Bernhard*, 396 U.S. 531, 543 (1970).

⁴⁹Among the possibilities in which a legal right was enforceable in equity in the absence of an adequate remedy at law are suits to compel specific performance of a contract, suits for cancellation of a contract, and suits to enjoin tortious action. On *Ross*' implications, see J. MOORE, FEDERAL PRACTICE §§38.11[8.-8], 38.11[9] (2d ed. 1971).

⁵⁰*Vicksburg & Meridian R.R. v. Putnam*, 118 U.S. 545, 553 (1886); *United States v. Philadelphia & Reading R.R.*, 123 U.S. 113, 114 (1887).

⁵¹*Vicksburg & Meridian R.R. v. Putnam*, 118 U.S. 545 (1886) (citing *Carver v. Jackson*, 29 U.S. (4 Pet.) 1, 80 (1830); *Magniac v. Thompson*, 32 U.S. (7 Pet.) 348, 390 (1833); *Mitchell v. Harmony*, 54 U.S. (13 How.) 115, 131 (1852); *Transportation Line v. Hope*, 95 U.S. 297, 302 (1877)).

⁵²*Games v. Dunn*, 39 U.S. (14 Pet.) 322, 327 (1840).

⁵³*Sparf and Hansen v. United States*, 156 U.S. 51, 99-100 (1895); *Pleasants v. Fant*, 22 Wall. (89 U.S.) 116, 121 (1875); *Randall v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 109 U.S. 478, 482 (1883); *Meehan v. Valentine*, 145 U.S. 611, 625 (1892); *Coughran v. Bigelow*, 164 U.S. 301 (1896).

⁵⁴*Walker v. New Mexico So. Pac. R.R.*, 165 U.S. 593, 598 (1897).

jury, after the plaintiff's case is all in, to return a verdict for the defendant on the ground of the insufficiency of the evidence,⁵⁵ to set aside a verdict which in his opinion is against the law or the evidence, and order a new trial,⁵⁶ to refuse defendant a new trial on the condition, accepted by plaintiff, that the latter remit a portion of the damages awarded him,⁵⁷ but not, on the other hand, to deny plaintiff a new trial on the converse condition, although defendant accepted it.⁵⁸ Nor can a Court of Appeals reverse the jury's finding on the issue of reasonableness of petitioner's conduct, in an indemnity action for damages respondent had paid petitioner's employee, on the ground that as a matter of law petitioner had not acted reasonably; "[u]nder the Seventh Amendment, that issue should have been left to the jury's determination."⁵⁹

Directed Verdicts.—In 1913 the Court in *Slocum v. New York Life Ins. Co.*,⁶⁰ held that a federal appeals court lacked authority to order the entry of a judgment contrary to the verdict in a case in which the federal trial court should have directed a verdict for one party, but the jury had found for the other party contrary to the evidence; the only course open to either court was to order a new trial. While plainly in accordance with the common law as it stood in 1791, the five-to-four decision was subjected to a heavy fire of professional criticism based on convenience and urging recognition of capacity for growth in the common law.⁶¹ *Slocum* was then impaired, if not completely undermined, by subsequent holdings.

In the first of these cases, the Court held that a trial court had the right to enter a judgment for the plaintiff on the verdict of the jury after having reserved decision on a motion by the defendant for dismissal on the ground of insufficient evidence.⁶² The Court distinguished *Slocum* while noting that its ruling qualified some of its assertions in *Slocum*.⁶³ In the second case⁶⁴ the Court sustained a United States district court in rejecting the defendant's

⁵⁵*Treat Mfg. Co. v. Standard Steel & Iron Co.*, 157 U.S. 674 (1895); *Randall v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 109 U.S. 478, 482 (1883), and cases cited therein.

⁵⁶*Capital Traction Co. v. Hof*, 174 U.S. 1, 13 (1889).

⁵⁷*Arkansas Cattle Co. v. Mann*, 130 U.S. 69, 74 (1889).

⁵⁸*Dimick v. Schiedt*, 293 U.S. 474, 476–78 (1935).

⁵⁹*International Terminal Operating Co. v. N. V. Nederl. Amerik Stoomv. Maats.*, 393 U.S. 74, 75 (1968). *But see* *Neely v. Martin K. Eby Construction Co.*, 386 U.S. 317 (1967), where the Court held that the Seventh Amendment does not bar an appellate court from granting a judgment *n. o. v.* insofar as "there is no greater restriction on the province of the jury when an appellate court enters judgment *n. o. v.* than when a trial court does." *Id.* at 322.

⁶⁰228 U.S. 364 (1913).

⁶¹F. JAMES, *CIVIL PROCEDURE* 332–33 & n.8 (1965).

⁶²*Baltimore & Carolina Line v. Redman*, 295 U.S. 654 (1935).

⁶³*Id.* at 661. The Court's opinions in both *Redman* and *Slocum* were authored by Justice Van Devanter.

⁶⁴*Lyon v. Mutual Benefit Ass'n*, 305 U.S. 484 (1939).

motion for dismissal and in peremptorily directing a verdict for the plaintiff. The Supreme Court held that there was ample evidence to support the verdict and that the trial court, in following Arkansas procedure in the diversity action, had acted consistently with the Federal Conformity Act.⁶⁵ In the third case,⁶⁶ which involved an action against the Government for benefits under a war risk insurance policy which had been allowed to lapse, the trial court directed a verdict for the Government on the ground of the insufficiency of the evidence, and was sustained in so doing by both the appeals court and the Supreme Court. Three Justices, speaking by Justice Black, dissented in an opinion in which it is asserted that “today’s decision marks a continuation of the gradual process of judicial erosion which in one-hundred-fifty years has slowly worn away a major portion of the essential guarantee of the Seventh Amendment.”⁶⁷ That the Court should experience occasional difficulty in harmonizing the idea of preserving the historic common law covering the relations of judge and jury with the notion of a developing common law is not surprising.⁶⁸

Jury Trial Under the Federal Employers’ Liability Act.—

One aspect of the problem of delineating the respective provinces of judge and jury divided the Justices for a lengthy period but now appears quiescent—cases arising under the Federal Employers’ Liability Act. The argument was frequently couched by the majority in terms of protecting the function of the jury from usurpation by judges intent on subverting and limiting remedial legislation enacted by Congress,⁶⁹ and by the minority in terms of the costs to

⁶⁵ Ch. 255, §5, 17 Stat. 197 (1872), now superseded by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

⁶⁶ *Galloway v. United States*, 319 U.S. 372, 389 (1943), wherein the Court said “the practice has been approved explicitly in the promulgation of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure,” citing *Berry v. United States*, 312 U.S. 450 (1941). In the latter case the Court remarked that the new rule has given “district judges, under certain circumstances, . . . the right (but not the mandatory duty) to enter a judgment contrary to the jury’s verdict without granting a new trial. But that rule has not taken away from juries and given to judges any part of the exclusive power of juries to weigh evidence and determine contested issues of facts—a jury being the constitutional tribunal provided for trying facts in courts of law.” *Id.* at 452–53.

⁶⁷ 319 U.S. 372, 397. The case, being a claim against the United States, need not have been tried by a jury except for the allowance of Congress.

⁶⁸ *See, e.g., Neely v. Martin K. Eby Construction Co., Inc.*, 386 U.S. 317 (1967), interpreting Rules 50(b), 50(c)(2) and 50(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, as well as the Seventh Amendment.

⁶⁹ *E.g., Tiller v. Atlantic Coast Line R.R.*, 318 U.S. 54 (1943), in which Justice Black’s opinion of the Court initiated the line of cases here considered; *Bailey v. Central Vermont Ry.*, 319 U.S. 350 (1943); *Tennant v. Peoria & Pekin Union Ry.*, 321 U.S. 29 (1944). *See Rogers v. Missouri Pacific R.R.*, 352 U.S. 500, 507–510 (1957). Trial by jury is “part and parcel of the remedy afforded railroad workers” under the FELA. *Bailey v. Central Vermont Ry.*, *supra*, 354. “The difference between the majority and minority of the Court in our treatment of FELA cases con-

the Supreme Court in time and effort spent in evaluating the quantum of evidence necessary to create a jury question.⁷⁰

Although the considerations present in the FELA cases were not inherently different from those in any civil case where the direction of a verdict or a decision of an issue by the court may raise *sub silentio* the issue whether the Seventh Amendment right to a jury trial has been impaired by court usurpation of the jury function, cases under the FELA, which retained the common-law requirements of negligence as a prerequisite to recovery, involved peculiarly difficult decisions as to the adequacy of proof of negligence. “Special and important reasons for the grant of certiorari in these cases are certainly present,” the Court wrote in a leading case, “when lower federal and state courts persistently deprive litigants of their right to a jury determination.”⁷¹ The operating test was: “Under this statute the test of a jury case is simply whether the proofs justify with reason the conclusion that employer negligence played any part, even the slightest, in producing the injury or death for which damages are sought. It does not matter that, from the evidence, the jury may also with reason, on ground of probability, attribute the result to other causes, including the employee’s contributory negligence. Judicial appraisal of the proofs to determine whether a jury question is presented is narrowly limited to the single inquiry whether, with reason, the conclusion may be drawn that negligence of the employer played any part at all in the injury or death. Similar issues have arisen under such statutes as the Jones Act⁷² and the Safety Appliance Act.⁷³

“Judges are to fix their sights primarily to make that appraisal and, if that test is met, are bound to find that a case for the jury is made out whether or not the evidence allows the jury a choice of other probabilities.”⁷⁴ A persistent dissent in the line of cases

cerns the degree of vigilance we should exercise in safeguarding the jury trial—guaranteed by the Seventh Amendment.” *Harris v. Pennsylvania R.R.*, 361 U.S. 15, 17 (1959) (Justice Douglas concurring). “[T]his Court is vigilant to exercise its power of review . . . to correct instances of improper administration of the Act and to prevent its erosion by narrow and niggardly construction.” *Rogers v. Missouri Pacific R.R.*, *supra*, at 509.

⁷⁰*Ferguson v. Moore-McCormack Lines*, 352 U.S. 521, 524 (1957) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting), contains a lengthy review and critique of the Court’s practice.

⁷¹*Rogers v. Missouri Pacific R.R.*, 352 U.S. 500, 510 (1957).

⁷²*Schulz v. Pennsylvania R.R.*, 350 U.S. 523 (1956); *Ferguson v. Moore-McCormack Lines*, 352 U.S. 521 (1957); *Michalic v. Cleveland Tankers*, 364 U.S. 325 (1960). *See also* *Senko v. La Crosse Dredging Corp.*, 352 U.S. 370 (1957); *A. & G. Stevedores v. Ellerman Lines*, 369 U.S. 355 (1962).

⁷³*Ferguson v. Moore-McCormack Lines*, 352 U.S. 521, 525 n.2 (1957) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting).

⁷⁴*Id.* at 506–07. The cases are collected *id.* at 510 n.26. The cases are tabulated and categorized in *Wilkerson v. McCarthy*, 336 U.S. 53, 68–73 (1949) (Justice Doug-

expressed the fear that in FELA cases “anything that a jury says goes, with the consequences that all meaningful judicial supervision over jury verdicts in such cases has been put at an end. . . . If so, . . . the time has come when the Court should frankly say so. If not, then the Court should at least give expression to the standards by which the lower courts are to be guided in these cases.”⁷⁵

Appeals From State Courts to the Supreme Court

The clause of the Amendment prohibiting the re-examination of any fact found by a jury is not restricted in its application to suits at common law tried before juries in courts of the United States. It applies equally to a case tried before a jury in a state court and brought to the Supreme Court on appeal.⁷⁶ Note, however, that the Court has frequently indicated that in cases involving a claim of a denial of constitutional rights it is free to examine and review the evidence upon which lower court conclusions are based, a position that under some circumstances could conflict with the principle of jury autonomy.⁷⁷

las concurring), and *Harris v. Pennsylvania R.R.*, 361 U.S. 15, 16–25 (1959). *See also* *Harrison v. Missouri Pacific R.R.*, 372 U.S. 248 (1963); *Basham v. Pennsylvania R.R.*, 372 U.S. 699 (1963).

⁷⁵*Harris v. Pennsylvania R.R.*, 361 U.S. 15, 27–28 (1959) (Justice Harlan dissenting). *See also* *Ferguson v. Moore-McCormack Lines*, 352 U.S. 521, 524 (1957) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting); *Dick v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 359 U.S. 437, 447 (1959) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting).

⁷⁶*The Justices v. Murray*, 76 U.S. (9 Wall.) 274, 278 (1870); *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. City of Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226, 242–46 (1897).

⁷⁷*See* *Time, Inc. v. Pape*, 401 U.S. 279, 284–92 (1971), and cases cited therein.

EIGHTH AMENDMENT

FURTHER GUARANTEES IN CRIMINAL CASES

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FURTHER GUARANTEES IN CRIMINAL CASES

EIGHTH AMENDMENT

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

EXCESSIVE BAIL

“This traditional right to freedom before conviction permits the unhampered preparation of a defense, and serves to prevent the infliction of punishment prior to conviction. . . . Unless this right to bail before trial is preserved, the presumption of innocence, secured only after centuries of struggle, would lose its meaning.”¹ “The bail clause was lifted with slight changes from the English Bill of Rights Act. In England that clause has never been thought to accord a right to bail in all cases, but merely to provide that bail shall not be excessive in those cases where it is proper to grant bail. When this clause was carried over into our Bill of Rights, nothing was said that indicated any different concept.”² These two contrasting views of the “excessive bail” provision, uttered by the Court in the same Term, reflect the ambiguity inherent in the phrase and the absence of evidence regarding the intent of those who drafted and who ratified the Eighth Amendment.³

Crucial to understanding why the ambiguity exists if not to its resolution is knowledge of the history of the bail controversy in England.⁴ The Statute of Westminster the First of 1275⁵ set forth a detailed enumeration of those offenses which wereailable and

¹ *Stack v. Boyle*, 342 U.S. 1, 4 (1951). Note that in *Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520, 533 (1979), the Court enunciated a narrower view of the presumption of innocence, describing it as “a doctrine that allocates the burden of proof in criminal trials,” and denying that it has any “application to a determination of the rights of a pretrial detainee during confinement before his trial has even begun.”

² *Carlson v. Landon*, 342 U.S. 524, 545 (1952). Justice Black in dissent accused the Court of reducing the provision “below the level of a pious admonition” by saying in effect that “the Amendment does no more than protect a right to bail which Congress can grant and which Congress can take away.” *Id.* at 556.

³ The only recorded comment of a Member of Congress during debate on adoption of the “excessive bail” provision was that of Mr. Livermore. “The clause seems to express a great deal of humanity, on which account I have no objection to it; but as it seems to have no meaning in it, I do not think it necessary. What is meant by the terms excessive bail? Who are to be judges?” 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 754 (1789).

⁴ Still the best and most comprehensive treatment is Foote, *The Coming Constitutional Crisis in Bail: I*, 113 U. PA. L. REV. 959, 965–89 (1965), reprinted in C. FOOTE, STUDIES ON BAIL 181, 187–211 (1966).

⁵ 3 Edw. 1, ch. 12.

those which were not, and, though supplemented by later statutes, it served for something like five-and-a-half centuries as the basic authority.⁶ *Darnel's Case*,⁷ in which the judges permitted the continued imprisonment of persons merely upon the order of the King, without bail, was one of the moving factors in the enactment of the Petition of Right in 1628;⁸ the Petition cited Magna Carta as proscribing detention of persons as permitted in *Darnel's Case*. The right to bail was again subverted a half-century later⁹ by various technical subterfuges by which petitions for habeas corpus could not be presented, and Parliament reacted by enacting the Habeas Corpus Act of 1679,¹⁰ which established procedures for effectuating release from imprisonment and provided penalties for judges who did not comply with the Act. That avenue closed, the judges then set bail so high it could not be met, and Parliament responded by including in the Bill of Rights of 1689¹¹ a provision “[t]hat excessive bail ought not to be required.” This language, along with essentially the rest of the present Eighth Amendment, was included within the Virginia Declaration of Rights,¹² was picked up in the Virginia recommendations for inclusion in a federal bill of rights by the state ratifying convention,¹³ and was introduced verbatim by Madison in the House of Representatives.¹⁴

Thus, in England the right to bail generally was conferred by the basic 1275 statute, as supplemented, the procedure for assuring access to the right was conferred by the Habeas Corpus Act of 1679, and protection against abridgement through the fixing of an excessive bail was conferred by the Bill of Right of 1689. Habeas corpus was here protected in Article I, §9, of the Constitution and the question is, therefore, whether the First Congress knowingly or inadvertently provided only against abridgement of a right which they did not confer or protect in itself or whether the phrase “ex-

⁶ 1 J. STEPHEN, A HISTORY OF THE CRIMINAL LAW OF ENGLAND (London: 1883), 233–43. The statute is summarized at pp. 234–35.

⁷ 3 How. St. Tr. 1 (1627).

⁸ 3 Charles 1, ch. 1. Debate on the Petition, as precipitated by *Darnel's Case*, is reported in 3 How. St. Tr. 59 (1628). Coke especially tied the requirement that imprisonment be pursuant to a lawful cause reportable on habeas corpus to effectuation of the right to bail. *Id.* at 69.

⁹ *Jenkes' Case*, 6 How. St. Tr. 1189, 36 Eng. Rep. 518 (1676).

¹⁰ 31 Charles 2, ch. 2. The text is in 2 DOCUMENTS ON FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS 327–340 (Z. Chafee ed., 1951).

¹¹ 1 W. & M. 2, ch. 2, clause 10.

¹² 7 F. THORPE, THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTIONS, H. R. DOC. NO. 357, 59th Cong., 2d Sess. 3813 (1909). “Sec. 9. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.”

¹³ 3 J. ELLIOT, THE DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION 658 (2d ed. 1836).

¹⁴ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 438 (1789).

cessive bail” was meant to be a shorthand expression of both rights.

Compounding the ambiguity is a distinctive trend in the United States which had its origin in a provision of the Massachusetts Body of Liberties of 1641,¹⁵ guaranteeing bail to every accused person except those charged with a capital crime or contempt in open court. Copied in several state constitutions,¹⁶ this guarantee was contained in the Northwest Ordinance in 1787,¹⁷ along with a guarantee of moderate fines and against cruel and unusual punishments, and was inserted in the Judiciary Act of 1789,¹⁸ enacted contemporaneously with the passage through Congress of the Bill of Rights. It appears, therefore, that Congress was aware in 1789 that certain language conveyed a right to bail and that certain other language merely protected against one means by which a pre-existing right to bail could be abridged.

Long unresolved was the issue of whether “preventive detention”—the denial of bail to an accused, unconvicted defendant because it is feared or it is found probable that if released he will be a danger to the community—is constitutionally permissible. Not until 1984 did Congress authorize preventive detention in federal criminal proceedings.¹⁹

¹⁵“No mans person shall be restrained or imprisoned by any Authority what so ever, before the law hath sentenced him thereto, If he can put in sufficient securtie, bayle, or mainprise, for his appearance, and good behavior in the meane time, unlesse it be in Crimes Capitall, and Contempts in open Court, and in such cases where some expresse act of Court doth allow it.” *Reprinted in* 1 DOCUMENTS ON FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS 79, 82 (Z. Chafee ed., 1951).

¹⁶“That all prisoners shall beailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great.” 5 F. THORPE, THE FEDERAL AND STATE CONSTITUTIONS, H. DOC. NO. 357, 59th Congress, 2d sess. 3061 (1909) (Pennsylvania, 1682). The 1776 Pennsylvania constitution contained the same clause in section 28, and in section 29 was a clause guaranteeing against excessive bail. *Id.* at 3089.

¹⁷“All persons shall beailable, unless for capital offences, where the proof shall be evident, or the presumption great. All fines shall be moderate; and no cruel or unusual punishments shall be inflicted.” Art. II, 32 JOURNALS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS 334 (1787), reprinted in 1 Stat. 50 n.

¹⁸“And upon all arrests in criminal cases, bail shall be admitted, except where the punishment may be death, in which case it shall not be admitted but by the supreme or a circuit court, or by a justice of the supreme court, or a judge of a district court, who shall exercise their discretion herein. . . .” 1 Stat. 91 §33 (1789).

¹⁹Congress first provided for pretrial detention without bail of certain persons and certain classes of persons in the District of Columbia. D.C. Code, §§23–1321 et seq., held constitutional in *United States v. Edwards*, 430 A.2d 1321 (D.C. App. 1981), cert. denied, 455 U.S. 1022 (1982). The law applies only to persons charged with violating statutes applicable exclusively in the District of Columbia, *United States v. Thompson*, 452 F.2d 1333 (D.C. Cir. 1971), cert. denied, 405 U.S. 998 (1978), while in other federal courts, the Bail Reform Act of 1966, as amended, applies. 80 Stat. 214, 18 U.S.C. §§3141–56. Amendments contained in the Bail Reform Act of 1984 added general preventive detention authority. *See* 18 U.S.C. §3142(d) and (e). Those amendments authorized pretrial detention for persons charged with

The Court first tested and upheld under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment a state statute providing for preventive detention of juveniles.²⁰ Then, in *United States v. Salerno*,²¹ the Court upheld application of preventive detention provisions of the Bail Reform Act of 1984 against facial challenge under the Eighth Amendment. The function of bail, the Court explained, is limited neither to preventing flight of the defendant prior to trial nor to safeguarding a court's role in adjudicating guilt or innocence. "[W]e reject the proposition that the Eighth Amendment categorically prohibits the government from pursuing other admittedly compelling interests through regulation of pretrial release."²² Instead, "the only arguable substantive limitation of the Bail Clause is that the government's proposed conditions of release or detention not be 'excessive' in light of the perceived evil."²³ Detention pending trial of "arrestees charged with serious felonies who are found after an adversary hearing to pose a threat to the safety of individuals or to the community which no condition of release can dispel" satisfies this requirement.²⁴

Bail is "excessive" in violation of the Eighth Amendment when it is set at a figure higher than an amount reasonably calculated to ensure the asserted governmental interest.²⁵ If the only asserted interest is to guarantee that the accused will stand trial and submit to sentence if found guilty, then "bail must be set by a court at a sum designed to ensure that goal, and no more."²⁶ To challenge bail as excessive, one must move for a reduction, and if that motion is denied appeal to the Court of Appeals, and if unsuccessful then to the Supreme Court Justice sitting for that circuit.²⁷ The Amendment is apparently inapplicable to postconviction release

certain serious crimes (e.g., crimes of violence, capital crimes, and crimes punishable by 10 or more years' imprisonment) if the court or magistrate finds that no conditions will reasonably assure both the appearance of the person and the safety of others. Detention can also be ordered in other cases where there is a serious risk that the person will flee or that the person will attempt to obstruct justice. Preventive detention laws have also been adopted in some States. *Parker v. Roth*, 202 Neb. 850, 278 N.W. 2d 106, cert. denied, 444 U.S. 920 (1979).

²⁰ *Schall v. Martin*, 467 U.S. 253 (1984).

²¹ 481 U.S. 739 (1988).

²² *Id.* at 753.

²³ *Id.* at 754.

²⁴ *Id.* at 755. The Court also ruled that there was no violation of due process, the governmental objective being legitimate and there being a number of procedural safeguards (detention applies only to serious crimes, the arrestee is entitled to a prompt hearing, the length of detention is limited, and detainees must be housed apart from criminals).

²⁵ *Stack v. Boyle*, 342 U.S. 1, 4–6 (1951).

²⁶ *United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. at 754.

²⁷ *Id.* at 6–7.

pending appeal but the practice has apparently been to grant such releases.²⁸

EXCESSIVE FINES

For years the Supreme Court had little to say with reference to excessive fines. In an early case, it held that it had no appellate jurisdiction to revise the sentence of an inferior court, even though the excessiveness of the fines was apparent on the face of the record.²⁹ In a dissent, Justice Brandeis once contended that the denial of second-class mailing privileges to a newspaper on the basis of its past conduct imposed additional mailing cost, a fine in effect, which, since the costs grew indefinitely each day, was an unusual punishment proscribed by this Amendment.³⁰ The Court has elected to deal with the issue of fines levied upon indigents, resulting in imprisonment upon inability to pay, in terms of the equal protection clause,³¹ thus obviating any necessity to develop the meaning of “excessive fines” as applied to the person sentenced. So too, the Court has held the Clause inapplicable to civil jury awards of punitive damages in cases between private parties, “when the government neither has prosecuted the action nor has any right to receive a share of the damages awarded.”³² The Court based this conclusion on a review of the history and purposes of the Excessive Fines Clause. At the time the Eighth Amendment was adopted, the Court noted, “the word ‘fine’ was understood to mean a payment to a sovereign as punishment for some offense.”³³ The Eighth Amendment itself, as were antecedents of the Clause in the Virginia Declaration of Rights and in the English Bill of Rights of 1689, “clearly was adopted with the particular intent of placing limits on the powers of the new government.”³⁴ Therefore, while leaving open the issues of whether the Clause has any applicability to civil penalties or to *qui tam* actions, the Court determined that “the Excessive Fines Clause was intended to limit only those fines directly imposed by, and payable to, the government.”³⁵

The meaning of the phrase as applied to the quantum of punishment for any particular offense, independent of the offender’s ability to pay, still awaits litigation.

²⁸ *Hudson v. Parker*, 156 U.S. 277 (1895).

²⁹ *Ex parte Watkins*, 32 U.S. (7 Pet.) 568, 574 (1833).

³⁰ *Milwaukee Pub. Co. v. Burleson*, 255 U.S. 407, 435 (1921).

³¹ *Tate v. Short*, 401 U.S. 395 (1971); *Williams v. Illinois*, 399 U.S. 235 (1970).

³² *Browning-Ferris Industries v. Kelco Disposal, Inc.*, 492 U.S. 257 (1989).

³³ *Id.* at 265.

³⁴ *Id.* at 266.

³⁵ *Id.* at 268.

CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENTS

During congressional consideration of this provision one Member objected to “the import of [the words] being too indefinite” and another Member said: “No cruel and unusual punishment is to be inflicted; it is sometimes necessary to hang a man, villains often deserve whipping, and perhaps having their ears cut off; but are we in the future to be prevented from inflicting these punishments because they are cruel? If a more lenient mode of correcting vice and deterring others from the commission of it would be invented, it would be very prudent in the Legislature to adopt it; but until we have some security that this will be done, we ought not to be restrained from making necessary laws by any declaration of this kind.”³⁶ It is clear from some of the complaints about the absence of a bill of rights including a guarantee against cruel and unusual punishments in the ratifying conventions that tortures and barbarous punishments were much on the minds of the complainants,³⁷ but the English history which led to the inclusion of a predecessor provision in the Bill of Rights of 1689 indicates additional concern with arbitrary and disproportionate punishments.³⁸ Though few in number, the decisions of the Supreme Court interpreting this guarantee have applied it in both senses.

Style of Interpretation.—At first, the Court was inclined to an historical style on interpretation, determining whether or not a punishment was “cruel and unusual” by looking to see if it or a sufficiently similar variant was considered “cruel and unusual” in

³⁶ 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 754 (1789).

³⁷ E.g., 2 J. ELLIOT, THE DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON THE ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION 111 (2d ed. 1836); 3 id. at 447–52.

³⁸ See Granucci, “*Nor Cruel and Unusual Punishments Inflicted*”: *The Original Meaning*, 57 CALIF. L. REV. 839 (1969). Disproportionality, in any event, was utilized by the Court in *Weems v. United States*, 217 U.S. 349 (1910). It is not clear what, if anything, the word “unusual” adds to the concept of “cruelty” (but see *Furman v. Georgia*, 408 U.S. 238, 276 n.20 (1972) (Justice Brennan concurring)), although it may have figured in *Weems*, 217 U.S. at 377, and in *Trop v. Dulles*, 356 U.S. 86, 100 n. 32 (1958) (plurality opinion), and it did figure in *Harmelin v. Michigan*, 501 U.S. 957, 994–95 (1991) (“severe, mandatory penalties may be cruel, but they are not unusual in the constitutional sense, having been employed in various forms throughout our Nation’s history”).

1789.³⁹ But in *Weems v. United States*⁴⁰ it was concluded that the framers had not merely intended to bar the reinstatement of procedures and techniques condemned in 1789, but had intended to prevent the authorization of “a coercive cruelty being exercised through other forms of punishment.” The Amendment therefore was of an “expansive and vital character”⁴¹ and, in the words of a later Court, “must draw its meaning from the evolving standards of decency that mark the progress of a maturing society.”⁴² The proper approach to an interpretation of this provision has been one of the major points of difference among the Justices in the capital punishment cases.⁴³

“Cruel and Unusual Punishments”.—“Difficulty would attend the effort to define with exactness the extent of the constitutional provision which provides that cruel and unusual punishments shall not be inflicted; but it is safe to affirm that punishments of torture [such as drawing and quartering, embowelling alive, beheading, public dissecting, and burning alive], and all others in the same line of unnecessary cruelty, are forbidden by that amendment to the Constitution.”⁴⁴ In thus upholding capital punishment inflicted by a firing squad, the Court not only looked to traditional practices but examined the history of executions in the territory concerned, the military practice, and current writings on the death penalty.⁴⁵ The Court next approved, under the Fourteenth Amendment’s due process clause rather than under the Eighth Amendment, electrocution as a permissible method of administering punishment.⁴⁶ Many years later, a divided Court, assuming the applicability of the Eighth Amendment to the States, held that a second electrocution following a mechanical failure at

³⁹ *Wilkerson v. Utah*, 99 U.S. 130 (1878); *In re Kemmler*, 136 U.S. 436 (1890); *cf. Weems v. United States*, 217 U.S. 349, 368–72 (1910). On the present Court, Chief Justice Rehnquist subscribes to this view (see, e.g., *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280, 208 (dissenting)), and the views of Justices Scalia and Thomas appear to be similar. See, e.g., *Harmelin v. Michigan*, 501 U.S. 957, 966–90 (1991) (Justice Scalia announcing judgment of Court) (relying on original understanding of Amendment and of English practice to argue that there is no proportionality principle in non-capital cases); and *Hudson v. McMillian*, 112 S. Ct. 995, 1010 (1992) (Justice Thomas dissenting) (objecting to Court’s extension of the Amendment “beyond all bounds of history and precedent” in holding that “significant injury” need not be established for sadistic and malicious beating of shackled prisoner to constitute cruel and unusual punishment).

⁴⁰ 217 U.S. 349 (1910).

⁴¹ *Id.* at 376–77.

⁴² *Trop v. Dulles*, 356 U.S. 86, 100–01 (1958) (plurality opinion).

⁴³ See Radin, *The Jurisprudence of Death: Evolving Standards for the Cruel and Unusual Punishments Clause*, 126 U. PA. L. REV. 989 (1978).

⁴⁴ *Wilkerson v. Utah*, 99 U.S. 130, 135 (1878).

⁴⁵ *Id.* See also *Pervear v. Commonwealth*, 72 U.S. (5 Wall.) 475, 479–80 (1867).

⁴⁶ *In re Kemmler*, 136 U.S. 436 (1890).

the first which injured but did not kill the condemned man did not violate the proscription.⁴⁷

Divestiture of the citizenship of a natural born citizen was held in *Trop v. Dulles*,⁴⁸ again by a divided Court, to be constitutionally forbidden as a penalty more cruel and “more primitive than torture,” inasmuch as it entailed statelessness or “the total destruction of the individual’s status in organized society.” “The question is whether [a] penalty subjects the individual to a fate forbidden by the principle of civilized treatment guaranteed by the Eighth Amendment.” A punishment must be examined “in light of the basic prohibition against inhuman treatment,” and the Amendment was intended to preserve the “basic concept . . . [of] the dignity of man” by assuring that the power to impose punishment is “exercised within the limits of civilized standards.”⁴⁹

Capital Punishment.—In *Trop*, the majority refused to consider “the death penalty as an index of the constitutional limit on punishment. Whatever the arguments may be against capital punishment . . . the death penalty has been employed throughout our history, and, in a day when it is still widely accepted, it cannot be said to violate the constitutional concept of cruelty.”⁵⁰ But a coalition of civil rights and civil liberties organizations mounted a campaign against the death penalty in the 1960s, and the Court eventually confronted the issues involved. The answers were not, it is fair to say, consistent one with another.

A series of cases testing the means by which the death penalty was imposed⁵¹ culminated in what appeared to be a decisive rejec-

⁴⁷Louisiana ex rel. Francis v. Resweber, 329 U.S. 459 (1947). Justice Frankfurter tested the issue by due process standards. *Id.* at 470 (concurring).

⁴⁸356 U.S. 86 (1958). Four Justices joined the plurality opinion while Justice Brennan concurred on the ground that the requisite relation between the severity of the penalty and legitimate purpose under the war power was not apparent. *Id.* at 114. Four Justices dissented, denying that denationalization was a punishment and arguing that instead it was merely a means by which Congress regulated discipline in the armed forces. *Id.* at 121, 124–27.

⁴⁹*Id.* at 99–100.

⁵⁰*Id.* at 99. In *Rudolph v. Alabama*, 375 U.S. 889 (1963), Justices Goldberg, Douglas, and Brennan, dissenting from a denial of certiorari, argued that the Court should have heard the case to consider whether the Constitution permitted the imposition of death “on a convicted rapist who has neither taken nor endangered human life,” and presented a line of argument questioning the general validity of the death penalty under the Eighth Amendment.

⁵¹E.g., *Witherspoon v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 510 (1968) (exclusion of death-scrupled jurors). See also *Davis v. Georgia*, 429 U.S. 122 (1976), and *Adams v. Texas*, 448 U.S. 38 (1980) (explicating *Witherspoon*). The Eighth Amendment was the basis for grant of review in *Boykin v. Alabama*, 395 U.S. 238 (1969) and *Maxwell v. Bishop*, 398 U.S. 262 (1970), but membership changes on the Court resulted in decisions on other grounds.

tion of the attack in *McGautha v. California*.⁵² Nonetheless, the Court then agreed to hear a series of cases directly raising the question of the validity of capital punishment under the cruel and unusual punishments clause, and, to considerable surprise, the Court held in *Furman v. Georgia*⁵³ that the death penalty, at least as administered, did violate the Eighth Amendment. There was no unifying opinion of the Court in *Furman*; the five Justices in the majority each approached the matter from a different angle in a separate concurring opinion. Two Justices concluded that the death penalty per se was “cruel and unusual” because the imposition of capital punishment “does not comport with human dignity”⁵⁴ or because it is “morally unacceptable” and “excessive.”⁵⁵ One Justice concluded that because death is a penalty inflicted on the poor and hapless defendant but not the affluent and socially better defendant, it violates the implicit requirement of equality of treatment found within the Eighth Amendment.⁵⁶ Two Justices concluded that capital punishment was both “cruel” and “unusual” because it was applied in an arbitrary, “wanton,” and “freakish” manner⁵⁷ and so infrequently that it served no justifying end.⁵⁸

Inasmuch as only two of the *Furman* Justices thought the death penalty to be invalid in all circumstances, those who wished to reinstate the penalty concentrated upon drafting statutes that would correct the faults identified in the other three majority opin-

⁵² 402 U.S. 183 (1971). *McGautha* was decided in the same opinion with *Crampton v. Ohio*. *McGautha* raised the question whether provision for imposition of the death penalty without legislative guidance to the sentencing authority in the form of standards violated the due process clause; *Crampton* raised the question whether due process was violated when both the issue of guilt or innocence and the issue of whether to impose the death penalty were determined in a unitary proceeding. Justice Harlan for the Court held that standards were not required because, ultimately, it was impossible to define with any degree of specificity which defendant should live and which die; while bifurcated proceedings might be desirable, they were not required by due process.

⁵³ 408 U.S. 238 (1972). The change in the Court’s approach was occasioned by the shift of Justices Stewart and White, who had voted with the majority in *McGautha*.

⁵⁴ *Id.* at 257 (Justice Brennan).

⁵⁵ *Id.* at 314 (Justice Marshall).

⁵⁶ *Id.* at 240 (Justice Douglas).

⁵⁷ *Id.* at 306 (Justice Stewart).

⁵⁸ *Id.* at 310 (Justice White). The four dissenters, in four separate opinions, argued with different emphases that the Constitution itself recognized capital punishment in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments, that the death penalty was not “cruel and unusual” when the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments were proposed and ratified, that the Court was engaging in a legislative act to strike it down now, and that even under modern standards it could not be considered “cruel and unusual.” *Id.* at 375 (Chief Justice Burger), 405 (Justice Blackmun), 414 (Justice Powell), 465 (Justice Rehnquist). Each of the dissenters joined each of the opinions of the others.

ions.⁵⁹ Enactment of death penalty statutes by 35 States following *Furman* led to renewed litigation, but not to the elucidation one might expect from a series of opinions.⁶⁰ Instead, while the Court seemed firmly on the path to the conclusion that only criminal acts that result in the deliberate taking of human life may be punished by the state's taking of human life,⁶¹ it chose several different paths in attempting to delineate the acceptable procedural devices that must be instituted in order that death may be constitutionally pronounced and carried out. To summarize, the Court determined that the penalty of death for deliberate murder is not *per se* cruel and unusual, but that mandatory death statutes leaving the jury or trial judge no discretion to consider the individual defendant and his crime are cruel and unusual, and that standards and procedures may be established for the imposition of death that would remove or mitigate the arbitrariness and irrationality found so significant in *Furman*.⁶² Divisions among the Justices, however, made it difficult to ascertain the form which permissible statutory schemes may take.⁶³

⁵⁹Collectors of judicial "put downs" of colleagues should note Justice Rehnquist's characterization of the many expressions of faults in the system and their correction as "glossolalia." *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280, 317 (1976) (dissenting).

⁶⁰Justice Frankfurter once wrote of the development of the law through "the process of litigating elucidation." *International Ass'n of Machinists v. Gonzales*, 356 U.S. 617, 619 (1958). The Justices are firm in declaring that the series of death penalty cases failed to conform to this concept. *See, e.g.*, Chief Justice Burger, *Lockett v. Ohio*, 438 U.S. 586, 602 (1978) (plurality opinion) ("The signals from this Court have not . . . always been easy to decipher"); Justice White, *id.* at 622 ("The Court has now completed its about-face since *Furman*") (concurring in result); and Justice Rehnquist, *id.* at 629 (dissenting) ("the Court has gone from pillar to post, with the result that the sort of reasonable predictability upon which legislatures, trial courts, and appellate courts must of necessity rely has been all but completely sacrificed"), and *id.* at 632 ("I am frank to say that I am uncertain whether today's opinion represents the seminal case in the exposition by this Court of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments as they apply to capital punishment, or whether instead it represents the third false start in this direction within the past six years").

⁶¹On crimes not involving the taking of life or the actual commission of the killing by a defendant, *see Coker v. Georgia*, 433 U.S. 584 (1977) (rape); *Enmund v. Florida*, 458 U.S. 782 (1982) (felony murder committed by confederate). Those cases in which a large threat, though uneventuated, to the lives of many may have been present, as in airplane hijackings, may constitute an exception to the Court's narrowing of the crimes for which capital punishment may be imposed. The federal hijacking law, 49 U.S.C. § 1472, imposes death only when death occurs during commission of the hijacking. But the treason statute does not require a death to occur and represents a situation in which great and fatal danger might be presented. 18 U.S.C. § 2381.

⁶²Justices Brennan and Marshall adhered to the view that the death penalty is *per se* unconstitutional. *E.g.*, *Coker v. Georgia*, 433 U.S. 584, 600 (1977); *Lockett v. Ohio*, 438 U.S. 586, 619 (1978); *Enmund v. Florida*, 458 U.S. 782, 801 (1982).

⁶³A comprehensive evaluation of the multiple approaches followed in *Furman*-era cases may be found in Radin, *The Jurisprudence of Death: Evolving Standards for the Cruel and Unusual Punishments Clause*, 126 U. PA. L. REV. 989 (1978).

Inasmuch as the three Justices in the majority in *Furman* who did not altogether reject the death penalty thought the problems with the system revolved about discriminatory and arbitrary imposition,⁶⁴ legislatures turned to enactment of statutes that purported to do away with these difficulties by, on the one hand, providing for automatic imposition of the death penalty upon conviction for certain forms of murder, or, more commonly, providing specified aggravating and mitigating factors that the sentencing authority should consider in imposing sentence, and establishing special procedures to follow in capital cases. In five cases in 1976, the Court rejected automatic sentencing but approved other statutes specifying factors for jury consideration.⁶⁵

First, the Court concluded that the death penalty as a punishment for murder does not itself constitute cruel and unusual punishment. While there were differences of degree among the seven Justices in the majority on this point, they all seemed to concur in the position that reenactment of capital punishment statutes by 35 States precluded the Court from concluding that this form of penalty was no longer acceptable to a majority of the American people; rather, they concluded, a large proportion of American society continued to regard it as an appropriate and necessary criminal sanction. Neither is it possible, the Court continued, for it to decide that the death penalty does not comport with the basic concept of human dignity at the core of the Eighth Amendment. Courts are not free to substitute their own judgments for the people and their elected representatives. A death penalty statute, just as all other statutes, comes before the courts bearing a presumption of validity which can only be overcome upon a strong showing by those who attack its constitutionality. Whether in fact the death penalty validly serves the permissible functions of retribution and deterrence,

⁶⁴ Thus, Justice Douglas thought the penalty had been applied discriminatorily, *Furman v. Georgia*, 408 U.S. 238 (1972), Justice Stewart thought it had been applied in an arbitrary, "wanton," and "freakish" manner *id.* at 310, and Justice White thought it had been applied so infrequently that it served no justifying end. *Id.* at 313.

⁶⁵ The principal opinion was in *Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153 (1976) (upholding statute providing for a bifurcated proceeding separating the guilt and sentencing phases, requiring the jury to find at least one of ten statutory aggravating factors before imposing death, and providing for review of death sentences by the Georgia Supreme Court). Statutes of two other States were similarly sustained, *Proffitt v. Florida*, 428 U.S. 242 (1976) (statute generally similar to Georgia's, with the exception that the trial judge, rather than jury, was directed to weigh statutory aggravating factors against statutory mitigating factors), and *Jurek v. Texas*, 428 U.S. 262 (1976) (statute construed as narrowing death-eligible class, and lumping mitigating factors into consideration of future dangerousness), while those of two other States were invalidated, *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280 (1976), and *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325 (1976) (both mandating death penalty for first-degree murder).

the judgments of the state legislatures are that it does, and those judgments are entitled to deference. Therefore, the infliction of death as a punishment for murder is not without justification and is not unconstitutionally severe. Neither is the punishment of death disproportionate to the crime being punished, murder.⁶⁶

Second, a different majority, however, concluded that statutes mandating the imposition of death for crimes classified as first-degree murder violate the Eighth Amendment. In order to make its determination, the plurality looked to history and traditional usage, to legislative enactment, and to jury determinations. Because death is a unique punishment, the sentencing process must provide an opportunity for individual consideration of the character and record of each convicted defendant and his crime along with mitigating and aggravating circumstances.⁶⁷

Third, while the imposition of death is constitutional *per se*, the procedure by which sentence is passed must be so structured as to reduce arbitrariness and capriciousness as much as possible.⁶⁸ What emerged from the prevailing plurality opinion in these cases are requirements (1) that the sentencing authority, jury or judge,⁶⁹ be given standards to govern its exercise of discretion and be given the opportunity to evaluate both the circumstances of

⁶⁶ *Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 168–87 (1976) (Justices Stewart, Powell, and Stevens); *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325, 350–56 (1976) (Justices White, Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger). The views summarized in the text are those in the Stewart opinion in *Gregg*. Justice White's opinion basically agrees with this opinion in concluding that contemporary community sentiment accepts capital punishment, but did not endorse the proportionality analysis. Justice White's *Furman* dissent and those of Chief Justice Burger and Justice Blackmun show a rejection of proportionality analysis. Justices Brennan and Marshall dissented, reiterating their *Furman* views. *Gregg*, *supra*, at 227, 231.

⁶⁷ *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280 (1976); *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325 (1976). Justices Stewart, Powell, and Stevens composed the plurality, and Justices Brennan and Marshall concurred on the basis of their own views of the death penalty. 428 U.S. at 305, 306, 336.

⁶⁸ Here adopted is the constitutional analysis of the Stewart plurality of three. “[T]he holding of the Court may be viewed as the position taken by those Members who concurred in the judgments on the narrowest grounds,” *Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 169 n.15 (1976), a comment directed to the *Furman* opinions but equally applicable to these cases and to *Lockett*. See *Marks v. United States*, 430 U.S. 188, 192–94 (1977).

⁶⁹ The Stewart plurality noted its belief that jury sentencing in capital cases performs an important societal function in maintaining a link between contemporary community values and the penal system, but agreed that sentencing may constitutionally be vested in the trial judge. *Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 190 (1976). A definitive ruling came in *Spaziano v. Florida*, 468 U.S. 447 (1984), upholding a provision under which the judge can override a jury's advisory life imprisonment sentence and impose the death sentence. “[T]he purpose of the death penalty is not frustrated by, or inconsistent with, a scheme in which the imposition of the penalty in individual cases is determined by a judge.” *Id.* at 462–63.

the offense and the character and propensities of the accused;⁷⁰ (2) that to prevent jury prejudice on the issue of guilt there be a separate proceeding after conviction at which evidence relevant to the sentence, mitigating and aggravating, will be presented;⁷¹ (3) that special forms of appellate review be provided not only of the conviction but also of the sentence, to ascertain that the sentence was in fact fairly imposed both on the facts of the individual case and by comparison with the penalties imposed in similar cases.⁷² The Court later ruled, however, that proportionality review is not constitutionally required.⁷³ *Gregg*, *Proffitt*, and *Jurek* did not require such comparative proportionality review, the Court noted, but merely suggested that proportionality review is one means by which a state may “safeguard against arbitrarily imposed death sentences.”⁷⁴

Most states responded to the requirement that the sentencing authority be given standards narrowing discretion to impose the death penalty by enacting statutes spelling out “aggravating” circumstances at least one of which must be found to be present before the death penalty may be imposed. The standards must be rel-

⁷⁰*Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 188–95 (1976). Justice White seemed close to the plurality on the question of standards, *id.* at 207 (concurring), but while Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist joined the White opinion “agreeing” that the system under review “comports” with *Furman*, Justice Rehnquist denied the constitutional requirement of standards in any event. *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280, 319–21 (1976) (dissenting). In *McGautha v. California*, 402 U.S. 183, 207–08 (1971), the Court had rejected the argument that the absence of standards violated the due process clause. On the vitiating of *McGautha*, see *Gregg*, *supra*, at 195 n.47, and *Lockett v. Ohio*, 438 U.S. 586, 598–99 (1978). In assessing the character and record of the defendant, the jury may be required to make a judgment about the possibility of future dangerousness of the defendant, from psychiatric and other evidence. *Jurek v. Texas*, 428 U.S. 262, 275–76 (1976). Moreover, testimony of psychiatrists need not be based on examination of the defendant; general responses to hypothetical questions may also be admitted. *Barefoot v. Estelle*, 463 U.S. 880 (1983). *But cf.* *Estelle v. Smith*, 451 U.S. 454 (1981) (holding self-incrimination and counsel clauses applicable to psychiatric examination, at least when doctor testifies about his conclusions with respect to future dangerousness).

⁷¹*Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 163, 190–92, 195 (1976) (plurality opinion). *McGautha v. California*, 402 U.S. 183 (1971), had rejected a due process requirement of bifurcated trials, and the *Gregg* plurality did not expressly require it under the Eighth Amendment. But the plurality’s emphasis upon avoidance of arbitrary and capricious sentencing by juries seems to look inevitably toward bifurcation. The dissenters in *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325, 358 (1976), rejected bifurcation and viewed the plurality as requiring it. All states with post-*Furman* capital sentencing statutes took the cue by adopting bifurcated capital sentencing procedures, and the Court has not been faced with the issue again. See Raymond J. Pascucci, et al., Special Project, *Capital Punishment in 1984: Abandoning the Pursuit of Fairness and Consistency*, 69 CORNELL L. REV. 1129, 1224–25 (1984).

⁷²*Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 195, 198 (1976) (plurality); *Proffitt v. Florida*, 428 U.S. 242, 250–51, 253 (1976) (plurality); *Jurek v. Texas*, 428 U.S. 262, 276 (1976) (plurality).

⁷³*Pulley v. Harris*, 465 U.S. 37 (1984).

⁷⁴*Id.* at 50.

actively precise and instructive in providing guidance that minimizes the risk of arbitrary and capricious action by the sentencer, the desired result being a principled way to distinguish cases in which the death penalty is imposed from other cases in which it is not. Thus, the Court invalidated a capital sentence based upon a jury finding that the murder was “outrageously or wantonly vile, horrible, and inhuman,” reasoning that “a person of ordinary sensibility could fairly [so] characterize almost every murder.”⁷⁵ Similarly, an “especially heinous, atrocious or cruel” aggravating circumstance was held to be unconstitutionally vague.⁷⁶ The “especially heinous, cruel or depraved” standard is cured, however, by a narrowing interpretation requiring a finding of infliction of mental anguish or physical abuse before the victim’s death.⁷⁷

The proscription against a mandatory death penalty has also received elaboration. The Court invalidated statutes making death the mandatory sentence for persons convicted of first-degree murder of a police officer,⁷⁸ and for prison inmates convicted of murder while serving a life sentence without possibility of parole.⁷⁹ On the other hand, if actual sentencing authority is conferred on the trial judge, it is not unconstitutional for a statute to require a jury to return a death “sentence” upon convicting for specified crimes.⁸⁰ Flaws related to those attributed to mandatory sentencing statutes were found in a state’s structuring of its capital system to deny the jury the option of convicting on a lesser included offense, when that would be justified by the evidence.⁸¹ Because the jury had to

⁷⁵ *Godfrey v. Georgia*, 446 U.S. 420, 428–29 (1980) (plurality opinion).

⁷⁶ *Maynard v. Cartwright*, 486 U.S. 356 (1988).

⁷⁷ *Walton v. Arizona*, 497 U.S. 639 (1990). *Accord*, *Lewis v. Jeffers*, 497 U.S. 764 (1990). *See also* *Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 201 (1976) (upholding full statutory circumstance of “outrageously or wantonly vile, horrible or inhuman in that it involved torture, depravity of mind, or an aggravated battery to the victim”); *Proffitt v. Florida*, 428 U.S. 242, 255 (1976) (upholding “especially heinous, atrocious or cruel” aggravating circumstance as interpreted to include only “the conscienceless or pitiless crime which is unnecessarily torturous to the victim”); *Sochor v. Florida*, 112 S. Ct. 2114 (1992) (impermissible vagueness of “heinousness” factor cured by narrowing interpretation including strangulation of a conscious victim).

⁷⁸ *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 431 U.S. 633 (1977) (per curiam) (involving a different defendant than the first *Roberts v. Louisiana* case, *supra* n.67).

⁷⁹ *Sumner v. Shuman*, 483 U.S. 66 (1987).

⁸⁰ *Baldwin v. Alabama*, 472 U.S. 372 (1985) (mandatory jury death sentence saved by requirement that trial judge independently weigh aggravating and mitigating factors and determine sentence).

⁸¹ *Beck v. Alabama*, 447 U.S. 625 (1980). The statute made the guilt determination “depend . . . on the jury’s feelings as to whether or not the defendant deserves the death penalty, without giving the jury any standards to guide its decision on this issue.” *Id.* at 640. *Cf.* *Hopper v. Evans*, 456 U.S. 605 (1982). No such constitutional infirmity is present, however, if failure to instruct on lesser included offenses is due to the defendant’s refusal to waive the statute of limitations for those lesser offenses. *Spaziano v. Florida*, 468 U.S. 447 (1984). *See also* *Schad v. Arizona*, 501 U.S. 624 (1991) (first-degree murder defendant, who received instruction on lesser

choose between conviction or acquittal, the statute created the risk that the jury would convict because it felt the defendant deserved to be punished or acquit because it believed death was too severe for the particular crime, when at that stage the jury should concentrate on determining whether the prosecution had proved defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.⁸²

The overarching principle of *Furman* and of the *Gregg* series of cases was that the jury should not be "without guidance or direction" in deciding whether a convicted defendant should live or die. The jury's attention was statutorily "directed to the specific circumstances of the crime . . . and on the characteristics of the person who committed the crime."⁸³ Discretion was channeled and rationalized. But in *Lockett v. Ohio*,⁸⁴ a Court plurality determined that a state law was invalid because it prevented the sentencer from giving weight to any mitigating factors other than those specified in the law. In other words, the jury's discretion was curbed too much. "[W]e conclude that the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments require that the sentencer, in all but the rarest kind of capital case, not be precluded from considering *as a mitigating factor*, any aspect of a defendant's character or record and any of the circumstances of the offense that the defendant proffers as a basis for a sentence less than death."⁸⁵ Similarly, the reason that a three-justice plurality viewed North Carolina's mandatory death sentence for persons convicted of first degree murder as invalid was that it failed "to allow the particularized consideration of relevant aspects

included offense of second-degree murder, was not entitled to a jury instruction on the lesser included offense of robbery). In *Schad* the Court also upheld Arizona's characterization of first-degree murder as a single crime encompassing two alternatives, premeditated murder and felony-murder, and not requiring jury agreement on which alternative had occurred.

⁸² Also impermissible as distorting a jury's role are prosecutor's comments or jury instructions that mislead a jury as to its primary responsibility for deciding whether to impose the death penalty. Compare *Caldwell v. Mississippi*, 472 U.S. 320 (1985) (jury's responsibility is undermined by court-sanctioned remarks by prosecutor that jury's decision is not final, but is subject to appellate review) with *California v. Ramos*, 463 U.S. 992 (1983) (jury responsibility not undermined by instruction that governor has power to reduce sentence of life imprisonment without parole). See also *Lowenfield v. Phelps*, 484 U.S. 231 (1988) (poll of jury and supplemental jury instruction on obligation to consult and attempt to reach a verdict was not unduly coercive on death sentence issue, even though consequence of failing to reach a verdict was automatic imposition of life sentence without parole).

⁸³ *Gregg v. Georgia*, 428 U.S. 153, 197–98 (1976) (plurality).

⁸⁴ 438 U.S. 586 (1978). The plurality opinion by Chief Justice Burger was joined by Justices Stewart, Powell, and Stevens. Justices Blackmun, Marshall, and White concurred in the result on separate and conflicting grounds. *Id.* at 613, 619, 621. Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 628.

⁸⁵ 438 U.S. at 604 (plurality).

of the character and record of each convicted defendant.”⁸⁶ *Lockett* and *Woodson* have since been endorsed by a Court majority.⁸⁷ Thus, a great measure of discretion was again accorded the sentencing authority, be it judge or jury, subject only to the consideration that the legislature must prescribe aggravating factors.⁸⁸

The Court has explained this apparent contradiction as constituting recognition “that ‘individual culpability is not always measured by the category of crime committed,’”⁸⁹ and as the product of an attempt to pursue the “twin objectives” of “measured, consistent application” of the death penalty and “fairness to the accused.”⁹⁰ The requirement that aggravating circumstances be spelled out by statute serves a narrowing purpose that helps consistency of application; absence of restriction on mitigating evidence helps promote fairness to the accused through an “individualized” consideration of his circumstances. In the Court’s words,

⁸⁶ *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280, 303 (1976) (opinion of Justice Stewart, joined by Justices Powell and Stevens). *Accord*, *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325 (1976) (statute mandating death penalty for five categories of homicide constituting first-degree murder).

⁸⁷ *Eddings v. Oklahoma*, 455 U.S. 104, 110 (1982) (adopting *Lockett*); *Sumner v. Shuman*, 483 U.S. 66 (1987) (adopting *Woodson*). The majority in *Eddings* was composed of Justices Powell, Brennan, Marshall, Stevens, and O’Connor; Chief Justice Burger and Justices White, Blackmun, and Rehnquist dissented. The *Shuman* majority was composed of Justices Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, Powell, Stevens, and O’Connor; dissenting were Justices White and Scalia and Chief Justice Rehnquist. *Woodson* and the first *Roberts v. Louisiana* had earlier been followed in the second *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 431 U.S. 633 (1977), a *per curiam* opinion from which Chief Justice Burger, and Justices Blackmun, White, and Rehnquist dissented.

⁸⁸ Justice White, dissenting in *Lockett* from the Court’s holding on consideration of mitigating factors, wrote that he “greatly fear[ed] that the effect of the Court’s decision today will be to compel constitutionally a restoration of the state of affairs at the time *Furman* was decided, where the death penalty is imposed so erratically and the threat of execution is so attenuated for even the most atrocious murders that ‘its imposition would then be the pointless and needless extinction of life with only marginal contributions to any discernible social or public purposes.’” 438 U.S. at 623. More recently, Justice Scalia voiced similar misgivings. “Shortly after introducing our doctrine *requiring* constraints on the sentencer’s discretion to ‘impose’ the death penalty, the Court began developing a doctrine *forbidding* constraints on the sentencer’s discretion to ‘*decline* to impose’ it. This second doctrine—counterdoctrine would be a better word—has completely exploded whatever coherence the notion of ‘guided discretion’ once had. . . . In short, the practice which in *Furman* had been described as the discretion to sentence to death and pronounced constitutionally prohibited, was in *Woodson* and *Lockett* renamed the discretion not to sentence to death and pronounced constitutionally required.” *Walton v. Arizona*, 497 U.S. 639, 661–62 (1990) (concurring in the judgment). For a critique of these criticisms of *Lockett*, see Scott E. Sundby, *The Lockett Paradox: Reconciling Guided Discretion and Unguided Mitigation in Capital Sentencing*, 38 UCLA L. REV. 1147 (1991).

⁸⁹ *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325, 333 (1976) (plurality opinion of Justices Stewart, Powell, and Stevens) (quoting *Furman v. Georgia*, 408 U.S. 238, 402 (1972) (Chief Justice Burger dissenting)).

⁹⁰ *Eddings v. Oklahoma*, 455 U.S. 104, 110–11 (1982).

statutory aggravating circumstances “play a constitutionally necessary function at the stage of legislative definition [by] circumscrib[ing] the class of persons eligible for the death penalty,”⁹¹ while consideration of all mitigating evidence requires focus on “the character and record of the individual offender and the circumstances of the particular offense” consistent with “the fundamental respect for humanity underlying the Eighth Amendment.”⁹² As long as the defendant’s crime falls within the statutorily narrowed class, the jury may then conduct “an *individualized* determination on the basis of the character of the individual and the circumstances of the crime.”⁹³

So far, the Justices who favor abandonment of the *Lockett* and *Woodson* approach have not prevailed. The Court has, however, given states greater leeway in fashioning procedural rules that have the effect of controlling how juries may use mitigating evidence that must be admitted and considered. States may also cure some constitutional errors on appeal through operation of “harmless error” rules and reweighing of evidence by the appellate court. Also, the Court has constrained the use of federal habeas corpus to review state court judgments. As a result of these trends, the Court recognizes a significant degree of state autonomy in capital sentencing in spite of its rulings on substantive Eighth Amendment law.

While holding fast to the *Lockett* requirement that sentencers be allowed to consider all mitigating evidence,⁹⁴ the Court has upheld state statutes that control the relative weight that the sentencer may accord to aggravating and mitigating evidence.⁹⁵

⁹¹*Zant v. Stephens*, 462 U.S. 862, 878 (1983). This narrowing function may be served at the sentencing phase or at the guilt phase; the fact that an aggravating circumstance justifying capital punishment duplicates an element of the offense of first-degree murder does not render the procedure invalid. *Lowenfield v. Phelps*, 484 U.S. 231 (1988).

⁹²*Eddings v. Oklahoma*, 455 U.S. 104, 112 (1982) (quoting *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280, 304 (1976) (plurality opinion)).

⁹³*Zant v. Stephens*, 462 U.S. 862, 879 (1983).

⁹⁴*See, e.g., Hitchcock v. Dugger*, 481 U.S. 393 (1987) (instruction limiting jury to consideration of mitigating factors specifically enumerated in statute is invalid); *Penry v. Lynaugh*, 492 U.S. 302 (1989) (jury must be permitted to give effect to defendant’s evidence of mental retardation and abused background); *Skipper v. South Carolina*, 476 U.S. 1 (1986) (exclusion of evidence of defendant’s good conduct in jail denied defendant his *Lockett* right to introduce all mitigating evidence). *But cf. Franklin v. Lynaugh*, 487 U.S. 164 (1988) (consideration of defendant’s character as revealed by jail behavior may be limited to context of assessment of future dangerousness).

⁹⁵“Neither [*Lockett* nor *Eddings*] establishes the weight which must be given to any particular mitigating evidence, or the manner in which it must be considered; they simply condemn any procedure in which such evidence has no weight at all.” *Barclay v. Florida*, 463 U.S. 939, 961 n.2 (1983) (Justice Stevens concurring in judgment).

“The requirement of individualized sentencing is satisfied by allowing the jury to consider all relevant mitigating evidence”; there is no additional requirement that the jury be allowed to weigh the severity of an aggravating circumstance in the absence of any mitigating factor.⁹⁶ So too, the legislature may specify the consequences of the jury’s finding an aggravating circumstance; it may mandate that a death sentence be imposed if the jury unanimously finds at least one aggravating circumstance and no mitigating circumstance,⁹⁷ or if the jury finds that aggravating circumstances outweigh mitigating circumstances.⁹⁸ And a court may instruct that the jury “must not be swayed by mere sentiment, conjecture, sympathy, passion, prejudice, public opinion, or public feeling,” since in essence the instruction merely cautions the jury not to base its decision “on factors not presented at the trial.”⁹⁹ However, a jury instruction that can be interpreted as requiring jury unanimity on the existence of each mitigating factor before that factor may be weighed against aggravating factors is invalid as in effect allowing one juror to veto consideration of any and all mitigating factors. Instead, each juror must be allowed to give effect to what he or she believes to be established mitigating evidence.¹⁰⁰

Appellate review under a harmless error standard can preserve a death sentence based in part on a jury’s consideration of an aggravating factor later found to be invalid,¹⁰¹ or on a trial judge’s consideration of improper aggravating circumstances.¹⁰² In each case the sentencing authority had found other aggravating circumstances justifying imposition of capital punishment, and in *Zant* evidence relating to the invalid factor was nonetheless admissible on another basis.¹⁰³ Even in states that require the jury to weigh statutory aggravating and mitigating circumstances (and even in the absence of written findings by the jury), the appellate court may preserve a death penalty through harmless error review or through a reweighing of the aggravating and mitigating evi-

⁹⁶ *Blystone v. Pennsylvania*, 494 U.S. 299, 307 (1990).

⁹⁷ *Id.*

⁹⁸ *Boyde v. California*, 494 U.S. 370 (1990).

⁹⁹ *California v. Brown*, 479 U.S. 538, 543 (1987).

¹⁰⁰ *Mills v. Maryland*, 486 U.S. 367 (1988); *McKoy v. North Carolina*, 494 U.S. 433 (1990).

¹⁰¹ *Zant v. Stephens*, 462 U.S. 862 (1983).

¹⁰² *Barclay v. Florida*, 463 U.S. 954 (1983).

¹⁰³ In Eighth Amendment cases as in other contexts involving harmless constitutional error, the court must find that error was “harmless beyond a reasonable doubt in that it did not contribute to the [sentence] obtained.” *Sochor v. Florida*, 112 S. Ct. 2114, 2123 (1992) (quoting *Chapman v. California*, 386 U.S. 18, 24 (1967)).

dence.¹⁰⁴ By contrast, where there is a possibility that the jury's reliance on a "totally irrelevant" factor (defendant had served time pursuant to an invalid conviction subsequently vacated) may have been decisive in balancing aggravating and mitigating factors, a death sentence may not stand in spite of the presence of other aggravating factors.¹⁰⁵

Focus on the character and culpability of the defendant led the Court initially to hold that introduction of evidence about the character of the victim or the amount of emotional distress caused to the victim's family or community was inappropriate because it "creates an impermissible risk that the capital sentencing decision will be made in an arbitrary manner."¹⁰⁶ New membership on the Court resulted in overruling of these decisions, however, and a holding that "victim impact statements" are not barred from evidence by the Eighth Amendment.¹⁰⁷ "A State may legitimately conclude that evidence about the victim and about the impact of the murder on the victim's family is relevant to the jury's decision as to whether or not the death penalty should be imposed."¹⁰⁸ In the view of the Court majority, admissibility of victim impact evidence was necessary in order to restore balance to capital sentencing. Exclusion of such evidence had "unfairly weighted the scales in a capital trial; while virtually no limits are placed on the rel-

¹⁰⁴ *Clemons v. Mississippi*, 494 U.S. 738 (1990). *Cf.* *Parker v. Dugger*, 498 U.S. 308 (1991) (affirmance of death sentence invalid because appellate court did not reweigh non-statutory mitigating evidence).

¹⁰⁵ *Johnson v. Mississippi*, 486 U.S. 578 (1988).

¹⁰⁶ *Booth v. Maryland*, 482 U.S. 496, 503 (1987). And culpability, the Court added, "depends not on fortuitous circumstances such as the composition [or articulateness] of [the] victim's family, but on circumstances over which [the defendant] has control." *Id.* at 504 n.7. The decision was 5–4, with Justice Powell's opinion of the Court being joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens, and with Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justices White, O'Connor, and Scalia dissenting. *See also South Carolina v. Gathers*, 490 U.S. 805 (1989), holding that a prosecutor's extensive comments extolling the personal characteristics of a murder victim can invalidate a death sentence when the victim's character is unrelated to the circumstances of the crime.

¹⁰⁷ *Payne v. Tennessee*, 501 U.S. 808 (1991). "In the event that evidence is introduced that is so unduly prejudicial that it renders the trial fundamentally unfair, the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment provides a mechanism for relief," Chief Justice Rehnquist explained for the Court. *Id.* at 825. Justices White, O'Connor, Scalia, Kennedy, and Souter joined in that opinion. Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens dissented.

¹⁰⁸ *Id.* at 827. Overruling of *Booth* may have been unnecessary in *Payne*, inasmuch as the principal "victim impact" evidence introduced involved trauma to a surviving victim of attempted murder who had been stabbed at the same time his mother and sister had been murdered and who had apparently witnessed those murders; this evidence could have qualified as "admissible because . . . relate[d] directly to the circumstances of the crime." *Booth*, 482 U.S. at 507 n.10. *Gathers* was directly at issue in *Payne* because of the prosecutor's references to effects on family members not present at the crime.

evant mitigating evidence a capital defendant may introduce concerning his own circumstances, the State is barred from either offering 'a glimpse of the life' which a defendant 'chose to extinguish,' or demonstrating the loss to the victim's family and to society which have resulted from the defendant's homicide."¹⁰⁹

The Court's rulings limiting federal *habeas corpus* review of state convictions may be expected to reduce significantly the amount of federal court litigation over state imposition of capital punishment. The Court held in *Penry v. Lynaugh*¹¹⁰ that its *Teague v. Lane*¹¹¹ rule of nonretroactivity applies to capital sentencing challenges. Under *Teague*, "new rules" of constitutional interpretation announced after a defendant's conviction has become final will not be applied in *habeas* cases unless one of two exceptions applies. The exceptions will rarely apply. One exception is for decisions placing certain conduct or defendants beyond the reach of the criminal law, and the other is for decisions recognizing a fundamental procedural right "without which the likelihood of an accurate conviction is seriously diminished."¹¹² Further restricting the availability of federal *habeas* review is the Court's definition of "new rule." Interpretations that are a logical outgrowth or application of an earlier rule are nonetheless "new rules" unless the result was "dictated" by that precedent.¹¹³ While in *Penry* itself the Court determined that the requested rule (requiring an instruction that the jury consider mitigating evidence of the defendant's mental retardation and abused childhood) was *not* a "new rule" because it was dictated by *Eddings* and *Lockett*, in subsequent *habeas* capital sentencing cases the Court has found substantive review barred by the "new rule" limitation.¹¹⁴ A second restriction on federal *habeas*

¹⁰⁹ Id. at 822 (citation omitted).

¹¹⁰ 492 U.S. 302 (1989).

¹¹¹ 489 U.S. 288 (1989). The "new rule" limitation was suggested in a plurality opinion in *Teague*. A Court majority in *Penry* and later cases has adopted it.

¹¹² 489 U.S. at 313. The second exception was at issue in *Sawyer v. Smith*, 497 U.S. 227 (1990); there the Court held the exception inapplicable to the *Caldwell v. Mississippi* rule that the Eighth Amendment is violated by prosecutorial misstatements characterizing the jury's role in capital sentencing as merely recommendatory. It is "not enough," the *Sawyer* Court explained, "that a new rule is aimed at improving the accuracy of a trial. . . . A rule that qualifies under this exception must not only improve accuracy, but also 'alter our understanding of the bedrock procedural elements' essential to the fairness of a proceeding." Id. at 242.

¹¹³ *Penry*, 492 U.S. at 314. Put another way, it is not enough that a decision is "within the 'logical compass' of an earlier decision, or indeed that it is 'controlled' by a prior decision." A decision announces a "new rule" if its result "was susceptible to debate among reasonable minds" or if it would not have been "an illogical or even a grudging application" of the prior decision to hold it inapplicable. *Butler v. McKellar*, 494 U.S. 407, 415 (1990).

¹¹⁴ See, e.g., *Butler v. McKellar*, 494 U.S. 407 (1990) (1988 ruling in *Arizona v. Roberson*, that the Fifth Amendment bars police-initiated interrogation following a suspect's request for counsel in the context of a *separate* investigation, announced

review also has ramifications for capital sentencing review. Claims that state convictions are unsupported by the evidence are weighed by a “rational factfinder” inquiry: “viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to the prosecution, [could] any rational trier of fact have found the essential elements of the crime beyond a reasonable doubt.”¹¹⁵ This same standard for reviewing alleged errors of state law, the Court determined, should be used by a federal *habeas* court to weigh a claim that a generally valid aggravating factor is unconstitutional *as applied* to the defendant.¹¹⁶ A third rule was devised to prevent successive “abusive” or defaulted *habeas* petitions. Federal courts are barred from hearing such claims unless the defendant can show by clear and convincing evidence that, but for a constitutional error, no reasonable juror would have found him *eligible* for the death penalty under applicable state law.¹¹⁷ The Court has also ruled that a death row inmate has no constitutional right to an attorney to help prepare a petition for state collateral review.¹¹⁸

In *Coker v. Georgia*,¹¹⁹ the Court held that the state may not impose a death sentence upon a rapist who does not take a human

a “new rule” not dictated by the 1981 decision in *Edwards v. Arizona* that police must refrain from all further questioning of an in-custody accused who invokes his right to counsel); *Saffle v. Parks*, 494 U.S. 484 (1990) (*habeas* petitioner’s request that capital sentencing be reversed because of an instruction that the jury “avoid any influence of sympathy” is a request for a new rule not “compel[led]” by *Eddings* and *Lockett*, which governed *what* mitigating evidence a jury must be allowed to consider, not *how* it must consider that evidence); *Sawyer v. Smith*, 497 U.S. 227 (1990) (1985 ruling in *Caldwell v. Mississippi*, although a “predictable development in Eighth Amendment law,” established a “new rule” that false prosecutorial comment on jurors’ responsibility can violate the Eighth Amendment by creating an unreasonable risk of arbitrary imposition of the death penalty, since no case prior to *Caldwell* had invalidated a prosecutorial comment on Eighth Amendment grounds). *But see* *Stringer v. Black*, 112 S. Ct. 1130 (1992) (neither *Maynard v. Cartwright*, 486 U.S. 356 (1988), nor *Clemons v. Mississippi*, 494 U.S. 738 (1990), announced a “new rule”).

¹¹⁵ *Lewis v. Jeffers*, 497 U.S. 764, 781 (1990) (quoting *Jackson v. Virginia*, 443 U.S. 307, 319 (1979)).

¹¹⁶ *Lewis v. Jeffers*, 497 U.S. 764, 780–84 (1990). The lower court erred, therefore, in conducting a comparative review to determine whether application in the defendant’s case was consistent with other applications.

¹¹⁷ *Sawyer v. Whitley*, 112 S. Ct. 2514 (1992). The focus on eligibility limits inquiry to elements of the crime and to aggravating factors, and thereby prevents presentation of mitigating evidence. Here the court was barred from considering an allegation of ineffective assistance of counsel for failure to introduce the defendant’s mental health records as a mitigating factor at sentencing.

¹¹⁸ *Murray v. Giarratano*, 492 U.S. 1 (1989) (“unit attorneys” assigned to prisons were available for some advice prior to filing a claim).

¹¹⁹ 433 U.S. 584 (1977). Justice White’s opinion was joined only by Justices Stewart, Blackmun, and Stevens. Justices Brennan and Marshall concurred on their view that the death penalty is per se invalid, *id.* at 600, and Justice Powell concurred on a more limited basis than Justice White’s opinion. *Id.* at 601. Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 604.

life.¹²⁰ The Court announced that the standard under the Eighth Amendment was that punishments are barred when they are “excessive” in relation to the crime committed. A “punishment is ‘excessive’ and unconstitutional if it (1) makes no measurable contribution to acceptable goals of punishment and hence is nothing more than the purposeless and needless imposition of pain and suffering; or (2) is grossly out of proportion to the severity of the crime.”¹²¹ In order that judgment not be or appear to be the subjective conclusion of individual Justices, attention must be given to objective factors, predominantly “to the public attitudes concerning a particular sentence—history and precedent, legislative attitudes, and the response of juries reflected in their sentencing decisions. . . .”¹²² While the Court thought that the death penalty for rape passed the first test, it felt it failed the second. Georgia was the sole State providing for death for the rape of an adult woman, and juries in at least nine out of ten cases refused to impose death for rape. Aside from this view of public perception, the Court independently concluded that death is an excessive penalty for an offender who rapes but does not kill; rape cannot compare with murder “in terms of moral depravity and of injury to the person and the public.”¹²³

Applying the *Coker* analysis, the Court ruled in *Enmund v. Florida*¹²⁴ that death is an unconstitutional penalty for felony murder if the defendant did not himself kill, or attempt to take life, or intend that anyone be killed. While a few more States imposed capital punishment in felony murder cases than had imposed it for rape, nonetheless the weight was heavily against the practice, and the evidence of jury decisions and other indicia of a modern consensus similarly opposed the death penalty in such circumstances. Moreover, the Court determined that death was a disproportionate sentence for one who neither took life nor intended to do so. Because the death penalty is a likely deterrent only when murder is the result of premeditation and deliberation, and because the jus-

¹²⁰ Although the Court stated the issue in the context of the rape of an adult woman, *id.* at 592, the opinion at no point sought to distinguish between adults and children. Justice Powell’s concurrence expressed the view that death is ordinarily disproportionate for the rape of an adult woman, but that some rapes might be so brutal or heinous as to justify it. *Id.* at 601.

¹²¹ *Id.* at 592.

¹²² *Id.*

¹²³ *Id.* at 598.

¹²⁴ 458 U.S. 782 (1982). Justice White wrote the opinion of the Court and was joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens. Justice O’Connor, with Justices Powell and Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger, dissented. *Id.* at 801. *Accord*, *Cabana v. Bullock*, 474 U.S. 376 (1986) (also holding that the proper remedy in a habeas case is to remand for state court determination as to whether *Enmund* findings have been made).

tification of retribution depends upon the degree of the defendant's culpability, the imposition of death upon one who participates in a crime in which a victim is murdered by one of his confederates and not as a result of his own intention serves neither of the purposes underlying the penalty.¹²⁵ In *Tison v. Arizona*, however, the Court eased the "intent to kill" requirement, holding that, in keeping with an "apparent consensus" among the states, "major participation in the felony committed, combined with reckless indifference to human life, is sufficient to satisfy the *Enmund* culpability requirement."¹²⁶ A few years earlier, *Enmund* had also been weakened by the Court's holding that the factual finding of requisite intent to kill need not be made by the guilt/innocence factfinder, whether judge or jury, but may be made by a state appellate court.¹²⁷

A measure of protection against jury bias was added by the Court's holding that "a capital defendant accused of an interracial crime is entitled to have prospective jurors informed of the race of the victim and questioned on the issue of racial bias."¹²⁸ A year later, however, the Court ruled in *McCleskey v. Kemp*¹²⁹ that a strong statistical showing of racial disparity in capital sentencing cases is insufficient to establish an Eighth Amendment violation. Statistics alone do not establish racial discrimination in any particular case, the Court concluded, but "at most show only a likelihood that a particular factor entered into some decisions."¹³⁰ Just as important to the outcome, however, was the Court's application of the two overarching principles of prior capital punishment cases:

¹²⁵ Justice O'Connor thought the evidence of contemporary standards did not support a finding that capital punishment was not appropriate in felony murder situations. *Id.* at 816–23. She also objected to finding the penalty disproportionate, first because of the degree of participation of the defendant in the underlying crime, *id.* at 823–26, but also because the Court appeared to be constitutionalizing a standard of intent required under state law.

¹²⁶ 481 U.S. 137, 158 (1987). The decision was 5–4. Justice O'Connor's opinion for the Court viewed a "narrow" focus on intent to kill as "a highly unsatisfactory means of definitively distinguishing the most culpable and dangerous of murderers," *id.* at 157, and concluded that "reckless disregard for human life" may be held to be "implicit in knowingly engaging in criminal activities known to carry a grave risk of death." *Id.*

¹²⁷ *Cabana v. Bullock*, 474 U.S. 376 (1986). Moreover, an appellate court's finding of culpability is entitled to a presumption of correctness in federal habeas review, a habeas petitioner bearing a "heavy burden of overcoming the presumption." *Id.* at 387–88. *See also* *Pulley v. Harris*, 465 U.S. 37 (1984) (Eighth Amendment does not invariably require comparative proportionality review by a state appellate court).

¹²⁸ *Turner v. Murray*, 476 U.S. 28, 36–37 (1986).

¹²⁹ 481 U.S. 279 (1987). The decision was 5–4. Justice Powell's opinion of the Court was joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and by Justices White, O'Connor, and Scalia. Justices Brennan, Blackmun, Stevens, and Marshall dissented.

¹³⁰ 481 U.S. at 308.

that a state's system must narrow a sentencer's discretion to impose the death penalty (e.g., by carefully defining "aggravating" circumstances), but must *not* constrain a sentencer's discretion to consider mitigating factors relating to the character of the defendant. While the dissenters saw the need to narrow discretion in order to reduce the chance that racial discrimination underlies jury decisions to impose the death penalty,¹³¹ the majority emphasized the need to preserve jury discretion not to impose capital punishment. Reliance on statistics to establish a *prima facie* case of discrimination, the Court feared, could undermine the requirement that capital sentencing jurors "focus their collective judgment on the unique characteristics of a particular criminal defendant"—a focus that can result in "final and unreviewable" leniency.¹³²

The Court has recently grappled with several cases involving application of the death penalty to persons of diminished capacity. The first such case involved a defendant whose competency at the time of his offense, at trial, and at sentencing had not been questioned, but who subsequently developed a mental disorder. The Court held in *Ford v. Wainwright*¹³³ that the Eighth Amendment prohibits the state from carrying out the death penalty on an individual who is insane, and that properly raised issues of execution-time sanity must be determined in a proceeding satisfying the minimum requirements of due process.¹³⁴ The Court noted that execution of the insane had been considered cruel and unusual at common law and at the time of adoption of the Bill of Rights, and continues to be so viewed today. And, while no states purport to permit the execution of the insane, a number, including Florida, leave the determination to the governor. Florida's procedures, the Court held, fell short of due process because the decision was vested in the governor, and because the defendant was given no opportunity to be heard, the governor's decision being based on reports of three state-appointed psychiatrists.¹³⁵

¹³¹ *Id.* at 339–40 (Brennan), 345 (Blackmun), 366 (Stevens).

¹³² *Id.* at 311. Concern for protecting "the fundamental role of discretion in our criminal justice system" also underlay the Court's rejection of an equal protection challenge in *McCleskey*. See p. 1857, *infra*.

¹³³ 477 U.S. 399 (1986).

¹³⁴ There was an opinion of the Court only on the first issue, that the Eighth Amendment creates a right not to be executed while insane. Justice Marshall's opinion to that effect was joined by Justices Brennan, Blackmun, Stevens, and Powell. The Court's opinion did not attempt to define insanity; Justice Powell's concurring opinion would have held the prohibition applicable only for "those who are unaware of the punishment they are about to suffer and why they are to suffer it." *Id.* at 422.

¹³⁵ There was no opinion of the Court on the issue of procedural requirements. Justice Marshall, joined by Justices Brennan, Blackmun, and Stevens, would hold that "the ascertainment of a prisoner's sanity . . . calls for no less stringent stand-

By contrast the Court in 1989 found “insufficient evidence of a national consensus against executing mentally retarded people.” While the Court conceded that “it may indeed be ‘cruel and unusual’ punishment to execute persons who are profoundly or severely retarded and wholly lacking the capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of their actions,” retarded persons who have been found competent to stand trial, and who have failed to establish an insanity defense, fall into a different category. Consequently, the Court was unwilling to conclude that execution of a mentally retarded person is “categorically prohibited by the Eighth Amendment.”¹³⁶ What is required in this as in other contexts, however, is individualized consideration of culpability: a retarded defendant must be offered the benefit of an instruction that the jury may consider and give mitigating effect to evidence of retardation or abused background.¹³⁷

There is also no categorical prohibition on execution of juveniles. A closely divided Court has invalidated one statutory scheme which permitted capital punishment to be imposed for crimes committed before age 16, but has upheld other statutes authorizing capital punishment for crimes committed by 16 and 17 year olds. Important to resolution of the first case was the fact that Oklahoma set no minimum age for capital punishment, but by separate provision allowed juveniles to be treated as adults for some purposes.¹³⁸ While four Justices favored a flat ruling that execution of anyone younger than 16 at the time of his offense is barred by the Eighth Amendment, concurring Justice O’Connor found Oklahoma’s scheme defective as not having necessarily resulted from the special care and deliberation that must attend decisions to impose the death penalty.¹³⁹ The following year Justice O’Connor again provided the decisive vote when the Court in *Stanford v.*

ards than those demanded in any other aspect of a capital proceeding.” 477 U.S. at 411–12. Concurring Justice Powell thought that due process might be met by a proceeding “far less formal than a trial,” that the state “should provide an impartial officer or board that can receive evidence and argument from the prisoner’s counsel.” *Id.* at 427. Concurring Justice O’Connor, joined by Justice White, emphasized Florida’s denial of the opportunity to be heard, and did not express an opinion on whether the state could designate the governor as decisionmaker. Thus Justice Powell’s opinion, requiring the opportunity to be heard before an impartial officer or board, sets forth the Court’s holding.

¹³⁶ *Penry v. Lynaugh*, 492 U.S. 302, 335 (1989).

¹³⁷ *Id.* at 328.

¹³⁸ *Thompson v. Oklahoma*, 487 U.S. 815 (1988).

¹³⁹ The plurality opinion by Justice Stevens was joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun; as indicated in the text, Justice O’Connor concurred in a separate opinion; and Justice Scalia, joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and by Justice White, dissented. Justice Kennedy did not participate.

*Kentucky*¹⁴⁰ held that the Eighth Amendment does not categorically prohibit imposition of the death penalty for individuals who commit crimes at age 16 or 17. Like Oklahoma, neither Kentucky nor Missouri¹⁴¹ directly specified a minimum age for the death penalty. To Justice O'Connor, however, the critical difference was that there clearly was no national consensus forbidding imposition of capital punishment on 16 or 17-year-old murderers, whereas there was such a consensus against execution of 15 year olds.¹⁴²

The *Stanford* Court was split over the appropriate scope of inquiry in cruel and unusual punishment cases. Justice Scalia's plurality would focus almost exclusively on an assessment of what the state legislatures and Congress have done in setting an age limit for application of capital punishment.¹⁴³ The *Stanford* dissenters would broaden this inquiry with proportionality review that considers the defendant's culpability as one aspect of the gravity of the offense, that considers age as one indicator of culpability, and that looks to other statutory age classifications to arrive at a conclusion about the level of maturity and responsibility that society expects of juveniles.¹⁴⁴ Justice O'Connor, while recognizing the Court's "constitutional obligation to conduct proportionality analysis," does not believe that such analysis can resolve the underlying issue of the constitutionally required minimum age.¹⁴⁵

While the Court continues to tinker with the law of capital punishment, it has taken a number of steps in the 1980s and early 1990s to attempt to reduce the many procedural and substantive opportunities for delay and defeat of the carrying out of death sentences, and to give the states more leeway in administering capital sentencing. The early post-*Furman* stage involving creation of procedural protections for capital defendants, and premised on a

¹⁴⁰ 492 U.S. 361 (1989). The bulk of Justice Scalia's opinion, representing the opinion of the Court, was joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and by Justices White, O'Connor, and Kennedy. Justice O'Connor took exceptions to other portions of Justice Scalia's opinion (dealing with proportionality analysis); and Justice Brennan, joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens, dissented.

¹⁴¹ The case of *Wilkins v. Missouri* was decided along with *Stanford*.

¹⁴² Compare Thompson, 487 U.S. at 849 (O'Connor, J., concurring) (two-thirds of all state legislatures had concluded that no one should be executed for a crime committed at age 15, and no state had "unequivocally endorsed" a lower age limit) with *Stanford*, 492 U.S. at 370 (15 of 37 states permitting capital punishment decline to impose it on 16-year-old offenders; 12 decline to impose it on 17-year-old-offenders).

¹⁴³ "A revised national consensus so broad, so clear and so enduring as to justify a permanent prohibition upon all units of democratic government must appear in the operative acts (laws and the application of laws) that the people have approved." 492 U.S. at 377.

¹⁴⁴ *Id.* at 394–96.

¹⁴⁵ *Id.* at 382.

“death is different” rationale,¹⁴⁶ gave way to increasing impatience with the delays made possible through procedural protections, especially those associated with federal habeas corpus review.¹⁴⁷ Having consistently held that capital punishment is not inherently unconstitutional, the Court seems bent on clarifying and even streamlining constitutionally required procedures so that those states that choose to impose capital punishment may do so without inordinate delays. Changed membership on the Court is having its effect; gone from the Court are Justices Brennan and Marshall, whose belief that all capital punishment constitutes cruel and unusual punishment meant two automatic votes against any challenged death sentence. Strong differences remain over such issues as the appropriate framework for consideration of aggravating and mitigating circumstances and the appropriate scope of federal review, but as of 1992 a Court majority seems committed to reducing obstacles created by federal review of death sentences pursuant to state laws that have been upheld as constitutional.

Proportionality.—Justice Field in *O’Neil v. Vermont*¹⁴⁸ argued in dissent that in addition to prohibiting punishments deemed barbarous and inhumane the Eighth Amendment also condemned “all punishments which by their excessive length or severity are greatly disproportionate to the offenses charged.” In *Weems v. United States*,¹⁴⁹ this view was adopted by the Court in striking down a sentence in the Philippine Islands of 15 years incarceration at hard labor with chains on the ankles, loss of all civil rights, and perpetual surveillance, for the offense of falsifying public documents. The Court compared the sentence with those meted out for other offenses and concluded: “This contrast shows more than dif-

¹⁴⁶ See, e.g., *Gardner v. Florida*, 430 U.S. 349, 357–58 (1977): “From the point of view of the defendant, [death] is different in both its severity and its finality. From the point of view of society, the action of the sovereign in taking the life of one of its citizens also differs dramatically from any other legitimate state action. It is of vital importance . . . that any decision to impose the death sentence be, and appear to be, based on reason rather than caprice or emotion.”

¹⁴⁷ See, e.g., *Barefoot v. Estelle*, 463 U.S. 880, 888 (1983): “unlike a term of years, a death sentence cannot begin to be carried out by the State while substantial legal issues remain outstanding. Accordingly, federal courts must isolate the exceptional cases where constitutional error requires retrial or resentencing as certainly and swiftly as orderly procedures will permit.” See also *Gomez v. United States District Court*, 112 S. Ct. 1652 (1992) (vacating orders staying an execution, and refusing to consider, because of “abusive delay,” a claim that “could have been brought more than a decade ago”—that California’s method of execution (cyanide gas) constitutes cruel and unusual punishment).

¹⁴⁸ 144 U.S. 323, 339–40 (1892). See also *Howard v. Fleming*, 191 U.S. 126, 135–36 (1903).

¹⁴⁹ 217 U.S. 349 (1910). The Court was here applying not the Eighth Amendment but a statutory bill of rights applying to the Philippines which it interpreted as having the same meaning. *Id.* at 367.

ferent exercises of legislative judgment. It is greater than that. It condemns the sentence in this case as cruel and unusual. It exhibits a difference between unrestrained power and that which is exercised under the spirit of constitutional limitations formed to establish justice.”¹⁵⁰ Punishments as well as fines, therefore, can be condemned as excessive.¹⁵¹

In *Robinson v. California*¹⁵² the Court carried the principle to new heights, setting aside a conviction under a law making it a crime to “be addicted to the use of narcotics.” The statute was unconstitutional because it punished the “mere status” of being an addict without any requirement of a showing that a defendant had ever used narcotics within the jurisdiction of the State or had committed any act at all within the State’s power to proscribe, and because addiction is an illness which—however it is acquired—physiologically compels the victim to continue using drugs. The case could stand for the principle, therefore, that one may not be punished for a status in the absence of some act,¹⁵³ or it could stand for the broader principle that it is cruel and unusual to punish someone for conduct he is unable to control, a holding of far-reaching importance.¹⁵⁴ In *Powell v. Texas*,¹⁵⁵ a majority of the Justices

¹⁵⁰ Id. at 381.

¹⁵¹ Proportionality in the context of capital punishment is considered supra, pp. 1478–79.

¹⁵² 370 U.S. 660 (1962).

¹⁵³ A different approach to essentially the same problem was *Thompson v. Louisville*, 362 U.S. 199 (1960), in which a conviction for loitering and disorderly conduct was set aside as being supported by “no evidence whatever” that defendant had done anything. Cf. *Johnson v. Florida*, 391 U.S. 596 (1968) (no evidence that the defendant was “wandering or strolling around” in violation of vagrancy law).

¹⁵⁴ Fully applied, the principle would raise to constitutional status the concept of *mens rea*, and it would thereby constitutionalize some form of insanity defense as well as other capacity defenses. For a somewhat different approach, see *Lambert v. California*, 355 U.S. 225 (1957) (due process denial for city to apply felon registration requirement to someone present in city but lacking knowledge of requirement). More recently, this controversy has become a due process matter, with the holding that the due process clause requires the prosecution to prove beyond a reasonable doubt the facts necessary to constitute the crime charged, *Mullaney v. Wilbur*, 421 U.S. 684 (1975), raising the issue of the insanity defense and other such questions. See *Rivera v. Delaware*, 429 U.S. 877 (1976), *Patterson v. New York*, 432 U.S. 197, 202–05 (1977). In *Solem v. Helm*, 463 U.S. 277, 297 n.22 (1983), an Eighth Amendment proportionality case, the Court suggested in dictum that life imprisonment without possibility of parole of a recidivist who was an alcoholic, and all of whose crimes had been influenced by his alcohol use, was “unlikely to advance the goals of our criminal justice system in any substantial way.”

¹⁵⁵ 392 U.S. 514 (1968). The plurality opinion by Justice Marshall, joined by Justices Black and Harlan and Chief Justice Warren, interpreted *Robinson* as proscribing only punishment of “status,” and not punishment for “acts,” and expressed a fear that a contrary holding would impel the Court into constitutional definitions of such matters as *actus reus*, *mens rea*, insanity, mistake, justification, and duress. Id. at 532–37. Justice White concurred, but only because the record did not show that the defendant was unable to stay out of public; like the dissent, Justice White

took the latter view of *Robinson*, but the result, because of a view of the facts held by one Justice, was a refusal to invalidate a conviction of an alcoholic for public drunkenness. Whether the Eighth Amendment or the due process clauses will govern the requirement of the recognition of capacity defenses to criminal charges, or whether either will, remains to be decided in future cases.

The Court has gone back and forth in its acceptance of proportionality analysis in noncapital cases. It appeared that such analysis had been closely cabined in *Rummel v. Estelle*,¹⁵⁶ upholding a mandatory life sentence under a recidivist statute following a third felony conviction, even though the defendant's three nonviolent felonies had netted him a total of less than \$230. The Court reasoned that the unique quality of the death penalty rendered capital cases of limited value, and *Weems* was distinguished on the basis that the length of the sentence was of considerably less concern to the Court than were the brutal prison conditions and the postrelease denial of significant rights imposed under the peculiar Philippine penal code. Thus, in order to avoid improper judicial interference into state penal systems, Eighth Amendment judgments must be informed by objective factors to the maximum extent possible. But when the challenge to punishment goes to the length rather than the seriousness of the offense, the choice is necessarily subjective. Therefore, the *Rummel* rule appeared to be that States may punish any behavior properly classified as a felony with any length of imprisonment purely as a matter of legislative grace.¹⁵⁷ The Court dismissed as unavailing the factors relied on by the defendant. First, the fact that the nature of the offense was nonviolent was found not necessarily relevant to the seriousness of a crime, and the determination of what is a "small" amount of money, being so subjective, was a legislative task. In any event, the State could focus on recidivism, not the specific acts. Second, the comparison of punishment imposed for the same offenses in other jurisdictions was found unhelpful, differences and similarities being

was willing to hold that if addiction as a status may not be punished neither can the yielding to the compulsion of that addiction, whether to narcotics or to alcohol. *Id.* at 548. Dissenting Justices Fortas, Douglas, Brennan, and Stewart wished to adopt a rule that "[c]riminal penalties may not be inflicted upon a person for being in a condition he is powerless to change." That is, one under an irresistible compulsion to drink or to take narcotics may not be punished for those acts. *Id.* at 554, 567.

¹⁵⁶ 445 U.S. 263 (1980). The opinion, by Justice Rehnquist, was concurred in by Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart, White, and Blackmun. Dissenting were Justices Powell, Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens. *Id.* at 285.

¹⁵⁷ In *Hutto v. Davis*, 454 U.S. 370 (1982), on the authority of *Rummel*, the Court summarily reversed a decision holding disproportionate a prison term of 40 years and a fine of \$20,000 for defendant's possession and distribution of approximately nine ounces of marijuana said to have a street value of about \$200.

more subtle than gross, and in any case in a federal system one jurisdiction would always be more severe than the rest. Third, the comparison of punishment imposed for other offenses in the same State ignored the recidivism aspect.¹⁵⁸

Rummel was distinguished in *Solem v. Helm*,¹⁵⁹ the Court stating unequivocally that the cruel and unusual punishments clause “prohibits not only barbaric punishments, but also sentences that are disproportionate to the crime committed,” and that “[t]here is no basis for the State’s assertion that the general principle of proportionality does not apply to felony prison sentences.”¹⁶⁰ Helm, like Rummel, had been sentenced under a recidivist statute following conviction for a nonviolent felony involving a small amount of money.¹⁶¹ The difference was that Helm’s sentence of life imprisonment without possibility of parole was viewed as “far more severe than the life sentence we described in *Rummel*.”¹⁶² Rummel, the Court pointed out, had been eligible for parole after 12 years’ imprisonment, while Helm had only the possibility of executive clemency, characterized by the Court as “nothing more than a hope for ‘an *ad hoc* exercise of clemency.’”¹⁶³ In *Helm* the Court also spelled out the “objective criteria” by which proportionality issues should be judged: “(i) the gravity of the offense and the harshness of the penalty; (ii) the sentences imposed on other criminals in the same jurisdiction; and (iii) the sentences imposed for commission of the same crime in other jurisdictions.”¹⁶⁴ Measured by these criteria Helm’s sentence was cruel and unusual. His crime was relatively minor, yet life imprisonment without possibility for parole was the harshest penalty possible in South Dakota, reserved for such other offenses as murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, and arson. In only one other state could he have received so harsh a sentence, and in no other state was it mandated.¹⁶⁵

¹⁵⁸ *Rummel*, 445 U.S. at 275–82. The dissent deemed these three factors to be sufficiently objective to apply and thought they demonstrated the invalidity of the sentence imposed. *Id.* at 285, 295–303.

¹⁵⁹ 463 U.S. 277 (1983). The case, as *Rummel*, was decided by 5–4 vote, with the *Rummel* dissenters, joined by Justice Blackmun from the *Rummel* majority, composing the majority, and with Justice O’Connor taking Justice Stewart’s place in opposition to holding the sentence invalid. Justice Powell wrote the opinion of the Court in *Helm*, and Chief Justice Burger wrote the dissent.

¹⁶⁰ 463 U.S. at 284, 288.

¹⁶¹ The final conviction was for uttering a no-account check in the amount of \$100; previous felony convictions were also for nonviolent crimes described by the Court as “relatively minor.” 463 U.S. at 296–97.

¹⁶² *Id.* at 297.

¹⁶³ *Id.* at 303.

¹⁶⁴ *Id.* at 292.

¹⁶⁵ For a suggestion that Eighth Amendment proportionality analysis may limit the severity of punishment possible for prohibited private and consensual homo-

The Court remained closely divided in holding in *Harmelin v. Michigan*¹⁶⁶ that a mandatory term of life imprisonment without possibility of parole was not cruel and unusual as applied to the crime of possession of more than 650 grams of cocaine. There was an opinion of the Court only on the issue of the mandatory nature of the penalty, the Court rejecting an argument that sentencers in non-capital cases must be allowed to hear mitigating evidence.¹⁶⁷ As to the length of sentence, three majority Justices—Kennedy, O'Connor, and Souter—would recognize a narrow proportionality principle, but considered Harmelin's crime severe and by no means grossly disproportionate to the penalty imposed.¹⁶⁸

Prisons and Punishment.—“It is unquestioned that ‘[c]onfinement’ in a prison . . . is a form of punishment subject to scrutiny under the Eighth Amendment standards.”¹⁶⁹ “Conditions in prison must not involve the wanton and unnecessary infliction of pain, nor may they be grossly disproportionate to the severity of the crime warranting imprisonment. . . . Conditions . . . , alone or in combination, may deprive inmates of the minimal civilized measure of life's necessities. . . . But conditions that cannot be said to be cruel and unusual under contemporary standards are not unconstitutional. To the extent that such conditions are restrictive and even harsh, they are part of the penalty that criminal offenders

sexual conduct, see Justice Powell's concurring opinion in *Bowers v. Hardwick*, 478 U.S. 186, 197 (1986).

¹⁶⁶ 501 U.S. 957 (1991).

¹⁶⁷ “Severe, mandatory penalties may be cruel, but they are not unusual in the constitutional sense.” *Id.* at 994. The Court's opinion, written by Justice Scalia, then elaborated an understanding of “unusual”—set forth elsewhere in a part of his opinion subscribed to only by Chief Justice Rehnquist—that denies the possibility of proportionality review altogether. Mandatory penalties are not unusual in the constitutional sense because they have “been employed in various form throughout our Nation's history.” This is an application of Justice Scalia's belief that cruelty and unusualness are to be determined solely by reference to the punishment at issue, and without reference to the crime for which it is imposed. See *id.* at 975–78 (not opinion of Court—only Chief Justice Rehnquist joined this portion of the opinion). Because a majority of other Justices indicated in the same case that they do recognize at least a narrow proportionality principle (see *id.* at 996 (Justices Kennedy, O'Connor, and Souter concurring); *id.* at 1009 (Justices White, Blackmun, and Stevens dissenting); *id.* at 1027 (Justice Marshall dissenting)), the fact that three of those Justices (Kennedy, O'Connor, and Souter) joined Justice Scalia's opinion on mandatory penalties should probably not be read as representing agreement with Justice Scalia's general approach to proportionality.

¹⁶⁸ Because of the “serious nature” of the crime, the 3-Justice plurality asserted that there was no need to apply the other *Solem* factors comparing the sentence to sentences imposed for other crimes in Michigan, and to sentences imposed for the same crime in other jurisdictions. *Id.* at 1004. Dissenting Justice White, joined by Justices Blackmun and Stevens (Justice Marshall also expressed agreement on this and most other points, *id.* at 1027), asserted that Justice Kennedy's approach would “eviscerate” *Solem*. *Id.* at 1018.

¹⁶⁹ *Rhodes v. Chapman*, 452 U.S. 337, 345 (1981) (quoting *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678, 685 (1978)).

pay for their offenses against society.”¹⁷⁰ These general principles apply both to the treatment of individuals¹⁷¹ and to the creation or maintenance of prison conditions that are inhumane to inmates generally.¹⁷² Ordinarily there is both a subjective and an objective inquiry. Before conditions of confinement not formally meted out as punishment by the statute or sentencing judge can qualify as “punishment,” there must be a culpable, “wanton” state of mind on the part of prison officials.¹⁷³ In the context of general prison conditions, this culpable state of mind is “deliberate indifference”;¹⁷⁴ in the context of emergency actions, e.g., actions required to suppress a disturbance by inmates, only a malicious and sadistic state of mind is culpable.¹⁷⁵ When excessive force is alleged, the objective standard varies depending upon whether that force was applied in a good-faith effort to maintain or restore discipline, or whether it was applied maliciously and sadistically to cause harm. In the good-faith context, there must be proof of significant injury. When, however, prison officials “maliciously and sadistically use force to cause harm, contemporary standards of decency are always violated,” and there is no need to prove that “significant injury” resulted.¹⁷⁶

Beginning with *Holt v. Sarver*,¹⁷⁷ federal courts found prisons or entire prison systems violative of the cruel and unusual punishments clause, and broad remedial orders directed to improving prison conditions and ameliorating prison life were imposed in more than two dozen States.¹⁷⁸ But while the Supreme Court expressed general agreement with the thrust of the lower court actions, it set aside two rather extensive decrees and cautioned the federal courts to proceed with deference to the decisions of state

¹⁷⁰ 452 U.S. at 347.

¹⁷¹ E.g., *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97 (1976) (deliberate medical neglect of a prisoner violates Eighth Amendment); *Jackson v. Bishop*, 404 F.2d 571 (8th Cir. 1968) (beating prisoner with leather strap violates Amendment).

¹⁷² E.g., *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678 (1978).

¹⁷³ *Wilson v. Seiter*, 501 U.S. 294 (1991).

¹⁷⁴ *Id.* at 303.

¹⁷⁵ *Whitley v. Albers*, 475 U.S. 312 (1986) (arguably excessive force in suppressing prison uprising did not constitute cruel and unusual punishment).

¹⁷⁶ *Hudson v. McMillian*, 112 S. Ct. 995, 1000 (1992) (beating of a shackled prisoner resulted in bruises, swelling, loosened teeth, and a cracked dental plate).

¹⁷⁷ 309 F. Supp. 362 (E.D. Ark. 1970), *aff'd*, 442 F.2d 304 (8th Cir. 1971), district court ordered to retain jurisdiction until unconstitutional conditions corrected, 505 F.2d 194 (8th Cir. 1974). The Supreme Court ultimately sustained the decisions of the lower courts in *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678 (1978).

¹⁷⁸ *Rhodes v. Chapman*, 452 U.S. 337, 353–54 n.1 (1981) (Justice Brennan concurring) (collecting cases). See Note, *Complex Enforcement: Unconstitutional Prison Conditions*, 94 HARV. L. REV. 626 (1981). Congress encouraged the bringing of much litigation by enacting the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, Pub. L. No. 96–247, 94 Stat. 349, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1997 et seq.

legislatures and prison administrators.¹⁷⁹ In both cases, the prisons involved were of fairly recent vintage and the conditions, while harsh, did not approach the conditions described in many of the lower court decisions that had been left undisturbed.¹⁸⁰ Thus, concerns of federalism and of judicial restraint apparently actuated the Court to begin to curb the lower federal courts from ordering remedial action for systems in which the prevailing circumstances, given the resources States choose to devote to them, “cannot be said to be cruel and unusual under contemporary standards.”¹⁸¹

Limitation of the Clause to Criminal Punishments.—The Eighth Amendment deals only with criminal punishment, and has no application to civil processes. In holding the Amendment inapplicable to the infliction of corporal punishment upon schoolchildren for disciplinary purposes, the Court explained that the cruel and unusual punishments clause “circumscribes the criminal process in three ways: First, it limits the kinds of punishment that can be imposed on those convicted of crimes; second, it proscribes punishment grossly disproportionate to the severity of the crime; and third, it imposes substantive limits on what can be made criminal and punished as such.”¹⁸² These limitations, the Court thought, should not be extended outside the criminal process.

¹⁷⁹ *Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520 (1979); *Rhodes v. Chapman*, 452 U.S. 337 (1981).

¹⁸⁰ See, e.g., *Pugh v. Locke*, 406 F. Supp. 318 (M.D. Ala. 1976) (describing conditions of “horrendous overcrowding,” inadequate sanitation, infested food, and “rampant violence”); *Ramos v. Lamm*, 639 F.2d 559 (10th Cir. 1981) (describing conditions “unfit for human habitation”). The primary issue in both *Wolfish* and *Chapman* was that of “double-celling,” the confinement of two or more prisoners in a cell designed for one. In both cases, the Court found the record did not support orders ending the practice.

¹⁸¹ *Rhodes v. Chapman*, 452 U.S. 337, 347 (1981). See also *Rufo v. Inmates of Suffolk County Jail*, 112 S. Ct. 748 (1991) (allowing modification, based on a significant change in law or facts, of a 1979 consent decree that had ordered construction of a new jail with single-occupancy cells; modification was to depend upon whether the upsurge in jail population was anticipated when the decree was entered, and whether the decree was premised on the mistaken belief that single-celling is constitutionally mandated).

¹⁸² *Ingraham v. Wright*, 430 U.S. 651, 667 (1977) (citations omitted). Constitutional restraint on school discipline, the Court ruled, is to be found in the due process clause if at all.

NINTH AMENDMENT
—
UNENUMERATED RIGHTS

UNENUMERATED RIGHTS

NINTH AMENDMENT

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

RIGHTS RETAINED BY THE PEOPLE

Aside from contending that a bill of rights was unnecessary, the Federalists responded to those opposing ratification of the Constitution because of the lack of a declaration of fundamental rights by arguing that inasmuch as it would be impossible to list all rights it would be dangerous to list some because there would be those who would seize on the absence of the omitted rights to assert that government was unrestrained as to those.¹ Madison adverted to this argument in presenting his proposed amendments to the House of Representatives. "It has been objected also against a bill of rights, that, by enumerating particular exceptions to the grant of power, it would disparage those rights which were not placed in that enumeration; and it might follow by implication, that those rights which were not singled out, were intended to be assigned into the hands of the General Government, and were consequently insecure. This is one of the most plausible arguments I have ever heard against the admission of a bill of rights into this system; but, I conceive, that it may be guarded against. I have attempted it, as gentlemen may see by turning to the last clause of the fourth resolution."² It is clear from its text and from Madison's statement that the Amendment states but a rule of construction, making clear that a Bill of Rights might not by implication be taken to increase the powers of the national government in areas

¹ THE FEDERALIST No. 84 (Modern Library ed. 1937).

² 1 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 439 (1789). Earlier, Madison had written to Jefferson: "My own opinion has always been in favor of a bill of rights; provided it be so framed as not to imply powers not meant to be included in the enumeration. . . . I have not viewed it in an important light—1. because I conceive that in a certain degree . . . the rights in question are reserved by the manner in which the federal powers are granted. 2. because there is great reason to fear that a positive declaration of some of the most essential rights could not be obtained in the requisite latitude. I am sure that the rights of conscience in particular, if submitted to public definition would be narrowed much more than they are likely ever to be by an assumed power." 5 WRITINGS OF JAMES MADISON, 271–72 (G. Hunt ed. 1904). See also 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 1898 (1833).

not enumerated, and that it does not contain within itself any guarantee of a right or a proscription of an infringement.³ Recently, however, the Amendment has been construed to be positive affirmation of the existence of rights which are not enumerated but which are nonetheless protected by other provisions.

The Ninth Amendment had been mentioned infrequently in decisions of the Supreme Court⁴ until it became the subject of some exegesis by several of the Justices in *Griswold v. Connecticut*.⁵ There a statute prohibiting use of contraceptives was voided as an infringement of the right of marital privacy. Justice Douglas, writing the opinion of the Court, asserted that the “specific guarantees in the Bill of Rights have penumbras, formed by emanations from those guarantees that help give them life and substance.”⁶ Thus, while privacy is nowhere mentioned, it is one of the values served and protected by the First Amendment, through its protection of associational rights, and by the Third, the Fourth, and the Fifth Amendments as well. The Justice recurred to the text of the Ninth Amendment, apparently to support the thought that these penumbral rights are protected by one Amendment or a complex of Amendments despite the absence of a specific reference. Justice Goldberg, concurring, devoted several pages to the Amendment.

“The language and history of the Ninth Amendment reveal that the Framers of the Constitution believed that there are additional fundamental rights, protected from governmental infringement, which exist alongside those fundamental rights specifically mentioned in the first eight constitutional amendments. . . . To hold that a right so basic and fundamental and so deep-rooted in our society as the right of privacy in marriage may be infringed because that right is not guaranteed in so many words by the first eight amendments to the Constitution is to ignore the Ninth

³To some extent, the Ninth and Tenth Amendments overlap with respect to the question of unenumerated powers, one of the two concerns expressed by Madison, more clearly in his letter to Jefferson but also present in his introductory speech. *Supra*, n.2 and accompanying text.

⁴In *United Public Workers v. Mitchell*, 330 U.S. 75, 94–95 (1947), upholding the Hatch Act, the Court said: “We accept appellant’s contention that the nature of political rights reserved to the people by the Ninth and Tenth Amendments [is] involved. The right claimed as inviolate may be stated as the right of a citizen to act as a party official or worker to further his own political views. Thus we have a measure of interference by the Hatch Act and the Rules with what otherwise would be the freedom of the civil servant under the First, Ninth, and Tenth Amendments.” See *Ashwander v. TVA*, 297 U.S. 288, 300–11 (1936), and *Tennessee Electric Power Co. v. TVA*, 306 U.S. 118, 143–44 (1939). See also Justice Chase’s opinion in *Calder v. Bull*, 3 U.S. (3 Dall.) 386, 388 (1798), and Justice Miller for the Court in *Loan Ass’n v. Topeka*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 655, 662–63 (1875).

⁵381 U.S. 479 (1965).

⁶*Id.* at 484. The opinion was joined by Chief Justice Warren and by Justices Clark, Goldberg, and Brennan.

Amendment and to give it no effect whatsoever. Moreover, a judicial construction that this fundamental right is not protected by the Constitution because it is not mentioned in explicit terms by one of the first eight amendments or elsewhere in the Constitution would violate the Ninth Amendment. . . . Nor do I mean to state that the Ninth Amendment constitutes an independent source of right protected from infringement by either the States or the Federal Government. Rather, the Ninth Amendment shows a belief of the Constitution's authors that fundamental rights exist that are not expressly enumerated in the first eight amendments and an intent that the list of rights included there not be deemed exhaustive."⁷ While, therefore, neither opinion sought to make of the Ninth Amendment a substantive source of constitutional guarantees, both did read it as indicating a function of the courts to interpose a veto with regard to legislative and executive efforts to abridge other fundamental rights. In this case, both opinions seemed to concur that the fundamental right claimed and upheld was derivative of several express rights and in this case, really, the Ninth Amendment added almost nothing to the argument. But if there is a claim of a fundamental right which cannot reasonably be derived from one of the provisions of the Bill of Rights, even with the Ninth Amendment, how is the Court to determine, first, that it is fundamental, and second, that it is protected from abridgment?⁸

⁷Id. at 488, 491, 492. Chief Justice Warren and Justice Brennan joined this opinion. Justices Harlan and White concurred id. at 499, 502, without alluding to the Ninth Amendment, but instead basing their conclusions on substantive due process, finding that the state statute "violates basic values implicit in the concept of ordered liberty," (citing *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319, 325 (1937)). Id. at 500. It would appear that the source of the fundamental rights to which Justices Douglas and Goldberg referred must be found in a concept of substantive due process, despite the former's express rejection of this ground. Id. at 481–82. Justices Black and Stewart dissented. Justice Black viewed the Ninth Amendment ground as essentially a variation of the due process argument under which Justices claimed the right to void legislation as irrational, unreasonable, or offensive, without finding any violation of an express constitutional provision.

⁸Notice the recurrence to the Ninth Amendment as a "constitutional 'saving clause'" in Chief Justice Burger's plurality opinion in *Richmond Newspapers v. Virginia*, 448 U.S. 555, 579–80 & n.15 (1980). Scholarly efforts to establish the clause as a substantive protection of rights include J. ELY, *DEMOCRACY AND DISTRUST—A THEORY OF JUDICIAL REVIEW* (Cambridge: 1980), 34–41; and C. BLACK, *DECISION ACCORDING TO LAW* (New York: 1981), critically reviewed in W. Van Alstyne, *Slouching Toward Bethlehem with the Ninth Amendment*, 91 *YALE L. J.* 207 (1981). For a collection of articles on the Ninth Amendment, see *THE RIGHTS RETAINED BY THE PEOPLE: THE HISTORY AND MEANING OF THE NINTH AMENDMENT* (Randy E. Barnett, ed., 1989).

TENTH AMENDMENT

RESERVED POWERS

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RESERVED POWERS

TENTH AMENDMENT

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

RESERVED POWERS

Scope and Purpose

“The Tenth Amendment was intended to confirm the understanding of the people at the time the Constitution was adopted, that powers not granted to the United States were reserved to the States or to the people. It added nothing to the instrument as originally ratified.”¹ “The amendment states but a truism that all is retained which has not been surrendered. There is nothing in the history of its adoption to suggest that it was more than declaratory of the relationship between the national and state governments as it had been established by the Constitution before the amendment or that its purpose was other than to allay fears that the new national government might seek to exercise powers not granted, and that the states might not be able to exercise fully their reserved powers.”² That this provision was not conceived to be a yardstick for measuring the powers granted to the Federal Government or reserved to the States was firmly settled by the refusal of both Houses of Congress to insert the word “expressly” before the word “delegated,”³ and was confirmed by Madison’s remarks in the course of the debate which took place while the proposed amendment was pending concerning Hamilton’s plan to establish a national bank. “Interference with the power of the States was no constitutional criterion of the power of Congress. If the power was not

¹ *United States v. Sprague*, 282 U.S. 716, 733 (1931).

² *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100, 124 (1941). “While the Tenth Amendment has been characterized as a ‘truism,’ stating merely that ‘all is retained which has not been surrendered,’ [citing *Darby*], it is not without significance. The Amendment expressly declares the constitutional policy that Congress may not exercise power in a fashion that impairs the States’ integrity or their ability to function effectively in a federal system.” *Fry v. United States*, 421 U.S. 542, 547 n.7 (1975). This policy was effectuated, at least for a time, in *National League of Cities v. Usery*, 426 U.S. 833 (1976).

³ ANNALS OF CONGRESS 767–68 (1789) (defeated in House 17 to 32); 2 B. SCHWARTZ, THE BILL OF RIGHTS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY 1150–51 (1971) (defeated in Senate by unrecorded vote).

given, Congress could not exercise it; if given, they might exercise it, although it should interfere with the laws, or even the Constitutions of the States.”⁴ Nevertheless, for approximately a century, from the death of Marshall until 1937, the Tenth Amendment was frequently invoked to curtail powers expressly granted to Congress, notably the powers to regulate commerce, to enforce the Fourteenth Amendment, and to lay and collect taxes.

In *McCulloch v. Maryland*,⁵ Marshall rejected the proffer of a Tenth Amendment objection and offered instead an expansive interpretation of the necessary and proper clause⁶ to counter the argument. The counsel for the State of Maryland cited fears of opponents of ratification of the Constitution about the possible swallowing up of states’ rights and referred to the Tenth Amendment to allay these apprehensions, all in support of his claim that the power to create corporations was reserved by that Amendment to the States.⁷ Stressing the fact that the Amendment, unlike the cognate section of the Articles of Confederation, omitted the word “expressly” as a qualification of granted powers, Marshall declared that its effect was to leave the question “whether the particular power which may become the subject of contest has been delegated to the one government, or prohibited to the other, to depend upon a fair construction of the whole instrument.”⁸

Effect of Provision on Federal Powers

Federal Taxing Power.—Not until after the Civil War was the idea that the reserved powers of the States comprise an independent qualification of otherwise constitutional acts of the Federal Government actually applied to nullify, in part, an act of Congress. This result was first reached in a tax case—*Collector v. Day*.⁹ Holding that a national income tax, in itself valid, could not be constitutionally levied upon the official salaries of state officers, Justice Nelson made the sweeping statement that “the States within the limits of their powers not granted, or, in the language of the Tenth Amendment, ‘reserved,’ are as independent of the general government as that government within its sphere is independent of

⁴ 2 ANNALS OF CONGRESS 1897 (1791).

⁵ 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 316 (1819).

⁶ *Supra*, pp. 339–44.

⁷ *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 316, 372 (1819) (argument of counsel).

⁸ *Id.* at 406. “From the beginning and for many years the amendment has been construed as not depriving the national government of authority to resort to all means for the exercise of a granted power which are appropriate and plainly adapted to the permitted end.” *United States v. Darby*, 312 U.S. 100, 124 (1941).

⁹ 78 U.S. (11 Wall.) 113 (1871).

the States.”¹⁰ In 1939, *Collector v. Day* was expressly overruled.¹¹ Nevertheless, the problem of reconciling state and national interest still confronts the Court occasionally, and was elaborately considered in *New York v. United States*,¹² where, by a vote of six-to-two, the Court upheld the right of the United States to tax the sale of mineral waters taken from property owned by a State. Speaking for four members of the Court, Chief Justice Stone justified the tax on the ground that “[t]he national taxing power would be unduly curtailed if the State, by extending its activities, could withdraw from it subjects of taxation traditionally within it.”¹³ Justices Frankfurter and Rutledge found in the Tenth Amendment “no restriction upon Congress to include the States in levying a tax exacted equally from private persons upon the same subject matter.”¹⁴ Justices Douglas and Black dissented, saying: “If the power of the federal government to tax the States is conceded, the reserved power of the States guaranteed by the Tenth Amendment does not give them the independence which they have always been assumed to have.”¹⁵

Federal Police Power.—A year before *Collector v. Day* was decided, the Court held invalid, except as applied in the District of Columbia and other areas over which Congress has exclusive authority, a federal statute penalizing the sale of dangerous illuminating oils.¹⁶ The Court did not refer to the Tenth Amendment. Instead, it asserted that the “express grant of power to regulate commerce among the States has always been understood as limited by its terms; and as a virtual denial of any power to interfere with the internal trade and business of the separate States; except, indeed, as a necessary and proper means for carrying into execution some other power expressly granted or vested.”¹⁷ Similarly, in the *Employers’ Liability Cases*,¹⁸ an act of Congress making every carrier engaged in interstate commerce liable to “any” employee, including those whose activities related solely to intrastate activities, for injuries caused by negligence, was held unconstitutional by a

¹⁰Id. at 124.

¹¹*Graves v. New York ex rel. O’Keefe*, 306 U.S. 466 (1939). The Internal Revenue Service is authorized to sue a state auditor personally and recover from him an amount equal to the accrued salaries which, after having been served with notice of levy, he paid to state employees delinquent in their federal income tax. *Sims v. United States*, 359 U.S. 108 (1959).

¹²326 U.S. 572 (1946).

¹³Id. at 589.

¹⁴Id. at 584.

¹⁵Id. at 595. Most recently, the issue was canvassed, but inconclusively, in *Massachusetts v. United States*, 435 U.S. 444 (1978).

¹⁶*United States v. Dewitt*, 76 U.S. (9 Wall.) 41 (1870).

¹⁷Id. at 44.

¹⁸207 U.S. 463 (1908). See also *Keller v. United States*, 213 U.S. 138 (1909).

closely divided Court, without explicit reliance on the Tenth Amendment. Not until it was confronted with the Child Labor Law, which prohibited the transportation in interstate commerce of goods produced in establishments in which child labor was employed, did the Court hold that the state police power was an obstacle to adoption of a measure which operated directly and immediately upon interstate commerce. In *Hammer v. Dagenhart*,¹⁹ five members of the Court found in the Tenth Amendment a mandate to nullify this law as an unwarranted invasion of the reserved powers of the States. This decision was expressly overruled in *United States v. Darby*.²⁰

During the twenty years following *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, a variety of measures designed to regulate economic activities, directly or indirectly, were held void on similar grounds. Excise taxes on the profits of factories in which child labor was employed,²¹ on the sale of grain futures on markets which failed to comply with federal regulations,²² on the sale of coal produced by nonmembers of a coal code established as a part of a federal regulatory scheme,²³ and a tax on the processing of agricultural products, the proceeds of which were paid to farmers who complied with production limitations imposed by the Federal Government,²⁴ were all found to invade the reserved powers of the States. In *Schechter Corp. v. United States*,²⁵ the Court, after holding that the commerce power did not extend to local sales of poultry, cited the Tenth Amendment to refute the argument that the existence of an economic emergency justified the exercise of what Chief Justice Hughes called "extraconstitutional authority."²⁶

In 1941, the Court came full circle in its exposition of this Amendment. Having returned four years earlier to the position of John Marshall when it sustained the Social Security Act²⁷ and National Labor Relations Act,²⁸ it explicitly restated Marshall's thesis in upholding the Fair Labor Standards Act in *United States v. Darby*.²⁹ Speaking for a unanimous Court, Chief Justice Stone

¹⁹ 247 U.S. 251 (1918).

²⁰ 312 U.S. 100 (1941).

²¹ Child Labor Tax Case, 259 U.S. 20, 26, 38 (1922).

²² Hill v. Wallace, 259 U.S. 44 (1922). See also Trusler v. Crooks, 269 U.S. 475 (1926).

²³ Carter v. Carter Coal Co., 298 U.S. 238 (1936).

²⁴ United States v. Butler, 297 U.S. 1 (1936).

²⁵ 295 U.S. 495 (1935).

²⁶ Id. at 529.

²⁷ Steward Machine Co. v. Davis, 301 U.S. 548 (1937); Helvering v. Davis, 301 U.S. 619 (1937).

²⁸ NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp., 301 U.S. 1 (1937).

²⁹ 312 U.S. 100 (1941). See also United States v. Carolene Products Co., 304 U.S. 144, 147 (1938); Case v. Bowles, 327 U.S. 92, 101 (1946).

wrote: "The power of Congress over interstate commerce 'is complete in itself, may be exercised to its utmost extent, and acknowledges no limitations other than are prescribed in the Constitution.' . . . That power can neither be enlarged nor diminished by the exercise or non-exercise of state power. . . . It is no objection to the assertion of the power to regulate interstate commerce that its exercise is attended by the same incidents which attended the exercise of the police power of the states. . . . Our conclusion is unaffected by the Tenth Amendment which . . . states but a truism that all is retained which has not been surrendered."³⁰

But even prior to 1937 not all measures taken to promote objectives which had traditionally been regarded as the responsibilities of the States had been held invalid. In *Hamilton v. Kentucky Distilleries Co.*,³¹ a unanimous Court, speaking by Justice Brandeis, upheld "War Prohibition," saying: "That the United States lacks the police power, and that this was reserved to the States by the Tenth Amendment, is true. But it is nonetheless true that when the United States exerts any of the powers conferred upon it by the Constitution, no valid objection can be based upon the fact that such exercise may be attended by the same incidents which attend the exercise by a State of its police power."³² And in a series of cases, which today seem irreconcilable with *Hammer v. Dagenhart*, it sustained federal laws penalizing the interstate transportation of lottery tickets,³³ of women for immoral purposes,³⁴ of stolen automobiles,³⁵ and of tick-infected cattle,³⁶ as well as a statute prohibiting the mailing of obscene matter.³⁷ It affirmed the power of Congress to punish the forgery of bills of lading purporting to cover interstate shipments of merchandise,³⁸ to subject prison-made goods moved from one State to another to the laws of the receiving State,³⁹ to regulate prescriptions for the medicinal use of liquor as an appropriate measure for the enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment,⁴⁰ and to control extortionate means of collecting and attempting to collect payments on loans, even when all aspects of the credit transaction took place within one

³⁰ 312 U.S. 100, 114, 123, 124 (1941). See also *Fernandez v. Wiener*, 326 U.S. 340, 362 (1945).

³¹ 251 U.S. 146 (1919).

³² *Id.* at 156.

³³ *Lottery Case (Champion v. Ames)*, 188 U.S. 321 (1903).

³⁴ *Hoke v. United States*, 227 U.S. 308 (1913).

³⁵ *Brooks v. United States*, 267 U.S. 432 (1925).

³⁶ *Thornton v. United States*, 271 U.S. 414 (1926).

³⁷ *Roth v. United States*, 354 U.S. 476 (1957).

³⁸ *United States v. Ferger*, 250 U.S. 199 (1919).

³⁹ *Kentucky Whip & Collar Co. v. Illinois C. R.R.*, 299 U.S. 334 (1937).

⁴⁰ *Everard's Breweries v. Day*, 265 U.S. 545 (1924).

State's boundaries.⁴¹ More recently, the Court upheld provisions of federal surface mining law that could be characterized as "land use regulation" traditionally subject to state police power regulation.⁴²

Notwithstanding these federal inroads into powers otherwise reserved to the States, the Court has held that Congress could not itself undertake to punish a violation of state law; in *United States v. Constantine*,⁴³ a grossly disproportionate excise tax imposed on retail liquor dealers carrying on business in violation of local law was held unconstitutional. However, Congress does not contravene reserved state police powers when it levies an occupation tax on all persons engaged in the business of accepting wagers regardless of whether those persons are violating state law, and imposes severe penalties for failure to register and pay the tax.⁴⁴

Federal Regulations Affecting State Activities and Instrumentalities.—Since the mid-1970s, the Court has been closely divided over whether the Tenth Amendment or related constitutional doctrine constrains congressional authority to subject state activities and instrumentalities to generally applicable requirements enacted pursuant to the commerce power.⁴⁵ Under *Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Authority*,⁴⁶ the Court's most recent ruling directly on point, the Tenth Amendment imposes practically no judicially enforceable limit on generally applicable federal legislation, and states must look to the political process for redress. *Garcia*, however, like *National League of Cities v. Usery*,⁴⁷ the case it overruled, was a 5–4 decision, and there are recent indications that the Court may be ready to resurrect some form of Tenth Amendment constraint on Congress.

In *National League of Cities v. Usery*, the Court conceded that the legislation under attack, which regulated the wages and hours

⁴¹ *Perez v. United States*, 402 U.S. 146 (1971).

⁴² *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Recl. Ass'n*, 452 U.S. 264 (1981).

⁴³ 296 U.S. 287 (1935). The Civil Rights Act of 1875, which made it a crime for one person to deprive another of equal accommodations at inns, theaters or public conveyances was found to exceed the powers conferred on Congress by the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments and hence to be an unlawful invasion of the powers reserved to the States by the Tenth Amendment. *Civil Rights Cases*, 109 U.S. 3, 15 (1883). Congress has now accomplished this end under its commerce powers. *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, 379 U.S. 241 (1964); *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294 (1964), but it is clear that the rationale of the *Civil Rights Cases* has been greatly modified if not severely impaired. *Cf. Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409 (1968) (13th Amendment); *Griffin v. Breckenridge*, 403 U.S. 88 (1971) (13th Amendment); *United States v. Guest*, 383 U.S. 745 (1966) (14th Amendment).

⁴⁴ *United States v. Kahriger*, 345 U.S. 22, 25–26 (1953); *Lewis v. United States*, 348 U.S. 419 (1955).

⁴⁵ The matter is discussed more fully *supra*, pp. 922–30.

⁴⁶ 469 U.S. 528 (1985).

⁴⁷ 426 U.S. 833 (1976).

of certain state and local governmental employees, was “undoubtedly within the scope of the Commerce Clause,”⁴⁸ but it cautioned that “there are attributes of sovereignty attaching to every state government which may not be impaired by Congress, not because Congress may lack an affirmative grant of legislative authority to reach the matter, but because the Constitution prohibits it from exercising the authority in that manner.”⁴⁹ The Court approached but did not reach the conclusion that the Tenth Amendment was the prohibition here, not that it directly interdicted federal power because power which is delegated is *not* reserved, but that it implicitly embodied a policy against impairing the States’ integrity or ability to function.⁵⁰ But, in the end, the Court held that the legislation was invalid, not because it violated a prohibition found in the Tenth Amendment or elsewhere, but because the law was “not within the authority granted Congress.”⁵¹ In subsequent cases applying or distinguishing *National League of Cities*, the Court and dissenters wrote as if the Tenth Amendment was the prohibition.⁵² Whatever the source of the constraint, it was held not to limit the exercise of power under the Reconstruction Amendments.⁵³

The Court overruled *National League of Cities* in *Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Auth.*⁵⁴ Justice Blackmun’s opinion for the Court in *Garcia* concluded that the *National League of Cities* test for “integral operations in areas of traditional governmental functions” had proven “both impractical and doctrinally barren,” and that the Court in 1976 had “tried to repair what did not need repair.”⁵⁵ With only passing reference to the Tenth Amendment the Court nonetheless clearly reverted to the Madisonian view of the Amendment reflected in *Unites States v. Darby*.⁵⁶ States retain a significant amount of sovereign authority

⁴⁸Id. at 841.

⁴⁹Id. at 845.

⁵⁰Id. at 843.

⁵¹Id. at 852.

⁵²E.g., *FERC v. Mississippi*, 456 U.S. 742, 771 (1982) (Justice Powell dissenting); id. at 775 (Justice O’Connor dissenting); *EEOC v. Wyoming*, 460 U.S. 226 (1983). The *EEOC* Court distinguished *National League of Cities*, holding that application of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act to state fish and game wardens did not directly impair the state’s ability to structure integral operations in areas of traditional governmental function, since the state remained free to assess each warden’s fitness on an individualized basis and retire those found unfit for the job.

⁵³*Fitzpatrick v. Bitzer*, 427 U.S. 445 (1976); *City of Rome v. United States*, 446 U.S. 156 (1980); *Fullilove v. Klutznick*, 448 U.S. 448, 476–78 (1980) (plurality opinion of Chief Justice Burger).

⁵⁴469 U.S. 528 (1985). The issue was again decided by a 5 to 4 vote, Justice Blackmun’s qualified acceptance of the *National League of Cities* approach having changed to complete rejection.

⁵⁵Id. at 557.

⁵⁶312 U.S. 100, 124 (1941), *supra* p. 1509; Madison’s views were quoted by the Court in *Garcia*, 469 U.S. at 549.

“only to the extent that the Constitution has not divested them of their original powers and transferred those powers to the Federal Government.”⁵⁷ The principal restraints on congressional exercise of the Commerce power are to be found not in the Tenth Amendment or in the Commerce Clause itself, but in the structure of the Federal Government and in the political processes.⁵⁸ “Freestanding conceptions of state sovereignty” such as the *National League of Cities* test subvert the federal system by “invit[ing] an unelected federal judiciary to make decisions about which state policies it favors and which ones it dislikes.”⁵⁹ While continuing to recognize that “Congress’ authority under the Commerce Clause must reflect [the] position . . . that the States occupy a special and specific position in our constitutional system,” the Court held that application of Fair Labor Standards Act minimum wage and overtime provisions to state employment does not require identification of these “affirmative limits.”⁶⁰ In sum, the Court in *Garcia* seems to have said that most but not necessarily all disputes over the effects on state sovereignty of federal commerce power legislation are to be considered political questions. What it would take for legislation to so threaten the “special and specific position” that states occupy in the constitutional system as to require judicial rather than political resolution was not delineated.

The first indication was that it would take a very unusual case indeed. In *South Carolina v. Baker* the Court expansively interpreted *Garcia* as meaning that there must be an allegation of “some extraordinary defects in the national political process” before the Court will apply substantive judicial review standards to claims that Congress has regulated state activities in violation of the Tenth Amendment.⁶¹ A claim that Congress acted on incomplete information would not suffice, the Court noting that South Carolina had “not even alleged that it was deprived of any right to participate in the national political process or that it was singled out in a way that left it politically isolated and powerless.”⁶² Thus, the general rule was that “limits on Congress’ authority to regulate

⁵⁷ 469 U.S. at 549.

⁵⁸ “Apart from the limitation on federal authority inherent in the delegated nature of Congress’ Article I powers, the principal means chosen by the Framers to ensure the role of the States in the federal system lies in the structure of the Federal Government itself.” 469 U.S. at 550. The Court cited the role of states in selecting the President, and the equal representation of states in the Senate. *Id.* at 551.

⁵⁹ 469 U.S. at 550, 546.

⁶⁰ 469 U.S. at 556.

⁶¹ 485 U.S. 505, 512 (1988). Justice Scalia, in a separate concurring opinion, objected to this language as departing from the Court’s assertion in *Garcia* that the “constitutional structure” imposes some affirmative limits on congressional action. *Id.* at 528.

⁶² *Id.* at 513.

state activities . . . are structural, not substantive—i.e., that States must find their protection from congressional regulation through the national political process, not through judicially defined spheres of unregulable state activity.”⁶³

Later indications are that the Court may be looking for ways to back off from *Garcia*. One device is to apply a “clear statement” rule requiring unambiguous statement of congressional intent to displace state authority. After noting the serious constitutional issues that would be raised by interpreting the Age Discrimination in Employment Act to apply to appointed state judges, the Court in *Gregory v. Ashcroft*⁶⁴ explained that, because *Garcia* “constrained” consideration of “the limits that the state-federal balance places on Congress’ powers,” a plain statement rule was all the more necessary. “[I]nasmuch as this Court in *Garcia* has left primarily to the political process the protection of the States against intrusive exercises of Congress’ Commerce Clause powers, we must be absolutely certain that Congress intended such an exercise.”

The Court’s 1992 decision in *New York v. United States*,⁶⁵ may portend a more direct retreat from *Garcia*. The holding in *New York*, that Congress may not “commandeer” state regulatory processes by ordering states to enact or administer a federal regulatory program, applied a limitation on congressional power previously recognized in dictum⁶⁶ and in no way inconsistent with the holding in *Garcia*. Language in the opinion, however, sounds more reminiscent of *National League of Cities* than of *Garcia*. First, the Court’s opinion by Justice O’Connor declares that it makes no difference whether federalism constraints derive from limitations inherent in the Tenth Amendment, or instead from the absence of power delegated to Congress under Article I; “the Tenth Amendment thus directs us to determine . . . whether an incident of state sovereignty is protected by a limitation on an Article I power.”⁶⁷ Second, the

⁶³Id. at 512.

⁶⁴501 U.S. 452, 464 (1991). The Court left no doubt that it considered the constitutional issue serious. “[T]he authority of the people of the States to determine the qualifications of their most important government officials . . . is an authority that lies at ‘the heart of representative government’ [and] is a power reserved to the States under the Tenth Amendment and guaranteed them by [the Guarantee Clause].” Id. at 463. In the latter context the Court’s opinion by Justice O’Connor cited Merritt, *The Guarantee Clause and State Autonomy: Federalism for a Third Century*, 88 COLUM. L. REV. 1 (1988). See also McConnell, *Federalism: Evaluating the Founders’ Design*, 54 U. CHI. L. REV. 1484 (1987) (also cited by the Court); and Van Alstyne, *The Second Death of Federalism*, 83 MICH. L. REV. 1709 (1985).

⁶⁵112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992).

⁶⁶See, e.g., *Hodel v. Virginia Surface Mining & Recl. Ass’n*, 452 U.S. 264, 288 (1981); *FERC v. Mississippi*, 456 U.S. 742, 765 (1982); *South Carolina v. Baker*, 485 U.S. 505, 513–15 (1988).

⁶⁷112 S. Ct. at 2418.

Court, without reference to *Garcia*, thoroughly repudiated *Garcia's* “structural” approach requiring states to look primarily to the political processes for protection. In rejecting arguments that New York’s sovereignty could not have been infringed because its representatives had participated in developing the compromise legislation and had consented to its enactment, the Court declared that “[t]he Constitution does not protect the sovereignty of States for the benefit of the States or State governments, [but instead] for the protection of individuals.” Consequently, “State officials cannot consent to the enlargement of the powers of Congress beyond those enumerated in the Constitution.”⁶⁸ The stage appears to be set, therefore, for some relaxation of *Garcia's* obstacles to federalism-based challenges to legislation enacted pursuant to the commerce power.

⁶⁸Id. at 2431–32.

ELEVENTH AMENDMENT

SUITS AGAINST STATES

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SUITS AGAINST STATES

ELEVENTH AMENDMENT

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

STATE IMMUNITY

Purpose and Early Interpretation

Eleventh Amendment jurisprudence has become over the years esoteric and abstruse and the decisions inconsistent. At the same time, it is a vital element of federal jurisdiction that “go[es] to the very heart of [the] federal system and affect[s] the allocation of power between the United States and the several states.”¹ Because of the centrality of the Amendment at the intersection of federal judicial power and the accountability of the States and their officers to federal constitutional standards, it has occasioned considerable dispute within and without the Court.²

The action of the Supreme Court in accepting jurisdiction of a suit against a State by a citizen of another State in 1793³ provoked such angry reaction in Georgia and such anxieties in other States that at the first meeting of Congress following the decision the Eleventh Amendment was proposed by an overwhelming vote of both Houses and ratified with, what was for that day, “vehement

¹ C. WRIGHT, *THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS* §48 at 286 (4th ed. 1983).

² An extraordinary amount of writing on the Amendment and its interpretation has appeared in recent years. See, e.g., Field, *The Eleventh Amendment and Other Sovereign Immunity Doctrines: Part One*, 126 U. PA. L. REV. 515 (1978); Field, *The Eleventh Amendment and Other Sovereign Immunity Doctrines: Congressional Imposition of Suit Upon the States*, 126 U. PA. L. REV. 1203 (1978); Baker, *Federalism and the Eleventh Amendment*, 48 U. COLO. L. REV. 139 (1977); Tribe, *Intergovernmental Immunities in Litigation, Taxation, and Regulation: Separation of Powers Issues in Controversies About Federalism*, 89 HARV. L. REV. 682 (1976); Gibbons, *The Eleventh Amendment and State Sovereign Immunity: A Reinterpretation*, 83 COLUM. L. REV. 1889 (1983); Fletcher, *A Historical Interpretation of the Eleventh Amendment: A Narrow Construction of an Affirmative Grant of Jurisdiction Rather than a Prohibition Against Jurisdiction*, 35 STAN. L. REV. 1033 (1983); Orth, *The Interpretation of the Eleventh Amendment, 1798-1908: A Case Study of Judicial Power*, 1983 U. ILL. L. REV. 423; Nowak, *The Scope of Congressional Power to Create Causes of Action Against State Government and the History of the Eleventh and Fourteenth Amendments*, 75 COLUM. L. REV. 1413 (1975).

³ *Chisholm v. Georgia*, 2 U.S. (2 Dall.) 419 (1793).

speed.”⁴ *Chisholm* had been brought under that part of the jurisdictional provision of Article III that authorized cognizance of “controversies . . . between a State and Citizens of another State.” At the time of the ratification debates, opponents of the proposed Constitution had objected to the subjection of a State to suits in federal courts and had been met with conflicting responses— on the one hand, an admission that the accusation was true and that it was entirely proper so to provide, and, on the other hand, that the accusation was false and the clause applied only when a State was the party plaintiff.⁵ So matters stood when Congress, in enacting the Judiciary Act of 1789, without recorded controversy gave the Supreme Court original jurisdiction of suits between States and citizens of other States.⁶ *Chisholm v. Georgia* was brought under this jurisdictional provision to recover under a contract for supplies executed with the State during the Revolution. Four of the five Justices agreed that a State could be sued under this Article III jurisdictional provision and that under section 13 the Supreme Court properly had original jurisdiction.⁷

The Amendment proposed by Congress and ratified by the States was directed specifically toward overturning the result in *Chisholm* and preventing suits against States by citizens of other States or by citizens or subjects of foreign jurisdictions. It did not, as other possible versions of the Amendment would have done, altogether bar suits against States in the federal courts.⁸ That is, it

⁴The phrase is Justice Frankfurter’s, from *Larson v. Domestic & Foreign Commerce Corp.*, 337 U.S. 682, 708 (1949) (dissenting), a federal sovereign immunity case. The amendment was proposed on March 4, 1794, when it passed the House; ratification occurred on February 7, 1795, when the twelfth State acted, there then being fifteen States in the Union.

⁵The Convention adopted this provision largely as it came from the Committee on Detail, without recorded debate. 2 M. FARRAND, *THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787* 423–25 (rev. ed. 1937). In the Virginia ratifying convention, George Mason, who had refused to sign the proposed Constitution, objected to making States subject to suit, 3 J. ELLIOT, *DEBATES IN THE SEVERAL STATE CONVENTIONS ON THE ADOPTION OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION* 526–27 (1836), but both Madison and John Marshall (the latter had not been a delegate at Philadelphia) denied States could be made party defendants, *id.* at 533, 555–56, while Randolph (who had been a delegate, as well as a member of the Committee on Detail) granted that States could be and ought to be subject to suit. *Id.* at 573. James Wilson, a delegate and member of the Committee on Detail, seemed to say in the Pennsylvania ratifying convention that States would be subject to suit. 2 *id.* at 491. See Hamilton, in *THE FEDERALIST* No. 81 (Modern Library ed. 1937), also denying state suitability. See Fletcher, *supra* n.2, at 1045–53 (discussing sources and citing other discussions).

⁶Ch. 20, § 13, 1 Stat. 80 (1789). See also Fletcher, *supra* n.2, at 1053–54. For a thorough consideration of passage of the Act itself, see J. GOEBEL, *HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES: VOL. 1, ANTECEDENTS AND BEGINNINGS TO 1801* 457–508 (1971).

⁷*Id.* at 723–34; Fletcher, *supra* n.2, at 1054–58.

⁸*Id.* at 1058–63; Goebel, *supra* n.6, at 736.

barred suits against States based on the status of the party plaintiff and did not address the instance of suits based on the nature of the subject matter.⁹ The early decisions seemed to reflect this understanding of the Amendment, although the point was not necessary to the decisions and thus the language is dictum.¹⁰ In *Cohens v. Virginia*,¹¹ Chief Justice Marshall ruled for the Court that the prosecution of a writ of error to review a judgment of a state court alleged to be in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States did not commence or prosecute a suit against the State but was simply a continuation of one commenced by the State, and thus could be brought under §25 of the Judiciary Act of 1789.¹² But in the course of the opinion, the Chief Justice attributed adoption of the Eleventh Amendment not to objections to subjecting States to suits *per se* but to well-founded concerns about creditors being able to maintain suits in federal courts for payment,¹³ and stated his view that the Eleventh Amendment did not

⁹Party status is one part of the Article III grant of jurisdiction, as in diversity of citizenship of the parties; subject matter jurisdiction is the other part, as in federal question or admiralty jurisdiction.

¹⁰One square holding, however, was that of Justice Washington, on Circuit, in *United States v. Bright*, 24 Fed. Cas. 1232 (C.C.D.Pa. 1809) (No. 14,647), that the Eleventh Amendment's reference to "any suit in law or equity" excluded admiralty cases, so that States were subject to suits in admiralty. This understanding, see *Governor of Georgia v. Madrazo*, 26 U.S. (1 Pet.) 110, 124 (1828); 3 J. STORY, COMMENTARIES OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES 560–61 (1833), did not receive a holding of the Court during this period, see *Georgia v. Madrazo*, supra; *United States v. Peters*, 9 U.S. (5 Cr.) 115 (1809); *Ex parte Madrazo*, 32 U.S. (7 Pet.) 627 (1833), and was held to be in error in *Ex parte New York* (No. 1), 256 U.S. 490 (1921).

¹¹19 U.S. (6 Wheat.) 264 (1821).

¹²1 Stat. 73, 85, supra, pp. 701–05, 723–25.

¹³"It is a part of our history that, at the adoption of the constitution, all the states were greatly indebted; and the apprehension that these debts might be prosecuted in the federal courts, formed a very serious objection to that instrument. Suits were instituted; and the court maintained its jurisdiction. The alarm was general; and, to quiet the apprehensions that were so extensively entertained, this amendment was proposed in congress, and adopted by the state legislatures. That its motive was not to maintain the sovereignty of a state from the degradation supposed to attend a compulsory appearance before the tribunal of the nation, may be inferred from the terms of the amendment. It does not comprehend controversies between two or more states, or between a state and a foreign state. The jurisdiction of the court still extends to these cases: and in these, a state may still be sued. We must ascribe the amendment, then, to some other cause than the dignity of a state. There is no difficulty in finding this cause. Those who were inhibited from commencing a suit against a state, or from prosecuting one which might be commenced before the adoption of the amendment, were persons who might probably be its creditors. There was not much reason to fear that foreign or sister states would be creditors to any considerable amount, and there was reason to retain the jurisdiction of the court in those cases, because it might be essential to the preservation of peace. The amendment, therefore, extended to suits commenced or prosecuted by individuals, but not to those brought by states." 6 Wheat. at 406–07.

bar suits against the States under federal question jurisdiction¹⁴ and did not in any case reach suits against a State by its own citizens.¹⁵

In *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*,¹⁶ the Court, again through Chief Justice Marshall, held that the Bank of the United States¹⁷ could sue the Treasurer of Ohio, over Eleventh Amendment objections, because the plaintiff sought relief against a state officer rather than against the State itself. This ruling embodied two principles, one of which has survived and one of which the Marshall Court itself soon abandoned. The latter holding was that a suit is not one against a State unless the State is a named party of record.¹⁸ The former holding, the primary rationale through which the strictures of the Amendment are escaped, is that a state official possesses no official capacity when acting illegally and thus

¹⁴“The powers of the Union, on the great subjects of war, peace and commerce, and on many others, are in themselves limitations of the sovereignty of the states; but in addition to these, the sovereignty of the states is surrendered, in many instances, where the surrender can only operate to the benefit of the people, and where, perhaps, no other power is conferred on congress than a conservative power to maintain the principles established in the constitution. The maintenance of these principles in their purity, is certainly among the great duties of the government. One of the instruments by which this duty may be peaceably performed, is the judicial department. It is authorized to decide all cases of every description, arising under the constitution or laws of the United States. From this general grant of jurisdiction, no exception is made of those cases in which a state may be a party. . . . [A]re we at liberty to insert in this general grant, an exception of those cases in which a state may be a party? Will the spirit of the constitution justify this attempt to control its words? We think it will not. We think a case arising under the constitution or laws of the United States, is cognizable in the courts of the Union, whoever may be the parties to that case.” *Id.* at 382–83.

¹⁵“If this writ of error be a suit, in the sense of the 11th amendment, it is not a suit commenced or prosecuted ‘by a citizen of another state, or by a citizen or subject of any foreign state.’ It is not, then, within the amendment, but is governed entirely by the constitution as originally framed, and we have already seen, that in its origin, the judicial power was extended to all cases arising under the constitution or laws of the United States, without respect to parties.” *Id.* at 412.

¹⁶22 U.S. (9 Wheat.) 738 (1824).

¹⁷The Bank of the United States was treated as if it were a private citizen, rather than as the United States itself, and hence a suit by it was a diversity suit by a corporation, as if it were a suit by the individual shareholders. *Bank of the United States v. Deveaux*, 9 U.S. (5 Cr.) 61 (1809).

¹⁸9 Wheat. at 850–58. For a reassertion of the Chief Justice’s view of the limited effect of the Amendment, see *id.* at 857–58. But *compare id.* at 849. The holding was repudiated in *Governor of Georgia v. Madrazo*, 26 U.S. (1 Pet.) 110 (1828), in which it was conceded that the suit had been brought against the governor solely in his official capacity and with the design of forcing him to exercise his official powers. It is now well settled that in determining whether a suit is prosecuted against a State “the Court will look behind and through the nominal parties on the record to ascertain who are the real parties to the suit.” *In re Ayers*, 123 U.S. 443, 487 (1887).

can derive no protection from an unconstitutional statute of a State.¹⁹

Expansion of the Immunity of the States.—Until the period following the Civil War, Chief Justice Marshall's understanding of the Amendment generally prevailed. But in the aftermath of that conflict, Congress for the first time effectively gave the federal courts general federal question jurisdiction,²⁰ and a large number of States in the South defaulted upon their revenue bonds in violation of the Contracts Clause of the Constitution.²¹ As bondholders sought relief in federal courts, the Supreme Court gradually worked itself into the position of holding that the Eleventh Amendment, or more properly speaking the principles "of which the Amendment is but an exemplification,"²² is a bar not only of suits against a State by citizens of other States, but also of suits brought by citizens of that State itself.²³ Expansion as a formal holding occurred in *Hans v. Louisiana*,²⁴ a suit against the State by a resident of that State brought in federal court under federal question jurisdiction, alleging a violation of the Contracts Clause in the State's repudiation of its obligation to pay interest on certain bonds. Admitting that the Amendment on its face prohibited only the entertaining of a suit against a State by citizens of another State, or citizens or subjects of a foreign state, the Court nonetheless thought the literal language was an insufficient basis for decision. Rather, wrote Justice Bradley for the Court, the Eleventh Amendment was a result of the "shock of surprise throughout the country" at the *Chisholm* decision and reflected the determination that that decision was wrong and that federal jurisdiction did not extend to making defendants of unwilling States.²⁵ The amendment reversed an erroneous decision and restored the proper interpretation of the Constitution. The views of the opponents of subjecting States to suit "were most sensible and just" and those views

¹⁹Wheat. at 858–59, 868. For the flowering of the principle, see *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123 (1908).

²⁰Act of March 3, 1875, ch. 137, §1, 18 Stat. 470. See discussion *supra*, pp. 713–14.

²¹See, e.g., Orth, *The Eleventh Amendment and the North Carolina State Debt*, 59 N.C. L. REV. 747 (1981); Orth, *The Fair Fame and Name of Louisiana: The Eleventh Amendment and the End of Reconstruction*, 2 TUL. LAW. 2 (1980); Orth, *The Virginia State Debt and the Judicial Power of the United States*, in *AMBIVALENT LEGACY: A LEGAL HISTORY OF THE SOUTH* 106 (D. Bodenhamer & J. Ely eds.) (1983).

²²*Ex parte New York* (No. 1), 256 U.S. 490, 497 (1921).

²³E.g., *In re Ayers*, 123 U.S. 443 (1887); *Hagood v. Southern*, 117 U.S. 52 (1886); *The Virginia Coupon Cases*, 114 U.S. 269 (1885); *Cunningham v. Macon & Brunswick R.R. Co.*, 109 U.S. 446 (1883); *Louisiana v. Jumel*, 107 U.S. 711 (1882). In *Antoni v. Greenhow*, 107 U.S. 769, 783 (1883), three concurring Justices propounded the broader reading of the Amendment which soon prevailed.

²⁴134 U.S. 1 (1890).

²⁵*Id.* at 11.

“apply equally to the present case as to that then under discussion. The letter is appealed to now, as it was then, as a ground for sustaining a suit brought by an individual against a State. The reason against it is as strong in this case as it was in that. It is an attempt to strain the Constitution and the law to a construction never imagined or dreamed of.”²⁶ “The truth is, that the cognizance of suits and actions unknown to the law, and forbidden by the law, was not contemplated by the Constitution when establishing the judicial power of the United States. . . . The suability of a State without its consent was a thing unknown to the law.”²⁷ Thus, while the literal terms of the Amendment did not so provide, “the manner in which [*Chisholm*] was received by the country, the adoption of the Eleventh Amendment, the light of history and the reason of the thing,”²⁸ led the Court unanimously to hold that States could not be sued by their own citizens on grounds arising under the Constitution and laws of the United States.

Then, in *Ex parte New York* (No. 1),²⁹ the Court held that, absent consent to suit, a State was immune to suit in admiralty, the Eleventh Amendment’s reference to “any suit in law or equity” notwithstanding. “That a State may not be sued without its consent is a fundamental rule of jurisprudence . . . of which the Amendment is but an exemplification. . . . It is true the Amendment speaks only of suits in law or equity; but this is because . . . the Amendment was the outcome of a purpose to set aside the effect of the decision of this court in *Chisholm v. Georgia* . . . from which it naturally came to pass that the language of the Amendment was particularly phrased so as to reverse the construction adopted in that case.”³⁰ Just as *Hans v. Louisiana* had demonstrated the “impropriety of construing the Amendment” so as to permit federal question suits against a State, so “it seems to us equally clear that it cannot with propriety be construed to leave open a suit against a State in the admiralty jurisdiction by individuals, whether its citizens or not.”³¹

²⁶Id. at 14–15.

²⁷Id. at 15–16.

²⁸Id. at 18–19. The Court acknowledged that Chief Justice Marshall’s opinion in *Cohens v. Virginia*, 19 U.S. (6 Wheat.) 264, 382–83, 406–07, 410–12 (1821), was to the contrary, but observed that the language was unnecessary to the decision and thus dictum, “and though made by one who seldom used words without due reflection, ought not to outweigh the important considerations referred to which lead to a different conclusion.” 134 U.S. at 20. For the continuing vitality of *Hans*, see *infra*, text at nn.55–56.

²⁹256 U.S. 490 (1921).

³⁰Id. at 497–98.

³¹Id. at 498. See also *Florida Dep’t of State v. Treasure Salvors*, 458 U.S. 670 (1982). And see *Welch v. Texas Dep’t of Highways & Pub. Transp.*, 483 U.S. 468 (1987).

And in extending protection against suits brought by foreign governments, the Court made clear the immunity flowed not from the Eleventh Amendment but from concepts of state sovereign immunity generally. “Manifestly, we cannot . . . assume that the letter of the Eleventh Amendment exhausts the restrictions upon suits against nonconsenting States. Behind the words of the constitutional provisions are postulates which limit and control. There is the . . . postulate that States of the Union, still possessing attributes of sovereignty, shall be immune from suits, without their consent, save where there has been ‘a surrender of this immunity in the plan of the convention.’”³²

The Nature of the States’ Immunity

A great deal of the difficulty in interpreting and applying the Eleventh Amendment stems from the fact that the Court has not been clear, or at least has not been consistent, with respect to what the Amendment really does and how it relates to the other parts of the Constitution. One view of the Amendment, set out above in the discussion of *Hans v. Louisiana*, *Ex parte New York*, and *Principality of Monaco*, is that *Chisholm* was erroneously decided and that the Amendment’s effect, its express language notwithstanding, was to restore the “original understanding” that Article III’s grants of federal court jurisdiction did not extend to suits against the States. That view finds present day expression.³³ It explains the decision in *Edelman v. Jordan*,³⁴ in which the Court held that a State could properly raise its Eleventh Amendment defense on appeal after having defended and lost on the merits in the trial court. “[I]t has been well settled . . . that the Eleventh Amendment defense sufficiently partakes of the nature of a jurisdictional bar so

³² *Principality of Monaco v. Mississippi*, 292 U.S. 313, 322–23 (1934) (quoting THE FEDERALIST No. 81). Similarly, the Court has recently held, relying on *Monaco*, the Amendment bars suits by Indian tribes against non-consenting states. *Blatchford v. Native Village of Noatak*, 501 U.S. 775 (1991).

³³ E.g., *Employees of the Dep’t of Public Health and Welfare v. Department of Public Health and Welfare*, 411 U.S. 279, 291–92 (1973) (Justice Marshall concurring); *Nevada v. Hall*, 440 U.S. 410, 420–21 (1979); *Patsy v. Florida Board of Regents*, 457 U.S. 496, 520 (1982) (Justice Powell dissenting).

³⁴ 415 U.S. 651 (1974).

that it need not be raised in the trial court.”³⁵ But that the bar is not wholly jurisdictional seems established as well.³⁶

Moreover, if under Article III there is no jurisdiction of suits against States, the settled principle that States may consent to suit³⁷ becomes conceptually difficult, inasmuch as it is not possible to confer jurisdiction where it is lacking through the consent of the parties.³⁸ And there is jurisdiction under Article III of some suits against States, such as those brought by the United States or by other States.³⁹ And, furthermore, Congress is able in at least some instances to legislate away state immunity,⁴⁰ although it may not enlarge Article III jurisdiction.⁴¹ The Court has recently declared that “the principle of sovereign immunity [reflected in the Eleventh Amendment] is a constitutional limitation on the federal judicial power established in Art. III,” but almost in the same breath has acknowledged that “[a] sovereign’s immunity may be waived.”⁴²

Another explanation of the Eleventh Amendment is that it recognizes the doctrine of sovereign immunity, which was clearly established at the time: a state was not subject to suit without its consent.⁴³ The Court in dealing with questions of governmental immunity from suit has traditionally treated interchangeably precedents dealing with state immunity and those dealing with fed-

³⁵Id. at 678. The Court relied on *Ford Motor Co. v. Department of Treasury*, 323 U.S. 459 (1945), where the issue was whether state officials who had voluntarily appeared in federal court had authority under state law to waive the State’s immunity. *Edelman* has been followed in *Sosna v. Iowa*, 419 U.S. 393, 396 n.2 (1975); *Mt. Healthy City Bd. of Educ. v. Doyle*, 429 U.S. 274, 278 (1977), with respect to the Court’s responsibility to raise the Eleventh Amendment jurisdictional issue on its own motion. *But see infra*, n.36.

³⁶See *Patsy v. Florida Board of Regents*, 457 U.S. 496, 515–16 n.19 (1982), in which the Court bypassed the Eleventh Amendment issue, which had been brought to its attention, because of the interest of the parties in having the question resolved on the merits. *See id.* at 520 (Justice Powell dissenting).

³⁷*Clark v. Barnard*, 108 U.S. 436 (1883).

³⁸E.g., *People’s Band v. Calhoun*, 102 U.S. 256, 260–61 (1880). *See* Justice Powell’s explanation in *Patsy v. Florida Board of Regents*, 457, U.S. 496, 528 n.13 (1982) (dissenting) (no jurisdiction under Article III of suits against *unconsenting* States).

³⁹See, e.g., the Court’s express rejection of the Eleventh Amendment defense in these cases. *United States v. Texas*, 143 U.S. 621 (1892); *South Dakota v. North Carolina*, 192 U.S. 286 (1904).

⁴⁰E.g., *Fitzpatrick v. Bitzer*, 427 U.S. 445 (1976).

⁴¹The principal citation is, of course, *Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. (1 Cr.) 137 (1803).

⁴²*Pennhurst State School & Hosp. v. Halderman*, 465 U.S. 89, 98, 99 (1984).

⁴³As Justice Holmes explained, the doctrine is based “on the logical and practical ground that there can be no legal right as against the authority that makes the law on which the right depends.” *Kawananakoa v. Polyblank*, 205 U.S. 349, 353 (1907). On the sovereign immunity of the United States, *see supra*, pp. 746–48. For the history and jurisprudence, *see Jaffe, Suits Against Governments and Officers: Sovereign Immunity*, 77 HARV. L. REV. 1 (1963).

eral governmental immunity.⁴⁴ Viewing the Amendment and its radiations into Article III in this way provides a consistent explanation of the consent to suit as a waiver.⁴⁵ The limited effect of the doctrine in this context in federal court arises from the fact that traditional sovereign immunity arose in a unitary state, barring unconsented suit against a sovereign in its own courts or the courts of another sovereign. But upon entering the Union the States surrendered their sovereignty to some undetermined and changing degree to the national government, a sovereign that does not have plenary power over them but which is more than their co-equal.⁴⁶

Thus, outside the area of federal court jurisdiction, there is the case of *Nevada v. Hall*,⁴⁷ which perfectly illustrates the difficulty. The case arose when a California resident sued a Nevada state agency in a California court because one of the agency's employees negligently injured him in an automobile accident in California. While recognizing that the rule during the framing of the Constitution was that a State could not be sued without its consent in the courts of another sovereign, the Court discerned no evidence in the federal constitutional structure, in the specific language, or in the intention of the Framers that would impose a general, federal constitutional constraint upon the action of a State in authorizing suit in its own courts against another State. The Court did imply that in some cases a "substantial threat to our constitutional system of cooperative federalism" might arise and occasion a different result, but this was not such a case.⁴⁸

Within the area of federal court jurisdiction, the issue becomes the extent to which the States upon entering the Union gave up their immunity to suit in federal court. *Chisholm* held, and the Eleventh Amendment reversed the holding, that the States had given up their immunity to suit in diversity cases based on common law or state law causes of action; *Hans v. Louisiana* and subsequent cases held that the Amendment in effect codified an understanding of broader immunity to suits based on federal causes of

⁴⁴ See, e.g., *United States v. Lee*, 106 U.S. 196, 210–14 (1882); *Belknap v. Schild*, 161 U.S. 10, 18 (1896); *Hopkins v. Clemson Agricultural College*, 221 U.S. 636, 642–43, 645 (1911).

⁴⁵ A sovereign may consent to suit. E.g., *United States v. Sherwood*, 312 U.S. 584, 586 (1941); *United States v. United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co.*, 309 U.S. 506, 514 (1940).

⁴⁶ See *Fletcher*, supra n.2.

⁴⁷ 440 U.S. 410 (1979).

⁴⁸ *Id.* at 424 n.24. The Court looked to the full faith and credit clause as a possible constitutional limitation. The dissent would have found implicit constitutional assurance of state immunity as an essential component of federalism. *Id.* at 427 (Justice Blackmun), 432 (Justice Rehnquist).

action.⁴⁹ Other cases have held that the States did give up their immunity to suits by the United States or by other States and that subsection to suit continues.⁵⁰ These understandings continue and the major question unresolved is the extent to which Congress under its granted powers may remove state immunity to suit in federal court.⁵¹

Still another view of the Eleventh Amendment is that it embodies a state sovereignty principle limiting the power of the Federal Government.⁵² In this respect, the federal courts may not act without congressional guidance in subjecting States to suit, and Congress, which can act to the extent of its granted powers, is constrained by judicially-created doctrines requiring it to be explicit when it legislates against state immunity.⁵³

Considerable ideological agitation within a closely divided Court has now resulted in parallel rulings that continue the inconsistencies, or, perhaps, the incoherence, of Eleventh Amendment jurisprudence. Thus, it is established, though somewhat tentatively, that Congress may abrogate state immunity under its Article I powers.⁵⁴ At the same time a narrow majority subscribes to the *Hans* view of the meaning of the Amendment, that it is a constitutional bar to federal jurisdiction, across the board, without reference to its specific language.

In the 1980s four Justices, led by Justice Brennan, argued that *Hans* was incorrectly decided, that the Amendment was intended only to deny jurisdiction against the States in diversity cases, and that *Hans* and its progeny should be overruled.⁵⁵ But the remain-

⁴⁹ For a while only Justice Brennan advocated this view, *Parden v. Terminal Ry.*, 377 U.S. 184 (1964); *Employees of the Dep't of Public Health and Welfare v. Department of Public Health and Welfare*, 411 U.S. 279, 298 (1973) (dissenting), but in time he was joined by three others. See, e.g., *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 247 (1985) (Justice Brennan, joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens), and other cases cited in n.55, *infra*.

⁵⁰ E.g., *United States v. Texas*, 143 U.S. 621 (1892); *South Dakota v. North Carolina*, 192 U.S. 286 (1904).

⁵¹ *Infra*, pp. 1533–37.

⁵² E.g., *Fitzpatrick v. Bitzer*, 427 U.S. 445, 456 (1976); *Quern v. Jordan*, 440 U.S. 332, 337 (1979).

⁵³ See *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678 (1978), in which the various opinions differ among themselves on the degree of explicitness required. See also *Quern v. Jordan*, 440 U.S. 332, 343–45 (1979). Later cases stiffened the rule of construction. See n.56 *infra* and, text at nn.79–84. The parallelism of congressional power to regulate and to legislate away immunity is not exact. Thus, in *Employees of the Dep't of Public Health and Welfare v. Department of Public Health and Welfare*, 411 U.S. 279 (1973), the Court strictly construed congressional provision of suits as not reaching States, while in *Maryland v. Wirtz*, 392 U.S. 183 (1968), it had sustained the constitutionality of the substantive law.

⁵⁴ See *infra*, text accompanying n.76.

⁵⁵ E.g., *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 247 (1985) (dissenting); *Welch v. Texas Dep't of Highways & Pub. Transp.*, 483 U.S. 468, 496 (1987) (dis-

ing five Justices adhered to *Hans* and in fact stiffened it with a rule of construction quite severe in its effect.⁵⁶

Suits Against States

Aside from suits against States by the United States and by other States, there are permissible suits by individuals against States upon federal constitutional and statutory grounds and indeed upon grounds expressly covered by the Eleventh Amendment in somewhat fewer circumstances.

Consent to Suit and Waiver.—The immunity of a State from suit is a privilege which it may waive at its pleasure. It may do so by a law specifically consenting to suit in the federal courts.⁵⁷ But the conclusion that there has been consent or a waiver is not lightly inferred; the Court strictly construes statutes alleged to consent to suit. Thus, a State may waive its immunity in its own courts without consenting to suit in federal court,⁵⁸ and a general authorization “to sue and be sued” is ordinarily insufficient to constitute consent.⁵⁹ “The Court will give effect to a State’s waiver of Eleventh Amendment immunity ‘only where stated by the most express language or by such overwhelming implication from the text as [will] leave no room for any other reasonable construction.’ . . . A State does not waive its Eleventh Amendment immunity by consenting to suit only in its own courts . . . and ‘[t]hus, in order for a state statute or constitutional provision to constitute a waiver of Eleventh Amendment immunity, it must specify the State’s inten-

senting); *Dellmuth v. Muth*, 491 U.S. 223, 233 (1989) (dissenting); *Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corp. v. Feeney*, 495 U.S. 299, 309 (1990) (concurring). Joining Justice Brennan were Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens. See also *Pennsylvania v. Union Gas Co.*, 491 U.S. 1, 23 (1989) (Justice Stevens concurring).

⁵⁶E.g., *Pennhurst State School & Hosp. v. Halderman*, 465 U.S. 89, 97–103 (1984) (opinion of the Court by Justice Powell); *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 237–40, 243–44 n. 3 (1985) (opinion of the Court by Justice Powell); *Welch v. Texas Dep’t of Highways & Pub. Transp.*, 483 U.S. 468, 472–74, 478–95 (1987) (plurality opinion of Justice Powell); *Pennsylvania v. Union Gas Co.*, 491 U.S. 1, 29 (1989) (Justice Scalia concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Dellmuth v. Muth*, 491 U.S. 223, 227–32 (1989) (opinion of the Court by Justice Kennedy); *Hoffman v. Connecticut Dep’t of Income Maintenance*, 492 U.S. 96, 101 (1989) (plurality opinion of Justice White); *id.* at 2824 (concurring opinions of Justices O’Connor and Scalia); *Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corp. v. Feeney*, 495 U.S. 299, 305 (1990) (opinion of the Court by Justice O’Connor).

⁵⁷*Gunter v. Atlantic Coast Line R.R.*, 200 U.S. 273, 284 (1906).

⁵⁸*Smith v. Reeves*, 178 U.S. 436 (1900); *Murray v. Wilson Distilling Co.*, 213 U.S. 151, 172 (1909); *Graves v. Texas Co.*, 298 U.S. 393, 403–04 (1936); *Great Northern Life Ins. Co. v. Read*, 322 U.S. 47 (1944).

⁵⁹*Great Northern Life Ins. Co. v. Read*, 322 U.S. 47, 54 (1944); *Ford Motor Co. v. Department of Treasury*, 323 U.S. 459 (1945); *Kennecott Copper Corp. v. State Tax Comm’n*, 327 U.S. 573 (1947); *Petty v. Tennessee-Missouri Bridge Comm’n*, 359 U.S. 275 (1959); *Florida Dep’t of Health v. Florida Nursing Home Ass’n*, 450 U.S. 147 (1981). Compare *Patsy v. Florida Bd. of Regents*, 457 U.S. 496, 519 n.* (1982) (Justice White concurring), *with id.* at 522 and n.5 (Justice Powell dissenting).

tion to subject itself to suit in *federal court*.”⁶⁰ In this case, an expansive consent “to suits, actions, or proceedings of any form or nature at law, in equity or otherwise . . .” was deemed too “ambiguous and general” to waive immunity in federal court, since it might be interpreted to “reflect only a State’s consent to suit in its own courts. But when combined with language specifying that consent was conditioned on venue being laid “within a county or judicial district, established by one of said States or by the United States, and situated wholly or partially within the Port of New York District,” waiver was effective.⁶¹ While the Court in a few cases has found a waiver by implication, the current vitality of these cases is questionable. Thus, in *Parden v. Terminal Railway*,⁶² the Court ruled that employees of a state-owned railroad could sue the State for damages under the Federal Employers’ Liability Act. One of the two primary grounds for finding lack of immunity was that by taking control of a railroad which was subject to the FELA, that had been enacted some 20 years previously, the State had effectively accepted the imposition of the Act and consented to suit.⁶³ Distinguishing *Parden* as involving a proprietary activity, the Court subsequently refused to find any implied consent to suit by States participating in federal spending programs; participation was insufficient, and only when waiver has been “stated by the most express language or by such overwhelming implications from the text as [will] leave no room for any other reasonable construction,” will it be found.⁶⁴ This aspect of *Parden* has now been overruled, a plurality of the Court emphasizing that congressional abrogation of immunity must be express and unmistakable.⁶⁵

⁶⁰Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corp. v. Feeney, 495 U.S. 299, 305–06 (1990) (internal citations omitted; emphasis in original).

⁶¹Id. at 306–07. See, on the other hand, *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 241 (1985).

⁶²377 U.S. 184 (1964). The alternative but interwoven ground had to do with Congress’ power to withdraw immunity. See also *Petty v. Tennessee-Missouri Bridge Comm’n*, 359 U.S. 275 (1959).

⁶³*Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651, 671–72 (1974). For the same distinction in the Tenth Amendment context, see *National League of Cities v. Usery*, 426 U.S. 833, 854 n.18 (1976).

⁶⁴*Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651 (1974) (quoting *id.* at 673, *Murray v. Wilson Distilling Co.*, 213 U.S. 151, 171 (1909)); *Florida Dep’t of Health v. Florida Nursing Home Ass’n*, 450 U.S. 147 (1981). Of the four *Edelman* dissenters, Justices Marshall and Blackmun found waiver through knowing participation, *id.* at 415 U.S., 688. In *Florida Dep’t*, Justice Stevens noted he would have agreed with them had he been on the Court at the time but that he would now adhere to *Edelman*. *Id.* at 151.

⁶⁵*Welch v. Texas Dep’t of Highways and Pub. Transp.*, 483 U.S. 468 (1987). Justice Powell’s plurality opinion was joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and by Justices White and O’Connor. Justice Scalia, concurring, thought *Parden* should be overruled because it must be assumed that Congress enacted the FELA and other statutes with the understanding that *Hans v. Louisiana* shielded states from immunity. *Id.* at 495.

Similarly, the State may waive its immunity by initiating or participating in litigation. In *Clark v. Barnard*,⁶⁶ the State had filed a claim for disputed money deposited in a federal court, and the Court held that the State could not thereafter complain when the court awarded the money to another claimant. However, the Court is loath to find a waiver simply because of the decision of an official or an attorney representing the State, because of the question of the ability of the individual to act under state law to make a valid waiver, with the result that the State may at any point in litigation raise a claim of immunity.⁶⁷

With respect to governmental entities that derive their authority from the State, but are not the State, the Court closely examines state law to determine what the nature of the entity is, whether it is an arm of the State or whether it is to be treated like a municipal corporation or other political subdivision. An arm of the State has immunity: “agencies exercising state power have been permitted to invoke the Amendment in order to protect the state treasury from liability that would have had essentially the same practical consequences as a judgment against the State itself.”⁶⁸ Municipal corporations, though they partake under state law of the State’s immunity, do not have immunity in federal court and the States may not confer it.⁶⁹ Entities created through interstate compacts (subject to congressional approval) generally also are subject to suit.⁷⁰

Congressional Withdrawal of Immunity.—The Constitution delegates to Congress power to legislate to affect the States in some permissible ways. At least in some instances when Congress does so, it may subject the States themselves to suit at the initiation of individuals to implement the legislation. The clearest example arises from the Reconstruction Amendments, which are direct restrictions upon state powers and which expressly provide for

⁶⁶ 108 U.S. 436 (1883).

⁶⁷ *Ford Motor Co. v. Department of Treasury*, 323 U.S. 459, 466–467 (1945); *Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651, 677–678 (1974).

⁶⁸ *Lake County Estates v. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency*, 440 U.S. 391, 400–01 (1979), citing *Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651 (1974); and *Ford Motor Co. v. Department of Treasury*, 323 U.S. 459 (1945).

⁶⁹ *Lincoln County v. Luning*, 133 U.S. 529 (1890); *Chicot County v. Sherwood*, 148 U.S. 529 (1893); *Workman v. City of New York*, 179 U.S. 552 (1900); *Moor v. County of Alameda*, 411 U.S. 693 (1973); *Mt. Healthy City Bd. of Educ. v. Doyle*, 429 U.S. 274 (1977). Notice that in *National League of Cities v. Usery*, 426 U.S. 833 (1976), the Court extended the state immunity from regulation in that case to political subdivisions as well.

⁷⁰ *Lake County Estates v. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency*, 440 U.S. 391 (1979); *Petty v. Tennessee-Missouri Bridge Comm’n*, 359 U.S. 275 (1959).

congressional implementing legislation.⁷¹ Thus, “the Eleventh Amendment and the principle of state sovereignty which it embodies . . . are necessarily limited, by the enforcement provisions of § 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment.”⁷² Dwelling on the fact that the Fourteenth Amendment was ratified after the Eleventh became part of the Constitution, the Court implied that earlier grants of legislative power to Congress in the body of the Constitution might not contain a similar power to authorize suits against the States.⁷³ The power to enforce the Civil War Amendments is substantive, however, not being limited to remedying judicially cognizable violations of the amendments, but extending as well to measures that in Congress’ judgment will promote compliance.⁷⁴ The principal judicial brake on this power to abrogate state immunity has been application of a clear statement rule requiring that congressional intent to subject States to suit must be clearly expressed.⁷⁵

⁷¹ *Fitzpatrick v. Bitzer*, 427 U.S. 445 (1976); *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678 (1978); *City of Rome v. United States*, 446 U.S. 156 (1980). More recent cases affirming Congress’ § 5 powers include: *Pennhurst State School & Hosp. v. Halderman*, 465 U.S. 89, 99 (1984); *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 238 (1985); *Dellmuth v. Muth*, 491 U.S. 223, 227 (1989).

⁷² *Fitzpatrick v. Bitzer*, 427 U.S. 445, 456 (1976).

⁷³ *Id.* at 456 (under Fourteenth Amendment, Congress may “provide for private suits against States or state officials which are constitutionally impermissible in other contexts.”)

⁷⁴ In *Maier v. Gagne*, 448 U.S. 122 (1980), the Court found that Congress could validly authorize imposition of attorneys’ fees on the State following settlement of a suit based on both constitutional and statutory grounds, even though settlement had prevented determination that there had been a constitutional violation. *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980), held that § 1983 suits could be premised on federal statutory as well as constitutional grounds. Other cases in which attorneys’ fees were awarded against States are *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678 (1978); and *New York Gaslight Club v. Carey*, 447 U.S. 54 (1980).

⁷⁵ Even prior to the recent tightening of the rule to require clear expression in the statutory language itself (see n.79 and accompanying text, *infra*), application of the rule curbed congressional enforcement. *Fitzpatrick v. Bitzer*, 427 U.S. 445 451–53 (1976); *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678, 693–98 (1978). Because of its rule of clear statement, the Court in *Quern v. Jordan*, 440 U.S. 332 (1979), held that in enacting 42 U.S.C. § 1983, Congress had not intended to include States within the term “person” for the purpose of subjecting them to suit. The question arose after *Monell v. New York City Dep’t of Social Services*, 436 U.S. 658 (1978), reinterpreted “person” to include municipal corporations. *Cf. Alabama v. Pugh*, 438 U.S. 781 (1978). The Court has reserved the question whether the Fourteenth Amendment itself, without congressional action, modifies the Eleventh Amendment to permit suits against States, *Milliken v. Bradley*, 433 U.S. 267, 290 n.23 (1977), but the result in *Milliken*, holding that the Governor could be enjoined to pay half the cost of providing compensatory education for certain schools, which would come from the state treasury, and in *Scheuer v. Rhodes*, 416 U.S. 232 (1974), permitting imposition of damages upon the governor, which would come from the state treasury, is suggestive. *But see Mauclet v. Nyquist*, 406 F. Supp. 1233 (W.D.N.Y. 1976) (refusing money damages under the Fourteenth Amendment), appeal dismissed sub nom. *Rabinovitch v. Nyquist*, 433 U.S. 901 (1977). The Court declined in *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123, 150 (1908), to view the Eleventh Amendment as modified by the Fourteenth.

In the 1989 case of *Pennsylvania v. Union Gas Co.*,⁷⁶ the Court—temporarily at least—ended years of uncertainty by holding expressly that Congress acting pursuant to its Article I powers may abrogate the Eleventh Amendment immunity of the states, so long as it does so with sufficient clarity. Twenty five years earlier the Court had stated that same principle,⁷⁷ but only as an alternative holding, and a later case had set forth a more restrictive rule.⁷⁸ The premises of *Union Gas* were that by consenting to ratification of the Constitution, with its Commerce Clause and other clauses empowering Congress and limiting the states, the states had implicitly authorized Congress to divest them of immunity, that the Eleventh Amendment was a restraint upon the courts and not similarly upon Congress, and that the exercises of Congress' powers under the Commerce Clause and other clauses would be incomplete without the ability to authorize damage actions against the states to enforce congressional enactments. The dissenters denied each of these strands of the argument, and, while recognizing the Fourteenth Amendment abrogation power, would have held that none existed under Article I. The narrowness of the majority, the conflicted views of one of the Justices in the majority, and now changed membership of the Court make uncertain the continuing vitality of the decision.

At the same time as these developments, however, a different majority secured a victory in circumscribing the manner in which Congress could express its decision to abrogate state immunity. Henceforth, and even with respect to statutes that were enacted prior to promulgation of the judicial rule of construction, "Congress may abrogate the States' constitutionally secured immunity from suit in federal court only by making its intention unmistakably clear *in the language of the statute*" itself.⁷⁹ No legislative history

⁷⁶ 491 U.S. 1 (1989). The plurality opinion of the Court was by Justice Brennan and was joined by the three other Justices who believed *Hans* was incorrectly decided. See *id.* at 23 (Justice Stevens concurring). The fifth vote was provided by Justice White, *id.* at 45, 55–56 (Justice White concurring), although he believed *Hans* was correctly decided and ought to be maintained and although he did not believe Congress had acted with sufficient clarity in the statutes before the Court to abrogate immunity. Justice Scalia thought the statutes were express enough but that Congress simply lacked the power. *Id.* at 29. Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justices O'Connor and Kennedy joined relevant portions of both opinions finding lack of power and lack of clarity.

⁷⁷ *Parden v. Terminal Railway*, 377 U.S. 184, 190–92 (1964). See also *Employees of the Dep't of Public Health and Welfare v. Department of Public Health and Welfare*, 411 U.S. 279, 283, 284, 285–86 (1973).

⁷⁸ *Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651, 672 (1974).

⁷⁹ *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 242 (1985) (emphasis supplied).

will suffice at all.⁸⁰ Indeed, a plurality is of the apparent view that only if Congress refers specifically to state sovereign immunity and the Eleventh Amendment will its language be unmistakably clear.⁸¹ Thus, general language subjecting to suit in federal court “any recipient of Federal assistance” under the Rehabilitation Act was deemed insufficient to satisfy this test, not because of any question about whether States are “recipients” within the meaning of the provision but because “given their constitutional role, the States are not like any other class of recipients of federal aid.”⁸² The Court also construes adversely language Congress chose to reach the issue of state immunity while refusing to look at the legislative history which elaborates that language.⁸³ The result is that Congress has begun to utilize the “magic words” the Court appears to insist on.⁸⁴

It should be noted that, even if the Court reverses itself and holds that Congress lacks power to abrogate state immunity in federal courts under its commerce and other Article I powers, Congress is not barred by the Eleventh Amendment, nor apparently by any other constitutional provision, from providing authority for suits in *state* courts to implement federal statutory rights, thus doing away for those purposes with common law sovereign immunity of the states.⁸⁵

⁸⁰ See, particularly, *Dellmuth v. Muth*, 491 U.S. 223, 230 (1989), and *Hoffman v. Connecticut Dep't of Income Maintenance*, 492 U.S. 96, 103–04 (1989).

⁸¹ Justice Scalia does not hold to this view. *Dellmuth v. Muth*, 491 U.S. 223, 233 (1989) (concurring). *And see* his statutory analysis in *Pennsylvania v. Union Gas Co.*, 491 U.S. 1, 29 (1989) (concurring in part and dissenting in part). Justice White, for the plurality, denied this rigidity, *id.* at 56 n.7 (concurring); Justice Kennedy for the Court in *Dellmuth*, *supra*, at 231, expressly noted that the statute before the Court did not demonstrate abrogation with unmistakably clarity because, *inter alia*, it “makes no reference whatsoever to either the Eleventh Amendment or the States’ sovereign immunity.”

⁸² *Atascadero State Hosp. v. Scanlon*, 473 U.S. 234, 246 (1985). *And see Dellmuth v. Muth*, 491 U.S. 223 (1989).

⁸³ *Hoffman v. Connecticut Dep't of Income Maintenance*, 492 U.S. 96, 103–04 (1989).

⁸⁴ Thus, following *Atascadero*, in 1986 Congress provided that States were not to be immune under the Eleventh Amendment from suits under several laws barring discrimination by recipients of federal financial assistance. Pub. L. No. 99–506, §1003, 100 Stat. 1845 (1986), 42 U.S.C. §2000d–7. Following *Dellmuth*, which involved a fact situation occurring prior to the 1986 amendments, Congress overruled it anyway. Pub. L. No. 101–476, §103, 104 Stat. 1106 (1990), 20 U.S.C. §1403. *See also* the Copyright Remedy Clarification Act, Pub. L. No. 101–553, §2, 104 Stat. 2749 (1990), 17 U.S.C. §511 (making States and state officials liable in damages for copyright violations).

⁸⁵ The point was noted and reserved in *Employees of the Dep't of Public Health and Welfare v. Department of Public Health and Welfare*, 411 U.S. 279, 287 (1973), while Justice Marshall argued that this was plainly the case. *Id.* at 298 (concurring). Suits under §1983, for example, may be brought in state courts, *Maine v. Thiboutot*, 448 U.S. 1 (1980), and state immunities are inapplicable. *Id.* at 9 n.7; *Maher v. Gagne*, 448 U.S. 122, 130 n.12 (1980). Inasmuch as state courts are ordi-

Although acknowledging that the Eleventh Amendment was not an issue because the §1983 suit had been pursued in state court, nonetheless the Court applied its strict rule of construction, requiring “unmistakable clarity” by Congress in order to subject States to suit, in holding that States and state officials sued in their official capacity could not be made defendants in §1983 actions in state courts.⁸⁶ While the Court is willing to recognize exceptions to the clear statement rule when the issue involves subjection of states to suit in state courts, the Court will normally opt for “symmetry” that treats the states’ liability or immunity the same in both state and federal courts.⁸⁷

Suits Against State Officials

Mitigation of the wrongs possible when the State is immune from suit has been achieved under the doctrine that sovereign immunity, either of the States or of the Federal Government, does not ordinarily prevent a suit against an official to restrain him from commission of a wrong, even though the government is thereby restrained.⁸⁸ The doctrine is built upon a double fiction: that for purposes of the sovereign’s immunity, a suit against the official is not a suit against the government, but for the purpose of finding state action to which the Constitution applies, the official’s conduct is that of the State.⁸⁹ The doctrine preceded but is most noteworthy associated with the decision in *Ex parte Young*,⁹⁰ a case truly deserving the overworked adjective, seminal.

Young arose when a state legislature passed a law reducing railroad rates and providing severe penalties for any railroad that failed to comply with the law. Plaintiff railroad stockholders brought an action to enjoin Young, the state attorney general, from enforcing the law, alleging that it was unconstitutional and that they would suffer irreparable harm if he were not prevented from acting. An injunction was granted forbidding Young from acting on the law, an injunction he violated by bringing an action in state

narily obligated to enforce federal law, *cf. Testa v. Katt*, 330 U.S. 386 (1960), state courts are presumably required to hear §1983 and other claims, but the Court has expressly reserved the issue. *Martinez v. California*, 444 U.S. 277, 283 n.7 (1980).

⁸⁶ *Will v. Michigan Dep’t of State Police*, 491 U.S. 58 (1989).

⁸⁷ *Hilton v. South Carolina Pub. Rys. Comm’n*, 112 S. Ct. 560, 564–66 (1991) (interest in “symmetry” is outweighed by stare decisis, the FELA action being controlled by *Parden v. Terminal Ry.*

⁸⁸ *See, e.g., Larson v. Domestic and Foreign Corp.*, 337 U.S. 682 (1949), where the majority and dissenting opinions utilize both federal and Eleventh Amendment cases in a suit against a federal official. *See also Tindal v. Wesley*, 167 U.S. 204, 213 (1897), applying to the States the federal rule of *United States v. Lee*, 106 U.S. 196 (1882).

⁸⁹ C. WRIGHT, *THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS* §48 (4th ed. 1983).

⁹⁰ 209 U.S. 123 (1908).

court against noncomplying railroads; for this action he was adjudged in contempt. If the Supreme Court had held that the injunction was not impermissible, because the suit was one against the State, there would have been no practicable way for the railroads to attack the statute without placing themselves in great danger. They could have disobeyed it and alleged its unconstitutionality in the enforcement proceedings, but if they were wrong about the statute's validity the penalties would have been devastating.⁹¹ In the modern context, the effectuation of federal constitutional rights against state action often depends upon the imposition of affirmative obligations through injunctions, and this relief would be impossible if such an injunction were in effect a suit against a State.

In deciding *Young*, the Court was confronted with inconsistent lines of cases, including numerous precedents for permitting suits against state officers. Chief Justice Marshall had begun the process in *Osborn* by holding that suit was barred only when the State was formally named a party,⁹² although he was presently required to modify that decision and preclude suit when an official, the governor of a State, was sued in his official capacity.⁹³ Relying on *Osborn* and reading *Madrazo* narrowly, the Court, seeming to treat the barrier to suit as common-law sovereign immunity, held in a series of cases that an official of a State could be sued to prevent him from executing a state law in conflict with the Constitution or a law of the United States, and the fact that the officer may be acting on behalf of the State or in response to a statutory obligation of the State does not make the suit one against the State.⁹⁴ Soon, however, the Court began developing a more expansive concept of the Eleventh Amendment and sovereign immunity, beginning with the first case in which the sovereign immunity of the United States was claimed and rejected⁹⁵ and the *Hans v. Louisiana* decision reading broadly the effect of the adoption of the Eleventh Amendment.⁹⁶

⁹¹ In fact, the statute was eventually held to be constitutional. *Minnesota Rate Cases* (*Simpson v. Shepard*), 230 U.S. 352 (1913).

⁹² *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*, 22 U.S. (9 Wheat.) 738 (1824).

⁹³ *Governor of Georgia v. Madrazo*, 26 U.S. (1 Pet.) 110 (1828).

⁹⁴ *Davis v. Gray*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 203 (1872); *Board of Liquidation v. McComb*, 92 U.S. 531 (1875); *Allen v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 114 U.S. 311 (1885); *Rolston v. Missouri Fund Comm'rs*, 120 U.S. 390 (1887); *Pennoyer v. McConnaughy*, 140 U.S. 1 (1891); *Reagan v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.*, 154 U.S. 362 (1894); *Smyth v. Ames*, 169 U.S. 466 (1898); *Scranton v. Wheeler*, 179 U.S. 141 (1900).

⁹⁵ *United States v. Lee*, 106 U.S. 196 (1882). See *supra*, pp. 748–51. The Court sustained the suit against the federal officers by only a 5-to-4 vote, the dissent presenting the arguments that were soon to inform Eleventh Amendment cases.

⁹⁶ 134 U.S. 1 (1890).

The two leading cases, as were many cases of this period, were suits attempting to prevent Southern States from defaulting on bonds.⁹⁷ In *Louisiana v. Jumel*,⁹⁸ a Louisiana citizen sought to compel the state treasurer to apply a sinking fund that had been created under the earlier constitution for the payment of the bonds after a subsequent constitution had abolished this provision for retiring the bonds. The proceeding was held to be a suit against the State.⁹⁹ Then, *In re Ayers*¹⁰⁰ purported to supply a rationale for the cases permitting the issuance of mandamus or injunctive relief against state officers in a way that would have severely curtailed federal judicial power. Suit against a state officer was not barred when his action, aside from any official authority claimed as its justification, was a wrong simply as an individual act, such as a trespass, but if the act of the officer did not constitute an individual wrong and was something that only a State, through its officers, could do, the suit was in actuality a suit against the State and was barred.¹⁰¹ That is, the unconstitutional nature of the state statute under which the officer acted stripped him of the State's shield against suit, but it did not itself constitute a private cause of action. For that, one must be able to point to an independent violation of a common law right.¹⁰²

⁹⁷ See Gibbons, *The Eleventh Amendment and State Sovereign Immunity: A Reinterpretation*, 83 COLUM. L. REV. 1889, 1968–2003 (1983); Orth, *The Interpretation of the Eleventh Amendment, 1798–1908: A Case Study of Judicial Power*, 1983 U. ILL. L. REV. 423.

⁹⁸ 107 U.S. 711 (1882).

⁹⁹ “The relief asked will require the officers against whom the process is issued to act contrary to the positive orders of the supreme political power of the State, whose creatures they are, and to which they are ultimately responsible in law for what they do. They must use the public money in the treasury and under their official control in one way, when the supreme power has directed them to use it in another, and they must raise more money by taxation when the same power has declared that it shall not be done.” *Id.* at 721. See also *Christian v. Atlantic & N.C. R.R.*, 133 U.S. 233 (1890).

¹⁰⁰ 123 U.S. 443 (1887).

¹⁰¹ *Id.* at 500–01, 502.

¹⁰² *Ayers* was a suit by plaintiffs seeking to enjoin state officials from bringing suit under an allegedly unconstitutional statute purporting to overturn a contract between the State and the bondholders to receive the bond coupons for tax payments. The Court asserted that the State's contracts impliedly contained the State's immunity from suit, so that express withdrawal of a supposed consent to be sued was not a violation of the contract; but, in any event, inasmuch as any violation of the assumed contract was an act of the State, to which the officials were not parties, their actions as individuals in bringing suit did not breach the contract. *Id.* at 503, 505–06. The rationale had been asserted by a four-Justice concurrence in *Antoni v. Greenhow*, 107 U.S. 769, 783 (1882). See also *Cunningham v. Macon & Brunswick R.R.*, 109 U.S. 446 (1883); *Hagood v. Southern*, 117 U.S. 52 (1886); *North Carolina v. Temple*, 134 U.S. 22 (1890); *In re Tyler*, 149 U.S. 164 (1893); *Baltzer v. North Carolina*, 161 U.S. 240 (1896); *Fitts v. McGhee*, 172 U.S. 516 (1899); *Smith v. Reeves*, 178 U.S. 436 (1900).

Although *Ayers* was in all relevant points on all fours with *Young*,¹⁰³ the Court held that the injunction had properly issued against the state attorney general, even though the State was in effect restrained as well. “The act to be enforced is alleged to be unconstitutional, and, if it be so, the use of the name of the state to enforce an unconstitutional act to the injury of the complainants is a proceeding without the authority of, and one which does not affect, the state in its sovereign or governmental capacity. It is simply an illegal act upon the part of a state official, in attempting by the use of the name of the state to enforce a legislative enactment which is void, because unconstitutional. If the act which the state Attorney General seeks to enforce be a violation of the federal Constitution, the officer in proceeding under such enactment comes into conflict with the superior authority of that Constitution, and he is in that case stripped of his official or representative character and is subject in his person to the consequences of his individual conduct.”¹⁰⁴ Justice Harlan was the only dissenter, arguing that in law and fact the suit was one only against the State and that the suit against the individual was a mere “fiction.”¹⁰⁵

The “fiction” remains a mainstay of our jurisprudence.¹⁰⁶ It accounts for a great deal of the litigation brought by individuals to challenge the carrying out of state policies by officers. Thus, suits against state officers alleging that they are acting pursuant to an unconstitutional statute are the standard device by which to test the validity of state legislation in federal courts prior to enforce-

¹⁰³ *Ayers* “would seem to be decisive of the *Young* litigation.” C. WRIGHT, THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS §48 at 288 (4th ed. 1983). The *Young* Court purported to distinguish and to preserve *Ayers* but on grounds that either were irrelevant to *Ayers* or that had been rejected in the earlier case. *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123, 151, 167 (1908). Similarly, in a later case, the Court continued to distinguish *Ayers* but on grounds that did not in fact distinguish it from the case before the Court, in which it permitted a suit against a state revenue commissioner to enjoin him from collecting allegedly unconstitutional taxes. *Georgia R.R. & Banking Co. v. Redwine*, 342 U.S. 299 (1952).

¹⁰⁴ *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123, 159–60 (1908). The opinion did not address the issue of how an officer “stripped of his official . . . character” could violate the Constitution, inasmuch as the Constitution restricts only “state action,” but the double fiction has been expounded numerous times since. Thus, for example, it is well settled that an action unauthorized by state law is state action for purposes of the Fourteenth Amendment. *Home Tel. & Tel. Co. v. City of Los Angeles*, 227 U.S. 278 (1913). The contrary premise of *Barney v. City of New York*, 193 U.S. 430 (1904), though eviscerated by *Home Tel. & Tel.* was not expressly disavowed until *United States v. Raines*, 362 U.S. 17, 25–26 (1960).

¹⁰⁵ *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123, 173–74 (1908).

¹⁰⁶ E.g., *Ray v. Atlantic Richfield Co.*, 435 U.S. 151, 156 n.6 (1978) (rejecting request of state officials being sued to restrain enforcement of state statute as preempted by federal law that *Young* be overruled); *Florida Dep’t of State v. Treasure Salvors*, 458 U.S. 670, 685 (1982).

ment and thus interpretation in the state courts.¹⁰⁷ Similarly, suits to restrain state officials from taking certain actions in contravention of federal statutes¹⁰⁸ or to compel the undertaking of affirmative obligations imposed by the Constitution or federal laws¹⁰⁹ are common. For years, moreover, the accepted rule was that suits prosecuted against state officers in federal courts upon grounds that they are acting in excess of state statutory authority¹¹⁰ or that they are not doing something required by state law¹¹¹ are not precluded by the Eleventh Amendment or its emanations of sovereign immunity, provided only that there are grounds to obtain federal jurisdiction.¹¹² However, in *Pennhurst State School & Hosp. v. Halderman*,¹¹³ the Court, five-to-four, held

¹⁰⁷ See, e.g., *Home Tel. & Tel. Co. v. City of Los Angeles*, 227 U.S. 278 (1913); *Truax v. Raich*, 239 U.S. 33 (1915); *Cavanaugh v. Looney*, 248 U.S. 453 (1919); *Terrace v. Thompson*, 263 U.S. 197 (1923); *Hygrade Provision Co. v. Sherman*, 266 U.S. 497 (1925); *Massachusetts State Grange v. Benton*, 272 U.S. 525 (1926); *Hawks v. Hamill*, 288 U.S. 52 (1933). See also *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365 (1971) (enjoining state welfare officials from denying welfare benefits to otherwise qualified recipients because they were aliens); *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254 (1970) (enjoining city welfare officials from following state procedures for termination of benefits); *Milliken v. Bradley*, 433 U.S. 267 (1977) (imposing half the costs of mandated compensatory education programs upon State through order directed to governor and other officials). On injunctions against governors, see *Continental Baking Co. v. Woodring*, 286 U.S. 352 (1932); *Sterling v. Constantin*, 287 U.S. 378 (1932). Applicable to suits under this doctrine are principles of judicial restraint, constitutional, statutory, and prudential, discussed under Article III.

¹⁰⁸ E.g., *Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651, 664–68 (1974); *Ray v. Atlantic Richfield Co.*, 435 U.S. 151 (1978).

¹⁰⁹ E.g., *Milliken v. Bradley*, 433 U.S. 267 (1977); *Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651, 664–68 (1974); *Quern v. Jordan*, 440 U.S. 332, 346–49 (1979).

¹¹⁰ E.g., *Pennoyer v. McConnaughy*, 140 U.S. 1 (1891); *Scully v. Bird*, 209 U.S. 481 (1908); *Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. v. O'Connor*, 223 U.S. 280 (1912); *Greene v. Louisville & Interurban R.R. Co.*, 244 U.S. 499 (1977); *Louisville & Nashville R.R. Co. v. Greene*, 244 U.S. 522 (1917). Property held by state officials on behalf of the State under claimed state authority may be recovered in suits against the officials, although the court may not conclusively resolve the State's claims against it in such a suit. *South Carolina v. Wesley*, 155 U.S. 542 (1895); *Tindal v. Wesley*, 167 U.S. 204 (1897); *Hopkins v. Clemson College*, 221 U.S. 636 (1911). See also *Florida Dep't of State v. Treasure Salvors*, 458 U.S. 670 (1982), in which the eight Justices agreeing the Eleventh Amendment applied divided 4-to-4 over the proper interpretation.

¹¹¹ E.g., *Rolston v. Missouri Fund Comm'rs*, 120 U.S. 390 (1887); *Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. v. O'Connor*, 223 U.S. 280 (1912); *Johnson v. Lankford*, 245 U.S. 541, 545 (1918); *Lankford v. Platte Iron Works Co.*, 235 U.S. 461, 471 (1915); *Davis v. Wallace*, 257 U.S. 478, 482–85 (1922); *Glenn v. Field Packing Co.*, 290 U.S. 177, 178 (1933); *Lee v. Bickell*, 292 U.S. 415, 425 (1934).

¹¹² Typically, the plaintiff would be in federal court under diversity jurisdiction, cf. *Martin v. Lankford*, 245 U.S. 547, 551 (1918), perhaps under admiralty jurisdiction, *Florida Dep't of State v. Treasure Salvors*, 458 U.S. 670 (1982), or under federal question jurisdiction. In the last instance, federal courts are obligated first to consider whether the issues presented may be decided on state law grounds before reaching federal constitutional grounds, and thus relief may be afforded on state law grounds solely. Cf. *Siler v. Louisville & Nashville R.R.*, 213 U.S. 175, 193 (1909); *Hagans v. Lavine*, 415 U.S. 528, 546–47 & n.12 (1974).

¹¹³ 465 U.S. 89 (1984).

that *Young* did not permit suits in federal courts against state officers alleging violations of *state* law. In the Court's view, *Young's* rationale was the necessity to promote the supremacy of federal law, a basis that disappears if the violation alleged is of state law.

The Court still adheres to the doctrine, first pronounced in *Madrazo*,¹¹⁴ that some suits against officers are "really" against the State¹¹⁵ and are barred by the State's immunity, such as when the suit involves state property or asks for relief which clearly calls for the exercise of official authority, such as paying money out of the treasury to remedy past harms. For example, a suit to prevent tax officials from collecting death taxes arising from the competing claims of two States as being the last domicile of the decedent floundered upon the conclusion that there could be no credible claim of violation of the Constitution or federal law; state law imposed the obligation upon the officials and "in reality" the action was against the State.¹¹⁶ Suits against state officials to recover taxes have been made increasingly difficult to maintain. Although the Court long ago held that the sovereign immunity of the State prevented a suit to recover money in the state treasury,¹¹⁷ it also held that a suit would lie against a revenue officer to recover tax moneys illegally collected and still in his possession.¹¹⁸ Beginning, however, with *Great Northern Life Ins. Co. v. Read*,¹¹⁹ the Court has held that this kind of suit cannot be maintained unless the State expressly consents to suits in the federal courts. In this case, the state statute provided for the payment of taxes under protest and for suits afterward against state tax collection officials for the recovery of taxes illegally collected, which revenues were required to be kept segregated.¹²⁰

¹¹⁴ *Governor of Georgia v. Madrazo*, 26 U.S. (1 Pet.) 110 (1828).

¹¹⁵ E.g., *Ford Motor Co. v. Department of the Treasury*, 323 U.S. 459, 464 (1945).

¹¹⁶ *Worcester County Co. v. Riley*, 302 U.S. 292 (1937). See also *Old Colony Trust Co. v. Seattle*, 271 U.S. 426 (1926). *Worcester County* remains viable. *Cory v. White*, 457 U.S. 85 (1982). The actions were under the Federal Interpleader Act, 49 Stat. 1096 (1936), 28 U.S.C. §1335, under which other actions against officials have been allowed. E.g., *Treines v. Sunshine Mining Co.*, 308 U.S. 66 (1939) (joinder of state court judge and receiver in interpleader proceeding in which State had no interest and neither judge nor receiver was enjoined by final decree). See also *Missouri v. Fiske*, 290 U.S. 18 (1933).

¹¹⁷ *Smith v. Reeves*, 178 U.S. 436 (1900).

¹¹⁸ *Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. v. O'Connor*, 223 U.S. 280 (1912).

¹¹⁹ 322 U.S. 47 (1944).

¹²⁰ See also *Ford Motor Co. v. Department of Treasury*, 323 U.S. 459 (1945); *Kennecott Copper Corp. v. Tax Comm'n*, 327 U.S. 573 (1946). States may confine to their own courts suits to recover taxes. *Smith v. Reeves*, 178 U.S. 436 (1900); *Murray v. Wilson Distilling Co.*, 213 U.S. 151 (1909); *Chandler v. Dix*, 194 U.S. 590 (1904).

In *Edelman v. Jordan*,¹²¹ the Court appeared to begin to lay down new restrictive interpretations of what the Eleventh Amendment proscribed. The Court announced that a suit “seeking to impose a liability which must be paid from public funds in the state treasury is barred by the Eleventh Amendment.”¹²² What the Court actually held, however, was that it was permissible for federal courts to require state officials to comply in the future with claims payment provisions of the welfare assistance sections of the Social Security Act, but that they were not permitted to hear claims seeking, or issue orders directing, payment of funds found to be wrongfully withheld.¹²³ Conceding that some of the characteristics of prospective and retroactive relief would be the same in their effects upon the state treasury, the Court nonetheless believed that retroactive payments were equivalent to the imposition of liabilities which must be paid from public funds in the treasury, and that this was barred by the Eleventh Amendment. The spending of money from the state treasury by state officials shaping their conduct in accordance with a prospective-only injunction is “an ancillary effect” which “is a permissible and often an inevitable consequence” of *Ex parte Young*, whereas “payment of state funds . . . as a form of compensation” to those wrongfully denied the funds in the past “is in practical effect indistinguishable in many aspects from an award of damages against the State.”¹²⁴

That *Edelman* in many instances will be a formal restriction rather than an actual one is illustrated by *Milliken v. Bradley*,¹²⁵ in which state officers were ordered to spend money from the state treasury in order to finance remedial educational programs to counteract the effects of past school segregation; the decree, the Court said, “fits squarely within the prospective-compliance exception reaffirmed by *Edelman*.”¹²⁶ Although the payments were a result of past wrongs, of past constitutional violations, the Court did

¹²¹ 415 U.S. 651 (1974).

¹²² *Id.* at 663.

¹²³ *Id.* at 667–68.

¹²⁴ *Id.* at 668. *See also* *Quern v. Jordan*, 440 U.S. 332 (1979) (reaffirming *Edelman*, but holding that state officials could be ordered to notify members of the class that had been denied retroactive relief in that case that they might seek back benefits by invoking state administrative procedures; the order did not direct the payment but left it to state discretion to award retroactive relief). *But cf.* *Green v. Mansour*, 474 U.S. 64 (1985). “Notice relief” permitted under *Quern v. Jordan* is consistent with the Eleventh Amendment only insofar as it is ancillary to valid prospective relief designed to prevent ongoing violations of federal law. Thus, where Congress has changed the AFDC law and the State is complying with the new law, an order to state officials to notify claimants that past payments may have been inadequate conflicts with the Eleventh Amendment.

¹²⁵ 433 U.S. 267 (1977).

¹²⁶ *Id.* at 289.

not view them as “compensation,” inasmuch as they were not to be paid to victims of past discrimination but rather used to better conditions either for them or their successors.¹²⁷ The Court also applied *Edelman* in *Papasan v. Allain*,¹²⁸ holding that a claim against a state for payments representing a continuing obligation to meet trust responsibilities stemming from a 19th century grant of public lands for benefit of education of the Chickasaw Indian Nation is barred by the Eleventh Amendment as indistinguishable from an action for past loss of trust corpus, but that an Equal Protection claim for present unequal distribution of school land funds is the type of ongoing violation for which the Eleventh Amendment does not bar redress.

Thus, as with the cases dealing with suits facially against the States themselves, the Court’s recent greater attention to state immunity in the context of suits against state officials has resulted in a mixed picture, of some new restrictions, of the lessening of others. But a number of Justices has resorted to the Eleventh Amendment increasingly, as one means of reducing federal-state judicial conflict.¹²⁹ One may, therefore, expect this to be a continuingly contentious area.

Tort Actions Against State Officials.—In *Tindal v. Wesley*,¹³⁰ the Court adopted the rule of *United States v. Lee*,¹³¹ a tort suit against federal officials, to permit a tort action against state officials to recover real property held by them and claimed by the State and to obtain damages for the period of withholding. The immunity of a State from suit has long been held not to extend to actions against state officials for damages arising out of willful and negligent disregard of state laws.¹³² The reach of the rule is evident in *Scheuer v. Rhodes*,¹³³ in which the Court held that plaintiffs were not barred by the Eleventh Amendment or other immunity doctrines from suing the governor and other officials of a State alleging that they deprived plaintiffs of federal rights under color of state law and seeking damages, when it was clear that plaintiffs were seeking to impose individual and personal liability on the offi-

¹²⁷ *Id.* at 290 n.22. See also *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678, 690–91 (1978) (affirming order to pay attorney’s fees out of state treasury as an “ancillary” order because of bad faith of State).

¹²⁸ 478 U.S. 265 (1986).

¹²⁹ See, e.g., *Florida Dep’t of State v. Treasure Salvors*, 458 U.S. 670, 702 (1982) (dissenting opinion); *Patsy v. Florida Board of Regents*, 457 U.S. 496, 520 (1982) (dissenting opinion). And see *Employees of the Dep’t of Public Health and Welfare v. Department of Public Health and Welfare*, 411 U.S. 279 (1973).

¹³⁰ 167 U.S. 204 (1897).

¹³¹ 106 U.S. 196 (1883).

¹³² *Johnson v. Lankford*, 245 U.S. 541 (1918); *Martin v. Lankford*, 245 U.S. 547 (1918).

¹³³ 416 U.S. 233 (1974).

cials. There was no “executive immunity” from suit, the Court held; rather, the immunity of state officials is qualified and varies according to the scope of discretion and responsibilities of the particular office and the circumstances existing at the time the challenged action was taken.¹³⁴

¹³⁴ These suits, like suits against local officials and municipal corporations, are typically brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and typically involve all the decisions respecting liability and immunities thereunder. On the scope of immunity of federal officials, *see supra*, pp. 748–51.

TWELFTH AMENDMENT

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

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

Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.—The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

This Amendment,¹ which supersedes clause 3 of §1 of Article II, was adopted so as to make impossible the situation occurring after the election of 1800 in which Jefferson and Burr received tie votes in the electoral college, thus throwing the selection of a President into the House of Representatives, despite the fact that the electors had intended Jefferson to be President and Burr to be Vice-President.² The difference between the procedure which it defines and that which was laid down originally is in the provision it makes for a separate designation by the electors of their choices for President and Vice-President, respectively. As a consequence of the disputed election of 1870, Congress has enacted a statute providing that if the vote of a State is not certified by the governor under seal, it shall not be counted unless both Houses of Congress concur.³

¹ A number of provisions of the Amendment have been superseded by the Twentieth Amendment.

² Cunningham, *Election of 1800*, in 1 HISTORY OF AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 101 (A. Schlesinger ed., 1971).

³ 3 U.S.C. §15.

THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT

SLAVERY AND INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE

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SLAVERY AND INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE

THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

SECTION 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

Origin and Purpose

In 1863, President Lincoln issued an Emancipation Proclamation¹ declaring, based on his war powers, that within named States and parts of States in rebellion against the United States “all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free; . . .” The Proclamation did not allude to slaves held in the loyalist States, and moreover, there were questions about the Proclamation’s validity. Not only was there doubt concerning the President’s power to issue his order at all, but also there was a general conviction that its effect would not last beyond the restoration of the seceded States to the Union.² Because the power of Congress was similarly deemed not to run to legislative extirpation of the “peculiar institution,”³ a constitutional amendment was then sought; after first failing to muster a two-thirds vote in the House of Representatives, the amendment was forwarded to the States on February 1, 1865, and ratified by the following December 18.⁴

In selecting the text of the Amendment, Congress “reproduced the historic words of the ordinance of 1787 for the government of the Northwest Territory, and gave them unrestricted application

¹ 12 Stat. 1267.

² The legal issues were surveyed in Welling, *The Emancipation Proclamation*, 130 NO. AMER. REV. 163 (1880). See also J. RANDALL, CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS UNDER LINCOLN 371–404 (rev. ed. 1951).

³ K. STAMPP, THE PECULIAR INSTITUTION: SLAVERY IN THE ANTE-BELLUM SOUTH (1956).

⁴ The congressional debate on adoption of the Amendment is conveniently collected in 1 B. SCHWARTZ, STATUTORY HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES—CIVIL RIGHTS 25–96 (1970).

within the United States.”⁵ By its adoption, Congress intended, said Senator Trumbull, one of its sponsors, to “take this question [of emancipation] entirely away from the politics of the country. We relieve Congress of sectional strifes. . . .”⁶ An early Supreme Court decision, rejecting a contention that the Amendment reached servitudes on property as it did on persons, observed in dicta that the “word servitude is of larger meaning than slavery, . . . and the obvious purpose was to forbid all shades and conditions of African slavery.” But while the Court was initially in doubt whether persons other than African Americans could share in the protection afforded by the Amendment, it did continue to say that although “[N]egro slavery alone was in the mind of the Congress which proposed the thirteenth article, it forbids any other kind of slavery, now or hereafter. If Mexican peonage or the Chinese coolie labor system shall develop slavery of the Mexican or Chinese race within our territory, this amendment may safely be trusted to make it void.”⁷

“This Amendment . . . is undoubtedly self-executing without any ancillary legislation, so far as its terms are applicable to any existing state of circumstances. By its own unaided force and effect it abolished slavery, and established universal freedom.”⁸ These words of the Court in 1883 have generally been noncontroversial and have evoked little disagreement in the intervening years. The “force and effect” of the Amendment itself has been invoked only a few times by the Court to strike down state legislation which it considered to have reintroduced servitude of persons⁹ and it has not used § 1 of the Amendment against private parties.¹⁰ A major change, however, has recently been wrought with regard to the

⁵ *Bailey v. Alabama*, 219 U.S. 219, 240 (1911). During the debate, Senator Howard noted that the language was “the good old Anglo-Saxon language employed by our fathers in the ordinance of 1787, an expression which has been adjudicated upon repeatedly, which is perfectly well understood both by the public and by judicial tribunals. . . .” *CONG. GLOBE*, 38th Cong., 1st Sess. 1489 (1864).

⁶ *Id.* at 1313–14.

⁷ *Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 69, 71–72 (1873). This general applicability was again stated in *Hodges v. United States*, 203 U.S. 1, 16–17 (1906), and confirmed by the result of the peonage cases. *Infra*, p. 1555.

⁸ *Civil Rights Cases*, 109 U.S. 3, 20 (1883).

⁹ *Infra*, p. 1555.

¹⁰ In *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 439 (1968), the Court left open the question whether the Amendment itself, unaided by legislation, would reach the “badges and incidents” of slavery not directly associated with involuntary servitude, and it continued to reserve the question in *City of Memphis v. Greene*, 451 U.S. 100, 125–26 (1981). See *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537, 552 (1896) (Justice Harlan dissenting). The Court drew back from the possibility in *Palmer v. Thompson*, 403 U.S. 217, 226–27 (1971).

scope of congressional power under § 2 to enforce § 1 of the Amendment.

Certain early cases suggested broad congressional powers,¹¹ but the *Civil Rights Cases*¹² of 1883 began a process, culminating in *Hodges v. United States*,¹³ which substantially curtailed these powers. In the former decision, the Court held unconstitutional an 1875 law¹⁴ guaranteeing equality of access to public accommodations. Referring to the Thirteenth Amendment, the Court conceded that “legislation may be necessary and proper to meet all the various cases and circumstances to be affected by it, and to prescribe proper modes of redress for its violation in letter or spirit. And such legislation may be primary and direct in its character; for the amendment is not a mere prohibition of State laws establishing or upholding slavery, but an absolute declaration that slavery or involuntary servitude shall not exist in any part of the United States.” Appropriate legislation under the Amendment, the Court continued, could go beyond nullifying state laws establishing or upholding slavery, because the Amendment “has a reflex character also, establishing and decreeing universal civil and political freedom throughout the United States” and thus Congress was empowered “to pass all laws necessary and proper for abolishing all badges and incidents of slavery in the United States.”¹⁵ But these badges and incidents as perceived by the Court were those which Congress had in its 1866 legislation¹⁶ sought “to secure to all citizens of every race and color, and without regard to previous servitude, those fundamental rights which are the essence of civil freedom, namely the same right to make and enforce contracts, to sue, be parties, give evidence, and to inherit, purchase, lease, sell and convey property, as is enjoyed by white citizens.”¹⁷ But the Court could not see that the refusal of accommodations at an inn or a place of public amusement, without any sanction or support from any state law, could inflict upon such person any manner of servitude or form of slavery, as those terms were commonly understood. “It would be running the slavery argument into the ground

¹¹ *United States v. Rhodes*, 27 F. Cas. 785 (No. 16,151) (C.C. Ky. 1866) (Justice Swayne on circuit); *United States v. Cruikshank*, 25 F. Cas. 707 (No. 14,897) (C.C. La. 1874) (Justice Bradley on circuit), *aff'd* on other grounds, 92 U.S. 542 (1876); *United States v. Harris*, 106 U.S. 629, 640 (1883); *Blyew v. United States*, 80 U.S. 581, 601 (1871) (dissenting opinion, majority not addressing the issue).

¹² 109 U.S. 3 (1883).

¹³ 203 U.S. 1 (1906). *See also* *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537, 542–43 (1896); *Corrigan v. Buckley*, 271 U.S. 323, 331 (1926); *Hurd v. Hodge*, 334 U.S. 24, 31 (1948).

¹⁴ Ch. 114, 18 Stat. 335.

¹⁵ *Civil Rights Cases*, 109 U.S. 3, 20 (1883).

¹⁶ Ch. 31, 14 Stat. 27 (1886), now 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981–82.

¹⁷ *Civil Rights Cases*, 109 U.S. 3, 22 (1883).

to make it apply to every act of discrimination which a person may see fit to make. . . .”¹⁸

Then in *Hodges v. United States*,¹⁹ the Court set aside the convictions of three men for conspiring to drive several African Americans from their employment in a lumber mill. The Thirteenth Amendment operated to abolish, and to authorize Congress to legislate to enforce abolition of, conditions of enforced compulsory service of one to another and no attempt to analogize a private impairment of freedom to a disability of slavery would suffice to give the Federal Government jurisdiction over what was constitutionally a matter of state remedial law.

The latter case was overruled by the Court in a far-reaching decision in which it concluded that the 1866 congressional enactment,²⁰ far from simply conveying on all persons the *capacity* to buy and sell property, also prohibited private denials of the right through refusals to deal²¹ and that this statute was fully supportable by the Thirteenth Amendment. “Surely Congress has the power under the Thirteenth Amendment rationally to determine what are the badges and the incidents of slavery, and the authority to translate that determination into effective legislation. Nor can we say that the determination Congress has made is an irrational one. . . . Just as the Black Codes, enacted after the Civil War to restrict the free exercise of those rights, were substitutes for the slave system, so the exclusion of Negroes from white communities became a substitute for the Black Codes. And when racial discrimination herds men into ghettos and makes their ability to buy property turn on the color of their skin, then it too is a relic of slavery. . . . At the very least, the freedom that Congress is empowered to secure under the Thirteenth Amendment includes the freedom to buy whatever a white man can buy, the right to live wherever a white man can live. If Congress cannot say that being a free man means at least this much, then the Thirteenth Amendment made a promise the Nation cannot keep.”²² The Amendment, then, could provide the constitutional support for the various congressional en-

¹⁸Id. at 24.

¹⁹203 U.S. 1 (1906), *overruled by* *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 441 n.78 (1968).

²⁰Ch. 31, 14 Stat. 27 (1866). The portion at issue is now 42 U.S.C. § 1982.

²¹*Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 420–37 (1968). Justices Harlan and White dissented from the Court’s interpretation of the statute. Id. at 449. Chief Justice Burger joined their dissent in *Sullivan v. Little Hunting Park*, 396 U.S. 229, 241 (1969). The 1968 Civil Rights Act forbidding discrimination in housing on the basis of race was enacted a brief time before the Court’s decision. Pub. L. No. 90–284, 82 Stat. 81, 42 U.S.C. § 3601–31.

²²*Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 440–43 (1968). *See also* *City of Memphis v. Greene*, 451 U.S. 100, 124–26 (1981).

actments against private racial discrimination which Congress had previously based on the commerce clause;²³ because the 1866 Act contains none of the limitations written into the modern laws it has a vastly extensive application.²⁴ Whether the Court will yet carry its interpretation of the statute to the fullest extent possible is, of course, not now knowable.

Peonage

Notwithstanding its early acknowledgement in the *Slaughter-House Cases* that peonage was comprehended within the slavery and involuntary servitude proscribed by the Thirteenth Amendment,²⁵ the Court has had frequent occasion to determine whether state legislation or the conduct of individuals has contributed to re-establishment of that prohibited status. Defined as a condition of enforced servitude by which the servitor is compelled to labor against his will in liquidation of some debt or obligation, either real or pretended, peonage was found to have been unconstitutionally sanctioned by an Alabama statute, directed at defaulting sharecroppers, which imposed a criminal liability and subjected to imprisonment farm workers or tenants who abandoned their employment, breached their contracts, and exercised their legal right to enter into employment of a similar nature with another person. The clear purpose of such a statute was declared to be the coercion of payment, by means of criminal proceedings, of a purely civil li-

²³E.g., federal prohibition of racial discrimination in public accommodations, found lacking in constitutional basis under the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments in the Civil Rights Cases, 109 U.S. 3 (1883), was upheld as an exercise of the commerce power in *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, 379 U.S. 241 (1965), and *Katzenbach v. McClung*, 379 U.S. 294 (1965).

²⁴The 1968 statute on housing and the 1866 act are compared in *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 413–17 (1968). The expansiveness of the 1866 statute and of congressional power is shown by *Sullivan v. Little Hunting Park*, 396 U.S. 229 (1969) (1866 law protects share in neighborhood recreational club which ordinarily went with the lease or ownership of house in area); *Runyon v. McCrary*, 427 U.S. 160 (1976) (guarantee that all persons shall have right to make and enforce contracts as is enjoyed by white persons protects the right of black children to gain admission to private, commercially operated, nonsectarian schools); *Johnson v. Railway Express Agency*, 421 U.S. 454, 459–60 (1975) (statute affords a federal remedy against discrimination in private employment on the basis of race); *McDonald v. Santa Fe Trail Transp. Co.*, 427 U.S. 273, 285–96 (1976) (statute protects against racial discrimination in private employment against whites as well as nonwhites). See also *Tillman v. Wheaton-Haven Recreation Ass'n*, 410 U.S. 431 (1973). The Court has also concluded that pursuant to its Thirteenth Amendment powers Congress could provide remedial legislation for African Americans deprived of their rights because of their race in *Griffin v. Breckenridge*, 403 U.S. 88, 104–05 (1971). Conceivably, the reach of the 1866 law could extend to all areas in which Congress has so far legislated and to other areas as well, justifying legislative or judicial enforcement of the Amendment itself in such areas as school segregation.

²⁵83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36 (1873).

ability arising from breach of contract.²⁶ Several years later, in *Bailey v. Alabama*,²⁷ the Court voided another Alabama statute which made the refusal without just cause to perform the labor called for in a written contract of employment, or to refund the money or pay for the property advanced thereunder, prima facie evidence of an intent to defraud and punishable as a criminal offense, and which was enforced subject to a local rule of evidence which prevented the accused, for the purpose of rebutting the statutory presumption, from testifying as to his “uncommunicated motives, purpose, or intention.” Inasmuch as a state “may not compel one man to labor for another in payment of a debt by punishing him as a criminal if he does not perform the service or pay the debt,” the Court refused to permit it “to accomplish the same result [indirectly] by creating a statutory presumption which, upon proof of no other fact, exposes him to conviction.”²⁸

In 1914, in *United States v. Reynolds*,²⁹ a third Alabama enactment was condemned as conducive to peonage through the permission it accorded to persons, fined upon conviction for a misdemeanor, to confess judgment with a surety in the amount of the fine and costs, and then to agree with said surety, in consideration of the latter’s payment of the confessed judgment, to reimburse him by working for him upon terms approved by the court, which, the Court pointed out, might prove more onerous than if the convict had been sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor in the first place. Fulfillment of such a contract with the surety was viewed as being virtually coerced by the constant fear it induced of rearrest, a new prosecution, and a new fine for breach of contract, which new penalty the convicted person might undertake to liquidate in a similar manner attended by similar consequences. More recently, *Bailey v. Alabama* has been followed in *Taylor v. Georgia*³⁰ and *Pollock v. Williams*,³¹ in which statutes of Georgia and Florida, not materially different from that voided in the *Bailey* case, were found to be unconstitutional. Although the Georgia statute prohibited the defendant from testifying under oath, it did not prevent him from

²⁶ Peonage Cases, 123 F. 671 (M.D. Ala. 1903).

²⁷ 219 U.S. 219 (1911). Justice Holmes, joined by Justice Lurton, dissented on the ground that a State was not forbidden by this Amendment from punishing a breach of contract as a crime. “Compulsory work for no private master in a jail is not peonage.” *Id.* at 247.

²⁸ *Id.* at 244.

²⁹ 235 U.S. 133 (1914).

³⁰ 315 U.S. 25 (1942).

³¹ 322 U.S. 4 (1944). Justice Reed, with Chief Justice Stone concurring, contended in a dissenting opinion that a State is not prohibited by the Thirteenth Amendment from “punishing the fraudulent procurement of an advance in wages.” *Id.* at 27.

entering an unsworn denial both of the contract and of the receipt of any cash advancement thereunder, a factor which, the Court emphasized, was no more controlling than the customary rule of evidence in *Bailey*. In the Florida case, notwithstanding the fact that the defendant pleaded guilty and accordingly obviated the necessity of applying the prima facie presumption provision, the Court reached an identical result, chiefly on the ground that the presumption provision, despite its nonapplication, “had a coercive effect in producing the plea of guilty.”

Pursuant to its §2 enforcement powers, Congress enacted a statute by which it abolished peonage and prohibited anyone from holding, arresting, or returning, or causing or aiding in the arresting or returning, of a person to peonage.³²

The Court looked to the meaning of the Thirteenth Amendment in interpreting two enforcement statutes, one prohibiting conspiracy to interfere with exercise or enjoyment of constitutional rights,³³ the other prohibiting the holding of a person in a condition of involuntary servitude.³⁴ For purposes of prosecution under these authorities, the Court held, “the term ‘involuntary servitude’ necessarily means a condition of servitude in which the victim is forced to work for the defendant by the use or threat of physical restraint or physical injury, or by the use or threat of coercion through law or the legal process.”³⁵

Situations in Which the Amendment Is Inapplicable

In a wide range of situations the Thirteenth Amendment has been unsuccessfully pressed into service. Thus, under a rubric of “services which have from time immemorial been treated as exceptional,” the Court held that contracts of seamen, involving to a certain extent the surrender of personal liberty, may be enforced without regard to the Amendment.³⁶ Similarly, enforcement of those duties which individuals owe the government, such as service in the military and on juries, is not covered.³⁷ A state law requiring every able-bodied man within its jurisdiction to labor for a reason-

³² Ch. 187, §1, 14 Stat. 546, now in 42 U.S.C. §1994 and 18 U.S.C. §1581. Upheld in *Clyatt v. United States*, 197 U.S. 207 (1905); *and see* *United States v. Gaskin*, 320 U.S. 527 (1944). *See also* 18 U.S.C. §1584, which is a merger of 3 Stat. 452 (1818), and 18 Stat. 251 (1874), dealing with involuntary servitude. Cf. *United States v. Shackney*, 333 F.2d 475, 481–83 (2d Cir. 1964).

³³ 18 U.S.C. §241.

³⁴ 18 U.S.C. §1584.

³⁵ *United States v. Kozminski*, 487 U.S. 931 (1988). Compulsion of servitude through “psychological coercion,” the Court ruled, is not prohibited by these statutes.

³⁶ *Robertson v. Baldwin*, 165 U.S. 275, 282 (1897).

³⁷ *Butler v. Perry*, 240 U.S. 328, 333 (1916).

able time on public roads near his residence without direct compensation was sustained.³⁸ A Thirteenth Amendment challenge to conscription for military service was summarily rejected.³⁹ A state law making it a misdemeanor for a lessor, or his agent or janitor, intentionally to fail to furnish such water, heat, light, elevator, telephone, or other services as may be required by the terms of the lease and necessary to the proper and customary use of the building was held not to create an involuntary servitude.⁴⁰ A federal statute making it unlawful to coerce, compel, or constrain a communications licensee to employ persons in excess of the number of the employees needed to conduct his business was held not to implicate the Amendment.⁴¹

³⁸ *Id.*

³⁹ *Selective Draft Law Cases*, 245 U.S. 366 (1918). The Court's analysis, in full, of the Thirteenth Amendment issue raised by a compulsory military draft was the following: "As we are unable to conceive upon what theory the exaction by government from the citizen of the performance of his supreme and noble duty of contributing to the defense of the rights and honor of the nation, as the result of a war declared by the great representative body of the people, can be said to be the imposition of involuntary servitude in violation of the prohibitions of the Thirteenth Amendment, we are constrained to the conclusion that the contention to that effect is refuted by its mere statement." *Id.* at 390. While the Supreme Court has never squarely held that conscription need not be premised on a declaration of war, indications are that the power is not constrained by the need for a formal declaration of war by "the great representative body of the people." During the Vietnam War (an undeclared war) the Court, upholding a conviction for burning a draft card, declared that the power to classify and conscript manpower for military service was "beyond question." *United States v. O'Brien*, 391 U.S. 367, 377 (1968). *See also* *United States v. Holmes*, 387 F.2d 781, 784 (7th Cir. 1968) ("the power of Congress to raise armies and to take effective measures to preserve their efficiency, is not limited by either the Thirteenth Amendment or the absence of a military emergency"), *cert. denied* 391 U.S. 956.

⁴⁰ *Marcus Brown Co. v. Feldman*, 265 U.S. 170, 199 (1921).

⁴¹ *United States v. Petrillo*, 332 U.S. 1, 12–13 (1947). Injunctions and cease and desist orders in labor disputes requiring return to work do not violate the Amendment. *UAW v. WERB*, 336 U.S. 245 (1949).

FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT

RIGHTS GUARANTEED PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF CITIZENSHIP, DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION

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RIGHTS GUARANTEED
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF CITIZENSHIP, DUE
PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION

FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES

In the *Dred Scott Case*,¹ Chief Justice Taney for the Court ruled that United States citizenship was enjoyed by two classes of individuals: (1) white persons born in the United States as descendants of “persons, who were at the time of the adoption of the Constitution recognized as citizens in the several States and [who] became also citizens of this new political body,” the United States of America, and (2) those who, having been “born outside the dominions of the United States,” had migrated thereto and been naturalized therein. The States were competent, he continued, to confer state citizenship upon anyone in their midst, but they could not make the recipient of such status a citizen of the United States. The “Negro,” or “African race,” according to the Chief Justice, was ineligible to attain United States citizenship, either from a State or by virtue of birth in the United States, even as a free man descended from a Negro residing as a free man in one of the States at the date of ratification of the Constitution.² Congress, first in § 1 of the Civil Rights Act of 1866³ and then in the first sentence

¹ *Scott v. Sandford*, 60 U.S. (19 How.) 393, 404–06, 417–18, 419–20 (1857).

² The controversy, political as well as constitutional, which this case stirred and still stirs, is exemplified and analyzed in the material collected in S. KUTLER, *THE DRED SCOTT DECISION: LAW OR POLITICS?* (1967).

³ “That all persons born in the United States and not subject to any foreign power, excluding Indians not taxed, are hereby declared to be citizens of the United States; and such citizens, of every race and color, without regard to any previous

of § 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment,⁴ set aside the *Dred Scott* holding in a sentence “declaratory of existing rights, and affirmative of existing law. . . .”⁵

While clearly establishing a national rule on national citizenship and settling a controversy of long standing with regard to the derivation of national citizenship, the Fourteenth Amendment did not obliterate the distinction between national and state citizenship, but rather preserved it.⁶ The Court has accorded the first sentence of § 1 a construction in accordance with the congressional intentions, holding that a child born in the United States of Chinese parents who themselves were ineligible to be naturalized is nevertheless a citizen of the United States entitled to all the rights and privileges of citizenship.⁷ Congress’ intent in including the qualifying phrase “and subject to the jurisdiction thereof,” was apparently to exclude from the reach of the language children born of diplomatic representatives of a foreign state and children born of alien enemies in hostile occupation, both recognized exceptions to the common-law rule of acquired citizenship by birth,⁸ as well as children of members of Indian tribes subject to tribal laws.⁹ The lower courts have generally held that the citizenship of the parents determines the citizenship of children born on vessels in United States territorial waters or on the high seas.¹⁰

In *Afroyim v. Rusk*,¹¹ a divided Court extended the force of this first sentence beyond prior holdings, ruling that it withdrew

condition of slavery or involuntary servitude . . . shall have the same right[s]. . . .” Ch. 31, 14 Stat. 27.

⁴The proposed amendment as it passed the House contained no such provision, and it was decided in the Senate to include language like that finally adopted. CONG. GLOBE, 39th Cong., 1st Sess. 2560, 2768–69, 2869 (1866). The sponsor of the language said: “This amendment which I have offered is simply declaratory of what I regard as the law of the land already, that every person born within the limits of the United States, and subject to their jurisdiction, is . . . a citizen of the United States.” *Id.* at 2890. The legislative history is discussed at some length in *Afroyim v. Rusk*, 387 U.S. 253, 282–86 (1967) (Justice Harlan dissenting).

⁵*United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, 169 U.S. 649, 688 (1898).

⁶*Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 74 (1873).

⁷*United States v. Wong Kim Ark*, 169 U.S. 649 (1898).

⁸*Id.* at 682.

⁹*Id.* at 680–82; *Elk v. Wilkins*, 112 U.S. 94, 99 (1884).

¹⁰*United States v. Gordon*, 25 Fed. Cas. 1364 (C.C.S.D.N.Y. 1861) (No. 15,231); *In re Look Tin Sing*, 21 F. 905 (C.C.Cal. 1884); *Lam Mow v. Nagle*, 24 F.2d 316 (9th Cir. 1928).

¹¹387 U.S. 253 (1967). Though the Court upheld the involuntary expatriation of a woman citizen of the United States during her marriage to a foreign citizen in *Mackenzie v. Hare*, 239 U.S. 299 (1915), the subject first received extended judicial treatment in *Perez v. Brownell*, 356 U.S. 44 (1958), in which by a five-to-four decision the Court upheld a statute denaturalizing a native-born citizen for having voted in a foreign election. For the Court, Justice Frankfurter reasoned that Congress’ power to regulate foreign affairs carried with it the authority to sever the relationship of this country with one of its citizens to avoid national implication in

from the Government of the United States the power to expatriate United States citizens against their will for any reason. “[T]he Amendment can most reasonably be read as defining a citizenship which a citizen keeps unless he voluntarily relinquishes it. Once acquired, this Fourteenth Amendment citizenship was not to be shifted, canceled, or diluted at the will of the Federal Government, the States, or any other government unit. It is true that the chief interest of the people in giving permanence and security to citizenship in the Fourteenth Amendment was the desire to protect Negroes. . . . This undeniable purpose of the Fourteenth Amendment to make citizenship of Negroes permanent and secure would be frustrated by holding that the Government can rob a citizen of his citizenship without his consent by simply proceeding to act under an implied general power to regulate foreign affairs or some other power generally granted.”¹² In a subsequent decision, however, the Court held that persons who were statutorily naturalized by being born abroad of at least one American parent could not claim the protection of the first sentence of § 1 and that Congress could therefore impose a reasonable and non-arbitrary condition subsequent upon their continued retention of United States citizenship.¹³ Between these two decisions there is a tension which should call forth further litigation efforts to explore the meaning of the citizenship sentence of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Citizens of the United States within the meaning of this Amendment must be natural and not artificial persons; a corporate body is not a citizen of the United States.¹⁴

acts of that citizen which might embarrass relations with a foreign nation. *Id.* at 60–62. Three of the dissenters denied that Congress had any power to denaturalize. *See* discussion *supra* pp. 272–76. In the years before *Afroyim*, a series of decisions had curbed congressional power.

¹² *Afroyim v. Rusk*, 387 U.S. 253, 262–63 (1967). Four dissenters, Justices Harlan, Clark, Stewart, and White, controverted the Court’s reliance on the history and meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment and reasserted Justice Frankfurter’s previous reasoning in *Perez*. *Id.* at 268.

¹³ *Rogers v. Bellei*, 401 U.S. 815 (1971). This, too, was a five-to-four decision, Justices Blackmun, Harlan, Stewart, and White, and Chief Justice Burger in the majority, and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall dissenting.

¹⁴ *Insurance Co. v. New Orleans*, 13 Fed. Cas. 67 (C.C.D.La. 1870). Not being citizens of the United States, corporations accordingly have been declared unable “to claim the protection of that clause of the Fourteenth Amendment which secures the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States against abridgment or impairment by the law of a State.” *Orient Ins. Co. v. Daggs*, 172 U.S. 557, 561 (1869). This conclusion was in harmony with the earlier holding in *Paul v. Virginia*, 75 U.S. (8 Wall.) 168 (1869), to the effect that corporations were not within the scope of the privileges and immunities clause of state citizenship set out in Article IV, § 2. *See also Selover, Bates & Co. v. Walsh*, 226 U.S. 112, 126 (1912); *Berea College v. Kentucky*, 211 U.S. 45 (1908); *Liberty Warehouse Co. v. Tobacco Growers*, 276 U.S. 71, 89 (1928); *Grosjean v. American Press Co.*, 297 U.S. 233, 244 (1936).

PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Unique among constitutional provisions, the privileges and immunities clause of the Fourteenth Amendment enjoys the distinction of having been rendered a “practical nullity” by a single decision of the Supreme Court issued within five years after its ratification. In the *Slaughter-House Cases*,¹⁵ a bare majority of the Court frustrated the aims of the most aggressive sponsors of this clause, to whom was attributed an intention to centralize “in the hands of the Federal Government large powers hitherto exercised by the States” with a view to enabling business to develop unimpeded by state interference. This expansive alteration of the federal system was to have been achieved by converting the rights of the citizens of each State as of the date of the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment into privileges and immunities of United States citizenship and thereafter perpetuating this newly defined status quo through judicial condemnation of any state law challenged as “abridging” any one of the latter privileges. To have fostered such intentions, the Court declared, would have been “to transfer the security and protection of all the civil rights . . . to the Federal Government, . . . to bring within the power of Congress the entire domain of civil rights heretofore belonging exclusively to the States,” and to “constitute this court a perpetual censor upon all legislation of the States, on the civil rights of their own citizens, with authority to nullify such as it did not approve as consistent with those rights, as they existed at the time of the adoption of this amendment. . . . [The effect of] so great a departure from the structure and spirit of our institutions . . . is to fetter and degrade the State governments by subjecting them to the control of Congress, in the exercise of powers heretofore universally conceded to them of the most ordinary and fundamental character. . . . We are convinced that no such results were intended by the Congress . . . , nor by the legislatures . . . which ratified” this amendment, and that the sole “pervading purpose” of this and the other War Amendments was “the freedom of the slave race.”

Conformably to these conclusions, the Court advised the New Orleans butchers that the Louisiana statute, conferring on a single corporation a monopoly of the business of slaughtering cattle, abrogated no rights possessed by them as United States citizens; insofar as that law interfered with their claimed privilege of pursuing the lawful calling of butchering animals, the privilege thus terminated was merely one of “those which belonged to the citizens of the States as such.” Privileges and immunities of state citizenship

¹⁵83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 71, 77–79 (1873).

had been “left to the state governments for security and protection” and had not been placed by this clause “under the special care of the Federal Government.” The only privileges which the Fourteenth Amendment protected against state encroachment were declared to be those “which owe their existence to the Federal Government, its National character, its Constitution, or its laws.”¹⁶ These privileges, however, had been available to United States citizens and protected from state interference by operation of federal supremacy even prior to the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment. The *Slaughter-House Cases*, therefore, reduced the privileges and immunities clause to a superfluous reiteration of a prohibition already operative against the states.

Although the Court has expressed a reluctance to attempt a definitive enumeration of those privileges and immunities of United States citizens which are protected against state encroachment, it nevertheless felt obliged in the *Slaughter-House Cases* “to suggest some which owe their existence to the Federal Government, its National character, its Constitution, or its laws.”¹⁷ Among those which it then identified were the right of access to the seat of Government and to the seaports, subtreasuries, land officers, and courts of justice in the several States, the right to demand protection of the Federal Government on the high seas or abroad, the right of assembly, the privilege of habeas corpus, the right to use the navigable waters of the United States, and rights secured by treaty. In *Twining v. New Jersey*,¹⁸ the Court recognized “among the rights and privileges” of national citizenship the right to pass freely from State to State,¹⁹ the right to petition Congress for a redress of grievances,²⁰ the right to vote for national officers,²¹ the

¹⁶Id. at 78–79.

¹⁷Id. at 79.

¹⁸211 U.S. 78, 97 (1908).

¹⁹*Citing* *Crandall v. Nevada*, 73 U.S. (65 Wall.) 35 (1868). It was observed in *United States v. Wheeler*, 254 U.S. 281, 299 (1920), that the statute at issue in *Crandall* was actually held to burden directly the performance by the United States of its governmental functions. *Cf. Passenger Cases*, 48 U.S. (7 How.) 282, 491–92 (1849) (Chief Justice Taney dissenting). Four concurring Justices in *Edwards v. California*, 314 U.S. 160, 177, 181 (1941), would have grounded a right of interstate travel on the privileges and immunities clause. More recently, the Court declined to ascribe a source but was content to assert the right to be protected. *United States v. Guest*, 383 U.S. 745, 758 (1966); *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 629–31 (1969). Three Justices ascribed the source to this clause in *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 285–87 (1970) (Justices Stewart and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger, concurring in part and dissenting in part).

²⁰*Citing* *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542 (1876).

²¹*Citing* *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884); *Wiley v. Sinkler*, 179 U.S. 58 (1900). Note Justice Douglas’ reliance on this clause in *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 149 (1970) (concurring in part and dissenting in part).

right to enter public lands,²² the right to be protected against violence while in the lawful custody of a United States marshal,²³ and the right to inform the United States authorities of violation of its laws.²⁴ Earlier, in a decision not mentioned in *Twining*, the Court had also acknowledged that the carrying on of interstate commerce is “a right which every citizen of the United States is entitled to exercise.”²⁵

In modern times, the Court has continued the minor role accorded to the clause, only occasionally manifesting a disposition to enlarge the restraint which it imposes upon state action. *Colgate v. Harvey*,²⁶ which was overruled five years later,²⁷ represented the first attempt by the Court since adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment to convert the privileges and immunities clause into a source of protection of other than those “interests growing out of the relationship between the citizen and the national government.” Here, the Court declared that the right of a citizen resident in one State to contract in another, to transact any lawful business, or to make a loan of money, in any State other than that in which the citizen resides was a privilege of national citizenship which was abridged by a state income tax law excluding from taxable income interest received on money loaned within the State. In *Hague v. CIO*,²⁸ two and perhaps three justices thought that freedom to use municipal streets and parks for the dissemination of information concerning provisions of a federal statute and to assemble peacefully therein for discussion of the advantages and opportunities offered by such act was a privilege and immunity of a United States citizen, and in *Edwards v. California*²⁹ four Justices were prepared to rely on the clause.³⁰ In *Oyama v. California*,³¹ in a single sentence the Court agreed with the contention of a native-born youth that a state Alien Land Law, applied to work a forfeiture of property purchased in his name with funds advanced by his parent, a Japanese alien ineligible for citizenship and precluded from owning land, deprived him “of his privileges as an American citizen.” The right to acquire and retain property had previously not been set

²² Citing *United States v. Waddell*, 112 U.S. 76 (1884).

²³ Citing *Logan v. United States*, 144 U.S. 263 (1892).

²⁴ Citing *In re Quarles and Butler*, 158 U.S. 532 (1895).

²⁵ *Crutcher v. Kentucky*, 141 U.S. 47, 57 (1891).

²⁶ 296 U.S. 404 (1935).

²⁷ *Madden v. Kentucky*, 309 U.S. 83, 93 (1940).

²⁸ 307 U.S. 496, 510–18 (1939) (Justices Roberts and Black; Chief Justice Hughes may or may not have concurred on this point. *Id.* at 532). Justices Stone and Reed preferred to base the decision on the due process clause. *Id.* at 518.

²⁹ 314 U.S. 160, 177–83 (1941).

³⁰ See also *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 149 (1970) (Justice Douglas); *id.* at 285–87 (Justices Stewart and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger).

³¹ 332 U.S. 633, 640 (1948).

forth in any of the enumerations as one of the privileges protected against state abridgment, although a federal statute enacted prior to the proposal and ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment did confer on all citizens the same rights to purchase and hold real property as white citizens enjoyed.³²

In other respects, however, claims based on this clause have been rejected.³³

³² Civil Rights Act of 1866, ch. 31, 14 Stat. 27, now 42 U.S.C. § 1982, as amended.

³³ E.g., *Holden v. Hardy*, 169 U.S. 366, 380 (1898) (statute limiting hours of labor in mines); *Williams v. Fears*, 179 U.S. 270, 274 (1900) (statute taxing the business of hiring persons to labor outside the State); *Wilmington Mining Co. v. Fulton*, 205 U.S. 60, 73 (1907) (statute requiring employment of only licensed mine managers and examiners and imposing liability on the mine owner for failure to furnish a reasonably safe place for workmen); *Heim v. McCall*, 239 U.S. 175 (1915); *Crane v. New York*, 239 U.S. 195 (1915) (statute restricting employment on state public works to citizens of the United States, with a preference to citizens of the State); *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Castle*, 224 U.S. 541 (1912) (statute making railroads liable to employees for injuries caused by negligence of fellow servants and abolishing the defense of contributory negligence); *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Milling Co.*, 218 U.S. 406 (1910) (statute prohibiting a stipulation against liability for negligence in delivery of interstate telegraph messages); *Bradwell v. Illinois*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 130, 139 (1873); *In re Lockwood*, 154 U.S. 116 (1894) (refusal of state court to license a woman to practice law); *Kirtland v. Hotchkiss*, 100 U.S. 491, 499 (1879) (law taxing a debt owed a resident citizen by a resident of another State and secured by mortgage of land in the debtor's State); *Bartemeyer v. Iowa*, 85 U.S. (18 Wall.) 129 (1874); *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623 (1887); *Crowley v. Christensen*, 137 U.S. 86, 91 (1890); *Giozza v. Tiernan*, 148 U.S. 657 (1893) (statutes regulating the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors); *In re Kemmler*, 136 U.S. 436 (1890) (statute regulating the method of capital punishment); *Minor v. Happersett*, 88 U.S. (21 Wall.) 162 (1875) (statute regulating the franchise to male citizens); *Pope v. Williams*, 193 U.S. 621 (1904) (statute requiring persons coming into a State to make a declaration of intention to become citizens and residents thereof before being permitted to register as voters); *Ferry v. Spokane, P. & S. Ry.*, 258 U.S. 314 (1922) (statute restricting dower, in case wife at time of husband's death is a nonresident, to lands of which he died seized); *Walker v. Sauvinet*, 92 U.S. 90 (1876) (statute restricting right to jury trial in civil suits at common law); *Presser v. Illinois*, 116 U.S. 252, 267 (1886) (statute restricting drilling or parading in any city by any body of men without license of the Governor); *Maxwell v. Dow*, 176 U.S. 581, 596, 597–98 (1900) (provision for prosecution upon information, and for a jury (except in capital cases) of eight persons); *New York ex rel. Bryant v. Zimmerman*, 278 U.S. 63, 71 (1928) (statute penalizing the becoming or remaining a member of any oathbound association (other than benevolent orders, and the like) with knowledge that the association has failed to file its constitution and membership lists); *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319 (1937) (statute allowing a State to appeal in criminal cases for errors of law and to retry the accused); *Breedlove v. Suttles*, 302 U.S. 277 (1937) (statute making the payment of poll taxes a prerequisite to the right to vote); *Madden v. Kentucky*, 309 U.S. 83, 92–93 (1940), (overruling *Colgate v. Harvey*, 296 U.S. 404, 430 (1935)) (statute whereby deposits in banks outside the State are taxed at 50¢ per \$100); *Snowden v. Hughes*, 321 U.S. 1 (1944) (the right to become a candidate for state office is a privilege of state citizenship, not national citizenship); *MacDougall v. Green*, 335 U.S. 281 (1948) (Illinois Election Code requirement that a petition to form and nominate candidates for a new political party be signed by at least 200 voters from each of at least 50 of the 102 counties in the State, notwithstanding that 52% of the voters reside in only one county and 87% in the 49 most populous counties); *New York v. O'Neill*, 359 U.S. 1 (1959) (Uniform Reciprocal

DUE PROCESS OF LAW

The Development of Substantive Due Process

Although many years after ratification the Court ventured the not very informative observation that the Fourteenth Amendment “operates to extend . . . the same protection against arbitrary state legislation, affecting life, liberty and property, as is offered by the Fifth Amendment,”³⁴ and that “ordinarily if an act of Congress is valid under the Fifth Amendment it would be hard to say that a state law in like terms was void under the Fourteenth,”³⁵ the significance of the due process clause as a restraint on state action appears to have been grossly underestimated by litigants no less than by the Court in the years immediately following its adoption. From the outset of our constitutional history due process of law as it occurs in the Fifth Amendment had been recognized as a restraint upon government, but, with the conspicuous exception of the *Dred Scott* decision,³⁶ only in the narrower sense that a legislature must provide “due process for the enforcement of law.”

Thus, in the *Slaughter-House Cases*,³⁷ in which the clause was invoked by a group of butchers challenging the validity of a Louisiana statute which conferred upon one corporation the exclusive privilege of butchering cattle in New Orleans, the Court declared that the prohibition against a deprivation of property “has been in the Constitution since the adoption of the Fifth Amendment, as a restraint upon the Federal power. It is also to be found in some forms of expression in the constitution of nearly all the States, as a restraint upon the power of the States. . . . We are not without judicial interpretation, therefore, both State and National, of the meaning of this clause. And it is sufficient to say that under no construction of that provision that we have ever seen, or any that we deem admissible, can the restraint imposed by the State of Louisiana upon the exercise of their trade by the butchers of New Orleans be held to be a deprivation of property within the meaning of that provision.” Four years later, in *Munn v. Illinois*,³⁸ the Court again refused to interpret the due process clause as invalidating

State Law to secure attendance of witnesses from within or without a State in criminal proceedings); *James v. Valtierra*, 402 U.S. 137 (1971) (a provision in a state constitution to the effect that low-rent housing projects could not be developed, constructed, or acquired by any state governmental body without the affirmative vote of a majority of those citizens participating in a community referendum).

³⁴ *Hibben v. Smith*, 191 U.S. 310, 325 (1903).

³⁵ *Carroll v. Greenwich Ins. Co.*, 199 U.S. 401, 410 (1905). *See also* *French v. Barber Asphalt Paving Co.*, 181 U.S. 324, 328 (1901).

³⁶ *Scott v. Sandford*, 60 U.S. (19 How.) 393, 450 (1857), is the exception.

³⁷ 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 80–81 (1873).

³⁸ 94 U.S. 113, 134 (1877).

state legislation regulating the rates charged for the transportation and warehousing of grain. Rejecting contentions that such legislation effected an unconstitutional deprivation of property by preventing the owner from earning a reasonable compensation for its use and by transferring to the public an interest in a private enterprise, Chief Justice Waite emphasized that “the great office of statutes is to remedy defects in the common law as they are developed. . . . We know that this power [of rate regulation] may be abused; but that is no argument against its existence. For protection against abuses by legislatures the people must resort to the polls, not to the courts.”

Deploring such attempts, nullified consistently in the preceding cases, to convert the due process clause into a substantive restraint on the powers of the States, Justice Miller in *Davidson v. New Orleans*,³⁹ obliquely counseled against a departure from the conventional application of the clause, albeit he acknowledged the difficulty of arriving at a precise, all-inclusive definition thereof. “It is not a little remarkable,” he observed, “that while this provision has been in the Constitution of the United States, as a restraint upon the authority of the Federal government, for nearly a century, and while, during all that time, the manner in which the powers of that government have been exercised has been watched with jealousy, and subjected to the most rigid criticism in all its branches, this special limitation upon its powers has rarely been invoked in the judicial forum or the more enlarged theatre of public discussion. But while it has been part of the Constitution, as a restraint upon the power of the States, only a very few years, the docket of this court is crowded with cases in which we are asked to hold that state courts and state legislatures have deprived their own citizens of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. There is here abundant evidence that there exists some strange misconception of the scope of this provision as found in the Fourteenth Amendment. In fact, it would seem, from the character of many of the cases before us, and the arguments made in them, that the clause under consideration is looked upon as a means of bringing to the test of the decision of this court the abstract opinions of every unsuccessful litigant in a State court of the justice of the decision against him, and of the merits of the legislation on which such a decision may be founded. If, therefore, it were possible to define what it is for a State to deprive a person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, in terms which would cover every exercise of power thus forbidden to the State, and exclude

³⁹96 U.S. 97, 103–04 (1878).

those which are not, no more useful construction could be furnished by this or any other court to any part of the fundamental of law.

“But, apart from the imminent risk of a failure to give any definition which would be at once perspicuous, comprehensive, and satisfactory, there is wisdom . . . in the ascertaining of the intent and application of such an important phrase in the Federal Constitution, by the gradual process of judicial inclusion and exclusion, as the cases presented for decision shall require. . . .”

A bare half-dozen years later, in again reaching a result in harmony with past precedents, the Justices gave fair warning of the imminence of a modification of their views. After noting that the due process clause, by reason of its operation upon “all the powers of government, legislative as well as executive and judicial,” could not be appraised solely in terms of the “sanction of settled usage,” Justice Mathews, speaking for the Court in *Hurtado v. California*,⁴⁰ declared that “[a]rbitrary power, enforcing its edicts to the injury of the persons and property of its subjects, is not law, whether manifested as the decree of a personal monarch or of an impersonal multitude. And the limitations imposed by our constitutional law upon the action of the governments, both state and national, are essential to the preservation of public and private rights, notwithstanding the representative character of our political institutions. The enforcement of these limitations by judicial process is the device of self-governing communities to protect the rights of individuals and minorities, as well against the power of numbers, as against the violence of public agents transcending the limits of lawful authority, even when acting in the name and wielding the force of the government.” Thus were the States put on notice that every species of state legislation, whether dealing with procedural or substantive rights, was subject to the scrutiny of the Court when the question of its essential justice was raised.

What induced the Court to dismiss its fears of upsetting the balance in the distribution of powers under the federal system and to enlarge its own supervisory powers over state legislation was the increasing number of cases seeking protection of property rights against the remedial social legislation States were enacting in the wake of industrial expansion. At the same time, the added emphasis on the due process clause afforded the Court an opportunity to compensate for its earlier virtual nullification of the privileges and immunities clause of the Amendment. So far as such modification of its position needed to be justified in legal terms, theories concerning the relation of government to private rights were available

⁴⁰ 110 U.S. 516, 528, 532, 536 (1884).

to demonstrate the impropriety of leaving to the state legislatures the same ample range of police power they had enjoyed prior to the Civil War. Preliminary to this consummation, however, the *Slaughter-House Cases* and *Munn v. Illinois* had to be overruled at least in part, and the views of the dissenting Justices in those cases converted into majority doctrine.

About twenty years were required to complete this process, in the course of which the restricted view of the police power advanced by Justice Field in his dissent in *Munn v. Illinois*,⁴¹ namely, that it is solely a power to prevent injury, was in effect ratified by the Court itself. This occurred in *Mugler v. Kansas*,⁴² where the power was defined as embracing no more than the power to promote public health, morals, and safety. During the same interval, ideas embodying the social compact and natural rights, which had been espoused by Justice Bradley in his dissent in the *Slaughter-House Cases*,⁴³ had been transformed tentatively into constitutionally enforceable limitations upon government.⁴⁴ The consequence was that the States in exercising their police powers could foster only those purposes of health, morals, and safety which the Court had enumerated, and could employ only such means as would not unreasonably interfere with the fundamentally natural rights of liberty and property, which Justice Bradley had equated with freedom to pursue a lawful calling and to make contracts for that purpose.⁴⁵

So having narrowed the scope of the state's police power in deference to the natural rights of liberty and property, the Court next proceeded to read into the concepts currently accepted theories of *laissez faire* economics, reinforced by the doctrine of Social Darwinism as elaborated by Herbert Spencer, to the end that "liberty," in

⁴¹ 94 U.S. 113, 141–48 (1877).

⁴² 123 U.S. 623, 661 (1887).

⁴³ 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 113–14, 116, 122 (1873).

⁴⁴ *Loan Association v. Topeka*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 655, 662 (1875). "There are . . . rights in every free government beyond the control of the State. . . . There are limitations on [governmental power] which grow out of the essential nature of all free governments. Implied reservations of individual rights, without which the social compact could not exist. . . ."

⁴⁵ "Rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are equivalent to the rights of life, liberty, and property. These are fundamental rights which can only be taken away by due process of law, and which can only be interfered with, or the enjoyment of which can only be modified, by lawful regulations necessary or proper for the mutual good of all. . . . This right to choose one's calling is an essential part of that liberty which it is the object of government to protect; and a calling, when chosen, is a man's property right. . . . A law which prohibits a large class of citizens from adopting a lawful employment, or from following a lawful employment previously adopted, does deprive them of liberty as well as property, without due process of law." *Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 116, 122 (1873) (Justice Bradley dissenting).

particular, became synonymous with governmental hands-off in the field of private economic relations. In *Budd v. New York*,⁴⁶ Justice Brewer in dictum declared: "The paternal theory of government is to me odious. The utmost possible liberty to the individual, and the fullest possible protection to him and his property, is both the limitation and duty of government." And to implement this point of view the Court next undertook to water down the accepted maxim that a state statute must be presumed to be valid until clearly shown to be otherwise.⁴⁷ The first step was taken with opposite intention. This occurred in *Munn v. Illinois*,⁴⁸ where the Court, in sustaining the legislation before it, declared: "For our purposes we must assume that, if a state of facts could exist that would justify such legislation, it actually did exist when the statute now under consideration was passed." Ten years later, in *Mugler v. Kansas*,⁴⁹ this procedure was improved upon, and a state-wide anti-liquor law was sustained on the basis of the proposition that deleterious social effects of the excessive use of alcoholic liquors were sufficiently notorious for the Court to be able to take notice of them, that is to say, for the Court to review and appraise the consideration which had induced the legislature to enact the statute in the first place.⁵⁰ However, in *Powell v. Pennsylvania*,⁵¹ decided the following year, the Court, confronted with a similar act involving oleomargarine, concerning which it was unable to claim a like measure of common knowledge, fell back upon the doctrine of presumed validity and sustained the measure, declaring that "it does not appear upon the face of the statute, or from any of the facts of which the Court must take judicial cognizance, that it infringes rights secured by the fundamental law."

In contrast to the presumed validity rule, under which the Court ordinarily is not obliged to go beyond the record of evidence submitted by the litigants in determining the validity of a statute, the judicial notice principle, as developed in *Mugler v. Kansas*, carried the inference that unless the Court, independently of the record, is able to ascertain the existence of justifying facts accessible to it by the rules governing judicial notice, it will be obliged to invalidate a police power regulation as bearing no reasonable or adequate relation to the purposes to be subserved by the latter;

⁴⁶ 143 U.S. 517, 551 (1892).

⁴⁷ See *Fletcher v. Peck*, 10 U.S. (6 Cr.) 87, 128 (1810).

⁴⁸ 94 U.S. 113, 123, 182 (1877).

⁴⁹ 123 U.S. 623 (1887).

⁵⁰ *Id.* at 662. "We cannot shut out of view the fact, within the knowledge of all, that the public health, the public morals, and the public safety, may be endangered by the general use of intoxicating drinks; nor the fact . . . that . . . pauperism, and crime . . . are, in some degree, at least, traceable to this evil."

⁵¹ 127 U.S. 678, 685 (1888).

namely, health, morals, or safety. For appraising state legislation affecting neither liberty nor property, the Court found the rule of presumed validity quite serviceable, but for invalidating legislation constituting governmental interference in the field of economic relations, and, more particularly, labor-management relations, the Court found the principle of judicial notice more advantageous. This advantage was enhanced by the disposition of the Court, in litigation embracing the latter type of legislation, to shift the burden of proof from the litigant charging unconstitutionality to the State seeking enforcement. To the State was transferred the task of demonstrating that a statute interfering with the natural right of liberty or property was in fact “authorized” by the Constitution, and not merely that the latter did not expressly prohibit enactment of the same.

In 1934 the Court in *Nebbia v. New York*⁵² discarded this approach to economic legislation, and has not since returned to it. The modern approach was evidenced in a 1955 decision reversing a lower court’s judgment invalidating a state statutory scheme regulating the sale of eyeglasses to the advantage of ophthalmologists and optometrists in private professional practice and adversely to opticians and to those employed by or using space in business establishments. “The day is gone when this Court uses the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to strike down state laws, regulatory of business and industrial conditions, because they may be unwise, improvident, or out of harmony with a particular school of thought. . . . We emphasize again what Chief Justice Waite said in *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113, 134, ‘For protection against abuses by legislatures the people must resort to the polls, not to the courts.’”⁵³ Yet the Court went on to assess the reasons which might have justified the legislature in prescribing the regulation at issue, leaving open the possibility that *some* regulation might be found unreasonable.⁵⁴ More recent decisions, however, have limited inquiry to whether the legislation is arbitrary or irrational, and have not addressed “reasonableness.”⁵⁵

⁵² 291 U.S. 502 (1934).

⁵³ *Williamson v. Lee Optical Co.*, 348 U.S. 483, 488 (1955).

⁵⁴ *Id.* at 487, 491.

⁵⁵ The Court has pronounced a strict “hands-off” standard of judicial review, whether of congressional or state legislative efforts to structure and accommodate the burdens and benefits of economic life. Such legislation is to be “accorded the traditional presumption of constitutionality generally accorded economic regulations” and is to be “upheld absent proof of arbitrariness or irrationality on the part of Congress.” That the accommodation among interests which the legislative branch has struck “may have profound and far-reaching consequences . . . provides all the more reason for this Court to defer to the congressional judgment unless it is demonstrably arbitrary or irrational.” *Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Environmental Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59, 83–84 (1978). *See also* *Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co.*,

“Persons” Defined.—Notwithstanding the historical controversy that has been waged concerning whether the framers of the Fourteenth Amendment intended the word “person” to mean only natural persons, or whether the word was substituted for the word “citizen” with a view to protecting corporations from oppressive state legislation,⁵⁶ the Supreme Court, as early as the *Granger Cases*,⁵⁷ decided in 1877, upheld on the merits various state laws without raising any question as to the status of railway corporation plaintiffs to advance due process contentions. There is no doubt that a corporation may not be deprived of its property without due process of law,⁵⁸ and although prior decisions had held that the “liberty” guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment is the liberty of natural, not artificial, persons,⁵⁹ nevertheless a newspaper corporation was sustained, in 1936, in its objection that a state law deprived it of liberty of press.⁶⁰ As to the natural persons protected by the due process clause, these include all human beings regardless of race, color, or citizenship.⁶¹

Ordinarily, the mere interest of an official as such, in contrast to an actual injury sustained by a natural or artificial person through invasion of personal or property rights, has not been

428 U.S. 1, 14–20 (1976); *Hodel v. Indiana*, 452 U.S. 314, 333 (1981); *New Motor Vehicle Bd. v. Orrin W. Fox Co.*, 439 U.S. 96, 106–08 (1978); *Exxon Corp. v. Governor of Maryland*, 437 U.S. 117, 124–25 (1978); *Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen v. Chicago, R.I. & P. R.R.*, 393 U.S. 129, 143 (1968); *Ferguson v. Skrupa*, 372 U.S. 726, 730, 733 (1963).

⁵⁶ See Graham, *The “Conspiracy Theory” of the Fourteenth Amendment*, 47 *YALE L. J.* 371 (1938).

⁵⁷ *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113 (1877). In a case arising under the Fifth Amendment, decided almost at the same time, the Court explicitly declared the United States “equally with the States . . . are prohibited from depriving persons or corporations of property without due process of law.” *Sinking Fund Cases*, 99 U.S. 700, 718–19 (1879).

⁵⁸ *Smyth v. Ames*, 169 U.S. 466, 522, 526 (1898); *Kentucky Co. v. Paramount Exch.*, 262 U.S. 544, 550 (1923); *Liggett Co. v. Baldrige*, 278 U.S. 105 (1928).

⁵⁹ *Northwestern Life Ins. Co. v. Riggs*, 203 U.S. 243, 255 (1906); *Western Turf Ass’n v. Greenberg*, 204 U.S. 359, 363 (1907); *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510, 535 (1925). Earlier, in *Northern Securities Co. v. United States*, 193 U.S. 197, 362 (1904), a case interpreting the federal antitrust law, Justice Brewer, in a concurring opinion, had declared that “a corporation . . . is not endowed with the inalienable rights of a natural person.”

⁶⁰ *Grosjean v. American Press Co.*, 297 U.S. 233, 244 (1936) (“a corporation is a ‘person’ within the meaning of the equal protection and due process of law clauses”). In *First Nat’l Bank of Boston v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765 (1978), faced with the validity of state restraints upon expression by corporations, the Court did not determine that corporations have First Amendment liberty rights—and other constitutional rights—but decided instead that expression was protected, irrespective of the speaker, because of the interests of the listeners. See *id.* at 778 n.14 (reserving question). But see *id.* at 809, 822 (Justices White and Rehnquist dissenting) (corporations as creatures of the state have the rights state gives them).

⁶¹ *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356 (1886); *Terrace v. Thompson*, 263 U.S. 197, 216 (1923). See *Hellenic Lines v. Rhodetis*, 398 U.S. 306, 309 (1970).

deemed adequate to enable him to invoke the protection of the Fourteenth Amendment against state action.⁶² Similarly, municipal corporations are viewed as having no standing “to invoke the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment in opposition to the will of their creator,” the State.⁶³ However, state officers are acknowledged to have an interest, despite their not having sustained any “private damage,” in resisting an “endeavor to prevent the enforcement of laws in relation to which they have official duties,” and, accordingly, may apply to federal courts for the “review of decisions of state courts declaring state statutes which [they] seek to enforce to be repugnant to the” Fourteenth Amendment.⁶⁴

Police Power Defined and Limited.—The police power of a State today embraces regulations designed to promote the public convenience or the general prosperity as well as those to promote public safety, health, and morals, and is not confined to the suppression of what is offensive, disorderly, or unsanitary, but extends to what is for the greatest welfare of the state.⁶⁵

Because the police power is the least limitable of the exercises of government, such limitations as are applicable are not readily definable. These limitations can be determined, therefore, only

⁶² *Pennie v. Reis*, 132 U.S. 464 (1889); *Taylor and Marshall v. Beckham* (No. 1), 178 U.S. 548 (1900); *Tyler v. Judges of Court of Registration*, 179 U.S. 405, 410 (1900); *Straus v. Foxworth*, 231 U.S. 162 (1913); *Columbus & G. Ry. v. Miller*, 283 U.S. 96 (1931).

⁶³ *City of Pawhuska v. Pawhuska Oil Co.*, 250 U.S. 394 (1919); *City of Trenton v. New Jersey*, 262 U.S. 182 (1923); *Williams v. Mayor of Baltimore*, 289 U.S. 36 (1933). *But see* *Madison School Dist. v. WERC*, 429 U.S. 167, 175 n.7 (1976) (reserving question whether municipal corporation as an employer has a First Amendment right assertable against State).

⁶⁴ *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433, 441, 442, 443, 445 (1939); *Boynton v. Hutchinson Gas Co.*, 291 U.S. 656 (1934); *South Carolina Hwy. Dept. v. Barnwell Bros.*, 303 U.S. 177 (1938).

The converse is not true, however, and the interest of a state official in vindicating the Constitution gives him no legal standing to attack the constitutionality of a state statute in order to avoid compliance with it. *Smith v. Indiana*, 191 U.S. 138 (1903); *Braxton County Court v. West Virginia*, 208 U.S. 192 (1908); *Marshall v. Dye*, 231 U.S. 250 (1913); *Stewart v. Kansas City*, 239 U.S. 14 (1915). *See also* *Coleman v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 433, 437–46 (1939).

⁶⁵ Long ago Chief Justice Marshall described the police power as “that immense mass of legislation, which embraces every thing within the territory of a State, not surrendered to the general government.” *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 22 U.S. (9 Wheat.) 1, 202 (1824). *See* *California Reduction Co. v. Sanitary Works*, 199 U.S. 306, 318 (1905); *Chicago B. & Q. Ry. v. Drainage Comm’rs*, 200 U.S. 561, 592 (1906); *Bacon v. Walker*, 204 U.S. 311 (1907); *Eubank v. Richmond*, 226 U.S. 137 (1912); *Schmidinger v. Chicago*, 226 U.S. 578 (1913); *Sligh v. Kirkwood*, 237 U.S. 52, 58–59 (1915); *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502 (1934); *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Walters*, 294 U.S. 405 (1935). *See also* *Penn Central Transp. Co. v. City of New York*, 438 U.S. 104 (1978) (police power encompasses preservation of historic landmarks; land-use restrictions may be enacted to enhance the quality of life by preserving the character and aesthetic features of city); *City of New Orleans v. Duquesne*, 427 U.S. 297 (1976); *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 427 U.S. 50 (1976).

through appropriate regard to the subject matter of the exercise of that power.⁶⁶ “It is settled [however] that neither the ‘contract’ clause nor the ‘due process’ clause had the effect of overriding the power of the state to establish all regulations that are reasonably necessary to secure the health, safety, good order, comfort, or general welfare of the community; that this power can neither be abdicated nor bargained away, and is inalienable even by express grant; and that all contract and property [or other vested] rights are held subject to its fair exercise.”⁶⁷ Insofar as the police power is utilized by a State, the means employed to effect its exercise can be neither arbitrary nor oppressive but must bear a real and substantial relation to an end which is public, specifically, the public health, public safety, or public morals, or some other phase of the general welfare.⁶⁸

A general rule often invoked is that if a police power regulation goes too far, it will be recognized as a taking of property for which compensation must be paid.⁶⁹ Yet where mutual advantage is a sufficient compensation, an ulterior public advantage may justify a comparatively insignificant taking of private property for what in its immediate purpose seems to be a private use.⁷⁰ On the other hand, mere “cost and inconvenience (different words, probably, for the same thing) would have to be very great before they could become an element in the consideration of the right of a state to exert its reserved power or its police power.”⁷¹ Moreover, it is elementary that enforcement of uncompensated obedience to a regulation passed in the legitimate exertion of the police power is not a taking without due process of law.⁷² Similarly, initial compliance with a regulation which is valid when adopted occasions no forfeiture of the right to protest when that regulation subsequently loses its validity by becoming confiscatory in its operation.⁷³

⁶⁶Hudson Water Co. v. McCarter, 209 U.S. 349 (1908); Eubank v. Richmond, 226 U.S. 137, 142 (1912); Erie R.R. v. Williams, 233 U.S. 685, 699 (1914); Sligh v. Kirkwood, 237 U.S. 52, 58–59 (1915); Hadacheck v. Sebastian, 239 U.S. 394 (1915); Hall v. Geiger-Jones Co., 242 U.S. 539 (1917); Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Co. v. Highway Comm’n, 294 U.S. 613, 622 (1935).

⁶⁷Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Goldsboro, 232 U.S. 548, 558 (1914).

⁶⁸Liggett Co. v. Baldrige, 278 U.S. 105, 111–12 (1928); Treigle v. Acme Homestead Ass’n, 297 U.S. 189, 197 (1936).

⁶⁹Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon, 260 U.S. 393 (1922); Welch v. Swasey, 214 U.S. 91, 107 (1909). See also Penn Central Transp. Co. v. City of New York, 438 U.S. 104 (1978); Agins v. City of Tiburon, 447 U.S. 255 (1980). See supra, pp. 1382–95.

⁷⁰Noble State Bank v. Haskell, 219 U.S. 104, 110 (1911).

⁷¹Erie R.R. v. Williams, 233 U.S. 685, 700 (1914).

⁷²New Orleans Public Service v. New Orleans, 281 U.S. 682, 687 (1930).

⁷³Abie State Bank v. Bryan, 282 U.S. 765, 776 (1931).

“Liberty”.—The “liberty” guaranteed by the due process clause has been variously defined by the Court, as will be seen herein-after. In general, in the early years, it meant almost exclusively “liberty of contract,” but with the demise of liberty of contract came a general broadening of “liberty” to include personal, political and social rights and privileges.⁷⁴ Nonetheless, the Court is generally chary of expanding the concept absent statutorily recognized rights.⁷⁵

Liberty of Contract

Regulatory Labor Laws Generally.—Liberty of contract, a concept originally advanced by Justices Bradley and Field in the *Slaughter-House Cases*,⁷⁶ was elevated to the status of accepted doctrine in *Allgeyer v. Louisiana*.⁷⁷ Applied repeatedly in subsequent cases as a restraint on federal and state power, freedom of contract was also alluded to as a property right, as is evident in the language of the Court in *Coppage v. Kansas*.⁷⁸ “Included in the right of personal liberty and the right of private property—partaking of the nature of each—is the right to make contracts for the acquisition of property. Chief among such contracts is that of personal employment, by which labor and other services are exchanged for money or other forms of property. If this right be

⁷⁴ See the tentative effort in *Hampton v. Mow Sun Wong*, 426 U.S. 88, 102 & n.23 (1976), apparently to expand upon the concept of “liberty” within the meaning of the Fifth Amendment’s due process clause and necessarily therefore the Fourteenth’s.

⁷⁵ See the substantial confinement of the concept in *Meachum v. Fano*, 427 U.S. 215 (1976); and *Montanye v. Haymes*, 427 U.S. 236 (1976), in which the Court applied to its determination of what is a liberty interest the “entitlement” doctrine developed in property cases, in which the interest is made to depend upon state recognition of the interest through positive law, an approach contrary to previous due process-liberty analysis. Cf. *Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408 U.S. 471, 482 (1972). For more recent cases, see *DeShaney v. Winnebago County Social Servs. Dep’t*, 489 U.S. 189 (1989) (no Due Process violation for failure of state to protect an abused child from his parent, even though abuse had been detected by social service agency); *Collins v. City of Harker Heights*, 112 S. Ct. 1061 (1992) (failure of city to warn its employees about workplace hazards does not violate due process; the due process clause does not impose a duty on the city to provide employees with a safe working environment).

⁷⁶ 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36 (1873).

⁷⁷ 165 U.S. 578, 589 (1897). “The liberty mentioned in that [Fourteenth] Amendment means not only the right of the citizen to be free from the mere physical restraint of his person, as by incarceration, but the term is deemed to embrace the right of the citizen to be free in the enjoyment of all his faculties, to be free to use them in all lawful ways; to live and work where he will; to earn his livelihood by any lawful calling; to pursue any livelihood or avocation, and for that purpose to enter into all contracts which may be proper, necessary and essential to his carrying out to a successful conclusion the purposes above mentioned.”

⁷⁸ 236 U.S. 1, 14 (1915).

struck down or arbitrarily interfered with, there is a substantial impairment of liberty in the long-established constitutional sense.”

By a process of reasoning that was almost completely discarded during the Depression, the Court was nevertheless able, prior thereto, to sustain state ameliorative legislation by acknowledging that freedom of contract was “a qualified and not an absolute right. . . . Liberty implies the absence of arbitrary restraint, not immunity from reasonable regulations and prohibitions imposed in the interest of the community. . . . In dealing with the relation of the employer and employed, the legislature has necessarily a wide field of discretion in order that there may be suitable protection of health and safety, and that peace and good order may be promoted through regulations designed to insure wholesome conditions of work and freedom from oppression.”⁷⁹

While continuing to acknowledge in abstract terms that freedom of contract is not absolute, the Court in fact was committed to the principle that freedom of contract is the general rule and that legislative authority to abridge it could be justified only by exceptional circumstances. To maintain such abridgments at a minimum, the Court intermittently employed the rule of judicial notice in a manner best exemplified by a comparison of the early cases of *Holden v. Hardy*⁸⁰ and *Lochner v. New York*,⁸¹ decisions which bear the same relation to each other as *Powell v. Pennsylvania*⁸² and *Mugler v. Kansas*.⁸³

In *Holden v. Hardy*,⁸⁴ the Court, in reliance upon the principle of presumed validity, allowed the burden of proof to remain with those attacking the validity of a statute and upheld a Utah act limiting the period of labor in mines to eight hours per day. Taking cognizance of the fact that labor below the surface of the earth was attended by risk to person and to health and for these reasons had long been the subject of state intervention, the Court registered its willingness to sustain a limitation on freedom of contract which a state legislature had adjudged “necessary for the preservation of health of employees,” and for which there were “reasonable grounds for believing that . . . [it was] supported by the facts.”

Seven years later, however, a radically altered Court was predisposed in favor of the doctrine of judicial notice, and applied that

⁷⁹ *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. McGuire*, 219 U.S. 549, 567, 570 (1911). *See also* *Wolff Packing Co. v. Industrial Court*, 262 U.S. 522, 534 (1923).

⁸⁰ 169 U.S. 366 (1898).

⁸¹ 198 U.S. 45 (1905).

⁸² 127 U.S. 678 (1888).

⁸³ 123 U.S. 623 (1887).

⁸⁴ 169 U.S. 366, 398 (1898).

doctrine to conclude in *Lochner v. New York*⁸⁵ that a law restricting employment in bakeries to ten hours per day and 60 hours per week was an unconstitutional interference with the right of adult laborers, *sui juris*, to contract for their means of livelihood. Denying that in so holding the Court was in effect substituting its own judgment for that of the legislature, Justice Peckham nevertheless maintained that whether the act was within the police power of the State was a “question that must be answered by the Court,” and then, in disregard of the accumulated medical evidence proffered in support of the act, uttered the following observation. “In looking through statistics regarding all trades and occupations, it may be true that the trade of a baker does not appear to be as healthy as some trades, and is also vastly more healthy than still others. To the common understanding the trade of a baker has never been regarded as an unhealthy one. . . . It might be safely affirmed that almost all occupations more or less affect the health. . . . But are we all, on that account, at the mercy of the legislative majorities?”⁸⁶

Two dissenting opinions were filed in the case. Justice Harlan, pointing to the abundance of medical testimony tending to show that the life expectancy of bakers was below average, that their capacity to resist diseases was low, and that they were peculiarly prone to suffer irritations of the eyes, lungs, and bronchial passages, concluded that the very existence of such evidence left the reasonableness of the measure open to discussion and that the latter fact of itself put the statute within legislative discretion. “The responsibility therefor rests upon the legislators, not upon the courts. No evils arising from such legislation could be more far reaching than those that might come to our system of government if the judiciary, abandoning the sphere assigned to it by the fundamental law, should enter the domain of legislation, and upon grounds merely of justice or reason or wisdom annul statutes that had received the sanction of the people’s representatives. . . . [T]he public interests imperatively demand that legislative enactments should be recognized and enforced by the courts as embodying the will of the people, unless they are plainly and palpably, beyond all question, in violation of the fundamental law of the Constitution.”⁸⁷

The second dissenting opinion, written by Justice Holmes, has received the greater measure of attention because the views expressed therein were a forecast of the line of reasoning to be fol-

⁸⁵ 198 U.S. 45 (1905).

⁸⁶ *Id.* at 58–59.

⁸⁷ *Id.* at 71, 74 (quoting *Atkin v. Kansas*, 191 U.S. 207, 223 (1903)).

lowed by the Court some decades later. “This case is decided upon an economic theory which a large part of the country does not entertain. If it were a question whether I agreed with that theory, I should desire to study it further and long before making up my mind. But I do not conceive that to be my duty, because I strongly believe that my agreement or disagreement has nothing to do with the right of a majority to embody their opinions in law. It is settled by various decisions of this court that state constitutions and state laws may regulate life in many ways which we as legislators might think as injudicious or if you like as tyrannical as this, and which equally with this interfere with the liberty to contract. . . . The Fourteenth Amendment does not enact Mr. Herbert Spencer’s *Social Statics*. . . . But a constitution is not intended to embody a particular economic theory, whether of paternalism and the organic relations of the citizen to the state or of *laissez faire*. It is made for people of fundamentally differing views, and the accident of our finding certain opinions natural and familiar or novel and even shocking ought not to conclude our judgment upon the question whether statutes embodying them conflict with the Constitution. . . . I think that the word liberty in the Fourteenth Amendment is perverted when it is held to prevent the natural outcome of a dominant opinion, unless it can be said that a rational and fair man necessarily would admit that the statute proposed would infringe fundamental principles as they have been understood by the traditions of our people and our law.”⁸⁸

In part, Justice Holmes’ criticism of his colleagues was unfair, for his “rational and fair man” could not function in a vacuum, and, in appraising the constitutionality of state legislation, could no more avoid being guided by his preferences or “economic predilections” than were the Justices constituting the majority. Insofar as he accepted the broader conception of due process of law in preference to the historical concept thereof as pertaining to the enforcement rather than the making of law, and did not affirmatively advocate a return to the maxim that the possibility of abuse is no argument against possession of a power, Justice Holmes, whether consciously or not, was thus prepared to observe, along with his opponents in the majority, the very practices which were deemed to have rendered inevitable the assumption by the Court of a “perpetual censorship” over state legislation. The basic distinction, therefore, between the positions taken by Justice Peckham for the majority and Justice Holmes, for what was then the minority, was the

⁸⁸ 198 U.S. at 75–76 (1905).

espousal of the conflicting doctrines of judicial notice by the former and of presumed validity by the latter.

Although the Holmes dissent bore fruit in time in the form of the *Bunting v. Oregon*⁸⁹ and *Muller v. Oregon*⁹⁰ decisions modifying *Lochner*, the doctrinal approach employed in the earlier of these by Justice Brewer continued to prevail until the Depression in the 1930's. In view of the shift in the burden of proof which application of the principle of judicial notice entailed, counsel defending the constitutionality of social legislation developed the practice of submitting voluminous factual briefs replete with medical or other scientific data intended to establish beyond question a substantial relationship between the challenged statute and public health, safety, or morals. Whenever the Court was disposed to uphold measures pertaining to industrial relations, such as laws limiting hours of work,⁹¹ it generally intimated that the facts thus submitted by way of justification had been authenticated sufficiently for it to take judicial cognizance thereof. On the other hand, whenever it chose to invalidate comparable legislation, such as enactments establishing minimum wage for women and children,⁹² it brushed aside such supporting data, proclaimed its inability to perceive any reasonable connection between the statute and the legitimate objectives of health or safety, and condemned the statute as an arbitrary interference with freedom of contract.

During the great Depression, however, the *laissez faire* tenet of self-help was supplanted by the belief that it is peculiarly the duty of government to help those who are unable to help themselves. To sustain remedial legislation enacted in conformity with the latter philosophy, the Court had to revise extensively its previously formulated concepts of "liberty" under the due process clause. Not only did the Court take judicial notice of the demands for relief arising from the Depression when it overturned prior holdings and sustained minimum wage legislation,⁹³ but, in upholding state legislation designed to protect workers in their efforts to organize and bargain collectively, the Court had to reconsider the scope of an

⁸⁹243 U.S. 426 (1917).

⁹⁰208 U.S. 412 (1908).

⁹¹Id.

⁹²*Adkins v. Children's Hospital*, 261 U.S. 525 (1923); *Stettler v. O'Hara*, 243 U.S. 629 (1917); *Morehead v. New York ex rel. Tipaldo*, 298 U.S. 587 (1936).

⁹³*West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish*, 300 U.S. 379 (1937). Thus the National Labor Relations Act was declared not to "interfere with the normal exercise of the right of the employer to select its employees or to discharge them." However, restraint of the employer for the purpose of preventing an unjust interference with the correlative right of his employees to organize was declared not to be arbitrary. *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.*, 301 U.S. 1, 44, 45-46 (1937).

employer's liberty of contract and recognize a correlative liberty of employees that state legislatures could protect.

To the extent that it acknowledged that liberty of the individual may be infringed by the coercive conduct of other individuals no less than by the arbitrary action of public officials, the Court in effect transformed the due process clause into a source of encouragement to state legislatures to intervene affirmatively to mitigate the effects of such coercion. By such modification of its views, liberty, in the constitutional sense of freedom resulting from restraint upon government, was replaced by the civil liberty which an individual enjoys by virtue of the restraints which government, in his behalf, imposes upon his neighbors.

Laws Regulating Hours of Labor.—Even during the *Lochner* era, the due process clause was construed as permitting enactment by the States of maximum hours laws applicable to women workers⁹⁴ and to workers in specified lines of work thought to be physically demanding or otherwise worthy of special protection.⁹⁵ Because of the almost plenary powers of the State and its municipal subdivisions to determine the conditions for work on public projects, statutes limiting the hours of labor on public works were also upheld at a relatively early date.⁹⁶

Laws Regulating Labor in Mines.—The regulation of mines being patently within the police power, States during this period were also upheld in the enactment of laws providing for appointment of mining inspectors and requiring payment of their fees by mine owners,⁹⁷ compelling employment of only licensed mine managers and mine examiners, and imposing upon mine owners liability for the willful failure of their manager and examiner to furnish a reasonably safe place for workmen.⁹⁸ Other similar regulations which have been sustained have included laws requiring that underground passageways meet or exceed a minimum width,⁹⁹ that boundary pillars be installed between adjoining coal properties as

⁹⁴ *Miller v. Wilson*, 236 U.S. 373 (1915) (statute limiting work to 8 hours/day, 48 hours/week); *Bosley v. McLaughlin*, 236 U.S. 385 (1915) (same restrictions for women working as pharmacists or student nurses). See also *Muller v. Oregon*, 208 U.S. 412 (1908) (10 hours/day as applied to work in laundries); *Riley v. Massachusetts*, 232 U.S. 671 (1914) (violation of lunch hour required to be posted).

⁹⁵ See, e.g., *Holden v. Hardy*, 169 U.S. 366 (1898) (statute limiting the hours of labor in mines and smelters to eight hours per day); *Bunting v. Oregon*, 243 U.S. 426 (1917) (statute limiting to ten hours per day, with the possibility of 3 hours per day of overtime at time-and-a-half pay, work in any mill, factory, or manufacturing establishment).

⁹⁶ *Atkin v. Kansas*, 191 U.S. 207 (1903).

⁹⁷ *St. Louis Consol. Coal Co. v. Illinois*, 185 U.S. 203 (1902).

⁹⁸ *Wilmington Mining Co. v. Fulton*, 205 U.S. 60 (1907).

⁹⁹ *Barrett v. Indiana*, 229 U.S. 26 (1913).

a protection against flood in case of abandonment,¹⁰⁰ and that washhouses be provided for employees.¹⁰¹

Law Prohibiting Employment of Children in Hazardous Occupations.—To make effective its prohibition against the employment of persons under 16 years of age in dangerous occupations, a State has been held to be competent to require employers at their peril to ascertain whether their employees are in fact below that age.¹⁰²

Laws Regulating Payment of Wages.—No unconstitutional deprivation of liberty of contract was deemed to have been occasioned by a statute requiring redemption in cash of store orders or other evidences of indebtedness issued by employers in payment of wages.¹⁰³ Nor was any constitutional defect discernible in laws requiring railroads to pay their employees semimonthly¹⁰⁴ and to pay them on the day of discharge, without abatement or reduction, any funds due them.¹⁰⁵ Similarly, freedom of contract was held not to be infringed by an act requiring that miners, whose compensation was fixed on the basis of weight, be paid according to coal in the mine car rather than at a certain price per ton for coal screened after it has been brought to the surface, and conditioning such payment on the presence of no greater percentage of dirt or impurities than that ascertained as unavoidable by the State Industrial Commission.¹⁰⁶

Minimum Wage Laws.—The theory that a law prescribing minimum wages for women and children violates due process by impairing freedom of contract was finally discarded in 1937.¹⁰⁷ The modern theory of the Court, particularly when labor is the beneficiary of legislation, was stated by Justice Douglas for a majority of the Court, in the following terms: “Our recent decisions make plain that we do not sit as a superlegislature to weigh the wisdom of legislation nor to decide whether the policy which it expresses offends the public welfare. The legislative power has limits. . . . But the state legislatures have constitutional authority to experiment with new techniques; they are entitled to their own standard

¹⁰⁰ *Plymouth Coal Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 232 U.S. 531 (1914).

¹⁰¹ *Booth v. Indiana*, 237 U.S. 391 (1915).

¹⁰² *Sturges & Burn v. Beauchamp*, 231 U.S. 320 (1913).

¹⁰³ *Knoxville Iron Co. v. Harbison*, 183 U.S. 13 (1901); *Dayton Coal and Iron Co. v. Barton*, 183 U.S. 23 (1901); *Keokee Coke Co. v. Taylor*, 234 U.S. 224 (1914).

¹⁰⁴ *Erie R.R. v. Williams*, 233 U.S. 685 (1914).

¹⁰⁵ *St. Louis, I. Mt. & S.P. Ry. v. Paul*, 173 U.S. 404 (1899).

¹⁰⁶ *Rail Coal Co. v. Ohio Industrial Comm'n*, 236 U.S. 338 (1915). *See also* *McLean v. Arkansas*, 211 U.S. 539 (1909).

¹⁰⁷ *West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish*, 300 U.S. 379 (1937) (overruling *Adkins v. Children's Hospital*, 261 U.S. 525 (1923), a Fifth Amendment case); *Morehead v. New York ex rel. Tipaldo*, 298 U.S. 587 (1936).

of the public welfare; they may within extremely broad limits control practices in the business-labor field, so long as specific constitutional prohibitions are not violated and so long as conflicts with valid and controlling federal laws are avoided.”¹⁰⁸ Proceeding from this basis the Court sustained a Missouri statute giving employees the right to absent themselves four hours on election day, between the opening and closing of the polls, without deduction of wages for their absence.

It was admitted that this was a minimum wage law, but, said Justice Douglas, “the protection of the right of suffrage under our scheme of things is basic and fundamental,” and hence within the police power. “Of course,” the Justice added, “many forms of regulation reduce the net return of the enterprise. . . . Most regulations of business necessarily impose financial burdens on the enterprise for which no compensation is paid. Those are part of the costs of our civilization. Extreme cases are conjured up where an employer is required to pay wages for a period that has no relation to the legitimate end. Those cases can await decision as and when they arise. The present law has no such infirmity. It is designed to eliminate any penalty for exercising the right of suffrage and to remove a practical obstacle to getting out the vote. The public welfare is a broad and inclusive concept. The moral, social, economic, and physical well-being of the community is one part of it; the political well-being, another. The police power which is adequate to fix the financial burden for one is adequate for the other. The judgment of the legislature that time out for voting should cost the employee nothing may be a debatable one. It is indeed conceded by the opposition to be such. But if our recent cases mean anything, they leave debatable issues as respects business, economic, and social affairs to legislative decision. We could strike down this law only if we returned to the philosophy of the *Lochner*, *Coppage*, and *Adkins* cases.”¹⁰⁹

Workers’ Compensation Laws.—“This court repeatedly has upheld the authority of the States to establish by legislation departures from the fellow-servant rule and other common-law rules affecting the employer’s liability for personal injuries to the employee.”¹¹⁰ “These decisions have established the propositions that the rules of law concerning the employer’s responsibility for personal injury or death of an employee arising in the course of em-

¹⁰⁸ *Day-Brite Lighting, Inc. v. Missouri*, 342 U.S. 421, 423 (1952).

¹⁰⁹ *Id.* at 424–25. *See also* *Dean v. Gadsden Times Pub. Co.*, 412 U.S. 543 (1973) (sustaining statute providing that employee excused for jury duty should be entitled to full compensation from employer, less jury service fee).

¹¹⁰ *New York Cent. R.R. v. White*, 243 U.S. 188, 200 (1917).

ployment are not beyond alteration by legislation in the public interest; that no person has a vested right entitling him to have these any more than other rules of law remain unchanged for his benefit; and that, if we exclude arbitrary and unreasonable changes, liability may be imposed upon the employer without fault, and the rules respecting his responsibility to one employee for the negligence of another and respecting contributory negligence and assumption of risk are subject to legislative change.”¹¹¹ Accordingly, a state statute which provided an exclusive system to govern the liabilities of employers and the rights of employees and their dependents to compensation for disabling injuries and death caused by accident in certain hazardous occupations,¹¹² was held not to work a denial of due process in rendering the employer liable irrespective of the doctrines of negligence, contributory negligence, assumption of risk, and negligence of fellow-servants, nor in depriving the employee or his dependents of the higher damages which, in some cases, might be rendered under these doctrines.¹¹³ Likewise, an act which allowed an injured employee an election of remedies permitting restricted recovery under a compensation law although guilty of contributory negligence, and full compensatory damages under the Employers’ Liability Act, did not deprive an employer of his property without due process of law.¹¹⁴

The imposition upon coal mine operators, and ultimately coal consumers, of the liability of compensating *former* employees who terminated work in the industry before passage of the law for black lung disabilities contracted in the course of their work was sustained by the Court as a rational measure to spread the costs of the employees’ disabilities to those who have profited from the fruits of their labor.¹¹⁵ Legislation readjusting rights and burdens is not unlawful solely because it upsets otherwise settled expectations, but it must take account of the realities previously existing, i.e., that the danger may not have been known or appreciated, or that actions might have been taken in reliance upon the current state of the law; therefore, legislation imposing liability on the basis of deterrence or of blameworthiness might not have passed muster.

¹¹¹ Arizona Employers’ Liability Cases, 250 U.S. 400, 419–20 (1919).

¹¹² In determining what occupations may be brought under the designation of “hazardous,” the legislature may carry the idea to the “vanishing point.” Ward & Gow v. Krinsky, 259 U.S. 503, 520 (1922).

¹¹³ New York Central R.R. v. White, 243 U.S. 188 (1917); Mountain Timber Co. v. Washington, 243 U.S. 219 (1917).

¹¹⁴ Arizona Employers’ Liability Cases, 250 U.S. 400 (1919).

¹¹⁵ Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co., 428 U.S. 1, 14–20 (1976). *But see id.* at 38 (Justice Powell concurring).

Contracts limiting liability for injuries, consummated in advance of the injury received, may be prohibited by the legislature, which may further stipulate that subsequent acceptance of benefits under such contracts shall not constitute satisfaction of a claim for injuries thereafter sustained.¹¹⁶ Also, as applied to a nonresident alien employee hired within the State but injured outside, an act forbidding any contracts exempting employers from liability for injuries outside the State has been construed as not denying due process to the employer.¹¹⁷ The fact that a State, after having allowed employers to cover their liability with a private insurer, subsequently withdrew that privilege and required them to contribute to a state insurance fund was held to effect no unconstitutional deprivation as applied to an employer who had obtained protection from an insurance company before this change went into effect.¹¹⁸ As long as the right to come under a workmen's compensation statute is optional with an employer, the latter, having chosen to accept benefits thereof, is estopped from attempting to escape its burdens by challenging the constitutionality of a provision thereof which makes the finding of fact of an industrial commission conclusive if supported by any evidence regardless of its preponderance.¹¹⁹

When, by the terms of a workers' compensation statute, the wrongdoer, in case of wrongful death, is obliged to indemnify the employer or the insurance carrier of the employer of the decedent, in the amount which the latter were required under the act to contribute into special compensation funds, no unconstitutional deprivation of the wrongdoer's property was discernible.¹²⁰ By the same course of reasoning neither the employer nor the carrier was held to have been denied due process by another provision in an act requiring payments by them, in case an injured employee dies without dependents, into special funds to be used for vocational rehabilitation or disability compensation of injured workers of other establishments.¹²¹ Compensation also need not be based exclusively on loss of earning power, and an award authorized by statute for injuries resulting in disfigurement of the face or head, independent of compensation for inability to work, has been conceded to be neither an arbitrary nor oppressive exercise of the police power.¹²²

¹¹⁶ *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. McGuire*, 219 U.S. 549 (1911).

¹¹⁷ *Alaska Packers Ass'n v. Industrial Accident Comm'n*, 294 U.S. 532 (1935).

¹¹⁸ *Thornton v. Duffy*, 254 U.S. 361 (1920).

¹¹⁹ *Booth Fisheries v. Industrial Comm'n*, 271 U.S. 208 (1926).

¹²⁰ *Staten Island Ry. v. Phoenix Co.*, 281 U.S. 98 (1930).

¹²¹ *Sheehan Co. v. Shuler*, 265 U.S. 371 (1924); *New York State Rys. v. Shuler*, 265 U.S. 379 (1924).

¹²² *New York Cent. R.R. v. Bianc*, 250 U.S. 596 (1919). Attorneys are not deprived of property or their liberty of contract by restriction imposed by the State

Collective Bargaining.—During the 1930s, liberty, as translated into what one Justice labeled the *Allgeyer-Lochner-Adair-Coppage* doctrine,¹²³ lost its potency as an obstacle to legislation calculated to enhance the bargaining capacity of workers as against that already possessed by their employers. Prior to the manifestation, in *Senn v. Tile Layers Union*,¹²⁴ of a greater willingness to defer to legislative judgment as to the wisdom and need of such enactments, the Court had, on occasion, sustained measures affecting the employment relationship, e.g., a statute requiring every corporation to furnish, upon request by any employee being discharged or leaving its service, a letter, signed by the superintendent or manager, setting forth the nature and duration of the employee's service and the true cause for leaving.¹²⁵ Added provisions that such letters should be on plain paper selected by the em-

on the fees which they may charge in cases arising under the workmen's compensation law. *Yeiser v. Dysart*, 267 U.S. 540 (1925).

¹²³Justice Black in *Lincoln Federal Labor Union v. Northwestern Iron & Metal Co.*, 335 U.S. 525, 535 (1949). In his concurring opinion, contained in the companion case of *AFL v. American Sash & Door Co.*, 335 U.S. 538, 543–44 (1949), Justice Frankfurter summarized the now obsolete doctrines employed by the Court to strike down state laws fostering unionization. “[U]nionization encountered the shibboleths of a premachine age and these were reflected in juridical assumptions that survived the facts on which they were based. Adam Smith was treated as though his generalizations had been imparted to him on Sinai and not as a thinker who addressed himself to the elimination of restrictions which had become fetters upon initiative and enterprise in his day. Basic human rights expressed by the constitutional conception of ‘liberty’ were equated with theories of *laissez faire*. The result was that economic views of confined validity were treated by lawyers and judges as though the Framers had enshrined them in the Constitution. . . . The attitude which regarded any legislative encroachment upon the existing economic order as infected with unconstitutionality led to disrespect for legislative attempts to strengthen the wage-earners’ bargaining power. With that attitude as a premise, *Adair v. United States*, 208 U.S. 161 (1908), and *Coppage v. Kansas*, 236 U.S. 1 (1915), followed logically enough; not even *Truax v. Corrigan*, 257 U.S. 312 (1921), could be considered unexpected.”

In *Adair* and *Coppage* the Court voided statutes outlawing “yellow dog” contracts whereby, as a condition of obtaining employment, a worker had to agree not to join or to remain a member of a union; these laws, the Court ruled, impaired the employer’s “freedom of contract”—the employer’s unrestricted right to hire and fire. In *Truax*, the Court on similar grounds invalidated an Arizona statute which denied the use of injunctions to employers seeking to restrain picketing and various other communicative actions by striking employees. And in *Wolff Co. v. Industrial Court*, 262 U.S. 522 (1923); 267 U.S. 552 (1925) and *Dorchy v. Kansas*, 264 U.S. 286 (1924), the Court had also ruled that a statute compelling employers and employees to submit their controversies over wages and hours to state arbitration was unconstitutional as part of a system compelling employers and employees to continue in business on terms not of their own making.

¹²⁴301 U.S. 486 (1937).

¹²⁵*Prudential Ins. Co. v. Cheek*, 259 U.S. 530 (1922). In conjunction with its approval of this statute, the Court also sanctioned judicial enforcement of a local policy rule which rendered illegal an agreement of several insurance companies having a local monopoly of a line of insurance, to the effect that no company would employ within two years anyone who had been discharged from, or left, the service of any of the others.

ployee, signed in ink and sealed, and free from superfluous figures and words, were also sustained as not amounting to any unconstitutional deprivation of liberty and property.¹²⁶ On the ground that the right to strike is not absolute, the Court in a similar manner upheld a statute under which a labor union official was punished for having ordered a strike for the purpose of coercing an employer to pay a wage claim of a former employee.¹²⁷

The significance of *Senn v. Tile Layers Union*¹²⁸ as an indicator of the range of the alteration of the Court's views concerning the constitutionality of state labor legislation, derives in part from the fact that the statute upheld therein was not appreciably different from that voided in *Truax v. Corrigan*.¹²⁹ Both statutes withheld the remedy of injunction. Because, however, the invalidated act did not contain the more liberal and also more precise definition of a labor dispute set forth in the sustained enactment and, above all, did not affirmatively purport to sanction peaceful picketing only, the Court was enabled to maintain that *Truax v. Corrigan*, insofar as "the statute there in question was . . . applied to legalize conduct which was not simply peaceful picketing," was distinguishable. The statute upheld in *Senn* authorized the giving of publicity to labor disputes, declared peaceful picketing and patrolling lawful, and prohibited the granting of injunctions against such conduct; the statute was applied to deny an injunction to a tiling contractor being picketed by a union because he refused to sign a closed shop agreement containing a provision requiring him to abstain from working in his own business as a tile layer or helper. Inasmuch as the enhancement of job opportunities for members of the union was a legitimate objective, the State was held competent to authorize the fostering of that end by peaceful picketing, and the fact that the sustaining of the union in its efforts at peaceful persuasion might have the effect of preventing Senn from continuing in business as an independent entrepreneur was declared to present an issue of public policy exclusively for legislative determination.¹³⁰

Years later, the policy of many state legislatures had evolved in the direction of attempting to control the abuse of the enormous economic power that previously enacted protective measures had

¹²⁶ *Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry. v. Perry*, 259 U.S. 548 (1922).

¹²⁷ *Dorchy v. Kansas*, 272 U.S. 306 (1926).

¹²⁸ 301 U.S. 468 (1937).

¹²⁹ 257 U.S. 312 (1921).

¹³⁰ Cases disposing of the contention that restraints on picketing amount to a denial of freedom of speech and constitute therefore a deprivation of liberty without due process of law have been set forth under the First Amendment. See pp. 1102, 1121, *supra*.

enabled labor unions to amass, and here too the Court found restrictions constitutional. Thus the Court upheld application of a state prohibition on racial discrimination by unions, rejecting claims that the measure interfered unlawfully with the union's right to choose its members and abridged its property rights, and liberty of contract. Inasmuch as the union "[held] itself out to represent the general business needs of employees" and functioned "under the protection of the State," the union was deemed to have forfeited the right to claim exemption from legislation protecting workers against discriminatory exclusion.¹³¹

Similarly approved as constitutional in *Lincoln Federal Labor Union v. Northwestern Iron & Metal Co.*¹³² and *AFL v. American Sash & Door Co.*¹³³ were state laws outlawing the closed shop. When labor unions invoked in their own defense the freedom of contract doctrine that hitherto had been employed to nullify legislation intended for their protection, the Court, speaking through Justice Black, announced its refusal "to return . . . to . . . [a] due process philosophy that has been deliberately discarded. . . . The due process clause," it maintained, does not "forbid a State to pass laws clearly designed to safeguard the opportunity of nonunion workers to get and hold jobs, free from discrimination against them because they are nonunion workers."¹³⁴ Also in harmony with the last mentioned pair of cases is *UAW v. WERB*,¹³⁵ upholding enforcement of the Wisconsin Employment Peace Act to proscribe as an unfair labor practice efforts of a union, after collective bargaining negotiations had become deadlocked, to coerce an employer through a "slow-down" in production achieved by the frequent, irregular, and unannounced calling of union meetings during working hours. "No one," declared the Court, can question "the State's power to police coercion by . . . methods" which involve "considerable injury to

¹³¹ *Railway Mail Ass'n v. Corsi*, 326 U.S. 88, 94 (1945). Justice Frankfurter, concurring, declared that "the insistence by individuals of their private prejudices . . . in relations like those now before us, ought not to have a higher constitutional sanction than the determination of a State to extend the area of nondiscrimination beyond that which the Constitution itself exacts." *Id.* at 98.

¹³² 335 U.S. 525 (1949).

¹³³ 335 U.S. 538 (1949).

¹³⁴ 335 U.S. 525, 534, 537. In a lengthy opinion, in which he registered his concurrence with both decisions, Justice Frankfurter set forth extensive statistical data calculated to prove that labor unions not only were possessed of considerable economic power but by virtue of such power were no longer dependent on the closed shop for survival. He would therefore leave to the legislatures the determination "whether it is preferable in the public interest that trade unions should be subjected to state intervention or left to the free play of social forces, whether experience has disclosed 'union unfair labor practices,' and if so, whether legislative correction is more appropriate than self-discipline and pressure of public opinion. . . ." *Id.* at 538, 549-50.

¹³⁵ 336 U.S. 245 (1949).

property and intimidation of other employees by threats.”¹³⁶ Finally, in *Giboney v. Empire Storage Co.*,¹³⁷ the Court acknowledged that no violation of the Constitution results when a state law forbidding agreements in restraint of trade is construed by state courts as forbidding members of a union of ice peddlers from peacefully picketing a wholesale ice distributor’s place of business for the sole purpose of inducing the latter not to sell to nonunion peddlers.

Regulation of Business Enterprises: Rates, Charges, and Conditions of Service

“Business Affected With a Public Interest”—In endeavoring to measure the impact of the due process clause upon efforts by the States to control the charges exacted by various businesses for their services, the Supreme Court, almost from the inception of the Fourteenth Amendment, devoted itself to the examination of two questions: (1) whether the clause precluded that kind of regulation of certain types of business, and (2) the nature of the restraint, if any, which this clause imposed on state control of rates in the case of businesses as to which such control existed. For a brief interval following the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, the Supreme Court appears to have underestimated the significance of the due process clause as a substantive restraint on the power of States to fix rates chargeable by an industry deemed appropriately subject to such controls. Thus, in *Munn v. Illinois*,¹³⁸ the first of the “*Granger Cases*,” in which maximum charges established by a state legislature for Chicago grain elevator companies were challenged, not as being confiscatory in character, but rather as a regulation beyond the power of any state agency to impose, the Court, in an opinion that was largely dictum, declared that the due process clause did not operate as a safeguard against oppressive rates, that if regulation was permissible, the severity thereof was within legislative discretion and could be ameliorated only by resort to the polls. Not much time elapsed, however, before the Court effected a complete withdrawal from this position. By 1890¹³⁹ it had fully converted the due process clause into a positive restriction which the judicial branch was duty bound to enforce whenever state agencies sought to impose rates which, in its estimation, were arbitrary or unreasonable.

¹³⁶ *Id.* at 253.

¹³⁷ 336 U.S. 490 (1949). Other recent cases regulating picketing are treated under the First Amendment. See pp. 1173–79, *supra*.

¹³⁸ 94 U.S. 113 (1877).

¹³⁹ *Chicago, M. & St.P. Ry. v. Minnesota*, 134 U.S. 418 (1890).

In contrast to the speed with which the Court arrived at those above mentioned conclusions, more than fifty years were to elapse before it developed its currently applicable formula for determining the propriety of subjecting specific businesses to state regulation of their prices or charges. Prior to 1934, unless a business was “affected with a public interest,” control of its prices, rates, or conditions of service was viewed as an unconstitutional deprivation of liberty and property without due process of law. During the period of its application, however, this standard, “business affected with a public interest,” never acquired any precise meaning, and as a consequence lawyers were never able to identify all those qualities or attributes which invariably distinguished a business so affected from one not so affected. The most coherent effort by the Court was the following classification prepared by Chief Justice Taft.¹⁴⁰ “(1) Those [businesses] which are carried on under the authority of a public grant of privileges which either expressly or impliedly imposes the affirmative duty of rendering a public service demanded by any member of the public. Such are the railroads, other common carriers and public utilities. (2) Certain occupations, regarded as exceptional, the public interest attaching to which, recognized from earliest times, has survived the period of arbitrary laws by Parliament or Colonial legislatures for regulating all trades and callings. Such are those of the keepers of inns, cabs and grist mills. . . . (3) Businesses which though not public at their inception may be fairly said to have risen to be such and have become subject in consequence to some government regulation. They have come to hold such a peculiar relation to the public that this is superimposed upon them. In the language of the cases, the owner by devoting his business to the public use, in effect grants the public an interest in that use and subjects himself to public regulation to the extent of that interest although the property continues to belong to its private owner and to be entitled to protection accordingly.”

Through application of this now outmoded formula the Court found it possible to sustain state laws regulating charges made by grain elevators,¹⁴¹ stockyards,¹⁴² and tobacco warehouses,¹⁴³ and fire insurance rates¹⁴⁴ and commissions paid to fire insurance agents.¹⁴⁵ Voided, because the businesses sought to be controlled

¹⁴⁰ *Wolff Packing Co. v. Industrial Court*, 262 U.S. 522, 535–36 (1923).

¹⁴¹ *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U.S. 113 (1877); *Budd v. New York*, 143 U.S. 517, 546 (1892); *Brass v. North Dakota ex rel. Stoesser*, 153 U.S. 391 (1894).

¹⁴² *Cotting v. Kansas City Stock Yards Co.*, 183 U.S. 79 (1901).

¹⁴³ *Townsend v. Yeomans*, 301 U.S. 441 (1937).

¹⁴⁴ *German Alliance Ins. Co. v. Kansas*, 233 U.S. 389 (1914); *Aetna Insurance Co. v. Hyde*, 275 U.S. 440 (1928).

¹⁴⁵ *O’Gorman & Young v. Hartford Ins. Co.*, 282 U.S. 251 (1931).

were deemed to be not so affected, were state statutes fixing the price at which gasoline may be sold,¹⁴⁶ or at which ticket brokers may resell tickets purchased from theatres,¹⁴⁷ and limiting competition in the manufacture and sale of ice through the withholding of licenses to engage therein.¹⁴⁸

Nebbia v. New York.—In upholding, by a vote of five-to-four, a depression-induced New York statute fixing prices at which fluid milk might be sold, the Court in 1934 finally shelved the concept of “a business affected with a public interest.”¹⁴⁹ Older decisions, insofar as they negated a power to control prices in businesses found not “to be clothed with a public use” were now viewed as resting, “finally, upon the basis that the requirements of due process were not met because the laws were found arbitrary in their operation and effect. Price control, like any other form of regulation, is [now] unconstitutional only if arbitrary, discriminatory, or demonstrably irrelevant to the policy the legislature is free to adopt, and hence an unnecessary and unwarranted interference with individual liberty.” Conceding that “the dairy industry is not, in the accepted sense of the phrase, a public utility,” that is, a “business affected with a public interest,” the Court in effect declared that price control henceforth is to be viewed merely as an exercise by the government of its police power, and as such is subject only to the restrictions which due process imposes on arbitrary interference with liberty and property. Nor was the Court disturbed by the fact that a “scientific validity” had been claimed for the theories of Adam Smith relating to the “price that will clear the market.” However much the minority might stress the unreasonableness of any artificial state regulation interfering with

¹⁴⁶ *Williams v. Standard Oil Co.*, 278 U.S. 235 (1929).

¹⁴⁷ *Tyson & Bro. v. Banton*, 273 U.S. 418 (1927).

¹⁴⁸ *New State Ice Co. v. Liebmann*, 285 U.S. 262 (1932). *See also* *Adams v. Tanner*, 244 U.S. 590 (1917); *Weaver v. Palmer Bro.*, 270 U.S. 402 (1926).

¹⁴⁹ *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502, 531–32, 535–37, 539 (1934). In reaching this conclusion the Court might be said to have elevated to the status of prevailing doctrine the views advanced in previous decisions by dissenting Justices. Thus, Justice Stone, dissenting in *Ribnik v. McBride*, 277 U.S. 350, 359–60 (1928), had declared: “Price regulation is within the State’s power whenever any combination of circumstances seriously curtails the regulative force of competition so that buyers or sellers are placed at such a disadvantage in the bargaining struggle that a legislature might reasonably anticipate serious consequences to the community as a whole.” In his dissenting opinion in *New State Ice Co. v. Liebmann*, 285 U.S. 262, 302–03 (1932), Justice Brandeis had also observed: “The notion of a distinct category of business ‘affected with a public interest’ employing property ‘devoted to a public use’ rests upon historical error. In my opinion the true principle is that the State’s power extends to every regulation of any business reasonably required and appropriate for the public protection. I find in the due process clause no other limitation upon the character or the scope of regulation permissible.”

the determination of prices by “natural forces,”¹⁵⁰ the majority was content to note that the “due process clause makes no mention of prices” and that “the courts are both incompetent and unauthorized to deal with the wisdom of the policy adopted or the practicability of the law enacted to forward it.”

Having thus concluded that it is no longer the nature of the business that determines the validity of a regulation of its rates or charges but solely the reasonableness of the regulation, the Court had little difficulty in upholding, in *Olsen v. Nebraska*,¹⁵¹ a state law prescribing the maximum commission which private employment agencies may charge. Rejecting the contentions of the employment agencies that the need for such protective legislation had not been shown, the Court held that differences of opinion as to the wisdom, need, or appropriateness of the legislation “suggest a choice which should be left to the States;” and that there was “no necessity for the State to demonstrate before us that evils persist despite the competition” between public, charitable, and private employment agencies. The older case of *Ribnik v. McBride*,¹⁵² which had invalidated similar legislation upon the now obsolete concept of a “business affected with a public interest,” was expressly overruled.

Judicial Review of Publicly Determined Rates and Charges

Development.—In *Munn v. Illinois*,¹⁵³ its initial holding concerning the applicability of the Fourteenth Amendment to governmental price fixing,¹⁵⁴ the Court not only asserted that governmental regulation of rates charged by public utilities and allied businesses was within the States’ police power, but added that the determination of such rates by a legislature was conclusive and not subject to judicial review or revision. Expanding the range of per-

¹⁵⁰ Justice McReynolds, speaking for the dissenting Justices, labelled the controls imposed by the challenged statute as a “fanciful scheme to protect the farmer against undue exactions by prescribing the price at which milk disposed of by him at will may be resold.” Intimating that the New York statute was as efficacious as a safety regulation which required “householders to pour oil on their roofs as a means of curbing the spread of a neighborhood fire,” Justice McReynolds insisted that “this Court must have regard to the wisdom of the enactment,” and must determine “whether the means proposed have reasonable relation to something within legislative power.” 291 U.S., 556, 558 (1934).

¹⁵¹ 313 U.S. 236, 246 (1941).

¹⁵² 277 U.S. 350 (1928). *Adams v. Tanner*, 244 U.S. 590 (1917), was disapproved in *Ferguson v. Skrupa*, 372 U.S. 726 (1963), and *Tyson & Bro. v. Banton*, 273 U.S. 418 (1927), was effectively overruled in *Gold v. DiCarlo*, 380 U.S. 520 (1965), without the Court hearing argument on it.

¹⁵³ 94 U.S. 113 (1877). See also *Peik v. Chicago & Nw. Ry.*, 94 U.S. 164 (1877).

¹⁵⁴ Rate-making is deemed to be one species of price fixing. *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575, 603 (1942).

missible governmental fixing of prices, the Court in *Nebbia*¹⁵⁵ declared that prices established for business in general would invite judicial condemnation only if “arbitrary, discriminatory, or demonstrably irrelevant to the policy the legislature is free to adopt.” The latter standard of judicial appraisal, as will be subsequently noted, represents less of a departure from the principle enunciated in the *Munn* case than that which the Court evolved, in the years following 1877, to measure the validity of state imposed public utility rates, and this difference in the judicial treatment of prices and rates accordingly warrants an explanation at the outset. Unlike operators of public utilities who, in return for the grant of certain exclusive, virtually monopolistic privileges by the governmental unit enfranchising them, must assume an obligation to provide continuous service, proprietors of other businesses are in receipt of no similar special advantages and accordingly are unrestricted in the exercise of their right to liquidate and close their establishments. Owners of ordinary businesses, therefore, at liberty to escape by dissolution the consequences of publicly imposed charges deemed to be oppressive, have thus far been unable to convince the courts that they too, no less than public utilities, are in need of protection through judicial review.

Consistently with its initial pronouncement in the *Munn* case that reasonableness of compensation allowed under permissible rate regulation presented a legislative rather than a judicial question, the Court, in *Davidson v. New Orleans*,¹⁵⁶ also rejected the contention that, by virtue of the due process clause, businesses were nevertheless entitled to “just compensation” for losses resulting from price controls. Less than a decade was to elapse, however, before the Court, appalled perhaps by prospective consequences of leaving business “at the mercy of the majority of the legislature,” began to reverse itself. Thus, in 1886, Chief Justice Waite, in the *Railroad Commission Cases*,¹⁵⁷ warned that “this power to regulate is not a power to destroy; [and] the State cannot do that in law which amounts to a taking of property for public use without just compensation or without due process of law;” in other words, a confiscatory rate could not be imposed. By treating “due process of law” and “just compensation” as equivalents, the Court, contrary to its earlier holding in *Davidson v. New Orleans*, was in effect asserting that the imposition of a rate so low as to damage or diminish private property ceased to be an exercise of a State’s police

¹⁵⁵ *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502, 539 (1934).

¹⁵⁶ 96 U.S. 97 (1878). See also *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226 (1897).

¹⁵⁷ 116 U.S. 307 (1886).

power and became one of eminent domain. Nevertheless, even the added measure of protection afforded by the doctrine of the *Railroad Commission Cases* proved inadequate to satisfy public utilities; the doctrine allowed courts to intervene only to prevent legislative imposition of a confiscatory rate, a rate so low as to be productive of a loss and to amount to taking of property without just compensation. The utilities sought nothing less than a judicial acknowledgment that courts could review the “reasonableness” of legislative rates. Although as late as 1888 the Court doubted that it possessed the requisite power,¹⁵⁸ it finally acceded to the wishes of the utilities in 1890, and, in *Chicago, M. & St.P. Railway v. Minnesota*¹⁵⁹ ruled as follows: “The question of the reasonableness of rates . . . , involving as it does the element of reasonableness both as regards the company and as regards the public, is eminently a question for judicial investigation, requiring due process of law for its determination. If the company is deprived of the power of charging rates for the use of its property, and such deprivation takes place in the absence of an investigation by judicial machinery, it is deprived of the lawful use of its property, and thus, in substance and effect, of the property itself, without due process of law. . . .”

Despite a last-ditch attempt to reconcile *Munn* with *Chicago, M. & St.P. Railway* by confining application of the latter decision to cases in which rates had been fixed by a commission and denying its pertinence to rates directly imposed by a legislature,¹⁶⁰ the Court in *Reagan v. Farmer's Loan and Trust Co.*¹⁶¹ set at rest all lingering doubts over the scope of judicial intervention by declaring that, “if a carrier,” in the absence of a legislative rate, “attempted to charge a shipper an unreasonable sum,” the Court, in accordance with common law principles, will pass on the reasonableness of its rates, and has “jurisdiction . . . to award the shipper any amount exacted . . . in excess of a reasonable rate. . . . The province of the courts is not changed, nor the limit of judicial inquiry altered, because the legislature instead of a carrier prescribes the rates.”¹⁶² Reiterating virtually the same principle in *Smyth v. Ames*,¹⁶³ the

¹⁵⁸ *Dow v. Beidelman*, 125 U.S. 680 (1888).

¹⁵⁹ 134 U.S. 418, 458 (1890).

¹⁶⁰ *Budd v. New York*, 143 U.S. 517 (1892).

¹⁶¹ 154 U.S. 362, 397 (1894).

¹⁶² Insofar as judicial intervention resulting in the invalidation of legislatively imposed rates has involved carriers, it should be noted that the successful complainant invariably has been the carrier, not the shipper.

¹⁶³ 169 U.S. 466 (1898). Of course the validity of rates prescribed by a State for services wholly within its limits must be determined wholly without reference to the interstate business done by a public utility. Domestic business should not be made to bear the losses on interstate business and vice versa. Thus a State has no power to require the hauling of logs at a loss or at rates that are unreasonable, even if a railroad receives adequate revenues from the intrastate long haul and the inter-

Court not only obliterated the distinction between confiscatory and unreasonable rates but contributed the additional observation that the requirements of due process are not met unless a court not only reviews the reasonableness of a rate but also determines whether the rate permits the utility to earn a fair return on a fair valuation of its investment.

Limitations on Judicial Review.—Even while reviewing the reasonableness of rates the Court recognized some limits on judicial review. As early as 1894, the Court asserted: “The courts are not authorized to revise or change the body of rates imposed by a legislature or a commission; they do not determine whether one rate is preferable to another, or what under all circumstances would be fair and reasonable as between the carriers and the shippers; they do not engage in any mere administrative work; . . . [however, there can be no doubt] of their power and duty to inquire whether a body of rates . . . is unjust and unreasonable . . . and if found so to be, to restrain its operation.”¹⁶⁴ And later, in 1910, the Court made a similar observation that courts may not, “under the guise of exerting judicial power, usurp merely administrative functions by setting aside” an order of the commission within the scope of the power delegated to such commission, upon the ground that such power was unwisely or expediently exercised.¹⁶⁵

Also inferable from these early holdings, and effective to restrict the bounds of judicial investigation, is a distinction between factual questions that relate only to the wisdom or expediency of a rate order, and are unreviewable, and other factual determinations that bear on a commission’s power to act and are inseparable from the constitutional issue of confiscation, hence are reviewable. This distinction was accorded adequate emphasis by the Court in

state lumber haul taken together. On the other hand, in determining whether intrastate passenger railway rates are confiscatory, all parts of the system within the State (including sleeping, parlor, and dining cars) should be embraced in the computation, and the unremunerative parts should not be excluded because built primarily for interstate traffic or not required to supply local transportation needs. *See* Minnesota Rate Cases (Simpson v. Shepard), 230 U.S. 352, 434–35 (1913); Chicago, M. & St.P. Ry. v. Public Util. Comm’n, 274 U.S. 344 (1927); Groesbeck v. Duluth, S.S. & A. Ry., 250 U.S. 607 (1919). The maxim that a legislature cannot delegate legislative power is qualified to permit creation of administrative boards to apply to the myriad details of rate schedules the regulatory police power of the State. To prevent a holding of invalid delegation of legislative power, the legislature must constrain the board with a certain course of procedure and certain rules of decision in the performance of its functions, with which the agency must substantially comply to validate its action. *Wichita R.R. v. Public Util. Comm’n*, 260 U.S. 48 (1922).

¹⁶⁴ *Reagan v. Farmers’ Loan & Trust Co.*, 154, U.S. 362, 397 (1894).

¹⁶⁵ *ICC v. Illinois Cent. R.R.*, 215 U.S. 452, 470 (1910). This statement, made in the context of federal ratemaking, appears to be equally applicable to judicial review of state agency actions.

Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Garrett,¹⁶⁶ in which it declared that “the appropriate question for the courts” is simply whether a “commission,” in establishing a rate, “acted within the scope of its power” and did not violate “constitutional rights . . . by imposing confiscatory requirements.” The carrier contesting the rate was not entitled to have a court also pass upon a question of fact regarding the reasonableness of a higher rate the carrier charged prior to the order of the commission. All that need concern a court, it said, is the fairness of the proceeding whereby the commission determined that the existing rate was excessive, but not the expediency or wisdom of the commission’s having superseded that rate with a rate regulation of its own.

Likewise, with a view to diminishing the number of opportunities courts have for invalidating rate regulations of state commissions, the Court placed various obstacles in the path of the complaining litigant. Thus, not only must a person challenging a rate assume the burden of proof,¹⁶⁷ but he must present a case of “manifest constitutional invalidity”;¹⁶⁸ if, notwithstanding this effort, the question of confiscation remains in doubt, no relief will be granted.¹⁶⁹ Moreover, even though a public utility which has petitioned a commission for relief from allegedly confiscatory rates need not await indefinitely for the commission’s decision before applying to a court for equitable relief,¹⁷⁰ the court ought not to interfere in advance of any experience of the practical result of such rates.¹⁷¹

In the course of time, however, a distinction emerged between ordinary factual determinations by state commissions and factual determinations which were found to be inseparable from the legal and constitutional issue of confiscation. In two older cases arising from proceedings begun in lower federal courts to enjoin rates, the Court initially adopted the position that it would not disturb findings of fact insofar as these were supported by substantial evidence. Thus, in *San Diego Land Company v. National City*,¹⁷² the Court declared that after a legislative body had fairly and fully investigated and acted, by fixing what it believed to be reasonable rates, the courts cannot step in and set aside the action due to a different conclusion about the reasonableness of the rates. “Judicial

¹⁶⁶ 231 U.S. 298, 310–13 (1913).

¹⁶⁷ *Des Moines Gas Co. v. Des Moines*, 238 U.S. 153 (1915).

¹⁶⁸ *Minnesota Rate Cases (Simpson v. Shepard)*, 230 U.S. 352, 452 (1913).

¹⁶⁹ *Knoxville v. Water Co.*, 212 U.S. 1 (1909).

¹⁷⁰ *Smith v. Illinois Bell Tel. Co.*, 270 U.S. 587 (1926).

¹⁷¹ *Willcox v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 212 U.S. 19 (1909).

¹⁷² 174 U.S. 739, 750, 754 (1899). See also *Minnesota Rate Cases (Simpson v. Shepard)*, 230 U.S. 352, 433 (1913).

interference should never occur unless the case presents, clearly and beyond all doubt, such a flagrant attack upon the rights of property under the guise of regulation as to compel the court to say that the rates prescribed will necessarily have the effect to deny just compensation for private property taken for the public use.” And in a similar later case¹⁷³ the Court expressed even more clearly its reluctance to reexamine ordinary factual determinations. It is not bound “to reexamine and weigh all the evidence . . . or to proceed according to . . . [its] independent opinion as to what are proper rates. It is enough if . . . [the Court] cannot say that it was impossible for a fair-minded board to come to the result which was reached.”

Moreover, in reviewing orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Court, at least in earlier years,¹⁷⁴ chose to be guided by approximately the same standards it had originally formulated for examining regulations of state commissions. The following excerpt from its holding in *ICC v. Union Pacific R.R.*¹⁷⁵ represents an adequate summation of the law as it stood prior to 1920: “[Q]uestions of fact may be involved in the determination of questions of law, so that an order, regular on its face, may be set aside if it appears that the rate is so low as to be confiscatory . . . ; or if the Commission acted so arbitrarily and unjustly as to fix rates contrary to evidence, or without evidence to support it; or if the authority therein involved has been exercised in such an unreasonable manner as to cause it to be within the elementary rule that the substance, and not the shadow, determines the validity of the exercise of the power. . . . In determining these mixed questions of law and fact, the Court confines itself to the ultimate question as to whether the Commission acted within its power. It will not consider the expediency or wisdom of the order, or whether, on like testimony, it would have made a similar ruling . . . [The Commission’s] conclusion, of course, is subject to review, but when supported by evidence is accepted as final; not that its decision . . . can be supported by a mere scintilla of proof—but the courts will not examine the facts further than to determine whether there was substantial evidence to sustain the order.”

The Ben Avon Case.—These standards of review were abruptly rejected by the Court in *Ohio Valley Co. v. Ben Avon Bor-*

¹⁷³San Diego Land & Town Co. v. Jasper, 189 U.S. 439, 441, 442 (1903). See also Van Dyke v. Geary, 244 U.S. 39 (1917); Georgia Ry. v. Railroad Comm’n, 262 U.S. 625, 634 (1923).

¹⁷⁴For its current position, see Crowell v. Benson, 285 U.S. 22 (1932).

¹⁷⁵222 U.S. 541, 547–48 (1912). See also *ICC v. Illinois Cent. R.R.*, 215 U.S. 452, 470 (1910).

ough,¹⁷⁶ as being no longer sufficient to satisfy the requirements of due process. Unlike previous confiscatory rate litigation, which had developed from rulings of lower federal courts in injunctive proceedings, this case reached the Supreme Court by way of appeal from a state appellate tribunal;¹⁷⁷ although the state court had in fact reviewed the evidence and ascertained that the state commission's findings of fact were supported by substantial evidence, it also construed the statute providing for review as denying to state courts "the power to pass upon the weight of such evidence." Largely on the strength of this interpretation of the applicable state statute, the Court held that when the order of a legislature, or of a commission, prescribing a schedule of maximum future rates is challenged as confiscatory, "the State must provide a fair opportunity for submitting that issue to a judicial tribunal for determination upon its own independent judgment as to both law and facts; otherwise the order is void because in conflict with the due process clause, Fourteenth Amendment."

Without departing from the ruling previously enunciated in *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Garrett*,¹⁷⁸ that the failure of a State to grant a statutory right of judicial appeal from a commission's regulation is not violative of due process as long as relief is obtainable by a bill in equity for injunction, the Court also held that the alternative remedy of injunction expressly provided by state law did not afford an adequate opportunity for testing judicially a confiscatory rate order. It conceded the principle stressed by the dissenting Justices that "where a State offers a litigant the choice of two methods of judicial review, of which one is both appropriate and unrestricted, the mere fact that the other which the litigant elects is limited, does not amount to a denial of the constitutional right to a judicial review."¹⁷⁹

History of the Valuation Question.—For almost fifty years the Court wandered through a maze of conflicting formulas for valuing public service corporation property only to emerge therefrom in 1944 at a point not very far removed from *Munn v. Illinois*.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷⁶ 253 U.S. 287 (1920).

¹⁷⁷ *Id.* at 289. In injunctive proceedings, evidence is freshly introduced whereas in the cases received on appeal from state courts, the evidence is found within the record.

¹⁷⁸ 231 U.S. 298 (1913).

¹⁷⁹ 253 U.S. 287, 291, 295 (1920).

¹⁸⁰ 94 U.S. 113 (1877). Because some of these methods or formulas, no longer required as a matter of constitutional law, may continue to be used by state commissions in drafting rate orders, a survey is provided below.

(1) *Fair Value*.—On the premise that a utility is entitled to demand a rate schedule that will yield a "fair return upon the value" of the property which it employs for public convenience, the Court in *Smyth v. Ames*, 169 U.S. 466, 546–47

(1898), held that determination of such value necessitated consideration of at least such factors as “the original cost of construction, the amount expended in permanent improvements, the amount and market value of . . . [the utility’s] bonds and stock, the present as compared with the original cost of construction, [replacement cost], the probable earning capacity of the property under particular rates prescribed by statute, and the sum required to meet operating expenses.

(2) *Reproduction Cost*.—Prior to the demise in 1944 of the *Smyth v. Ames* fair value formula, two of the components thereof were accorded special emphasis with the second quickly surpassing the first in measure of importance. These were: (1) the actual cost of the property (“the original cost of construction together with the amount expended in permanent improvements”) and (2) reproduction costs (“the present as compared with the original cost of construction”). For varied application of the reproduction cost formula, see *San Diego Land Co. v. National City*, 174 U.S. 739, 757 (1899); *San Diego Land & Town Co. v. Jasper*, 189 U.S. 439, 443 (1903); *Willcox v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 212 U.S. 19, 52 (1909); *Minnesota Rate Cases (Simpson v. Shepard)*, 230 U.S. 352 (1913); *Galveston Elec. Co. v. Galveston*, 258 U.S. 388, 392 (1922); *Missouri ex rel. Southwestern Bell Tel. Co. v. Public Serv. Comm’n*, 262 U.S. 276 (1923); *Bluefield Co. v. Public Serv. Comm’n*, 262 U.S. 679 (1923); *Georgia Ry. v. Railroad Comm’n*, 262 U.S. 625, 630 (1923); *McCardle v. Indianapolis Co.*, 272 U.S. 400 (1926); *St Louis & O’Fallon Ry. v. United States*, 279 U.S. 461 (1929).

(3) *Prudent Investment (Versus Reproduction Cost)*.—This method of valuation, championed by Justice Brandeis in a separate opinion in *Missouri ex rel. Southwestern Bell Tel. Co. v. Public Serv. Comm’n*, 262 U.S. 276, 291–92, 302, 306–07 (1923), was defined as follows: “The compensation which the Constitution guarantees an opportunity to earn is the reasonable cost of conducting the business. Cost includes not only operating expenses, but also capital charges. Capital charges cover the allowance, by way of interest, for the use of capital . . . the allowance for the risk incurred; and enough more to attract capital. . . . Where the financing has been proper, the cost to the utility of the capital, required to construct, equip and operate its plant, should measure the rate of return which the Constitution guarantees opportunity to earn.” Advantages to be derived from “adoption of the amount prudently invested as the rate base and the amount of the capital charge as the measure of the rate of return” would, according to Justice Brandeis, be nothing less than the attainment of a “basis for decision which is certain and stable. The rate base would be ascertained as a fact, not determined as a matter of opinion. It would not fluctuate with the market price of labor, or materials, or money.

As a method of valuation, the prudent investment theory was not accorded any acceptance until the Depression of the 1930’s. The sharp decline in prices which occurred during this period doubtless contributed to the loss of affection for reproduction costs. In *Los Angeles Gas Co. v. Railroad Comm’n*, 289 U.S. 287 (1933) and *Railroad Comm’n v. Pacific Gas Co.*, 302 U.S. 388, 399, 405 (1938), the Court upheld respectively a valuation from which reproduction costs had been excluded and another in which historical cost served as the rate base. Later, in 1942, when in *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575, the Court further emphasized its abandonment of the reproduction cost factor, there developed momentarily the prospect that prudent investment might be substituted. This possibility was quickly negated, however, by the *Hope Gas* case, (*FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591 (1944)), which dispensed with the necessity of relying upon any formula for the purpose of fixing valid rates.

(4) *Depreciation*.—No less indispensable to the determination of the fair value mentioned in *Smyth v. Ames* was the amount of depreciation to be allowed as a deduction from the measure of cost employed, whether the latter be actual cost, reproduction cost, or any other form of cost determination. Although not mentioned in *Smyth v. Ames*, the Court gave this item consideration in *Knoxville v. Water Co.*, 212 U.S. 1, 9–10 (1909); but notwithstanding its early recognition as an allowable item of deduction in determining value, depreciation continued to be the subject of controversy arising out of the difficulty of ascertaining it and of computing annual

By holding in *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*,¹⁸¹ that the “Constitution does not bind rate-making bodies to the service of any single formula or combination of formulas,” and in *FPC v. Hope Natu-*

allowances to cover the same. Indicative of such controversy was the disagreement as to whether annual allowances shall be in such amount as will permit the replacement of equipment at current costs, i.e., present value, or at original cost. In the *Hope Gas* case, 320 U.S. at 606, the Court reversed *United Railways v. West*, 280 U.S. 234, 253–254 (1930), insofar as that holding rejected original cost as the basis of annual depreciation allowances.

(5) *Going Concern Value and Good Will*.—Whether intangibles were to be included in valuation was not passed upon in *Smyth v. Ames*, but shortly thereafter, in *Des Moines Gas Co. v. Des Moines*, 238 U.S. 153, 165 (1915), the Court declared it to be self-evident “that there is an element of value in an assembled and established plant, doing business and earning money, over one not thus advanced, . . . [and that] this element of value is a property right, and should be considered in determining the value of the property, upon which the owner has a right to make a fair return. . . .” Generally described as going concern value, this element has never been precisely defined by the Court. In its latest pronouncement on the subject, uttered in *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575, 589 (1942), the Court denied that there is any “constitutional requirement that going concern value, even when it is an appropriate element to be included in a rate base, must be separately stated and appraised as such. . . . [Valuations have often been sustained] without separate appraisal of the going concern element. . . . When that has been done, the burden rests on the regulated company to show that this item has neither been adequately covered in the rate base nor recouped from prior earnings of the business.” Franchise value and good will, on the other hand, have been consistently excluded from valuation; the latter presumably because a utility invariably enjoys a monopoly and consumers have no choice in the matter of patronizing it. The latter proposition has been developed in the following cases: *Willcox v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 212 U.S. 19 (1909); *Des Moines Gas Co. v. Des Moines*, 238 U.S. 153, 163–64 (1915); *Galveston Elec. Co. v. Galveston*, 258 U.S. 388 (1922); *Los Angeles Gas Co. v. Railroad Comm’n*, 289 U.S. 287, 313 (1933).

(6) *Salvage Value*.—It is not a constitutional error to disregard theoretical reproduction cost for a plant which “no responsible person would think of reproducing.” Accordingly, where, due to adverse conditions, a street-surface railroad had lost all value except for scrap or salvage, it was permissible for a commission, as the Court held in *Market Street Ry. v. Railroad Comm’n*, 324 U.S. 548, 562, 564 (1945), to use as a rate the price at which the utility offered to sell its property to a citizen. Moreover, the Commission’s order was not invalid even though under the prescribed rate the utility would operate at a loss; for the due process clause cannot be invoked to protect a public utility against business hazards, such as the loss of, or failure to obtain patronage. On the other hand, in the case of a water company whose franchise has expired, but where there is no other source of supply, its plant should be valued as actually in use rather than at what the property would bring for some other use in case the city should build its own plant. *Denver v. Denver Union Water Co.*, 246 U.S. 178 (1918).

(7) *Past Losses and Gains*.—“The Constitution [does not] require that the losses of . . . [a] business in one year shall be restored from future earnings by the device of capitalizing the losses and adding them to the rate base on which a fair return and depreciation allowance is to be earned.” *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575, 590 (1942). Nor can past losses be used to enhance the value of the property to support a claim that rates for the future are confiscatory, *Galveston Elec. Co. v. Galveston*, 258 U.S. 388 (1922), any more than profits of the past can be used to sustain confiscatory rates for the future *Newton v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 258 U.S. 165, 175 (1922); *Board of Comm’rs v. New York Tel. Co.*, 271 U.S. 23, 31–32 (1926).

¹⁸¹ 315 U.S. 575, 586 (1942).

ral Gas Co.,¹⁸² that “it is the result reached not the method employed which is controlling, . . . [that] it is not the theory but the impact of the rate order which counts, [and that] if the total effect of the rate order cannot be said to be unjust and unreasonable, judicial inquiry under the Act is at an end,” the Court, in effect, abdicated from the position assumed in the *Ben Avon* case.¹⁸³ Without surrendering the judicial power to declare rates unconstitutional on ground of a substantive deprivation of due process,¹⁸⁴ the Court announced that it would not overturn a result it deemed to be just simply because “the method employed [by a commission] to reach that result may contain infirmities. . . . [A] Commission’s order does not become suspect by reason of the fact that it is challenged. It is the product of expert judgment which carries a presumption of validity. And he who would upset the rate order . . . carries the heavy burden of making a convincing showing that it is invalid because it is unjust and unreasonable in its consequences.”¹⁸⁵ The Court recently reaffirmed *Hope Natural Gas’s* emphasis on the bottom line: “[t]he Constitution within broad limits leaves the States free to decide what rate-setting methodology best meets their needs in balancing the interests of the utility and the public.”¹⁸⁶

¹⁸² 320 U.S. 591, 602 (1944). Although this and the previously cited decision arose out of controversies involving the National Gas Act of 1938, the principles laid down therein are believed to be applicable to the review of rate orders of state commissions, except insofar as the latter operate in obedience to laws containing unique standards or procedures.

¹⁸³ *Ohio Valley Co. v. Ben Avon Borough*, 253 U.S. 287 (1920).

¹⁸⁴ In *FPC v. Natural Gas Pipeline Co.*, 315 U.S. 575, 599 (1942), Justices Black, Douglas, and Murphy, in a concurring opinion, proposed to travel the road all the way back to *Munn v. Illinois*, and deprive courts of the power to void rates simply because they deem the latter to be unreasonable. In a concurring opinion, in *Driscoll v. Edison Co.*, 307 U.S. 104, 122 (1939), Justice Frankfurter temporarily adopted a similar position; he declared that “the only relevant function of law . . . [in rate controversies] is to secure observance of those procedural safeguards in the exercise of legislative powers which are the historic foundations of due process.” However, in his dissent in *FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591, 625 (1944), he disassociated himself from this proposal, and asserted that “it was decided [more than fifty years ago] that the final say under the Constitution lies with the judiciary.”

¹⁸⁵ *FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591, 602 (1944). See also *Wisconsin v. FPC*, 373 U.S. 294, 299, 317, 326 (1963), wherein the Court tentatively approved an “area rate approach,” that is “the determination of fair prices for gas, based on reasonable financial requirements of the industry, for . . . the various producing areas of the country,” and with rates being established on an area basis rather than on an individual company basis. Four dissenters, Justices Clark, Black, Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren, labelled area pricing a “wild goose chase,” and stated that the Commission had acted in an arbitrary and unreasonable manner entirely outside traditional concepts of administrative due process. Area rates were approved in *Permian Basin Area Rate Cases*, 390 U.S. 747 (1968).

¹⁸⁶ *Duquesne Light Co. v. Barasch*, 488 U.S. 299, 316 (1989) (rejecting takings challenge to Pennsylvania rule preventing utilities from amortizing costs of canceled nuclear plants).

In dispensing with the necessity of observing the old formulas for rate computation, the Court did not articulate any substitute guidance for ascertaining whether a so-called end result is unreasonable. It did intimate that rate-making “involves a balancing of the investor and consumer interests,” which does not, however, “insure that the business shall produce net revenues’ . . . From the investor or company point of view it is important that there be enough revenue not only for operating expenses but also for the capital costs of the business. These include service on the debt and dividends on the stock. . . . By that standard the return to the equity owner should be commensurate with returns on investments in other enterprises having corresponding risks. That return, moreover, should be sufficient to assure confidence in the financial integrity of the enterprise, so as to maintain its credit and to attract capital.”¹⁸⁷

Regulation of Public Utilities (Other Than Rates)

In General.—By virtue of the nature of the business they carry on and the public’s interest in it, public utilities are subject to state regulation exerted either directly by the legislature or by duly authorized administrative bodies.¹⁸⁸ But because the property of public utilities remains under the full protection of the Constitution, it follows that whenever the state regulates in a manner that infringes the right of ownership in what the Court considers to be an “arbitrary” or “unreasonable” way, due process is violated.¹⁸⁹ Thus, a city cannot take possession of the equipment of a street railway company, the franchise of which has expired,¹⁹⁰ although it may subject the company to the alternative of accepting an inadequate price for its property or of ceasing operations and removing its property from the streets.¹⁹¹ Likewise, a city desirous of establishing a lighting system of its own may not remove, without compensation, the fixtures of a lighting company already occupying the streets under a franchise,¹⁹² although it may compete with a com-

¹⁸⁷ *FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co.*, 320 U.S. 591, 603 (1944) (citing *Chicago G.T. Ry. v. Wellman*, 143 U.S. 339, 345–46 (1892)); *Missouri ex rel. Southwestern Bell Tel. Co. v. Public Serv. Comm’n*, 262 U.S. 276, 291 (1923).

¹⁸⁸ *Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Corporation Comm’n*, 206 U.S. 1, 19 (1907) (citing *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Iowa*, 94 U.S. 155 (1877)). See also *Prentiss v. Atlantic Coast Line*, 211 U.S. 210 (1908); *Denver & R.G. R.R. v. Denver*, 250 U.S. 241 (1919).

¹⁸⁹ *Chicago & G.T. Ry. v. Wellman*, 143 U.S. 339, 344 (1892); *Mississippi R.R. Comm’n v. Mobile & Ohio R.R.*, 244 U.S. 388, 391 (1917). See also *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Nebraska*, 217 U.S. 196 (1910); *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Walters*, 294 U.S. 405, 415 (1935).

¹⁹⁰ *Cleveland Electric Ry. v. Cleveland*, 204 U.S. 116 (1907).

¹⁹¹ *Detroit United Ry. v. Detroit*, 255 U.S. 171 (1921). See also *Denver v. New York Trust Co.*, 229 U.S. 123 (1913).

¹⁹² *Los Angeles v. Los Angeles Gas Corp.*, 251 U.S. 32 (1919).

pany that has no exclusive charter.¹⁹³ The property of a telegraph company is not illegally taken, however, by a municipal ordinance that demands, as a condition for the establishment of poles and conduits in city streets, that the city's wires be carried free of charge, and which provides for the moving of the conduits, when necessary, at company expense.¹⁹⁴

And, the fact that a State, by mere legislative or administrative fiat, cannot convert a private carrier into a common carrier will not protect a foreign corporation which has elected to enter a State the constitution and laws of which require that it operate its local private pipe line as a common carrier. Such foreign corporation is viewed as having waived its constitutional right to be secure against imposition of conditions which amount to a taking of property without due process of law.¹⁹⁵

Compulsory Expenditures: Grade Crossings, and the Like.—Generally, the enforcement of uncompensated obedience to a regulation for the public health and safety is not an unconstitutional taking of property without due process of law.¹⁹⁶ Thus, where the applicable rule so required at the time of the granting of its charter, a water company may be compelled to furnish connections at its own expense to one residing on an ungraded street in which it voluntarily laid its lines.¹⁹⁷ However, if pipe and telephone lines are located on a right of way owned by a pipeline company, the latter cannot, without a denial of due process, be required to relocate such equipment at its own expense,¹⁹⁸ but if its pipes are laid under city streets, a gas company validly may be obligated to assume the cost of moving them to accommodate a municipal drainage system.¹⁹⁹

To require a turnpike company, as a condition of its taking tolls, to keep its road in repair and to suspend collection thereof, conformably to a state statute, until the road is put in good order, does not take property without due process of law, notwithstanding the fact that present patronage does not yield revenue sufficient to

¹⁹³Newburyport Water Co. v. Newburyport, 193 U.S. 561 (1904). *See also* Skaneateles Water Co. v. Skaneateles, 184 U.S. 354 (1902); Helena Water Works Co. v. Helena, 195 U.S. 383 (1904); Madera Water Works v. Madera, 228 U.S. 454 (1913).

¹⁹⁴Western Union Tel. Co. v. Richmond, 224 U.S. 160 (1912).

¹⁹⁵Pierce Oil Corp. v. Phoenix Ref. Co., 259 U.S. 125 (1922).

¹⁹⁶Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Goldsboro, 232 U.S. 548, 558 (1914). *See also* Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Chicago, 166 U.S. 226, 255 (1897); Chicago, B. & Q. Ry. v. Drainage Comm'rs, 200 U.S. 561, 591-92 (1906); New Orleans Pub. Serv. v. New Orleans, 281 U.S. 682 (1930).

¹⁹⁷Consumers' Co. v. Hatch, 224 U.S. 148 (1912).

¹⁹⁸Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Co. v. Highway Comm'n, 294 U.S. 613 (1935).

¹⁹⁹New Orleans Gas Co. v. Drainage Comm'n, 197 U.S. 453 (1905).

maintain the road in proper condition.²⁰⁰ Nor is a railroad bridge company unconstitutionally deprived of its property when, in the absence of proof that the addition will not yield a reasonable return, it is ordered to widen its bridge by inclusion of a pathway for pedestrians and a roadway for vehicles.²⁰¹

Similarly upheld against due process/taking claims were requirements that railroads repair a viaduct under which they operate,²⁰² or reconstruct a bridge or provide means for passing water for drainage through their embankment,²⁰³ or sprinkle that part of the street occupied by them.²⁰⁴ On the other hand, a requirement that an underground cattle-pass is be constructed, not as a safety measure but as a means of sparing the farmer the inconvenience attendant upon the use of an existing and adequate grade crossing, was held to be a prohibited taking of the railroad's property for private use.²⁰⁵ As to grade crossing elimination, the rule is well established that the state may exact from railroads the whole, or such part, of the cost thereof as it deems appropriate, even though commercial highway users, who make no contribution whatsoever, benefit from such improvements.

While the power of the State in this respect is not unlimited, and an "arbitrary" and "unreasonable" imposition may be set aside, the Court's modern approach to substantive due process analysis makes this possibility far less likely than it once was. Distinguishing a 1935 case invalidating a statutorily mandated 50% cost sharing which in effect prevented particularized findings of reasonableness (and which contained language suggesting that railroads could not fairly be required to subsidize competitive transportation modes),²⁰⁶ the Court in 1953 ruled that the costs of grade separation improvements need not be allocated solely on the basis of benefits that would accrue to railroad property.²⁰⁷ While the Court cautioned that "allocation of costs must be fair and reasonable," it also took an approach very deferential to local governmental decisions, stating that in the exercise of the police power to meet transportation, safety, and convenience needs of a growing community,

²⁰⁰ *Norfolk Turnpike Co. v. Virginia*, 225 U.S. 264 (1912).

²⁰¹ *International Bridge Co. v. New York*, 254 U.S. 126 (1920).

²⁰² *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Nebraska*, 170 U.S. 57 (1898).

²⁰³ *Chicago, B. & Q. Ry. v. Drainage Comm'n*, 200 U.S. 561 (1906); *Chicago & Alton R.R. v. Tranbarger*, 238 U.S. 67 (1915); *Lake Shore & Mich. So. Ry. v. Clough*, 242 U.S. 375 (1917).

²⁰⁴ *Pacific Gas Co. v. Police Court*, 251 U.S. 22 (1919).

²⁰⁵ *Chicago, St. P., Mo. & O. Ry. v. Holmberg*, 282 U.S. 162 (1930).

²⁰⁶ *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Walters*, 294 U.S. 405 (1935). *See also* *Lehigh Valley R.R. v. Commissioners*, 278 U.S. 24, 35 (1928) (upholding imposition of grade crossing costs on a railroad although "near the line of reasonableness," and reiterating that "unreasonably extravagant" requirements would be struck down).

²⁰⁷ *Atchison T. & S.F. Ry. v. Public Util. Comm'n*, 346 U.S. 346, 352 (1953).

“the cost of such improvements *may be* allocated all to the railroads.”

Compellable Services.—The primary duty of a public utility being to serve on reasonable terms all those who desire the service it renders, it follows that a company cannot pick and choose and elect to serve only those portions of its territory which it finds most profitable, leaving the remainder to get along without the service which it alone is in a position to give. Compelling a gas company to continue serving specified cities as long as it continues to do business in other parts of the State entails therefore no unconstitutional deprivation.²⁰⁸ Likewise, a railway may be compelled to continue the service of a branch or part of a line although the operation involves a loss.²⁰⁹ But even though a utility, as a condition of enjoyment of powers and privileges granted by the State, is under a continuing obligation to provide reasonably adequate service, and even though that obligation cannot be avoided merely because performance occasions financial loss, yet if a company is at liberty to surrender its franchise and discontinue operations, it cannot be compelled to continue at a loss.²¹⁰

Pursuant to the principle that a State may require railroads to provide adequate facilities suitable for the convenience of the communities they serve,²¹¹ such carriers have been obligated to establish stations at proper places for the convenience of patrons,²¹² to stop all their intrastate trains at county seats,²¹³ to run a regular passenger train instead of a mixed passenger and freight train,²¹⁴ to furnish passenger service on a branch line previously devoted exclusively to carrying freight,²¹⁵ to restore a siding used principally by a particular plant but available generally as a public track, and to continue, even though not profitable by itself, sidetrack²¹⁶ as well as the upkeep of a switch track leading from its main line to

²⁰⁸ *United Gas Co. v. Railroad Comm'n*, 278 U.S. 300, 308–09 (1929). *See also* *New York ex rel. Woodhaven Gas Light Co. v. Public Serv. Comm'n*, 269 U.S. 244 (1925); *New York & Queens Gas Co. v. McCall*, 245 U.S. 345 (1917).

²⁰⁹ *Missouri Pac. Ry. v. Kansas*, 216 U.S. 262 (1910); *Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. v. Public Serv. Comm'n*, 242 U.S. 603 (1917); *Fort Smith Traction Co. v. Bourland*, 267 U.S. 330 (1925).

²¹⁰ *Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. v. Public Serv. Comm'n*, 242 U.S. 603, 607 (1917); *Brooks-Scanlon Co. v. Railroad Comm'n*, 251 U.S. 396 (1920); *Railroad Comm'n v. Eastern Tex. R.R.*, 264 U.S. 79 (1924); *Broad River Co. v. South Carolina ex rel. Daniel*, 281 U.S. 537 (1930).

²¹¹ *Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry. v. Railroad Comm'n*, 283 U.S. 380, 394–95 (1931).

²¹² *Minneapolis & St. L. R.R. v. Minnesota*, 193 U.S. 53 (1904).

²¹³ *Gladson v. Minnesota*, 166 U.S. 427 (1897).

²¹⁴ *Missouri Pac. Ry. v. Kansas*, 216 U.S. 262 (1910).

²¹⁵ *Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. v. Public Serv. Comm'n*, 242 U.S. 603 (1917).

²¹⁶ *Lake Erie & W. R.R. v. Public Util. Comm'n*, 249 U.S. 422 (1919); *Western & Atlantic R.R. v. Public Comm'n*, 267 U.S. 493 (1925).

industrial plants.²¹⁷ However, a statute requiring a railroad without indemnification to install switches on the application of owners of grain elevators erected on its right-of-way was held void.²¹⁸ Whether a state order requiring transportation service is to be viewed as reasonable may necessitate consideration of such facts as the likelihood that pecuniary loss will result to the carrier, the nature, extent and productiveness of the carrier's intrastate business, the character of the service required, the public need for it, and its effect upon service already being rendered.²¹⁹ Requirements for service having no substantial relation to transportation have been voided, as in the case of an order requiring railroads to maintain cattle scales to facilitate trading in cattle,²²⁰ and a prohibition against letting down an unengaged upper berth while the lower berth was occupied.²²¹

“Since the decision in *Wisconsin, M. & P.R. Co. v. Jacobson*, 179 U.S. 287 (1900), there can be no doubt of the power of a State, acting through an administrative body, to require railroad companies to make track connections. But manifestly that does not mean that a Commission may compel them to build branch lines, so as to connect roads lying at a distance from each other; nor does it mean that they may be required to make connections at every point where their tracks come close together in city, town and country, regardless of the amount of business to be done, or the number of persons who may utilize the connection if built. The question in each case must be determined in the light of all the facts and with a just regard to the advantage to be derived by the public and the expense to be incurred by the carrier. . . . If the order involves the use of property needed in the discharge of those duties which the carrier is bound to perform, then, upon proof of the necessity, the order will be granted, even though ‘the furnishing of such necessary facilities may occasion an incidental pecuniary loss.’ . . . Where, however, the proceeding is brought to compel a carrier to furnish a facility not included within its absolute duties, the question of expense is of more controlling importance. In determining the reasonableness of such an order the Court must consider all the facts—the places and persons interested, the vol-

²¹⁷ *Alton R.R. v. Illinois Commerce Comm'n*, 305 U.S. 548 (1939).

²¹⁸ *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Nebraska*, 217 U.S. 196 (1910).

²¹⁹ *Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. v. Public Serv. Comm'n*, 242 U.S. 603, 607 (1917).

²²⁰ *Great Northern Ry. v. Minnesota*, 238 U.S. 340 (1915); *Great Northern Ry. Co. v. Cahill*, 253 U.S. 71 (1920).

²²¹ *Chicago, M. & St. P. R.R. v. Wisconsin*, 238 U.S. 491 (1915).

ume of business to be affected, the saving in time and expense to the shipper, as against the cost and loss to the carrier.”²²²

Although a carrier is under a duty to accept goods tendered at its station, it cannot be required, upon payment simply for the service of carriage, to accept cars offered at an arbitrary connection point near its terminus by a competing road seeking to reach and use the former’s terminal facilities. Nor may a carrier be required to deliver its cars to connecting carriers without adequate protection from loss or undue detention or compensation for their use.²²³ But a carrier may be compelled to interchange its freight cars with other carriers under reasonable terms,²²⁴ and to accept, for reshipment over its lines to points within the State, cars already loaded and in suitable condition.²²⁵

Due process is not denied when two carriers, who wholly own and dominate a small connecting railroad, are prohibited from exacting higher charges from shippers accepting delivery over said connecting road than are collected from shippers taking delivery at the terminals of said carriers.²²⁶ Nor is it “unreasonable” or “arbitrary” to require a railroad to desist from demanding advance payment on merchandise received from one carrier while it accepts merchandise of the same character at the same point from another carrier without such prepayment.²²⁷

Safety Regulations Applicable to Railroads.—Governmental power to regulate railroads in the interest of safety has long been conceded. The following regulations have been upheld: a prohibition against operation on certain streets,²²⁸ restrictions on speed, operations, and the like, in business sections,²²⁹ requirement of construction of a sidewalk across a right of way,²³⁰ or removal of a track crossing at a thoroughfare,²³¹ compelling the presence of a flagman at a crossing notwithstanding that automatic devices might be cheaper and better,²³² compulsory examination of

²²² *Washington ex rel. Oregon R.R. & Nav. Co. v. Fairchild*, 224 U.S. 510, 528–29 (1912). See also *Michigan Cent. R.R. v. Michigan R.R. Comm’n*, 236 U.S. 615 (1915); *Seaboard Air Line R.R. v. Georgia R.R. Comm’n*, 240 U.S. 324, 327 (1916).

²²³ *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Stock Yards Co.*, 212 U.S. 132 (1909).

²²⁴ *Michigan Cent. R.R. v. Michigan R.R. Comm’n*, 236 U.S. 615 (1915).

²²⁵ *Chicago, M. & St. P. Ry. v. Iowa*, 233 U.S. 334 (1914).

²²⁶ *Chicago, M. & St. P. Ry. v. Minneapolis Civic Ass’n*, 247 U.S. 490 (1918). Nor are railroads denied due process when they are forbidden to exact a greater charge for a shorter distance than for a longer distance. *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Kentucky*, 183 U.S. 503, 512 (1902); *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. McGrew Coal Co.*, 244 U.S. 191 (1917).

²²⁷ *Wadley Southern Ry. v. Georgia*, 235 U.S. 651 (1915).

²²⁸ *Railroad Co. v. Richmond*, 96 U.S. 521 (1878).

²²⁹ *Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Goldsboro*, 232 U.S. 548 (1914).

²³⁰ *Great Northern Ry. v. Minnesota ex rel. Clara City*, 246 U.S. 434 (1918).

²³¹ *Denver & R. G. R.R. v. Denver*, 250 U.S. 241 (1919).

²³² *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. White*, 278 U.S. 456 (1929).

employees for color blindness,²³³ full crews on certain trains,²³⁴ specification of a type of locomotive headlight,²³⁵ safety appliance regulations,²³⁶ and a prohibition on the heating of passenger cars from stoves or furnaces inside or suspended from the cars.²³⁷

Statutory Liabilities and Penalties Applicable to Railroads.—A statute making the initial carrier,²³⁸ or the connecting or delivering carrier,²³⁹ liable to the shipper for the nondelivery of goods is not unconstitutional; nor is a law which provides that a railroad shall be responsible in damages to the owner of property injured by fire communicated by its locomotive engines and which grants the railroad an insurable interest in such property along its route and authority to procure insurance against such liability.²⁴⁰ Equally consistent with the requirements of due process are the following two enactments: the first, imposing on all common carriers a penalty for failure to settle within a reasonable specified period claims for freight lost or damaged in shipment and conditioning payment of that penalty upon recovery by the claimant in a subsequent suit of more than the amount tendered,²⁴¹ and the second, levying double damages and an attorney's fee upon a railroad for failure to pay within a reasonable time after demand the amount claimed by an owner for stock injured or killed. However, the Court subsequently limited its approval of the latter statute to cases in which the plaintiff had not demanded more than he recovered in court;²⁴² when the penalty is exacted in a case in which the plaintiff initially demanded more than he sued for and recovered, a defendant railroad is arbitrarily deprived of its property for refusing to meet the initial excessive demand.²⁴³

Also invalidated during this period of heightened judicial scrutiny was a penalty imposed on a carrier that had collected transportation charges in excess of established maximum rates; the penalty of \$500 liquidated damages plus a reasonable attorney's fee

²³³ *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Alabama*, 128 U.S. 96 (1888).

²³⁴ *Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry. v. Arkansas*, 219 U.S. 453 (1911); *St. Louis, I. Mt. & So. Ry. v. Arkansas*, 240 U.S. 518 (1916); *Missouri Pacific R.R. v. Norwood*, 283 U.S. 249 (1931); *Firemen v. Chicago, R.I. & P.R.R.* 393 U.S. 129 (1968).

²³⁵ *Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Georgia*, 234 U.S. 280 (1914).

²³⁶ *Erie R.R. v. Solomon*, 237 U.S. 427 (1915).

²³⁷ *New York, N.H. and H.R.R. v. New York*, 165 U.S. 628 (1897).

²³⁸ *Chicago & N.W. Ry. v. Nye Schneider Fowler Co.*, 260 U.S. 35 (1922). *See also Yazoo & Miss. V.R.R. v. Jackson Vinegar Co.*, 226 U.S. 217 (1912); *cf. Adams Express Co. v. Croninger*, 226 U.S. 491 (1913).

²³⁹ *Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Glenn*, 239 U.S. 388 (1915).

²⁴⁰ *St. Louis & San Francisco Ry. v. Mathews*, 165 U.S. 1 (1897).

²⁴¹ *Chicago & N.W. Ry. v. Nye Schneider Fowler Co.*, 260 U.S. 35 (1922).

²⁴² *Kansas City Ry. v. Anderson*, 233 U.S. 325 (1914).

²⁴³ *St. Louis, I. Mt. & So. Ry. v. Wynne*, 224 U.S. 354 (1912). *See also Chicago, M. & St. P. Ry. v. Polt*, 232 U.S. 165 (1914).

was disproportionate to actual damages and was exacted under conditions not affording the carrier an adequate opportunity to safely test the validity of the rates before liability attached.²⁴⁴ Where the carrier did have an opportunity to test the reasonableness of the rate, however, and collection of an overcharge did not proceed from any belief that the rate was invalid, the Court indicated that the validity of the penalty imposed need not be tested by comparison with the amount of the overcharge. Inasmuch as a penalty is imposed as punishment for violation of law, the legislature may adjust its amount to the public wrong rather than the private injury, and the only limitation which the Fourteenth Amendment imposes is that the penalty prescribed shall not be “so severe and oppressive as to be wholly disproportioned to the offense and obviously unreasonable.” In accordance with the latter standard, a statute granting an aggrieved passenger (who recovered \$100 for an overcharge of 60 cents) the right to recover in a civil suit not less than \$50 nor more than \$300 plus costs and a reasonable attorney’s fee was upheld.²⁴⁵

For like reasons, the Court also upheld a statute requiring railroads to erect and maintain fences and cattle guards, and making them liable in double the amount of damages for their failure to so maintain them,²⁴⁶ and another law that established a minimum rate of speed for delivery of livestock and that required every carrier violating the requirement to pay the owner of the livestock the sum of \$10 per car per hour.²⁴⁷ On the other hand, the Court struck down as arbitrary and oppressive assessment of fines of \$100 per day (and aggregating \$3,600) on a telephone company that, in accordance with its established and uncontested regulations, suspended the service of a patron in arrears.²⁴⁸

Regulation of Corporations, Business, Professions, and Trades

Corporations.—Although a corporation is the creation of a State, which reserves the power to amend or repeal corporate charters, the retention of such power will not support the taking of corporate property without due process of law. To terminate the life of a corporation by annulling its charter is not to confiscate its property but to turn it over to the stockholders after liquidation.¹

²⁴⁴ Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Tucker, 230 U.S. 340 (1913).

²⁴⁵ St. Louis, I. Mt. & So. Ry. v. Williams, 251 U.S. 63, 67 (1919).

²⁴⁶ Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Humes, 115 U.S. 512 (1885); Minneapolis Ry. v. Beckwith, 129 U.S. 26 (1889).

²⁴⁷ Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Cram, 228 U.S. 70 (1913).

²⁴⁸ Southwestern Tel. Co. v. Danaher, 238 U.S. 482 (1915).

¹ New Orleans Debenture Redemption Co. v. Louisiana, 180 U.S. 320 (1901).

Foreign (out-of-state) corporations also enjoy the protection which the due process clause affords, but such protection does not entitle them to the unconditional right to enter another State or, once having been permitted to enter, to continue to do business therein. There is language in the early cases suggesting that the power of a State to exclude or to expel a foreign corporation is almost plenary.² While modern doctrines of the “negative” commerce clause constrain states’ authority to discriminate against foreign corporations in favor of local commerce, it has always been acknowledged that states may subject corporate entry or continued operation to reasonable, non-discriminatory conditions. Thus, a state law which requires the filing of articles with a local official as a condition prerequisite to the validity of conveyances of local realty to such corporations is not violative of due process.³ Also valid are statutes which require a foreign insurance company, as part of the price of entry, to maintain reserves computed by a specific percentage of premiums, including membership fees, received in all States,⁴ or to consent to direct actions filed against it by persons injured in the State by tort-feasors whom it insures.⁵ Similarly a statute requiring corporations to dispose of farm land not necessary to the conduct of their business was not invalid as applied to a foreign hospital corporation, even though the latter, because of changed economic conditions, was unable to recoup its original investment from the sale which it is thus compelled to make.⁶

Business in General.—“The Constitution does not guarantee the unrestricted privilege to engage in a business or to conduct it as one pleases. Certain kinds of business may be prohibited; and the right to conduct a business, or to pursue a calling, may be conditioned. . . . Statutes prescribing the terms upon which those conducting certain businesses may contract, or imposing terms if they do enter into agreements, are within the State’s competency.”⁷

Laws Prohibiting Trusts, Discrimination, Restraint of Trade.—Even during the period when the Court was measuring statutes by substantive due process liberty of contract principles, it recognized the right of states to limit liberty of contract by prohibiting combinations in restraint of trade. Thus, states could prohibit

²National Council U.A.M. v. State Council, 203 U.S. 151, 162–63 (1906).

³Munday v. Wisconsin Trust Co., 252 U.S. 499 (1920).

⁴State Farm Ins. Co. v. Duel, 324 U.S. 154 (1945).

⁵Watson v. Employers Liability Assurance Corp., 348 U.S. 66 (1954).

⁶Asbury Hospital v. Cass County, 326 U.S. 207 (1945).

⁷Nebbia v. New York, 291 U.S. 502, 527–28 (1934). See also New Motor Vehicle Bd. v. Orrin W. Fox Co., 439 U.S. 96, 106–08 (1978) (upholding regulation of franchise relationship).

agreements to pool and fix prices, divide net earnings, and prevent competition in the purchase and sale of grain.⁸ Nor, the Court held, does the Fourteenth Amendment preclude a State from adopting a policy against all combinations of competing corporations and enforcing it even against combinations which may have been induced by good intentions and from which benefit and no injury may have resulted.⁹ Also upheld were a statute that prohibited retail lumber dealers from uniting in an agreement not to purchase materials from wholesalers selling directly to consumers in the retailers' localities,¹⁰ and another law punishing combinations for "maliciously" injuring a rival in the same business, profession, or trade.¹¹

Similarly, a prohibition of unfair discrimination for the purpose of intentionally destroying competition of any other regular dealer in the same commodity by making sales thereof at a lower rate in one section of the State than in another, after equalization for distance, effects no invalid deprivation of property or interference with freedom of contract.¹² A law sanctioning contracts requiring that commodities identified by trademark will not be sold by the vendee or subsequent vendees except at prices stipulated by the original vendor does not violate the due process clause.¹³ Also upheld as not depriving a company of due process was application of an unfair sales act to enjoin a retail grocery company from selling below statutory cost in violation of a state unfair sales act, even though its competitors were selling at unlawful prices. There is no constitutional right to employ retaliation against action outlawed by a State, and appellant had available a remedy whereby it could enjoin illegal activity of its competitors.¹⁴

Laws Preventing Fraud in Sale of Goods and Securities.—Laws and ordinances tending to prevent frauds and requiring honest weights and measures in the sale of articles of general consumption have long been considered lawful exertions of the po-

⁸Smiley v. Kansas, 196 U.S. 447 (1905). See *Waters Pierce Oil Co. v. Texas*, 212 U.S. 86 (1909); *National Cotton Oil Co. v. Texas*, 197 U.S. 115 (1905), also upholding antitrust laws.

⁹*International Harvester Co. v. Missouri*, 234 U.S. 199 (1914). See also *American Machine Co. v. Kentucky*, 236 U.S. 660 (1915).

¹⁰*Grenada Lumber Co. v. Mississippi*, 217 U.S. 433 (1910).

¹¹*Aikens v. Wisconsin*, 195 U.S. 194 (1904).

¹²*Central Lumber Co. v. South Dakota*, 226 U.S. 157 (1912). *But cf.* *Fairmont Co. v. Minnesota*, 274 U.S. 1 (1927) (invalidating on liberty of contract grounds similar statute punishing dealers in cream who pay higher prices in one locality than in another, the Court finding no reasonable relation between the statute's sanctions and the anticipated evil).

¹³*Old Dearborn Co. v. Seagram Corp.*, 299 U.S. 183 (1936); *Pep Boys v. Pyroil*, 299 U.S. 198 (1936).

¹⁴*Safeway Stores v. Oklahoma Grocers*, 360 U.S. 334 (1959).

lice power.¹⁵ Thus, a prohibition on the issuance or sale by other than an authorized weigher of any weight certificate for grain weighed at any warehouse or elevator where state weighers are stationed is not unconstitutional.¹⁶ Nor is a municipal ordinance requiring that commodities sold in load lots by weight be weighed by a public weighmaster within the city invalid as applied to one delivering coal from state-tested scales at a mine outside the city.¹⁷ A statute requiring merchants to record sales in bulk not made in the regular course of business is also within the police power.¹⁸

Similarly, the power of a State to prescribe standard containers to protect buyers from deception as well as to facilitate trading and to preserve the condition of the merchandise is not open to question. Accordingly, an administrative order issued pursuant to an authorizing statute and prescribing the dimensions, form, and capacity of containers for strawberries and raspberries is not arbitrary inasmuch as the form and dimensions bore a reasonable relation to the protection of the buyers and the preservation in transit of the fruit.¹⁹ Similarly, an ordinance fixing standard sizes is not unconstitutional.²⁰ Regulations issued in furtherance of a statutory authorization which imposed a rate of tolerance for the minimum weight for a loaf of bread were upheld.²¹ Likewise, a law requiring that lard not sold in bulk should be put up in containers holding one, three, or five pounds weight, or some whole multiple of these numbers, does not deprive sellers of their property without due process of law.²²

The right of a manufacturer to maintain secrecy as to his compounds and processes must be held subject to the right of the State, in the exercise of the police power and in the promotion of fair dealing, to require that the nature of the product be fairly set forth.²³

¹⁵ *Schmidinger v. City of Chicago*, 226 U.S. 578, 588 (1913) (citing *McLean v. Arkansas*, 211 U.S. 539, 550 (1909)).

¹⁶ *Merchants Exchange v. Missouri*, 248 U.S. 365 (1919).

¹⁷ *Hauge v. City of Chicago*, 299 U.S. 387 (1937).

¹⁸ *Lemieux v. Young*, 211 U.S. 489 (1909); *Kidd, Dater Co. v. Musselman Grocer Co.*, 217 U.S. 461 (1910).

¹⁹ *Pacific States Co. v. White*, 296 U.S. 176 (1935).

²⁰ *Schmidinger v. City of Chicago*, 226 U.S. 578 (1913).

²¹ *Petersen Baking Co. v. Bryan*, 290 U.S. 570 (1934) (tolerances not to exceed three ounces to a pound of bread and requiring that the bread maintain the statutory minimum weight for not less than 12 hours after cooling). *But cf.* *Burns Baking Co. v. Bryan*, 264 U.S. 504 (1924) (tolerance of only two ounces in excess of the minimum weight per loaf is unreasonable, given finding that it was impossible to manufacture good bread without frequently exceeding the prescribed tolerance).

²² *Armor & Co. v. North Dakota*, 240 U.S. 510 (1916).

²³ *Heath & Milligan Co. v. Worst*, 207 U.S. 338 (1907); *Corn Products Ref. Co. v. Eddy*, 249 U.S. 427 (1919); *National Fertilizer Ass'n v. Bradley*, 301 U.S. 178 (1937).

A statute providing that the purchaser of harvesting or threshing machinery for his own use shall have a reasonable time after delivery for inspecting and testing it, and permitting rescission of the contract if the machinery does not prove reasonably adequate, and further declaring any agreement contrary to its provisions to be against public policy and void, does not violate the due process clause.²⁴ A prohibitive license fee upon the use of trading stamps is not unconstitutional.²⁵

In the exercise of its power to prevent fraud and imposition, a State may regulate trading in securities within its borders, require a license of those engaging in such dealing, make issuance of a license dependent on a public officer's being satisfied of the good repute of the applicants, and permit the officer, subject to judicial review of his findings, to revoke the license.²⁶ A State may forbid the giving of options to sell or buy at a future time any grain or other commodity.²⁷ It may also forbid sales on margin for future delivery,²⁸ and may prohibit the keeping of places where stocks, grain, and the like, are sold but not paid for at the time, unless a record of the same be made and a stamp tax paid.²⁹ Making criminal any deduction by the purchaser from the actual weight of grain, hay, seed, or coal under a claim of right by reason of any custom or rule of a board of trade is valid exercise of the police power and does not deprive the purchaser of his property without due process of law nor interfere with his liberty of contract.³⁰

Banking, Wage Assignments and Garnishment.—Regulation of banks and banking has always been considered well within the police power of states, and the Fourteenth Amendment did not eliminate this regulatory authority. A variety of regulations has been upheld over the years. For example, state banks are not deprived of property without due process by a statute subjecting them to assessments for a depositors' guaranty fund.³¹ Also, a law requiring savings banks to turn over to the State deposits inactive for thirty years (when the depositor cannot be found), with provision for payment to the depositor or his heirs on establishment of

²⁴ *Advance-Rumely Co. v. Jackson*, 287 U.S. 283 (1932).

²⁵ *Rast v. Van Deman & Lewis*, 240 U.S. 342 (1916); *Tanner v. Little*, 240 U.S. 369 (1916); *Pitney v. Washington*, 240 U.S. 387 (1916).

²⁶ *Hall v. Geiger-Jones Co.*, 242 U.S. 539 (1917); *Caldwell v. Sioux Falls Stock Yards Co.*, 242 U.S. 559 (1917); *Merrick v. Halsey & Co.*, 242 U.S. 568 (1917).

²⁷ *Booth v. Illinois*, 184 U.S. 425 (1902).

²⁸ *Otis v. Parker*, 187 U.S. 606 (1903).

²⁹ *Brodnax v. Missouri*, 219 U.S. 285 (1911).

³⁰ *House v. Mayes*, 219 U.S. 270 (1911).

³¹ *Noble State Bank v. Haskell*, 219 U.S. 104 (1911); *Shallenberger v. First State Bank*, 219 U.S. 114 (1911); *Assaria State Bank v. Dolley*, 219 U.S. 121 (1911); *Abie State Bank v. Bryan*, 282 U.S. 765 (1931).

the right, does not effect an invalid taking of the property of said banks; nor does a statute requiring banks to turn over to the protective custody of the State deposits that have been inactive ten or twenty-five years (depending on the nature of the deposit).³²

The constitutional rights of creditors in an insolvent bank in the hands of liquidators are not violated by a later statute permitting re-opening under a reorganization plan approved by the court, the liquidating officer, and by three-fourths of the creditors.³³ Similarly, a Federal Reserve bank is not unlawfully deprived of business rights of liberty of contract by a law which allows state banks to pay checks in exchange when presented by or through a Federal Reserve bank, post office, or express company and when not made payable otherwise by a maker.³⁴

In fixing maximum rates of interest on money loaned within its borders, a State is acting clearly within its police power; and the details are within legislative discretion if not unreasonably or arbitrarily exercised.³⁵ Equally valid as an exercise of a State's police power is a requirement that assignments of future wages as security for debts of less than \$200, to be valid, must be accepted in writing by the employer, consented to by the assignors, and filed in public office. Such a requirement deprives neither the borrower nor the lender of his property without due process of law.³⁶

Insurance.—The general relations of those engaged in the insurance business³⁷ as well as the business itself have been peculiarly subject to supervision and control.³⁸ Even during the *Lochner* era the Court recognized that government may fix insurance rates and regulate the compensation of insurance agents,³⁹ and over the years the Court has upheld a wide variety of regulation. A state may impose a fine on “any person ‘who shall act in any manner in the negotiation or transaction of unlawful insurance

³² *Provident Savings Inst. v. Malone*, 221 U.S. 660 (1911); *Anderson Nat'l Bank v. Lueckett*, 321 U.S. 233 (1944). When a bank conservator appointed pursuant to a new statute has all the functions of a receiver under the old law, one of which is the enforcement on behalf of depositors of stockholders' liability, which liability the conservator can enforce as cheaply as could a receiver appointed under the pre-existing statute, it cannot be said that the new statute, in suspending the right of a depositor to have a receiver appointed, arbitrarily deprives a depositor of his remedy or destroys his property without the due process of law. *Gibbes v. Zimmerman*, 290 U.S. 326 (1933).

³³ *Doty v. Love*, 295 U.S. 64 (1935).

³⁴ *Farmers Bank v. Federal Reserve Bank*, 262 U.S. 649 (1923).

³⁵ *Griffith v. Connecticut*, 218 U.S. 563 (1910).

³⁶ *Mutual Loan Co. v. Martell*, 222 U.S. 225 (1911).

³⁷ *La Tourette v. McMaster*, 248 U.S. 465 (1919); *Stipich v. Insurance Co.*, 277 U.S. 311, 320 (1928).

³⁸ *German Alliance Ins. Co. v. Kansas*, 233 U.S. 389 (1914).

³⁹ *O'Gorman & Young v. Hartford Ins. Co.*, 282 U.S. 251 (1931).

. . . with a foreign insurance company not admitted to do business [within said State].”⁴⁰ A state may forbid life insurance companies and their agents to engage in the undertaking business and undertakers to serve as life insurance agents.⁴¹ Foreign casualty and surety insurers were not deprived of due process, the Court held, by a Virginia law which prohibited the making of contracts of casualty or surety insurance except through registered agents, which required that such contracts applicable to persons or property in the State be countersigned by a registered local agent, and which prohibited such agents from sharing more than 50% of a commission with a nonresident broker.⁴² And just as all banks may be required to contribute to a depositors’ guaranty fund, so may all automobile liability insurers be required to submit to the equitable apportionment among them of applicants who are in good faith entitled to, but are financially unable to, procure such insurance through ordinary methods.⁴³

However, a statute which prohibited the insured from contracting directly with a marine insurance company outside the State for coverage of property within the State was held invalid as a deprivation of liberty without due process of law.⁴⁴ For the same reason, the Court held, a State may not prevent a citizen from concluding a policy loan agreement with a foreign life insurance company at its home office whereby the policy on his life is pledged as collateral security for a cash loan to become due upon default in payment of premiums, in which case the entire policy reserve might be applied to discharge the indebtedness. Authority to subject such an agreement to the conflicting provisions of domestic law is not deducible from the power of a State to license a foreign insurance company as a condition of its doing business therein.⁴⁵

A stipulation that policies of hail insurance shall take effect and become binding twenty-four hours after the hour in which an application is taken and further requiring notice by telegram of rejection of an application was upheld.⁴⁶ No unconstitutional restraint was imposed upon the liberty of contract of surety companies by a statute providing that, after enactment, any bond exe-

⁴⁰ *Nutting v. Massachusetts*, 183 U.S. 553, 556 (1902) (distinguishing *Allgeyer v. Louisiana*, 165 U.S. 578 (1897)). See also *Hoper v. California*, 155 U.S. 648 (1895).

⁴¹ *Daniel v. Family Ins. Co.*, 336 U.S. 220 (1949).

⁴² *Osborn v. Ozlin*, 310 U.S. 53, 68–69 (1940). Dissenting from the conclusion, Justice Roberts declared that the plain effect of the Virginia law is to compel a nonresident to pay a Virginia resident for services which the latter does not in fact render.

⁴³ *California Auto. Ass’n v. Maloney*, 341 U.S. 105 (1951).

⁴⁴ *Allgeyer v. Louisiana*, 165 U.S. 578 (1897).

⁴⁵ *New York Life Ins. Co. v. Dodge*, 246 U.S. 357 (1918).

⁴⁶ *National Ins. Co. v. Wanberg*, 260 U.S. 71 (1922).

cuted for the faithful performance of a building contract shall inure to the benefit of materialmen and laborers, notwithstanding any provision of the bond to the contrary.⁴⁷ Likewise constitutional was a law requiring that a motor vehicle liability policy shall provide that bankruptcy of the insured does not release the insurer from liability to an injured person.⁴⁸

There also is no denial of due process for a state to require that casualty companies, in case of total loss, pay the total amount for which the property was insured, less depreciation between the time of issuing the policy and the time of the loss, rather than the actual cash value of the property at the time of loss.⁴⁹

Moreover, even though it had its attorney-in-fact located in Illinois, signed all its contracts there, and forwarded therefrom all checks in payment of losses, a reciprocal insurance association covering real property located in New York could be compelled to comply with New York regulations which required maintenance of an office in that State and the countersigning of policies by an agent resident therein.⁵⁰ Also, to discourage monopolies and to encourage rate competition, a State constitutionally may impose on all fire insurance companies connected with a tariff association fixing rates a liability or penalty to be collected by the insured of 25% in excess of actual loss or damage, stipulations in the insurance contract to the contrary notwithstanding.⁵¹

A state statute by which a life insurance company, if it fails to pay upon demand the amount due under a policy after death of the insured, is made liable in addition for fixed damages, reasonable in amount, and for a reasonable attorney's fee is not unconstitutional even though payment is resisted in good faith and upon reasonable grounds.⁵² It is also proper by law to cut off a defense by a life insurance company based on false and fraudulent statements in the application, unless the matter misrepresented actually contributed to the death of the insured.⁵³ A provision that suicide, unless contemplated when the application for a policy was made, shall be no defense is equally valid.⁵⁴ When a cooperative life insurance association is reorganized so as to permit it to do a life insurance business of every kind, policyholders are not deprived

⁴⁷Hartford Accident Co. v. Nelson Co., 291 U.S. 352 (1934).

⁴⁸Merchants Liability Co. v. Smart, 267 U.S. 126 (1925).

⁴⁹Orient Ins. Co. v. Daggs, 172 U.S. 577 (1899) (the statute was in effect when the contract at issue was signed).

⁵⁰Hooperston Co. v. Cullen, 318 U.S. 313 (1943).

⁵¹German Alliance Ins. Co. v. Hale, 219 U.S. 307 (1911). *See also* Carroll v. Greenwich Ins. Co., 199 U.S. 401 (1905).

⁵²Life & Casualty Co. v. McCray, 291 U.S. 566 (1934).

⁵³Northwestern Life Ins. Co. v. Riggs, 203 U.S. 243 (1906).

⁵⁴Whitfield v. Aetna Life Ins. Co., 205 U.S. 489 (1907).

of their property without due process of law.⁵⁵ Similarly, when the method of liquidation provided by a plan of rehabilitation of a mutual life insurance company is as favorable to dissenting policyholders as would have been the sale of assets and *pro rata* distribution to all creditors, the dissenters are unable to show any taking without due process. Dissenting policyholders have no constitutional right to a particular form of remedy.⁵⁶

Miscellaneous Businesses and Professions.—An act imposing license fees for operating employment agencies and prohibiting them from sending applicants to an employer who has not applied for labor does not deny due process of law.⁵⁷ Also, a state law prohibiting operation of a “debt pooling” or a “debt adjustment” business except as an incident to the legitimate practice of law is a valid exercise of legislative discretion.⁵⁸

The Court has sustained a law establishing as a qualification for obtaining or retaining a pharmacy operating permit that one either be a registered pharmacist in good standing or that the corporation or association have a majority of its stock owned by registered pharmacists in good standing who were actively and regularly employed in and responsible for the management, supervision, and operation of such pharmacy.⁵⁹ The Court also upheld a state law forbidding (1) solicitation of the sale of frames, mountings, or other optical appliances, (2) solicitation of the sale of eyeglasses, lenses, or prisms by use of advertising media, (3) retailers from leasing, or otherwise permitting anyone purporting to do eye examinations or visual care to occupy space in a retail store, and (4) anyone, such as an optician, to fit lenses, or replace lenses or other optical appliances, except upon written prescription of an optometrist or ophthalmologist licensed in the State is not invalid. A State may treat all who deal with the human eye as members of a profession that should refrain from merchandising methods to ob-

⁵⁵ Polk v. Mutual Reserve Fund, 207 U.S. 310 (1907).

⁵⁶ Neblett v. Carpenter, 305 U.S. 297 (1938).

⁵⁷ Brazee v. Michigan, 241 U.S. 340 (1916). With four Justices dissenting, the Court in Adams v. Tanner, 244 U.S. 590 (1917), struck down a state law absolutely prohibiting maintenance of private employment agencies. Commenting on the “constitutional philosophy” thereof in Lincoln Federal Labor Union v. Northwestern Iron & Metal Co., 335 U.S. 525, 535 (1949), Justice Black stated that Olsen v. Nebraska, 313 U.S. 236 (1941), “clearly undermined *Adams v. Tanner*.”

⁵⁸ Ferguson v. Skrupa, 372 U.S. 726 (1963).

⁵⁹ North Dakota State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Snyder's Drug Stores, 414 U.S. 156 (1973). In the course of the decision, the Court overruled Liggett Co. v. Baldridge, 278 U.S. 105 (1928), in which it had voided a law forbidding a corporation to own any drug store, unless all its stockholders were licensed pharmacists, as applied to a foreign corporation, all of whose stockholders were not pharmacists, which sought to extend its business in the State by acquiring and operating therein two additional stores.

tain customers, and that should choose locations that reduce the temptations of commercialism; a state may also conclude that eye examinations are so critical that every change in frame and duplication of a lens should be accompanied by a prescription.⁶⁰

The practice of medicine, using this word in its most general sense, has long been the subject of regulation.⁶¹ A State may exclude osteopathic physicians from hospitals maintained by it or its municipalities,⁶² may regulate the practice of dentistry by prescribing qualifications that are reasonably necessary, requiring licenses, establishing a supervisory administrative board, and prohibiting certain advertising regardless of its truthfulness.⁶³ But while statutes requiring pilots to be licensed⁶⁴ and setting reasonable competency standards (e.g., that railroad engineers pass color blindness tests) have been sustained,⁶⁵ an act making it a misdemeanor for a person to act as a railway passenger conductor without having had two years' experience as a freight conductor or brakeman was invalidated as not rationally distinguishing between those competent and those not competent to serve as conductor.⁶⁶

The Court has also upheld a variety of other licensing or regulatory legislation applicable to places of amusement,⁶⁷ grain elevators,⁶⁸ detective agencies,⁶⁹ the sale of cigarettes⁷⁰ or cosmetics,⁷¹ and the resale of theatre tickets.⁷² Restrictions on advertising have also been upheld, including absolute bans on the advertising of cigarettes,⁷³ or the use of a representation of the United

⁶⁰ *Williamson v. Lee Optical Co.*, 348 U.S. 483 (1955).

⁶¹ *McNaughton v. Johnson*, 242 U.S. 344, 349 (1917). See also *Dent v. West Virginia*, 129 U.S. 114 (1889); *Hawker v. New York*, 170 U.S. 189 (1898); *Reetz v. Michigan*, 188 U.S. 505 (1903); *Watson v. Maryland*, 218 U.S. 173 (1910); *Barsky v. Board of Regents*, 347 U.S. 442 (1954) sustaining a New York law authorizing suspension for six months of the license of a physician who had been convicted of crime in any jurisdiction, in this instance, contempt of Congress under 2 U.S.C. §192. Three Justices, Black, Douglas, and Frankfurter, dissented.

⁶² *Collins v. Texas*, 223 U.S. 288 (1912); *Hayman v. Galveston*, 273 U.S. 414 (1927).

⁶³ *Semler v. Dental Examiners*, 294 U.S. 608, 611 (1935). See also *Douglas v. Noble*, 261 U.S. 165 (1923); *Graves v. Minnesota*, 272 U.S. 425, 427 (1926).

⁶⁴ *Olsen v. Smith*, 195 U.S. 332 (1904).

⁶⁵ *Nashville, C. & St. L. R.R. v. Alabama*, 128 U.S. 96 (1888).

⁶⁶ *Smith v. Texas*, 233 U.S. 630 (1914). See *DeVeau v. Braisted*, 363 U.S. 144, 157–60 (1960), sustaining New York law barring from office in longshoremen's union persons convicted of felony and not thereafter pardoned or granted a good conduct certificate from a parole board.

⁶⁷ *Western Turf Ass'n v. Greenberg*, 204 U.S. 359 (1907).

⁶⁸ *W.W. Cargill Co. v. Minnesota*, 180 U.S. 452 (1901).

⁶⁹ *Lehon v. Atlanta*, 242 U.S. 53 (1916).

⁷⁰ *Gundling v. Chicago*, 177 U.S. 183, 185 (1900).

⁷¹ *Bourjois, Inc. v. Chapman*, 301 U.S. 183 (1937).

⁷² *Weller v. New York*, 268 U.S. 319 (1925).

⁷³ *Packer Corp. v. Utah*, 285 U.S. 105 (1932).

States flag on an advertising medium.⁷⁴ Similarly constitutional were prohibitions on the solicitation by a layman of the business of collecting and adjusting claims,⁷⁵ the keeping of private markets within six squares of a public market,⁷⁶ the keeping of billiard halls except in hotels,⁷⁷ or the purchase by junk dealers of wire, copper, and other items, without ascertaining the seller's right to sell.⁷⁸

Protection of State Resources

Oil and Gas.—To prevent waste, production of oil and gas may be prorated; the prohibition of wasteful conduct, whether primarily in behalf of the owners of oil and gas in a common reservoir or because of the public interests involved, is consistent with the Constitution.⁷⁹ Thus, the Court upheld against due process challenge a statute which defined waste as including, in addition to its ordinary meaning, economic waste, surface waste, and production in excess of transportation or marketing facilities or reasonable market demands, and which limited each producer's share to a prorated portion of the total production that can be taken from the common source without waste.⁸⁰ Whether a system of proration based on hourly potential is as fair as one based upon estimated recoverable reserves or some other combination of factors is a question for administrative and not judicial judgment. In a domain of knowledge still shifting and growing, it has been held to be presumptuous for courts, on the basis of conflicting expert testimony, to invalidate an oil proration order, promulgated by an administrative commission in execution of a regulatory scheme intended to conserve a State's oil resources.⁸¹ On the other hand, where the evidence showed that an order, purporting to limit daily total production of a gas field and to prorate the allowed production among several wells, had for its real purpose, not the prevention of waste nor the undue drainage from the reserves of other well owners, but rather the compelling of pipeline owners to furnish a market to those who had no pipeline connections, the order was held void as

⁷⁴ *Halter v. Nebraska*, 205 U.S. 34 (1907).

⁷⁵ *McCloskey v. Tobin*, 252 U.S. 107 (1920).

⁷⁶ *Natal v. Louisiana*, 139 U.S. 621 (1891).

⁷⁷ *Murphy v. California*, 225 U.S. 623 (1912).

⁷⁸ *Rosenthal v. New York*, 226 U.S. 260 (1912).

⁷⁹ *Thompson v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 300 U.S. 55, 76–77 (1937) (citing *Ohio Oil Co. v. Indiana* (No. 1), 177 U.S. 190 (1900)); *Lindsley v. Natural Carbonic Gas Co.*, 220 U.S. 61 (1911); *Oklahoma v. Kansas Natural Gas Co.*, 221 U.S. 229 (1911).

⁸⁰ *Champlin Ref. Co. v. Corporation Comm'n*, 286 U.S. 210 (1932).

⁸¹ *Railroad Comm'n v. Rowan & Nichols Oil Co.*, 310 U.S. 573 (1940). *See also* *Railroad Comm'n v. Rowan & Nichols Oil Co.*, 311 U.S. 570 (1941); *Railroad Comm'n v. Humble Oil & Ref. Co.*, 311 U.S. 578 (1941).

a taking of private property for private benefit.⁸² Also sustained as conservation measures were orders of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, premised on a finding that existing low field prices for natural gas were resulting in economic and physical waste, fixing a minimum price for gas and requiring one producer to take gas ratably from another producer in the same field at the dictated price.⁸³

Even though carbon black is more valuable than the gas from which it is extracted, and notwithstanding a resulting loss of investment in a plant for the manufacture of carbon black, a State, in the exercise of its police power, may forbid the use of natural gas for products, such as carbon black, in the production of which such gas is burned without fully utilizing for other manufacturing or domestic purposes the heat therein contained.⁸⁴ Likewise, for the purpose of regulating and adjusting coexisting rights of surface owners to underlying oil and gas, it is within the power of a State to prohibit the operators of wells from allowing natural gas, not conveniently necessary for other purposes, to come to the surface without the lifting power having been utilized to produce the greatest quality of oil in proportion.⁸⁵

Protection of Property and Agricultural Crops.—An ordinance conditioning the right to drill for oil and gas within the city limits upon the filing of a bond in the sum of \$200,000 for each well, to secure payment of damages from injuries to any persons or property resulting from the drilling operation, or maintenance of any well or structure appurtenant thereto, is consistent with due process of law and is not rendered unreasonable by the requirement that the bond be executed, not by personal sureties, but by a bonding company authorized to do business in the State.⁸⁶ On the other hand, a Pennsylvania statute, which forbade the mining of coal under private dwellings or streets of cities by a grantor that had reserved the right to mine, was viewed as restricting the use of private property too much and hence as a denial of due process and a “taking” without compensation.⁸⁷ Years later, however, a quite similar Pennsylvania statute was upheld, the Court finding that the new law no longer involved merely a balancing of private

⁸² *Thompson v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 300 U.S. 55 (1937).

⁸³ *Cities Service Co. v. Peerless Co.*, 340 U.S. 179 (1950); *Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Oklahoma*, 340 U.S. 190 (1950).

⁸⁴ *Walls v. Midland Carbon Co.*, 254 U.S. 300 (1920). *See also* *Henderson Co. v. Thompson*, 300 U.S. 258 (1937).

⁸⁵ *Bandini Co. v. Superior Court*, 284 U.S. 8 (1931).

⁸⁶ *Gant v. Oklahoma City*, 289 U.S. 98 (1933).

⁸⁷ *Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon*, 260 U.S. 393 (1922). On the “taking” jurisprudence that has stemmed from this case, *see supra*, pp. 1382–84.

economic interests, but instead promoted such “important public interests” as conservation, protection of water supplies, and preservation of land values for taxation.⁸⁸ Also distinguished from *Pennsylvania Coal* was a challenge to an ordinance prohibiting sand and gravel excavation near the water table and imposing a duty to refill any existing excavation below that level. The ordinance was upheld; the fact that it prohibited a business that had been conducted for over 30 years did not give rise to a taking in the absence of proof that the land could not be used for other legitimate purposes.⁸⁹

A statute requiring the destruction of cedar trees within two miles of apple orchards in order to prevent damage to the orchards caused by cedar rust was upheld as not unreasonable even in the absence of compensation. Apple growing being one of the principal agricultural pursuits in Virginia and the value of cedar trees throughout the State being small as compared with that of apple orchards, the State was constitutionally competent to require the destruction of one class of property in order to save another which, in the judgment of its legislature, was of greater value to the public.⁹⁰ Similarly, Florida was held to possess constitutional authority to protect the reputation of one of its major industries by penalizing the delivery for shipment in interstate commerce of citrus fruits so immature as to be unfit for consumption.⁹¹

Water.—A statute making it unlawful for a riparian owner to divert water into another State was held not to deprive the owner of property without due process of law. “The constitutional power of the State to insist that its natural advantages shall remain unimpaired by its citizens is not dependent upon any nice estimate of the extent of present use or speculation as to future needs. . . . What it has it may keep and give no one a reason for its will.”⁹² This holding has since been disapproved, but on interstate commerce rather than due process grounds.⁹³ States may, however, enact and enforce a variety of conservation measures for the protection of watersheds.⁹⁴

⁸⁸ *Keystone Bituminous Coal Ass’n v. DeBenedictis*, 480 U.S. 470, 488 (1987). The Court in *Pennsylvania Coal* had viewed that case as one of “a single private house.” 260 U.S. at 413.

⁸⁹ *Goldblatt v. Town of Hempstead*, 369 U.S. 590 (1962).

⁹⁰ *Miller v. Schoene*, 276 U.S. 272, 277, 279 (1928).

⁹¹ *Sligh v. Kirkwood*, 237 U.S. 52 (1915).

⁹² *Hudson Water Co. v. McCarter*, 209 U.S. 349, 356–57 (1908).

⁹³ *Sporhase v. Nebraska ex rel. Douglas*, 458 U.S. 941 (1982). See also *City of Altus v. Carr*, 255 F. Supp. 828 (W.D. Tex.), *aff’d per curiam*, 385 U.S. 35 (1966).

⁹⁴ See, e.g., *Perley v. North Carolina*, 249 U.S. 510 (1919) (upholding law requiring the removal of timber refuse from the vicinity of a watershed to prevent the spread of fire and consequent damage to such watershed).

Fish and Game.—A State has sufficient control over fish and wild game found within its boundaries⁹⁵ that it may regulate or prohibit fishing and hunting.⁹⁶ For the effective enforcement of such restrictions, a state may also forbid the possession within its borders of special instruments of violations, such as nets, traps, and seines, regardless of the time of acquisition or the protestations of lawful intentions on the part of a particular possessor.⁹⁷ The Court also upheld a state law, designed to conserve for food fish found within its waters, restricting a commercial reduction plant from accepting more fish than it could process without deterioration, waste, or spoilage, and applying such restriction to fish imported into the State.⁹⁸

The Court's early decisions rested on the legal fiction that states owned the fish and wild game within their borders, hence could reserve these possessions solely for use by their own citizens. The Court soon backed away from the ownership fiction,⁹⁹ and in *Hughes v. Oklahoma*¹⁰⁰ overruled *Geer v. Connecticut*, indicating instead that state conservation measures discriminating against out-of-state persons were to be measured under the commerce clause. Although a state's "concerns for conservation and protection of wild animals" were still a "legitimate" basis for regulation, these concerns could not justify disproportionate burdens on interstate commerce.¹⁰¹ More recently still, in the context of recreational rather than commercial activity, the Court reached a result more deferential to state authority, holding that access to recreational big game hunting is not within the category of rights protected by the Privileges and Immunities Clause, and that consequently a state could without differential cost justification charge out-of-staters significantly more than in-staters for a hunting license.¹⁰² Suffice it to say that similar cases involving a state's efforts to reserve its fish and game for its own inhabitants are likely to be

⁹⁵ *Bayside Fish Co. v. Gentry*, 297 U.S. 422, 426 (1936).

⁹⁶ *Manchester v. Massachusetts*, 139 U.S. 240 (1891); *Geer v. Connecticut*, 161 U.S. 519 (1896).

⁹⁷ *Miller v. McLaughlin*, 281 U.S. 261, 264 (1930).

⁹⁸ *Bayside Fish Co. v. Gentry*, 297 U.S. 422 (1936). See also *New York ex rel. Silz v. Hesterberg*, 211 U.S. 31 (1908) (upholding law proscribing possession during the closed season of game imported from abroad).

⁹⁹ See, e.g., *Foster-Fountain Packing Co. v. Haydel*, 278 U.S. 1 (1928) (invalidating Louisiana statute prohibiting transportation outside the state of shrimp taken in state waters, unless the head and shell had first been removed); *Toomer v. Witsell*, 334 U.S. 385 (1948) (invalidating law discriminating against out-of-state commercial fishermen); *Douglas v. Seacoast Products*, 431 U.S. 265, 284 (1977) (state could not discriminate in favor of its residents against out-of-state fishermen in federally licensed ships).

¹⁰⁰ 441 U.S. 322 (1979) (formally overruling *Geer*).

¹⁰¹ *Id.* at 336, 338–39.

¹⁰² *Baldwin v. Montana Fish and Game Comm'n*, 436 U.S. 371 (1978).

challenged under commerce or privileges and immunities principles, rather than under substantive due process.

Ownership of Real Property: Limitations, Rights

Zoning and Similar Actions.—That states and municipal subdivisions may zone land for designated uses is now a well established aspect of the police power. Zoning authority gained judicial recognition early in the 20th century. Initially, analogy was drawn to public nuisance law, the Court recognizing that States and their municipal subdivisions may declare that in particular circumstances and in particular localities specific businesses, which are not nuisances *per se*, are to be deemed nuisances in fact and in law.¹⁰³ Thus, a State may declare the emission of dense smoke in populous areas a nuisance and restrain it; regulations to that effect are not invalid even though they affect the use of property or subject the owner to the expense of complying with their terms.¹⁰⁴ So too, the Court upheld an ordinance that prohibited brickmaking in a designated area, even though the land contained valuable clay deposits which could not profitably be removed for processing elsewhere, was far more valuable for brickmaking than for any other purpose, had been acquired before it was annexed to the municipality, and had long been used as a brickyard.¹⁰⁵

With increasing urbanization and consequent broadening of the philosophy of regulation of land use to protect not only health and safety but also the amenities of modern living,¹⁰⁶ the Court has recognized the discretion of government, within the loose confines of the due process clause, to zone in many ways and for many purposes. The Court will uphold a challenged land-use plan unless it determines that the plan is clearly arbitrary and unreasonable and has no substantial relation to the public health, safety, or general welfare,¹⁰⁷ or unless the plan as applied amounts to a tak-

¹⁰³ Reinman v. City of Little Rock, 237 U.S. 171 (1915) (location of a livery stable within a thickly populated city "is well within the range of the power of the state to legislate for the health and general welfare"). See also Fischer v. St. Louis, 194 U.S. 361 (1904) (upholding restriction on location of dairy cow stables); Bacon v. Walker, 204 U.S. 311 (1907) (upholding restriction on grazing of sheep near habitations).

¹⁰⁴ Northwestern Laundry v. Des Moines, 239 U.S. 486 (1916). For a case embracing a rather special set of facts, see Dobbins v. Los Angeles, 195 U.S. 223 (1904).

¹⁰⁵ Hadacheck v. Sebastian, 239 U.S. 394 (1915).

¹⁰⁶ Cf. *Developments in the Law-Zoning*, 91 HARV. L. REV. 1427 (1978).

¹⁰⁷ Village of Euclid v. Ambler Realty Co., 272 U.S. 365 (1926); Zahn v. Board of Pub. Works, 274 U.S. 325 (1927); Nectow v. City of Cambridge, 277 U.S. 183 (1928); Cusack Co. v. City of Chicago, 242 U.S. 526 (1917); St. Louis Poster Adv. Co. v. City of St. Louis, 249 U.S. 269 (1919).

ing of property without just compensation.¹⁰⁸ Applying these principles, the Court has held that the creation of a residential district in a village and the exclusion therefrom of apartment houses, retail stores, and billboards is a permissible exercise of municipal power.¹⁰⁹ So too, a municipality restricting housing in a community to one-family dwellings, in which any number of persons related by blood, adoption, or marriage could occupy a house but only two unrelated persons could do so, was sustained in the absence of any showing that it was aimed at the deprivation of a “fundamental interest.”¹¹⁰ Such a fundamental interest was found impaired by a zoning ordinance in *Moore v. City of East Cleveland*,¹¹¹ which restricted housing occupancy to a single family but so defined “family” that a grandmother who had been living with her two grandsons of different children was in violation of the ordinance. Similarly, black persons cannot be forbidden to occupy houses in blocks where the greater number of houses are occupied by white persons, or vice versa.¹¹² But aside from such basic constraints, a wide range of regulation is permissible. Government may regulate the height of buildings¹¹³ and establish building setback requirements.¹¹⁴ The preservation of open spaces, through density controls and restrictions on the numbers of houses,¹¹⁵ and the preservation of historic structures¹¹⁶ are also permissible utilizations of the zoning power.

In one aspect of zoning—the degree to which such decisions may be delegated to private persons—the Court has not attained consistency. Thus, it invalidated a city ordinance which conferred the power to establish building setback lines upon the owners of two thirds of the property abutting any street,¹¹⁷ and, subsequently, it struck down an ordinance which permitted the establishment of philanthropic homes for the aged in residential areas but only upon the written consent of the owners of two-thirds of

¹⁰⁸ See, e.g., *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*, 112 S. Ct. 2886 (1992), and discussion of the Fifth Amendment’s eminent domain power, *supra* pp. 1382–95.

¹⁰⁹ *Village of Euclid v. Ambler Realty Co.*, 272 U.S. 365 (1926).

¹¹⁰ *Village of Belle Terre v. Boraas*, 416 U.S. 1 (1974).

¹¹¹ 431 U.S. 494 (1977). A plurality of the Court struck down the ordinance as a violation of substantive due process, an infringement of family living arrangements which are a protected liberty interest, *id.* at 498–506, while Justice Stevens concurred on the ground that the ordinance was arbitrary and unreasonable. *Id.* at 513. Four Justices dissented. *Id.* at 521, 531, 541.

¹¹² *Buchanan v. Warley*, 245 U.S. 60 (1917).

¹¹³ *Welch v. Swasey*, 214 U.S. 91 (1909).

¹¹⁴ *Gorieb v. Fox*, 274 U.S. 603 (1927).

¹¹⁵ *Agins v. City of Tiburon*, 447 U.S. 255 (1980).

¹¹⁶ *Penn Central Transp. Co. v. City of New York*, 438 U.S. 104 (1978).

¹¹⁷ *Eubank v. City of Richmond*, 226 U.S. 137 (1912).

the property within 400 feet of the proposed facility.¹¹⁸ In a decision falling chronologically between these two, it sustained an ordinance which permitted property owners to waive a municipal restriction prohibiting the construction of billboards.¹¹⁹ In its most recent decision, upholding a city charter provision permitting the petitioning to citywide referendum of zoning changes and variances by the city planning commission and necessitating a 55% approval vote in the referendum to sustain the commission's decision, the Court distinguished between delegating to a small group of affected landowners such a decision relating to other people and the people's retention of the ultimate legislative power in themselves which for convenience they had delegated to a legislative body.¹²⁰ The zoning power may not be delegated to a church, the Court invalidating under the Establishment Clause a state law permitting any church to block issuance of a liquor license for a facility to be operated within 500 feet of the church.¹²¹

Estates, Succession, Abandoned Property.—The Court upheld a New York Decedent Estate Law that granted to a surviving spouse a right of election to take as in intestacy, as applied to a widow who, before enactment of the law, had waived any right to her husband's estate. Impairment of the widow's waiver by subsequent legislation did not deprive the husband's estate of property without due process of law. Because rights of succession to property are of statutory creation, the Court explained, New York could have conditioned any further exercise of testamentary power upon the giving of right of election to the surviving spouse regardless of any waiver however formally executed.¹²²

Even after the creation of a testamentary trust, a State retains the power to devise new and reasonable directions to the trustee to meet new conditions arising during its administration, especially such as the Depression presented to trusts containing mortgages. Accordingly, no constitutional right is violated by the retroactive application to an estate on which administration had already begun of a statute which had the effect of taking away a remainderman's right to judicial examination of the trustee's computation of income. Under the peculiar facts of the case, however, the remainderman's

¹¹⁸ *Washington ex rel. Seattle Title Trust Co. v. Roberge*, 278 U.S. 116 (1928).

¹¹⁹ *Thomas Cusack Co. v. City of Chicago*, 242 U.S. 526 (1917). The Court thought the case different from *Eubank*, because in that case the ordinance established no rule but gave to decision of a narrow segment of the community the force of law, whereas in *Cusack* the ordinance barred the erection of any billboards but permitted the prohibition to be modified by the persons most affected. *Id.* at 531.

¹²⁰ *City of Eastlake v. Forest City Enterprises*, 426 U.S. 668 (1976). Such referenda do, however, raise equal protection problems. *See infra*, p. 1858.

¹²¹ *Larkin v. Grendel's Den*, 459 U.S. 116 (1982).

¹²² *Irving Trust Co. v. Day*, 314 U.S. 556, 564 (1942).

right had been created by judicial rules promulgated after the death of the decedent, so the case is not precedent for a broad rule of retroactivity.¹²³

States have several jurisdictional bases for application of escheat and abandoned property laws to out-of-state corporations. Application of New York's Abandoned Property Law to insurance policies on the lives of New York residents issued by foreign corporations did not deprive such companies of property without due process, where the insured persons had continued to be New York residents and the beneficiaries were resident at the maturity date of the policies. The relationship between New York and its residents who abandon claims against foreign insurance companies, and between New York and foreign insurance companies doing business therein, is sufficiently close to give New York jurisdiction.¹²⁴ In *Standard Oil Co. v. New Jersey*,¹²⁵ a divided Court held that due process is not violated by a statute escheating to the State shares of stock in a domestic corporation and unpaid dividends declared thereon, even though the last known owners were non-residents and the stock was issued and the dividends were held in another State. The State's power over the debtor corporation gives it power to seize the debts or demands represented by the stock and dividends.

The large discretion the States possess to define abandoned property and to provide for its disposition is revealed in *Texaco v. Short*.¹²⁶ There upheld was an Indiana statute which terminated interests in coal, oil, gas, or other minerals which have not been used for twenty years and which provided for reversion to the owner of the interest out of which the mining interests had been carved. With respect to interests existing at the time of enactment, the statute provided a two-year grace period in which owners of mineral interests that were then unused and subject to lapse could preserve those interests by filing a claim in the recorder's office. The "use" of a mineral interest which could prevent its extinction included the actual or attempted extraction of minerals, the payment of rents or royalties, and any payment of taxes. Merely filing a claim with the local recorder would preserve the interest. The statute provided no notice, save for its own publication, to owners

¹²³ *Demorest v. City Bank Co.*, 321 U.S. 36, 47-48 (1944).

¹²⁴ *Connecticut Ins. Co. v. Moore*, 333 U.S. 541 (1948). Justices Jackson and Douglas dissented on the ground that New York was attempting to escheat unclaimed funds not actually or constructively located in New York, and which were the property of beneficiaries who may never have been citizens or residents of New York.

¹²⁵ 341 U.S. 428 (1951).

¹²⁶ 454 U.S. 516 (1982).

of interests, nor did it require surface owners to notify owners of mineral interests that the interests were about to expire. By a narrow margin, the Court sustained the statute, holding that the State's interest in encouraging production, securing timely notices of property ownership, and settling property titles provided a basis for enactment, and finding that due process did not require any actual notice to holders of unused mineral interests. Property owners are charged with maintaining knowledge of the legal conditions of property ownership. The act provided a grace period and specified several actions which were sufficient to avoid extinguishment. The State "may impose on an owner of a mineral interest the burden of using that interest or filing a current statement of interests" and it may similarly "impose on him the lesser burden of keeping informed of the use or nonuse of his own property."¹²⁷

Health, Safety, and Morals

Even under the narrowest concept of the police power as limited by substantive due process, it was generally conceded that states could exercise the power to protect the public health, safety, and morals.¹²⁸ Illustrative cases are noted below.

Safety Regulations.—A variety of measures designed to reduce fire hazards have been upheld. These include municipal ordinances that prohibit the storage of gasoline within 300 feet of any dwelling,¹²⁹ or require that all tanks with a capacity of more than ten gallons, used for the storage of gasoline, be buried at least three feet under ground,¹³⁰ or which prohibit washing and ironing in public laundries and wash houses, within defined territorial limits from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.¹³¹ Equally sanctioned by the Fourteenth Amendment is the demolition and removal by cities of wooden buildings erected within defined fire limits contrary to regulations in force at the time.¹³² Construction of property in full compliance with existing laws, however, does not confer upon the owner an immunity against exercise of the police power. Thus, a 1944 amendment to a Multiple Dwelling Law, requiring installation of automatic sprinklers in lodgishouses of non-fireproof construction erected prior to said enactment, does not, as applied to a lodgishouse constructed in 1940 in conformity with all laws then

¹²⁷Id. at 538. The four dissenters thought that some specific notice was required for persons holding before enactment. Id. at 540.

¹²⁸See, e.g., *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623, 661 (1887), and discussion supra p. 1575.

¹²⁹*Pierce Oil Corp. v. Hope*, 248 U.S. 498 (1919).

¹³⁰*Standard Oil Co. v. Marysville*, 279 U.S. 582 (1929).

¹³¹*Barbier v. Connolly*, 113 U.S. 27 (1885); *Soon Hing v. Crowley*, 113 U.S. 703 (1885).

¹³²*Maguire v. Reardon*, 225 U.S. 271 (1921).

applicable, deprive the owner of due process, even though compliance entails an expenditure of \$7,500 on a property worth only \$25,000.¹³³

Sanitation.—An ordinance for incineration of garbage and refuse at a designated place as a means of protecting public health is not taking of private property without just compensation even though such garbage and refuse may have some elements of value for certain purposes.¹³⁴ Compelling property owners to connect with a publicly maintained system of sewers and enforcing that duty by criminal penalties does not violate the due process clause.¹³⁵

Food, Drugs, Milk.—“The power of the State to . . . prevent the production within its borders of impure foods, unfit for use, and such articles as would spread disease and pestilence, is well established.”¹³⁶ Statutes forbidding or regulating the manufacture of oleomargarine have been upheld as a valid exercise of such power.¹³⁷ For the same reasons, statutes ordering the destruction of unsafe and unwholesome food,¹³⁸ and prohibiting the sale and authorizing confiscation of impure milk¹³⁹ have been sustained, notwithstanding that such articles had a value for purposes other than food. There also can be no question of the authority of the State, in the interest of public health and welfare, to forbid the sale of drugs by itinerant vendors¹⁴⁰ or the sale of spectacles by an establishment not in charge of a physician or optometrist.¹⁴¹ Nor is it any longer possible to doubt the validity of state regulations pertaining to the administration, sale, prescription, and use of dangerous and habit-forming drugs.¹⁴²

Equally valid as police power regulations are laws forbidding the sale of ice cream not containing a reasonable proportion of butter fat¹⁴³ or of condensed milk made from skimmed milk rather than whole milk¹⁴⁴ or of food preservatives containing boric acid.¹⁴⁵ Similarly, a statute which prohibits the sale of milk to which has been added any fat or oil other than a milk fat, and

¹³³ *Queenside Hills Co. v. Saxl*, 328 U.S. 80 (1946).

¹³⁴ *California Reduction Co. v. Sanitary Works*, 199 U.S. 306 (1905).

¹³⁵ *Hutchinson v. City of Valdosta*, 227 U.S. 303 (1913).

¹³⁶ *Sligh v. Kirkwood*, 237 U.S. 52, 59–60 (1915).

¹³⁷ *Powell v. Pennsylvania*, 127 U.S. 678 (1888); *Magnano v. Hamilton*, 292 U.S. 40 (1934).

¹³⁸ *North American Storage Co. v. City of Chicago*, 211 U.S. 306 (1908).

¹³⁹ *Adams v. City of Milwaukee*, 228 U.S. 572 (1913).

¹⁴⁰ *Baccus v. Louisiana*, 232 U.S. 334 (1914).

¹⁴¹ *Roschen v. Ward*, 279 U.S. 337 (1929).

¹⁴² *Minnesota ex rel. Whipple v. Martinson*, 256 U.S. 41, 45 (1921).

¹⁴³ *Hutchinson Ice Cream Co. v. Iowa*, 242 U.S. 153 (1916).

¹⁴⁴ *Hebe Co. v. Shaw*, 248 U.S. 297 (1919).

¹⁴⁵ *Price v. Illinois*, 238 U.S. 446 (1915).

which has, as one of its purposes, the prevention of fraud and deception in the sale of milk products, does not, when applied to “filled milk” having the taste, consistency, and appearance of whole milk products, violate the due process clause. Filled milk is inferior to whole milk in its nutritional content and cannot be served to children as a substitute for whole milk without producing a dietary deficiency.¹⁴⁶ However, a statute forbidding the sale of bedding made with shoddy, even when sterilized and therefore harmless to health, was held to be arbitrary and therefore invalid.¹⁴⁷

Intoxicating Liquor.—“[O]n account of their well-known noxious qualities and the extraordinary evils shown by experience to be consequent upon their use, a State . . . [is competent] to prohibit [absolutely the] manufacture, gift, purchase, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within its borders. . . .”¹⁴⁸ And to implement such prohibition, a State has the power to declare that places where liquor is manufactured or kept shall be deemed common nuisances,¹⁴⁹ and even to subject an innocent owner to the forfeiture of his property for the acts of a wrongdoer.¹⁵⁰

Regulation of Motor Vehicles and Carriers.—The highways of a State are public property, the primary and preferred use of which is for private purposes; their uses for purposes of gain may generally be prohibited by the legislature or conditioned as it sees fit.¹⁵¹ In limiting the use of its highways for intrastate transportation for hire, a State reasonably may provide that carriers who have furnished adequate, responsible, and continuous service over a given route from a specified date in the past shall be entitled to licenses as a matter of right but that the licensing of those whose service over the route began later than the date specified shall depend upon public convenience and necessity.¹⁵² To require private contract carriers for hire to obtain a certificate of convenience and necessity, which is not granted if the service of common carriers is impaired thereby, and to fix minimum rates applicable thereto, which are not less than those prescribed for common carriers, is valid as a means of conserving highways,¹⁵³ but any attempt to

¹⁴⁶ *Sage Stores Co. v. Kansas*, 323 U.S. 32 (1944).

¹⁴⁷ *Weaver v. Palmer Bros. Co.*, 270 U.S. 402 (1926).

¹⁴⁸ *Beer Co. v. Massachusetts*, 97 U.S. 25, 33 (1878); *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623 (1887); *Kidd v. Pearson*, 128 U.S. 1 (1888); *Purity Extract Co. v. Lynch*, 226 U.S. 192 (1912); *Clark Distilling Co. v. Western Md. Ry.*, 242 U.S. 311 (1917); *Barbour v. Georgia*, 249 U.S. 454 (1919).

¹⁴⁹ *Mugler v. Kansas*, 123 U.S. 623, 671 (1887).

¹⁵⁰ *Hawes v. Georgia*, 258 U.S. 1 (1922); *Van Oster v. Kansas*, 272 U.S. 465 (1926).

¹⁵¹ *Stephenson v. Binford*, 287 U.S. 251 (1932).

¹⁵² *Stanley v. Public Utilities Comm'n*, 295 U.S. 76 (1935).

¹⁵³ *Stephenson v. Binford*, 287 U.S. 251 (1932).

convert private carriers into common carriers,¹⁵⁴ or to subject them to the burdens and regulations of common carriers, without expressly declaring them to be common carriers, is violative of due process.¹⁵⁵ In the absence of legislation by Congress, a State may, in protection of the public safety, deny an interstate motor carrier the use of an already congested highway.¹⁵⁶

In exercising its authority over its highways, on the other hand, a State is not limited merely to the raising of revenue for maintenance and reconstruction or to regulating the manner in which vehicles shall be operated, but may also prevent the wear and hazards due to excessive size of vehicles and weight of load. Accordingly, a statute limiting to 7,000 pounds the net load permissible for trucks is not unreasonable.¹⁵⁷ No less constitutional is a municipal traffic regulation which forbids the operation in the streets of any advertising vehicle, excepting vehicles displaying business notices or advertisements of the products of the owner and not used mainly for advertising; and such regulation may be validly enforced to prevent an express company from selling advertising space on the outside of its trucks. Inasmuch as it is the judgment of local authorities that such advertising affects public safety by distracting drivers and pedestrians, courts are unable to hold otherwise in the absence of evidence refuting that conclusion.¹⁵⁸

Any appropriate means adopted to insure compliance and care on the part of licensees and to protect other highway users being consonant with due process, a State may also provide that a driver who fails to pay a judgment for negligent operation shall have his license and registration suspended for three years, unless, in the meantime, the judgment is satisfied or discharged.¹⁵⁹ Compulsory automobile insurance is so plainly valid as to present no federal constitutional question.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁴ Michigan Pub. Utils. Comm'n v. Duke, 266 U.S. 570 (1925).

¹⁵⁵ Frost Trucking v. Railroad Comm'n, 271 U.S. 583 (1926); Smith v. Cahoon, 283 U.S. 553 (1931).

¹⁵⁶ Bradley v. Public Utils. Comm'n, 289 U.S. 92 (1933).

¹⁵⁷ Sproles v. Binford, 286 U.S. 374 (1932).

¹⁵⁸ Railway Express Agency v. New York, 336 U.S. 106 (1949).

¹⁵⁹ Reitz v. Mealey, 314 U.S. 33 (1941); Kesler v. Department of Pub. Safety, 369 U.S. 153 (1962). *But see* Perez v. Campbell, 402 U.S. 637 (1971). Procedural due process must, of course be observed. Bell v. Burson, 402 U.S. 535 (1971). A non-resident owner who loans his automobile in another state, by the law of which he is immune from liability for the borrower's negligence and who was not in the state at the time of the accident, is not subjected to any unconstitutional deprivation by a law thereof, imposing liability on the owner for the negligence of one driving the car with the owner's permission. Young v. Masci, 289 U.S. 253 (1933).

¹⁶⁰ Ex parte Poresky, 290 U.S. 30 (1933). *See also* Packard v. Banton, 264 U.S. 140 (1924); Sprout v. South Bend, 277 U.S. 163 (1928); Hodge Co. v. Cincinnati, 284 U.S. 335 (1932); Continental Baking Co. v. Woodring, 286 U.S. 352 (1932).

Protecting Morality.—Unless effecting a clear, unmistakable infringement of rights secured by fundamental law, legislation suppressing prostitution¹⁶¹ or gambling will be upheld by the Court as concededly within the police power of a State.¹⁶² Accordingly, a state statute may provide that, in the event a judgment is obtained against a party winning money, a lien may be had on the property of the owner of the building where the gambling transaction was conducted when the owner knowingly consented to the gambling.¹⁶³ For the same reason, lotteries, including those operated under a legislative grant, may be forbidden, irrespective of any particular equities.¹⁶⁴

Vested Rights, Remedial Rights, Political Candidacy

Inasmuch as the Due Process Clause protects against arbitrary deprivation of “property,” privileges not constituting property are not entitled to protection.¹⁶⁵ Because an existing right of action to recover damages for an injury is property, that right of action is protected by the clause.¹⁶⁶ Thus, the retroactive repeal of a provision which made directors liable for moneys embezzled by corporate officers, by preventing enforcement of a liability which already had arisen, deprived certain creditors of their property without due process of law.¹⁶⁷ But while a vested cause of action is property, a person has no constitutionally protected property interest in any particular form of remedy and is guaranteed only the preservation of a substantial right to redress by any effective procedure.¹⁶⁸ Accordingly, a statute creating an additional remedy for enforcing stockholders’ liability is not, as applied to stockholders then holding stock, violative of due process.¹⁶⁹ Nor is a law which lifts a statute of limitations and makes possible a suit, theretofore barred,

¹⁶¹ *L’Hote v. New Orleans*, 177 U.S. 587 (1900).

¹⁶² *Ah Sin v. Wittman*, 198 U.S. 500 (1905).

¹⁶³ *Marvin v. Trout*, 199 U.S. 212 (1905).

¹⁶⁴ *Stone v. Mississippi*, 101 U.S. 814 (1880); *Douglas v. Kentucky*, 168 U.S. 488 (1897).

¹⁶⁵ *See, e.g., Snowden v. Hughes*, 321 U.S. 1 (1944) (right to become a candidate for state office is a privilege only, hence an unlawful denial of such right is not a denial of a right of “property”). Cases under the equal protection clause now mandate a different result. *See Holt Civic Club v. City of Tuscaloosa*, 439 U.S. 60, 75 (1978) (seeming to conflate due process and equal protection standards in political rights cases).

¹⁶⁶ *Angle v. Chicago, St. Paul, M. & D. Ry.*, 151 U.S. 1 (1894).

¹⁶⁷ *Coombes v. Getz*, 285 U.S. 434, 442, 448 (1932).

¹⁶⁸ *Gibbes v. Zimmerman*, 290 U.S. 326, 332 (1933). *See Duke Power Co. v. Carolina Env’tl. Study Group*, 438 U.S. 59 (1978) (limitation of common-law liability of private industry nuclear accidents in order to encourage development of energy a rational action, especially when combined with congressional pledge to take necessary action in event of accident; whether limitation would have been of questionable validity in absence of pledge uncertain but unlikely).

¹⁶⁹ *Shriver v. Woodbine Bank*, 285 U.S. 467 (1932).

for the value of certain securities. “The Fourteenth Amendment does not make an act of state legislation void merely because it has some retrospective operation. . . . Some rules of law probably could not be changed retroactively without hardship and oppression Assuming that statutes of limitation, like other types of legislation, could be so manipulated that their retroactive effects would offend the constitution, certainly it cannot be said that lifting the bar of a statute of limitation so as to restore a remedy lost through mere lapse of time is *per se* an offense against the Fourteenth Amendment.”¹⁷⁰

Control of Local Units of Government

The Fourteenth Amendment does not deprive a State of the power to determine what duties may be performed by local officers, and whether they shall be appointed or popularly elected.¹⁷¹ Thus, a statute requiring cities to indemnify owners of property damaged by mobs or during riots effects no unconstitutional deprivation of the property even in circumstances when the city could not have prevented the violence.¹⁷² Likewise, a person obtaining a judgment against a municipality for damages resulting from a riot is not deprived of property without due process of law by an act which so limits the municipality’s taxing power as to prevent collection of funds adequate to pay it. As long as the judgment continues as an existing liability no unconstitutional deprivation is experienced.¹⁷³

Local units of government obliged to surrender property to other units newly created out of the territory of the former cannot successfully invoke the due process clause,¹⁷⁴ nor may taxpayers allege any unconstitutional deprivation as a result of changes in their tax burden attendant upon the consolidation of contiguous municipalities.¹⁷⁵ Nor is a statute requiring counties to reimburse cities of the first class but not other classes for rebates allowed for prompt payment of taxes in conflict with the due process clause.¹⁷⁶

Taxing Power

Generally.—It was not contemplated that the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment would restrain or cripple the taxing power

¹⁷⁰ Chase Securities Corp. v. Donaldson, 325 U.S. 304, 315–16 (1945).

¹⁷¹ Soliah v. Heskin, 222 U.S. 522 (1912); City of Trenton v. New Jersey, 262 U.S. 182 (1923). The equal protection clause has been employed, however, to limit a State’s discretion with regard to certain matters. *Infra*, pp. 1892–1911.

¹⁷² City of Chicago v. Sturges, 222 U.S. 313 (1911).

¹⁷³ Louisiana ex rel. Folsom v. Mayor of New Orleans, 109 U.S. 285, 289 (1883).

¹⁷⁴ Michigan ex rel. Kies v. Lowrey, 199 U.S. 233 (1905).

¹⁷⁵ Hunter v. Pittsburgh, 207 U.S. 161 (1907).

¹⁷⁶ Stewart v. Kansas City, 239 U.S. 14 (1915).

of the States.¹ Rather, the purpose of the amendment was to extend to the residents of the States the same protection against arbitrary state legislation affecting life, liberty, and property as was afforded against Congress by the Fifth Amendment.²

Public Purpose.—As a general matter, public moneys cannot be expended for other than public purposes. Some early cases applied this principle by invalidating taxes judged to be imposed to raise money for purely private rather than public purposes.³ However, modern notions of public purpose have expanded to the point where the limitation has little practical import. Whether a use is public or private, while it is ultimately a judicial question, “is a practical question addressed to the law-making department, and it would require a plain case of departure from every public purpose which could reasonably be conceived to justify the intervention of a court.”⁴ Taxes levied for each of the following purposes have been held to be for a public use: a city coal and fuel yard,⁵ a state bank, a warehouse, an elevator, a flourmill system, homebuilding projects,⁶ a society for preventing cruelty to animals (dog license tax),⁷ a railroad tunnel,⁸ books for school children attending private as well as public schools,⁹ and relief of unemployment.¹⁰

Other Considerations Affecting Validity: Excessive Burden; Ratio of Amount of Benefit Received.—When the power to tax exists, the extent of the burden is a matter for the discretion of the lawmakers,¹¹ and the Court will refrain from condemning a

¹ *Tonawanda v. Lyon*, 181 U.S. 389 (1901); *Cass Farm Co. v. Detroit*, 181 U.S. 396 (1901).

² *Southwestern Oil Co. v. Texas*, 217 U.S. 114, 119 (1910).

³ *Loan Association v. City of Topeka*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 655 (1875) (voiding tax employed by city to make a substantial grant to a bridge manufacturing company to induce it to locate its factory in the city). See also *City of Parkersburg v. Brown*, 106 U.S. 487 (1882) (private purpose bonds not authorized by state constitution).

⁴ *Carmichael v. Southern Coal & Coke Co.*, 301 U.S. 495, 515 (1937). In applying the Fifth Amendment Due Process Clause the Court has said that discretion as to what is a public purpose “belongs to Congress, unless the choice is clearly wrong, a display of arbitrary power, not an exercise of judgment.” *Helvering v. Davis*, 301 U.S. 619, 640 (1937); *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1, 67 (1936). That payment may be made to private individuals is now irrelevant. *Carmichael*, supra, at 518. Cf. *Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co.*, 428 U.S. 1 (1976) (sustaining tax imposed on mine companies to compensate workers for black lung disabilities, including those contracting disease before enactment of tax, as way of spreading cost of employee liabilities).

⁵ *Jones v. City of Portland*, 245 U.S. 217 (1917).

⁶ *Green v. Frazier*, 253 U.S. 233 (1920).

⁷ *Nicchia v. New York*, 254 U.S. 228 (1920).

⁸ *Milheim v. Moffat Tunnel Dist.*, 262 U.S. 710 (1923).

⁹ *Cochran v. Board of Education*, 281 U.S. 370 (1930).

¹⁰ *Carmichael v. Southern Coal & Coke Co.*, 300 U.S. 644 (1937).

¹¹ *Fox v. Standard Oil Co.*, 294 U.S. 87, 99 (1935).

tax solely on the ground that it is excessive.¹² Nor can the constitutionality of taxation be made to depend upon the taxpayer's enjoyment of any special benefits from use of the funds raised by taxation.¹³

Estate, Gift, and Inheritance Taxes.—The power of testamentary disposition and the privilege of inheritance being legitimate subjects of taxation, a State may apply its inheritance tax to either the transmission, or the exercise of the legal power of transmission, of property by will or descent, or to the legal privilege of taking property by devise or descent.¹⁴ Accordingly, an inheritance tax law, enacted after the death of a testator but before the distribution of his estate, constitutionally may be imposed on the shares of legatees, notwithstanding that under the law of the State in effect on the date of such enactment, ownership of the property passed to the legatees upon the testator's death.¹⁵ Equally consistent with due process is a tax on an *inter vivos* transfer of property by deed intended to take effect upon the death of the grantor.¹⁶

When remainders indisputably vest at the time of the creation of a trust and a succession tax is enacted thereafter, the imposition of the tax on the transfer of such remainder is unconstitutional.¹⁷ But where the remaindermen's interests are contingent and do not vest until the donor's death subsequent to the adoption of the statute, the tax is valid.¹⁸

The Court has noted that insofar as retroactive taxation of vested gifts has been voided, the justification therefor has been that "the nature or amount of the tax could not reasonably have been anticipated by the taxpayer at the time of the particular voluntary act which the [retroactive] statute later made the taxable event. . . . Taxation . . . of a gift which . . . [the donor] might well

¹² *Stewart Dry Goods Co. v. Lewis*, 294 U.S. 550 (1935). See also *Kelly v. City of Pittsburgh*, 104 U.S. 78 (1881); *Chapman v. Zobelein*, 237 U.S. 135 (1915); *Alaska Fish Salting & By-Products Co. v. Smith*, 255 U.S. 44 (1921); *Magnano Co. v. Hamilton*, 292 U.S. 40 (1934); *City of Pittsburgh v. Alco Parking Corp.*, 417 U.S. 369 (1974).

¹³ *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Wallace*, 288 U.S. 249 (1933); *Carmichael v. Southern Coal & Coke Co.*, 301 U.S. 495 (1937). A taxpayer therefore cannot contest the imposition of an income tax on the ground that, in operation, it returns to his town less income tax than he and its other inhabitants pay. *Dane v. Jackson*, 256 U.S. 589 (1921).

¹⁴ *Stebbins v. Riley*, 268 U.S. 137, 140, 141 (1925).

¹⁵ *Cahen v. Brewster*, 203 U.S. 543 (1906).

¹⁶ *Keeney v. New York*, 222 U.S. 525 (1912).

¹⁷ *Coolidge v. Long*, 282 U.S. 582 (1931).

¹⁸ *Binney v. Long*, 299 U.S. 280 (1936); *Nickel v. Cole*, 256 U.S. 222 (1921). See also *Salomon v. State Tax Comm'n*, 278 U.S. 484 (1929) (contingent remainder); and *Orr v. Gilman*, 183 U.S. 278 (1902) (power of appointment).

have refrained from making had he anticipated the tax . . . [is] thought to be so arbitrary . . . as to be a denial of due process.”¹⁹

Income Taxes.—The authority of states to tax income is “universally recognized.”²⁰ Years ago the Court explained that “[e]njoyment of the privileges of residence in the state and the attendant right to invoke the protection of its laws are inseparable from responsibility for sharing the costs of government. . . . A tax measured by the net income of residents is an equitable method of distributing the burdens of government among those who are privileged to enjoy its benefits.”²¹ Also, a tax on income is not constitutionally suspect because retroactive. The routine practice of making taxes retroactive for the entire year of the legislative session in which the tax is enacted has long been upheld,²² and there are also situations in which courts have upheld retroactive application to the preceding year or two.²³

Franchise Taxes.—A city ordinance imposing annual license taxes on light and power companies is not violative of the due process clause merely because the city has entered the power business in competition with such companies.²⁴ Nor does a municipal charter authorizing the imposition upon a local telegraph company of a tax upon the lines of the company within its limits at the rate at which other property is taxed but upon an arbitrary valuation per mile, deprive the company of its property without due process of law, inasmuch as the tax is a mere franchise or privilege tax.²⁵

Severance Taxes.—A state excise tax on the production of oil which extends to the royalty interest of the lessor as well as to the interest of the lessee engaged in the active work of production, the tax being apportioned between these parties according to their respective interest in the common venture, is not arbitrary as applied to the lessor, but consistent with due process.²⁶

¹⁹ *Welch v. Henry*, 305 U.S. 134, 147 (1938).

²⁰ *New York ex rel. Cohn v. Graves*, 300 U.S. 308, 313 (1937).

²¹ *Id.* See also *Shaffer v. Carter*, 252 U.S. 37, 49–52 (1920); and *Travis v. Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.*, 252 U.S. 60 (1920) (states may tax the income of nonresidents derived from property or activity within the state).

²² See, e.g., *Stockdale v. Insurance Companies*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 323 (1874); *United States v. Hudson*, 299 U.S. 498 (1937); *United States v. Darusmont*, 449 U.S. 292 (1981).

²³ *Welch v. Henry*, 305 U.S. 134 (1938) (upholding imposition in 1935 of tax liability for 1933 tax year; due to the scheduling of legislative sessions, this was the legislature’s first opportunity to adjust revenues after obtaining information of the nature and amount of the income generated by the original tax). Since “[t]axation is neither a penalty imposed on the taxpayer nor a liability which he assumes by contract,” the Court explained, “its retroactive imposition does not necessarily infringe due process.” *Id.* at 146–47.

²⁴ *Puget Sound Co. v. Seattle*, 291 U.S. 619 (1934).

²⁵ *New York Tel. Co. v. Dolan*, 265 U.S. 96 (1924).

²⁶ *Barwise v. Sheppard*, 299 U.S. 33 (1936).

Real Property Taxes.—The maintenance of a high assessment in the face of declining value is merely another way of achieving an increase in the rate of property tax. Hence, an overassessment constitutes no deprivation of property without due process of law.²⁷ Likewise, land subject to mortgage may be taxed for its full value without deduction of the mortgage debt from the valuation.²⁸

A State may defray the entire expense of creating, developing, and improving a political subdivision either from funds raised by general taxation or by apportioning the burden among the municipalities in which the improvements are made or by creating, or authorizing the creation of, tax districts to meet sanctioned outlays.²⁹ Where a state statute authorizes municipal authorities to define the district to be benefited by a street improvement and to assess the cost of the improvement upon the property within the district in proportion to benefits, their action in establishing the district and in fixing the assessments on included property, after due hearing of the owners as required by the statute cannot, when not arbitrary or fraudulent, be reviewed under the Fourteenth Amendment upon the ground that other property benefited by the improvement was not included.³⁰

It is also proper to impose a special assessment for the preliminary expenses of an abandoned road improvement, even though the assessment exceeds the amount of the benefit which the assessors estimated the property would receive from the completed work.³¹ Likewise a levy upon all lands within a drainage district of a tax of twenty-five cents per acre to defray preliminary expenses does not unconstitutionally take the property of landowners within that district who may not be benefited by the completed drainage plans.³² On the other hand, when the benefit to be derived by a railroad from the construction of a highway will be largely offset by the loss of local freight and passenger traffic, an assessment upon such railroad is violative of due process,³³ whereas any gains from increased traffic reasonably expected to result from a road improvement will suffice to sustain an assessment thereon.³⁴ Also the

²⁷ *Nashville, C. & St. L. Ry. v. Browning*, 310 U.S. 362 (1940).

²⁸ *Paddell v. City of New York*, 211 U.S. 446 (1908).

²⁹ *Hagar v. Reclamation Dist.*, 111 U.S. 701 (1884).

³⁰ *Butters v. City of Oakland*, 263 U.S. 162 (1923).

³¹ *Missouri Pac. R.R. v. Road District*, 266 U.S. 187 (1924). *See also Roberts v. Irrigation Dist.*, 289 U.S. 71 (1933), in which it was also stated that an assessment to pay the general indebtedness of an irrigation district is valid, even though in excess of the benefits received.

³² *Houck v. Little River Dist.*, 239 U.S. 254 (1915).

³³ *Road Dist. v. Missouri Pac. R.R.*, 274 U.S. 188 (1927).

³⁴ *Kansas City Ry. v. Road Dist.*, 266 U.S. 379 (1924).

fact that the only use made of a lot abutting on a street improvement is for a railway right of way does not make invalid, for lack of benefits, an assessment thereon for grading, curbing, and paving.³⁵ However, when a high and dry island was included within the boundaries of a drainage district from which it could not be benefitted directly or indirectly, a tax imposed on the island land by the district was held to be a deprivation of property without due process of law.³⁶ Finally, a State may levy an assessment for special benefits resulting from an improvement already made³⁷ and may validate an assessment previously held void for want of authority.³⁸

Jurisdiction to Tax

The operation of the Due Process Clause as a limitation on the taxing power of the states has been an issue in a variety of different contexts, but most involve one of the other of two basic issues, first, the relationship between the state exercising taxing power and the object of that exercise of power, and second, whether the degree of contact is sufficient to justify the state's imposition of a particular obligation. Often these issues arise in conjunction with claims that the state's actions are also violative of the Commerce Clause. Illustrative of the factual settings in which such issues arise are 1), determining the scope of the business activity of a multijurisdictional entity that is subject to a state's taxing power, 2) application of wealth transfer taxes to gifts or bequests of nonresidents, 3) allocation of the income of multijurisdictional entities for tax purposes, 4) the scope of state authority to tax the income of nonresidents, and 5) collection of state use taxes.

The Court's opinions in these cases have often discussed due process and Commerce Clause issues as if they were indistinguishable. The recent decision in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*,³⁹ however, utilized a two-tier analysis that found sufficient contact to satisfy due process but not Commerce Clause requirements. *Quill* may be read as implying that the more stringent Commerce Clause standard subsumes due process jurisdictional issues, and that consequently these due process issues need no longer be separately considered. This interpretation has yet to be confirmed, however, and a detailed review of due process precedents may prove useful.

³⁵ *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Barber Asphalt Co.*, 197 U.S. 430 (1905).

³⁶ *Myles Salt Co. v. Iberia Drainage Dist.*, 239 U.S. 478 (1916).

³⁷ *Wagner v. Baltimore*, 239 U.S. 207 (1915).

³⁸ *Charlotte Harbor Ry. v. Welles*, 260 U.S. 8 (1922).

³⁹ 112 S. Ct. 1904 (1992).

Sales/Use Taxes.—In *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*,⁴⁰ the Court struck down a state statute requiring an out-of-state mail order company with neither outlets nor sales representatives in the state to collect and transmit use taxes on sales to state residents, but did so on Commerce Clause rather than due process grounds. Taxation of an interstate business does not offend due process, the Court held, if that business “purposefully avails itself of the benefits of an economic market in the [taxing] State . . . even if it has no physical presence in the State.”⁴¹ A physical presence within the state is necessary, however, under Commerce Clause analysis applicable to taxation of mail order sales.⁴²

Land.—Even prior to the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, it was a settled principle that a State could not tax land situated beyond its limits; subsequently elaborating upon that principle the Court has said that, “we know of no case where a legislature has assumed to impose a tax upon land within the jurisdiction of another State, much less where such action has been defended by a court.”⁴³ Insofar as a tax payment may be viewed as an exaction for the maintenance of government in consideration of protection afforded, the logic sustaining this rule is self-evident.

Tangible Personalty.—As long as tangible personal property has a situs within its borders, a State validly may tax the same, whether directly through an *ad valorem* tax or indirectly through death taxes, irrespective of the residence of the owner.⁴⁴ By the same token, if tangible personal property makes only occasional incursions into other States, its permanent situs remains in the State

⁴⁰112 S. Ct. 1904 (1992).

⁴¹The Court had previously held that the requirement in terms of a benefit is minimal. *Commonwealth Edison Co. v. Montana*, 453 U.S. 609, 622–23 (1982), (quoting *Carmichael v. Southern Coal & Coke Co.*, 301 U.S. 495, 521–23 (1937)). It is satisfied by a “minimal connection” between the interstate activities and the taxing State and a rational relationship between the income attributed to the State and the intrastate values of the enterprise. *Mobil Oil Corp. v. Commissioner of Taxes*, 445 U.S. 425, 436–37 (1980); *Moorman Mfg. Co. v. Bair*, 437 U.S. 267, 272–73 (1978). See especially *Standard Pressed Steel Co. v. Department of Revenue*, 419 U.S. 560, 562 (1975); *National Geographic Society v. California Bd. of Equalization*, 430 U.S. 551 (1977).

⁴²*Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*, 112 S. Ct. at 1911–16 (refusing to overrule the Commerce Clause ruling in *National Bellas Hess v. Department of Revenue*, 386 U.S. 753, 756 (1967)). See also *Trinova Corp. v. Michigan Dep’t of Treasury*, 498 U.S. 358 (1991) (neither the Commerce Clause nor the Due Process Clause is violated by application of a business tax, measured on a value added basis, to a company that manufactures goods in another state, but that operates a sales office and conducts sales within state).

⁴³*Union Transit Co. v. Kentucky*, 199 U.S. 194, 204 (1905). See also *Louisville & Jeffersonville Ferry Co. v. Kentucky*, 188 U.S. 385 (1903).

⁴⁴*Carstairs v. Cochran*, 193 U.S. 10 (1904); *Hannis Distilling Co. v. Baltimore*, 216 U.S. 285 (1910); *Frick v. Pennsylvania*, 268 U.S. 473 (1925); *Blodgett v. Silberman*, 277 U.S. 1 (1928).

of origin, and, subject to certain exceptions, is taxable only by the latter.⁴⁵ The ancient maxim, *mobilia sequuntur personam*, which had its origin when personal property consisted in the main of articles appertaining to the person of the owner, yielded in modern times to the “law of the place where the property is kept and used.” The tendency has been to treat tangible personal property as “having a situs of its own for the purpose of taxation, and correlatively to . . . exempt [it] at the domicile of its owner.”⁴⁶ When rolling stock is permanently located and employed in the prosecution of a business outside the boundaries of a domiciliary State, the latter has no jurisdiction to tax it.⁴⁷ Vessels, however, inasmuch as they merely touch briefly at numerous ports, never acquire a taxable situs at any one of them, and are taxable by the domicile of their owners or not at all,⁴⁸ unless of course, the ships operate wholly on the waters within one State, in which event they are taxable there and not at the domicile of the owners.⁴⁹ Airplanes have been treated in a similar manner for tax purposes. Noting that the entire fleet of airplanes of an interstate carrier were “never continuously without the [domiciliary] State during the whole tax year,” that such airplanes also had their “home port” in the domiciliary State, and that the company maintained its principal office therein, the Court sustained a personal property tax applied by the domiciliary State to all the airplanes owned by the taxpayer. No other State was deemed able to accord the same protection and benefits as the taxing State in which the taxpayer had both its domicile and its business situs; the doctrines of *Union Transit Co. v. Kentucky*,⁵⁰ as to the taxability of permanently located tangibles, and that of

⁴⁵New York ex rel. New York Cent. R.R. v. Miller, 202 U.S. 584 (1906). As to the competence of States to tax equipment of foreign carriers which enter their jurisdiction intermittently, see supra, pp. 227–33.

⁴⁶Wheeling Steel Corp. v. Fox, 298 U.S. 193, 209–10 (1936); Union Transit Co. v. Kentucky, 199 U.S. 194, 207 (1905); Johnson Oil Co. v. Oklahoma, 290 U.S. 158 (1933).

⁴⁷Union Transit Co. v. Kentucky, 199 U.S. 194 (1905). Justice Black, in *Central R.R. v. Pennsylvania*, 370 U.S. 607, 619–21 (1962), had his “doubts about the use of the Due Process Clause to . . . [invalidate State taxes]. The modern use of due process to invalidate State taxes rests on two doctrines: (1) that a State is without ‘jurisdiction to tax’ property beyond its boundaries, and (2) that multiple taxation of the same property by different States is prohibited. Nothing in the language or the history of the Fourteenth Amendment, however, indicates any intention to establish either of these two doctrines . . . And in the first case [*Railroad Co. v. Jackson*, 74 U.S. (7 Wall.) 262 (1869)] striking down a State tax for lack of jurisdiction to tax after the passage of that Amendment, neither the Amendment nor its Due Process Clause . . . was ever mentioned.” He also maintained that Justice Holmes shared this view in *Union Transit Co. v. Kentucky*, supra, at 211.

⁴⁸*Southern Pacific Co. v. Kentucky*, 222 U.S. 63 (1911).

⁴⁹*Old Dominion Steamship Co. v. Virginia*, 198 U.S. 299 (1905).

⁵⁰199 U.S. 194 (1905). See also *Central R.R. v. Pennsylvania*, 370 U.S. 607, 611–17 (1962).

apportionment, for instrumentalities engaged in interstate commerce⁵¹ were held to be inapplicable.⁵²

Conversely, a nondomiciliary State, although it may not tax property belonging to a foreign corporation which has never come within its borders, may levy on movables which are regularly and habitually used and employed therein. Thus, while the fact that cars are loaded and reloaded at a refinery in a State outside the owner's domicile does not fix the situs of the entire fleet in that State, the latter may nevertheless tax the number of cars which on the average are found to be present within its borders.⁵³ Moreover, in assessing that part of a railroad within its limits, a State need not treat it as an independent line, disconnected from the part without, and place upon the property within the State only a value which could be given to it if operated separately from the balance of the road. The State may ascertain the value of the whole line as a single property and then determine the value of the part within on a mileage basis, unless there be special circumstances which distinguish between conditions in the several States.⁵⁴ But no property of an interstate carrier can be taken into account unless it can be seen in some plain and fairly intelligible way that it adds to the value of the road and the rights exercised in the State.⁵⁵ Also, a state property tax on railroads, which is measured by gross earnings apportioned to mileage, is not unconstitutional in the absence of proof that it exceeds what would be legitimate as an ordinary tax on the property valued as part of a going concern or that it is relatively higher than taxes on other kinds of property.⁵⁶ The tax reaches only revenues derived from local operations, and the fact that the apportionment formula does not result in mathematical exactitude is not a constitutional defect.⁵⁷

⁵¹ *Pullman's Car Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 141 U.S. 18 (1891).

⁵² *Northwest Airlines v. Minnesota*, 322 U.S. 292, 294–97, 307 (1944). The case was said to be governed by *New York ex rel. New York Cent. R.R. v. Miller*, 202 U.S. 584, 596 (1906). As to the problem of multiple taxation of such airplanes, which had in fact been taxed proportionately by other States, the Court declared that the "taxability of any part of this fleet by any other State, than Minnesota, in view of the taxability of the entire fleet by that State, is not now before us." Justice Jackson, in a concurring opinion, would treat Minnesota's right to tax as exclusively of any similar right elsewhere.

⁵³ *Johnson Oil Co. v. Oklahoma*, 290 U.S. 158 (1933).

⁵⁴ *Pittsburgh C.C. & St. L. Ry. v. Backus*, 154 U.S. 421 (1894).

⁵⁵ *Wallace v. Hines*, 253 U.S. 66 (1920). For example, the ratio of track mileage within the taxing State to total track mileage cannot be employed in evaluating that portion of total railway property found in the State when the cost of the lines in the taxing State was much less than in other States and the most valuable terminals of the railroad were located in other States. See also *Fargo v. Hart*, 193 U.S. 490 (1904); *Union Tank Line Co. v. Wright*, 249 U.S. 275 (1919).

⁵⁶ *Great Northern Ry. v. Minnesota*, 278 U.S. 503 (1929).

⁵⁷ *Illinois Cent. R.R. v. Minnesota*, 309 U.S. 157 (1940).

Intangible Personalty.—To determine whether a State, or States, may tax intangible personal property, the Court has applied the fiction, *mobilia sequuntur personam* and has also recognized that such property may acquire, for tax purposes, a business or commercial situs where permanently located, but it has never clearly disposed of the issue whether multiple personal property taxation of intangibles is consistent with due process. In the case of corporate stock, however, the Court has obliquely acknowledged that the owner thereof may be taxed at his own domicile, at the commercial situs of the issuing corporation, and at the latter's domicile; constitutional lawyers speculated whether the Court would sustain a tax by all three jurisdictions, or by only two of them, and, if the latter, which two, the State of the commercial situs and of the issuing corporation's domicile, or the State of the owner's domicile and that of the commercial situs.⁵⁸

Thus far, the Court has sustained the following personal property taxes on intangibles:

(1) A debt held by a resident against a nonresident, evidenced by a bond of the debtor and secured by a mortgage on real estate in the State of the debtor's residence.⁵⁹

(2) A mortgage owned and kept outside the State by a nonresident but on land within the State.⁶⁰

(3) Investments, in the form of loans to a resident, made by a resident agent of a nonresident creditor, are taxable to the nonresident creditor.⁶¹

(4) Deposits of a resident in a bank in another State, where he carries on a business and from which these deposits are derived, but belonging absolutely to him and not used in the business, are subject to a personal property tax in the city of his residence, whether or not they are subject to tax in the State where the business is carried on. The tax is imposed for the general advantage of living within the jurisdiction (benefit-protection theory), and may be measured by reference to the riches of the person taxed.⁶²

(5) Membership owned by a nonresident in a domestic exchange, known as a chamber of commerce.⁶³

⁵⁸Howard, *State Jurisdiction to Tax Intangibles: A Twelve Year Cycle*, 8 MO. L. REV. 155, 160–62 (1943); Rawlins, *State Jurisdiction to Tax Intangibles: Some Modern Aspects*, 18 TEX. L. REV. 196, 314–15 (1940).

⁵⁹*Kirtland v. Hotchkiss*, 100 U.S. 491, 498 (1879).

⁶⁰*Savings Society v. Multnomah County*, 169 U.S. 421 (1898).

⁶¹*Bristol v. Washington County*, 177 U.S. 133, 141 (1900).

⁶²*Fidelity & Columbia Trust Co. v. Louisville*, 245 U.S. 54 (1917).

⁶³*Rogers v. Hennepin County*, 240 U.S. 184 (1916).

(6) Membership by a resident in a stock exchange located in another State. “Double taxation” the Court observed “by one and the same State is not” prohibited “by the Fourteenth Amendment; much less is taxation by two States upon identical or closely related property interest falling within the jurisdiction of both, forbidden.”⁶⁴

(7) A resident owner may be taxed on stock held in a foreign corporation that does no business and has no property within the taxing State. The Court also added that “undoubtedly the State in which a corporation is organized may . . . [tax] all of its shares whether owned by residents or nonresidents.”⁶⁵

(8) Stock in a foreign corporation owned by another foreign corporation transacting its business within the taxing State. The Court attached no importance to the fact that the shares were already taxed by the State in which the issuing corporation was domiciled and might also be taxed by the State in which the stock owner was domiciled, or at any rate did not find it necessary to pass upon the validity of the latter two taxes. The present levy was deemed to be tenable on the basis of the benefit-protection theory, namely, “the economic advantages realized through the protection at the place . . . [of business situs] of the ownership of rights in intangibles. . . .”⁶⁶

(9) Shares owned by nonresident shareholders in a domestic corporation, the tax being assessed on the basis of corporate assets and payable by the corporation either out of its general fund or by collection from the shareholder. The shares represent an aliquot portion of the whole corporate assets, and the property right so represented arises where the corporation has its home, and is therefore within the taxing jurisdiction of the State, notwithstanding that ownership of the stock may also be a taxable subject in another State.⁶⁷

(10) A tax on the dividends of a corporation may be distributed ratably among stockholders regardless of their residence outside the State, the stockholders being the ultimate beneficiaries of the corporation’s activities within the taxing State and protected by the latter and subject to its jurisdiction.⁶⁸ This tax, though collected by the corporation, is on the transfer to a stockholder of his share of

⁶⁴ *Citizens National Bank v. Durr*, 257 U.S. 99, 109 (1921).

⁶⁵ *Hawley v. Malden*, 232 U.S. 1, 12 (1914).

⁶⁶ *First Bank Corp. v. Minnesota*, 301 U.S. 234, 241 (1937).

⁶⁷ *Schuykill Trust Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 302 U.S. 506 (1938).

⁶⁸ *International Harvester Co. v. Department of Taxation*, 322 U.S. 435 (1944).

corporate dividends within the taxing State and is deducted from said dividend payments.⁶⁹

(11) Stamp taxes on the transfer within the taxing State by one nonresident to another of stock certificates issued by a foreign corporation,⁷⁰ and upon promissory notes executed by a domestic corporation, although payable to banks in other States.⁷¹ These taxes, however, were deemed to have been laid, not on the property, but upon an event, the transfer in one instance, and execution in the latter which took place in the taxing State.

The following personal property taxes on intangibles have been invalidated:

(1) Debts evidenced by notes in safekeeping within the taxing State, but made and payable and secured by property in a second State and owned by a resident of a third State.⁷²

(2) A property tax sought to be collected from a life beneficiary on the corpus of a trust composed of property located in another State and as to which the beneficiary had neither control nor possession, apart from the receipt of income therefrom.⁷³ However, a personal property tax may be collected on one-half of the value of the corpus of a trust from a resident who is one of the two trustees thereof, notwithstanding that the trust was created by the will of a resident of another State in respect of intangible property located in the latter State, at least where it does not appear that the trustee is exposed to the danger of other *ad valorem* taxes in another State.⁷⁴ The first case, *Brooke v. Norfolk*,⁷⁵ is distinguishable by virtue of the fact that the property tax therein voided was levied upon a resident beneficiary rather than upon a resident trustee in control of nonresident intangibles. Different too is *Safe Deposit & T. Co. v. Virginia*,⁷⁶ where a property tax was unsuccessfully demanded of a nonresident trustee with respect to nonresident intangibles under its control.

(3) A tax, measured by income, levied on trust certificates held by a resident, representing interests in various parcels of land (some inside the State and some outside), the holder of the certificates, though without a voice in the management of the property,

⁶⁹ *Wisconsin Gas Co. v. United States*, 322 U.S. 526 (1944).

⁷⁰ *New York ex rel. Hatch v. Reardon*, 204 U.S. 152 (1907).

⁷¹ *Graniteville Mfg. Co. v. Query*, 283 U.S. 376 (1931).

⁷² *Buck v. Beach*, 206 U.S. 392 (1907).

⁷³ *Brooke v. City of Norfolk*, 277 U.S. 27 (1928).

⁷⁴ *Greenough v. Tax Assessors*, 331 U.S. 486, 496–97 (1947).

⁷⁵ 277 U.S. 27 (1928).

⁷⁶ 280 U.S. 83 (1929).

being entitled to a share in the net income and, upon sale of the property, to the proceeds of the sale.⁷⁷

A State in which a foreign corporation has acquired a commercial domicile and in which it maintains its general business offices may tax the latter's bank deposits and accounts receivable even though the deposits are outside the State and the accounts receivable arise from manufacturing activities in another State.⁷⁸ Similarly, a nondomiciliary State in which a foreign corporation did business can tax the "corporate excess" arising from property employed and business done in the taxing State.⁷⁹ On the other hand, when the foreign corporation transacts only interstate commerce within a State, any excise tax on such excess is void, irrespective of the amount of the tax.⁸⁰ A domiciliary State, however, may tax the excess of market value of outstanding capital stock over the value of real and personal property and certain indebtedness of a domestic corporation even though this "corporate excess" arose from property located and business done in another State and was there taxable. Moreover, this result follows whether the tax is considered as one on property or on the franchise.⁸¹ Also a domiciliary State, which imposes no franchise tax on a stock fire insurance corporation, validly may assess a tax on the full amount of its paid-in capital stock and surplus, less deductions for liabilities, notwithstanding that such domestic corporation concentrates its executive, accounting, and other business offices in New York, and maintains in the domiciliary State only a required registered office at which local claims are handled. Despite "the vicissitudes which the so-called 'jurisdiction-to-tax' doctrine has encountered . . . ," the presumption persists that intangible property is taxable by the State of origin.⁸² But a property tax on the capital stock of a domestic company which includes in the appraisal thereof the value of coal mined in the taxing State but located in another State awaiting sale deprives the corporation of its property without due process of

⁷⁷ *Senior v. Braden*, 295 U.S. 422 (1935).

⁷⁸ *Wheeling Steel Corp v. Fox*, 298 U.S. 193 (1936). *See also* *Memphis Gas Co. v. Beeler*, 315 U.S. 649, 652 (1942).

⁷⁹ *Adams Express Co. v. Ohio*, 165 U.S. 194 (1897).

⁸⁰ *Alpha Cement Co. v. Massachusetts*, 268 U.S. 203 (1925).

⁸¹ *Cream of Wheat Co. v. County of Grand Forks*, 253 U.S. 325 (1920).

⁸² *Newark Fire Ins. Co. v. State Board*, 307 U.S. 313, 318, 324 (1939). Although the eight Justices affirming this tax were not in agreement as to the reasons to be assigned in justification of this result, the holding appears to be in line with the dictum uttered by Chief Justice Stone in *Curry v. McCanless*, 307 U.S. 357, 368 (1939), to the effect that the taxation of a corporation by a State where it does business, measured by the value of the intangibles used in its business there, does not preclude the State of incorporation from imposing a tax measured by all its intangibles.

law.⁸³ Also void for the same reason is a state tax on the franchise of a domestic ferry company which includes in the valuation thereof the worth of a franchise granted to the said company by another State.⁸⁴

Transfer (Inheritance, Estate, Gift) Taxes.—Being competent to regulate exercise of the power of testamentary disposition and the privilege of inheritance, a State may base its succession taxes upon either the transmission or an exercise of the legal power of transmission, of property by will or by descent, or the enjoyment of the legal privilege of taking property by devise or descent.⁸⁵ But whatever may be the justification of their power to levy such taxes, States have consistently found themselves restricted by the rule, established as to property taxes in 1905 in *Union Transit Co. v. Kentucky*,⁸⁶ and subsequently reiterated in *Frick v. Pennsylvania*⁸⁷ in 1925, which precludes imposition of transfer taxes upon tangible personal property by any State other than the one in which such tangibles are permanently located or have an actual situs. In the case of intangibles, however, the Court has oscillated in upholding, then rejecting, and again currently sustaining the levy by more than one State of death taxes upon intangibles comprising the estate of a decedent.

Until 1930, transfer taxes upon intangibles levied by both the domiciliary as well as nondomiciliary, or situs State, were with rare exceptions approved. Thus, in *Bullen v. Wisconsin*,⁸⁸ the domiciliary State of the creator of a trust was held competent to levy an inheritance tax, upon the death of the settlor, on his trust fund consisting of stocks, bonds, and notes kept and administered in another State and as to which the settlor reserved the right to control disposition and to direct payment of income for life, such reserved powers being equivalent to a fee. Cognizance was taken of the fact that the State in which these intangibles had their situs had also

⁸³ *Delaware, L. & W.P.R.R. v. Pennsylvania*, 198 U.S. 341 (1905).

⁸⁴ *Louisville & Jeffersonville Ferry Co. v. Kentucky*, 188 U.S. 385 (1903).

⁸⁵ *Stebbins v. Riley*, 268 U.S. 137, 140–41 (1925).

⁸⁶ 199 U.S. 194 (1905). In dissenting in *State Tax Comm'n v. Aldrich*, 316 U.S. 174, 185 (1942), Justice Jackson asserted that a reconsideration of this principle had become timely.

⁸⁷ 268 U.S. 473 (1925). See also *Treichler v. Wisconsin*, 338 U.S. 251 (1949); *City Bank Co. v. Schnader*, 293 U.S. 112 (1934).

⁸⁸ 240 U.S. 635, 631 (1916). A decision rendered in 1926 which is seemingly in conflict was *Wachovia Bank & Trust Co. v. Doughton*, 272 U.S. 567 (1926), in which North Carolina was prevented from taxing the exercise of a power of appointment through a will executed therein by a resident, when the property was a trust fund in Massachusetts created by the will of a resident of the latter State. One of the reasons assigned for this result was that by the law of Massachusetts the property involved was treated as passing from the original donor to the appointee. However, this holding was overruled in *Graves v. Schmidlapp*, 315 U.S. 657 (1942).

taxed the trust. Levy of an inheritance tax by a nondomiciliary State was sustained on similar grounds in *Wheeler v. New York*, wherein it was held that the presence of a negotiable instrument was sufficient to confer jurisdiction upon the State seeking to tax its transfer.⁸⁹ On the other hand, the mere ownership by a foreign corporation of property in a nondomiciliary State was held insufficient to support a tax by that State on the succession to shares of stock in that corporation owned by a nonresident decedent.⁹⁰ Also against the trend was *Blodgett v. Silberman*,⁹¹ wherein the Court defeated collection of a transfer tax by the domiciliary State by treating coins and bank notes deposited by a decedent in a safe deposit box in another State as tangible property, albeit it conceded that the domiciliary State could tax the transfer of books and certificates of indebtedness found in that safe deposit box as well as the decedent's interest in a foreign partnership.

In the course of about two years following the Depression, the Court handed down a group of four decisions which placed the stamp of disapproval upon multiple transfer and—by inference—other multiple taxation of intangibles.⁹² Asserting, as it did in one of these cases, that “practical considerations of wisdom, convenience and justice alike dictate the desirability of a uniform rule confining the jurisdiction to impose death transfer taxes as to intangibles to the State of the [owner's] domicile,”⁹³ the Court, through consistent application of the maxim, *mobilia sequuntur personam*, proceeded to deny the right of nondomiciliary States to tax and to reject as inadequate jurisdictional claims of the latter founded upon such bases as control, benefit, and protection or situs. During this interval, 1930–1932, multiple transfer taxation of intangibles came to be viewed, not merely as undesirable, but as so arbitrary and unreasonable as to be prohibited by the due process clause.

While the Court expressly overruled only one of these four decisions condemning multiple succession taxation of intangibles, beginning with *Curry v. McCanless*⁹⁴ in 1939, it announced a departure from the “doctrine, of recent origin, that the Fourteenth Amendment precludes the taxation of any interest in the same intangible in more than one State. . . .” Taking cognizance of the fact

⁸⁹ 233 U.S. 434 (1914).

⁹⁰ *Rhode Island Trust Co. v. Doughton*, 270 U.S. 69 (1926).

⁹¹ 277 U.S. 1 (1928).

⁹² *First Nat'l Bank v. Maine*, 284 U.S. 312 (1932); *Beidler v. South Carolina Tax Comm'n*, 282 U.S. 1 (1930); *Baldwin v. Missouri*, 281 U.S. 586 (1930); *Farmer's Loan Co. v. Minnesota*, 280 U.S. 204 (1930).

⁹³ *First National Bank v. Maine*, 284 U.S. 312, 330–31 (1932).

⁹⁴ 307 U.S. 357, 363, 366–68, 372 (1939).

that this doctrine had never been extended to the field of income taxation or consistently applied in the field of property taxation, the Court declared that a correct interpretation of constitutional requirements would dictate the following conclusions: "From the beginning of our constitutional system control over the person at the place of his domicile and his duty there, common to all citizens, to contribute to the support of government have been deemed to afford an adequate constitutional basis for imposing on him a tax on the use and enjoyment of rights in intangibles measured by their value. . . . But when the taxpayer extends his activities with respect to his intangibles, so as to avail himself of the protection and benefit of the laws of another State, in such a way as to bring his person or . . . [his intangibles] within the reach of the tax gatherer there, the reason for a single place of taxation no longer obtains, . . . [However], the State of domicile is not deprived, by the taxpayer's activities, elsewhere, of its constitutional jurisdiction to tax." In accordance with this line of reasoning, Tennessee, where a decedent died domiciled, and Alabama, where a trustee, by conveyance from said decedent, held securities on specific trusts, were both deemed competent to impose a tax on the transfer of these securities passing under the will of the decedent. "In effecting her purposes," the testatrix was viewed as having "brought some of the legal interests which she created within the control of one State by selecting a trustee there, and others within the control of the other State, by making her domicile there." She had found it necessary to invoke "the aid of the law of both States and her legatees" were subject to the same necessity.

These statements represented a belated adoption of the views advanced by Chief Justice Stone in dissenting or concurring opinions which he filed in three of the four decisions during 1930–1932. By the line of reasoning taken in these opinions, if protection or control was extended to, or exercised over, intangibles or the person of their owner, then as many States as afforded such protection or were capable of exerting such dominion should be privileged to tax the transfer of such property. On this basis, the domiciliary State would invariably qualify as a State competent to tax as would a nondomiciliary State, so far as it could legitimately exercise control or could be shown to have afforded a measure of protection that was not trivial or insubstantial.

On the authority of *Curry v. McCannless*, the Court, in *Pearson v. McGraw*,⁹⁵ also sustained the application of an Oregon transfer tax to intangibles handled by an Illinois trust company and never

⁹⁵ 308 U.S. 313 (1939).

physically present in Oregon. Jurisdiction to tax was viewed as dependent, not on the location of the property in the State, but on control over the owner who was a resident of Oregon. In *Graves v. Elliott*,⁹⁶ the Court upheld the power of New York, in computing its estate tax, to include in the gross estate of a domiciled decedent the value of a trust of bonds managed in Colorado by a Colorado trust company and already taxed on its transfer by Colorado, which trust the decedent had established while in Colorado and concerning which he had never exercised any of his reserved powers of revocation or change of beneficiaries. It was observed that “the power of disposition of property is the equivalent of ownership, . . . and its exercise in the case of intangibles is . . . [an] appropriate subject of taxation at the place of the domicile of the owner of the power. Relinquishment at death, in consequence of the nonexercise in life, of a power to revoke a trust created by a decedent is likewise an appropriate subject of taxation.”⁹⁷ Consistent application of the principle enunciated in *Curry v. McCanless* is also discernible in two later cases in which the Court sustained the right of a domiciliary State to tax the transfer of intangibles kept outside its boundaries, notwithstanding that “in some instances they may be subject to taxation in other jurisdictions, to whose control they are subject and whose legal protection they enjoyed.” In *Graves v. Schmidlapp*,⁹⁸ an estate tax was levied upon the value of the subject of a general testamentary power of appointment effectively exercised by a resident donee over intangibles held by trustees under the will of a nonresident donor of the power. Viewing the transfer of interest in the intangibles by exercise of the power of appointment as the equivalent of ownership, the Court quoted from *McCulloch v. Maryland*⁹⁹ to the effect that the power to tax “is an incident of sovereignty, and is coextensive with that to which it is an incident.” Again, in *Central Hanover Bank Co. v. Kelly*,¹⁰⁰ the Court approved a New Jersey transfer tax imposed on the occasion of the death of a New Jersey grantor of an irrevocable trust executed, and consisting of securities located in New York, and providing for the disposition of the corpus to two nonresident sons.

The costliness of multiple taxation of estates comprising intangibles is appreciably aggravated when each of several States founds its tax not upon different events or property rights but upon an identical basis, namely that the decedent died domiciled within its

⁹⁶ 307 U.S. 383 (1939).

⁹⁷ *Id.* at 386.

⁹⁸ 315 U.S. 657, 660, 661 (1942).

⁹⁹ 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 316, 429 (1819).

¹⁰⁰ 319 U.S. 94 (1943).

borders. Not only is an estate then threatened with excessive contraction but the contesting States may discover that the assets of the estate are insufficient to satisfy their claims. Thus, in *Texas v. Florida*,¹⁰¹ the State of Texas filed an original petition in the Supreme Court, in which it asserted that its claim, together with those of three other States, exceeded the value of the estate, that the portion of the estate within Texas alone would not suffice to discharge its own tax, and that its efforts to collect its tax might be defeated by adjudications of domicile by the other States. The Supreme Court disposed of this controversy by sustaining a finding that the decedent had been domiciled in Massachusetts, but intimated that thereafter it would take jurisdiction in like situations only in the event that an estate did not exceed in value the total of the conflicting demands of several States and that the latter were confronted with a prospective inability to collect.

Corporate Privilege Taxes.—Since the tax is levied not on property but on the privilege of doing business in corporate form, a domestic corporation may be subjected to a privilege tax graduated according to paid-up capital stock, even though the latter represents capital not subject to the taxing power of the State.¹⁰² By the same token, the validity of a franchise tax, imposed on a domestic corporation engaged in foreign maritime commerce and assessed upon a proportion of the total franchise value equal to the ratio of local business done to total business, is not impaired by the fact that the total value of the franchise was enhanced by property and operations carried on beyond the limits of the State.¹⁰³ However, a State, under the guise of taxing the privilege of doing an intrastate business, cannot levy on property beyond its borders; therefore, as applied to foreign corporations, a license tax based on

¹⁰¹ 306 U.S. 398 (1939). Resort to the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction was necessary because in *Worcester County Trust Co. v. Riley*, 302 U.S. 292 (1937), the Court, proceeding on the basis that inconsistent determinations by the courts of two States as to the domicile of a taxpayer do not raise a substantial federal constitutional question, held that the Eleventh Amendment precluded a suit by the estate of the decedent to establish the correct State of domicile. In *California v. Texas*, 437 U.S. 601 (1978), a case on all points with *Texas v. Florida*, the Court denied leave to file an original action to adjudicate a dispute between the two States about the actual domicile of Howard Hughes, a number of Justices suggesting that *Worcester County* no longer was good law. Subsequently, the Court reaffirmed *Worcester County*, *Cory v. White*, 457 U.S. 85 (1982), and then permitted an original action to proceed, *California v. Texas*, 457 U.S. 164 (1982), several Justices taking the position that neither *Worcester County* nor *Texas v. Florida* was any longer viable.

¹⁰² *Kansas City Ry. v. Kansas*, 240 U.S. 227 (1916); *Kansas City, M. & B. R.R. v. Stiles*, 242 U.S. 111 (1916).

¹⁰³ *Schwab v. Richardson*, 263 U.S. 88 (1923).

authorized capital stock is void,¹⁰⁴ even though there be a maximum to the fee,¹⁰⁵ unless apportioned according to some method, as, for example, a franchise tax based on such proportion of outstanding capital stock as it represented by property owned and used in business transacted in the taxing State.¹⁰⁶ An entrance fee, on the other hand, collected only once as the price of admission to do an intrastate business, is distinguishable from a tax and accordingly may be levied on a foreign corporation on the basis of a sum fixed in relation to the amount of authorized capital stock (in this instance, a \$5,000 fee on an authorized capital of \$100,000,000).¹⁰⁷

A municipal license tax imposed as a percentage of the receipts of a foreign corporation derived from the sales within and without the State of goods manufactured in the city is not a tax on business transactions or property outside the city and therefore does not violate the due process clause.¹⁰⁸ But a State lacks jurisdiction to extend its privilege tax to the gross receipts of a foreign contracting corporation for work done outside the taxing State in fabricating equipment later installed in the taxing State. Unless the activities which are the subject of the tax are carried on within its territorial limits, a State is not competent to impose such a privilege tax.¹⁰⁹

A tax on chain stores, at a rate per store determined by the number of stores both within and without the State is not unconstitutional as a tax in part upon things beyond the jurisdiction of the State.¹¹⁰

Individual Income Taxes.—Consistent with due process of law, a State annually may tax the entire net income of resident individuals from whatever source received,¹¹¹ and that portion of a nonresident's net income derived from property owned, and from any business, trade, or profession carried on, by him within its borders.¹¹² Jurisdiction, in the case of residents, is founded upon the rights and privileges incident to domicile, and, in the case of non-

¹⁰⁴ *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Kansas*, 216 U.S. 1 (1910); *Pullman Co. v. Kansas*, 216 U.S. 56 (1910); *Looney v. Crane Co.*, 245 U.S. 178 (1917); *International Paper Co. v. Massachusetts*, 246 U.S. 135 (1918).

¹⁰⁵ *Cudahy Co. v. Hinkle*, 278 U.S. 460 (1929).

¹⁰⁶ *St. Louis S. W. Ry. v. Arkansas*, 235 U.S. 350 (1914).

¹⁰⁷ *Atlantic Refining Co. v. Virginia*, 302 U.S. 22 (1937).

¹⁰⁸ *American Mfg. Co. v. St. Louis*, 250 U.S. 459 (1919). Nor does a state license tax on the production of electricity violate the due process clause because it may be necessary, to ascertain, as an element in its computation, the amounts delivered in another jurisdiction. *Utah Power & Light Co. v. Pfof*, 286 U.S. 165 (1932).

¹⁰⁹ *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*, 302 U.S. 134 (1937).

¹¹⁰ *Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. v. Grosjean*, 301 U.S. 412 (1937).

¹¹¹ *Lawrence v. State Tax Comm'n*, 286 U.S. 276 (1932).

¹¹² *Shaffer v. Carter*, 252 U.S. 37 (1920); *Travis v. Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.*, 252 U.S. 60 (1920).

residents, upon dominion over either the receiver of the income or the property or activity from which it is derived and upon the obligation to contribute to the support of a government which renders secure the collection of such income. Accordingly, a State may tax residents on income from rents of land located outside the State and from interest on bonds physically without the State and secured by mortgage upon lands similarly situated¹¹³ and from a trust created and administered in another State, and not directly taxable to the trustee.¹¹⁴ The fact that another State has lawfully taxed identical income in the hands of trustees operating therein does not necessarily destroy a domiciliary State's right to tax the receipt of income by a resident beneficiary. "The taxing power of a state is restricted to her confines and may not be exercised in respect of subjects beyond them."¹¹⁵ Likewise, even though a non-resident does no business within a State, the latter may tax the profits realized by the nonresident upon his sale of a right appurtenant to membership in a stock exchange within its borders.¹¹⁶

Corporate Income Taxes: Foreign Corporations.—A tax based on the income of a foreign corporation may be determined by allocating to the State a proportion of the total.¹¹⁷ However, such a basis may work an unconstitutional result if the income thus attributed to the State is out of all appropriate proportion to the business there transacted by the corporation. Evidence may always be submitted which tends to show that a State has applied a method which, albeit fair on its face, operates so as to reach profits which are in no sense attributable to transactions within its jurisdiction.¹¹⁸ Nevertheless, a foreign corporation is in error when it contends that due process is denied by a franchise tax measured by income, which is levied, not upon net income from intrastate business alone, but on net income justly attributable to all classes of business done within the State, interstate and foreign,

¹¹³New York ex rel. Cohn v. Graves, 300 U.S. 308 (1937).

¹¹⁴Maguire v. Trefy, 253 U.S. 12 (1920).

¹¹⁵Guaranty Trust Co. v. Virginia, 305 U.S. 19, 23 (1938).

¹¹⁶New York ex. rel. Whitney v. Graves, 299 U.S. 366 (1937).

¹¹⁷Underwood Typewriter Co. v. Chamberlain, 254 U.S. 113 (1920); Bass, Ratcliff & Gretton Ltd. v. Tax Comm'n 266 U.S. 271 (1924). The Court has recently considered and expanded the ability of the States to use apportionment formulae to allocate to each State for taxing purposes a fraction of the income earned by an integrated business conducted in several States as well as abroad. Moorman Mfg. Co. v. Bair, 437 U.S. 267 (1978); Mobil Oil Corp. v. Commissioner of Taxes, 445 U.S. 425 (1980); Exxon Corp. v. Department of Revenue, 447 U.S. 207 (1980). *Exxon* refused to permit a unitary business to use separate accounting techniques that divided its profits among its various functional departments to demonstrate that a State's formulaic apportionment taxes extraterritorial income improperly. *Bair*, supra, at 276-80, implied that a showing of actual multiple taxation was a necessary predicate to a due process challenge but might not be sufficient.

¹¹⁸Hans Rees' Sons v. North Carolina, 283 U.S. 123 (1931).

as well as intrastate business.¹¹⁹ Inasmuch as the privilege granted by a State to a foreign corporation of carrying on local business supports a tax by that State on the income derived from that business, it follows that the Wisconsin privilege dividend tax, consistent with the due process clause, may be applied to a Delaware corporation, having its principal offices in New York, holding its meetings and voting its dividends in New York, and drawing its dividend checks on New York bank accounts. The tax is imposed on the “privilege of declaring and receiving dividends” out of income derived from property located and business transacted in the State, equal to a specified percentage of such dividends, the corporation being required to deduct the tax from dividends payable to resident and nonresident shareholders and pay it over to the State.¹²⁰

Insurance Company Taxes.—A privilege tax on the gross premiums received by a foreign life insurance company at its home office for business written in the State does not deprive the company of property without due process,¹²¹ but a tax is bad when the company has withdrawn all its agents from the State and has ceased to do business, merely continuing to be bound to policyholders resident therein and receiving at its home office the renewal premiums.¹²² Also violative of due process is a state gross premium tax imposed on a nonresident firm, doing business in the taxing jurisdiction, which purchased coverage of property located therein from an unlicensed out-of-state insurer which consummated the contract, serviced the policy, and collected the premiums outside that taxing jurisdiction.¹²³ Distinguishable therefrom is the following tax which was construed as having been levied, not upon annual premiums nor upon the privilege merely of doing business during the period that the company actually was within the State, but upon the privilege of entering and engaging in business, the percentage “on the annual premiums to be paid

¹¹⁹ *Matson Nav. Co. v. State Board*, 297 U.S. 441 (1936).

¹²⁰ *Wisconsin v. J.C. Penney Co.*, 311 U.S. 435, 448–49 (1940). Dissenting, Justice Roberts, along with Chief Justice Hughes and Justices McReynolds and Reed, stressed the fact that the use and disbursement by the corporation at its home office of income derived from operations in many States does not depend on and cannot be controlled by, any law of Wisconsin. The act of disbursing such income as dividends, he contended is “one wholly beyond the reach of Wisconsin’s sovereign power, one which it cannot effectively command, or prohibit or condition.” The assumption that a proportion of the dividends distributed is paid out of earnings in Wisconsin for the year immediately preceding payment is arbitrary and not borne out by the facts. Accordingly, “if the exaction is an income tax in any sense it is such upon the stockholders (many of whom are nonresidents) and is obviously bad.” See also *Wisconsin v. Minnesota Mining Co.*, 311 U.S. 452 (1940).

¹²¹ *Equitable Life Soc’y v. Pennsylvania*, 238 U.S. 143 (1915).

¹²² *Provident Savings Ass’n v. Kentucky*, 239 U.S. 103 (1915).

¹²³ *State Bd. of Ins. v. Todd Shipyards*, 370 U.S. 451 (1962).

throughout the life of the policies issued.” By reason of this difference a State may continue to collect such tax even after the company’s withdrawal from the State.¹²⁴

A State which taxes the insuring of property within its limits may lawfully extend its tax to a foreign insurance company which contracts with an automobile sales corporation in a third State to insure its customers against loss of cars purchased through it, so far as the cars go into possession of a purchaser within the taxing State.¹²⁵ On the other hand, a foreign corporation admitted to do a local business, which insures its property with insurers in other States who are not authorized to do business in the taxing State, cannot constitutionally be subjected to a 5% tax on the amount of premiums paid for such coverage.¹²⁶ Likewise a Connecticut life insurance corporation, licensed to do business in California, which negotiated reinsurance contracts in Connecticut, received payment of premiums thereon in Connecticut, and was there liable for payment of losses claimed thereunder, cannot be subjected by California to a privilege tax measured by gross premiums derived from such contracts, notwithstanding that the contracts reinsured other insurers authorized to do business in California and protected policies effected in California on the lives of residents therein. The tax cannot be sustained whether as laid on property, business done, or transactions carried on, within California, or as a tax on a privilege granted by that State.¹²⁷

When policy loans to residents are made by a local agent of a foreign insurance company, in the servicing of which notes are signed, security taken, interest collected, and debts are paid within the State, such credits are taxable to the company, notwithstanding that the promissory notes evidencing such credits are kept at the home office of the insurer.¹²⁸ But when a resident policyholder’s loan is merely charged against the reserve value of his policy, under an arrangement for extinguishing the debt and interest thereon by deduction from any claim under the policy, such credit is not taxable to the foreign insurance company.¹²⁹ Premiums due from residents on which an extension has been granted by foreign companies also are credits on which the latter may be taxed by the State of the debtor’s domicile;¹³⁰ the mere fact that the insurers

¹²⁴ *Continental Co. v. Tennessee*, 311 U.S. 5, 6 (1940) (emphasis added).

¹²⁵ *Palmetto Ins. Co. v. Connecticut*, 272 U.S. 295 (1926).

¹²⁶ *St. Louis Compress Co. v. Arkansas*, 260 U.S. 346 (1922).

¹²⁷ *Connecticut General Co. v. Johnson*, 303 U.S. 77 (1938).

¹²⁸ *Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. v. City of New Orleans*, 205 U.S. 395 (1907).

¹²⁹ *Orleans Parish v. New York Life Ins. Co.*, 216 U.S. 517 (1910).

¹³⁰ *Liverpool & L. & G. Ins. Co. v. Orleans Assessors*, 221 U.S. 346 (1911).

charge these premiums to local agents and give no credit directly to policyholders does not enable them to escape this tax.¹³¹

Procedure in Taxation

Generally.—Exactly what due process requires in the assessment and collection of general taxes has never been decided by the Supreme Court. While it was held that “notice to the owner at some stage of the proceedings, as well as an opportunity to defend, is essential” for imposition of special taxes, it has also ruled that laws for assessment and collection of general taxes stand upon a different footing and are to be construed with the utmost liberality, even to the extent of acknowledging that no notice whatever is necessary.¹³² Due process of law as applied to taxation does not mean judicial process;¹³³ neither does it require the same kind of notice as is required in a suit at law, or even in proceedings for taking private property under the power of eminent domain.¹³⁴ If a taxpayer is given an opportunity to test the validity of a tax at any time before it is final, whether the proceedings for review take place before a board having a quasi-judicial character, or before a tribunal provided by the State for the propose of determining such questions, due process of law is not denied.¹³⁵

Notice and Hearing in Relation to Taxes.—“Of the different kinds of taxes which the State may impose, there is a vast number of which, from their nature, no notice can be given to the taxpayer, nor would notice be of any possible advantage to him, such as poll taxes, license taxes (not dependent upon the extent of his business), and generally, specific taxes on things, or persons, or occupations. In such cases the legislature, in authorizing the tax, fixes its amount, and that is the end of the matter. If the tax be not paid, the property of the delinquent may be sold, and he be thus deprived of his property. Yet there can be no question that the proceeding is due process of law, as there is no inquiry into the weight of evidence, or other element of a judicial nature, and nothing could be changed by hearing the taxpayer. No right of his is, therefore, invaded. Thus, if the tax on animals be a fixed sum per head, or on articles a fixed sum per yard, or bushel, or gallon, there is nothing the owner can do which can affect the amount to be collected from him. So, if a person wishes a license to do business of a particular kind, or at a particular place, such as keeping a hotel

¹³¹ Orient Ins. Co. v. Assessors of Orleans, 221 U.S. 358 (1911).

¹³² Turpin v. Lemon, 187 U.S. 51, 58 (1902); Glidden v. Harrington, 189 U.S. 255 (1903).

¹³³ McMillen v. Anderson, 95 U.S. 37, 42 (1877).

¹³⁴ Bell's Gap R.R. v. Pennsylvania, 134 U.S. 232, 239 (1890).

¹³⁵ Hodge v. Muscatine County, 196 U.S. 276 (1905).

or a restaurant, or selling liquors, or cigars, or clothes, he has only to pay the amount required by law and go into the business. There is no need in such cases for notice or hearing. So, also, if taxes are imposed in the shape of licenses for privileges, such as those on foreign corporations for doing business in the State, or on domestic corporations for franchises, if the parties desire the privilege, they have only to pay the amount required. In such cases there is no necessity for notice or hearing. The amount of the tax would not be changed by it.”¹³⁶

Notice and Hearing in Relation to Assessments.—“But where a tax is levied on property not specifically, but according to its value, to be ascertained by assessors appointed for that purpose upon such evidence as they may obtain, a different principle comes in. The officers in estimating the value act judicially; and in most of the States provision is made for the correction of errors committed by them, through boards of revision or equalization, sitting at designated periods provided by law to hear complaints respecting the justice of the assessments. The law in prescribing the time when such complaints will be heard, gives all the notice required, and the proceedings by which the valuation is determined, though it may be followed, if the tax be not paid, by a sale of the delinquent’s property, is due process of law.”¹³⁷

Nevertheless, it has never been considered necessary to the validity of a tax that the party charged shall have been present, or had an opportunity to be present, in some tribunal when he was assessed.¹³⁸ Where a tax board has its time of sitting fixed by law and where its sessions are not secret, no obstacle prevents the appearance of any one before it to assert a right or redress a wrong and in the business of assessing taxes, this is all that can be reasonably asked.¹³⁹ Nor is there any constitutional command that notice of an assessment as well as an opportunity to contest it be given in advance of the assessment. It is enough that all available defenses may be presented to a competent tribunal during a suit to collect the tax and before the demand of the State for remittance becomes final.¹⁴⁰ A hearing before judgment, with full opportunity to submit evidence and arguments being all that can be adjudged vital, it follows that rehearings and new trials are not essential to due process of law.¹⁴¹ One hearing is sufficient to constitute due

¹³⁶ Hagar v. Reclamation Dist., 111 U.S. 701, 709–10 (1884).

¹³⁷ Id. at 710.

¹³⁸ McMillen v. Anderson, 95 U.S. 37, 42 (1877).

¹³⁹ State Railroad Tax Cases, 92 U.S. 575, 610 (1876).

¹⁴⁰ Nickey v. Mississippi, 292 U.S. 393, 396 (1934). See also Clement Nat’l Bank v. Vermont, 231 U.S. 120 (1913).

¹⁴¹ Pittsburgh C. C. & St. L. Ry. v. Backus, 154 U.S. 421 (1894).

process,¹⁴² and the requirements of due process are also met if a taxpayer, who had no notice of a hearing, does receive notice of the decision reached there and is privileged to appeal it and, on appeal, to present evidence and be heard on the valuation of his property.¹⁴³

However, when special assessments are made by a political subdivision, a taxing board or court, according to special benefits, the property owner is entitled to be heard as to the amount of his assessments and upon all questions properly entering into that determination.¹⁴⁴ The hearing need not amount to a judicial inquiry,¹⁴⁵ but a mere opportunity to submit objections in writing, without the right of personal appearance, is not sufficient.¹⁴⁶ If an assessment for a local improvement is made in accordance with a fixed rule prescribed by legislative act, the property owner is not entitled to be heard in advance on the question of benefits.¹⁴⁷ On the other hand, if the area of the assessment district was not determined by the legislature, a landowner does have the right to be heard respecting benefits to his property before it can be included in the improvement district and assessed, but due process is not denied if, in the absence of actual fraud or bad faith, the decision of the agency vested with the initial determination of benefits is made final.¹⁴⁸ The owner has no constitutional right to be heard in opposition to the launching of a project which may end in assessment, and once his land has been duly included within a benefit district, the only privilege which he thereafter enjoys is to a hearing upon the apportionment, that is, the amount of the tax which he has to pay.¹⁴⁹ Nor can he rightfully complain because the statute renders conclusive, after a hearing, the determination as to apportionment by the same body which levied the assessment.¹⁵⁰

¹⁴² *Michigan Central R.R. v. Powers*, 201 U.S. 245, 302 (1906).

¹⁴³ *Pittsburgh C. C. & St. L. Ry. v. Board of Pub. Works*, 172 U.S. 32, 45 (1898).

¹⁴⁴ *St. Louis Land Co. v. Kansas City*, 241 U.S. 419, 430 (1916); *Paulsen v. Portland*, 149 U.S. 30, 41 (1893); *Bauman v. Ross*, 167 U.S. 548, 590 (1897).

¹⁴⁵ *Tonawanda v. Lyon*, 181 U.S. 389, 391 (1901).

¹⁴⁶ *Londoner v. Denver*, 210 U.S. 373 (1908).

¹⁴⁷ *Withnell v. Ruecking Constr. Co.*, 249 U.S. 63, 68 (1919); *Browning v. Hooper*, 269 U.S. 396, 405 (1926). Likewise, the committing to a board of county supervisors of authority to determine, without notice or hearing, when repairs to an existing drainage system are necessary cannot be said to deny due process of law to landowners in the district, who, by statutory requirement, are assessed for the cost thereof in proportion to the original assessment. *Breiholz v. Board of Supervisors*, 257 U.S. 118 (1921).

¹⁴⁸ *Fallbrook Irrigation Dist. v. Bradley*, 164 U.S. 112, 168, 175 (1896); *Browning v. Hooper*, 269 U.S. 396, 405 (1926).

¹⁴⁹ *Utley v. Petersburg*, 292 U.S. 106, 109 (1934); *French v. Barber Asphalt Paving Co.*, 181 U.S. 324, 341 (1901). See also *Soliah v. Heskin*, 222 U.S. 522 (1912).

¹⁵⁰ *Hibben v. Smith*, 191 U.S. 310, 321 (1903).

More specifically, where the mode of assessment resolves itself into a mere mathematical calculation, there is no necessity for a hearing.¹⁵¹ Statutes and ordinances providing for the paving and grading of streets, the cost thereof to be assessed on the front foot rule, do not, by their failure to provide for a hearing or review of assessments, generally deprive a complaining owner of property without due process of law.¹⁵² In contrast, when an attempt is made to cast upon particular property a certain proportion of the construction cost of a sewer not calculated by any mathematical formula, the taxpayer has a right to be heard.¹⁵³

Collection of Taxes.—To reach property which has escaped taxation, a State may tax estates of decedents for a period prior to death and grant proportionate deductions for all prior taxes which the personal representative can prove to have been paid.¹⁵⁴ Collection of an inheritance tax also may be expedited by a statute requiring the sealing of safe deposit boxes for at least ten days after the death of the renter and obliging the lessor to retain assets found therein sufficient to pay the tax that may be due the State.¹⁵⁵ Moreover, with a view to achieving a like result in the case of gasoline taxes, a State may compel retailers to collect such taxes from consumers and, under penalty of a fine for delinquency, to remit monthly the amounts thus collected.¹⁵⁶ Likewise, a tax on the tangible personal property of a nonresident owner may be collected from the custodian or possessor of such property, and the latter, as an assurance of reimbursement, may be granted a lien on such property.¹⁵⁷ In collecting personal income taxes, however, most States require employers to deduct and withhold the tax from the wages of employees, but the duty thereby imposed on the employer has never been viewed as depriving him of property without due process of law, nor has the adjustment of his system of accounting and paying salaries which withholding entails been viewed as an unreasonable regulation of the conduct of his business.¹⁵⁸

¹⁵¹ *Hancock v. Muskogee*, 250 U.S. 454, 458 (1919). Likewise, a taxpayer does not have a right to a hearing before a state board of equalization preliminary to issuance by it of an order increasing the valuation of all property in a city by 40%. *Bi-Metallic Co. v. Colorado*, 239 U.S. 441 (1915).

¹⁵² *City of Detroit v. Parker*, 181 U.S. 399 (1901).

¹⁵³ *Paulsen v. Portland*, 149 U.S. 30, 38 (1893).

¹⁵⁴ *Bankers Trust Co. v. Blodgett*, 260 U.S. 647 (1923).

¹⁵⁵ *National Safe Deposit Co. v. Stead*, 232 U.S. 58 (1914).

¹⁵⁶ *Pierce Oil Corp. v. Hopkins*, 264 U.S. 137 (1924).

¹⁵⁷ *Carstairs v. Cochran*, 193 U.S. 10 (1904); *Hannis Distilling Co. v. Baltimore*, 216 U.S. 285 (1910).

¹⁵⁸ *Travis v. Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.*, 252 U.S. 60, 75, 76 (1920).

Moreover, no unconstitutional deprivation of the property rights of vendors of trucks, sold under conditional sales contract to a carrier, results when a State asserts against such trucks a prior lien for highway use taxes levied against the carrier and (1) accruing from the operation by the carrier of trucks, other than those sold by the vendors, either before or during the time the carrier operated the vendors' trucks, or (2) arising from assessments against the carrier, after vendors repossessed their trucks, and based upon the carrier's operations preceding such repossession. A vendor is not privileged to contend that the lien asserted must be limited to taxes attributable solely to operation of its own trucks; for the wear on the highways occasioned by the carrier's operation is in no way altered by the vendor's retention of title.¹⁵⁹

As a State may provide in advance that taxes shall bear interest from the time they become due, it may with equal validity stipulate that taxes which have become delinquent shall bear interest from the time the delinquency commenced. A State may adopt new remedies for the collection of taxes and apply these remedies to taxes already delinquent.¹⁶⁰ After liability of a taxpayer has been fixed by appropriate procedure, collection of a tax by distress and seizure of his person does not deprive him of liberty without due process of law.¹⁶¹ Nor is a foreign insurance company denied due process of law when its personal property is distrained to satisfy unpaid taxes.¹⁶²

The requirements of due process are fulfilled by a statute which, in conjunction with affording an opportunity to be heard, provides for the forfeiture of titles to land for failure to list and pay taxes thereon for certain specified years.¹⁶³ No less constitutional, as a means of facilitating collection, is an *in rem* proceeding, to which the land alone is made a party, whereby tax liens on land are foreclosed and all preexisting rights or liens are eliminated by a sale under a decree.¹⁶⁴ On the other hand, while the conversion of an unpaid special assessment into both a personal judgment against the owner as well as a charge on the land is consistent with the Fourteenth Amendment,¹⁶⁵ a judgment imposing personal liability against a nonresident taxpayer over whom the state court acquired no jurisdiction is void.¹⁶⁶ Apart from such restraints,

¹⁵⁹ *International Harvester Corp. v. Goodrich*, 350 U.S. 537 (1956).

¹⁶⁰ *League v. Texas*, 184 U.S. 156 (1902).

¹⁶¹ *Palmer v. McMahon*, 133 U.S. 660, 669 (1890).

¹⁶² *Scottish Union & Nat'l Ins. Co. v. Bowland*, 196 U.S. 611 (1905).

¹⁶³ *King v. Mullins*, 171 U.S. 404 (1898); *Chapman v. Zobelein*, 237 U.S. 135 (1915).

¹⁶⁴ *Leigh v. Green*, 193 U.S. 79 (1904).

¹⁶⁵ *Davidson v. City of New Orleans*, 96 U.S. 97, 107 (1878).

¹⁶⁶ *Dewey v. Des Moines*, 173 U.S. 193 (1899).

however, a State is free to adopt new remedies for the collection of taxes and even to apply new remedies to taxes already delinquent.¹⁶⁷

Sufficiency and Manner of Giving Notice.—Notice, insofar as it is required, may be either personal, or by publication, or by statute fixing the time and place of hearing.¹⁶⁸ A state statute, consistent with due process, may designate a corporation as the agent of a nonresident stockholder to receive notice and to represent him in proceedings for correcting assessment.¹⁶⁹ Also “where the State . . . [desires] to sell land for taxes upon proceedings to enforce a lien for the payment thereof, it may proceed directly against the land within the jurisdiction of the court, and a notice which permits all interested, who are ‘so minded,’ to ascertain that it is to be subjected to sale to answer for taxes, and to appear and be heard, whether to be found within the jurisdiction or not, is due process of law within the Fourteenth Amendment. . . .”¹⁷⁰ A description, even though it not be technically correct, which identifies the land will sustain an assessment for taxes and a notice of sale therefor when delinquent. If the owner knows that the property so described is his, he is not, by reason of the insufficient description, deprived of his property without due process. Where tax proceedings are *in rem*, owners are bound to take notice thereof, and to pay taxes on their property, even if assessed to unknown or other persons, and if an owner stands by and sees his property sold for delinquent taxes, he is not thereby wrongfully deprived of his property.¹⁷¹

However, due process was deemed not to have been accorded an incompetent taxpayer, for whom a guardian had not yet been appointed, but who was well known to town officials to be financially responsible, when, in accordance with statutory procedure, notice of a real property tax delinquency was mailed to her and published in local papers as well as posted in the town post office, and thereafter, without appearance on her part, the property was foreclosed and deeded to the town.¹⁷² On the other hand, due process was not denied to appellants when, through dereliction of their

¹⁶⁷ *League v. Texas*, 184 U.S. 156, 158 (1902). See also *Straus v. Foxworth*, 231 U.S. 162 (1913).

¹⁶⁸ *Londoner v. Denver*, 210 U.S. 373 (1908). See also *Kentucky Railroad Tax Cases*, 115 U.S. 321, 331 (1885); *Winona & St. Peter Land Co. v. Minnesota*, 159 U.S. 526, 537 (1895); *Merchants Bank v. Pennsylvania*, 167 U.S. 461, 466 (1897); *Glidden v. Harrington*, 189 U.S. 255 (1903).

¹⁶⁹ *Corry v. Baltimore*, 196 U.S. 466, 478 (1905).

¹⁷⁰ *Leigh v. Green*, 193 U.S. 79, 92–93 (1904).

¹⁷¹ *Ontario Land Co. v. Yordy*, 212 U.S. 152 (1909). See also *Longyear v. Toolan*, 209 U.S. 414 (1908).

¹⁷² *Covey v. Town of Somers*, 351 U.S. 141 (1956).

bookkeeper, they were not apprised of the receipt of mailed notices, and thus were unable to avert foreclosure of liens for unpaid water charges outstanding against two parcels of land held by them in trust; this conclusion is unaffected by the disparity between the value of the land taken and the amount owed nor by the fact that the city, in one instance, retained the proceeds of sale after lapse of time to redeem. Having issued appropriate notices, the city cannot be held responsible for the negligence of the bookkeeper and the managing trustee in overlooking arrearages on tax bills, nor is it obligated to inquire why appellants regularly paid real estate taxes on their property.¹⁷³

Sufficiency of Remedy.—When no other remedy is available, due process is denied by a judgment of a state court withholding a decree in equity to enjoin collection of a discriminatory tax.¹⁷⁴ Requirements of due process are similarly violated by a statute which limits a taxpayer's right to challenge an assessment to cases of fraud or corruption,¹⁷⁵ and by a state tribunal which prevents a recovery of taxes imposed in violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States by invoking a state law limiting suits to recover taxes alleged to have been assessed illegally to taxes paid at the time and in the manner provided by said law.¹⁷⁶ In this as in other areas, the state must provide procedural safeguards against imposition of an unconstitutional tax. These procedures need not apply *predeprivation*, but a state that denies predeprivation remedy by requiring that tax payments be made before objections are heard must provide a *postdeprivation* remedy.¹⁷⁷ In the case of a tax held unconstitutional as a discrimination against interstate commerce and not invalidated in its entirety, the state has several alternatives for equalizing incidence of the tax: it may pay a refund equal to the difference between the tax paid and the tax that would have been due under rates afforded to in-state competitors; it may assess and collect back taxes from those competitors; or it may combine the two approaches.¹⁷⁸

Laches.—Persons failing to avail themselves of an opportunity to object and be heard cannot thereafter complain of assessments as arbitrary and unconstitutional.¹⁷⁹ Likewise a car company, which failed to report its gross receipts as required by statute, has

¹⁷³ *Nelson v. New York City*, 352 U.S. 103 (1956).

¹⁷⁴ *Brinkerhoff-Faris Co. v. Hill*, 281 U.S. 673 (1930).

¹⁷⁵ *Central of Georgia Ry. v. Wright*, 207 U.S. 127 (1907).

¹⁷⁶ *Carpenter v. Shaw*, 280 U.S. 363 (1930). See also *Ward v. Love County*, 253 U.S. 17 (1920).

¹⁷⁷ *McKesson Corp. v. Florida Alcohol & Tobacco Div.*, 496 U.S. 18 (1990).

¹⁷⁸ *Id.*

¹⁷⁹ *Farncomb v. Denver*, 252 U.S. 7 (1920).

no further right to contest the state comptroller's estimate of those receipts and his adding thereto the 10 percent penalty permitted by law.¹⁸⁰

Eminent Domain

The due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment has been held to require that when a state or local governmental body, or a private body exercising delegated power, takes private property it must provide just compensation and take only for a public purpose. Applicable principles are discussed under the Fifth Amendment.¹⁸¹

Substantive Due Process and Noneconomic Liberty

At the heyday of economic substantive due process, the Court ruled in two cases which, while they also involved property, promised substantially to extend judicial supervision of the reasonableness of legislation. This promise was not realized, but later cases brought forth an avalanche of exposition. In *Meyer v. Nebraska*,¹⁸² the Court struck down a state law forbidding the teaching in any school in the State, public or private, of any modern foreign language, other than English, to any child who had not successfully finished the eighth grade; in *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*,¹⁸³ it declared unconstitutional a state law which required public school education of children aged eight to sixteen. Both cases involved, as noted, property rights which the Court asserted were protected; the statute in *Meyer* interfered with the occupation of a teacher of German who had been convicted of teaching that language, while the private school plaintiffs in *Pierce* were threatened with destruction of their businesses and the values of their properties.¹⁸⁴ Yet in both cases the Court also permitted these persons adversely affected in their property interests to represent the interests of parents and children in the assertion of other aspects of "liberty" of which they could not be denied.

"Without doubt," Justice McReynolds said, liberty "denotes not merely freedom from bodily restraint but also the right of the individual to contract, to engage in any of the common occupations of life, to acquire useful knowledge, to marry, establish a home and bring up children, to worship God according to the dictates of his

¹⁸⁰ *Pullman Co. v. Knott*, 235 U.S. 23 (1914).

¹⁸¹ For analysis of the law of eminent domain, see *supra*, pp. 1369–95.

¹⁸² 262 U.S. 390 (1923). Justices Holmes and Sutherland entered a dissent, applicable to *Meyer*; in *Bartels v. Iowa*, 262 U.S. 404, 412 (1923).

¹⁸³ 268 U.S. 510 (1925).

¹⁸⁴ *Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390, 400 (1923); *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510, 531, 533, 534 (1928).

own conscience, and generally to enjoy those privileges long recognized at common law as essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men.”¹⁸⁵ The right of the parents to have their children instructed in a foreign language was “within the liberty of the [Fourteenth] Amendment.”¹⁸⁶ *Meyer* was relied on in *Pierce* by the Court in asserting that the statute there “unreasonably interferes with the liberty of parents and guardians to direct the upbringing and education of children under their control. . . . The child is not the mere creature of the State; those who nurture him and direct his destiny have the right, coupled with the high duty, to recognize and prepare him for additional obligations.”¹⁸⁷

Other assertions of the liberty to be free from compulsory state provisions proved unsuccessful,¹⁸⁸ although dicta in these cases continued to broadly define liberty.¹⁸⁹ And in *Loving v. Virginia*,¹⁹⁰ a statute prohibiting interracial marriage was held to deny due process. Marriage was termed “one of the ‘basic civil rights of man’” and a “fundamental freedom.” “The freedom to marry has long been recognized as one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men.” The classification of marriage rights on a racial basis was “unsupportable.” But the expansion of the Bill of Rights to restrict state action, especially the religion and free expression provisions of the First Amendment, afforded the Court an opportunity to base certain decisions voiding state policies on these grounds rather than on due process.¹⁹¹

In *Poe v. Ullman*,¹⁹² Justice Harlan advocated the application of a due process standard of reasonableness—the same standard he

¹⁸⁵ 262 U.S. at 399.

¹⁸⁶ *Id.* at 400.

¹⁸⁷ 268 U.S. at 534–35.

¹⁸⁸ E.g., *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11 (1905); *Zucht v. King*, 260 U.S. 174 (1922) (compulsory vaccination); *Buck v. Bell*, 274 U.S. 200 (1927) (sexual sterilization of inmates of state institutions found to be afflicted with hereditary forms of insanity or imbecility); *Minnesota v. Probate Court ex rel. Pearson*, 309 U.S. 270 (1940) (institutionalization of habitual sexual offenders as psychopathic personalities).

¹⁸⁹ See also *Skinner v. Oklahoma*, 316 U.S. 535, 541 (1942) (marriage and procreation are among “the basic civil rights of man”); *Prince v. Massachusetts*, 321 U.S. 158, 166 (1944) (care and nurture of children by the family are within “the private realm of family life which the state cannot enter”).

¹⁹⁰ 388 U.S. 1, 12 (1967).

¹⁹¹ Indeed, in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479, 482 (1965), Justice Douglas reinterpreted *Meyer* and *Pierce* as having been based on the First Amendment. Note that in *Epperson v. Arkansas*, 393 U.S. 97, 105 (1968), and *Tinker v. Des Moines School District*, 393 U.S. 503, 506–07 (1969), Justice Fortas for the Court approvingly noted the due process basis of *Meyer* and *Pierce* while deciding both cases on First Amendment grounds.

¹⁹² 367 U.S. 497, 522, 539–45 (1961). Justice Douglas, also dissenting, relied on a due process analysis, which began with the texts of the first eight Amendments

would have applied to test economic legislation—to a Connecticut statute banning the use of contraceptives, even by married couples. According to the Justice, due process is limited neither to procedural guarantees nor restricted to the rights enumerated in the first eight Amendments of the Bill of Rights, but is rather “a discrete concept which subsists as an independent guaranty of liberty and procedural fairness, more general and inclusive than the specific prohibitions.” The liberty protected by the clause “is a rational continuum which, broadly speaking, includes a freedom from all substantial arbitrary impositions and purposeless restraints . . . and which also recognizes, what a reasonable and sensitive judgment must, that certain interests require particularly careful scrutiny of the state needs asserted to justify their abridgment.” Applying a lengthy analysis, he concluded that the statute infringed upon a fundamental liberty without the showing of a justification which would support the intrusion. Yet, when the same issue returned to the Court, a majority of the Justices, rejecting reliance on substantive due process,¹⁹³ decided it on the basis of the statute’s invasion of privacy, a “penumbral” right protected by a matrix of constitutional provisions.¹⁹⁴ The analysis, however, approached the matter in terms, and in reliance on cases, reminiscent of substantive due process, although the separate concurrences of Justices Harlan and White specifically based on substantive due process,¹⁹⁵ indicates that the majority’s position was at least definitionally different. Subsequent cases, functionally grounded in equal protection analysis, relied in great degree upon a view of rationality and reasonableness not too different from Justice Harlan’s dissent in *Poe v. Ullman*.¹⁹⁶

The Court remains divided over how broadly to define a liberty interest. In *Bowers v. Hardwick*,¹⁹⁷ for example, the Court majority found no right to engage in homosexual sodomy, and rejected the dissent’s suggestion that focus should instead be placed on a right to privacy and autonomy in matters of sexual intimacy. Similar disagreement over the appropriate level of generality for definition of a liberty interest was evident in *Michael H. v. Gerald D.*,

as the basis of fundamental due process and continued into the “emanations” from this as also protected. *Id.* at 509.

¹⁹³“We do not sit as a super-legislature to determine the wisdom, need, and propriety of laws that touch economic problems, business affairs, or social conditions.” *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479, 482 (1965) (opinion of Court by Justice Douglas).

¹⁹⁴*Supra*, pp. 1504–05.

¹⁹⁵381 U.S. at 499, 502.

¹⁹⁶*Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438 (1972), is the principal case. *See also Stanley v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 645 (1972).

¹⁹⁷478 U.S. 186 (1986).

involving the rights of an adulterous biological father to establish paternity and to associate with his child.¹⁹⁸ Justice Scalia, joined only by Chief Justice Rehnquist in this part of the plurality decision, argued for “the most specific level at which a relevant tradition protecting, or denying protection to, the asserted right can be identified.”¹⁹⁹ Dissenting Justice Brennan, joined by two others, rejected the emphasis on tradition, and argued instead that the Court should “ask whether the specific parent-child relationship under consideration is close enough to the interests that we already have protected [as] an aspect of ‘liberty.’”²⁰⁰ The resurgence of substantive due process reasoning became evident upon the Court’s confrontation with cases raising the constitutionality of laws proscribing or limiting abortions.

Abortion.—Laws limiting or prohibiting abortions in practically all the States, the District of Columbia, and the territories were invalidated by a ruling recognizing a right of personal privacy protected by the due process clause that included a qualified right of a woman to determine whether or not to bear a child. On the basis of its analysis of the competing individual rights and state interests, the Court in *Roe v. Wade*²⁰¹ discerned a three-stage balancing of rights and interests extending over the full nine-month term of pregnancy.

“(a) For the stage prior to approximately the end of the first trimester, the abortion decision and its effectuation must be left to the medical judgment of the pregnant woman’s attending physician.

“(b) For the stage subsequent to approximately the end of the first trimester, the State, in promoting its interest in the health of the mother, may, if it chooses, regulate the abortion procedure in ways that are reasonably related to maternal health.

“(c) For the stage subsequent to viability, the State in promoting its interest in the potentiality of human life may, if it chooses,

¹⁹⁸ 491 U.S. 110 (1989). Five Justices agreed that a liberty interest was implicated, but the Court ruled that California’s procedures for establishing paternity did not unconstitutionally impinge on that interest.

¹⁹⁹ *Id.* at 128 n.6.

²⁰⁰ *Id.* at 142.

²⁰¹ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973). A companion case was *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179 (1973). The opinion by Justice Blackman was concurred in by Justices Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Powell, and Chief Justice Burger. Justices White and Rehnquist dissented, *id.* at 171, 221, arguing that the Court should follow the traditional due process test of determining whether a law has a rational relation to a valid state objective and that so judged the statute was valid. Justice Rehnquist was willing to consider an absolute ban on abortions even when the mother’s life is in jeopardy to be a denial of due process, *id.* at 173, while Justice White left the issue open. *Id.* at 223.

regulate, and even proscribe, abortion except where it is necessary, in appropriate medical judgment, for the preservation of the life or health of the mother.”²⁰²

A lengthy history of the medical and legal views of abortion apparently convinced the Court that the prohibition of abortion lacked the solid foundation necessary to preserve such prohibitions from constitutional review.²⁰³ Similarly, a review of the concept of “person” as protected in the due process clause and in other provisions of the Constitution established to the Court’s satisfaction that the word “person” did not include the unborn, and therefore that the unborn lacked federal constitutional protection.²⁰⁴ Without treating the question in more than summary fashion, the Court announced that “a right of personal privacy, or a guarantee of certain areas or zones of privacy, does exist in the Constitution” and that it is “founded in the Fourteenth Amendment’s concept of personal liberty and restrictions upon state action.”²⁰⁵ “This right of privacy . . . is broad enough to encompass a woman’s decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy.”²⁰⁶ Moreover, this right of privacy is “fundamental” and, drawing upon the strict standard of review in equal protection litigation, the Court held that the due process clause required that the regulations limiting this fundamental right may be justified only by a “compelling state interest” and must be narrowly drawn to express only the legitimate state interests at stake.²⁰⁷ Assessing the possible interests of the States, the Court rejected as unsupported in the record and ill-served by the laws in question justifications relating to the promotion of morality and the protection of women from the medical hazards of abortions. The state interest in protecting the life of the fetus was held to be limited by the lack of a social consensus with regard to the issue when life begins. Two valid state interests were recognized, however. “[T]he State does have an important and legitimate interest in preserving and protecting the health of the pregnant woman . . . [and] it has still *another* important and legitimate interest in protecting the potentiality of human life. These interests are separate and distinct. Each grows in substantiality as the woman approaches term and, at a point during pregnancy, each becomes ‘compelling.’”²⁰⁸

²⁰² *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 164–65 (1973).

²⁰³ *Id.* at 129–47.

²⁰⁴ *Id.* at 156–59.

²⁰⁵ *Id.* at 152–53.

²⁰⁶ *Id.*

²⁰⁷ *Id.* at 152, 155–56. The “compelling state interest” test in equal protection cases is reviewed *infra*, pp. 1809–14.

²⁰⁸ 410 U.S. at 147–52, 159–63.

This approach led to the three-stage concept quoted above. Because medical data indicated that abortion prior to the end of the first trimester is relatively safe, the mortality rate being lower than the rates for normal childbirth, and because the fetus has no capability of meaningful life outside the mother's womb, the State has no "compelling interest" in the first trimester and "the attending physician, in consultation with his patient, is free to determine, without regulation by the State, that, in his medical judgment, the patient's pregnancy should be terminated."²⁰⁹ In the intermediate trimester, the danger to the woman increases and the State may therefore regulate the abortion procedure "to the extent that the regulation reasonably relates to the preservation and protection of maternal health," but the fetus is still not able to survive outside the womb, and consequently the actual decision to have an abortion cannot be otherwise impeded.²¹⁰ "With respect to the State's important and legitimate interest in potential life, the 'compelling' point is at viability. This is so because the fetus then presumably has the capability of meaningful life outside the mother's womb. State regulation protective of fetal life after viability thus has both logical and biological justifications. If the State is interested in protecting fetal life after viability, it may go so far as to proscribe abortion during that period, except when it is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother."²¹¹

In a companion case, the Court struck down three procedural provisions of a permissive state abortion statute.²¹² These required that the abortion be performed in a hospital accredited by a private accrediting organization, that the operation be approved by the hospital staff abortion committee, and that the performing physician's judgment be confirmed by the independent examination of the patient by two other licensed physicians. These provisions were held not to be justified by the State's interest in maternal health because they were not reasonably related to that interest.²¹³ And a residency provision was struck down as violating the privileges and immunities clause.²¹⁴ But a clause making the performance of an abortion a crime except when it is based upon the doctor's "best clinical judgment that an abortion is necessary" was upheld against vagueness attack and was further held to benefit women seeking

²⁰⁹ *Id.* at 163.

²¹⁰ *Id.*

²¹¹ *Id.* at 163–164. A fetus becomes "viable" when it is "potentially able to live outside the mother's womb, albeit with artificial aid. Viability is usually placed at about seven months (28 weeks) but may occur earlier, even at 24 weeks." *Id.* at 160 (footnotes omitted).

²¹² *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179 (1973).

²¹³ *Id.* at 192–200.

²¹⁴ *Id.* at 200. The clause is Article IV, § 2. *See supra*, pp. 867–77.

abortions inasmuch as the doctor could utilize his best clinical judgment in light of all the attendant circumstances.²¹⁵

These decisions were reaffirmed and extended when the Court was faced with a restrictive state statute enacted after *Roe* making access to abortions contingent upon spousal or parental consent and imposing restraints upon methods.²¹⁶ Striking down all the substantial limitations, the Court held (1) that the spousal consent provision was an attempt by the State to delegate a veto power over the decision of the woman and her doctor that the State itself could not exercise,²¹⁷ (2) that no significant state interests justified the imposition of a blanket parental consent requirement as a condition of the obtaining of an abortion by an unmarried minor during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy,²¹⁸ and (3) that a criminal pro-

²¹⁵ 410 U.S. at 191–92. “[T]he medical judgment may be exercised in the light of all factors—physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman’s age—relevant to the well-being of the patient. All these factors may relate to health.” *Id.* at 192. Presumably this discussion applies to the Court’s ruling in *Roe* holding that even in the third trimester the woman may not be forbidden to have an abortion if it is necessary to preserve her health as well as her life, 410 U.S. at 163–64, a holding which is unelaborated in the opinion. *See also* *United States v. Vuitch*, 402 U.S. 62 (1971).

²¹⁶ *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52 (1976). *See also* *Bellotti v. Baird*, 443 U.S. 622 (1979) (parental consent to minor’s abortion); *Colautti v. Franklin*, 439 U.S. 379 (1979) (imposition on doctor determination of viability of fetus and obligation to take life-saving steps); *Singleton v. Wulff*, 428 U.S. 106 (1976) (standing of doctors to litigate right of patients to Medicaid-financed abortions); *Bigelow v. Virginia*, 421 U.S. 809 (1975) (ban on newspaper ads for abortions); *Connecticut v. Menillo*, 423 U.S. 9 (1975) (state ban on performance of abortion by “any person” may constitutionally be applied to prosecute nonphysicians performing abortions).

²¹⁷ *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52, 67–72 (1976). The Court recognized the husband’s interests and the state interest in promoting marital harmony. But the latter was deemed not served by the requirement, and, since when the spouses disagree on the abortion decision one has to prevail, the Court thought the person who bears the child and who is the more directly affected should be the one to prevail. Justices White and Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger dissented. *Id.* at 92.

²¹⁸ *Id.* at 72–75. Minors have rights protected by the Constitution, but the States have broader authority to regulate their activities than those of adults. Here, the Court perceived no state interest served by the requirement that overcomes the woman’s right to make her own decision; it emphasized that it was not holding that every minor, regardless of age or maturity, could give effective consent for an abortion. Justice Stevens joined the other dissenters on this part of the holding. *Id.* at 101. In *Bellotti v. Baird*, 443 U.S. 622 (1979), eight Justices agreed that a parental consent law, applied to a mature minor, found to be capable of making, and having made, an informed and reasonable decision to have an abortion, was void but split on the reasoning. Four Justices would hold that neither parents nor a court could be given an absolute veto over a mature minor’s decision, while four others would hold that if parental consent is required the State must afford an expeditious access to court to review the parental determination and set it aside in appropriate cases. In *H. L. v. Matheson*, 450 U.S. 398 (1981), the Court upheld, as applied to an unemancipated minor living at home and dependent on her parents, a statute requiring a physician, “if possible,” to notify the parents or guardians of a minor seeking an abortion. The decisions leave open a variety of questions, addressed by some concurring and dissenting Justices, dealing with when it would not be in the minor’s

vision requiring the attending physician to exercise all care and diligence to preserve the life and health of the fetus without regard to the stage of viability was inconsistent with *Roe*.²¹⁹ Sustained were provisions that required the woman's written consent to an abortion with assurances that it is informed and freely given, and provisions mandating reporting and recordkeeping for public health purposes with adequate assurances of confidentiality. A provision that barred the use of the most commonly used method of abortion after the first 12 weeks of pregnancy was declared unconstitutional since in the absence of another comparably safe technique it did not qualify as a reasonable protection of maternal health and it instead operated to deny the vast majority of abortions after the first 12 weeks.²²⁰

In other rulings applying *Roe*, the Court struck down some requirements and upheld others. A requirement that all abortions performed after the first trimester be performed in a hospital was invalidated as imposing "a heavy, and unnecessary, burden on women's access to a relatively inexpensive, otherwise accessible, and [at least during the first few weeks of the second trimester] safe abortion procedure."²²¹ A state may, however, require that abortions be performed in hospitals *or* licensed outpatient clinics, as long as licensing standards do not "depart from accepted medical practice."²²² Various "informed consent" requirements were struck down as intruding upon the discretion of the physician, and as being aimed at discouraging abortions rather than at informing the pregnant woman's decision;²²³ while the state has a legitimate in-

best interest to avoid notifying her parents and with the alternatives to parental notification and consent. In two 1983 cases the Court applied the *Bellotti v. Baird* standard for determining whether judicial substitutes for parental consent requirements permit a pregnant minor to demonstrate that she is sufficiently mature to make her own decision on abortion. Compare *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416 (1983) (no opportunity for case-by-case determinations); *with Planned Parenthood Ass'n v. Ashcroft*, 462 U.S. 476 (1983) (adequate individualized consideration).

²¹⁹ *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52, 81–84 (1976). A law requiring a doctor, subject to penal sanction, to determine if a fetus is viable or may be viable and to take steps to preserve the life and health of viable fetuses was held to be unconstitutionally vague. *Colautti v. Franklin*, 439 U.S. 379 (1979).

²²⁰ *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52, 75–79 (1976).

²²¹ *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416, 438 (1983); *Accord*, *Planned Parenthood Ass'n v. Ashcroft*, 462 U.S. 476 (1983). The Court in *Akron* relied on evidence that "dilation and evacuation" (D&E) abortions performed in clinics cost less than half as much as hospital abortions, and that common use of the D&E procedure had "increased dramatically" the safety of second trimester abortions in the 10 years since *Roe v. Wade*. 462 U.S. at 435–36.

²²² *Simopoulos v. Virginia*, 462 U.S. 506, 516 (1983).

²²³ *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416, 444–45 (1983); *Thornburgh v. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*, 476 U.S. 747 (1986).

terest in ensuring that the woman's consent is informed, the Court explained, it may not demand of the physician "a recitation of an inflexible list of information" unrelated to the particular patient's health, and, for that matter, may not demand that the physician rather than some other qualified person render the counseling.²²⁴ The Court also invalidated a 24-hour waiting period following a woman's written, informed consent.²²⁵ On the other hand, the Court upheld a requirement that tissue removed in clinic abortions be submitted to a pathologist for examination, since the same requirements were imposed for in-hospital abortions and for almost all other in-hospital surgery.²²⁶ Also, the Court upheld a requirement that a second physician be present at abortions performed after viability in order to assist in saving the life of the fetus.²²⁷

The Court refused to extend *Roe* to the area of public funding to pay for abortions for the pregnant indigent, holding that neither due process nor equal protection requires government to use public funds for this purpose.²²⁸ Due process, the Court held, does not obligate the States to pay the pregnancy-related medical expenses of indigent women, even though both abortion and the right to bear the child to birth are "fundamental" rights.²²⁹ But the more critical question was the equal protection restraint imposed when government does provide public funds for medical care to indigents; may it accord differential treatment to abortion and childbirth and prefer the latter? The States may do so, the Court continued, because it is rationally related to a lawful purpose to encourage normal childbirth. The use of the rational basis test required a rejection of the compelling state interest test in the following manner. First, the more severe test was not activated by a classification impacting on a suspect class, neither wealth nor indigency being such a class. Second, and most significant for abortion adjudication, the Court held that state refusal to pay for abortions did not impinge upon a fundamental right. Prior state restrictions which had been invalidated, the Court continued, had created absolute obstacles to the

²²⁴ *City of Akron*, 462 U.S. 416, 448–49 (1983).

²²⁵ *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416, 450–51 (1983). *But see* *Hodgson v. Minnesota*, 497 U.S. 417 (1990) (upholding a 48-hour waiting period following notification of parents by a minor).

²²⁶ *Planned Parenthood Ass'n v. Ashcroft*, 462 U.S. 476, 486–90 (1983).

²²⁷ *Id.* at 482–86, 505.

²²⁸ *Maier v. Roe*, 432 U.S. 464 (1977); *Harris v. McRae*, 448 U.S. 297 (1980). *See also* *Beal v. Doe*, 432 U.S. 438 (1977) (states are not required by federal law to fund abortions); *Harris v. McRae*, *supra*, at 306–11 (same). The state restriction in *Maier* *supra* at 466, applied to nontherapeutic abortions, whereas the federal law barred funding for most medically necessary abortions as well, a distinction the Court deemed irrelevant, *Harris*, at *supra*, 323, although it provided Justice Stevens with the basis for reaching different results. *Id.* at 349 (dissenting).

²²⁹ *Maier*, 432 U.S. at 469 & n.5; *Harris*, 448 U.S. at 312–18.

obtaining of an abortion. While a state-created obstacle need not be absolute to be impermissible, it must at a minimum “unduly burden” the right to terminate a pregnancy. To allocate public funds so as to further a state interest in normal childbirth does not create an absolute obstacle to obtaining an abortion nor does it unduly burden the right. The condition—indigency—that is the barrier to getting an abortion was not created by government nor does the State add to the burden that exists already. “An indigent woman who desires an abortion suffers no disadvantage as a consequence of Connecticut’s decision to fund childbirth; she continues as before to be dependent on private sources for the services she desires. The State may have made childbirth a more attractive alternative, thereby influencing the woman’s decision, but it has imposed no restriction on access to abortions that was not already there.”²³⁰ Applying the same principles, the Court held that a municipal hospital could constitutionally provide hospital services for indigent women for childbirth but deny services for abortion.²³¹

In 1983 the Court expressly reaffirmed *Roe v. Wade*,²³² and continued to apply its principles to a variety of state statutes attempting to regulate the circumstances of abortions. The Court’s 1989 decision in *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services*,²³³ however, signalled a break with the past even though *Roe v. Wade* was not overruled.

Webster upheld two aspects of Missouri’s statute regulating abortions: a prohibition on the use of public facilities and employees to perform abortions not necessary to save the life of the mother; and a requirement that a physician, before performing an abortion on a fetus she has reason to believe has reached a gestational

²³⁰ Maher, 432 U.S. at 469–74 (the quoted sentence is at 474); Harris, 448 U.S. at 321–26. Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun dissented in both cases and Justice Stevens joined them in *Harris*.

²³¹ Poelker v. Doe, 432 U.S. 519 (1977).

²³² *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416, 419–20 (1983). In refusing to overrule *Roe v. Wade*, the Court merely cited the principle of *stare decisis*. Justice Powell’s opinion of the Court was joined by Chief Justice Burger, and by Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens. Justice O’Connor, joined by Justices White and Rehnquist, dissented, voicing disagreement with the trimester approach and suggesting instead that throughout pregnancy the test should be the same: whether state regulation constitutes “unduly burdensome interference with [a woman’s] freedom to decide whether to terminate her pregnancy.” 462 U.S. at 452, 461. In the 1986 case of *Thornburgh v. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*, 476 U.S. 747 (1986), Justice White, joined by Justice Rehnquist, advocated overruling of *Roe v. Wade*, Chief Justice Burger thought *Roe v. Wade* had been extended to the point where it should be reexamined, and Justice O’Connor repeated misgivings expressed in her *Akron* dissent.

²³³ 492 U.S. 490 (1989).

age of 20 weeks, make an actual viability determination.²³⁴ In two 1990 cases the Court then upheld parental notification requirements. Ohio's requirement that one parent be notified of a minor's intent to obtain an abortion, or that the minor use a judicial bypass procedure to obtain the approval of a juvenile court, was approved.²³⁵ And, while the Court ruled that Minnesota's requirement that both parents be notified was invalid standing alone, the statute was saved by a judicial bypass alternative.²³⁶

The *Webster* Court was split in its approach to Missouri's viability determination requirement, and in its approach to *Roe v. Wade*. The plurality opinion by Chief Justice Rehnquist, joined in that part by Justices White and Kennedy, was highly critical of *Roe*, but found no occasion to overrule it. Instead, the plurality's approach would water down *Roe* by applying a less stringent standard of review. The viability testing requirement is valid, the plurality contended, because it "permissibly furthers the State's interest in protecting potential human life."²³⁷ Justice O'Connor concurred in the result because in her view the requirement did not impose "an undue burden" on a woman's right to an abortion, and Justice Scalia concurred in the result while urging that *Roe* be overruled outright. That *Webster* may have changed the focus of debate was illustrated by the Court's approach to the parental notification issue. A Court majority in *Hodgson* invalidated Minnesota's alternative procedure requiring notification of both parents without judicial bypass, not because it burdened a fundamental right, but because it did "not reasonably further any legitimate state interest."²³⁸

Roe was not confronted more directly in *Webster* because the viability testing requirement, as characterized by the plurality, merely asserted a state interest in protecting potential human life from the point of viability, and hence did not challenge *Roe's* trimester framework.²³⁹ Nonetheless, a majority of Justices appeared

²³⁴ The Court declined to rule on several other aspects of Missouri's law, including a preamble stating that life begins at conception, and a prohibition on the use of public funds to encourage or counsel a woman to have a nontherapeutic abortion.

²³⁵ *Ohio v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 497 U.S. 502 (1990).

²³⁶ *Hodgson v. Minnesota*, 497 U.S. 417 (1990).

²³⁷ 492 U.S. at 519–20. Dissenting Justice Blackmun, joined by Justices Brennan and Marshall, argued that this "permissibly furthers" standard "completely disregards the irreducible minimum of *Roe* . . . that a woman has a limited fundamental constitutional right to decide whether to terminate a pregnancy," and instead balances "a lead weight" (the State's interest in fetal life) against a "feather" (a woman's liberty interest). *Id.* at 555, 556 n.11.

²³⁸ 497 U.S. at 450.

²³⁹ 492 U.S. at 521. Concurring Justice O'Connor agreed that "no decision of this Court has held that the State may not directly promote its interest in potential life when viability is possible." *Id.* at 528.

ready to reject a strict trimester approach. The plurality asserted a compelling state interest in protecting human life throughout pregnancy, rejecting the notion that the state interest “should come into existence only at the point of viability;”²⁴⁰ Justice O’Connor repeated her view that the trimester approach is “problematic;”²⁴¹ and, as mentioned, Justice Scalia would do away with *Roe* altogether.

Three years later the Court, invoking principles of *stare decisis*, reaffirmed *Roe*’s “essential holding,” but restated that holding in terms of undue burden and also abandoned *Roe*’s reliance on the trimester approach. *Roe*’s “essential holding,” said the Court in *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*,²⁴² has three parts. “First is a recognition of the right of a woman to choose to have an abortion before viability and to obtain it without undue interference from the State. Before viability, the State’s interests are not strong enough to support a prohibition of abortion or the imposition of a substantial obstacle to the woman’s effective right to elect the procedure. Second is a confirmation of the State’s power to restrict abortions after fetal viability, if the law contains exceptions for pregnancies which endanger a woman’s life or health. And third is the principle that the State has legitimate interests from the outset of the pregnancy in protecting the health of the woman and the life of the fetus that may become a child.”

This restatement of *Roe*’s essentials, recognizing a legitimate state interest in protecting fetal life throughout pregnancy, necessarily eliminated the rigid trimester analysis permitting almost no regulation in the first trimester. Viability still marked “the earliest point at which the State’s interest in fetal life is constitutionally adequate to justify a legislative ban on nontherapeutic abortions,”²⁴³ but less burdensome regulations could be applied before viability. “What is at stake,” the three-Justice plurality asserted, “is the woman’s right to make the ultimate decision, not a right to be insulated from all others in doing so. Regulations which do no more than create a structural mechanism by which the State . . . may express profound respect for the life of the unborn are permitted, if they are not a substantial obstacle to the woman’s ex-

²⁴⁰ *Id.* at 519.

²⁴¹ *Id.* at 529. Previously, dissenting in *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416, 458 (1983), Justice O’Connor had suggested that the *Roe* trimester framework “is clearly on a collision course with itself. As the medical risks of various abortion procedures decrease, the point at which the State may regulate for reasons of maternal health is moved further forward to actual childbirth. As medical science becomes better able to provide for the separate existence of the fetus, the point of viability is moved further back toward conception.”

²⁴² 112 S. Ct. 2791, 2804 (1992).

²⁴³ *Id.* at 2811.

ercise of the right to choose.” Thus, unless an undue burden is imposed, states may adopt measures “designed to persuade [a woman] to choose childbirth over abortion.”²⁴⁴

Application of these principles led the Court to uphold several aspects of Pennsylvania’s abortion control law, in the process overruling precedent, but to invalidate what was arguably the most restrictive provision. Four challenged provisions of the law were upheld: a definition of “medical emergency” controlling exemptions from the Act’s other limitations; recordkeeping and reporting requirements imposed on facilities that perform abortions; an informed consent and 24-hour waiting period requirement; and a parental consent requirement, with possibility for judicial bypass, applicable to minors. Invalidated as an undue burden on a woman’s right to an abortion was a spousal notification requirement.

It was a new alignment of Justices that restated and preserved *Roe*. Joining Justice O’Connor in a jointly authored opinion adopting and applying Justice O’Connor’s “undue burden” analysis were Justices Kennedy and Souter. Justices Blackmun and Stevens joined parts of the plurality opinion, but dissented from other parts. Justice Stevens would not have abandoned trimester analysis, and would have invalidated the 24-hour waiting period and aspects of the informed consent requirement. Justice Blackmun, author of the Court’s opinion in *Roe*, asserted that “the right to reproductive choice is entitled to the full protection afforded by this Court before *Webster*,”²⁴⁵ and would have invalidated all of the challenged provisions. Chief Justice Rehnquist, joined by Justices White, Scalia, and Thomas, would have overruled *Roe* and upheld all challenged aspects of the Pennsylvania law.

Overruled in *Casey* were earlier decisions that had struck down informed consent and 24-hour waiting periods.²⁴⁶ Given the state’s legitimate interests in protecting the life of the unborn and the health of the potential mother, and applying “undue burden” analysis, the three-Justice plurality found these requirements permissible. Requiring informed consent for medical procedures is both commonplace and reasonable, and, in the absence of any evidence of burden, the state could require that information relevant to informed consent be provided by a physician rather than an assistant. The 24-hour waiting period was approved both in theory (it

²⁴⁴ *Id.* at 2821.

²⁴⁵ *Id.* at 2844.

²⁴⁶ *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416 (1983) (invalidating “informed consent” and 24-hour waiting period); *Thornburgh v. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*, 476 U.S. 747 (1986) (invalidating informed consent requirement).

being reasonable to assume “that important decisions will be more informed and deliberate if they follow some period of reflection”) and in practice (in spite of “troubling” findings of increased burdens on poorer women who must travel significant distances to obtain abortions, and on all women who must twice rather than once brave harassment by anti-abortion protesters).²⁴⁷ The Court also upheld application of an additional requirement that women under age 18 obtain the consent of one parent or avail themselves of a judicial bypass alternative.

On the other hand, the Court²⁴⁸ distinguished Pennsylvania’s spousal notification provision as constituting an undue burden on a woman’s right to choose an abortion. “A State may not give to a man the kind of dominion over his wife that parents exercise over their children” (and that men exercised over their wives at common law).²⁴⁹ Although there was an exception for a woman who believed that notifying her husband would subject her to bodily injury, this exception was not broad enough to cover other forms of abusive retaliation, e.g., psychological intimidation, bodily harm to children, or financial deprivation. To require a wife to notify her husband in spite of her fear of such abuse would unduly burden the wife’s liberty interest as an individual to decide whether to bear a child.

Privacy: Its Constitutional Dimensions.—*Roe v. Wade* and its progeny could have had significant effect outside the abortion area in the general area of personal liberties, inasmuch as the revitalization of substantive due process in the noneconomic regulation area, overlaid with the compelling state interest test, could call into question many governmental restraints upon the person. *Roe’s* emphasis upon the privacy rationale seemed to presage an active judicial role in defining and protecting the interests of persons “to be let alone.” Those developments have not occurred, however, and the cases reflect the intention of the Court to curb the expansion of any doctrinal ramifications flowing beyond the abortion cases.

Privacy has in a number of cases been identified as a core value of the Bill of Rights,²⁵⁰ but it was not until *Griswold v. Connecticut*²⁵¹ that an independent right of privacy, derived from the confluence of several provisions of the Bill of Rights or discovered in the “penumbras” of these provisions, was expounded by the

²⁴⁷ 112 S. Ct. at 2835.

²⁴⁸ The plurality Justices were joined in this part of their opinion by Justices Blackmun and Stevens.

²⁴⁹ *Id.* at 2831.

²⁵⁰ E.g., the Fourth Amendment.

²⁵¹ 381 U.S. 479 (1965).

Court and actually used to strike down a governmental restraint. The abortion cases extended *Griswold* many degrees in several respects. First, the cases removed any lingering possibility that the right is a marital one that depends upon that relationship.²⁵² Second, the right of privacy was denominated a liberty which found its source and its protection in the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.²⁵³ Third, by designating the right as a “fundamental” right, the Court required a governmental restraint to be justified by a “compelling state interest.” Necessary to assessment of the effect of this development is a close analysis of the limits of the right thus protected as well as of its contents.

“The Constitution does not explicitly mention any right of privacy. In a line of decisions, however, . . . the Court has recognized that a right of personal privacy, or a guarantee of certain areas or zones of privacy, does exist under the Constitution. . . . These decisions make it clear that only personal rights that can be deemed ‘fundamental’ or ‘implicit in the concept of ordered liberty,’ *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319, 325 (1937), are included in this guarantee of personal privacy. They also make it clear that the right has some extension to activities relating to marriage, *Loving v. Virginia*, 388 U.S. 1, 12 (1967); procreation, *Skinner v. Oklahoma*, 316 U.S. 535, 541–42 (1942); contraception, *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. at 453–54; *id.* at 460, 463–65 (White, J., concurring in result); family relationships, *Prince v. Massachusetts*, 321 U.S. 158, 166 (1944); and child rearing and education, *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510, 535 (1925), *Meyer v. Nebraska*, *supra.*”²⁵⁴ In the pornography cases decided later in the same Term, the Court denied the existence of any privacy right of customers to view unprotected material in commercial establishments, repeating the above descriptive language from *Roe*, and saying further: “the constitutionally protected privacy of family, marriage, motherhood, procreation, and child rearing is not just concerned with a particular place, but with a protected intimate relationship. Such protected privacy extends to the doctor’s office, the hospital, the hotel room, or as otherwise required to safeguard the right to intimacy involved.”²⁵⁵

²⁵² In *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438 (1972), the court had declined to extend the *Griswold* principle to the unmarried on privacy grounds, relying on an equal protection analysis instead.

²⁵³ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 153 (1973). *See id.* at 167–71 (Justice Stewart concurring). Justice Douglas continued to deny that substantive due process is the basis of the decisions. *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179, 209, 212 n.4 (1973) (concurring).

²⁵⁴ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 152 (1973).

²⁵⁵ *Paris Adult Theatre v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49, 66 n.13 (1973).

What is apparent from the Court's approach in these cases is that its concept of privacy is descriptive rather than analytical, making difficult an assessment of the potential of the doctrine. Privacy as a concept appears to encompass at least two different but related aspects. First, it relates to the right or the ability of individuals to determine how much and what information about themselves is to be revealed to others. Second, it relates to the idea of autonomy, the freedom of individuals to perform or not perform certain acts or subject themselves to certain experiences.²⁵⁶ Governmental commands to do or not to do something may well implicate one or the other or both of these aspects, and judicial decision about the validity of such governmental commands must necessarily be informed by use of an analytical framework balancing the governmental interests against the individual interests in maintaining freedom in one or both aspects of privacy. That framework cannot now be constructed on the basis of the Court's decided cases.

Griswold v. Connecticut,²⁵⁷ voiding a state statute proscribing the use of contraceptives, seems primarily to be based upon a judicial concept of privacy flowing from the first aspect of privacy described above. That is, the predominant concern flowing through the several opinions is the threat of forced disclosure about the private and intimate lives of persons through the pervasive surveillance and investigative efforts that would be needed to enforce such a law; moreover, the concern was not limited to the outward pressures upon the confines of such provisions as the Fourth Amendment's search and seizure clause, but extended to techniques that would have been within the range of permissible investigation. Subsequent cases, however, have returned to Fourth and Fifth Amendment principles to regulate official invasions of privacy.²⁵⁸

For example, in *United States v. Miller*,²⁵⁹ the Court evaluated in Fourth Amendment terms the right of privacy of depositors in restricting Government access to their cancelled checks maintained by the bank as required by the Bank Secrecy Act. The cancelled checks, the Court held, were business records of the bank in which the depositors had no expectation of privacy and therefore no

²⁵⁶ *Whalen v. Roe*, 429 U.S. 589, 598–600 (1977).

²⁵⁷ 381 U.S. 479 (1965).

²⁵⁸ E.g., *California Bankers Ass'n v. Schultz*, 416 U.S. 21 (1974). See also *Laird v. Tatum*, 408 U.S. 1 (1972); *United States v. United States District Court*, 407 U.S. 297 (1972); *United States v. Dionisio*, 410 U.S. 1 (1973); *Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547 (1978).

²⁵⁹ 425 U.S. 435 (1976). See also *Fisher v. United States*, 425 U.S. 391, 401 (1976); *Paul v. Davis*, 424 U.S. 693, 712–13 (1976); *United States v. Bisceglia*, 420 U.S. 141 (1975).

Fourth Amendment standing to challenge government legal process directed to the bank, and this status was unchanged by the fact that the banks kept the records under government mandate in the first place. And in *Fisher v. United States*,²⁶⁰ the Court denied that the Fifth Amendment's self-incrimination clause operated in any way to prevent the IRS from obtaining by summons income tax records prepared by accountants and in the hands of either the taxpayer or his attorney, no matter how incriminating, because the Amendment only protects against compelled testimonial self-incrimination. "[T]he Court has never suggested that every invasion of privacy violates the privilege. Within the limits imposed by the language of the Fifth Amendment, which we necessarily observe, the privilege truly serves privacy interests; but the Court has never on any ground, personal privacy included, applied the Fifth Amendment to prevent the otherwise proper acquisition or use of evidence which, in the Court's view, did not involve compelled testimonial self-incrimination of some sort."²⁶¹ Further, "[w]e cannot cut the Fifth Amendment completely loose from the moorings of its language, and make it serve as a general protector of privacy—a word not mentioned in its text and a concept directly addressed in the Fourth Amendment."²⁶² The First Amendment itself affords some limitation upon governmental acquisition of information but here again the gravamen is a violation of speech or association or the like concomitant with exposure of personal information, and not exposure itself.²⁶³

A cryptic opinion in *Whalen v. Roe*²⁶⁴ may indicate the Court's willingness to recognize privacy interests as independent constitutional rights. At issue was a state's pervasive regulation of prescription drugs that could be abused, and the centralized record-keeping through computers of all such prescriptions identifying the patients. The scheme was attacked on the basis that it invaded privacy interests against disclosure and privacy interests involving autonomy of persons in choosing whether to have the medication. The Court appeared to agree that both interests are protected, but because the scheme was surrounded with extensive security protection against disclosure beyond that necessary to achieve the purposes of the program it was not thought to "pose a sufficiently

²⁶⁰ 425 U.S. 391 (1976).

²⁶¹ *Id.* at 399.

²⁶² *Id.* at 401.

²⁶³ See *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 60–82 (1976); *Whalen v. Roe*, 429 U.S. 589, 601 n.27, 604 n.32 (1977); *United States v. Miller*, 425 U.S. 435, 444 n.6 (1976). The Court continues to reserve the question of the "[s]pecial problems of privacy which might be presented by subpoena of a personal diary." *Fisher v. United States*, 425 U.S. 391, 401 n.7 (1976).

²⁶⁴ 429 U.S. 589 (1977).

grievous threat to either interest to establish a constitutional violation.”²⁶⁵

Not the method of enforcement but the fact of enforcement was the issue in *Roe* and *Doe*. That is, the power of the State to deny women all access to abortions, the power to proscribe effectuation of the will and desire of women to terminate pregnancy, was at issue. Because the Court determined that the will and desire constituted a protected “liberty,” the State was required to justify its proscription by a compelling interest. Once the question of the personhood of the fetus was resolved, the Court confronted in effect only two asserted state interests. Protecting the health of the mother was recognized as a valid interest, the Court thereby departing from a *laissez faire* “free will” approach to individual autonomy. A state interest in morality was mentioned by the Court, not because the State had raised it, but simply to defer deciding it; however, the noted morality issue involved not the morality of abortion, but instead the promotion of sexual morality through making abortion unavailable.²⁶⁶

Stanley v. Georgia,²⁶⁷ holding that government may not make private possession of obscene materials for private use a crime, approached a judicial recognition of the autonomy aspect of privacy. True it is that the possession there was in Stanley’s home, a fact heavily relied on by the Court, but the police had lawfully invaded his privacy upon the authority of a valid warrant and a subsidiary Fourth Amendment issue that was available for decision was passed over in favor of a broader resolution. Inasmuch as the materials were obscene, they were outside the scope of First Amendment protection. But the Court premised its decision upon one’s protected right to receive what information and ideas he wished and upon one’s protected “right to be free, except in very limited circumstances, from unwanted governmental intrusions into one’s

²⁶⁵ *Id.* at 598–604. The Court cautioned that it had decided nothing about the privacy implications of the accumulation and disclosure of vast amounts of information in data banks. Safeguarding such information from disclosure “arguably has its roots in the Constitution,” at least “in some circumstances,” the Court seemed to indicate. *Id.* at 605. Compare *id.* at 606 (Justice Brennan concurring). What the Court’s careful circumscription of the privacy issue through balancing does to the concept is unclear after *Nixon v. Administrator of General Services*, 433 U.S. 425, 455–65 (1977), but note the dissents. *Id.* at 504, 525–36 (Chief Justice Burger), and 545 n.1 (Justice Rehnquist).

²⁶⁶ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 148 (1972). Additionally, if the purpose of the statute was to deter illicit sexual conduct, the law was overbroad since it included both unmarried and married women. This morality rationale also fell afoul of overinclusion and underinclusion in *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438, 477–50 (1972).

²⁶⁷ 394 U.S. 557 (1969).

privacy.”²⁶⁸ These rights were held superior to the interests Georgia asserted to override them. That is, first, the State was held to have no authority to protect an individual’s mind from the effects of obscenity, to promote the moral content of one’s thoughts. Second, the State’s assertion that exposure to obscenity may lead to deviant sexual behavior was rejected on the basis of a lack of empirical support and, more important, on the basis that less intrusive deterrents were available. Thus, a right to be free of governmental regulation in this area was clearly recognized.

Stanley was quickly restricted to its facts, to possession of pornography in the home.²⁶⁹ But in its important reconsideration of and reaffirmation of governmental interests in the control of pornography, the Court went beyond this restriction and recognized governmental interests that included the promotion of public morality, protection of the individual’s psychological health, and improving the quality of life. “It is argued that individual ‘free will’ must govern, even in activities beyond the protection of the First Amendment and other constitutional guarantees of privacy, and that government cannot legitimately impede an individual’s desire to see or acquire obscene plays, movies, and books. We do indeed base our society on certain assumptions that people have the capacity for free choice. Most exercises of individual free choice—those in politics, religion, and expression of ideas—are explicitly protected by the Constitution. Totally unlimited play for free will, however, is not allowed in our or any other society. . . . [Many laws are enacted] to protect the weak, the uninformed, the unsuspecting, and the gullible from the exercise of their own volition.” Furthermore, continued the Court: “Our Constitution establishes a broad range of conditions on the exercise of power by the States, but for us to say that our Constitution incorporates the proposition that conduct involving consenting adults is always beyond state regulation is a step we are unable to take. . . . The issue in this context goes beyond whether someone, or even the majority, considers the conduct depicted as ‘wrong’ or ‘sinful.’ The States have the power to make a morally neutral judgment that public exhibition of obscene material, or commerce in such material, has a tendency to injure the community as a whole, to endanger the public safety, or to jeopardize . . . the States’ ‘right . . . to maintain a decent society.’”²⁷⁰

²⁶⁸ *Id.* at 564–65.

²⁶⁹ *United States v. Reidel*, 402 U.S. 351, 354–56 (1971); *United States v. Thirty-seven Photographs*, 402 U.S. 363, 375–76 (1971).

²⁷⁰ *Paris Adult Theatre v. Slaton*, 413 U.S. 49, 57–63, 63–64, 68–69 (1973); and *see id.* at 68 n.15.

Stanley was further distinguished in *Bowers v. Hardwick* as being “firmly grounded in the First Amendment.”²⁷¹ Thus, the Court held in *Bowers*, there is no protected right to engage in homosexual sodomy in the privacy of the home, and *Stanley* did not implicitly create protection for “voluntary sexual conduct [in the home] between consenting adults.”²⁷²

Evidently, then, the fundamental right of privacy that is protected by the due process clause is one functionally related to “family, marriage, motherhood, procreation, and child rearing.”²⁷³ Even so limited, the concept can have numerous significant aspects occasioning major constitutional decisions. Thus, in *Carey v. Population Services International*,²⁷⁴ the *Griswold-Baird* line of cases was significantly extended so as to make the “decision whether or not to beget or bear a child” a “constitutionally protected right of privacy” interest that government may not forbid or burden without justifying the limitation by a compelling state interest and by a regulation narrowly drawn to express only that interest or interests. This “constitutional protection of individual autonomy in matters of childbearing” led the Court to invalidate a state statute that banned the distribution of contraceptives to adults except by licensed pharmacists and that forbade any person to sell or distribute contraceptives to a minor under 16.²⁷⁵ The limitation of the number of outlets to adults “imposes a significant burden on the right of the individuals to use contraceptives if they choose to do so” and was unjustified by any interest put forward by the State. The prohibition on sale to minors was judged not by the compelling state interest test, but instead by inquiring whether the restrictions serve “any significant state interest . . . that is not present in the case of an adult.” This test is “apparently less rigorous” than the test used with adults, a distinction justified by the greater governmental latitude in regulating the conduct of children and the lesser capability of children in making important decisions. The at-

²⁷¹ 478 U.S. 186, 195 (1986).

²⁷² 478 U.S. at 195–96. Dissenting Justice Blackmun challenged the Court’s characterization of *Stanley*, suggesting that it had rested as much on the Fourth as on the First Amendment, and that “the right of an individual to conduct intimate relationships in . . . his or her own home [is] at the heart of the Constitution’s protection of privacy.” *Id.* at 207–08.

²⁷³ *Id.* at 66 n.13. *See also* *Paul v. Davis*, 424 U.S. 693, 713 (1976).

²⁷⁴ 431 U.S. 678 (1977).

²⁷⁵ *Id.* at 684–91. The opinion of the Court on the general principles drew the support of Justices Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens. Justice White concurred in the result in the voiding of the ban on access to adults while not expressing an opinion on the Court’s general principles. *Id.* at 702. Justice Powell agreed the ban on access to adults was void but concurred in an opinion significantly more restrained than the opinion of the Court. *Id.* at 703. Chief Justice Burger, *id.* at 702, and Justice Rehnquist, *id.* at 717, dissented.

tempted justification for the ban was rejected. Doubting the permissibility of a ban on access to contraceptives to deter minors' sexual activity, the Court even more doubted, because the State presented no evidence, that limiting access would deter minors from engaging in sexual activity.²⁷⁶

In *Bowers v. Hardwick*,²⁷⁷ the Court by 5–4 vote roundly rejected the suggestion that the privacy cases protecting “family, marriage, or procreation” extend any protection for private consensual homosexual sodomy,²⁷⁸ and also rejected the more comprehensive claim that the cases “stand for the proposition that any kind of private sexual conduct between consenting adults is constitutionally insulated from state proscription.”²⁷⁹ Moreover, the Court refused to create any such fundamental right. Justice White’s opinion for the Court in *Hardwick* sounded the same opposition to “announcing rights not readily identifiable in the Constitution’s text” that underlay his dissents in the abortion cases.²⁸⁰ In addition, the Court concluded that rationales relied upon in the earlier privacy cases do not extend “a fundamental right to homosexuals to engage in acts of consensual sodomy.”²⁸¹ Heavy reliance was placed on the fact that prohibitions on sodomy have “ancient roots,” and on the fact that half of the states still prohibit the practices.²⁸² The privacy of the home does not immunize all behavior from state regulation, and the Court was “unwilling to start down [the] road” of im-

²⁷⁶ *Id.* at 691–99. This portion of the opinion was supported by only Justices Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Blackmun. Justices White, Powell, and Stevens concurred in the result, *id.* at 702, 703, 712, each on more narrow grounds than the plurality. Again, Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 702, 717.

²⁷⁷ 478 U.S. 186 (1986). The Court’s opinion was written by Justice White, and joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices Powell, Rehnquist, and O’Connor. The Chief Justice and Justice Powell added brief concurring opinions. Justice Blackmun dissented, joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens, and Justice Stevens, joined by Justices Brennan and Marshall, added a separate dissenting opinion.

²⁷⁸ “[N]one of the rights announced in those cases bears any resemblance to the claimed constitutional right of homosexuals to engage in acts of sodomy.” 478 U.S. at 190–91.

²⁷⁹ *Id.* at 191. The Court asserted that *Carey v. Population Services Int’l*, 431 U.S. 678, 694 n.17 (1977), which had reserved decision on the issue, had established that the privacy right “did not reach so far.”

²⁸⁰ 478 U.S. at 191.

²⁸¹ In the Court’s view, homosexual sodomy is neither a fundamental liberty “implicit in the concept of ordered liberty” nor is it “deeply rooted in this Nation’s history and tradition.” *Id.* at 191–92.

²⁸² *Id.* Chief Justice Burger’s brief concurring opinion amplified on this theme, concluding that constitutional protection for “the act of homosexual sodomy . . . would . . . cast aside millennia of moral teaching.” *Id.* at 197. Justice Powell cautioned that Eighth Amendment proportionality principles might limit the severity with which states can punish the practices (*Hardwick* had been charged but not prosecuted, and had initiated the action to have the statute under which he had been charged declared unconstitutional). *Id.*

munizing “voluntary sexual conduct between consenting adults.”²⁸³ Justice Blackmun’s dissent was critical of the Court’s phrasing of the issue as one of homosexual sodomy,²⁸⁴ and asserted that the basic issue was the individual’s privacy right “to be let alone.” The privacy cases are not limited to protection of the family and the right to procreation, he asserted, but instead stand for the broader principle of individual autonomy and choice in matters of sexual intimacy.²⁸⁵

Similarly, the extent to which governmental regulation of the sexual activities of minors is subject to constitutional scrutiny is of great and continuing importance.²⁸⁶ Analysis of these questions is hampered because the Court has not told us what about the particular facets of human relationships—marriage, family, procreation—gives rise to a protected liberty and what does not, and how indeed these factors vary significantly enough from other human relationships to result in differing constitutional treatment. The Court’s observation in the abortion cases “that only personal rights that can be deemed ‘fundamental’ are included in this guarantee of personal privacy,” occasioning justification by a “compelling” interest,²⁸⁷ little elucidates the answers inasmuch as in the same Term the Court significantly restricted its equal protection doctrine of “fundamental” interests—“compelling” interest justification by holding that the “key” to discovering whether an interest or a relationship is a “fundamental” one is whether it is “explicitly or implicitly guaranteed by the Constitution.”²⁸⁸

Whether an independent, discrete concept of privacy, in either of its major aspects, emerges from developing judicial doctrines is largely problematical. There appears to be a tendency to designate

²⁸³ The Court voiced concern that “it would be difficult . . . to limit the claimed right to homosexual conduct while leaving exposed to prosecution adultery, incest, and other sexual crimes even though they are committed in the home.” *Id.* at 195–96. Dissenting Justices Blackmun (*id.* at 209 n.4) and Stevens (*id.* at 217–18) suggested that these crimes are readily distinguishable.

²⁸⁴ *Id.* at 199. The Georgia statute at issue, like most sodomy statutes, prohibits the practices regardless of the sex or marital status of the participants. *See Id.* at 188 n.1. Justice Stevens too focused on this aspect, suggesting that the earlier privacy cases clearly bar a state from prohibiting sodomous acts by married couples, and that Georgia had not justified selective application to homosexuals. *Id.* at 219.

²⁸⁵ *Id.* at 204–06.

²⁸⁶ The Court reserved this question in *Carey*, 431 U.S., 694 n.17 (plurality opinion), although Justices White, Powell, and Stevens in concurrence seemed to see no barrier to state prohibition of sexual relations by minors. *Id.* at 702, 703, 712.

²⁸⁷ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 152 (1973). The language is quoted in full in *Carey*, *supra*, 431 U.S. 684–85.

²⁸⁸ *San Antonio School District v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1, 33–34 (1973). That this restriction is not holding with respect to equal protection analysis or due process analysis can be discerned easily. *Compare Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374 (1978) (opinion of Court), *with id.* at 391 (Justice Stewart concurring), and *id.* at 396 (Justice Powell concurring).

as a right of privacy a right or interest which extensions of precedent or applications of logical analysis have led the Court to conclude to protect. Because this protection is now settled to be a “liberty” which the due process clause includes, the analytical validity of denominating the particular right or interest as an element of privacy rather than as an element of “liberty” seems open to question.

Family Relationships.—While the “privacy” basis of autonomy seems to be definitionally based, the Court’s drawing on the line of cases since *Meyer* and *Pierce*²⁸⁹ has “established that the Constitution protects the sanctity of the family precisely because the institution of the family is deeply rooted in this Nation’s history and tradition.”²⁹⁰ Recognition of the protected “liberty” of the familial relationship affords the Court a principled and doctrinal basis of review of governmental regulations that adversely impact upon the ability to enter into the relationship, to maintain it, to terminate it, and to resolve conflicts within the relationship. This liberty, unlike the interest in property which has its source in statutory law, springs from the base of “intrinsic human rights, as they have been understood in ‘this Nation’s history and tradition.’”²⁹¹ Being of fundamental importance, the familial relationship is ordinarily subject only to regulation that can survive rigorous judicial scrutiny, although “reasonable regulations that do not significantly interfere with decisions to enter into the marital relationship may legitimately be imposed.”²⁹² Recent decisions cast light in all areas of the family relationship.

Because the right to marry is a fundamental right protected by the due process clause,²⁹³ a state may not deny the right to marry to someone who has failed to meet a child support obligation, there being no legitimate state interest compelling enough to justify the prohibition.²⁹⁴ There is a constitutional right to live together as a

²⁸⁹*Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390 (1923); *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510 (1928).

²⁹⁰*Moore v. City of East Cleveland*, 431 U.S. 494, 503 (1977) (plurality). Continuing the limitation of the right of privacy to family-related activities is *Bowers v. Hardwick*, 478 U.S. 186 (1986).

²⁹¹*Smith v. Organization of Foster Families*, 431 U.S. 816, 845 (1977).

²⁹²*Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374, 386 (1978).

²⁹³*Loving v. Virginia*, 388 U.S. 1, 12 (1967); *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479, 486 (1965); *Cleveland Bd. of Education v. LaFleur*, 414 U.S. 632, 639–40 (1974); *Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374, 383–87 (1978).

²⁹⁴*Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374 (1978). The majority of the Court deemed the statute to fail under equal protection, whereas Justices Stewart and Powell found the due process clause to be violated. *Id.* at 391, 396. *Compare Califano v. Jobst*, 434 U.S. 47 (1977).

family,²⁹⁵ one not limited to the nuclear family. Thus, a city ordinance which zoned for single family occupancy and so defined “family” as to bar extended family relationships was found to violate the due process clause as applied to prevent a grandmother from having in her household two grandchildren of different children.²⁹⁶ And the concept of “family” may extend beyond the biological, blood relationship of extended families to the situation of foster families, although the Court has acknowledged that such a claim to constitutionally protected liberty interests raises complex and novel questions.²⁹⁷ In the conflict between natural and foster families, other difficult questions inhere and it may well be that a properly constituted process under state law of determining the best interests of the child will be deferred to.²⁹⁸ On the other hand, the Court has held, the presumption of legitimacy accorded to a child born to a married woman living with her husband is valid even to defeat the right of the child’s biological father to establish paternity and visitation rights.²⁹⁹

The Court has merely touched upon but not dealt definitively with the complex and novel questions raised by possible conflicts between parental rights and children’s rights.³⁰⁰

²⁹⁵ “If a State were to attempt to force the breakup of a natural family, over the objections of the parents and their children, without some showing of unfitness and for the sole reason that to do so was thought to be in the children’s best interest, I should have little doubt that the State would have intruded impermissibly on ‘the private realm of family life which the state cannot enter.’” *Smith v. Organization of Foster Families*, 431 U.S. 816, 862–63 (1977) (Justice Stewart concurring), cited with approval in *Quilloin v. Walcott*, 434 U.S. 246, 255 (1978).

²⁹⁶ *Moore v. City of East Cleveland*, 431 U.S. 494 (1977) (plurality opinion). The fifth vote, decisive to the invalidity of the ordinance, was on other grounds. *Id.* at 513.

²⁹⁷ *Smith v. Organization of Foster Families*, 431 U.S. 816 (1977). The natural family, the Court observed, did not have its source in statutory law, whereas the ties that develop between foster parent and foster child have their origins in an arrangement which the State brought about. But some liberty interests do arise from positive law, although the expectations and entitlements are thereby limited as well by state law. And such a liberty interest may not be recognized without derogating from the substantive liberty interests of the natural parents. Thus, the interest of foster parents must be quite limited and attenuated, but *Smith* does not define what it is. *Id.* at 842–47.

²⁹⁸ See *Quilloin v. Walcott*, 434 U.S. 246 (1978).

²⁹⁹ *Michael H. v. Gerald D.*, 491 U.S. 110 (1989). There was no opinion of the Court. A majority of Justices (Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, White) was willing to recognize that the biological father has a liberty interest in a relationship with his child, but Justice Stevens voted with the plurality (Scalia, Rehnquist, O’Connor, Kennedy) because he believed that the statute at issue adequately protected that interest.

³⁰⁰ The clearest conflict presented to date raised the issue of giving a veto to parents over their minor children’s right to have an abortion. *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52 (1976); *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, 112 S. Ct. 2791 (1992). See also *Parham v. J. R.*, 442 U.S. 584 (1979) (parental role in commitment of child for treatment of mental illness).

Liberty Interests of Retarded and Mentally Ill: Commitment and Treatment.—Potentially a major development in substantive due process is the formulation of a liberty right of those retarded or handicapped individuals who are involuntarily committed or who voluntarily seek commitment to public institutions. The States pursuant to their *parens patriae* power have a substantial interest in institutionalizing persons in need of care, both for their own protection and for the protection of others.³⁰¹ Each individual, on the other hand, has a due process protected interest in freedom from confinement and personal restraint; an interest in reducing the degree of confinement continues even for those individuals who are properly committed.³⁰² Little controversy has attended the gradual accretion of case law, now confirmed by the Supreme Court, that due process guarantees freedom from undue physical restraint and from unsafe conditions of confinement.³⁰³ Whether it also guarantees a considerable right to treatment, to “habilitation,”³⁰⁴ is the focus of the cases now being litigated, and while the right has been strongly recognized by a number of influential lower court decisions³⁰⁵ its treatment in the Supreme Court is as yet tentative. Thus, *Youngberg v. Romeo* recognized a liberty right to “minimally adequate or reasonable training to ensure safety and

³⁰¹ These principles have no application to persons not held in custody by the state. *DeShaney v. Winnebago County Social Servs. Dep’t*, 489 U.S. 189 (1989) (no Due Process violation for failure of state to protect an abused child from his parent, even when the social service agency had been notified of possible abuse, and possibility had been substantiated through visits by social worker).

³⁰² *Youngberg v. Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307, 314–16 (1982). See *Jackson v. Indiana*, 406 U.S. 715 (1972); *O’Connor v. Donaldson*, 422 U.S. 563 (1975); *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480, 491–94 (1980).

³⁰³ *Youngberg v. Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307, 314–316 (1982). Thus, personal security constitutes a “historic liberty interest” protected substantively by the due process clause. *Ingraham v. Wright*, 430 U.S. 651, 673 (1977) (liberty interest in being free from undeserved corporal punishment in school); *Greenholtz v. Nebraska Penal Inmates*, 442 U.S. 1, 18 (1979) (Justice Powell concurring) (“Liberty from bodily restraint always has been recognized as the core of the liberty protected by the Due Process Clause from arbitrary governmental actions”).

³⁰⁴ “The word ‘habilitation’ is commonly used to refer to programs for the mentally retarded because mental retardation is . . . a learning disability and training impairment rather than an illness. [T]he principal focus of habilitation is upon training and development of needed skills.” *Youngberg v. Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307, 309 n.1 (1982) (quoting amicus brief for American Psychiatric Association).

³⁰⁵ In *Jackson v. Indiana*, 406 U.S. 715, 738 (1972), the Court had said that “due process requires that the nature and duration of commitment bear some reasonable relation to the purpose for which the individual is committed.” Reasoning that if commitment is for treatment and betterment of individuals, it must be accompanied by adequate treatment, several lower courts recognized a due process right. E.g., *Wyatt v. Stickney*, 325 F. Supp. 781 (M.D. Ala.), enforced, 334 F. Supp. 1341 (1971), supplemented, 334 F. Supp. 373 and 344 F. Supp. 387 (M.D. Ala. 1972), aff’d in part, reserved in part, and remanded, sub nom. *Wyatt v. Aderholt*, 503 F.2d 1305 (5th Cir. 1974); *Donaldson v. O’Connor*, 493 F.2d 507 (5th Cir. 1974), vacated on other grounds, 432 U.S. 563 (1975).

freedom from undue restraint.”³⁰⁶ While the lower court had passed upon and agreed with plaintiff’s theory of entitlement to “such treatment as will afford a reasonable opportunity to acquire and maintain those life skills necessary to cope as effectively as [his] capacities permit,”³⁰⁷ the Supreme Court thought that before it plaintiff had reduced his theory to one of “training related to safety and freedom from restraint.”³⁰⁸ But the Court’s concern for federalism, its reluctance to approve judicial activism in supervising institutions, its recognition that budgetary constraints interfered with state provision of services caused it to require the lower federal courts to defer to professional decisionmaking in determining what care was adequate. Professional decisions are presumptively valid and liability can be imposed “only when the decision by the professional is such a substantial departure from accepted professional judgment, practice, or standards as to demonstrate that the person responsible actually did not base the decision on such a judgment.”³⁰⁹ Presumably, however, the difference between liability for damages and injunctive relief will still afford federal courts considerable latitude in enjoining institutions to better their services in the future, even if they cannot award damages for past failures.³¹⁰

Still other issues await plumbing. The whole area of the rights of committed individuals will likely be explored under a sub-

³⁰⁶ *Youngberg v. Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307, 319 (1982).

³⁰⁷ *Id.* at 318 n.23.

³⁰⁸ *Id.* at 317–18. Concurring, Justices Blackmun, Brennan, and O’Connor, argued that due process guaranteed patients at least that training necessary to prevent them from losing the skills they entered the institution with and probably more. *Id.* at 325. Chief Justice Burger rejected any protected interest in training. *Id.* at 329. The Court had also avoided a decision on a right to treatment in *O’Connor v. Donaldson*, 422 U.S. 563, 573 (1975), vacating and remanding a decision recognizing the right and thus depriving the decision of precedential value. Chief Justice Burger expressly rejected the right there also. *Id.* at 578. But just four days later the Court denied certiorari to another panel decision from the same circuit relying on its *Donaldson* decision to establish such a right, leaving the principle alive in that circuit. *Burnham v. Department of Public Health*, 503 F.2d 1319 (5th Cir. 1974), cert. denied, 422 U.S. 1057 (1975). See also *Allen v. Illinois*, 478 U.S. 364, 373 (1986) (dictum that person civilly committed as “sexually dangerous person” might be entitled to protection under the self-incrimination clause if he could show that his confinement “is essentially identical to that imposed upon felons with no need for psychiatric care”).

³⁰⁹ *Id.* at 323.

³¹⁰ E.g., *Ohlinger v. Watson*, 652 F.2d 775, 779 (9th Cir. 1980); *Welsch v. Likins*, 550 F.2d 1122, 1132 (8th Cir. 1977). Of course, lack of funding will create problems with respect to injunctive relief as well. Cf. *New York State Ass’n for Retarded Children v. Carey*, 631 F.2d 162, 163 (2d Cir. 1980). It should be noted that the Supreme Court has limited the injunctive powers of the federal courts in similar situations also.

stantive and procedural due process analysis.³¹¹ Additionally, federal legislation is becoming extensive,³¹² and state legislative and judicial development of law is highly important because the Supreme Court looks to this law as one source of the interests which the due process clause protects.³¹³

“Right to Die”.—In *Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Dep’t of Health*,³¹⁴ the Court upheld Missouri’s requirement that, before nutrition and hydration may be withdrawn from a person in a persistent vegetative state, it must be demonstrated by “clear and convincing evidence” that such action is consistent with the patient’s previously manifested wishes. The Due Process Clause does not require that the state rely on the judgment of the family, the guardian, or “anyone but the patient herself” in making this decision, the Court concluded.³¹⁵ Thus, in the absence of clear and convincing evidence that the patient herself had expressed an interest not to be sustained in a persistent vegetative state, or that she had expressed a desire to have a surrogate make such a decision for her, the state may refuse to allow withdrawal of nutrition and hydration. “A State is entitled to guard against potential abuses” that can occur if family members do not protect a patient’s best interests, and “may properly decline to make judgments about the ‘quality’ of life that a particular individual may enjoy, and [instead] simply assert an unqualified interest in the preservation of human life to be weighed against the . . . interests of the individual.”³¹⁶

The Court’s opinion in *Cruzan* “assume[d]” that a competent person has a constitutionally protected right to refuse lifesaving hydration and nutrition.³¹⁷ More important, however, a majority of Justices separately declared that such a liberty interest exists.³¹⁸ Thus, the Court appears committed to the position that the right

³¹¹ See *Developments in the Law—Civil Commitment of the Mentally Ill*, 87 HARV. L. REV. 1190 (1974). In *Mills v. Rogers*, 457 U.S. 291 (1982), the Court had before it the issue of the due process right of committed mental patients at state hospitals to refuse administration of antipsychotic drugs. An intervening decision of the State’s highest court had measurably strengthened the patients’ rights under both state and federal law and the Court remanded for reconsideration in light of the state court decision. See also *Rennie v. Klein*, 653 F.2d 836 (3d Cir. 1981).

³¹² Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1975, Pub. L. No. 94-103, 89 Stat. 486, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§6000 et seq., as to which see *Pennhurst State School & Hosp. v. Halderman*, 451 U.S. 1 (1981); *Mental Health Systems Act*, 94 Stat. 1565, 42 U.S.C. §9401 et seq.

³¹³ See, e.g., *Mills v. Rogers*, 457 U.S. 291, 299-300 (1982). And see *infra*, pp. 1723-32 (procedural due process).

³¹⁴ 497 U.S. 261 (1990).

³¹⁵ *Id.* at 286.

³¹⁶ *Id.* at 281-82.

³¹⁷ *Id.* at 279.

³¹⁸ See 497 U.S. at 287 (O’Connor, concurring); *id.* at 304-05 (Brennan, joined by Marshall and Blackmun, dissenting); *id.* at 331 (Stevens, dissenting).

to refuse nutrition and hydration is subsumed in the broader right to refuse medical treatment. Also blurred in the Court's analysis was any distinction between terminally ill patients and those whose condition has stabilized; there was testimony that the patient in *Cruzan* could be kept "alive" for about 30 years if nutrition and hydration were continued.

PROCEDURAL DUE PROCESS: CIVIL

Some General Criteria

What due process of law means in the procedural context depends on the circumstances. It varies with the subject matter and the necessities of the situation. Due process of law is a process which, following the forms of law, is appropriate to the case and just to the parties affected. It must be pursued in the ordinary mode prescribed by law; it must be adapted to the end to be attained; and whenever necessary to the protection of the parties, it must give them an opportunity to be heard respecting the justice of the judgment sought. Any legal proceeding enforced by public authority, whether sanctioned by age or custom or newly devised in the discretion of the legislative power, which regards and preserves these principles of liberty and justice, must be held to be due process of law.¹

Ancient Use and Uniformity.—The requirements of due process may be ascertained in part by an examination of those settled usages and modes of proceedings existing in the common and statutory law of England during colonial times, and not unsuited to the civil and political conditions in this country. A process of law not otherwise forbidden may be taken to be due process of law if it has been sanctioned by settled usage both in England and in this country. In other words, the antiquity of a procedure is a fact of weight in its behalf. However, it does not follow that a procedure settled in English law and adopted in this country is, or remains, an essential element of due process of law. If that were so, the procedure of the first half of the seventeenth century would be fastened upon American jurisprudence like a strait jacket, only to be unloosed by constitutional amendment. Fortunately, the States are not tied down by any provision of the Constitution to the practice and procedure which existed at the common law, but may avail

¹ *Hagar v. Reclamation Dist.*, 111 U.S. 701, 708 (1884); *Hurtado v. California*, 110 U.S. 516, 537 (1884).

themselves of the wisdom gathered by the experience of the country to make changes deemed to be necessary.²

Equality.—If due process is to be secured, the laws must operate alike upon all and not subject the individual to the arbitrary exercise of governmental power unrestrained by established principles of private rights and distributive justice. Where a litigant has the benefit of a full and fair trial in the state courts, and his rights are measured, not by laws made to affect him individually, but by general provisions of law applicable to all those in like condition, he is not deprived of property without due process of law, even if he can be regarded as deprived of his property by an adverse result.³

Due Process, Judicial Process, and Separation of Powers.—Due process of law does not always mean a proceeding in court.⁴ Proceedings to raise revenue by levying and collecting taxes are not necessarily judicial, nor are administrative and executive proceedings, yet their validity is not thereby impaired.⁵ Moreover, the due process clause does not require *de novo* judicial review of the factual conclusions of state regulatory agencies.⁶

Nor does the Fourteenth Amendment prohibit a State from conferring upon nonjudicial bodies certain functions that may be called judicial, or from delegating to a court powers that are legislative in nature. For example, state statutes vesting in a parole board certain judicial functions,⁷ or conferring discretionary power upon administrative boards to grant or withhold permission to carry on a trade,⁸ or vesting in a probate court authority to appoint park commissioners and establish park districts⁹ are not in conflict with the due process clause and present no federal question. Whether legislative, executive, and judicial powers of a State shall be kept altogether distinct and separate, or whether they should in some particulars be merged, is for the determination of the State.¹⁰

²*Brown v. New Jersey*, 175 U.S. 172, 175 (1899); *Hurtado v. California*, 110 U.S. 516, 529 (1884); *Twining v. New Jersey*, 211 U.S. 78, 101 (1908); *Anderson Nat'l Bank v. Lockett*, 321 U.S. 233, 244 (1944).

³*Marchant v. Pennsylvania R.R.*, 153 U.S. 380, 386 (1894).

⁴*Ballard v. Hunter*, 204 U.S. 241, 255 (1907); *Palmer v. McMahon*, 133 U.S. 660, 668 (1890).

⁵*McMillen v. Anderson*, 95 U.S. 37, 41 (1877).

⁶*Railroad Comm'n v. Rowan & Nichols Oil Co.*, 311 U.S. 570 (1941) (oil field proration order). *See also* *Railroad Comm'n v. Rowan & Nichols Oil Co.*, 310 U.S. 573 (1940) (courts should not second-guess regulatory commissions in evaluating expert testimony).

⁷*Dreyer v. Illinois*, 187 U.S. 71, 83–84 (1902).

⁸*New York ex rel. Lieberman v. Van De Carr*, 199 U.S. 552, 562, (1905).

⁹*Ohio ex rel. Bryant v. Akron Park Dist.*, 281 U.S. 74, 79 (1930).

¹⁰*Carfer v. Caldwell*, 200 U.S. 293, 297 (1906).

Power of the States to Regulate Procedure

Generally.—The due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment does not control mere forms of procedure in state courts or regulate practice therein.¹¹ A State “is free to regulate procedure of its courts in accordance with its own conception of policy and fairness unless in so doing it offends some principle of justice so rooted in the traditions and conscience of our people as to be ranked as fundamental.”¹² Pursuant to such power, the States have regulated the manner in which rights may be enforced and wrongs remedied,¹³ and in connection therewith have created courts and endowed them with such jurisdiction as, in the judgment of their legislatures, seemed appropriate.¹⁴ Whether legislative action in such matters is deemed to be wise or proves efficient, whether it works a particular hardship on a particular litigant, or perpetuates or supplants ancient forms of procedure, are issues which can ordinarily give rise to no conflict with the Fourteenth Amendment, inasmuch as its function is negative rather than affirmative and in no way obligates the States to adopt specific measures of reform.¹⁵ More recent decisions, however, have imposed some restrictions on state procedures that require substantial reorientation of process.¹⁶

¹¹ *Holmes v. Conway*, 241 U.S. 624, 631 (1916); *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Schmidt*, 177 U.S. 230, 236 (1900).

¹² *Snyder v. Massachusetts*, 291 U.S. 97, 105 (1934); *West v. Louisiana*, 194 U.S. 258, 263 (1904); *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Chicago*, 166 U.S. 226 (1897); *Jordan v. Massachusetts*, 225 U.S. 167, 176 (1912). See *Boddie v. Connecticut*, 401 U.S. 371 (1971), for one recent limitation. The power of a State to determine the limits of the jurisdiction of its courts and the character of the controversies which shall be heard in them and to deny access to its courts is also subject to restrictions imposed by the contract, full faith and credit, and privileges and immunities clauses of the Constitution. *Angel v. Bullington*, 330 U.S. 183 (1947).

¹³ *Insurance Co. v. Glidden Co.*, 284 U.S. 151, 158 (1931); *Iowa Central Ry. v. Iowa*, 160 U.S. 389, 393 (1896); *Honeyman v. Hanan*, 302 U.S. 375 (1937). See also *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56 (1972).

¹⁴ *Cincinnati Street Ry. v. Snell*, 193 U.S. 30, 36 (1904).

¹⁵ *Ownbey v. Morgan*, 256 U.S. 94, 112 (1921). Thus the Fourteenth Amendment does not constrain the States to accept modern doctrines of equity, or adopt a combined system of law and equity procedure, or dispense with all necessity for form and method in pleading, or give untrammelled liberty to amend pleadings. Note that the Supreme Court did once grant review to determine whether due process required the States to provide some form of post-conviction remedy to assert federal constitutional violations, a review which was mooted when the State enacted such a process. *Case v. Nebraska*, 381 U.S. 336 (1965). When a State, however, through its legal system exerts a monopoly over the pacific settlement of private disputes, as with the dissolution of marriage, due process may well impose affirmative obligations on that State. *Boddie v. Connecticut*, 401 U.S. 371, 374–77 (1971).

¹⁶ While this statement is more generally true in the context of criminal cases, in which the appellate process and post-conviction remedial process have been subject to considerable revision in the treatment of indigents, some requirements have also been imposed in civil cases. *Boddie v. Connecticut*, 401 U.S. 371 (1971); *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56, 74–79 (1972); *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745 (1982). Re-

Commencement of Actions.—A state may impose certain conditions on the right to institute litigation. Access to the courts has been denied to persons instituting stockholders' derivative actions unless reasonable security for the costs and fees incurred by the corporation is first tendered.¹⁷ But, at least in those situations in which the State has monopolized the avenues of settlement of disputes between persons by prescribing judicial resolution, and where the dispute involves such a fundamental interest as marriage and its dissolution, no State may deny to those persons unable to pay its fees access to those judicial avenues.¹⁸ It must be considered, then, that foreclosure of all access to the courts, at least through financial barriers and perhaps through other means as well, is subject to federal constitutional scrutiny and must be justified by reference to a state interest of suitable importance. In older cases, not questioned by the more recent ones, it was held that a State, as the price of opening its tribunals to a nonresident plaintiff, may exact the condition that the nonresident stand ready to answer all cross actions filed and accept any *in personam* judgments obtained by a resident defendant through service of process or appropriate pleading upon the plaintiff's attorney of record.¹⁹ and for similar reasons, a requirement, without excluding other evidence, of a chemical analysis as a condition precedent to a suit to recover for damages resulting to crops from allegedly deficient fertilizers is not deemed to be arbitrary or unreasonable.²⁰

Pleas in Abatement.—State legislation which forbids a defendant to come into court and challenge the validity of service upon him in a personal action without thereby surrendering himself to the jurisdiction of the court, but which does not restrain him from protecting his substantive rights against enforcement of a judgment rendered without service of process is constitutional and does not deprive him of property without due process of law. Such a defendant, if he pleases, may ignore the proceedings as wholly ineffective, and set up the invalidity of the judgment if and when an

view has, however, been restrained with regard to details. *See, e.g., Lindsey v. Normet, supra*, 64–69.

¹⁷Cohen v. Beneficial Loan Corp., 337 U.S. 541 (1949). Nor was the retroactive application of this statutory requirement to actions pending at the time of its adoption violative of due process as long as no new liability for expenses incurred before enactment was imposed thereby and the only effect thereof was to stay such proceedings until the security was furnished.

¹⁸Boddie v. Connecticut, 401 U.S. 371 (1971). *See also* Little v. Streater, 452 U.S. 1 (1981) (state-mandated paternity suit); Lassiter v. Department of Social Services, 452 U.S. 18 (1981) (parental status termination proceeding); Santosky v. Kramer, 455 U.S. 745 (1982) (permanent termination of parental custody).

¹⁹Young Co. v. McNeal-Edwards Co., 283 U.S. 398 (1931); Adam v. Saenger, 303 U.S. 59 (1938).

²⁰Jones v. Union Guano Co., 264 U.S. 171 (1924).

attempt is made to take his property thereunder. However, if he desires to contest the validity of the proceedings in the court in which it is instituted, so as to avoid even a semblance of a judgment against him, it is within the power of a State to declare that he shall do this subject to the risk of being obliged to submit to the jurisdiction of the court to hear and determine the merits, if the objection raised by him as to its jurisdiction over his person shall be overruled.²¹

Defenses.—Just as a State may condition the right to institute litigation, so may it establish terms for the interposition of certain defenses. It may validly provide that one sued in a possessory action cannot bring an action to try title until after judgment is rendered and after he has paid that judgment, if it so provides.²² A State may limit the defense in an action to evict tenants for nonpayment of rent to the issue of payment and leave the tenants to other remedial actions at law on a claim that the landlord had failed to maintain the premises.²³ A State may also provide that the doctrines of contributory negligence, assumption of risk, and fellow servant do not bar recovery in certain employment-related accidents. No person has a vested right in such defenses.²⁴

Similarly, a nonresident defendant in a suit begun by foreign attachment, even though he has no resources or credit other than the property attached, cannot challenge the validity of a statute which requires him to give bail or security for the discharge of the seized property before permitting him an opportunity to appear and defend.²⁵

Amendments and Continuances.—Amendment of pleadings is largely within the discretion of the trial court, and unless a gross abuse of discretion is shown, there is no ground for reversal. Accordingly, where the defense sought to be interposed is without merit, a claim that due process would be denied by rendition of a foreclosure decree without leave to file a supplementary answer is utterly without foundation.²⁶

²¹York v. Texas, 137 U.S. 15 (1890); Kauffman v. Wootters, 138 U.S. 285, 287 (1891).

²²Grant Timber & Mfg. Co. v. Gray, 236 U.S. 133 (1915).

²³Lindsey v. Normet, 405 U.S. 56, 64–69 (1972). See also Bianchi v. Morales, 262 U.S. 170 (1923) (upholding mortgage law providing for summary foreclosure of a mortgage without allowing any defense except payment).

²⁴Bowersock v. Smith, 243 U.S. 29, 34, (1917); Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry. v. Cole, 251 U.S. 54, 55 (1919); Herron v. Southern Pacific Co., 283 U.S. 91 (1931). See also Martinez v. California, 444 U.S. 277, 280–83 (1980) (State interest in fashioning its own tort law permits it to provide immunity defenses for its employees and thus defeat recovery).

²⁵Ownbey v. Morgan, 256 U.S. 94 (1921).

²⁶Sawyer v. Piper, 189 U.S. 154 (1903).

Costs, Damages, and Penalties.—What costs are allowed by law is for the court to determine; an erroneous judgment of what the law allows does not deprive a party of his property without due process of law.²⁷ Nor does a statute providing for the recovery of reasonable attorney's fees in actions on small claims subject unsuccessful defendants to any unconstitutional deprivation.²⁸ Congress may severely restrict attorney's fees in an effort to keep an administrative claims proceeding informal.²⁹ Equally consistent with the requirements of due process is a statutory procedure whereby a prosecutor of a case is adjudged liable for costs, and committed to jail in default of payment thereof, whenever the court or jury, after according him an opportunity to present evidence of good faith, finds that he instituted the prosecution without probable cause and from malicious motives.³⁰ Also, as a reasonable incentive for prompt settlement without suit of just demands of a class receiving special legislative treatment, such as common carriers and insurance companies together with their patrons, a State may permit harassed litigants to recover penalties in the form of attorney's fees or damages.³¹ To deter careless destruction of human life, a State by law may allow punitive damages to be assessed in actions against employers for deaths caused by the negligence of their employees,³² and may also allow punitive damages for fraud perpetrated by employees.³³ Also constitutional is the traditional common law approach for measuring punitive damages, granting the jury wide but not unlimited discretion to consider the gravity of the offense and the need to deter similar offenses.³⁴

By virtue of its plenary power to prescribe the character of the sentence which shall be awarded against those found guilty of crime, a State may provide that a public officer embezzling public

²⁷ *Ballard v. Hunter*, 204 U.S. 241, 259 (1907).

²⁸ *Missouri, Kansas & Texas Ry. v. Cade*, 233 U.S. 642, 650 (1914).

²⁹ *Walters v. National Ass'n of Radiation Survivors*, 473 U.S. 305 (1985) (limitation of attorneys' fees to \$10 in veterans benefit proceedings does not violate claimants' Fifth Amendment due process rights absent a showing of probability of error in the proceedings that presence of attorneys would sharply diminish). *See also* *United States Dep't of Labor v. Triplett*, 494 U.S. 715 (1990) (upholding regulations under the Black Lung Benefits Act prohibiting contractual fee arrangements).

³⁰ *Lowe v. Kansas*, 163 U.S. 81 (1896). Consider, however, the possible bearing of *Giaccio v. Pennsylvania*, 382 U.S. 399 (1966) (statute allowing jury to impose costs on acquitted defendant, but containing no standards to guide discretion, violates due process).

³¹ *Yazoo & Miss. R.R. v. Jackson Vinegar Co.*, 226 U.S. 217 (1912); *Chicago & Northwestern Ry. v. Nye Schneider Fowler Co.*, 260 U.S. 35, 43–44 (1922); *Hartford Life Ins. Co. v. Blincoe*, 255 U.S. 129, 139 (1921); *Life & Casualty Co. v. McCray*, 291 U.S. 566 (1934).

³² *Pizitz Co. v. Yeldell*, 274 U.S. 112, 114 (1927).

³³ *Pacific Mut. Life Ins. Co. v. Haslip*, 499 U.S. 1 (1991).

³⁴ *Id.* (finding sufficient constraints on jury discretion in jury instructions and in post-verdict review).

money shall, notwithstanding that he has made restitution, suffer not only imprisonment but also pay a fine equal to double the amount embezzled, which shall operate as a judgment for the use of persons whose money was embezzled. Whatever this fine is called, whether a penalty, or punishment, or civil judgment, it comes to the convict as the result of his crime.³⁵ On the other hand, when appellant, by its refusal to surrender certain assets, was adjudged in contempt for frustrating enforcement of a judgment obtained against it, dismissal of its appeal from the first judgment was not a penalty imposed for the contempt, but merely a reasonable method for sustaining the effectiveness of the State's judicial process.³⁶

Statutes of Limitation.—A statute of limitations does not deprive one of property without due process of law, unless, in its application to an existing right of action, it unreasonably limits the opportunity to enforce the right by suit. By the same token, a State may shorten an existing period of limitation, provided a reasonable time is allowed for bringing an action after the passage of the statute and before the bar takes effect. What is a reasonable period, however, is dependent on the nature of the right and particular circumstances.³⁷

Thus, an interval of only one year is not so unreasonable as to be wanting in due process when applied to bar actions relative to the property of an absentee in instances when the receiver for such property has not been appointed until 13 years after the former's disappearance.³⁸ When a State, by law, suddenly prohibits, unless brought within six months after its passage, all actions to contest tax deeds which have been of record for two years, no unconstitutional deprivation is effected.³⁹ No less valid is a statute, applicable to wild lands, which provides that when a person has been in possession under a recorded deed continuously for 20 years and had paid taxes thereon during the same, the former owner in that interval paying nothing, no action to recover such land shall be entertained unless commenced within 20 years, or before the expiration of five years following enactment of said provi-

³⁵ Coffey v. Harlan County, 204 U.S. 659, 663, 665 (1907).

³⁶ National Union v. Arnold, 348 U.S. 37 (1954) (the judgment debtor had refused to post a supersedeas bond or to comply with reasonable orders designed to safeguard the value of the judgment pending decision on appeal).

³⁷ Wheeler v. Jackson, 137 U.S. 245, 258 (1890); Kentucky Union Co. v. Kentucky, 219 U.S. 140, 156 (1911). Cf. Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co., 455 U.S. 422, 437 (1982) (discussing discretion of States in erecting reasonable procedural requirements for triggering or foreclosing the right to an adjudication).

³⁸ Blinn v. Nelson, 222 U.S. 1 (1911).

³⁹ Turner v. New York, 168 U.S. 90, 94 (1897).

sion.⁴⁰ Similarly, an amendment to a workmen's compensation act, limiting to three years the time within which a case may be reopened for readjustment of compensation on account of aggravation of a disability, does not deny due process to one who sustained his injury at a time when the statute contained no limitation. A limitation is deemed to affect the remedy only, and the period of its operation in this instance was viewed as neither arbitrary nor oppressive.⁴¹

Moreover, as long as no agreement of the parties is violated, a State may extend as well as shorten the time in which suits may be brought in its courts and may even entirely remove a statutory bar to the commencement of litigation. As applied to actions for personal debts, a repeal or extension of a statute of limitations affects no unconstitutional deprivation of property of a debtor-defendant in whose favor such statute had already become a defense. "A right to defeat a just debt by the statute of limitation . . . [not being] a vested right," such as is protected by the Constitution, accordingly no offense against the Fourteenth Amendment is committed by revival, through an extension or repeal, of an action on an implied obligation to pay a child for the use of her property,⁴² or a suit to recover the purchase price of securities sold in violation of a Blue Sky Law,⁴³ or a right of an employee to seek, on account of the aggravation of a former injury, an additional award out of a state-administered fund.⁴⁴ However, as respects suits to recover real and personal property, when the right of action has been barred by a statute of limitations and title as well as real ownership have become vested in the defendant, any later act removing or repealing the bar would be void as attempting an arbitrary transfer of title.⁴⁵ Also unconstitutional is the application of a statute of limitation to extend a period that parties to a contract have agreed should limit their right to remedies under the contract. "When the parties to a contract have expressly agreed upon a time limit on their obligation, a statute which invalidates . . . [said] agreement and directs enforcement of the contract after . . . [the agreed] time has expired" unconstitutionally imposes a burden in excess of that contracted.⁴⁶

⁴⁰ *Soper v. Lawrence Brothers*, 201 U.S. 359 (1906). Nor is a former owner who had not been in possession for five years after and fifteen years before said enactment thereby deprived of any property without due process.

⁴¹ *Mattson v. Department of Labor*, 293 U.S. 151, 154 (1934).

⁴² *Campbell v. Holt*, 115 U.S. 620, 623, 628 (1885).

⁴³ *Chase Securities Corp. v. Donaldson*, 325 U.S. 304 (1945).

⁴⁴ *Gange Lumber Co. v. Rowley*, 326 U.S. 295 (1945).

⁴⁵ *Campbell v. Holt*, 115 U.S. 620, 623 (1885). *See also* *Stewart v. Keyes*, 295 U.S. 403, 417 (1935).

⁴⁶ *Home Ins. Co. v. Dick*, 281 U.S. 397, 398 (1930).

Evidence and Presumptions.—The establishment of presumptions and rules respecting the burden of proof is clearly within the domain of the legislative branch of government.⁴⁷ Nonetheless, the due process clause does impose limitations upon the power to provide for the deprivation of liberty or property by a standard of proof too lax to make reasonable assurance of accurate factfinding. Thus, “[t]he function of a standard of proof, as that concept is embodied in the Due Process Clause and in the realm of factfinding, is to ‘instruct the factfinder concerning the degree of confidence our society thinks he should have in the correctness of factual conclusions for a particular type of adjudication.’”⁴⁸ Applying the formula it has worked out for determining what process is due in a particular situation,⁴⁹ the Court has held that in a civil proceeding to commit an individual involuntarily to a state mental hospital for an indefinite period, a standard at least as stringent as clear and convincing evidence is required.⁵⁰ Because the interest of parents in retaining custody of their children is fundamental, the State may not terminate parental rights through reliance on a standard of preponderance of the evidence—the proof necessary to award money damages in an ordinary civil action—but must prove by clear and convincing evidence that the parents are unfit.⁵¹ Unfitness of a parent may not simply be presumed because of some purported assumption about general characteristics, but must be established.⁵²

As long as a presumption is not unreasonable and is not conclusive of the rights of the person against whom raised, however, it does not violate the due process clause. Legislative fiat may not take the place of fact, though, in the determination of issues involv-

⁴⁷Hawkins v. Bleakly, 243 U.S. 210, 214 (1917); James-Dickinson Co. v. Harry, 273 U.S. 119, 124 (1927). Congress’ power to provide rules of evidence and standards of proof in the federal courts stems from its power to create such courts. Vance v. Terrazas, 444 U.S. 252, 264–67 (1980); Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co., 428 U.S. 1, 31 (1976). In the absence of congressional guidance, the Court has determined the evidentiary standard in certain statutory actions. Nishikawa v. Dulles, 356 U.S. 129 (1958); Woodby v. INS, 385 U.S. 276 (1966).

⁴⁸Addington v. Texas, 441 U.S. 418, 423 (1979) (quoting *In re Winship*, 397 U.S. 358, 370 (1970) (Justice Harlan concurring)).

⁴⁹Mathews v. Eldridge, 424 U.S. 319 (1976).

⁵⁰Addington v. Texas, 441 U.S. 418 (1979).

⁵¹Santosky v. Kramer, 455 U.S. 745 (1982). Four Justices dissented, arguing that considered as a whole the statutory scheme comported with due process. *Id.* at 770 (Justices Rehnquist, White, O’Connor, and Chief Justice Burger). Application of the traditional preponderance of the evidence standard is permissible in paternity actions. Rivera v. Minnich, 483 U.S. 574 (1987).

⁵²Stanley v. Illinois, 405 U.S. 645 (1972) (presumption that unwed fathers are unfit parents). *But see* Michael H. v. Gerald D., 491 U.S. 110 (1989) (statutory presumption of legitimacy accorded to a child born to a married woman living with her husband defeats the right of the child’s biological father to establish paternity and visitation rights).

ing life, liberty, or property, and a statute creating a presumption which is entirely arbitrary and which operates to deny a fair opportunity to repel it or to present facts pertinent to one's defense is void.⁵³ On the other hand, if there is a rational connection between what is proved and what is inferred, legislation declaring that the proof of one fact or group of facts shall constitute prima facie evidence of a main or ultimate fact will be sustained.⁵⁴

For a brief period, the Court utilized what it called the "irrebuttable presumption doctrine" to curb the legislative tendency to confer a benefit or to impose a detriment, depending for its application upon the establishment of certain characteristics from which the existence of other characteristics are presumed.⁵⁵ Thus, as noted, in *Stanley v. Illinois*,⁵⁶ the Court found invalid a construction of the state statute that presumed illegitimate fathers to be unfit parents and that prevented them from objecting to state wardship. Mandatory maternity leave rules of school boards requiring pregnant teachers to take unpaid maternity leave five and four months respectively prior to the date of the expected births of their babies were voided as creating a conclusive presumption that every pregnant teacher who reaches a particular point of pregnancy becomes physically incapable of teaching.⁵⁷ Major controversy developed over application of the doctrine in benefits cases. Thus, while a State may require that nonresidents must pay higher tuition charges at state colleges than residents, and while the Court assumed that a durational residency requirement would be permissible as a prerequisite to qualify for the lower tuition, it was held impermissible for the State to presume conclusively that because

⁵³ Presumptions were voided in *Bailey v. Alabama*, 219 U.S. 219 (1911) (anyone breaching personal services contract guilty of fraud); *Manley v. Georgia*, 279 U.S. 1 (1929) (every bank insolvency deemed fraudulent); *Western & Atlantic R.R. v. Henderson*, 279 U.S. 639 (1929) (collision between train and auto at grade crossing constitutes negligence by railway company); *Carella v. California*, 491 U.S. 263 (1989) (conclusive presumption of theft and embezzlement upon proof of failure to return a rental vehicle).

⁵⁴ Presumptions sustained include *Hawker v. New York*, 170 U.S. 189 (1898) (person convicted of felony unfit to practice medicine); *Hawes v. Georgia*, 258 U.S. 1 (1922) (person occupying property presumed to have knowledge of still found on property); *Bandini Co. v. Superior Court*, 284 U.S. 8 (1931) (release of natural gas into the air from well presumed wasteful); *Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Ford*, 287 U.S. 502 (1933) (rebuttable presumption of railroad negligence for accident at grade crossing). *See also Morrison v. California*, 291 U.S. 82 (1934).

⁵⁵ The approach was not unprecedented, some older cases having voided tax legislation that presumed conclusively an ultimate fact. *Schlesinger v. Wisconsin*, 270 U.S. 230 (1926) (deeming any gift made by decedent within six years of death to be a part of estate denies estate's right to prove gift was not made in contemplation of death); *Heiner v. Donnan*, 285 U.S. 312 (1932); *Hoepfer v. Tax Comm'n*, 284 U.S. 206 (1931).

⁵⁶ 405 U.S. 645 (1972).

⁵⁷ *Cleveland Bd. of Educ. v. LaFleur*, 414 U.S. 632 (1974).

the legal address of a student was outside the State at the time of application or at some point during the preceding year he was a nonresident as long as he remained a student. The due process clause required that the student be afforded the opportunity to show that he is or has become a bona fide resident entitled to the lower tuition.⁵⁸

Moreover, a food stamp program provision making ineligible any household that contained a member age 18 or over who was claimed as a dependent for federal income tax purposes the prior tax year by a person not himself eligible for stamps was voided on the ground that it created a conclusive presumption that fairly often could be shown to be false if evidence could be presented.⁵⁹ The rule which emerged for subjecting persons to detriment or qualifying them for benefits was that the legislature may not presume the existence of the decisive characteristic upon a given set of facts, unless it can be shown that the defined characteristics do in fact encompass all persons and only those persons that it was the purpose of the legislature to reach. The doctrine in effect afforded the Court the opportunity to choose between resort to the equal protection clause or to the due process clause in judging the validity of certain classifications,⁶⁰ and it precluded Congress and legislatures from making general classifications that avoided the administrative costs of individualization in many areas.

Utilization of the doctrine was curbed, if not halted, in *Weinberger v. Salfi*,⁶¹ in which the Court upheld the validity of a Social Security provision requiring as a qualification of receipt of benefits as a spouse of a covered wage earner that one must have been married to the wage earner for at least nine months prior to his death. Purporting to approve but to distinguish the prior cases in the line,⁶² the Court rather imported traditional equal protection analysis into considerations of due process challenges to statutory classifications.⁶³ “Extensions” of the prior cases to government entitlement classifications, such as the Social Security Act qualification

⁵⁸ *Vlandis v. Kline*, 412 U.S. 441 (1973).

⁵⁹ *Department of Agriculture v. Murry*, 413 U.S. 508 (1973).

⁶⁰ Thus, on the same day *Murry* was decided, a similar food stamp qualification was struck down on equal protection grounds. *Department of Agriculture v. Moreno*, 413 U.S. 528 (1973).

⁶¹ 422 U.S. 749 (1975).

⁶² *Stanley* and *LaFleur* were distinguished as involving fundamental rights of family and childbearing, *id.* at 771, and *Murry* was distinguished as involving an irrational classification. *Id.* at 772. *Vlandis*, said Justice Rehnquist for the Court, meant no more than that when a State fixes residency as the qualification it may not deny to one meeting the test of residency the opportunity so to establish it. *Id.* at 771. *But see id.* at 802–03 (Justice Brennan dissenting).

⁶³ *Id.* at 768–70, 775–77, 785 (utilizing *Dandridge v. Williams*, 397 U.S. 471 (1970), *Richardson v. Belcher*, 404 U.S. 78 (1971), and similar cases).

standard before it, would, said the Court, “turn the doctrine of those cases into a virtual engine of destruction for countless legislative judgments which have heretofore been thought wholly consistent with the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution.”⁶⁴ Whether the Court will now limit the doctrine to the detriment area only, exclusive of benefit programs, whether it will limit it to those areas which involve fundamental rights or suspect classifications, in the equal protection sense of those expressions,⁶⁵ or whether it will simply permit the doctrine to pass from the scene remains unsettled, but it is noteworthy that it now rarely appears on the Court’s docket.⁶⁶

Jury Trials.—Trial by jury in civil trials, unlike the case in criminal trials, has not been deemed essential to due process, and the Fourteenth Amendment has not been held to restrain the States in retaining or abolishing civil juries.⁶⁷ Thus, abolition of juries in proceedings to enforce liens,⁶⁸ mandamus⁶⁹ and quo warranto⁷⁰ actions, and in eminent domain⁷¹ and equity⁷² proceedings has been approved. States are free to adopt innovations respecting selection and number of jurors. Verdicts rendered by ten out of twelve jurors may be substituted for the requirement of unanimity,⁷³ and petit juries containing eight rather than the conventional number of twelve members may be established.⁷⁴

Appeals.—If a full and fair trial on the merits is provided, due process does not require a State to provide appellate review.⁷⁵ But

⁶⁴ *Weinberger v. Salfi*, 422 U.S. 749, 772 (1975).

⁶⁵ *Vlandis*, which was approved but distinguished, is only marginally in this doctrinal area, involving as it does a right to travel feature, but it is like *Salfi* and *Murry* in its benefit context and order of presumption. The Court has avoided deciding whether to overrule, retain, or further limit *Vlandis*. *Elkins v. Moreno*, 435 U.S. 647, 658–62 (1978).

⁶⁶ In *Turner v. Department of Employment Security*, 423 U.S. 44 (1975), decided after *Salfi*, the Court voided under the doctrine a statute making pregnant women ineligible for unemployment compensation for a period extending from 12 weeks before the expected birth until six weeks after childbirth. *But see* *Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co.*, 428 U.S. 1 (1977) (provision granting benefits to miners “irrebuttably presumed” to be disabled is merely a way of giving benefits to all those with the condition triggering the presumption); *Califano v. Boles*, 443 U.S. 282, 284–85 (1979) (Congress must fix general categorization; case-by-case determination would be prohibitively costly).

⁶⁷ *Walker v. Sauvinet*, 92 U.S. 90 (1876); *New York Central R.R. v. White*, 243 U.S. 188, 208 (1917).

⁶⁸ *Marvin v. Trout*, 199 U.S. 212, 226 (1905).

⁶⁹ *In re Delgado*, 140 U.S. 586, 588 (1891).

⁷⁰ *Wilson v. North Carolina*, 169 U.S. 586 (1898); *Foster v. Kansas*, 112 U.S. 201, 206 (1884).

⁷¹ *Long Island Water Supply Co. v. Brooklyn*, 166 U.S. 685, 694 (1897).

⁷² *Montana Co. v. St. Louis M. & M. Co.*, 152 U.S. 160, 171 (1894).

⁷³ *See* *Jordan v. Massachusetts*, 225 U.S. 167, 176 (1912).

⁷⁴ *See* *Maxwell v. Dow*, 176 U.S. 581, 602 (1900).

⁷⁵ *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56, 77 (1972) (citing cases).

if an appeal is afforded, the State must not so structure it as to arbitrarily deny to some persons the right or privilege available to others.⁷⁶

Jurisdiction

Generally.—Jurisdiction may be defined as the power to create legal interests. In the famous case of *Pennoyer v. Neff*,⁷⁷ the Court enunciated two principles of jurisdiction respecting the States in a federal system. First, “every State possesses exclusive jurisdiction and sovereignty over persons and property within its territory,” and, second, “no State can exercise direct jurisdiction and authority over persons or property without its territory.”⁷⁸ Although these two principles were drawn from the writings of Joseph Story refining the theories of continental jurists,⁷⁹ the constitutional basis for them was deemed to be in the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.⁸⁰ From these beginnings, the Court developed a complex set of rules defining when jurisdiction—physical power—could be exerted over persons through *in personam* actions and over things, generally, through actions *in rem*.⁸¹

In proceedings *in personam* to determine liability of a defendant, no property having been subjected by such litigation to the control of the court, jurisdiction over the defendant’s person is a condition prerequisite to the rendering of any effective decree.⁸² That condition is fulfilled, that is, a State is deemed capable of exerting jurisdiction over an individual if he is physically present within the territory of the State, if he is domiciled in the State although temporarily absent therefrom, or if he has consented to the

⁷⁶Id. at 74–79 (conditioning appeal in eviction action upon tenant posting bond, with two sureties, in twice the amount of rent expected to accrue pending appeal, is invalid when no similar provision is applied to other cases). Cf. *Bankers Life & Casualty Co. v. Crenshaw*, 486 U.S. 71 (1988) (assessment of 15% penalty on party who unsuccessfully appeals from money judgment meets rational basis test under equal protection challenge, since it applies to plaintiffs and defendants alike and does not single out one class of appellants).

⁷⁷95 U.S. 714 (1878).

⁷⁸Id. at 722.

⁷⁹Hazard, *A General Theory of State-Court Jurisdiction*, 1965 SUP. CT. REV. 241, 252–62.

⁸⁰*Pennoyer v. Neff*, 95 U.S. 714, 733–35 (1878). The due process clause and the remainder of the Fourteenth Amendment had not been ratified at the time of the entry of the state-court judgment giving rise to the case. This inconvenient fact does not detract from the subsequent settled utilization of this constitutional foundation. *Pennoyer* denied full faith and credit to the judgment because the state lacked jurisdiction.

⁸¹*Pennoyer v. Neff*, 95 U.S. 714, 733 (1878); *Scott v. McNeal*, 154 U.S. 34, 64 (1894).

⁸²*National Exchange Bank v. Wiley*, 195 U.S. 257, 270 (1904); *Iron Cliffs Co. v. Negaunee Iron Co.*, 197 U.S. 463, 471 (1905).

exercise of jurisdiction over him. In actions *in rem*, however, a State could validly proceed to settle controversies with regard to rights or claims against property within its borders, notwithstanding that control of the defendant was never obtained. Accordingly, by reason of its inherent authority over titles to land within its territorial confines, a State could proceed through its courts to judgment respecting the ownership of such property, even though it lacked a constitutional competence to reach claimants of title who resided beyond its borders.⁸³ By the same token, probate⁸⁴ and garnishment of foreign attachment⁸⁵ proceedings, being in the nature of *in rem* actions for the disposition of property, or *quasi in rem*, might be prosecuted to conclusion without requiring the presence of all parties in interest.⁸⁶

Over a long period of time, the mobility of American society and the increasing complexity of commerce led to attenuation of the second principle of *Pennoyer*,⁸⁷ and beginning with *International Shoe Co. v. Washington*,⁸⁸ the Court established the modern standard of obtaining *in personam* jurisdiction based upon the nature and the quality of contacts that individuals and corporations have with a State; this “minimum contacts” test permits the courts of a State through process to obtain power over out-of-state defendants. In recent cases, the “minimum contacts” test has been held applicable to all assertions of jurisdiction, so that *in rem* and *quasi-in-rem* proceedings must now be evaluated in the context of the defendant’s relationship to the State in which the suit is being brought.⁸⁹

⁸³ *Arndt v. Griggs*, 134 U.S. 316, 321 (1890); *Grannis v. Ordean*, 234 U.S. 385 (1914); *Pennington v. Fourth Nat’l Bank*, 243 U.S. 269, 271 (1917).

⁸⁴ *Goodrich v. Ferris*, 214 U.S. 71, 80 (1909).

⁸⁵ *Pennington v. Fourth Nat’l Bank*, 243 U.S. 269, 271 (1917); *Harris v. Balk*, 198 U.S. 215 (1905).

⁸⁶ The jurisdictional requirements for rendering a valid divorce decree are considered under the full faith and credit clause. *Supra*, pp. 840–50.

⁸⁷ The first principle, that a State may assert jurisdiction over anyone or anything physically within its borders, no matter how briefly there—the so-called “transient” rule of jurisdiction—*McDonald v. Mabee*, 243 U.S. 90, 91 (1917), remains valid, although in *Shaffer v. Heitner*, 433 U.S. 186, 204 (1977), the Court’s dicta appeared to assume it is not.

⁸⁸ 326 U.S. 310 (1945). As the Court explained in *McGee v. International Life Ins. Co.*, 355 U.S. 220, 223 (1957), “[w]ith this increasing nationalization of commerce has come a great increase in the amount of business conducted by mail across state lines. At the same time modern transportation and communication have made it much less burdensome for a party sued to defend himself in a State where he engages in economic activity.” See *World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*, 444 U.S. 286, 293 (1980).

⁸⁹ *Shaffer v. Heitner*, 433 U.S. 186 (1977); *World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*, 444 U.S. 286 (1980); *Rush v. Savchuk*, 444 U.S. 320 (1980); *Kulko v. Superior Court*, 436 U.S. 84 (1978).

Basis for the territorial concept of jurisdiction promulgated in *Pennoyer* and modified over the years is a two-fold construction of due process: a concern for “fair play and substantial justice” involved in requiring defendants to litigate cases against them far from their “home” or place of business⁹⁰ and, more important, a concern for the preservation of federalism.⁹¹ The Framers, the Court has asserted, while intending to tie the States together into a Nation, “also intended that the States retain many essential attributes of sovereignty, including, in particular, the sovereign power to try causes in their courts. The sovereignty of each State, in turn, implied a limitation on the sovereignty of all its sister States—a limitation express or implicit in both the original scheme of the Constitution and the Fourteenth Amendment.”⁹² Thus, the federalism principle is preeminent. “[T]he Due Process Clause ‘does not contemplate that a state may make binding a judgment *in personam* against an individual or corporate defendant with which the state has no contacts, ties, or relations.’ . . . Even if the defendant would suffer minimal or no inconvenience from being forced to litigate before the tribunals of another State; even if the forum State has a strong interest in applying its law to the controversy; even if the forum State is the most convenient location for litigation, the Due Process Clause, acting as an instrument of interstate federalism, may sometimes act to divest the State of its power to render a valid judgment.”⁹³

In Personam Proceedings Against Individuals.—As has been noted, presence within the State with service of process is sufficient to create personal jurisdiction over an individual.⁹⁴ In the case of a resident, absence alone will not defeat the processes of courts in the State of his domicile; domicile alone is deemed to be sufficient to keep him within reach of the state courts for purposes of a personal judgment, whether obtained by means of appropriate, substituted service or by actual personal service on the resident

⁹⁰*International Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 316, 317 (1945); *Travelers Health Ass'n v. Virginia ex rel. State Corp. Comm.*, 339 U.S. 643, 649 (1950); *Shaffer v. Heitner*, 433 U.S. 186, 204 (1977).

⁹¹*International Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 319 (1945); *Hanson v. Denckla*, 357 U.S. 235, 251 (1958).

⁹²*World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*, 444 U.S. 286, 293 (1980).

⁹³*Id.* at 294 (internal quotation from *International Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 319 (1945)).

⁹⁴*McDonald v. Mabee*, 243 U.S. 90, 91 (1917). *Cf.* *Michigan Trust Co. v. Ferry*, 228 U.S. 346 (1913). The rule has been strongly criticized but persists. Ehrenzweig, *The Transient Rule of Personal Jurisdiction: The “Power” Myth and Forum Conveniens*, 65 *YALE L. J.* 289 (1956). But in *Burnham v. Superior Court*, 495 U.S. 604 (1990), the Court held that service of process on a nonresident physically present within the state satisfies due process regardless of the duration or purpose of the nonresident’s visit.

outside the State.⁹⁵ However, if the defendant, although technically domiciled therein, has left the State with no intention to return, service by publication, as compared to a summons left at his last and usual place of abode where his family continued to reside, is inadequate, inasmuch as it is not reasonably calculated to give actual notice of the proceedings and opportunity to be heard.⁹⁶

With respect to a nonresident, it is clearly established that no person can be deprived of property rights by a decree in a case in which he neither appeared nor was served or effectively made a party.⁹⁷ The early cases held that the process of a court of one State could not run into another and summon a party there domiciled to respond to proceedings against him, when neither his person nor his property was within the jurisdiction of the court rendering the judgment.⁹⁸ The attenuation of the rule proceeded in steps. Consent was, of course, sufficient to create jurisdiction, even in the absence of any other connection between the litigation and the forum, and for example, the appearance of the defendant for any purpose other than to challenge the jurisdiction of the court was deemed a voluntary submission to the court's power,⁹⁹ and even a special appearance may be treated as consensual submission to the court.¹⁰⁰ Constructive consent, therefore, was seized upon as a basis for obtaining jurisdiction, and, with the advent of the automobile, States were permitted, under the fiction of conditioning the use of their highways on receipt of consent to be sued in state courts for accidents or other transactions arising out of such use, to designate a state official as a proper person to receive service of process in such litigation, provided only that the official receiving notice is obligated to communicate it to the person sued.¹⁰¹ Although the Court verbalized the result in consent terms, the basis was really the State's power to regulate local acts dangerous to life or property.¹⁰² This extension was necessary in order

⁹⁵ *Milliken v. Meyer*, 311 U.S. 457 (1940).

⁹⁶ *McDonald v. Mabee*, 243 U.S. 90 (1917).

⁹⁷ *Rees v. Watertown*, 86 U.S. (19 Wall.) 107 (1874); *Coe v. Armour Fertilizer Works*, 237 U.S. 413, 423 (1915); *Griffin v. Griffin*, 327 U.S. 220 (1946).

⁹⁸ *Sugg v. Thornton*, 132 U.S. 524 (1889); *Riverside Mills v. Menefee*, 237 U.S. 189, 193 (1915); *Hess v. Pawloski*, 274 U.S. 352, 355 (1927). *See also* *Harkness v. Hyde*, 98 U.S. 476 (1879); *Wilson v. Seligman*, 144 U.S. 41 (1892).

⁹⁹ *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Schmidt*, 177 U.S. 230 (1900); *Western Loan & Savings Co. v. Butte & Boston Min. Co.*, 210 U.S. 368 (1908); *Houston v. Ormes*, 252 U.S. 469 (1920). *See also* *Adam v. Saenger*, 303 U.S. 59 (1938) (plaintiff suing defendants deemed to have consented to jurisdiction with respect to counterclaims asserted against him).

¹⁰⁰ *York v. Texas*, 137 U.S. 15 (1890); *Kauffman v. Wootters*, 138 U.S. 285 (1891); *Western Indemnity Co. v. Rupp*, 235 U.S. 261 (1914).

¹⁰¹ *Hess v. Pawloski*, 274 U.S. 352 (1927); *Wuchter v. Pizzutti*, 276 U.S. 13 (1928); *Olberding v. Illinois Central R. Co.*, 346 U.S. 338, 341 (1953).

¹⁰² *Hess v. Pawloski*, 274 U.S. 352, 356-57 (1927).

to permit States to assume jurisdiction over individuals “doing business” within the State, inasmuch as the State could not withhold from nonresident individuals the right of doing business subject to consent to be sued.¹⁰³ Thus, the Court soon recognized that “doing business” within a State was itself a sufficient basis for jurisdiction over a nonresident individual, at least where the business done was exceptional enough to create a strong state interest in regulation, and service could be effectuated within the State on an agent appointed to carry out the business.¹⁰⁴

Culmination of the trend was, of course, the promulgation in *International Shoe Co. v. Washington*,¹⁰⁵ a corporations case, of the “minimum contacts” test of jurisdiction. In the context of *in personam* jurisdiction over individuals, the test is illustrated by *Kulko v. Superior Court*,¹⁰⁶ in which the Court held that California could not obtain personal jurisdiction over a New York resident whose sole relevant contact with the State was to send his daughter to live with her mother in California.¹⁰⁷ “Like any standard that requires a determination of ‘reasonableness,’ the ‘minimum contacts’ test . . . is not susceptible of mechanical application; rather, the facts of each case must be weighed to determine whether the requisite ‘affiliating circumstances’ are present.”¹⁰⁸ Without deciding that the standard was relevant, the Court noted that the “effects” test of contacts, that Kulko had “caused an effect” in the State by availing himself of the benefits and protections of California’s laws and by deriving an economic benefit in the lessened expense of maintaining the daughter in New York, was not applicable; it was deemed by the Court to involve wrongful activity outside a State which causes injury within the State or commercial activity affecting state residents, factors not present in this case. Any economic benefit to Kulko was derived in New York and not in California.¹⁰⁹ As with many such cases, the decision was narrowly limited to its facts and does little to clarify the standards applicable to state jurisdiction over nonresidents.

¹⁰³ Id. at 355. See *Flexner v. Farson*, 248 U.S. 289, 293 (1919).

¹⁰⁴ *Henry L. Doherty & Co. v. Goodman*, 294 U.S. 623 (1935).

¹⁰⁵ 326 U.S. 310, 316 (1945).

¹⁰⁶ 436 U.S. 84 (1978).

¹⁰⁷ Kulko had visited the State twice, seven and six years respectively before initiation of the present action, his marriage occurring in California on the second visit, but neither the visits nor the marriage was sufficient or relevant to jurisdiction. Id. at 92–93.

¹⁰⁸ Id. at 92.

¹⁰⁹ Id. at 96–98.

Suability of Foreign Corporations.—Because of the curious status of corporations in American law,¹¹⁰ the basis of the assertion of jurisdiction of the courts of a State over a foreign corporation has been even more uncertain than that with respect to individuals, although the terms have been common. First, it was asserted that inasmuch as a corporation could not carry on business in a State without the State's permission, the State could condition its permission upon the corporation's consent to submit to the jurisdiction of the State's courts, either by appointment of someone to receive process or in the absence of such designation.¹¹¹ Second, the corporation by doing business in a State was deemed to be present there and thus subject to service of process and suit because it was present.¹¹² Presence conflicted with the prevailing idea of corporations as having no existence outside their State of incorporation, but the theory was nonetheless accepted that a corporation "doing business" in a State to a sufficient degree was "present" for service of process upon its agents in the State who carried out that business.¹¹³ Generally, with rare exceptions, even continuous activity of some sort by a foreign corporation within a State did not suffice to render it amenable to suits therein unrelated to that activity. Without the protection of such a rule, it was maintained, foreign corporations would be exposed to the manifest hardship and inconvenience of defending, in any State in which they happened to be carrying on business, suits for torts wherever committed and claims on contracts wherever made.¹¹⁴ And if the corporation stopped doing business in the forum State before suit against it was commenced, it might well escape jurisdiction alto-

¹¹⁰ *Cf.* *Bank of Augusta v. Earle*, 38 U.S. (13 Pet.) 519, 588 (1839) (corporation has no legal existence outside the boundaries of the State chartering it).

¹¹¹ *Lafayette Ins. Co. v. French*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 404 (1855); *St. Clair v. Cox*, 196 U.S. 350 (1882); *Commercial Mutual Accident Co. v. Davis*, 213 U.S. 245 (1909); *Simon v. Southern Ry.*, 236 U.S. 115 (1915); *Pennsylvania Fire Ins. Co. v. Gold Issue Mining & Milling Co.*, 243 U.S. 93 (1917).

¹¹² Presence was first independently used to sustain jurisdiction in *International Harvester Co. v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 579 (1914), although the possibility was suggested as early as *St. Clair v. Cox*, 106 U.S. 350 (1882). *See also Philadelphia & Reading Ry. v. McKibbin*, 243 U.S. 264, 265 (1917) (Justice Brandeis for Court).

¹¹³ *E.g.*, *Pennsylvania Fire Ins. Co. v. Gold Issue Mining & Milling Co.*, 243 U.S. 93 (1917); *St. Louis S. W. Ry. v. Alexander*, 227 U.S. 218 (1913).

¹¹⁴ *E.g.*, *Old Wayne Life Ass'n v. McDonough*, 204 U.S. 8 (1907); *Simon v. Southern Railway*, 236 U.S. 115, 129–130 (1915); *Green v. Chicago, B. & Q. Ry.*, 205 U.S. 530 (1907); *Rosenberg Co. v. Curtis Brown Co.*, 260 U.S. 516 (1923); *Davis v. Farmers Co-operative Co.*, 262 U.S. 312 (1923); *Helicopteros Nacionales de Colombia v. Hall*, 466 U.S. 408 (1984). Continuous operations were sometimes sufficiently substantial and of a nature to warrant assertions of jurisdiction. *St. Louis S. W. Ry. v. Alexander*, 227 U.S. 218 (1913).

gether.¹¹⁵ The issue of the degree of activity required, in particular the degree of solicitation necessary to constitute doing business by a foreign corporation, was much disputed and led to very particularistic holdings.¹¹⁶ In the absence of enough activity to constitute doing business, the mere presence within its territorial limits of an agent, officer, or stockholder, upon whom service might readily be had, was not effective to enable a State to acquire jurisdiction over the foreign corporation.¹¹⁷

The rationales and premises of these cases were swept away in *International Shoe Co. v. Washington*,¹¹⁸ although, of course, the results in many of them would stand on the basis of the “minimum contacts” analysis there adopted. *International Shoe*, a foreign corporation, had not been issued a license to do business in the State, but it systematically and continuously employed a force of salesmen, residents thereof, to canvass for orders therein, and was held suable in Washington for unpaid unemployment compensation contributions in respect to such salesmen. Service of the notice of assessment personally upon one of its local sales solicitors plus the forwarding of a copy thereof by registered mail to the corporation’s principal office in Missouri was deemed sufficient to apprise the corporation of the proceeding.

To reach this conclusion the Court not only overturned prior holdings to the effect that mere solicitation of patronage does not constitute doing of business in a state sufficient to subject a foreign corporation to the jurisdiction thereof,¹¹⁹ but also rejected the “presence” test as begging “the question to be decided. . . . The terms ‘present’ or ‘presence,’” according to Chief Justice Stone, “are used merely to symbolize those activities of the corporation’s agent within the State which courts will deem to be sufficient to satisfy the demands of due process. . . . Those demands may be met by

¹¹⁵*Robert Mitchell Furn. Co. v. Selden Breck Constr. Co.*, 257 U.S. 213 (1921); *Chipman, Ltd. v. Thomas B. Jeffery Co.*, 251 U.S. 373, 379 (1920). On a consent theory, jurisdiction would continue. *Washington ex rel Bond & Goodwin & Tucker v. Superior Court*, 289 U.S. 361, 364 (1933).

¹¹⁶Solicitation of business alone was inadequate to constitute “doing business.” *Green v. Chicago, B. & Q. Ry.*, 205 U.S. 530 (1907), but when connected with other activities would suffice to confer jurisdiction. *International Harvester Co. v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 579 (1914). See the survey of cases by Judge Hand in *Hutchinson v. Chase and Gilbert*, 45 F.2d 139, 141–42 (2d Cir. 1930).

¹¹⁷*E.g.* *Goldey v. Morning News*, 156 U.S. 518 (1895); *Conley v. Mathieson Alkali Works*, 190 U.S. 406 (1903); *Riverside Mills v. Menefee*, 237 U.S. 189, 195 (1915). *But see* *Connecticut Mutual Life Ins. Co. v. Spratley*, 172 U.S. 602 (1899).
¹¹⁸326 U.S. 310 (1945).

¹¹⁹This departure was recognized by Justice Rutledge subsequently in *Nippert v. City of Richmond*, 327 U.S. 416, 422 (1946). Inasmuch as *International Shoe*, in addition to having its agents solicit orders, also permitted them to rent quarters for the display of merchandise, the Court could have utilized *International Harvester Co. v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 579 (1914), to find it was “present” in the State.

such contacts of the corporation with the State of the forum as make it reasonable, in the context of our federal system . . . , to require the corporation to defend the particular suit which is brought there; [and] . . . that the maintenance of the suit does not offend 'traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice'. . . . An 'estimate of the inconveniences' which would result to the corporation from a trial away from its 'home' or principal place of business is relevant in this connection."¹²⁰ As to the scope of application to be accorded this "fair play and substantial justice" doctrine, the Court, at least verbally, concluded that "so far as . . . [corporate] obligations arise out of or are connected with activities within the State, a procedure which requires the corporation to respond to a suit brought to enforce them can, in most instances, hardly be said to be undue."¹²¹ Read literally, these statements coupled with the terms of the new doctrine lead to a reversal of former decisions which: (1) nullified the exercise of jurisdiction by the forum State over actions arising outside the State and brought by a resident plaintiff against a foreign corporation doing business therein without having been legally admitted and without having consented to service of process of a resident agent; and (2) exempted a foreign corporation, which has been licensed by the forum State to do business therein and has consented to the appointment of a local agent to accept process, from suit on an action not arising in the forum State and not related to activities pursued therein.

By an extended application of the logic of the position, a majority of the Court ruled that, notwithstanding that it solicited business in Virginia solely through recommendations of existing members and was represented therein by no agents whatsoever, a foreign mail order insurance company had through its policies developed such contacts and ties with Virginia residents that the State, by forwarding notice to the company by registered mail only, could institute enforcement proceedings under its Blue Sky Law leading to a decree ordering cessation of business pending compliance with that act.¹²² The due process clause was declared not to "forbid a State to protect its citizens from such injustice" of having to file suits on their claims at a far distant home office of such company,

¹²⁰ *International Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 316–17 (1945).

¹²¹ *Id.* at 319.

¹²² *Travelers Health Ass'n v. Virginia ex rel. State Corp. Comm'n*, 339 U.S. 643 (1950). The decision was 5-to-4 with one of the majority Justices also contributing a concurring opinion. *Id.* at 651 (Justice Douglas). The possible significance of the concurrence is that it appears to disagree with the implication of the majority opinion, *id.* at 647–48, that a State's legislative jurisdiction and its judicial jurisdiction are coextensive. *Id.* at 652–53 (distinguishing between the use of the State's judicial power to enforce its legislative powers and the judicial jurisdiction when a private party is suing). *See id.* at 659 (dissent).

especially in view of the fact that such suits could be more conveniently tried in Virginia where claims of loss could be investigated.¹²³ Likewise, under a California statute, subjecting foreign mail order insurance companies to suit in California on insurance contracts with residents thereof, petitioner was enabled to obtain a valid judgment in a California court against a Texas insurer served only by registered mail.¹²⁴ The contract between the company and the insured specified that Austin, Texas, was the place of “making” and the place where liability should be deemed to arise. The company mailed premium notices to the insured in California, and he mailed his premium payments to the company in Texas. Acknowledging that the connection of the company with California was tenuous—it had no office or agents in the State, no evidence had been presented that it had solicited anyone other than this insured for business—the Court sustained jurisdiction on the basis that the suit was on a contract which had a substantial connection with California. “The contract was delivered in California, the premiums were mailed there and the insured was a resident of that State when he died. It cannot be denied that California has a manifest interest in providing effective means of redress for its residents when their insurers refuse to pay claims.”¹²⁵

“Looking back over the long history of litigation a trend is clearly discernible toward expanding the permissible scope of state

¹²³Id. at 647–49. The holding in *Minnesota Commercial Men’s Ass’n v. Benn*, 261 U.S. 140 (1923), that a similar mail order insurance company could not be viewed as doing business in the forum State and that the circumstances under which its contracts with forum State citizens, executed and to be performed in its State of incorporation, were consummated could not support an implication that the foreign company had consented to be sued in the forum State, was distinguished rather than formally overruled. 339 U.S. at 647. In any event, *Benn*, although unmentioned in the opinion, could not survive *McGee v. International Life Ins. Co.*, 355 U.S. 220 (1957).

¹²⁴*McGee v. International Life Ins. Co.*, 355 U.S. 220 (1957).

¹²⁵Id. at 223. The Court also noticed the proposition that the insured could not bear the cost of litigation away from home as well as the insurer. See also *Perkins v. Benguet Consolidating Mining Co.*, 342 U.S. 437 (1952), a case too atypical on its facts to permit much generalization but which does appear to verify the implication of *International Shoe* that *in personam* jurisdiction may attach to a corporation even where the cause of action does not arise out of the business done by defendant in the forum State, as well as to state, in dictum, that the mere presence of a corporate official within the State on business of the corporation would suffice to create jurisdiction if the claim arose out of that business and service were made on him within the State. Id. at 444–45. The Court held that the State could, but was not required to, assert jurisdiction over a corporation owning gold and silver mines in the Philippines but temporarily (because of the Japanese occupation) carrying on a part of its general business in the forum State, including directors’ meetings, business correspondence, banking, and the like, although it owned no mining properties in the State.

jurisdiction over foreign corporations and other nonresidents.”¹²⁶ However, during the same Term, the Court found *in personam* jurisdiction lacking for the first time since *International Shoe*, and after a long period of declining to review the exercise of state court jurisdiction the Court pronounced firm due process limitations. Thus, in *Hanson v. Denckla*,¹²⁷ the issue was whether Florida courts obtained through use of ordinary mail and publication jurisdiction over corporate trustees of property the subject of a contest over a will; the will had been entered into and probated in Florida, the trustees were resident in Delaware and were indispensable parties with claimants who were resident in Florida and who had been personally served. Noting the trend in enlarging the ability of the States to obtain *in personam* jurisdiction over absent defendants, the Court denied that the States could exercise nationwide *in personam* jurisdiction and said that “it would be a mistake to assume that this trend heralds the eventual demise of all restrictions on the personal jurisdiction of state courts.”¹²⁸ The Court recognized that Florida law was the most appropriate law to be applied in determining the validity of the will and that the corporate defendants might be little inconvenienced by having to appear in Florida courts, but it denied that either circumstance satisfied the due process clause. The due process restrictions did more than guarantee immunity from inconvenient or distant litigation. “They are consequences of territorial limitations on the power of the respective States. However minimal the burden of defending in a foreign tribunal, a defendant may not be called upon to do so unless he has the ‘minimum contacts’ with that State that are a prerequisite to its exercise of power over him.” The only contacts the corporate defendants had in Florida consisted of a relationship with the individual defendants. “The unilateral activity of those who claim some relationship with a nonresident defendant cannot satisfy the requirement of contact with the forum State. The application of that rule will vary with the quality and nature of the defendant’s activity, but it is essential in each case that there be some act by which the defendant purposefully avails himself of the

¹²⁶ *McGee v. International Life Ins. Co.*, 355 U.S. 220, 222 (1957). An exception exists with respect to *in personam* jurisdiction in domestic relations cases, at least in some instances. E.g., *Vanderbilt v. Vanderbilt*, 354 U.S. 416 (1957) (holding that sufficient contacts afforded Nevada *in personam* jurisdiction over a New York resident wife for purposes of dissolving the marriage but Nevada did not have jurisdiction to terminate the wife’s claims for support).

¹²⁷ 357 U.S. 235 (1958). The decision was 5-to-4. *See id.* at 256 (Justice Black dissenting), 262 (Justice Douglas dissenting).

¹²⁸ *Id.* at 251. In dissent, Justice Black observed that “of course we have not reached the point where state boundaries are without significance and I do not mean to suggest such a view here.” *Id.* at 260.

privilege of conducting activities within the forum State, thus invoking the benefits and protections of its laws. . . . The settlor's execution in Florida of her power of appointment cannot remedy the absence of such an act in this case.”¹²⁹

In *World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*,¹³⁰ the Court applied its “minimum contacts” test to preclude the assertion of jurisdiction over two foreign corporations that did no business in the forum State. Plaintiffs sustained personal injuries in Oklahoma in an accident involving an alleged defect in their automobile, which they had purchased the previous year in New York, while they were New York residents, and which they were driving through Oklahoma on their way to a new residence in Arizona. Defendants were the automobile retailer and its wholesaler, New York corporations that did no business in Oklahoma. The Court found no circumstances justifying assertion by Oklahoma courts of jurisdiction over defendants. They (1) carried on no activity in Oklahoma, (2) closed no sales and performed no services there, (3) availed themselves of none of the benefits of the State's laws, (4) solicited no business there either through salespersons or through advertising reasonably calculated to reach the State, and (5) sold no cars to Oklahoma residents or indirectly served or sought to serve the Oklahoma market. The unilateral action of the purchasers in driving the car to Oklahoma was insufficient to create the kinds of requisite contacts. While it might have been foreseeable that the automobile would travel to Oklahoma, foreseeability is relevant only insofar as “the defendant's conduct and connection with the forum State are such that he should reasonably anticipate being haled into court there.”¹³¹ Further, “whatever marginal revenues petitioners may receive by virtue of the fact that their products are capable of use in Oklahoma is far too attenuated a contact to justify that State's exercise of *in personam* jurisdiction over them.”¹³² Thus, a defendant must, as the Court said in *Denckla*, “purposefully [avail] itself of the privilege of conducting activities within the

¹²⁹ *Id.* at 251, 253–54. Justice Black argued that the relationship of the non-resident defendants, of the subject of the litigation to the forum State, upon an analogy of choice of law and *forum non conveniens*, made Florida the natural and constitutional basis for asserting jurisdiction. *Id.* at 258–59. The Court has numerous times asserted that contacts sufficient for the purpose of designating a particular State's law as appropriate may be insufficient for the purpose of asserting jurisdiction. See *Shaffer v. Heitner*, 433 U.S. 186, 215 (1977); *Kulko v. Superior Court*, 436 U.S. 84, 98 (1978); *World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*, 444 U.S. 286, 294–95 (1980). On the due process limits on choice of law decisions, see *Allstate Insurance Co. v. Hague*, 449 U.S. 302 (1981).

¹³⁰ 444 U.S. 286 (1980).

¹³¹ *Id.* at 297.

¹³² *Id.* at 299.

forum State,”¹³³ if not by carrying on business there within the constitutional sense, at least by delivering “its products into the stream of commerce with the expectation that they will be purchased by consumers in the forum State.”¹³⁴

The Court has applied *International Shoe* principles in several more situations. Circulation of a magazine in the forum state is an adequate basis for jurisdiction over the corporate magazine publisher in a libel action; the fact that the plaintiff has no contact with the forum state is not dispositive since the inquiry focuses on the relations among the defendant, the forum, and the litigation.¹³⁵ On the other hand, damage done to the plaintiff's reputation in his home state caused by circulation of a defamatory magazine article there may justify assertion of jurisdiction that would otherwise be absent.¹³⁶ While there is no *per se* rule that a contract with an out-of-state party automatically establishes jurisdiction to enforce the contract in the other party's forum, a franchisee who has entered into a franchise contract with an out-of-state corporation may be subject to suit in the corporation's home state where the overall circumstances (contract terms themselves, course of dealings) demonstrate a deliberate reaching out to establish contacts with the franchisor in the franchisor's home state.¹³⁷

Actions in Rem: Proceedings Against Land.—The basis of *in rem* jurisdiction is the power of a State to determine title to all property, whether tangible or intangible, located within its bor-

¹³³Hanson v. Denckla, 357 U.S. 235, 253 (1985), *quoted in* World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson, 444 U.S. 286, 297 (1980).

¹³⁴*Id.* at 298. Of the three dissenters, Justice Brennan argued that the “minimum contacts” test was obsolete and that jurisdiction should be predicated upon the balancing of the interests of the forum State and plaintiffs against the actual burden imposed on defendant, *id.* at 299, while Justices Marshall and Blackmun applied the test and found jurisdiction because of the foreseeability of defendants that a defective product of theirs might cause injury in a distant State and because the defendants had entered into an interstate economic network. *Id.* at 313. The balancing of interests test was applied in *Asahi Metal Industry Co. v. Superior Court*, 480 U.S. 102 (1987), holding unreasonable exercise of jurisdiction by a California court over an indemnity action by a Taiwan tire manufacturer against a Japanese manufacturer of tire valves, the underlying damage action by a California motorist having been settled.

¹³⁵*Keeton v. Hustler Magazine*, 465 U.S. 770 (1984) (holding as well that the forum state may apply “single publication rule” making defendant liable for nationwide damages).

¹³⁶*Calder v. Jones*, 465 U.S. 783 (1984) (jurisdiction over reporter and editor responsible for defamatory article which they knew would be circulated in subject's home state).

¹³⁷*Burger King Corp. v. Rudzewicz*, 471 U.S. 462 (1985). *But cf.* *Helicopteros Nacionales de Colombia v. Hall*, 466 U.S. 408 (1984) (purchases and training within state, both unrelated to cause of action, are insufficient to justify general *in personam* jurisdiction).

ders.¹³⁸ Unlike jurisdiction *in personam*, a judgment entered by a court with *in rem* jurisdiction does not bind the defendant personally but determines the title to or status of only the property in question.¹³⁹ Proceedings brought to register title to land,¹⁴⁰ to condemn¹⁴¹ or confiscate¹⁴² real or personal property, or to administer a decedent's estate¹⁴³ are typical *in rem* actions. Due process is satisfied by seizure of the *res* and notice to all who have or may have interests therein.¹⁴⁴ It was formally the case that in *in rem* actions a court could acquire jurisdiction over nonresidents by mere constructive service of process,¹⁴⁵ under the theory that property was always in possession of its owners and that seizure would afford them notice, inasmuch as they would keep themselves apprised of the state of their property. That this was a fiction not satisfying the requirements of due process has been established and, whatever the nature of the proceeding, notice must be given in a manner that actually notifies the person being sought or that has a reasonable certainty of resulting in such notice.¹⁴⁶

Although the Court's holding in *Shaffer v. Heitner*¹⁴⁷ "that all assertions of state-court jurisdiction must be evaluated according to the ['minimum contacts'] standards set forth in *International Shoe*"¹⁴⁸ requires an assessment of all decided cases based upon now disavowed tests, it does not appear that the results will appreciably change for *in rem* jurisdiction over property. "[T]he presence of property in a State may bear on the existence of jurisdiction by providing contacts among the forum State, the defendant, and the litigation. For example, when claims to the property itself are the source of the underlying controversy between the plaintiff and the defendant, it would be unusual for the State where the property is located not to have jurisdiction. In such cases, the defendant's claim to property located in the State would normally indicate that

¹³⁸ *Arndt v. Griggs*, 134 U.S. 316, 320–21, 323 (1890); *Pennoyer v. Neff*, 95 U.S. 714 (1878).

¹³⁹ *Boswell's Lessee v. Otis*, 50 U.S. (9 How.) 336, 348 (1850).

¹⁴⁰ *American Land Co. v. Zeiss*, 219 U.S. 47 (1911); *Tyler v. Judges of the Court of Registration*, 175 Mass. 71, 76, 55 N.E. 812, 814 (Chief Justice Holmes), appeal dismissed, 179 U.S. 405 (1900).

¹⁴¹ *Huling v. Kaw Valley Ry. & Improvement Co.*, 130 U.S. 559 (1889).

¹⁴² *The Confiscation Cases*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 92 (1874).

¹⁴³ *Clarke v. Clarke*, 178 U.S. 186 (1900); *Riley v. New York Trust Co.*, 315 U.S. 343 (1942).

¹⁴⁴ *Pennoyer v. Neff*, 95 U.S. 714 (1878).

¹⁴⁵ *Arndt v. Griggs*, 134 U.S. 316 (1890); *Ballard v. Hunter*, 204 U.S. 241 (1907); *Security Savings Bank v. California*, 263 U.S. 282 (1923).

¹⁴⁶ *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306 (1950); *Walker v. City of Hutchinson*, 352 U.S. 112 (1956); *Schroeder v. City of New York*, 371 U.S. 208 (1962); *Robinson v. Hanrahan*, 409 U.S. 38 (1972).

¹⁴⁷ 433 U.S. 186 (1977).

¹⁴⁸ *Id.* at 212.

he expected to benefit from the State's protection of his interest. The State's strong interests in assuring the marketability of property within its borders and in providing a procedure for peaceful resolution of disputes about the possession of that property would also support jurisdiction, as would the likelihood that important records and witnesses will be found in the State."¹⁴⁹ Thus, for "true" *in rem* actions, the old results likely still prevail.

Actions in Rem: Attachment Proceedings.—Although the practice of attachment goes back to colonial times, *Pennyroy v. Neff*¹⁵⁰ was also the most relevant case for a long time respecting the power of a State to permit an attachment of real and personal property situated within its borders belonging to a nonresident to satisfy a debt owed by the nonresident to one of its citizens or to settle a claim for damages founded upon a wrong inflicted on the citizen by the nonresident. Being neither present within the State nor domiciled therein, the nonresident defendant could not be served personally, and any judgment in money obtained against him would be unenforceable. The solution was a form of *in rem* proceeding, sometimes called "*quasi in rem*," involving a levy of a writ of attachment on the local property of the defendant, of which proceeding the non-resident need be notified merely by publication,¹⁵¹ and satisfaction of the judgment from the property attached; if the attached property was insufficient to satisfy the claim, the plaintiff could go no further.

This form of proceeding raised many questions. Of course, there were always instances in which it was fair to subject a person to suit on his property located in the forum State, as where the property was related to the matter sued over.¹⁵² In others, the question was more disputed, as in the famous case in which the property subject to attachment was the obligation of the defendant's insurance company to defend and pay the judgment.¹⁵³ But

¹⁴⁹ *Id.* at 207–08 (footnote citations omitted). The Court also suggested that the State would usually have jurisdiction in cases such as those arising from injuries suffered on the property of an absentee owner, where the defendant's ownership of the property is conceded but the cause of action is otherwise related to rights and duties growing out of that controversy. *Id.*

¹⁵⁰ 95 U.S. 714 (1878). *Cf.* *Pennington v. Fourth Nat'l Bank*, 243 U.S. 269, 271 (1917); *Corn Exch. Bank v. Commissioner*, 280 U.S. 218, 222 (1930); *Endicott Co. v. Encyclopedia Press*, 266 U.S. 285, 288 (1924).

¹⁵¹ This theory of notice was disavowed sooner than the theory of jurisdiction. *Supra*, p. 1716.

¹⁵² *Atkinson v. Superior Court*, 49 Cal. 2d 338, 316 P. 2d 960 (1957), *appeal dismissed*, 357 U.S. 569 (1958) (debt seized in California was owed to a New Yorker, but it had arisen out of transactions in California involving the New Yorker and the California plaintiff).

¹⁵³ *Seider v. Roth*, 17 N.Y. 2d 111, 269 N.Y.S. 2d 99, 216 N.E. 2d 312 (1966).

the extension of the principle in *Harris v. Balk*¹⁵⁴ squarely raised the issue of fairness and territoriality. The claimant was a Maryland resident who was owed a debt by Balk, a North Carolina resident. Apparently adventitiously, Harris, also a North Carolina resident and owing Balk an amount of money, was found passing through Maryland by the Maryland resident and his debt to Balk was attached to satisfy the debt owed to the Marylander. Balk had no notice of the action and a default judgment was entered, after which Harris paid over the judgment to the Marylander. When Balk later sued Harris in North Carolina to recover on his debt, Harris defended that he had been relieved of any further obligation by satisfying the judgment in Maryland, and the Supreme Court sustained his defense, ruling that jurisdiction had been properly obtained and the Maryland judgment was thus valid.¹⁵⁵

Harris v. Balk was overruled in *Shaffer v. Heitner*,¹⁵⁶ in which the Court held that the “minimum contacts” test of *International Shoe* applied to all *in rem* and *quasi in rem* actions. The case arose under a Delaware sequestration statute under which plaintiffs were authorized to bring actions against nonresident defendants by attaching their “property” within Delaware, the property consisting of shares of corporate stock and options to stock in the defendant corporation, the stock being considered to be in Delaware because of the incorporation in Delaware, although none of the certificates representing the seized stocks was physically present in Delaware. The reason for applying the same test as is applied in *in personam* cases, the Court said, “is simple and straightforward. It is premised on recognition that ‘[t]he phrase “judicial jurisdiction over a thing,” is a customary elliptical way of referring to jurisdiction over the interests of persons in a thing.’”¹⁵⁷ Thus, “[t]he recognition leads to the conclusion that in order to justify an exercise of jurisdiction *in rem*, the basis for jurisdiction must be sufficient to justify exercising ‘jurisdiction over the interests of persons in a thing.’”¹⁵⁸

¹⁵⁴ 198 U.S. 215 (1905).

¹⁵⁵ Compare *New York Life Ins. Co. v. Dunlevy*, 241 U.S. 518 (1916) (action purportedly against property within State, proceeds of an insurance policy, was really an *in personam* action against claimant and, claimant not having been served, the judgment is void). But see *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 368 U.S. 71 (1961).

¹⁵⁶ 433 U.S. 186 (1977).

¹⁵⁷ *Id.* at 207 (internal quotation from RESTATEMENT (SECOND) OF CONFLICT OF LAWS 56, Introductory Note (1971)).

¹⁵⁸ *Id.* The characterization of actions *in rem* as being not actions against a *res* but against persons with interests merely reflects Justice Holmes’ insight in *Tyler v. Judges of the Court of Registration*, 175 Mass. 71, 76–77, 55 N.E., 812, 814, *appeal dismissed*, 179 U.S. 405 (1900).

A further tightening of jurisdictional standards occurred in *Rush v. Savchuk*.¹⁵⁹ The plaintiff was injured in a one-automobile accident in Indiana while a passenger in an automobile driven by defendant. Plaintiff later moved to Minnesota and sued defendant, still resident in Indiana, in state court in Minnesota. There were no contacts between the defendant and Minnesota, but defendant's insurance company did business there and plaintiff garnished the insurance contract, signed in Indiana, under which the company was obligated to defend defendant in litigation and indemnify him to the extent of the policy limits. The Court refused to permit jurisdiction to be grounded on the contract; the contacts justifying jurisdiction must be those of the defendant engaging in purposeful activity related to the forum.¹⁶⁰ *Rush* thus resulted in the demise of the controversial *Seider v. Roth* doctrine, which lower courts had struggled to save after *Shaffer v. Heitner*.¹⁶¹

Actions in Rem: Estates, Trusts, Corporations.—Probate administration, being in the nature of a proceeding *in rem*, is one to which all the world is charged with notice.¹⁶² Generally, probate will be opened in the proper court of the decedent's domicile, and as to the assets in that State the probate judgment is *in rem* and determinative as to all; insofar as it affects property, land or personalty, beyond the State, the judgment is *in personam* and can bind only parties thereto or their privies.¹⁶³ That is, the full faith and credit clause and statute would not prevent an attack in the forum of the situs of the property on the first court's finding of domicile as a predicate to deciding the disposition of the property.¹⁶⁴ The difficulty of characterization of the existence of the *res* in a particular jurisdiction is illustrated by the *in rem* aspects of

¹⁵⁹ 444 U.S. 320 (1980).

¹⁶⁰ Id. 328–30. In dissent, Justices Brennan and Stevens argued that what the state courts had done was the functional equivalent of direct-action statutes. Id. at 333 (Justice Stevens); *World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*, 444 U.S. 286, 299 (1980) (Justice Brennan). The Court, however, refused so to view the Minnesota garnishment action, saying that “[t]he State’s ability to exert its power over the ‘nominal defendant’ is analytically prerequisite to the insurer’s entry into the case as a garnishee.” Id. at 330–31. Presumably, the comment is not meant to undermine the validity of such direct-action statutes, which was upheld in *Watson v. Employers Liability Assurance Corp.*, 348 U.S. 66 (1954), a choice-of-law case rather than a jurisdiction case.

¹⁶¹ *Supra*, p. 1718 n.153. See *O’Conner v. Lee-Hy Paving Corp.*, 579 F.2d 194 (2d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 439 U.S. 1034 (1978).

¹⁶² *Goodrich v. Ferris*, 214 U.S. 71, 80 (1909); *McCaughey v. Lyall*, 224 U.S. 558 (1912).

¹⁶³ *Baker v. Baker, Eccles & Co.*, 242 U.S. 394 (1917); *Riley v. New York Trust Co.*, 315 U.S. 343 (1942).

¹⁶⁴ Id. at 353.

Hanson v. Denckla.¹⁶⁵ There, the decedent, while a resident of Pennsylvania, created a trust with a Delaware corporation as trustee. She reserved the power to appoint the remainder, after her reserved life estate, either by testamentary disposition or by *inter vivos* instrument. After she moved to Florida, she executed a new will and a new power of appointment under the trust, which did not satisfy the requirements for testamentary disposition under Florida law. Upon her death, dispute arose as to whether the property passed pursuant to the terms of the power of appointment or in accordance with the residuary clause of the will. While the Florida courts had *in personam* jurisdiction over individual defendants, they attempted to assert *in rem* jurisdiction over the Delaware corporation. Asserting the old theory that a court's *in rem* jurisdiction "is limited by the extent of its power and by the coordinate authority of sister States,"¹⁶⁶ i.e., whether the court has jurisdiction over the thing, the Court thought it clear that the trust assets that were the subject of the suit were located in Delaware and thus the Florida courts had no *in rem* jurisdiction. The Court did not expressly consider whether the *International Shoe* test should apply to such *in rem* jurisdiction, as it has now held it generally must, but it did briefly consider whether Florida's interests arising from its authority to probate and construe its domiciliary's will, under which the foreign assets might pass, were a sufficient basis of *in rem* jurisdiction and decided they were not.¹⁶⁷ The effort of *International Shoe* in this area is still to be discerned.

The old *Pennoyer* rule, that seizure of property was sufficient to give notice to nonresident or absent defendants, was likewise applied in statutory proceedings for the forfeiture of abandoned property. Judgments in proceedings to determine succession to property in escheat were held binding on all when personal service of summons was made on all known claimants and constructive notice by publication to all claimants who were unknown or nonresident.¹⁶⁸ But in *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*,¹⁶⁹ the Court held that the characterization of an action as *in rem* or *in personam* did not determine what process was due in a statutory proce-

¹⁶⁵ 357 U.S. 235 (1957). The *in personam* aspect of this decision is considered *supra*, p. 1714.

¹⁶⁶ *Id.* at 246.

¹⁶⁷ *Id.* at 247–50. The four dissenters, Justices Black, Burton, Brennan, and Douglas, believed that the transfer in Florida of \$400,000 made by a domiciliary and affecting beneficiaries, almost all of whom lived in that State, gave rise to a sufficient connection with Florida to support an adjudication by its courts of the effectiveness of the transfer. *Id.* at 256, 262.

¹⁶⁸ *Hamilton v. Brown*, 161 U.S. 256 (1896); *Security Savings Bank v. California*, 263 U.S. 282 (1923). See also *Voeller v. Neilston Co.*, 311 U.S. 531 (1941).

¹⁶⁹ 339 U.S. 306 (1950).

whereby a bank managing a common trust fund in favor of nonresident as well as resident beneficiaries could obtain a judicial settlement of accounts which was conclusive on all, with the only notice being publication in a local paper. Such notice by publication was necessarily sufficient as to beneficiaries whose interests or addresses were unknown to the bank, the Court held, but as to those, resident and nonresident alike, whose whereabouts were known, it was feasible to make serious efforts to notify them at least by mail to their addresses on record with the bank. The rule has been applied in the escheat situation, and the Court finding that a “contacts” test would not be workable in this field has held that, inasmuch as due process would prevent more than one State from escheating a given item of property, because of ease of administration rather than logic and jurisdiction, the State of residence shown by the last known address on a company’s books would have the authority to take by escheat the uncollected claims against a corporation located in a particular State.¹⁷⁰

Notice: Service of Process.—It is not enough, however, that a State be potentially capable of exercising control over persons and property. Before a State legitimately can exercise such power to alter private interests, its jurisdiction must be perfected by the employment of an appropriate mode of serving process deemed effective to acquaint all parties of the institution of proceedings calculated to affect their rights.¹⁷¹ “An elementary and fundamental requirement of due process in any proceeding which is to be accorded finality is notice reasonably calculated, under all the circumstances, to apprise interested parties of the pendency of the action and afford them an opportunity to present their objections.”¹⁷² Personal service guarantees actual notice of the pendency of a legal action; it thus presents the ideal circumstance under which to commence legal proceedings against a person, and has traditionally been deemed necessary in actions styled *in personam*.¹⁷³ But less rigorous notice procedures have been accepted, in light of history and of the practical obstacles to providing personal service in every instance, and these procedures do not carry with them the same certainty of actual notice that inheres in personal service.¹⁷⁴ But, whether the action be *in rem* or *in personam*, there is a constitu-

¹⁷⁰ *Western Union Telegraph Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 368 U.S. 71 (1961); *Texas v. New Jersey*, 379 U.S. 674 (1965).

¹⁷¹ “There . . . must be a basis for the defendant’s amenability to service of summons. Absent consent, this means there must be authorization for service of summons on the defendant.” *Omni Capital Int’l v. Rudolph Wolff & Co.*, 484 U.S. 97 (1987).

¹⁷² *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, 314 (1950).

¹⁷³ *McDonald v. Mabee*, 243 U.S. 90, 92 (1971).

¹⁷⁴ *Greene v. Lindsey*, 456 U.S. 444, 449 (1982).

tional minimum; if it be shown that the notice used was not reasonably calculated to provide the necessary information, its age and history will not sustain it.¹⁷⁵

The function of mail, indeed, as conveying sufficient notice, has become quite established,¹⁷⁶ and the development of the ability of States, quite contrary to the *Pennoyer* theory, to assert *in personam* jurisdiction extraterritorially upon individuals and corporations having “minimum contacts” with the forum State, resulted in the passage of “long-arm” jurisdictional statutes under which notice was practically always by mail.¹⁷⁷ In a class action, due process is satisfied by notification by mail of out-of-state class members, with opportunity to “opt out” but with no requirement that inclusion in the class be contingent upon affirmative response.¹⁷⁸ Other service devices, and substitutions, have been pursued and show some promise of further loosening of the concept of territoriality even while complying with minimum due process standards of notice.¹⁷⁹

The Procedure Which Is Due Process

The Interests Protected: Entitlements and Positivist Recognition.—“The requirements of procedural due process apply only to the deprivation of interests encompassed by the Fourteenth Amendment’s protection of liberty and property. When protected interests are implicated, the right to some kind of prior hearing is paramount. But the range of interests protected by procedural due

¹⁷⁵In *Greene v. Lindsey*, 456 U.S. 444 (1982), the Court held that in light of substantial evidence that notices posted on the doors of apartments in a housing project in an eviction proceeding were often torn down by children and others before tenants ever saw them, service by posting did not comport with due process. Without requiring it, the Court observed that the mails provided an efficient and inexpensive means of communication upon which prudent men could rely and that notice by mail would provide a reasonable assurance of notice. *Id.* at 455. *See also* *Mennonite Bd. of Missions v. Adams*, 462 U.S. 791 (1983) (personal service or notice by mail is required for mortgagee of real property subject to tax sale); *Tulsa Professional Collection Servs. v. Pope*, 485 U.S. 478 (1988) (notice by mail or other appropriate means to reasonably ascertainable creditors of probated estate).

¹⁷⁶*E.g.*, *McGee v. International Life Ins. Co.*, 355 U.S. 220 (1957); *Travelers Health Ass’n ex rel. State Corp. Comm’n*, 339 U.S. 643 (1950).

¹⁷⁷*See, e.g.*, *G.D. Searle & Co. v. Cohn*, 455 U.S. 404, 409–12 (1982) (discussing New Jersey’s “long-arm” rule, under which a plaintiff must make every effort to serve process upon someone within the State and then only if “after diligent inquiry and effort personal service cannot be made” within the State, then “service may be made by mailing, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, a copy of the summons and complaint to a registered agent for service, or to its principal place of business, or to its registered office.”). *Cf. Velmohos v. Maren Engineering Corp.*, 83 N.J. 282, 416 A.2d 372 (1980), *vacated and remanded*, 455 U.S. 985 (1982).

¹⁷⁸*Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Shutts*, 472 U.S. 797 (1985).

¹⁷⁹*E.g.*, *Watson v. Employers Liability Assurance Corp.*, 348 U.S. 66 (1954) (authorizing direct action against insurance carrier rather than against the insured).

process is not infinite.”¹⁸⁰ Whether any procedural protections are due depends upon an analysis which of “whether the nature of the interest is one within the contemplation of the ‘liberty or property’ language of the Fourteenth Amendment.”¹⁸¹ Traditionally, the Court has accorded due process recognition to one’s “life, liberty, or property” as determined by reference to common understanding, as embodied in the development of the common law. One’s right of life existed independently of any formal guarantee of it and could be taken away only by the state pursuant to the formal processes of law for offenses against law deemed by a legislative body to be particularly heinous. One’s liberty, one’s freedom from bodily restraint, was a natural right to be forfeited only pursuant to law and strict formal procedures. One’s ownership of lands, chattels, and other properties, to be sure, was highly dependent upon legal protections of rights commonly associated with that ownership, but it was a concept universally understood in Anglo-American countries.

Expansion of the understanding embodied in the “liberty and property” aspects of the clause began in the 1960s and followed an inconsistent path of acceleration and reining-in to the present. It has previously been noted that the Court’s construction of “liberty” has long been much broader than would be encompassed within freedom from bodily restraint; while liberty of contract met its demise, the rise of rights of privacy, which included marital and intimate relationships, interests in one’s dignity and reputational concerns, and the like, continues to lead to enlargement of the compass of the doctrine. A widening of the “property” concept in the 1960s occurred with respect to according protection to such public benefits as welfare assistance and other benefits and privileges that government conferred and that it could withdraw altogether for everyone, but as to which individual recipients and claimants had to be accorded proper procedures before they could lose their entitlement. Similarly, other kinds of conditional property rights, such as the interest of an installment buyer of goods in retaining control until it could be shown he was in default, were accorded greater protection.

The key to this expansion may be found in the intertwined doctrinal strands of jurisprudential theory under which the “right-privilege” distinction was abandoned and a positivist conception of entitlements arose. The former principle, discussed previously in

¹⁸⁰ *Board of Regents v. Roth*, 408 U.S. 564, 569–70 (1972). Developments under the Fifth Amendment’s due process clause have been interchangeable. *Cf. Arnett v. Kennedy*, 416 U.S. 134 (1974).

¹⁸¹ *Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408 U.S. 471, 481 (1982).

the First Amendment context,¹⁸² was pithily summarized by Justice Holmes years ago in dismissing a suit by a policeman protesting the dismissal from his job. “The petitioner may have a constitutional right to talk politics, but he has no constitutional right to be a policeman.”¹⁸³ Most often, the assertion that one had no “vested property interest” in something was made to justify the taking of that interest or the disregarding of that interest without substantive restraints being relevant, but it was also true that it was said that if something was “only” a privilege, such as government employment¹⁸⁴ or some form of public assistance,¹⁸⁵ procedural due process guarantees were also inapplicable.¹⁸⁶ In other words, if government need not provide something, it could provide it with any attached conditions it might choose. This line of thought was always opposed by the “unconstitutional conditions” doctrine, under which it was said that “even though a person has no ‘right’ to a valuable government benefit and even though the government may deny him the benefit for any number of reasons, it may not do so on a basis that infringes his constitutionally protected interests—especially, his interest in freedom of speech.”¹⁸⁷ Nonetheless, the two doctrines coexisted in an unstable relationship, until, in the 1960s and thereafter, the right-privilege distinction was largely shelved.¹⁸⁸

Concurrently with the virtual demise of the “right-privilege” distinction, there arose the “entitlement” doctrine, under which the Court erected a barrier of procedural—but not substantive—protections against erroneous governmental deprivation of something it might within its discretion have bestowed.¹⁸⁹ Thus, the Court found protected interests created by positive state enactments or

¹⁸² *Supra*, pp. 1084–90.

¹⁸³ *McAuliffe v. Mayor of New Bedford*, 155 Mass. 216, 220, 29 N.E. 2d 517, 522 (1892).

¹⁸⁴ *Bailey v. Richardson*, 182 F.2d 46 (D.C. Cir. 1950), *aff'd* by an equally divided Court, 314 U.S. 918 (1951); *Adler v. Board of Educ.*, 342 U.S. 485 (1952).

¹⁸⁵ *Flemming v. Nestor*, 363 U.S. 603 (1960).

¹⁸⁶ *Barsky v. Board of Regents*, 347 U.S. 442 (1954).

¹⁸⁷ *Perry v. Sinderman*, 408 U.S. 593, 597 (1972). *See* *Speiser v. Randall*, 357 U.S. 513 (1958).

¹⁸⁸ *See* William Van Alstyne, *The Demise of the Right-Privilege Distinction in Constitutional Law*, 81 HARV. L. REV. 1439 (1968). Much of the old fight had to do with imposition of conditions on admitting corporations into a State. *Cf.* *Western & Southern Life Ins. Co. v. State Bd. of Equalization*, 451 U.S. 648, 656–68 (1981) (reviewing the cases). That the right-privilege distinction is not totally moribund is evident. *See* *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 108–09 (1976) (sustaining as qualification for public financing of campaign agreement to abide by expenditure limitations otherwise unconstitutional); *Wyman v. James*, 400 U.S. 309 (1971).

¹⁸⁹ That is, Congress or a state legislature could simply take away part or all of the benefit. *Richardson v. Belcher*, 404 U.S. 78 (1971); *United States Railroad Retirement Bd. v. Fritz*, 449 U.S. 166, 174 (1980); *Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co.*, 455 U.S. 422, 432–33 (1982).

practices; that is, the source of a right was ascertained not from tradition or the common law or “natural rights,” but rather a property or liberty interest was discerned in the governmental statute or practice that gave rise to it. Indeed, for a time it appeared that this positivist conception of rights was going to displace the previous traditional sources.

That advent of the new doctrine may be placed in *Goldberg v. Kelly*.¹⁹⁰ The Court held that, inasmuch as termination of welfare assistance pending resolution of a controversy over eligibility may deprive an eligible recipient of the means of livelihood, government must provide a pre-termination evidentiary hearing in which an initial determination of the validity of the dispensing agency’s grounds for discontinuance of payment could be made. It was observed that the state agency did “not contend that procedural due process is not applicable to the termination of welfare benefits. Such benefits are a matter of statutory entitlement for persons qualified to receive them.”¹⁹¹ Provisions for loss of some benefit or privilege upon the establishing of some ground for taking it away was perceived as giving the holder a property interest entitling him to proper procedure before termination or revocation.

Therefore, a wage garnishment statute which failed to provide for notice to the garnishee and an opportunity for the making of some form of determination that the garnisher is likely to prevail before the garnishee is deprived of the use of his money, even temporarily, was held not to accord due process.¹⁹² Similarly voided was a replevin statute which authorized the authorities to seize goods simply upon the filing of an *ex parte* application and the posting of bond and the allegation that the possessor of the property was in arrears on payment on the goods and that they reverted to the seller.¹⁹³ A state motor vehicle financial responsibility law which provided that the registration and license of an uninsured motorist involved in an accident was to be suspended unless he posted security for the amount of damages claimed by an aggrieved party without affording the driver any opportunity to raise the issue of liability prior to suspension violated the due process clause.¹⁹⁴

The Court’s emphasis in these cases upon the importance to the claimant of retention of the rights led some lower courts to de-

¹⁹⁰ 397 U.S. 254 (1970).

¹⁹¹ *Id.* at 261–62. *See also* Mathews v. Eldridge, 424 U.S. 319 (1976) (Social Security benefits).

¹⁹² Sniadach v. Family Finance Corp., 395 U.S. 337 (1969).

¹⁹³ Fuentes v. Shevin, 407 U.S. 67 (1972).

¹⁹⁴ Bell v. Burson, 402 U.S. 535 (1971). *Compare* Dixon v. Love, 431 U.S. 105 (1977) *with* Mackey v. Montrym, 443 U.S. 1 (1979).

termine the application of the due process clause by assessing the weights of the interests involved and the harm done to one who lost what he was claiming. This approach, the Court held, was inappropriate. “[W]e must look not to the ‘weight’ but to the *nature* of the interest at stake. . . . We must look to see if the interest is within the Fourteenth Amendment’s protection of liberty and property.”¹⁹⁵ To have a property interest in the constitutional sense, the Court held, it was not enough that one have an abstract need or desire for a benefit, that one have only a unilateral expectation. He must rather “have a legitimate claim of entitlement” to the benefit. “Property interests, of course, are not created by the Constitution. Rather, they are created and their dimensions are defined by existing rules or understandings that stem from an independent source such as state law—rules or understandings that secure certain benefits and that support claims of entitlement to those benefits.”¹⁹⁶ Thus, in *Roth*, the Court held that the refusal to renew a teacher’s contract upon expiration of his one-year term implicated no due process values because there was nothing in the public university’s contract, regulations, or policies that “created any legitimate claim” to reemployment.¹⁹⁷ On the other hand, in *Perry v. Sindermann*,¹⁹⁸ while there was no contract with a tenure provision nor any statutory assurance of it, the “existing rules or understandings” were deemed to provide a legitimate expectation independent of any contract provision, so that a professor employed for several years at a public college, in which the actual practice had the characteristics of tenure, had a protected interest. A statutory assurance was found in *Arnett v. Kennedy*,¹⁹⁹ in which the civil service laws and regulations made the continued employment subject to defeasance “only for such cause as would promote the efficiency of the service.” On the other hand, a policeman who was a “permanent employee” under an ordinance which appeared to afford him a continuing position subject to conditions subsequent was held not to be protected by the due process clause because the federal district court had interpreted the ordinance as providing only

¹⁹⁵ Board of Regents v. Roth, 408 U.S. 564, 569–71 (1972).

¹⁹⁶ Id. at 577.

¹⁹⁷ Id. at 576–78. The Court also held that no liberty interest was implicated, because in declining to rehire Roth the State had not made any charges against him or taken any actions that would damage his reputation or stigmatize him. Id. at 572–75. For an instance of protection accorded a claimant on the basis of such an action, see *Codd v. Velger*, 429 U.S. 624 (1977). See also *Bishop v. Wood*, 426 U.S. 341, 347–50 (1976); *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480, 491–494 (1980); *Board of Curators v. Horowitz*, 435 U.S. 78, 82–84 (1978).

¹⁹⁸ 408 U.S. 593 (1972). See *Leis v. Flynt*, 439 U.S. 438 (1979) (finding no practice or mutually explicit understanding creating interest).

¹⁹⁹ 416 U.S. 134 (1974).

employment at the will and pleasure of the city and the Supreme Court chose not to disturb that interpretation.²⁰⁰

Beyond employment the Court found “legitimate entitlements” in a variety of situations. Thus, because Ohio included within its statutes a provision for free education to all residents between five and 21 years of age and a compulsory-attendance at school requirement, the State was deemed to have obligated itself to accord students some due process hearing rights prior to suspending them, even for such a short period as ten days.²⁰¹ “Having chosen to extend the right to an education to people of appellees’ class generally, Ohio may not withdraw that right on grounds of misconduct, absent fundamentally fair procedures to determine whether the misconduct has occurred.”²⁰² The Court is highly deferential, however, to dismissal decisions based on academic grounds.²⁰³

The most striking application of such due process analysis, to date, is *Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co.*,²⁰⁴ in which a state anti-discrimination law required the enforcing agency to convene a fact-finding conference within 120 days of the filing of the complaint. Inadvertently, the Commission scheduled the hearing after the expiration of the 120 days and the state courts held the requirement to be jurisdictional, necessitating dismissal of the complaint. The Court held that Logan had been denied due process. His cause of action was a property interest; older cases had clearly established causes of action as property and, in any event, Logan’s claim was an entitlement grounded in state law and it could be removed only

²⁰⁰ *Bishop v. Wood*, 426 U.S. 341 (1976). “On its face,” the Court noted, “the ordinance on which [claimant relied] may fairly be read as conferring” both “a property interest in employment . . . [and] an enforceable expectation of continued public employment.” *Id.* at 344–45. The district court’s decision had been affirmed by an equally divided appeals court and the Supreme Court deferred to the presumed greater expertise of the lower court judges in reading the ordinance. *Id.* at 345.

²⁰¹ *Goss v. Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565 (1975). *Cf.* *Carey v. Piphus*, 435 U.S. 247 (1978) (measure of damages for violation of procedural due process in school suspension context). *And see* *Board of Curators v. Horowitz*, 435 U.S. 78 (1978) (whether liberty or property interest implicated in academic dismissals and discipline, as contrasted to disciplinary actions).

²⁰² *Goss v. Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565, 574 (1975). *See also* *Barry v. Barchi*, 443 U.S. 55 (1979) (horse trainer’s license); *O’Bannon v. Town Court Nursing Center*, 447 U.S. 773 (1980) (statutory entitlement of nursing home residents protecting them in the enjoyment of assistance and care.)

²⁰³ *Regents of the University of Michigan v. Ewing*, 474 U.S. 214 (1985). Although the Court “assume[d] the existence of a constitutionally protectible property interest in . . . continued enrollment” in a state university, this limited constitutional right is violated only by a showing that dismissal resulted from “such a substantial departure from accepted academic norms as to demonstrate that the person or committee responsible did not actually exercise professional judgment.” 474 U.S. at 225.

²⁰⁴ 455 U.S. 422 (1982). A different majority of the Court also found an equal protection denial. *Id.* at 438, 443.

“for cause.” That property interest existed independently of the 120-day time period and could not simply be taken away by agency action or inaction.²⁰⁵ Beyond statutory entitlements, the Court has looked to state decisional law to find that private utilities may not terminate service at will but only for cause, for nonpayment of charges, so that when there was a dispute about payment or the accuracy of charges, due process required the utility to follow procedures to resolve the dispute prior to terminating service.²⁰⁶

With respect to liberty, the Court has followed a somewhat more meandering path, but it has arrived at the same place. In *Wisconsin v. Constantineau*,²⁰⁷ it invalidated a statutory scheme by which a person, without any opportunity for a hearing and rebuttal, could be labeled an “excessive drinker” and barred from places where alcohol was served; without discussing the source of the entitlement, the Court noted that governmental action was stigmatizing the individual’s reputation, honor, and integrity. But, in *Paul v. Davis*,²⁰⁸ the Court looked exclusively to positive statutory enactments to determine whether a liberty interest was entitled to protection. Davis involved official defamation of someone—the police included plaintiff’s photograph and name on a list of “active shoplifters” circulated to merchants—but the Court held that damage to reputation alone did not constitute a deprivation of any interest that the due process clause protected.²⁰⁹ “Kentucky law does not extend to respondent any legal guarantee of present enjoyment of reputation which has been altered as a result of petitioners’ actions. Rather, his interest in reputation is simply one of a number which the State may protect against injury by virtue of its tort law, providing a forum for vindication of those interest by means of damage actions.”²¹⁰

A number of liberty interest cases involve prisoner rights and are dealt with in the section on criminal due process. But in terms of the emphasis upon positive entitlements, it is useful to treat

²⁰⁵ Id. at 428–33.

²⁰⁶ *Memphis Light, Gas & Water Div. v. Craft*, 436 U.S. 1 (1978).

²⁰⁷ 400 U.S. 433 (1971).

²⁰⁸ 424 U.S. 693 (1976).

²⁰⁹ The Court, id. at 701–10, distinguished *Constantineau* as being a “reputation-plus” case. That is, it involved not only the stigmatizing of one posted but it also “deprived the individual of a right previously held under state law—the right to purchase or obtain liquor in common with the rest of the citizenry.” Id. at 708. How the state law positively did this the Court did not explain. But, of course, the reputation-plus concept is now well-settled. *Supra*, p. 1727 n.197. *And see* *Board of Regents v. Roth*, 408 U.S. 564, 573 (1972); *Siegert v. Gilley*, 500 U.S. 226 (1991).

²¹⁰ *Paul v. Davis*, 424 U.S. 693, 711–12 (1976). In a subsequent case, the Court looked to decisional law and the existence of common-law remedies as establishing a protected property interest. *Memphis Light, Gas & Water Div. v. Craft*, 436 U.S. 1, 9–12 (1978).

them briefly here. In *Meachum v. Fano*,²¹¹ the Court held that a state prisoner was not entitled to a factfinding hearing when he is transferred to a different prison in which the conditions were substantially less favorable to him, because (1) the due process clause liberty interest by itself is satisfied by the initial valid conviction which had deprived him of liberty, and (2) no state law guaranteed him the right to remain in the prison to which he was initially assigned, subject to transfer for cause of some sort. Under state law, a prisoner could be transferred for any reason or for no reason, and the due process clause did not mandate a different result. The decision of prison officials, therefore, was not dependent upon any state of facts that would be found upon a hearing. But in *Vitek v. Jones*,²¹² a protected entitlement interest was found. The state statute at issue permitted transfer of a prisoner to a state mental hospital for treatment, but the transfer could be effectuated only upon a finding, by a designated physician or psychologist, that the prisoner “suffers from a mental disease or defect” and “cannot be given treatment in that facility.” Because the transfer was conditioned upon a “cause,” the establishment of the facts necessary to show the cause had to be done through fair procedures.

However, the *Vitek* Court also held that, independent of the statutory entitlement, the prisoner had a “residuum of liberty” in being free from the different confinement and from the stigma of involuntary commitment for mental disease that the due process clause protected. Thus, the Court has recognized, in this case and in the cases involving revocation of parole or probation,²¹³ a liberty interest that is separate from a positivist entitlement and that can be taken away only through proper procedures. But with respect to the possibility of parole or commutation or otherwise more rapid release, no matter how much the expectancy matters to a prisoner, in the absence of some form of positive entitlement, the prisoner may be turned down without observance of procedures.²¹⁴ Summarizing its prior holdings, the Court recently concluded that two requirements must be present before a liberty interest is created in the prison context: the statute or regulation must contain “substantive predicates” limiting the exercise of discretion, and there

²¹¹ 427 U.S. 215 (1976). See also *Montanye v. Haymes*, 427 U.S. 236 (1976).

²¹² 445 U.S. 480 (1980).

²¹³ *Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408 U.S. 471 (1972); *Gagnon v. Scarpelli*, 411 U.S. 778 (1973).

²¹⁴ *Greenholtz v. Nebraska Penal Inmates*, 442 U.S. 1 (1979); *Connecticut Bd. of Pardons v. Dumschat*, 452 U.S. 458 (1981); *Jago v. Van Curen*, 454 U.S. 14 (1981). See also *Wolff v. McDonnell*, 418 U.S. 539 (1974) (due process applies to forfeiture of good-time credits and other positivist granted privileges of prisoners).

must be explicit “mandatory language” requiring a particular outcome if substantive predicates are found.²¹⁵

In *Ingraham v. Wright*,²¹⁶ the Court, unanimously, agreed that freedom from wrongfully or excessively administered corporal punishment was a liberty interest of school children protected by the due process clause irrespective of positive state protection. “The liberty preserved from deprivation without due process included the right ‘generally to enjoy those privileges long recognized at common law as essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men.’ . . . Among the historic liberties so protected was a right to be free from, and to obtain judicial relief for, unjustified intrusions on personal security.”²¹⁷

In *Arnett v. Kennedy*,²¹⁸ three Justices sought to qualify the principle laid down in the entitlement cases and to restore in effect much of the right-privilege distinction in a new formulation. Dealing with a federal law conferring upon employees the right not to be discharged except for cause, the Justices acknowledged the prior formulation that recognized that due process rights could be created through statutory grants of entitlements, but they went on to observe that the same law withheld the procedural provisions now contended for; in other words, “the property interest which appellee had in his employment was itself conditioned by the procedural limitations which had accompanied the grant of that interest.”²¹⁹ Congress (and state legislatures) could qualify the conferral of an interest the due process clause might otherwise require.

But the other six Justices, while disagreeing among themselves in other respects, rejected this attempt so to formulate the issue. “This view misconceives the origin of the right to procedural due process,” Justice Powell wrote. “That right is conferred not by legislative grace but by constitutional guarantee. While the legislature

²¹⁵ *Kentucky Dep’t of Corrections v. Thompson*, 490 U.S. 454, 459–63 (1989) (prison regulations listing categories of visitors who may be excluded, but not creating a right to have a visitor admitted, contain “substantive predicates” but lack mandatory language).

²¹⁶ 430 U.S. 651 (1977).

²¹⁷ *Id.* at 673. The family-related liberties discussed under substantive due process, as well as the associational and privacy ones, no doubt provide a fertile source of liberty interests for procedural protection. *See* *Armstrong v. Manzo*, 380 U.S. 545 (1965) (natural father, with visitation rights, must be given notice and opportunity to be heard with respect to impending adoption proceedings); *Stanley v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 645 (1972) (unwed father could not simply be presumed unfit to have custody of his children because his interest in his children warrants deference and protection). *See also* *Smith v. Organization of Foster Families*, 431 U.S. 816 (1977); *Little v. Streater*, 452 U.S. 1 (1981); *Lassiter v. Department of Social Services*, 452 U.S. 18 (1981); *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745 (1982).

²¹⁸ 416 U.S. 134 (1974).

²¹⁹ *Id.* at 155 (Justices Rehnquist and Stewart and Chief Justice Burger).

may elect not to confer a property interest in federal employment, it may not constitutionally authorize the deprivation of such an interest, once conferred, without appropriate procedural safeguards.”²²⁰ Yet, in *Bishop v. Wood*,²²¹ the Court appeared to come close to adopting the three-Justice *Arnett* position, the dissenters accusing the majority of having repudiated the majority position in *Arnett*, and in *Goss v. Lopez*,²²² while the opinion of the Court stated the expressed formulation of Justice Powell in *Arnett*, the Justice himself dissented, using language quite similar to the Rehnquist *Arnett* language. More recently, however, first in a liberty interest case and then in a property interest case, the Court has squarely held that because “minimum [procedural] requirements [are] a matter of federal law, they are not diminished by the fact that the State may have specified its own procedures that it may deem adequate for determining the preconditions to adverse action.’ . . . Indeed, any other conclusion would allow the State to destroy at will virtually any state-created property interest.”²²³ Substantive entitlements, therefore, may owe their existence to positive enactment, but the procedural protections are found in the judiciary’s reading of the due process clause.

Proceedings in Which Procedural Due Process Must Be Observed.—While due notice and a reasonable opportunity to be heard to present one’s claim or defense have been declared to be two fundamental conditions almost universally prescribed in all systems of law established by civilized countries,²²⁴ there are certain proceedings appropriate for the determination of various rights in which the enjoyment of these two conditions has not been deemed to be constitutionally necessary. Thus, persons adversely affected by a specific law cannot challenge its validity on the ground that the legislative body or one of its committees gave no notice of proposed legislation, held no hearings at which the person could have presented his arguments, and gave no consideration to particular points of view. “Where a rule of conduct applies to more

²²⁰ *Id.* at 167 (Justices Powell and Blackmun concurring). *See id.* at 177 (Justice White concurring and dissenting), 203 (Justice Douglas dissenting), 206 (Justices Marshall, Douglas, and Brennan dissenting).

²²¹ 426 U.S. 341 (1976). A five-to-four decision, the opinion was written by Justice Stevens, replacing Justice Douglas, and was joined by Justice Powell, who had disagreed with the theory in *Arnett*. *See id.* at 350, 353 n.4, 355 (dissenting opinions). The language is ambiguous and appears at different points to adopt both positions. *But see id.* at 345, 347.

²²² 419 U.S. 565, 573–74 (1975). *See id.* at 584, 586–87 (Justice Powell dissenting).

²²³ *Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co.*, 455 U.S. 422, 432 (1982) (quoting *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480, 491 (1980)).

²²⁴ *Twining v. New Jersey*, 211 U.S. 78, 110 (1908); *Jacob v. Roberts*, 223 U.S. 261, 265 (1912).

than a few people it is impracticable that everyone should have a direct voice in its adoption. The Constitution does not require all public acts to be done in town meeting or an assembly of the whole. General statutes within the state power are passed that affect the person or property of individuals, sometimes to the point of ruin, without giving them a chance to be heard. Their rights are protected in the only way that they can be in a complex society, by their power, immediate or remote, over those who make the rule.”²²⁵ Similarly, when an administrative agency engages in a legislative function, as, for example, when in pursuance of statutory authorization it drafts regulations of general application affecting an unknown number of persons, it need not, any more than does a legislative assembly, afford a hearing prior to promulgation.²²⁶ On the other hand, if a regulation, sometimes denominated an “order,” is of limited application, that is, affects the property or interests of specific named or nameable individuals or an identifiable class of persons, the question whether notice and hearing is required and, if so, whether it must precede such action becomes a matter of greater urgency and must be determined by evaluation of the factors discussed herein.²²⁷

“It is not an indispensable requirement of due process that every procedure affecting the ownership or disposition of property be exclusively by judicial proceeding. Statutory proceedings affecting property rights which, by later resort to the courts, secures to adverse parties an opportunity to be heard, suitable to the occasion, do not deny due process.”²²⁸ In one of the initial decisions construing the due process clause (this of the Fifth Amendment), the Court upheld the actions of the Secretary of the Treasury, acting pursuant to statute, to obtain from a collector of customs a substantial amount of money on which it was claimed he was in arrears. The Treasury simply issued a distress warrant and seized the collector’s property, affording him no opportunity for a hearing, and remitting him to suit (the statute waiving the immunity of the United States) for recovery of his property upon proof that he had not withheld funds from the Treasury. While acknowledging that history and settled practice required proceedings in which pleas,

²²⁵ *Bi-Metallic Investment Co. v. State Bd. of Equalization*, 239 U.S. 441, 445–46 (1915). See also *Bragg v. Weaver*, 251 U.S. 57, 58 (1919). And *cf.* *Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co.*, 445 U.S. 422, 432–33 (1982).

²²⁶ *United States v. Florida East Coast Ry.*, 410 U.S. 224 (1973).

²²⁷ *Id.* at 245 (distinguishing between rule-making, at which legislative facts are in issue, and adjudication, at which adjudicative facts are at issue, requiring a hearing in latter proceedings but not in the former). See *Londoner v. City of Denver*, 210 U.S. 373 (1908).

²²⁸ *Anderson Nat’l Bank v. Lockett*, 321 U.S. 233, 246–47 (1944).

answers, and trials were requisite before property could be taken, the Court observed that the distress collection of debts due the crown had been the exception to the rule in England and was of long usage in the United States, and was thus sustainable.²²⁹ In more modern times, the Court upheld a procedure under which a state banking superintendent, after having taken over a closed bank and issued notices to stockholders of their assessment, could issue execution for the amounts due, subject to the right of each stockholder, by affidavit of illegality, to contest his liability for such an assessment. The fact that the execution was issued in the first instance by a governmental officer and not from a court, followed by personal notice and a right to take the case into court, was seen as unobjectionable.²³⁰

A State may not, consistent with the due process clause, enforce a judgment against a party named in the proceeding without having given him an opportunity to be heard sometime before final judgment is entered.²³¹ With regard to the presentation of every available defense, however, the requirements of due process do not necessarily entail affording an opportunity to do so before entry of judgment. The person may be remitted to other actions initiated by him²³² or an appeal may suffice. Accordingly, a surety company, objecting to the entry of a judgment against it on a supersedeas bond, without notice and an opportunity to be heard on the issue of liability, was not denied due process where the state practice provided the opportunity for such a hearing by an appeal from the judgment so entered. Nor could the company found its claim of denial of due process upon the fact that it lost this opportunity for a hearing by inadvertently pursuing the wrong procedure in the state courts.²³³ On the other hand, where a state appellate court reversed a trial court and entered a final judgment for the defendant, a plaintiff who had never had an opportunity to introduce evidence in rebuttal to certain testimony which the trial court deemed immaterial but which the appellate court considered material was

²²⁹ *Murray's Lessee v. Hoboken Land & Improvement Co.*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 272 (1856).

²³⁰ *Coffin Brothers & Co. v. Bennett*, 277 U.S. 29 (1928).

²³¹ *Postal Telegraph Cable Co. v. Newport*, 247 U.S. 464, 476 (1918); *Baker v. Baker, Eccles & Co.*, 242 U.S. 294, 403 (1917); *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Schmidt*, 177 U.S. 230, 236 (1900).

²³² *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56, 65–69 (1972). However, if one would suffer too severe an injury between the doing and the undoing, he may avoid the alternative means. *Stanley v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 645, 647 (1972).

²³³ *American Surety Co. v. Baldwin*, 287 U.S. 156 (1932). *Cf.* *Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co.*, 455 U.S. 422, 429–30, 432–33 (1982).

held to have been deprived of his rights without due process of law.²³⁴

When Is Process Due.—“The extent to which procedural due process must be afforded the recipient is influenced by the extent to which he may be ‘condemned to suffer grievous loss,’ . . . and depends upon whether the recipient’s interest in avoiding that loss outweighs the governmental interest in summary adjudication.”²³⁵ “The very nature of due process negates any concept of inflexible procedures universally applicable to every imaginable situation.”²³⁶ Due process application, as has been noted, depends upon the nature of the interest; the form of the due process to be applied is determined by the weight of that interest balanced against the opposing interests. The currently prevailing standard is that formulated in *Mathews v. Eldridge*.²³⁷ “[I]dentification of the specific dictates of due process generally requires consideration of three distinct factors: first, the private interest that will be affected by the official action; second, the risk of erroneous deprivation of such interest through the procedures used, and probable value, if any, of additional or substitute procedural safeguards; and, finally, the Government’s interest, including the function involved and the fiscal and administrative burdens that the additional or substitute procedural requirements would entail.”

Whereas, in *Goldberg v. Kelly*,²³⁸ the effect of termination of welfare benefits could be “devastating,” a matter of loss of food and shelter, thus mandating a pre-deprivation hearing, the termination of Social Security benefits would be considerably different, inasmuch as they are not based on financial need and a terminated recipient would be able to apply for welfare if need be. Moreover, the determination of ineligibility for Social Security benefits more often turns upon routine and uncomplicated evaluations of data, reducing the likelihood of error, a likelihood found significant in *Goldberg*. Finally, the administrative burden and other societal costs involved in giving Social Security recipients a pre-termination hearing would be high. Therefore, a post-termination hearing, with full retroactive restoration of benefits, if the claimant prevails, was found satisfactory.²³⁹

²³⁴ *Saunders v. Shaw*, 244 U.S. 317 (1917).

²³⁵ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 262–63 (1970), (quoting *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123, 168 (1951) (Justice Frankfurter concurring)).

²³⁶ *Cafeteria & Restaurant Workers Union v. McElroy*, 367 U.S. 886, 894–95 (1961).

²³⁷ 424 U.S. 319, 335 (1976).

²³⁸ 397 U.S. 254, 264 (1970).

²³⁹ *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 339–49 (1976).

Application of the standard and other considerations brought some noteworthy changes to the process accorded debtors and installment buyers. For example, the previous cases had focused upon the interests of the holders of the property in not being unjustly deprived of the goods and funds in their possession, in requiring pre-deprivation hearings. The newer cases looked to the interests of creditors as well. "The reality is that both seller and buyer had current, real interests in the property, and the definition of property rights is a matter of state law. Resolution of the due process question must take account not only of the interests of the buyer of the property but those of the seller as well."²⁴⁰

Thus, *Sniadach v. Family Finance Corp.*,²⁴¹ mandating a pre-deprivation hearing before wages may be garnished, is apparently to be limited to instances when wages, and perhaps certain other basic necessities, are in issue and the consequences of deprivation would be severe.²⁴² *Fuentes*, which extended the *Sniadach* principle to all "significant property interests" and thus mandated pre-deprivation hearings, has been limited, so that when government provides certain procedural protections in structuring the *ex parte* judicial determinations that seizure should take place and provides for a prompt and adequate post-deprivation (but pre-judgment) hearing, the due process clause is satisfied.²⁴³ To be valid, laws authorizing sequestration, garnishment, or other seizure of property of an alleged defaulting debtor must require that (1) the creditor furnish adequate security to protect the debtor's interest, (2) the creditor make a specific factual showing before a neutral officer or magistrate, not a clerk or other such functionary, of probable cause to believe that he is entitled to the relief requested, and (3) an op-

²⁴⁰ *Mitchell v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 416 U.S. 600, 604 (1975). See also *id.* at 623 (Justice Powell concurring), 629 (Justices Stewart, Douglas, and Marshall dissenting). Justice White, who wrote *Mitchell* and included the balancing language in his dissent in *Fuentes v. Shevin*, 407 U.S. 67, 99–100 (1972), did not repeat it in *North Georgia Finishing v. Di-Chem*, 419 U.S. 601 (1975), but it presumably underlies the reconciliation of *Fuentes* and *Mitchell* in the latter case and the application of *Di-Chem*.

²⁴¹ 395 U.S. 337 (1969).

²⁴² *North Georgia Finishing v. Di-Chem*, 419 U.S. 601, 611 n.2 (1975) (Justice Powell concurring). The majority opinion draws no such express distinction, see *id.* at 605–06, rather emphasizing that *Sniadach-Fuentes* do require observance of *some* due process procedural guarantees. But see *Mitchell v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 416 U.S. 600, 614 (1974) (opinion of the Court by Justice White emphasizing the wages aspect of the earlier case).

²⁴³ *Mitchell v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 416 U.S. 600 (1974); *North Georgia Finishing v. Di-Chem*, 419 U.S. 601 (1975). *Fuentes* was a decision of uncertain viability from the beginning, inasmuch as it was four-to-three; argument had been heard prior to the date Justices Powell and Rehnquist joined the Court, hence neither participated in the decision. See *Di-Chem*, *supra*, 616–19 (Justice Blackmun dissenting); *Mitchell*, *supra*, 635–36 (Justice Stewart dissenting).

portunity be assured for an adversary hearing promptly after seizure to determine the merits of the controversy, with the burden of proof on the creditor.²⁴⁴ Efforts to litigate challenges to seizures in actions involving two private parties can be thwarted by findings of “no state action,” but there often is sufficient participation by state officials to constitute state action and implicate due process.²⁴⁵

Similarly, applying the tripartite test of *Mathews v. Eldridge* in the context of government employment, the Court has held, albeit by a combination of divergent opinions, that the interest of the employee in retaining his job, the governmental interest in the expeditious removal of unsatisfactory employees and the avoidance of administrative burdens, and the risk of an erroneous termination require the provision of some minimum pre-termination notice and opportunity to respond, although there need not be a formal adversary hearing, followed by a full post-termination hearing, complete with all the procedures normally accorded and back pay if the employee is successful.²⁴⁶ In other cases, hearings of even minimum procedures have been dispensed with when what is to be estab-

²⁴⁴ *Mitchell v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 416 U.S. 600, 615–18 (1974), and *id.* at 623 (Justice Powell concurring). *And see* *Arnett v. Kennedy*, 416 U.S. 134, 188 (1974) (Justice White concurring in part and dissenting in part). More recently, the Court has applied a variant of the *Mathews v. Eldridge* formula in holding that Connecticut’s prejudgment attachment statute, which “fail[ed] to provide a preattachment hearing without at least requiring a showing of some exigent circumstance,” operated to deny equal protection. *Connecticut v. Doehr*, 501 U.S. 1, 18 (1991). “[T]he relevant inquiry requires, as in *Mathews*, first, consideration of the private interest that will be affected by the prejudgment measure; second, an examination of the risk of erroneous deprivation through the procedures under attack and the probable value of additional or alternative safeguards; and third, in contrast to *Mathews*, principal attention to the interest of the party seeking the prejudgment remedy, with, nonetheless, due regard for any ancillary interest the government may have in providing the procedure or forgoing the added burden of providing greater protections.” *Id.* at 11.

²⁴⁵ *Compare* *Flagg Brothers v. Brooks*, 436 U.S. 149 (1978) (no state action in warehouseman’s sale of goods for nonpayment of storage, as authorized by state law), *with* *Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Co.*, 457 U.S. 922 (1982) (state officials’ joint participation with private party in effecting prejudgment attachment of property); *and* *Tulsa Professional Collection Servs. v. Pope*, 485 U.S. 478 (1988) (probate court was sufficiently involved with actions activating time bar in “nonclaim” statute).

²⁴⁶ *Arnett v. Kennedy*, 416 U.S. 134, 170–71 (1974) (Justice Powell concurring), and *id.* at 195–96 (Justice White concurring in part and dissenting in part); *Cleveland Bd. of Educ. v. Loudermill*, 470 U.S. 532 (1985) (discharge of state government employee). In *Barry v. Barchi*, 443 U.S. 55 (1979), the Court held that the state interest in assuring the integrity of horse racing carried on under its auspices justified an interim suspension without a hearing once it established the existence of certain facts, provided that a prompt judicial or administrative hearing would follow suspension at which the issues could be determined was assured. *FDIC v. Mallen*, 486 U.S. 230 (1988) (strong public interest in the integrity of the banking industry justifies suspension of indicted bank official with no pre-suspension hearing, and with 90-day delay before decision resulting from post-suspension hearing).

lished is so pro forma or routine that the likelihood of error is very small.²⁴⁷ In the case dealing with the negligent state failure to observe a procedural deadline, the Court held that the claimant was entitled to a hearing with the agency to pass upon the merits of his claim prior to dismissal of his action.²⁴⁸

In *Brock v. Roadway Express, Inc.*, a Court plurality applied similar analysis to governmental regulation of private employment, determining that a full evidentiary hearing is not required to safeguard the interests of an employer prior to the ordered reinstatement of an employee dismissed for cause, but that the employer is entitled to be informed of the substance of the employee's charges, and to have an opportunity for informal rebuttal.²⁴⁹ The principal difference with the *Mathews v. Eldridge* test was that here the Court acknowledged two conflicting private interests to weigh in the equation: that of the employer "in controlling the makeup of its workforce" and that of the employee in not being discharged for whistleblowing. Whether the case signals a shift away from evidentiary hearing requirements in the context of regulatory adjudication will depend on future developments.²⁵⁰

In another respect, the balancing standard has resulted in an alteration of previously existing law, requiring neither a pre- nor post-termination hearing in some instances when the State affords the claimant an alternative remedy, such as a judicial action for damages. Thus, passing on the infliction of corporal punishment in the public schools, a practice which implicated protected liberty interests, the Court held that the existence of common-law tort remedies for wrongful or excessive administration of punishment, plus the context in which it was administered (i.e., the ability of the teacher to observe directly the infraction in question, the openness of the school environment, the visibility of the confrontation to other students and faculty, and the likelihood of parental reaction to unreasonableness in punishment), made reasonably assured the probability that a child would be not punished without cause or excessively. The Court did not inquire about the availability of judi-

²⁴⁷ *E.g.*, *Dixon v. Love*, 431 U.S. 105 (1977) (when suspension of drivers' license is automatic upon conviction of a certain number of offenses, no hearing is required because there can be no dispute about facts).

²⁴⁸ *Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co.*, 455 U.S. 422 (1982).

²⁴⁹ 481 U.S. 252 (1987). Justice Marshall's plurality opinion was joined by Justices Blackmun, Powell, and O'Connor; Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justice Scalia joined Justice White's opinion taking a somewhat narrower view of due process requirements but supporting the plurality's general approach. Justices Brennan and Stevens would have required confrontation and cross-examination.

²⁵⁰ For analysis of the case's implications, see Rakoff, *Brock v. Roadway Express, Inc.*, and *the New Law of Regulatory Due Process*, 1987 SUP. CT. REV. 157.

cial remedies for such violation in the State in which the case arose.²⁵¹

More expressly adopting the tort remedy theory, the Court in *Parratt v. Taylor*²⁵² held that the loss of a prisoner's mail-ordered goods through the negligence of prison officials constituted a deprivation of property, but that the State's post-deprivation tort-claims procedure afforded adequate due process. When a state officer or employee acts negligently, the Court recognized, there is no way that the State can provide a pre-termination hearing; the real question, therefore, is what kind of post-deprivation hearing is sufficient. When the action complained of is the result of the unauthorized failure of agents to follow established procedures and there is no contention that the procedures themselves are inadequate, the due process clause is satisfied by the provision of a judicial remedy which the claimant must initiate.²⁵³ Five years later, however, the Court overruled *Parratt*, holding that "the Due Process Clause is simply not implicated by a *negligent* act of an official causing unintended loss of or injury to life, liberty, or property."²⁵⁴ Hence, there is no requirement for procedural due process stemming from such negligent acts and no resulting basis for suit under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for deprivation of rights deriving from the Constitution. Prisoners may resort to state tort law in such circumstances, but neither the Constitution nor § 1983 provides a federal remedy.

In *Logan v. Zimmerman Brush Co.*,²⁵⁵ the Court had distinguished between property²⁵⁶ deprivations resulting from random and unauthorized acts of state employees and those resulting from operation of established state procedures, and presumably this distinction still holds. Post deprivation procedures would not satisfy

²⁵¹ *Ingraham v. Wright*, 430 U.S. 651, 680–82 (1977). In *Memphis Light, Gas & Water Div. v. Craft*, 436 U.S. 1, 19–22 (1987), involving cutoff of utility service for non-payment of bills, the Court rejected the argument that common-law remedies were sufficient to obviate the pre-termination hearing requirement.

²⁵² 451 U.S. 527 (1981).

²⁵³ *Id.* at 541, 543–44.

²⁵⁴ *Daniels v. Williams*, 474 U.S. 327, 328 (1986) (involving negligent acts by prison officials).

²⁵⁵ 455 U.S. 422, 435–36 (1982). The Court also emphasized that a post-deprivation hearing in the context of this case would be inadequate. "That is particularly true where, as here, the State's only post-termination process comes in the form of an independent tort action. Seeking redress through a tort suit is apt to be a lengthy and speculative process, which in a situation such as this one will never make the complainant entirely whole." *Id.* at 436–37.

²⁵⁶ *Parratt* was a property loss case and while *Ingraham* was a liberty case the holding there was not that, standing alone, a tort remedy was an adequate process. It is not clear, therefore, that a tort remedy could ever be an adequate substitute for some kind of hearing in a liberty loss situation.

due process deprivations if it is “the state system itself that destroys a complainant’s property interest.”

In “rare and extraordinary situations,”²⁵⁷ where summary action is necessary to prevent imminent harm to the public, and the private interest infringed is reasonably deemed to be of less importance, government can take action with no notice and no opportunity to defend, subject to a full later hearing. Examples are seizure of contaminated foods or drugs or other such commodities to protect the consumer.²⁵⁸ Other possibilities are the collection of governmental revenues²⁵⁹ and the seizure of enemy property in wartime.²⁶⁰ Citing national security interests, the Court upheld an order, issued without notice and an opportunity to be heard, excluding a short-order cook employed by a concessionaire from a Naval Gun Factory, but the basis of the five-to-four decision is unclear.²⁶¹ On the one hand, the Court was ambivalent about a right-privilege distinction;²⁶² on the other hand, it contrasted the limited interest of the cook—barred from the base, she was still free to work at a number of the concessionaire’s other premises—with the Government’s interest in conducting a high-security program.²⁶³

Finally, one may waive his due process rights, though as with other constitutional rights the waiver must be knowing and voluntary.²⁶⁴

The Requirements of Due Process.—Bearing in mind that due process tolerates variances in form “appropriate to the nature of the case,”²⁶⁵ it is nonetheless possible to indicate generally the basic requirements. “[P]rocedural due process rules are shaped by the risk of error inherent in the truth-finding process as applied to the generality of cases.”²⁶⁶ “Procedural due process rules are meant to protect persons not from the deprivation, but from the

²⁵⁷ Board of Regents v. Roth, 408 U.S. 564, 570 n.7 (1972); Bell v. Burson, 402 U.S. 535, 542 (1971). See Parratt v. Taylor, 451 U.S. 527, 538–40 (1981).

²⁵⁸ North American Cold Storage Co. v. City of Chicago, 211 U.S. 306 (1908); Ewing v. Mytinger & Casselberry, 339 U.S. 594 (1950). See also Fahey v. Mallonee, 332 U.S. 245 (1948). Cf. Mackey v. Montrym, 443 U.S. 1, 17–18 (1979).

²⁵⁹ Phillips v. Commissioner, 283 U.S. 589, 597 (1931).

²⁶⁰ Central Union Trust Co. v. Garvan, 254 U.S. 554, 566 (1921). See also Bowles v. Willingham, 321 U.S. 503 (1944).

²⁶¹ Cafeteria & Restaurant Workers Union v. McElroy, 367 U.S. 886 (1961).

²⁶² Id. at 894, 895, 896.

²⁶³ Id. at 896–98. See Goldberg v. Kelly, 397 U.S. 254, 263 n.10 (1970); Board of Regents v. Roth, 408 U.S. 564, 575 (1972); Arnett v. Kennedy, 416 U.S. 134, 152 (1974) (plurality opinion), and id. at 181–83 (Justice White concurring in part and dissenting in part).

²⁶⁴ D.H. Overmyer Co. v. Frick Co., 405 U.S. 174 (1972). See also Fuentes v. Shevin, 407 U.S. 67, 94–96 (1972).

²⁶⁵ Mullane v. Central Hanover Trust Co., 339 U.S. 306, 313 (1950).

²⁶⁶ Mathews v. Eldridge, 424 U.S. 319, 344 (1976).

mistaken or unjustified deprivation of life, liberty, or property.”²⁶⁷ The rules “minimize substantively unfair or mistaken deprivations” by enabling persons to contest the basis upon which a State proposes to deprive them of protected interests.²⁶⁸ Thus, after the determination of the existence of a protected interest at issue, it must still be determined what procedure is adequate.

(1) *Notice*. “An elementary and fundamental requirement of due process in any proceeding which is to be accorded finality is notice reasonably calculated, under all the circumstances, to apprise interested parties of the pendency of the action and afford them an opportunity to present their objections.”²⁶⁹ The notice must be sufficient to enable the recipient to determine what is being proposed and what he must do to prevent the deprivation of his interest.²⁷⁰ Ordinarily, service of the notice must be reasonably structured to assure that the person to whom it is directed receives it.²⁷¹

(2) *Hearing*. “[S]ome form of hearing is required before an individual is finally deprived of a property [or liberty] interest.”²⁷² “Parties whose rights are to be affected are entitled to be heard.”²⁷³ The notice of hearing and the opportunity to be heard “must be granted at a meaningful time and in a meaningful manner.”²⁷⁴ “The constitutional right to be heard is a basic aspect of the duty of government to follow a fair process of decision making when it acts to deprive a person of his possessions. The purpose of this requirement is not only to ensure abstract fair play to the individual. Its purpose, more particularly, is to protect his use and possession of property from arbitrary encroachment. . . .”²⁷⁵ The Court has in recent years developed a complex calculus to determine whether a hearing should precede the deprivation or whether a prompt post-deprivation hearing would be adequate. Generally, where the loss, even temporarily, would be severe or catastrophic, the hearing must come first;²⁷⁶ where a temporary deprivation

²⁶⁷ *Carey v. Phipus*, 435 U.S. 247, 259 (1978).

²⁶⁸ *Fuentes v. Shevin*, 407 U.S. 67, 81 (1972). At times, the Court has also stressed the dignitary importance of procedural rights, the worth of being able to defend one’s interests even if one cannot change the result. *Carey v. Phipus*, 435 U.S. 247, 266–67 (1978); *Marshall v. Jerrico, Inc.*, 446 U.S. 238, 242 (1980).

²⁶⁹ *Mullane v. Central Hanover Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, 314 (1950).

²⁷⁰ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 267–68 (1970).

²⁷¹ *Armstrong v. Manzo*, 380 U.S. 545, 550 (1965); *Robinson v. Hanrahan*, 409 U.S. 38 (1974); *Greene v. Lindsey*, 456 U.S. 444 (1982).

²⁷² *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 333 (1976).

²⁷³ *Baldwin v. Hale*, 68 U.S. (1 Wall.) 223, 233 (1863).

²⁷⁴ *Armstrong v. Manzo*, 380 U.S. 545, 552 (1965).

²⁷⁵ *Fuentes v. Shevin*, 407 U.S. 67, 80–81 (1972). See *Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee v. McGrath*, 341 U.S. 123, 170–71 (1951) (Justice Frankfurter concurring).

²⁷⁶ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254 (1970); *Sniadach v. Family Finance Corp.*, 395 U.S. 337 (1969).

would be less severe and the opposing interest is important, the hearing may come later,²⁷⁷ so long as it is promptly assured.²⁷⁸ Too, the nature of what must be shown will be taken into account. Where the showing to be established is largely formal or subject to substantial documentary evidence, a post-termination hearing may suffice,²⁷⁹ while in cases in which the evidence is largely subjective and dependent upon the personal appearance of the claimant the hearing must ordinarily precede the loss and the circumstance may require a more highly structured proceeding.²⁸⁰ Sometimes, because of the nature of the opposing interest and the circumstances of the determination, the hearing need involve only minimal formality.²⁸¹ The hearing requirement does not depend upon an advance showing that the claimant will prevail at such a hearing.²⁸² While written presentations may be acceptable in some situations, in others the issue of veracity may necessitate oral presentation or oral examination of witnesses, or the petitioner may not have the ability to present his case in writing.²⁸³

(3) *Impartial Tribunal*. Just as in criminal and quasi-criminal cases,²⁸⁴ “an impartial decision maker” is an “essential” right in civil proceedings as well.²⁸⁵ “The neutrality requirement helps to guarantee that life, liberty, or property will not be taken on the basis of an erroneous or distorted conception of the facts or the law. . . . At the same time, it preserves both the appearance and reality of fairness . . . by ensuring that no person will be deprived of his interests in the absence of a proceeding in which he may present his case with assurance that the arbiter is not predisposed to find against him.”²⁸⁶ Thus, the conduct of deportation hearings by a person who, while he had not investigated the case heard, was also an investigator who must judge the results of others’ investigations just as one of them would some day judge his, raised a substantial problem which was resolved through statutory construction.²⁸⁷ But

²⁷⁷ *Arnett v. Kennedy*, 416 U.S. 134 (1974); *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319 (1976); *Barry v. Barchi*, 443 U.S. 55 (1979).

²⁷⁸ *Id.* at 66.

²⁷⁹ *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 343–45 (1976); *Mitchell v. W.T. Grant Co.*, 416 U.S. 600 (1974); *Mackey v. Montrym*, 443 U.S. 1, 13–17 (1979); *Barry v. Barchi*, 443 U.S. 55, 65–66 (1979).

²⁸⁰ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254 (1970).

²⁸¹ *Goss v. Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565 (1975) (temporary suspension of student from school). *See also Board of Curators v. Horowitz*, 435 U.S. 78 (1978).

²⁸² *Coe v. Armour Fertilizer Works*, 237 U.S. 413, 424 (1915).

²⁸³ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 266–67 (1970); *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 343–45 (1976). *See also FCC v. WJR*, 337 U.S. 265, 275–77 (1949).

²⁸⁴ *Tumey v. Ohio*, 273 U.S. 510 (1927); *In re Murchison*, 349 U.S. 133 (1955).

²⁸⁵ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 271 (1970).

²⁸⁶ *Marshall v. Jerrico*, 446 U.S. 238, 242 (1980); *Schweiker v. McClure*, 456 U.S. 188, 195 (1982).

²⁸⁷ *Wong Yang Sung v. McGrath*, 339 U.S. 33 (1950).

there is a “presumption of honesty and integrity in those serving as adjudicators,”²⁸⁸ so that the burden is on the objecting party to show a conflict of interest or some other specific reason for disqualification of a specific officer or for disapproval of the system. It is not, without more, a violation of due process to combine investigating and adjudicating functions in the same agency,²⁸⁹ although the question of combination of functions is a substantial one in administrative law.²⁹⁰ A showing of bias or of strong implications of bias was deemed made in a case in which the state optometry board, which was made up only of private practitioners, was proceeding against other licensed optometrists for unprofessional conduct, because they were employed by corporations. Since success in the board’s effort would redound to the personal benefit of private practitioners, the Court thought the interest of the board members to be sufficient to disqualify them.²⁹¹ However, the Court held that school board members did not have such an official or personal stake in the decision as to disqualify them from making the decision whether to fire teachers who had engaged in a strike against the school system in violation of state law.²⁹² A lesser standard of impartiality applies to an administrative officer who acts in a prosecutorial role.²⁹³

(4) *Confrontation and Cross-Examination.* “In almost every setting where important decisions turn on questions of fact, due process requires an opportunity to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses.”²⁹⁴ Where the “evidence consists of the testimony of individuals whose memory might be faulty or who, in fact, might be perjurers or persons motivated by malice, vindictiveness, intolerance, prejudice, or jealousy,” the individual’s right to show that it is untrue depends on the rights of confrontation and cross-examination. “This Court has been zealous to protect these rights from ero-

²⁸⁸ *Schweiker v. McClure*, 456 U.S. 188, 195 (1982); *Withrow v. Larkin*, 421 U.S. 35, 47 (1975); *United States v. Morgan*, 313 U.S. 409, 421 (1941).

²⁸⁹ *Withrow v. Larkin*, 421 U.S. 35 (1975).

²⁹⁰ *Id.* at 51.

²⁹¹ *Gibson v. Berryhill*, 411 U.S. 564 (1973).

²⁹² *Hortonville Joint School Dist. v. Hortonville Educ. Ass’n*, 426 U.S. 482 (1976). Compare *Arnett v. Kennedy*, 416 U.S. 134, 170 n.5 (1974) (Justice Powell), with *id.* at 196–99 (Justice White), and 216 (Justice Marshall).

²⁹³ *Marshall v. Jerrico*, 446 U.S. 238, 248–50 (1980) (regional administrator assessing fines for child labor violations, with penalties going into fund to reimburse cost of system of enforcing child labor laws). But “traditions of prosecutorial discretion do not immunize from judicial scrutiny cases in which enforcement decisions of an administrator were motivated by improper factors or were otherwise contrary to law.” *Id.* at 249.

²⁹⁴ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 269 (1970). See also *ICC v. Louisville & Nashville R.R.*, 227 U.S. 88, 93–94 (1913); *Willner v. Committee on Character*, 373 U.S. 96, 103–04 (1963). Cf. §7(c) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §556(d).

sion. It has spoken out not only in criminal cases, . . . but also in all types of cases where administrative . . . actions were under scrutiny.”²⁹⁵

(5) *Discovery*. The Court has never directly confronted this issue, but in one case it did observe in dictum. “[W]here governmental action seriously injures an individual, and the reasonableness of the action depends on fact findings, the evidence used to prove the Government’s case must be disclosed to the individual so that he has an opportunity to show that it is untrue.”²⁹⁶ Some federal agencies have adopted discovery rules modeled on the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Administrative Conference has recommended that all do so.²⁹⁷ There appear to be no cases, however, holding they must, and there is some authority that they cannot absent congressional authorization.²⁹⁸

(6) *Decision on the Record*. [T]he decisionmaker’s conclusion as to a recipients’ eligibility must rest solely on the legal rules and evidence adduced at the hearing. . . . To demonstrate compliance with this elementary requirement, the decisionmaker should state the reasons for his determination and indicate the evidence he relied on . . . though his statement need not amount to a full opinion or even formal findings of fact and conclusions of law.”²⁹⁹

(7) *Counsel*. In *Goldberg v. Kelly*,³⁰⁰ the Court held that an agency must permit the recipient to be represented by and assisted by counsel. It did not, however, decide that the agency must provide counsel for one unable to afford his own and did not decide that the agency need not do so. In the years since, the right of civil litigants in court and persons before agencies who could not afford retained counsel has excited much controversy, and while quite recently the Court has applied its balancing standard to require a case-by-case determination with respect to the right to appointed

²⁹⁵ *Greene v. McElroy*, 360 U.S. 474, 496–97 (1959). *But see* *Richardson v. Perales*, 402 U.S. 389 (1971) (where authors of documentary evidence are known to petitioner and he did not subpoena them, he may not complain that agency relied on that evidence). *Cf. Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 343–45 (1976).

²⁹⁶ *Greene v. McElroy*, 360 U.S. 474, 496 (1959), *quoted with approval in* *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 270 (1970).

²⁹⁷ Recommendations and Reports of the Administrative Conference of the United States 571 (1968–1970).

²⁹⁸ *FMC v. Anglo-Canadian Shipping Co.*, 335 F.2d 255 (9th Cir. 1964); *Fairbank v. Hardin*, 429 F.2d 264, 268 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 400 U.S. 943 (1970).

²⁹⁹ *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 271 (1970). The exclusiveness of the record is fundamental in administrative law. *See* 7(d) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. § 556(e). However, one must show not only that the agency used *ex parte* evidence but that he was prejudiced thereby. *Market Street Ry. v. Railroad Comm’n*, 324 U.S. 548 (1945) (agency decision supported by evidence in record, its decision sustained, disregarding *ex parte* evidence).

³⁰⁰ 397 U.S. 254, 270–71 (1970).

counsel, the matter seems far from settled. In a case involving a state proceeding to terminate the parental rights of an indigent without providing her counsel, the Court recognized as “an extremely important one” the parent’s interest, but observed that the State’s interest in protecting the welfare of children was likewise very important. The interest in correct factfinding was strong on both sides, but, the Court thought, the proceeding was relatively simple, no features were present raising a risk of criminal liability, no expert witnesses were present, and no “specially troublesome” substantive or procedural issues had been raised.³⁰¹ But what tipped the scale in the Court’s decision not to require counsel in this case was the “pre-eminent generalization it drew from its precedents that an indigent has an absolute right to appointed counsel only where he may lose his physical liberty if he loses the litigation.³⁰² Thus, in all other situations when liberty or property interests are present, the right of an indigent to appointed counsel is to be determined on a case-by-case basis, initially by the trial judge, subject to appellate review.³⁰³ In other due process cases involving parental rights, the Court has held that due process requires special state attention to parental rights,³⁰⁴ and it is to be supposed that the counsel issue will recur.

PROCEDURAL DUE PROCESS—CRIMINAL

Generally

The Supreme Court’s guardianship of state criminal justice systems under the due process clause has never been subject to precise statement of metes and bounds. Rather, the Court in each case must ask whether the challenged practice or policy violates “a fundamental principle of liberty and justice which inheres in the

³⁰¹ *Lassiter v. Department of Social Services*, 452 U.S. 18 (1981). The decision was a five-to-four one, Justices Stewart, White, Powell, and Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger in the majority, Justices Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens in dissent. *Id.* at 35, 59.

³⁰² *Id.* at 25–27. The Court purported to draw the distinction from *Gagnon v. Scarpelli*, 411 U.S. 778 (1973) (no *per se* right to counsel in probation revocation proceedings). To introduce this presumption into the balancing, however, appears to disregard the fact that the first factor of *Mathews v. Eldridge*, upon which the Court (and dissent) relied, relates to the importance of the interest to the person claiming the right, thus, at least in this context, reducing the value of the first *Eldridge* factor.

³⁰³ *Id.* at 452 U.S., 31–32. The *Mathews v. Eldridge* standards were drafted in the context of the generality of cases and were not intended for case-by-case application. *Cf.* 424 U.S. 319, 344 (1976).

³⁰⁴ E.g., *Little v. Streater*, 452 U.S. 1 (1981) (indigent entitled to state-funded blood testing in a paternity action the State required to be instituted); *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745 (1982) (imposition of higher standard of proof in case involving state termination of parental rights).

very idea of a free government and is the inalienable right of a citizen of such government.”¹ The question is whether a claimed right is “implicit in the concept of ordered liberty,” whether it partakes “of the very essence of a scheme of ordered liberty.”² Inevitably, judgment expresses a determination that certain practices do or do not “offend those canons of decency and fairness which express the notions of justice of English-speaking peoples even toward those charged with the most heinous offenses.”³ More recently, the Court has eschewed as too abstract an inquiry as to whether some procedural safeguard was necessary before a system could be imagined which would be regarded as civilized without that safeguard. Rather, “[t]he recent cases . . . have proceeded upon the valid assumption that state criminal processes are not imaginary and theoretical schemes but actual systems bearing virtually every characteristic of the common-law system that has been developing contemporaneously in England and in this country. The question thus is whether given this kind of system a particular procedure is fundamental—whether, that is, a procedure is necessary to an Anglo-American regime of ordered liberty. . . . [Therefore the limitations imposed by the Court on the States are] not necessarily fundamental to fairness in every criminal system that might be imagined but [are] fundamental in the context of the criminal processes maintained by the American States.”⁴

Applying this analysis the Court in recent years has held that practically all the criminal procedural guarantees of the Bill of Rights—the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Eighth Amendments—contain limitations which are fundamental to state criminal justice systems and that the absence of one or the other particular guarantees denies a suspect or a defendant due process of law.⁵ However, the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment is not limited to those specific guarantees spelled out in the Bill of Rights,⁶ but rather contains protection against practices and policies which may fall short of fundamental fairness without running afoul of a specific provision.⁷

¹ *Twining v. New Jersey*, 211 U.S. 78, 106 (1908).

² *Palko v. Connecticut*, 302 U.S. 319, 325 (1937).

³ *Rochin v. California*, 342 U.S. 165, 169 (1952).

⁴ *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 149 n.14 (1968).

⁵ *Supra*, pp. 957–64.

⁶ Justice Black thought the Fourteenth Amendment should be limited in this regard to the specific guarantees found elsewhere in the Bill of Rights. *See, e.g., In re Winship*, 397 U.S. 358, 377 (1970) (dissenting). For Justice Harlan's response, see *id.* at 372 n.5 (concurring).

⁷ *In re Winship*, 397 U.S. 358 (1970), held that, despite the absence of a specific constitutional provision requiring proof beyond a reasonable doubt in criminal cases, such proof is a due process requirement. For other recurrences to general due process reasoning, as distinct from reliance on more specific Bill of Rights provisions,

The Elements of Due Process

Clarity in Criminal Statutes: The Void-for-Vagueness Doctrine.—“Legislation may run afoul of the Due Process Clause because it fails to give adequate guidance to those who would be law-abiding, to advise defendants of the nature of the offense with which they are charged, or to guide courts in trying those who are accused.”⁸ Acts which are made criminal “must be defined with appropriate definiteness.”⁹ “There must be ascertainable standards of guilt. Men of common intelligence cannot be required to guess at the meaning of the enactment. The vagueness may be from uncertainty in regard to persons within the scope of the act . . . or in regard to the applicable tests to ascertain guilt.”¹⁰ Statutes which lack the requisite definiteness or specificity are commonly held “void for vagueness.” Such a statute may be pronounced wholly unconstitutional (unconstitutional “on its face”),¹¹ or, if the statute could be applied to both prohibitable and to protected conduct and its valuable effects outweigh its potential general harm, it could be held unconstitutional as applied.¹² Generally, a vague statute that regulates in the area of First Amendment guarantees will be pronounced wholly void,¹³ while one that does not reach such protected conduct will either be upheld because it is applied to clearly proscribable conduct, or voided as applied when the conduct is marginal and the proscription is unclear.¹⁴

see, e.g., *Chambers v. Mississippi*, 410 U.S. 284 (1973); *Wardius v. Oregon*, 412 U.S. 470 (1973); *Mullaney v. Wilbur*, 421 U.S. 684 (1975); *Estelle v. Williams*, 425 U.S. 501 (1976); *Henderson v. Kibbe*, 431 U.S. 145 (1977); *Patterson v. New York*, 432 U.S. 197 (1977); *Taylor v. Kentucky*, 436 U.S. 478 (1978); *Kentucky v. Whorton*, 441 U.S. 786 (1979); *Sandstrom v. Montana*, 442 U.S. 510 (1979); *Hicks v. Oklahoma*, 447 U.S. 343 (1980).

⁸*Musser v. Utah*, 333 U.S. 95, 97 (1948). “Vague laws offend several important values. First, because we assume that man is free to steer between lawful and unlawful conduct, we insist that laws give the person of ordinary intelligence a reasonable opportunity to know what is prohibited, so that he may act accordingly. Vague laws may trap the innocent by not providing fair warnings. Second, if arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement is to be prevented, laws must provide explicit standards for those who apply them. A vague law impermissibly delegates basic policy matters to policemen, judges, and juries for resolution on an *ad hoc* and subjective basis, with the attendant dangers of arbitrary and discriminatory applications.” *Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104, 108–09 (1972), *quoted in Village of Hoffman Estates v. The Flipside*, 455 U.S. 489, 498 (1982).

⁹*Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 308 (1940).

¹⁰*Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507, 515–16 (1948). *Cf. Colten v. Kentucky*, 407 U.S. 104, 110 (1972).

¹¹*Papachristou v. City of Jacksonville*, 405 U.S. 156 (1972); *Smith v. Goguen*, 415 U.S. 566 (1974).

¹²*Palmer v. City of Euclid*, 402 U.S. 544 (1971); *Village of Hoffman Estates v. The Flipside*, 455 U.S. 489, 494–95 (1982).

¹³*Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507, 509–10 (1948); *Thornhill v. Alabama*, 310 U.S. 88 (1940).

¹⁴E.g., *United States v. National Dairy Corp.*, 372 U.S. 29 (1963).

The Court voided for vagueness a statute providing that any person not engaged in any lawful occupation, known to be a member of any gang consisting of two or more persons, who had been convicted at least three times of being a disorderly person, or who had been convicted of any crime in that or any other State, is to be considered a gangster and subject to fine or imprisonment. The Court observed that neither at the common law nor by statute are the words “gang” and “gangster” given definite meaning, that the enforcing agencies and courts were free to construe the terms broadly or narrowly, and that the phrase “known to be a member” was ambiguous. The statute was held void on its face, and the Court refused to allow specification of details in the particular indictment to save it because it was the statute, not the accusation, that prescribed the rule to govern conduct.¹⁵

Possibly concluding a controversy of long standing with regard to the validity of vagrancy laws as generally written,¹⁶ a unanimous Court in *Papachristou v. City of Jacksonville*¹⁷ struck down for vagueness an ordinance which punished “dissolute persons who go about begging, . . . common night walkers, . . . common railers and brawlers, persons wandering or strolling around from place to place without any lawful purpose or object, habitual loafers, . . . persons neglecting all lawful business and habitually spending their time by frequenting house of ill fame, gaming houses, or places where alcoholic beverages are sold or served, persons able to work but habitually living upon the earnings of their wives or minor children. . . .” The ordinance was invalid, said Justice Douglas for the Court, because it did not give fair notice, did not require specific intent to commit an unlawful act, permitted and encouraged arbitrary and erratic arrests and convictions, committed too much discretion to policemen, and criminalized activities which by modern standards are normally innocent. Similarly, an ordinance making it a criminal offense for three or more persons to assemble on a sidewalk and conduct themselves in a manner annoying to passers-by was impermissibly vague; because it encroached on the freedom of assembly it was void on its face.¹⁸ But an ordinance

¹⁵ *Lanzetta v. New Jersey*, 306 U.S. 451 (1939); *Edelman v. California*, 344 U.S. 357 (1953).

¹⁶ E.g., *Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507, 540 (1948) (Justice Frankfurter dissenting); *Edelman v. California*, 344 U.S. 357, 362 (1953) (Justice Black dissenting); *Hicks v. District of Columbia*, 383 U.S. 252 (1966) (Justice Douglas dissenting).

¹⁷ 405 U.S. 156 (1972).

¹⁸ *Coates v. City of Cincinnati*, 402 U.S. 611 (1971). See also *Shuttlesworth v. City of Birmingham*, 382 U.S. 87 (1965). *Bouie v. City of Columbia*, 378 U.S. 347 (1964), voided conviction on trespass charges arising out of a sit-in at a drugstore lunch counter since the trespass statute did not give fair notice that it was a crime to refuse to leave private premises after being requested to do so. And see *Kolender*

punishing “suspicious persons” was void only as applied to a person engaging in ambiguous conduct which it was possible to fit within the ordinance’s definition.¹⁹ A statute authorizing conviction for disorderly conduct of any person who refuses to move on upon police request and who is intent on causing inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm was upheld against facial challenge and as applied to one interfering with police ticketing of a car for valid reasons.²⁰

A state statute imposing severe, cumulative punishments upon contractors with the State who pay their workmen less than the “current rate of per diem wages in the locality where the work is performed” was held to be “so vague that men of common intelligence must necessarily guess at its meaning and differ as to its application.”²¹ Similarly, a statute which allowed jurors to require an acquitted defendant to pay the costs of the prosecution, elucidated only by the judge’s instruction to the jury that the defendant should only have to pay the costs if it thought him guilty of “some misconduct” though innocent of the crime with which he was charged, was found to fall short of the requirements of due process.²² But the Court sustained as neither too vague nor indefinite a state law which provided for commitment of a psychopathic personality by probate action akin to a lunacy proceeding and which had been construed by the state court as applying to those persons who, by habitual course of misconduct in sexual matters, have evidenced utter lack of power to control their sexual impulses and are likely to inflict injury. The underlying conditions—habitual course of misconduct in sexual matters and lack of power to control impulses and likelihood of attack on others—were viewed as calling for evidence of past conduct pointing to probable consequences and as being as susceptible of proof as many of the criteria constantly applied in criminal proceedings.²³

Other Aspects of Statutory Notice.—Conceptually related to the problem of definiteness in criminal statutes is the problem of the requisite notice a person must have that a statute commands that something not be done or alternatively that unless something is done criminal liability will result. Ordinarily, it can be said that ignorance of the law affords no excuse, that everyone is presumed to know that certain things may not be done. Moreover, in other

v. Lawson, 461 U.S. 352 (1983) (requirement that person detained in valid *Terry* stop provide “credible and reliable” identification is facially void as encouraging arbitrary enforcement).

¹⁹Palmer v. City of Euclid, 402 U.S. 544 (1971).

²⁰Colten v. Kentucky, 407 U.S. 104 (1972).

²¹Connally v. General Construction Co., 269 U.S. 385 (1926).

²²Giaccio v. Pennsylvania, 382 U.S. 399 (1966).

²³Minnesota ex rel. Pearson v. Probate Court, 309 U.S. 270 (1940).

instances, the subject matter or conduct may be sufficient to alert one that there are regulatory laws which must be observed.²⁴ In still other instances, the requirement of “scienter” may take care of the problem in that there may be a statutory requirement of intent expressed through some form of the word “willful,”²⁵ but the Court has so far failed in dealing with those cases involving strict liability to develop the implications of the *mens rea* requirement.²⁶ There remains the case of *Lambert v. California*,²⁷ invalidating a municipal code that made it a crime for anyone who had ever been convicted of a felony to remain in the city for more than five days without registering. Emphasizing that the act of being in the city was not itself blameworthy, the Court voided the conviction, holding that the failure to register was quite “unlike the commission of acts, or the failure to act under circumstances that should alert the doer to the consequences of his deed.” “Where a person did not know of the duty to register and where there was no proof of the probability of such knowledge, he may not be convicted consistently with due process. Were it otherwise, the evil would be as great as it is when the law is written in print too fine to read or in a language foreign to the community.”²⁸

Entrapment.—Certain criminal offenses, because they are consensual actions taken between and among willing parties, present police with difficult investigative problems. Some of that difficulty may be alleviated through electronic and other surveillance, which is covered by the search and seizure provisions of the Fourth Amendment, and in other respects informers may be utilized, which may implicate several constitutional provisions. Sometimes, however, police agents may “encourage” persons to engage in criminal behavior, by seeking to buy from them or to sell to them narcotics or contraband or by seeking to determine if public employees or officers are corrupt by offering them bribes. The Court has dealt with this issue in terms of the “entrapment” defense, though it is unclear whether the basis of the defense is one of statutory construction—the legislature would not have intended to punish conduct induced by police agents—one of supervisory authority of the federal courts to deter wrongful police conduct, or one of due process command.²⁹

²⁴ E.g., *United States v. Freed*, 401 U.S. 601 (1971).

²⁵ E.g., *Boyce Motor Lines v. United States*, 342 U.S. 337 (1952); *Colautti v. Franklin*, 439 U.S. 379, 395 (1979). *Cf.* *Screws v. United States*, 325 U.S. 91, 101–03 (1945) (plurality opinion).

²⁶ E.g., *Morissette v. United States*, 342 U.S. 246 (1952).

²⁷ 355 U.S. 225 (1957).

²⁸ *Id.* at 228, 229–30.

²⁹ For a thorough evaluation of the basis for and the nature of the entrapment defense, see Seidman, *The Supreme Court, Entrapment, and Our Criminal Justice*

The Court has employed the so-called “subjective approach” to evaluating the defense of entrapment. This subjective approach follows a two-pronged analysis. First, the question is asked whether the offense was induced by a government agent. Second, if the government has induced the defendant to break the law, “the prosecution must prove beyond reasonable doubt that the defendant was disposed to commit the criminal act prior to first being approached by Government agents.”³⁰ If the defendant can be shown to have been ready and willing to commit the crime whenever the opportunity presented itself, the defense of entrapment is unavailing, no matter the degree of inducement.³¹ On the other hand, “[w]hen the Government’s quest for conviction leads to the apprehension of an otherwise law-abiding citizen who, if left to his own devices, likely would never run afoul of the law, the courts should intervene.”³² An “objective approach,” while rejected by the Supreme Court, has been advocated by some Justices and recommended for codification

Dilemma, 1981 SUP. CT. REV. 111. The statutory basis was said to be the ground in the Court’s first discussion of the issue, *Sorrells v. United States*, 287 U.S. 435, 446–49 (1932), and that basis remains the choice of some Justices. *Hampton v. United States*, 425 U.S. 484, 488–89 (1976) (plurality opinion of Justices Rehnquist and White and Chief Justice Burger). The supervisory power basis was argued by Justice Frankfurter in *Sherman v. United States*, 356 U.S. 369, 380 (1958) (concurring). Utilization of that power was rejected in *United States v. Russell*, 411 U.S. 423, 490 (1973), and by the plurality in *Hampton*, *supra*, 490. The *Hampton* plurality thought the due process clause would never be applicable, no matter what conduct government agents engaged in, unless they violated some protected right of the defendant, and that inducement and encouragement could never do that; Justices Powell and Blackmun, *id.* at 491, thought that police conduct, even in the case of a predisposed defendant, could be so outrageous as to violate due process. The *Russell* and *Hampton* dissenters did not clearly differentiate between the supervisory power and due process but seemed to believe that both were implicated. *Id.* at 495 (Justices Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall); *Russell*, *supra*, 439 (Justices Stewart, Brennan, and Marshall). The Court again failed to clarify the basis for the defense in *Mathews v. United States*, 485 U.S. 58 (1988), holding that a defendant in a federal criminal case who denies commission of the crime is entitled to assert an “inconsistent” entrapment defense where the evidence warrants, and in *Jacobson v. United States*, 112 S. Ct. 1535, 1540 (1992) (invalidating a conviction under the Child Protection Act of 1984 because government solicitation induced the defendant to purchase child pornography).

³⁰ *Jacobson v. United States*, 112 S. Ct. 1535, 1540 (1992). Here the Court held that the government had failed to prove that the defendant was initially predisposed to purchase child pornography, even though he had become so predisposed following solicitation through an undercover “sting” operation. For several years government agents had sent the defendant mailings soliciting his views on pornography and child pornography, and urging him to obtain materials in order to fight censorship and stand up for individual rights.

³¹ *Sorrells v. United States*, 287 U.S. 435, 451–52 (1932); *Sherman v. United States*, 356 U.S. 369, 376–78 (1958); *Masciale v. United States*, 356 U.S. 386, 388 (1958); *United States v. Russell*, 411 U.S. 423, 432–36 (1973); *Hampton v. United States*, 425 U.S. 484, 488–489 (1976) (plurality opinion), and *id.* at 491 (Justices Powell and Blackmun concurring).

³² *Jacobson v. United States*, 112 S. Ct. 1535, 1543 (1992).

by Congress and the state legislatures.³³ The objective approach disregards the defendant's predisposition and looks to the inducements used by government agents. If the government employed means of persuasion or inducement creating a substantial risk that the person tempted will engage in the conduct, the defense is available.³⁴ Typically, entrapment cases have risen in the narcotics area,³⁵ but more recently, as in the "Abscam" controversy, the focus has been on public corruption and the offering of bribes to public officials.³⁶

Criminal Identification Process.—The conduct by police of identification processes seeking to identify the perpetrators of crimes—by lineups, showups, photographic displays, and the like—can raise due process problems. For postindictment lineups and showups conducted before June 12, 1967,³⁷ for preindictment lineups and showups,³⁸ and for identification processes at which the defendant is not present,³⁹ the question of the admissibility of an in-court identification or of testimony about an out-of-court identification is whether there is "a very substantial likelihood of misidentification," and that question must be determined "on the totality of the circumstances."⁴⁰

"Suggestive confrontations are disapproved because they increase the likelihood of misidentification, and unnecessarily suggestive ones are condemned for the further reason that the increased

³³ See American Law Institute, MODEL PENAL CODE § 2.13 (Official Draft, 1962); NATIONAL COMMISSION ON REFORM OF FEDERAL CRIMINAL LAWS, A PROPOSED NEW FEDERAL CRIMINAL CODE § 702(2) (Final Draft, 1971).

³⁴ *Sorrells v. United States*, 287 U.S. 435, 458–59 (1932) (separate opinion of Justice Roberts); *Sherman v. United States*, 356 U.S. 369, 383 (1958) (Justice Frankfurter concurring); *United States v. Russell*, 411 U.S. 423, 441 (1973) (Justice Stewart dissenting); *Hampton v. United States*, 425 U.S. 484, 496–97 (1976) (Justice Brennan dissenting).

³⁵ Thus, in *Sorrells* and *Sherman* government agents solicited defendants, in *Russell* the agents supplied an ingredient, which was commonly available, and in *Hampton* the agents supplied an essential and difficult to obtain ingredient.

³⁶ The defense was rejected as to all the "Abscam" defendants. E.g., *United States v. Kelly*, 707 F.2d 1460 (D.C. Cir. 1983); *United States v. Williams*, 705 F.2d 603 (2d Cir. 1983); *United States v. Jannotti*, 673 F.2d 578 (3d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 457 U.S. 1106 (1982).

³⁷ *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293 (1967).

³⁸ *Kirby v. Illinois*, 406 U.S. 682 (1972).

³⁹ *United States v. Ash*, 413 U.S. 300 (1973).

⁴⁰ *Neil v. Biggers*, 409 U.S. 188, 196–201 (1972); *Manson v. Brathwaite*, 432 U.S. 98, 114–17 (1977). The factors to be considered in evaluating the likelihood of misidentification include the opportunity of the witness to view the suspect at the time of the crime, the witness' degree of attention, the accuracy of the witness' prior description of the suspect, the level of certainty demonstrated by the witness at the confrontation, and the length of time between the crime and the confrontation. See also *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293 (1967); *Simmons v. United States*, 390 U.S. 377 (1968); *Foster v. California*, 394 U.S. 440 (1969); *Coleman v. Alabama*, 399 U.S. 1 (1970).

chance of misidentification is gratuitous.”⁴¹ But, balancing the factors that it thought furnished the guidance for decision, the Court declined to lay down a *per se* rule of exclusion of an identification because it was obtained under conditions of unnecessary suggestiveness alone, feeling that the fairness standard of due process does not require an evidentiary rule of such severity.⁴²

Initiation of the Prosecution.—Indictment by a grand jury is not a requirement of due process; a State may proceed instead by information.⁴³ Due process does require that, whatever the procedure, a defendant must be given adequate notice of the offense charged against him and for which he is to be tried,⁴⁴ even aside from the requirements of the Sixth Amendment. Where, of course, a grand jury is utilized, it must be fairly constituted and free from prejudicial influences.⁴⁵

Fair Trial.—The provisions of the Bill of Rights now applicable to the States contain basic guarantees of a fair trial—right to counsel, right to speedy and public trial, right to be free from use of unlawfully seized evidence and unlawfully obtained confessions, and the like. But this does not exhaust the requirements of fairness. “Due process of law requires that the proceedings shall be fair, but fairness is a relative, not an absolute concept. . . . What is fair in one set of circumstances may be an act of tyranny in others.”⁴⁶ Conversely, “as applied to a criminal trial, denial of due

⁴¹ Neil v. Biggers, 409 U.S. 188, 198 (1972).

⁴² Manson v. Brathwaite, 432 U.S. 98, 107–14 (1977). The evaluative factors were what the *per se* rule and the less strict rule contributed to excluding unreliable eyewitness testimony from jury consideration, to deterrence of suggestive procedures, and to the administration of justice. The possibility of a *per se* rule in post-*Stovall* cases had been left open in Neil v. Biggers, 409 U.S. 188, 199 (1972). Due process does not require that the in-court hearing to determine whether to exclude a witness' identification as arrived at improperly be out of the presence of the jury. Watkins v. Sowders, 449 U.S. 341 (1981).

⁴³ Hurtado v. California, 110 U.S. 516 (1884).

⁴⁴ Smith v. O'Grady, 312 U.S. 329 (1941) (guilty plea of layman unrepresented by counsel to what prosecution represented as a charge of simple burglary but which was in fact a charge of “burglary with explosives” carrying a much lengthier sentence is void). See also Cole v. Arkansas, 333 U.S. 196 (1948) (affirmance by appellate court of conviction and sentence on ground that evidence showed defendant guilty under a section of the statute not charged violated due process); In re Ruffalo, 390 U.S. 544 (1968) (disbarment in proceeding on charge which was not made until after lawyer had testified denied due process); Rabe v. Washington, 405 U.S. 313 (1972) (affirmance of obscenity conviction because of the context in which a movie was shown—grounds neither covered in the statute nor listed in the charge—was invalid).

⁴⁵ Norris v. Alabama, 294 U.S. 587 (1935); Cassell v. Texas, 339 U.S. 282 (1950); Eubanks v. Louisiana, 356 U.S. 584 (1958); Hernandez v. Texas, 347 U.S. 475 (1954); Pierre v. Louisiana, 306 U.S. 354 (1939). See *infra*, pp. 1854–57. On prejudicial publicity, see Beck v. Washington, 369 U.S. 541 (1962).

⁴⁶ Snyder v. Massachusetts, 291 U.S. 97, 116, 117 (1934). See also Buchalter v. New York, 319 U.S. 427, 429 (1943).

process is the failure to observe that fundamental fairness essential to the very concept of justice. In order to declare a denial of it . . . [the Court] must find that the absence of that fairness fatally infected the trial; the acts complained of must be of such quality as necessarily prevents a fair trial.”⁴⁷

Bias or prejudice either inherent in the structure of the trial system or as imposed by external events will deny one’s right to a fair trial. Thus, in *Tumey v. Ohio*⁴⁸ it was held to violate due process to vest trial of offenders in a judge who received, in addition to his salary, the costs imposed on a convicted defendant, and who was also mayor of the municipality which received part of the money collected in fines. The influence of contemptuous misbehavior in court upon the impartiality of the presiding judge who may cite for contempt and sentence contemnors has divided the Court.⁴⁹ Due process is also violated by the participation of a biased or otherwise partial juror, but there is no presumption that jurors who are potentially compromised are in fact prejudiced; ordinarily the proper avenue of relief is a hearing at which the juror may be questioned and the defense afforded an opportunity to prove actual bias.⁵⁰ Exposure to pretrial publicity does not necessarily bias jurors. Thus, a trial judge’s refusal to question potential jurors about the contents of news reports to which they had been exposed did not violate the defendant’s right to due process, it being sufficient that the judge on *voir dire* asked the jurors whether they could put aside what they had heard about the case, listen to the evidence with an open mind, and render an impartial verdict.⁵¹ It is not a denial of due process for the prosecution to

⁴⁷*Lisenba v. California*, 314 U.S. 219, 236 (1941).

⁴⁸273 U.S. 510 (1927). *See also* *Ward v. Village of Monroeville*, 409 U.S. 57 (1972). *But see* *Dugan v. Ohio*, 277 U.S. 61 (1928). Bias or prejudice of an appellate judge can also deprive a litigant of due process. *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. LaVoie*, 475 U.S. 813 (1986) (failure of state supreme court judge with pecuniary interest—a pending suit on an indistinguishable claim—to recuse).

⁴⁹E.g., *Fisher v. Pace*, 336 U.S. 155 (1949); *Ungar v. Sarafite*, 376 U.S. 575 (1964); *Holt v. Virginia*, 381 U.S. 131 (1965); *Mayberry v. Pennsylvania*, 400 U.S. 455 (1971); *Johnson v. Mississippi*, 403 U.S. 212 (1971); *Taylor v. Hayes*, 418 U.S. 488 (1974). *See generally* *Illinois v. Allen*, 397 U.S. 337 (1970). In the context of alleged contempt before a judge acting as a one-man grand jury, the Court reversed criminal contempt convictions, saying: “A fair trial in a fair tribunal is a basic requirement of due process. Fairness of course requires an absence of actual bias in the trial of cases. But our system of law has always endeavored to prevent even the probability of unfairness.” *In re Murchison*, 349 U.S. 133, 136 (1955).

⁵⁰*Smith v. Phillips*, 455 U.S. 209 (1982) (juror had job application pending with prosecutor’s office during trial). *See also* *Remmer v. United States*, 347 U.S. 227 (1954) (bribe offer to sitting juror); *Dennis v. United States*, 339 U.S. 162, 167–72 (1950) (government employees on jury).

⁵¹*Mu’Min v. Virginia*, 500 U.S. 415 (1991). For discussion of the requirements of jury impartiality about capital punishment, see discussion under Sixth Amendment, *supra* p. 1415.

call the jury's attention to the defendant's prior criminal record when the object is to enable the jury, which has the sentencing function as well as the guilt-determination function, once it has determined guilt or innocence and if the former, to increase the sentence which would otherwise be given under a recidivist statute.⁵²

Mob domination of a trial so as to rob the jury of its judgment on the evidence presented, is, of course, a classic due process violation.⁵³ More recently, concern with the impact of prejudicial publicity upon jurors and potential jurors has caused the Court to instruct trial courts that they should be vigilant to guard against such prejudice and to curb both the publicity and the jury's exposure to it.⁵⁴ A state rule permitting the televising of certain trials was struck down on the grounds that the harmful potential effect on the jurors was substantial, that the testimony presented at trial may be distorted by the multifaceted influence of television upon the conduct of witnesses, that the judge's ability to preside over the trial and guarantee fairness is considerably encumbered to the possible detriment of fairness, and that the defendant is likely to be harassed by his television exposure.⁵⁵ Subsequently, however, in part because of improvements in technology which caused much less disruption of the trial process and in part because of the lack of empirical data showing that the mere presence of the broadcast media in the courtroom necessarily has an adverse effect on the process, the Court has held that due process does not altogether preclude the televising of state criminal trials.⁵⁶

It is permissible for the State to require a defendant to give pretrial notice of an intention to rely on an alibi defense and to furnish the names of supporting witnesses, but due process requires reciprocal discovery in such circumstances, necessitating that the State give defendant pretrial notice of its rebuttal evidence on the alibi issue.⁵⁷ Because of the possible impairment of the presumption of innocence in the minds of the jurors, due process is violated when the accused is compelled to stand trial before a jury while

⁵² *Spencer v. Texas*, 385 U.S. 554 (1967).

⁵³ *Frank v. Mangum*, 237 U.S. 309 (1915); *Moore v. Dempsey*, 261 U.S. 86 (1923).

⁵⁴ *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966); *Rideau v. Louisiana*, 373 U.S. 723 (1963); *Irvin v. Dowd*, 366 U.S. 717 (1961); *But see Stroble v. California*, 343 U.S. 181 (1952); *Murphy v. Florida*, 421 U.S. 794 (1975).

⁵⁵ *Estes v. Texas*, 381 U.S. 532 (1965).

⁵⁶ *Chandler v. Florida*, 449 U.S. 560 (1981). The decision was unanimous but Justices Stewart and White concurred on the basis that *Estes* had established a *per se* constitutional rule which had to be overruled, *id.* at 583, 586, contrary to the Court's position. *Id.* at 570-74.

⁵⁷ *Wardius v. Oregon*, 412 U.S. 470 (1973).

dressed in identifiable prison clothes.⁵⁸ Ordinary evidentiary rules of criminal trials may in some instances deny a defendant due process. Thus, the combination in a trial of two rules (1) that denied defendant the right to cross-examine his own witness, whom he had called because the prosecution would not, in order to elicit evidence exculpatory to defendant and (2) that denied defendant the right to introduce the testimony of witnesses about matters told them out of court on the ground the testimony would be hearsay, under all the circumstances, denied defendant his constitutional right to present his own defense in a meaningful way.⁵⁹ Basic to due process is the right to testify in one's own defense; this right may not be restricted, the Court has held, by a state's *per se* rule excluding all hypnotically refreshed testimony.⁶⁰ Even though the burden on defendant is heavy to show that an erroneous instruction or the failure to give a requested instruction tainted his conviction, under some circumstances it is a violation of due process and reversible error to fail to instruct the jury that the defendant is entitled to a presumption of innocence.⁶¹ It does not deny a de-

⁵⁸ *Estelle v. Williams*, 425 U.S. 501 (1976). The convicted defendant was denied *habeas* relief, however, because of failure to object at trial. *But cf.* *Holbrook v. Flynn*, 475 U.S. 560 (1986) (presence in courtroom of uniformed state troopers serving as security guards was not the same sort of inherently prejudicial situation).

⁵⁹ *Chambers v. Mississippi*, 410 U.S. 284 (1973). *See also* *Davis v. Alaska*, 415 U.S. 786 (1974) (refusal to permit defendant to examine prosecution witness about his adjudication as juvenile delinquent and status on probation at time, in order to show possible bias, was due process violation, although general principle of protecting anonymity of juvenile offenders was valid); *Crane v. Kentucky*, 476 U.S. 683 (1986) (exclusion of testimony as to circumstances of a confession can deprive a defendant of a fair trial when the circumstances bear on the credibility as well as the voluntariness of the confession).

⁶⁰ *Rock v. Arkansas*, 483 U.S. 44 (1987).

⁶¹ *Taylor v. Kentucky*, 436 U.S. 478 (1978). However, an instruction on the presumption of innocence need not be given in every case, *Kentucky v. Whorton*, 441 U.S. 786 (1979), the Court reiterating that the totality of the circumstances must be looked to in order to determine if failure to so instruct denied due process. The circumstances emphasized in *Taylor* included the skeletal instruction on burden of proof combined with the prosecutor's remarks in his opening and closing statements inviting the jury to consider the defendant's prior record and his indictment in the present case as indicating guilt. *See also* *Sandstrom v. Montana*, 442 U.S. 510 (1979) (instructing jury trying person charged with "purposely or knowingly" causing victim's death that "law presumes that a person intends the ordinary consequences of his voluntary acts" denied due process because jury could have treated the presumption as conclusive or as shifting burden of persuasion and in either event State would not have carried its burden of proving guilt). *And see* *Cupp v. Naughten*, 414 U.S. 141 (1973); *Henderson v. Kibbe*, 431 U.S. 145, 154-55 (1973). For other cases applying *Sandstrom*, *see* *Francis v. Franklin*, 471 U.S. 307 (1985) (contradictory but ambiguous instruction not clearly explaining state's burden of persuasion on intent does not erase *Sandstrom* error in earlier part of charge); *Rose v. Clark*, 478 U.S. 570 (1986) (*Sandstrom* error can in some circumstances constitute harmless error under principles of *Chapman v. California*, 386 U.S. 18 (1967)). Similarly, improper arguments by a prosecutor do not necessarily constitute "plain error," and a reviewing court may consider in the context of the entire record of the

defendant due process to subject him initially to trial before a nonlawyer police court judge when there is a later trial *de novo* available under the State's court system.⁶²

Guilty Pleas.—A defendant may plead guilty instead of insisting that the prosecution prove him guilty. There are a number of different reasons why a defendant may be willing to plead guilty, perhaps because of overwhelming evidence against him, perhaps because, while the evidence leaves the outcome in doubt, should he go to trial and be convicted his sentence will be more severe than if he pleads guilty, perhaps to secure some other advantage. Often the defendant and his attorney engage in “plea bargaining” with the prosecution so that he is guaranteed a light sentence or is allowed to plead to a lesser offense. While the government may not structure its system so as to coerce a guilty plea,⁶³ a guilty plea that is entered voluntarily, knowingly, and understandingly, even to obtain an advantage, is sufficient to overcome constitutional objections.⁶⁴ The guilty plea and the often concomitant plea bargain are important and necessary components of the criminal justice system,⁶⁵ and it is not impermissible for a prosecutor during such plea bargains to put a defendant to a hard choice, requiring him to forego his right to go to trial in return for escaping what is likely to be a much more severe penalty if he does elect to go to trial.⁶⁶

trial the trial court's failure to redress such error in the absence of contemporaneous objection. *United States v. Young*, 470 U.S. 1 (1985).

⁶² *North v. Russell*, 427 U.S. 328 (1976).

⁶³ *United States v. Jackson*, 390 U.S. 570 (1968).

⁶⁴ *North Carolina v. Alford*, 400 U.S. 25 (1971); *Parker v. North Carolina*, 397 U.S. 790 (1970). See also *Brady v. United States*, 397 U.S. 742 (1970). A guilty plea will ordinarily waive challenges to alleged unconstitutional police practices occurring prior to the plea, unless the defendant can show that the plea resulted from incompetent counsel. *Tollett v. Henderson*, 411 U.S. 258 (1973); *Davis v. United States*, 411 U.S. 233 (1973). But see *Blackledge v. Perry*, 417 U.S. 21 (1974). The State can permit pleas of guilty in which the defendant reserves the right to raise constitutional questions on appeal, and federal *habeas* courts will honor that arrangement. *Lefkowitz v. Newsome*, 420 U.S. 283 (1975). Release-dismissal agreements, pursuant to which the prosecution agrees to dismiss criminal charges in exchange for the defendant's agreement to release his right to file a civil action for alleged police or prosecutorial misconduct, are not *per se* invalid. *Town of Newton v. Rumery*, 480 U.S. 386 (1987).

⁶⁵ *Blackledge v. Allison*, 431 U.S. 63, 71 (1977).

⁶⁶ *Bordenkircher v. Hayes*, 434 U.S. 357 (1978). Charged with forgery, Hayes was informed during plea negotiations that if he would plead guilty the prosecutor would recommend a five-year sentence; if he did not plead guilty, the prosecutor would also seek an indictment under the habitual criminal statute under which Hayes, because of two prior felony convictions, would receive a mandatory life sentence if convicted. Hayes refused to plead, was reindicted, and upon conviction was sentenced to life. Four Justices dissented, *id.* at 365, 368, contending that the Court had watered down *North Carolina v. Pearce*, 395 U.S. 711 (1969). See also *United States v. Goodwin*, 457 U.S. 368 (1982).

The court must inquire whether the defendant is pleading voluntarily, knowingly, and understandingly,⁶⁷ and “the adjudicative element inherent in accepting a plea of guilty must be attended by safeguards to insure the defendant what is reasonably due in the circumstances. Those circumstances will vary, but a constant factor is that when a plea rests in any significant degree on a promise or agreement of the prosecutor, so that it can be said to be part of the inducement or consideration, such promise must be fulfilled.”⁶⁸

Prosecutorial Misconduct.—When a conviction is obtained by the presentation of testimony known to the prosecuting authorities to have been perjured, due process is violated. The clause “cannot be deemed to be satisfied by mere notice and hearing if a State has contrived a conviction through the pretense of a trial which in truth is but used as a means of depriving a defendant of liberty through a deliberate deception of court and jury by the presentation of testimony known to be perjured. Such a contrivance . . . is as inconsistent with the rudimentary demands of justice as is the obtaining of a like result by intimidation.”⁶⁹ The quoted language was dictum in the case in which it was uttered,⁷⁰ but the principle enunciated has been utilized to require state officials to controvert allegations of convicted persons that knowingly false tes-

⁶⁷Boykin v. Alabama, 395 U.S. 238 (1969). In Henderson v. Morgan, 426 U.S. 637 (1976), the Court held that a defendant charged with first degree murder who elected to plead guilty to second degree murder had not voluntarily, in the constitutional sense, entered the plea because neither his counsel nor the trial judge had informed him that an intent to cause the death of the victim was an essential element of guilt in the second degree; consequently no showing was made that he knowingly was admitting such intent. “A plea may be involuntary either because the accused does not understand the nature of the constitutional protections that he is waiving . . . or because he has such an incomplete understanding of the charge that his plea cannot stand as an intelligent admission of guilt.” *Id.* at 645 n.13. See also Blackledge v. Allison, 431 U.S. 63 (1977).

⁶⁸Santobello v. New York, 404 U.S. 257, 262 (1971). Defendant and a prosecutor reached agreement on a guilty plea in return for no sentence recommendation by the prosecution. At the sentencing hearing months later, a different prosecutor recommended the maximum sentence, and that sentence was imposed. The Court vacated the judgment, holding that the prosecutor’s entire staff was bound by the promise. Prior to the plea, however, the prosecutor may withdraw his first offer, and a defendant who later pled guilty after accepting a second, less attractive offer has no right to enforcement of the first agreement. Mabry v. Johnson, 467 U.S. 504 (1984).

⁶⁹Mooney v. Holahan, 294 U.S. 103, 112 (1935).

⁷⁰The Court dismissed the petitioner’s suit on the ground that adequate process existed in the state courts to correct any wrong and that petitioner had not availed himself of it. A state court subsequently appraised the evidence and ruled that the allegations had not been proved in *Ex parte Mooney*, 10 Cal. 2d 1, 73 P.2d 554 (1937), *cert. denied* 305 U.S. 598 (1938).

timony had been used to convict,⁷¹ and to upset convictions found to have been so procured.⁷² Extending the principle, the Court in *Miller v. Pate*⁷³ upset a conviction obtained after the prosecution had represented to the jury that a pair of men's shorts found near the scene of a sex attack belonged to the defendant and that they were stained with blood; the defendant showed in a *habeas corpus* proceeding that no evidence connected him with the shorts and furthermore that the shorts were not in fact bloodstained, and that the prosecution had known these facts.

Furthermore, in *Brady v. Maryland*,⁷⁴ the Court held "that the suppression by the prosecution of evidence favorable to an accused upon request violates due process where the evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment, irrespective of the good faith or bad faith of the prosecution." In that case, the prosecution had suppressed an extrajudicial confession of defendant's accomplice that he had actually committed the murder; the accomplice's confession could have influenced the jury's determination of punishment but not its judgment of guilt. But this beginning toward the development of criminal discovery was not carried forward,⁷⁵ and the Court has waived in its application of *Brady*.

⁷¹ *Pyle v. Kansas*, 317 U.S. 213 (1942); *White v. Ragen*, 324 U.S. 760 (1945). See also *New York ex rel. Whitman v. Wilson*, 318 U.S. 688 (1943); *Ex parte Hawk*, 321 U.S. 114 (1944). But see *Hysler v. Florida*, 315 U.S. 411 (1942); *Lisenba v. California*, 314 U.S. 219 (1941).

⁷² *Napue v. Illinois*, 360 U.S. 264 (1959); *Alcorta v. Texas*, 355 U.S. 28 (1957). In the former case, the principal prosecution witness was defendant's accomplice, and he testified that he had received no promise of consideration in return for his testimony. In fact, the prosecutor had promised him consideration, but did nothing to correct the false testimony. See also *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972) (same). In the latter case, involving a husband's killing of his wife because of her infidelity, a prosecution witness testified at the *habeas corpus* hearing that he told the prosecutor that he had been intimate with the woman but that the prosecutor had told him to volunteer nothing of it, so that at trial he had testified his relationship with the woman was wholly casual. In both cases, the Court deemed it irrelevant that the false testimony had gone only to the credibility of the witness rather than to the defendant's guilt. What if the prosecution should become aware of the perjury of a prosecution witness following the trial? Cf. *Durley v. Mayo*, 351 U.S. 277 (1956). But see *Smith v. Phillips*, 455 U.S. 209, 218–21 (1982) (prosecutor's failure to disclose that one of the jurors has a job application pending before him, thus rendering him possibly partial, does not go to fairness of the trial and due process is not violated).

⁷³ 386 U.S. 1 (1967).

⁷⁴ 373 U.S. 83, 87 (1963). In *Jencks v. United States*, 353 U.S. 657 (1957), in the exercise of its supervisory power over the federal courts, the Court held that the defense was entitled to obtain, for impeachment purposes, statements which had been made to government agents by government witnesses during the investigatory stage. Cf. *Scales v. United States*, 367 U.S. 203, 257–58 (1961). A subsequent statute modified but largely codified the decision and was upheld by the Court. *Palermo v. United States*, 360 U.S. 343 (1959), sustaining 18 U.S.C. § 3500.

⁷⁵ See the division of opinion in *Giles v. Maryland*, 386 U.S. 66 (1967).

In finding *Brady* inapplicable because the evidence withheld was not material and not exculpatory, the Court in *Moore v. Illinois*,⁷⁶ restated the governing principles. “The heart of the holding in *Brady* is the prosecution’s suppression of evidence, in the face of a defense production request, where the evidence is favorable to the accused and is material either to guilt or to punishment. Important, then, are (a) suppression by the prosecution after a request by the defense, (b) the evidence’s favorable character for the defense, and (c) the materiality of the evidence.”

In *United States v. Agurs*,⁷⁷ the Court summarized and somewhat expanded the prosecutor’s obligation to disclose to the defense exculpatory evidence in his possession, even in the absence of a request, or upon a general request, by defendant. The obligation is expressed in a tripartite test of materiality of the exculpatory evidence in the context of the trial record. First, if the prosecutor knew or should have known that testimony given to the trial was perjured, the conviction must be set aside if there is any reasonable likelihood that the false testimony could have affected the judgment of the jury.⁷⁸ Second, if the defense specifically requested certain evidence and the prosecutor withheld it, the conviction must be set aside if the suppressed evidence might have affected the outcome of the trial.⁷⁹ Third (the new law created in *Agurs*), if the defense did not make a request at all, or simply asked for “all *Brady* material” or for “anything exculpatory,” a duty resides in the prosecution to reveal to the defense obviously exculpatory evidence; if the prosecutor does not reveal it, reversal of a conviction may be required, but only if the undisclosed evidence creates a reasonable doubt as to the defendant’s guilt.⁸⁰

A prosecutor does not violate the due process clause when, in negotiating with a defendant to obtain a guilty plea or some other action that will lessen the trial burden, such as trial before a judge

⁷⁶ 408 U.S. 786, 794–95 (1972). Joining Justice Blackmun’s opinion were Justices Brennan, White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger. Dissenting were Justices Douglas, Stewart, Marshall, and Powell. *Id.* at 800.

⁷⁷ 427 U.S. 97 (1976).

⁷⁸ *Id.* at 103–04. This situation is the *Mooney v. Holohan* type of case.

⁷⁹ *Id.* at 104–06. This the *Brady* situation.

⁸⁰ *Id.* at 106–14. This was the *Agurs* fact situation. Similarly, there is no obligation that law enforcement officials preserve breath samples which have been utilized in a breath-analysis test; the *Agurs* materiality standard is met only by evidence which “possess[es] an exculpatory value . . . apparent before [it] was destroyed, and also [is] of such a nature that the defendant would be unable to obtain comparable evidence by other reasonably available means.” *California v. Trombetta*, 467 U.S. 479, 489 (1984). *See also Arizona v. Youngblood*, 488 U.S. 51 (1988) (negligent failure to refrigerate and otherwise preserve potentially exculpatory physical evidence from sexual assault kit does not violate a defendant’s due process rights absent bad faith on the part of the police).

rather than jury, he threatens and carries out the threat to seek a more severe sentence, either by charging a greater offense or recommending a longer sentence.⁸¹ But the prosecutor does deny due process if he penalizes the assertion of a right or privilege by the defendant by charging more severely or recommending a longer sentence.⁸² The distinction appears to represent very fine line-drawing, but it appears to be one the Court is committed to.

Proof, Burden of Proof, and Presumptions.—The due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments “[protect] the accused against conviction except upon proof beyond a reasonable doubt of every fact necessary to constitute the crime with which he is charged.”⁸³ “The reasonable doubt standard plays a vital role in the American scheme of criminal procedure. It is a prime instrument for reducing the risk of convictions resting on factual error. The standard provides concrete substance for the presumption of innocence—that bedrock ‘axiomatic and elementary’ principle whose ‘enforcement lies at the foundation of the administration of our criminal law.’”⁸⁴ In many past cases, this standard was assumed to be the required one,⁸⁵ but because it was so widely accepted only recently has the Court had the opportunity to pronounce it guaranteed by due process.⁸⁶ The presumption of inno-

⁸¹ *Bordenkircher v. Hayes*, 434 U.S. 357 (1978); *United States v. Goodwin*, 457 U.S. 368 (1982). In the former case, during plea negotiations, the prosecutor told defendant that if he did not plead guilty to the charges he would bring additional charges, and he did so upon defendant’s continued refusal. In the latter case, defendant was charged with a misdemeanor and could have been tried before a magistrate; he refused to plead guilty and sought a jury trial in district court. The Government obtained a four-count felony indictment based upon the same conduct and acquired a conviction.

⁸² *Blackledge v. Perry*, 417 U.S. 21 (1974). Defendant was convicted in an inferior court of a misdemeanor. He had a right to a *de novo* trial in superior court, but when he exercised the right the prosecutor obtained a felony indictment based upon the same conduct. The distinction the Court draws between this case and *Bordenkircher* and *Goodwin* is that of pretrial conduct, in which vindictiveness is not likely, and posttrial conduct, in which vindictiveness is more likely and is not permitted. *Accord*, *Thigpen v. Roberts*, 468 U.S. 27 (1984).

⁸³ *In re Winship*, 397 U.S. 358, 364 (1970).

⁸⁴ *Id.* at 363 (quoting *Coffin v. United States*, 156 U.S. 432, 453 (1895)). Justice Harlan’s *Winship* concurrence, *id.* at 368, proceeded on the basis that inasmuch as there is likelihood of error in any system of reconstructing past events, the error of convicting the innocent should be reduced to the greatest extent possible through the use of the reasonable doubt standard.

⁸⁵ *Miles v. United States*, 103 U.S. 304, 312 (1881); *Davis v. United States*, 160 U.S. 469, 488 (1895); *Holt v. United States*, 218 U.S. 245, 253 (1910); *Speiser v. Randall*, 357 U.S. 513, 525–26 (1958).

⁸⁶ In addition to *Winship*, see also *Estelle v. Williams*, 425 U.S. 501, 503 (1976); *Henderson v. Kibbe*, 431 U.S. 145, 153 (1977); *Ulster County Court v. Allen*, 442 U.S. 140, 156 (1979); *Sandstorm v. Montana*, 442 U.S. 510, 520–24 (1979). On the interrelated concepts of the burden of the prosecution to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt and defendant’s entitlement to a presumption of innocence, see Taylor

cence is valuable in assuring defendants a fair trial,⁸⁷ and it operates to ensure that the jury considers the case solely on the evidence.⁸⁸

The Court has long held it would set aside under the due process clause convictions that are supported by no evidence at all,⁸⁹ but *Winship* necessitated a reconsideration of whether it should in reviewing state cases weigh the sufficiency of the evidence. Thus, in *Jackson v. Virginia*,⁹⁰ it held that federal courts, on direct appeal of federal convictions or collateral review of state convictions, must satisfy themselves whether the record evidence could reasonably support a finding of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. The question the reviewing court is to ask itself is not whether *it* believes the evidence at the trial established guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, but whether, after viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to the prosecution, *any* rational trier of fact could have found the essential elements of the crime beyond a reasonable doubt.⁹¹

Inasmuch as due process requires the prosecution to prove beyond a reasonable doubt every fact necessary to constitute the crime charged, the Court held in *Mullaney v. Wilbur*⁹² that it was a denial of this constitutional guarantee to require a defendant charged with murder to prove that he acted “in the heat of passion on sudden provocation” in order to reduce the homicide to manslaughter. The Court indicated that a balancing of interests test was to be employed to determine when the due process clause re-

v. Kentucky, 436 U.S. 478, 483–86 (1978), and *Kentucky v. Whorton*, 441 U.S. 786 (1979).

⁸⁷ E.g., *Deutch v. United States*, 367 U.S. 456, 471 (1961). See also *Cage v. Louisiana*, 498 U.S. 39 (1990) (per curiam) (jury instruction that explains “reasonable doubt” as doubt that would give rise to a “grave uncertainty,” as equivalent to a “substantial doubt,” and as requiring “a moral certainty,” suggests a higher degree of certainty than is required for acquittal, and therefore violates the Due Process Clause).

⁸⁸ *Holt v. United States*, 218 U.S. 245 (1910); *Agnew v. United States*, 165 U.S. 36 (1897). These cases overturned *Coffin v. United States*, 156 U.S. 432, 460 (1895), in which the Court held that the presumption of innocence was evidence from which the jury could find a reasonable doubt.

⁸⁹ *Thompson v. City of Louisville*, 362 U.S. 199 (1960); *Garner v. Louisiana*, 368 U.S. 157 (1961); *Taylor v. Louisiana*, 370 U.S. 154 (1962); *Barr v. City of Columbia*, 378 U.S. 146 (1964); *Johnson v. Florida*, 391 U.S. 596 (1968). See also *Chessman v. Teets*, 354 U.S. 156 (1957).

⁹⁰ 443 U.S. 307 (1979).

⁹¹ *Id.* at 316, 318–19. On a somewhat related point, the Court has ruled that a general guilty verdict on a multiple-object conspiracy need not be set aside if the evidence is inadequate to support conviction as to one of the objects of the conspiracy, but is adequate to support conviction as to another. *Griffin v. United States*, 112 U.S. 466 (1991).

⁹² 421 U.S. 684 (1975). See also *Sandstrom v. Montana*, 442 U.S. 510, 520–24 (1979).

quired the prosecution to carry the burden and when some part of the burden might be shifted to the defendant, but the decision called into question the practice in many States under which some burdens of persuasion were borne by the defense, and raised the prospect that the prosecution must bear all burdens of persuasion, a significant and weighty task given the large numbers of affirmative defenses.

But the Court soon summarily rejected the argument that *Mullaney* means that the prosecution must negate the insanity defense,⁹³ and in full-scale consideration upheld a state statute that provided that an intentional killing is murder but permitted the defendant to assert “extreme emotional disturbance” as an affirmative defense which, if proved by the defense by a preponderance of the evidence, would reduce the murder offense to manslaughter.⁹⁴ According to the Court, the constitutional deficiency in *Mullaney* was that the statute made malice an element of the offense but permitted malice to be presumed upon proof of the other elements and required the defendant to prove the absence of malice. In *Patterson* the statute obligated the State to prove each element of the offense (the death, the intent to kill, and the causation) beyond a reasonable doubt, but allowed the defendant to present an affirmative defense that would reduce the degree of the offense, and as to which the defendant bears the burden of persuasion by a preponderance of the evidence. The decisive issue, then, was whether the statute required the state to prove beyond a reasonable doubt each element of the offense. So defined, the distinction and the constitutional mandate are formalistic, and the legislature can shift burdens of persuasion between prosecution and defense easily through the statutory definitions of the offenses.⁹⁵ Also formalistic is the

⁹³ *Rivera v. Delaware*, 429 U.S. 877 (1976), dismissing as not presenting a substantial federal question an appeal from a holding that *Mullaney* did not prevent a State from placing on the defendant the burden of proving insanity by a preponderance of the evidence. See *Patterson v. New York*, 432 U.S. 197, 202–05 (1977) (explaining the import of *Rivera*). Justice Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger concurring in *Mullaney*, 421 U.S. at 704, 705, had argued that the case did not require any reconsideration of the holding in *Leland v. Oregon*, 343 U.S. 790 (1952), that the defense may be required to prove insanity beyond a reasonable doubt.

⁹⁴ *Patterson v. New York*, 432 U.S. 197 (1977).

⁹⁵ Dissenting in *Patterson*, Justice Powell argued that the two statutes were functional equivalents that should be treated alike constitutionally. He would hold that as to those facts which historically have made a substantial difference in the punishment and stigma flowing from a criminal act the State always bears the burden of persuasion but that new affirmative defenses may be created and the burden of establishing them placed on the defendant. *Id.* at 216. *Patterson* was followed in *Martin v. Ohio*, 480 U.S. 228 (1987) (state need not disprove defendant acted in self-defense based on honest belief she was in imminent danger, when offense is aggravated murder, an element of which is “prior calculation and design”). Justice Powell,

distinction between elements of the crime and sentencing factors; a state may treat as a sentencing consideration provable by a preponderance of the evidence the fact that the defendant “visibly possessed a firearm” during commission of the offense.⁹⁶

Quite closely related is the issue of statutory presumptions; these generally provide for the proof of the presumed fact, an element of a crime, by the establishment of another fact, the basic fact.⁹⁷ In *Tot v. United States*,⁹⁸ the Court held that a statutory presumption was valid under the due process clause if it met a “rational connection” test. “Under our decisions, a statutory presumption cannot be sustained if there be no rational connection between the fact proved and the ultimate fact presumed, if the inference of the one from the proof of the other is arbitrary because of lack of connection between the two in common experience.” In *Leary v. United States*,⁹⁹ however, the due process test was stiffened to require that for such a “rational connection” to exist, it must “at least be said with substantial assurance that the presumed fact is more likely than not to flow from the proved fact on which it is made to depend.” Thus, a provision which permitted a jury to infer from defendant’s possession of marijuana his knowledge of its illegal importation was voided. A lengthy canvass of factual materials established to the Court’s satisfaction that while the greater part of marijuana consumed here is of foreign origin there was still a good amount produced domestically and there was thus no way to assure that the majority of those possessing marijuana have any reason to know their marijuana is imported.¹⁰⁰ The Court left open the question whether a presumption which survived the “rational connection” test “must also satisfy the criminal ‘reasonable doubt’

again dissenting, urged a distinction between defenses that negate an element of the crime and those that do not. *Id.* at 236, 240.

⁹⁶ *McMillan v. Pennsylvania*, 477 U.S. 79 (1986) (the finding increased the minimum sentence that could be imposed but did not affect the maximum sentence).

⁹⁷ *See, e.g., Yee Hem v. United States*, 268 U.S. 178 (1925) (upholding statute that proscribed possession of smoking opium that had been illegally imported and authorized jury to presume illegal importation from fact of possession); *Manley v. Georgia*, 279 U.S. 1 (1929) (invalidating statutory presumption that every insolvency of a bank shall be deemed fraudulent).

⁹⁸ 319 U.S. 463, 467 (1943) (voiding presumption of transportation of firearm in interstate commerce from possession). *Compare* *United States v. Gainey*, 380 U.S. 63 (1965) (upholding presumption from presence at site of illegal still that defendant was “carrying on” or aiding in “carrying on” its operation), *with* *United States v. Romano*, 382 U.S. 136 (1965) (voiding presumption from presence at site of illegal still that defendant had possession, custody, or control of still).

⁹⁹ 395 U.S. 6, 36 (1969).

¹⁰⁰ *Id.* at 37–54. While some of the reasoning in *Yee Hem*, *supra* n.97, was disapproved, it was factually distinguished as involving users of “hard” narcotics.

standard if proof of the crime charged or an essential element thereof depends upon its use.”¹⁰¹

In its most recent case, a closely divided Court drew a distinction between mandatory presumptions, which a jury must accept, and permissive presumptions, which may be presented to the jury as part of all the evidence to be considered. With respect to mandatory presumptions, “since the prosecution bears the burden of establishing guilt, it may not rest its case entirely on a presumption, unless the fact proved is sufficient to support the inference of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.” But, with respect to permissive presumptions, “the prosecution may rely on all of the evidence in the record to meet the reasonable doubt standard. There is no more reason to require a permissive statutory presumption to meet a reasonable-doubt standard before it may be permitted to play any part in a trial than there is to require that degree of probative force for other relevant evidence before it may be admitted.”¹⁰² Thus, because the jury was told it had to believe in defendants’ guilt beyond a reasonable doubt and that it could consider the inference, due process was not violated by the application of the statutory presumption that the presence of a firearm in an automobile is presumptive evidence of its illegal possession by all persons then occupying the vehicle.¹⁰³

The division of the Court in these cases and in the *Mullaney v. Wilbur* line of cases clearly shows the unsettled doctrinal nature of the issues.

Sentencing.—In *Townsend v. Burke*¹⁰⁴ the Court overturned a sentence imposed on an uncounseled defendant by a judge who

¹⁰¹ Id. at 36 n.64. The matter was also left open in *Turner v. United States*, 396 U.S. 398 (1970) (judged by either “rational connection” or “reasonable doubt,” a presumption that the possessor of heroin knew it was illegally imported was valid, but the same presumption with regard to cocaine was invalid under the “rational connection” test because a great deal of the substance was produced domestically), and in *Barnes v. United States*, 412 U.S. 837 (1973) (under either test a presumption that possession of recently stolen property, if not satisfactorily explained, is grounds for inferring possessor knew it was stolen satisfies due process).

¹⁰² *Ulster County Court v. Allen*, 442 U.S. 140, 166–67 (1979).

¹⁰³ The majority thought that possession was more likely than not the case from the circumstances, while the four dissenters disagreed. Id. at 168 (Justices Powell, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall). See also *Estelle v. McGuire*, 112 S. Ct. 475 (1991) (upholding a jury instruction that, to dissenting Justices O’Connor and Stevens, id. at 484, seemed to direct the jury to draw the inference that evidence that a child had been “battered” in the past meant that the defendant, the child’s father, had necessarily done the battering).

¹⁰⁴ 334 U.S. 736, 740–41 (1948). In *Hicks v. Oklahoma*, 447 U.S. 343 (1980), the jury had been charged in accordance with an habitual offender statute that if it found defendant guilty of the offense charged, which would be a third felony conviction, it should assess punishment at 40 years imprisonment. The jury convicted and gave defendant 40 years. Subsequently, in another case, the habitual offender under

in reciting defendant's record from the bench made several errors and facetious comments. "[W]hile disadvantaged by lack of counsel, this prisoner was sentenced on the basis of assumptions concerning his criminal record which were materially untrue. Such a result, whether caused by carelessness or design, is inconsistent with due process of law, and such a conviction cannot stand." But in the absence of revelations of errors by the sentencing judge, the content of procedural due process at sentencing is vague.

*Williams v. New York*¹⁰⁵ upheld the imposition of the death penalty although the jury in convicting had recommended mercy, the judge indicating that he was disregarding the recommendation because of information in the presentence report prepared by a probation officer and not shown to the defendant or his counsel. The Court viewed as highly undesirable the restriction of judicial discretion in sentencing by requiring adherence to rules of evidence which would exclude highly relevant and informative material; similarly, disclosure of such information to the defense could well dry up sources which feared retribution or embarrassment. Thus, hearsay and rumors would be considered and there would be no opportunity of rebuttal. Still in the context of capital cases, the Court has now, although by no consistent rationale, limited *Williams*. In *Gardner v. Florida*,¹⁰⁶ the jury had recommended a life sentence upon convicting defendant of murder, but the trial judge sentenced the defendant to death, relying in part on a confidential presentence report which he did not characterize or make available to defense or prosecution. Three Justices found that because death was significantly different from other punishments and because sentencing procedures were subject to higher due process standards than when *Williams* was decided, the report must be made part of the record for review so that the factors motivating imposition of the death penalty may be known, and ordinarily must be made available to the defense. All but one of the other Justices joined the result on various other bases.¹⁰⁷ On the other hand, in *United*

which Hicks had been sentenced was declared unconstitutional, but Hicks' conviction was affirmed on the basis that his sentence was still within the permissible range open to the jury. The Supreme Court reversed. Hicks was denied due process because he was statutorily entitled to the exercise of the jury's discretion and could have been given a sentence as low as ten years. That the jury might still have given the stiffer sentence was only conjectural. On other due process restrictions on the determination of the applicability of recidivist statutes to convicted defendants, see *Chewing v. Cunningham*, 368 U.S. 443 (1962); *Oyler v. Boles*, 368 U.S. 448 (1962); and *Spencer v. Texas*, 385 U.S. 554 (1967). On Eighth Amendment relevance, see *supra*, pp. 1495-96.

¹⁰⁵ 337 U.S. 241 (1949). See also *Williams v. Oklahoma*, 358 U.S. 576 (1959).

¹⁰⁶ 430 U.S. 349 (1977).

¹⁰⁷ Only Justices Stevens, Stewart, and Powell took the position described in the text. *Id.* at 357-61. Justice Brennan without elaboration thought the result com-

States v. Grayson,¹⁰⁸ a noncapital case, the Court relied heavily on *Williams* in holding that a sentencing judge may properly consider his *belief* that the defendant was untruthful in his trial testimony in deciding to impose a more severe sentence than he would otherwise have imposed. Under the current scheme of individualized indeterminate sentencing, the Court declared, the judge must be free to consider the broadest range of information in assessing the defendant's prospects for rehabilitation; defendant's truthfulness, as assessed by the trial judge from his own observations, is relevant information.¹⁰⁹

In *Specht v. Patterson*,¹¹⁰ the Court specifically reaffirmed *Williams*, but declined to apply it, finding that due process had been denied under circumstances significantly different from those of *Williams*. Specht had been convicted of taking indecent liberties, which carried a maximum sentence of ten years, but was sentenced under a sex offenders statute to an indefinite term of one day to life. The sex offenders law, the Court observed, did not make the commission of the particular offense the basis for sentencing. Instead, by triggering a new hearing to determine whether the convicted person was a public threat, an habitual offender, or mentally ill, the law in effect constituted a new charge that must be accompanied by procedural safeguards. *Mempa v. Rhay*¹¹¹ held that when sentencing is deferred subject to probation and the terms of probation are allegedly violated so that the convicted defendant is returned for sentencing, he must then be represented by counsel, inasmuch as it is a point in the process where substantial rights of the defendant may be affected. Moreover, in *Kent v. United States*¹¹² the Court required that before a juvenile court decided to waive jurisdiction and transfer a juvenile to an adult court it must hold a hearing and permit defense counsel to examine the probation officer's report which formed the basis for the court's decision.

pelled by due process, *id.* at 364, Justices White and Blackmun thought the result necessitated by the Eighth Amendment, *id.* at 362, 364, as did Justice Marshall in a different manner. *Id.* at 365. Chief Justice Burger concurred only in the result, *id.* at 362, and Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 371. See also *Lankford v. Idaho*, 500 U.S. 110 (1991) (due process denied where judge sentenced defendant to death after judge's and prosecutor's actions misled defendant and counsel into believing that death penalty would not be at issue in sentencing hearing).

¹⁰⁸ 438 U.S. 41 (1978).

¹⁰⁹ See also *United States v. Tucker*, 404 U.S. 443, 446 (1972); *Chaffin v. Stynchcombe*, 412 U.S. 17, 32 (1973). *Cf.* 18 U.S.C. §3577.

¹¹⁰ 386 U.S. 605 (1967).

¹¹¹ 389 U.S. 128 (1967).

¹¹² 383 U.S. 541, 554, 561, 563 (1966). *Kent* was ambiguous whether it was based on statutory interpretation or constitutional analysis; In *re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1 (1967), appears to have constitutionalized the language.

It is a denial of due process for a judge to sentence a convicted defendant on retrial to a longer sentence than he received after the first trial if the object of the sentence is to punish the defendant for having successfully appealed his first conviction or to discourage similar appeals by others.¹¹³ If the judge does impose a longer sentence the second time, he must justify it on the record by showing, for example, the existence of new information meriting a longer sentence.¹¹⁴

Because the possibility of vindictiveness in resentencing is *de minimis* when it is the jury that sentences, *Pearce's* requirement that a judge resentencing on a subsequent trial must justify a more severe sentence is inapplicable to jury sentencing, at least in the absence of a showing that the jury knew of the prior vacated sentence. The Court concluded that the possibility of vindictiveness was so low because normally the jury would not know of the result of the prior trial nor the sentence imposed, nor would it feel either the personal or institutional interests of judges leading to efforts to discourage the seeking of new trials.¹¹⁵ The presumption of vindictiveness is also inapplicable if the first sentence was imposed following a guilty plea. Here the Court reasoned that a trial may well afford the court insights into the nature of the crime and the character of the defendant that were not available following the initial guilty plea.¹¹⁶

Due process does not impose any limitation upon the sentence that a legislature may affix to any offense; that function is in the Eighth Amendment.¹¹⁷

¹¹³North Carolina v. Pearce, 395 U.S. 711 (1969). *Pearce* was held to be nonretroactive in Michigan v. Payne, 412 U.S. 47 (1973). When a State provides a two-tier court system in which one may have an expeditious and somewhat informal trial in an inferior court with an absolute right to trial *de novo* in a court of general criminal jurisdiction if convicted, the second court is not bound by the rule in *Pearce*, inasmuch as the potential for vindictiveness and inclination to deter is not present. Colten v. Kentucky, 407 U.S. 104 (1972). *But see* Blackledge v. Perry, 417 U.S. 21 (1974), discussed *supra*, p. 1761.

¹¹⁴An intervening conviction on other charges for acts committed prior to the first sentencing may justify imposition of an increased sentence following a second trial. Wasman v. United States, 468 U.S. 559 (1984).

¹¹⁵Chaffin v. Stynchcombe, 412 U.S. 17 (1973). Justices Stewart, Brennan, and Marshall thought the principle was applicable to jury sentencing and that prophylactic limitations appropriate to the problem should be developed. *Id.* at 35, 38. Justice Douglas dissented on other grounds. *Id.* at 35. The *Pearce* presumption that an increased, judge-imposed second sentence represents vindictiveness also is inapplicable if the second trial came about because the trial judge herself concluded that a retrial was necessary due to prosecutorial misconduct before the jury in the first trial. Texas v. McCullough, 475 U.S. 134 (1986).

¹¹⁶Alabama v. Smith, 490 U.S. 794 (1989).

¹¹⁷Williams v. Oklahoma, 358 U.S. 576, 586–87 (1959). *See also* Collins v. Johnston, 237 U.S. 502 (1915). On recidivist statutes, *see* Graham v. West Virginia, 224

The Problem of the Incompetent or Insane Defendant or Convict.—It is a denial of due process to try or sentence a defendant who is insane or incompetent to stand trial.¹¹⁸ When it becomes evident during the trial that a defendant is or has become insane, or incompetent to stand trial, the court on its own initiative must conduct a hearing on the issue.¹¹⁹ What the state must do is to provide the defendant with a chance to prove that he is incompetent to stand trial; there is no further constitutional requirement that the state assume the burden of proving the defendant competent. Due process is not offended, therefore, by a statutory presumption that a criminal defendant is competent to stand trial, or by a requirement that the defendant bear the burden of proving incompetence by a preponderance of the evidence.¹²⁰ When a State determines that a person charged with a criminal offense is incompetent to stand trial he cannot be committed indefinitely for that reason. The court's power is to commit him to a period no longer than is necessary to determine whether there is a substantial probability that he will attain his capacity in the foreseeable future. If it is determined that this is not the case, then the State must either release the defendant or institute the customary civil commitment proceeding that would be required to commit any other citizen.¹²¹

Commitment to a mental hospital of a criminal defendant acquitted by reason of insanity does not offend due process, and the period of confinement may extend beyond the period for which the person could have been sentenced if convicted.¹²² The purpose of the confinement is not punishment, but treatment, and the Court explained that the length of a possible criminal sentence "therefore is irrelevant to the purposes of . . . commitment."¹²³ Thus, the in-

U.S. 616, 623 (1912); *Ughbanks v. Armstrong*, 208 U.S. 481, 488 (1908), and, under the Eighth Amendment, *Rummel v. Estelle*, 445 U.S. 263 (1980).

¹¹⁸ *Pate v. Robinson*, 383 U.S. 375, 378 (1966) (citing *Bishop v. United States*, 350 U.S. 961 (1956)).

¹¹⁹ *Id.* For treatment of the circumstances when a trial court should inquire into the mental competency of the defendant, see *Drope v. Missouri*, 420 U.S. 162 (1975). Also, an indigent who makes a preliminary showing that his sanity at the time of his offense will be a substantial factor in his trial is entitled to a court-appointed psychiatrist to assist in presenting the defense. *Ake v. Oklahoma*, 470 U.S. 68 (1985).

¹²⁰ *Medina v. California*, 112 S. Ct. 2572 (1992).

¹²¹ *Jackson v. Indiana*, 406 U.S. 715 (1972).

¹²² *Jones v. United States*, 463 U.S. 354 (1983). The fact that the affirmative defense of insanity need only be established by a preponderance of the evidence, while civil commitment requires the higher standard of clear and convincing evidence, does not render the former invalid; proof beyond a reasonable doubt of commission of a criminal act establishes dangerousness justifying confinement and eliminates the risk of confinement for mere idiosyncratic behavior.

¹²³ 463 U.S. at 368.

sanity acquittee may be confined for treatment “until such time as he has regained his sanity or is no longer a danger to himself or society.”¹²⁴ It follows, however, that a state may not indefinitely confine an insanity acquittee who is no longer mentally ill but who has an untreatable personality disorder that may lead to criminal conduct.¹²⁵

The Court held in *Ford v. Wainwright* that the Eighth Amendment prohibits the state from carrying out the death penalty on an individual who is insane, and that properly raised issues of pre-execution sanity must be determined in a proceeding satisfying the minimum requirements of due process.¹²⁶ Those minimum standards are not met when the decision on sanity is left to the unfettered discretion of the governor; rather, due process requires the opportunity to be heard before an impartial officer or board.¹²⁷

Corrective Process: Appeals and Other Remedies.—“An appeal from a judgment of conviction is not a matter of absolute right, independently of constitutional or statutory provisions allowing such appeal. A review by an appellate court of the final judgment in a criminal case, however grave the offense of which the accused is convicted, was not at common law and is not now a necessary element of due process of law. It is wholly within the discretion of the state to allow or not to allow such a review.”¹²⁸ This holding has been recently reaffirmed¹²⁹ although the Court has also held that when a State does provide appellate process it may not so condition the privilege as to deny it irrationally to some persons, such as indigents.¹³⁰ But it is not the case that a State is

¹²⁴ *Id.* at 370.

¹²⁵ *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 112 S. Ct. 1780 (1992).

¹²⁶ 477 U.S. 399 (1986).

¹²⁷ There was no opinion of the Court on the issue of procedural requirements. Justice Marshall, joined by Justices Brennan, Blackmun, and Stevens, would hold that “the ascertainment of a prisoner’s sanity calls for no less stringent standards than those demanded in any other aspect of a capital proceeding.” 477 U.S. at 411–12. Concurring Justice Powell thought that due process might be met by a proceeding “far less formal than a trial,” that the state “should provide an impartial officer or board that can receive evidence and argument from the prisoner’s counsel.” *Id.* at 427. Concurring Justice O’Connor, joined by Justice White, emphasized Florida’s denial of the opportunity to be heard, and did not express an opinion on whether the state could designate the governor as decisionmaker. Thus Justice Powell’s opinion, requiring the opportunity to be heard before an impartial officer or board, sets forth the Court’s holding.

¹²⁸ *McKane v. Durston*, 153 U.S. 684, 687 (1894). See also *Andrews v. Swartz*, 156 U.S. 272, 275 (1895); *Murphy v. Massachusetts*, 177 U.S. 155, 158 (1900); *Reetz v. Michigan*, 188 U.S. 505, 508 (1903).

¹²⁹ *Griffin v. Illinois*, 351 U.S. 12, 18 (1956); *id.* at 21 (Justice Frankfurter concurring), 27 (dissenting opinion); *Ross v. Moffitt*, 417 U.S. 600 (1974).

¹³⁰ The line of cases begins with *Griffin v. Illinois*, 351 U.S. 12 (1956), in which it was deemed to violate both the due process and the equal protection clauses for a State to deny to indigent defendants free transcripts of the trial proceedings,

free to have no corrective process at all in which defendants may pursue remedies for federal constitutional violations. In *Frank v. Mangum*,¹³¹ the Court asserted that a conviction obtained in a mob-dominated trial was contrary to due process: “if the State, supplying no corrective process, carries into execution a judgment of death or imprisonment based upon a verdict thus produced by mob domination, the State deprives the accused of his life or liberty without due process of law.” Consequently, it has been stated numerous times that the absence of some form of corrective process when the convicted defendant alleges a federal constitutional violation contravenes the Fourteenth Amendment,¹³² and it has been held that to burden this process, such as limiting the right to petition for *habeas corpus*, is to deny the convicted defendant his constitutional rights.¹³³

The mode by which federal constitutional rights are to be vindicated after conviction is for the government concerned to determine. “Wide discretion must be left to the States for the manner of adjudicating a claim that a conviction is unconstitutional. States are free to devise their own systems of review in criminal cases. A State may decide whether to have direct appeals in such cases, and if so under what circumstances. . . . In respecting the duty laid upon them . . . States have a wide choice of remedies. A State may provide that the protection of rights granted by the Federal Constitution be sought through the writ of *habeas corpus* or *coram nobis*. It may use each of these ancient writs in its common law scope, or it may put them to new uses; or it may afford remedy by a simple motion brought either in the court of original conviction or at a place of detention. . . . So long as the rights under the United States Constitution may be pursued, it is for a State and not for this Court to define the mode by which they may be vindicated.”¹³⁴ If a State provides a mode of redress, a defendant must first exhaust that mode, and if unsuccessful may seek relief in federal court; if there is no adequate remedy in state court, the defendant may petition a federal court for relief through a writ of *habeas corpus*.¹³⁵

which would enable them adequately to prosecute appeals from convictions. See *infra*, pp. 1916–20.

¹³¹ 237 U.S. 309, 335 (1915).

¹³² *Moore v. Dempsey*, 261, U.S. 86, 90, 91 (1923); *Mooney v. Holohan*, 294 U.S. 103, 113 (1935); *New York ex rel. Whitman v. Wilson*, 318, U.S. 688, 690 (1943); *Young v. Ragan*, 337 U.S. 235, 238–39 (1949).

¹³³ *Ex parte Hull*, 312 U.S. 546 (1941); *White v. Ragen*, 324 U.S. 760 (1945).

¹³⁴ *Carter v. Illinois*, 329 U.S. 173, 175–76 (1946).

¹³⁵ *Supra*, pp. 811–12. Note that in *Case v. Nebraska*, 381 U.S. 336 (1965), the Court had taken for review a case which raised the issue whether a State could simply omit any corrective process for hearing and determining claims of federal con-

When appellate or other corrective process is made available, inasmuch as it is no less a part of the process of law under which a defendant is held in custody, it becomes subject to scrutiny for any alleged unconstitutional deprivation of life or liberty. At first, the Court seemed content to assume that when a state appellate process formally appeared to be sufficient to correct constitutional errors committed by the trial court, the conclusion by the appellate court that the trial court's sentence of execution should be affirmed was ample assurance that life would not be forfeited without due process of law.¹³⁶ But in *Moore v. Dempsey*,¹³⁷ while insisting that it was not departing from precedent, the Court directed a federal district court in which petitioners had sought a writ of *habeas corpus* to make an independent investigation of the facts alleged by the petitioners—mob domination of their trial—notwithstanding that the state appellate court had ruled against the legal sufficiency of these same allegations. Indubitably, *Moore* marked the abandonment of the Supreme Court's deference, founded upon considerations of comity, to decisions of state appellate tribunals on issues of constitutionality, and the proclamation of its intention no longer to treat as virtually conclusive pronouncements by the latter that proceedings in a trial court were fair, an abandonment soon made even clearer in *Brown v. Mississippi*¹³⁸ and now taken for granted.

Rights of Prisoners.—Until relatively recently the view prevailed that a prisoner “has, as a consequence of his crime, not only forfeited his liberty, but all his personal rights except those which the law in its humanity accords to him. He is for the time being the slave of the state.”¹³⁹ This view is not now the law, and may never have been wholly correct.¹⁴⁰ In 1948 the Court declared that “[l]awful incarceration brings about the necessary withdrawal or limitation of many privileges and rights”;¹⁴¹ “many,” indicated less than “all,” and it was clear that the due process and equal protection clauses to some extent do apply to prisoners.¹⁴² More direct acknowledgment of constitutional protection came in 1972: “[f]ederal courts sit not to supervise prisons but to enforce the constitutional rights of all ‘persons,’ which include prisoners. We are

stitutional violations, but it dismissed the case when the State in the interim enacted provisions for such process.

¹³⁶ *Frank v. Mangum*, 237 U.S. 309 (1915).

¹³⁷ 261 U.S. 86 (1923).

¹³⁸ 297 U.S. 278 (1936).

¹³⁹ *Ruffin v. Commonwealth*, 62 Va. 790, 796 (1871).

¹⁴⁰ *Cf. In re Bonner*, 151 U.S. 242 (1894).

¹⁴¹ *Price v. Johnston*, 334 U.S. 266, 285 (1948).

¹⁴² “There is no iron curtain drawn between the Constitution and the prisons of this country.” *Wolff v. McDonnell*, 418 U.S. 539, 555–56 (1974).

not unmindful that prison officials must be accorded latitude in the administration of prison affairs, and that prisoners necessarily are subject to appropriate rules and regulations. But persons in prison, like other individuals, have the right to petition the Government for redress of grievances. . . .”¹⁴³ However, while the Court affirmed that federal courts have the responsibility to scrutinize prison practices alleged to violate the Constitution, at the same time concerns of federalism and of judicial restraint caused the Court to emphasize the necessity of deference to the judgments of prison officials and others with responsibility for administering such systems.¹⁴⁴

Save for challenges to conditions of confinement of pretrial detainees,¹⁴⁵ the Court has generally treated challenges to prison conditions as a whole under the cruel and unusual punishments clause of the Eighth Amendment,¹⁴⁶ and challenges to particular incidents and practices under the due process clause¹⁴⁷ as well as under more specific provisions, such as the First Amendment speech and religion clauses.¹⁴⁸ Prior to formulating its current approach, the Court recognized several rights of prisoners. Prisoners have a right to be free of racial segregation in prisons, except for the necessities of prison security and discipline.¹⁴⁹ They have the right to petition for redress of grievances, which includes access to the courts for purposes of presenting their complaints,¹⁵⁰ and to bring actions in federal courts to recover for damages wrongfully

¹⁴³*Cruz v. Beto*, 405 U.S. 319, 321 (1972). See also *Procunier v. Martinez*, 416 U.S. 396, 404–05 (1974) (invalidating state prison mail censorship regulations).

¹⁴⁴*Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520, 545–548, 551, 555, 562 (1979) (federal prison); *Rhodes v. Chapman*, 452 U.S. 337, 347, 351–352 (1981).

¹⁴⁵*Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520 (1979). Persons not yet convicted of a crime may be detained by government upon the appropriate determination of probable cause and the detention may be effectuated through subjection of the prisoner to the restrictions and conditions of the detention facility. But a detainee may not be punished prior to an adjudication of guilt in accordance with due process of law. Therefore, unconvicted detainees may not be subjected to conditions and restrictions that amount to punishment. However, the Court limited its concept of punishment to practices intentionally inflicted by prison authorities and to practices which were arbitrary or purposeless and unrelated to legitimate institutional objectives.

¹⁴⁶*Supra*, pp. 1497–99.

¹⁴⁷E.g., *Wolff v. McDonnell*, 418 U.S. 539 (1974); *Baxter v. Palmigiano*, 425 U.S. 308 (1976); *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480 (1980); *Washington v. Harper*, 494 U.S. 210 (1990) (prison inmate has liberty interest in avoiding the unwanted administration of antipsychotic drugs).

¹⁴⁸E.g., *Procunier v. Martinez*, 416 U.S. 396 (1974); *Jones v. North Carolina Prisoners’ Labor Union*, 433 U.S. 119 (1977). On religious practices and ceremonies, see *Cooper v. Pate*, 378 U.S. 546 (1964); *Cruz v. Beto*, 405 U.S. 319 (1972).

¹⁴⁹*Lee v. Washington*, 390 U.S. 333 (1968).

¹⁵⁰*Ex parte Hull*, 312 U.S. 546 (1941); *White v. Ragen*, 324 U.S. 760 (1945). Prisoners must have reasonable access to a law library or to persons trained in the law. *Younger v. Gilmore*, 404 U.S. 15 (1971); *Bounds v. Smith*, 430 U.S. 817 (1978).

done them by prison administrators.¹⁵¹ And they have a right, circumscribed by legitimate prison administration considerations, to fair and regular treatment during their incarceration.

In *Turner v. Safley*,¹⁵² the Court announced a general standard for measuring prisoners' claims of deprivation of constitutional rights. "[W]hen a regulation impinges on inmates' constitutional rights, the regulation is valid if it is reasonably related to legitimate penological interests."¹⁵³ Several considerations, the Court indicated, are appropriate in determining reasonableness of a prison regulation. First, there must be a rational relation to a legitimate, content-neutral objective, such as prison security, broadly defined. Availability of other avenues for exercise of the inmate right suggests reasonableness. A further indicium of reasonableness is present if accommodation would have a negative effect on liberty or safety of guards or other inmates. On the other hand, an alternative to regulation "that fully accommodated the prisoner's rights at *de minimis* cost to valid penological interests" suggests unreasonableness.¹⁵⁴

Fourth Amendment protection is incompatible with "the concept of incarceration and the needs and objectives of penal institutions," hence a prisoner has no reasonable expectation of privacy in his prison cell protecting him from "shakedown" searches designed to root out weapons, drugs, and other contraband.¹⁵⁵ Avenues of redress "for calculated harassment unrelated to prison needs" are not totally blocked, the Court indicated; inmates may still seek protection in the Eighth Amendment or in state tort law.¹⁵⁶ Existence of "a meaningful postdeprivation remedy" for unauthorized, intentional deprivation of an inmate's property by prison personnel protects the inmate's due process rights.¹⁵⁷ Due process is not impli-

¹⁵¹ *Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519 (1972); *Preiser v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 475 (1973).

¹⁵² 482 U.S. 78 (1987) (upholding a Missouri rule barring inmate-to-inmate correspondence, but striking down a prohibition on inmate marriages absent compelling reason such as pregnancy or birth of a child).

¹⁵³ 482 U.S. at 89.

¹⁵⁴ *Id.* at 91.

¹⁵⁵ *Hudson v. Palmer*, 468 U.S. 517, 526 (1984); *Block v. Rutherford*, 468 U.S. 576 (1984) (holding also that prison security needs support a rule prohibiting pre-trial detainees contact visits with spouses, children, relatives, and friends).

¹⁵⁶ *Hudson v. Palmer*, 468 U.S. 517, 530 (1984).

¹⁵⁷ *Hudson v. Palmer*, 468 U.S. 517, 533 (1984) (holding that state tort law provided adequate postdeprivation remedies). *But see Zinnermon v. Burch*, 494 U.S. 113 (1990) (availability of postdeprivation remedy is inadequate when deprivation is foreseeable, predeprivation process was possible, and official conduct was not "unauthorized").

cated at all by negligent deprivation of life, liberty, or property by prison officials.¹⁵⁸

In *Wolff v. McDonnell*,¹⁵⁹ the Court promulgated due process standards to govern the imposition of discipline upon prisoners. Due process applies, but since prison disciplinary proceedings are not part of a criminal prosecution the full panoply of rights of a defendant is not available. Rather, the analysis must proceed on a basis of identifying the interest in “liberty” which the clause protects.

Where the state provides for good-time credit or other privileges and further provides for forfeiture of these privileges only for serious misconduct, the interest of the prisoner in this degree of “liberty” entitles him to those minimum procedures appropriate under the circumstances.¹⁶⁰ What the minimum procedures consist of is to be determined by balancing the prisoner’s interest against the valid interest of the prison in maintaining security and order in the institution, in protecting guards and prisoners against retaliation by other prisoners, and in reducing prison tensions. The Court held in *Wolff* that the prison must afford the subject of a disciplinary proceeding advance written notice of the claimed violation and a written statement of the factfindings as to the evidence relied upon and the reasons for the action taken; also, the inmate should be allowed to call witnesses and present documentary evidence in defense when permitting him to do so will not hazard the institution’s interests.¹⁶¹ Confrontation and cross-examination of adverse witnesses is not required inasmuch as these would no doubt hazard valid institutional interests. Ordinarily, an inmate has no right to representation by retained or appointed counsel. Finally, only a partial right to an impartial tribunal was recognized, the Court ruling that limitations imposed on the discretion of a committee of prison officials sufficed for this purpose.¹⁶² Revocation of good time credits, the Court later ruled, must be supported by “some evidence in the record,” but an amount that “might be characterized as meager” is constitutionally sufficient.¹⁶³

¹⁵⁸ *Daniels v. Williams*, 474 U.S. 327 (1986); *Davidson v. Cannon*, 474 U.S. 344 (1986).

¹⁵⁹ 418 U.S. 539 (1974).

¹⁶⁰ *Id.* at 557. This analysis, of course tracks the interest analysis discussed *supra*, pp. 1723–32.

¹⁶¹ However, the Court later ruled, reasons for denying an inmate’s request to call witnesses need not be disclosed until the issue is raised in court. *Ponte v. Real*, 471 U.S. 491 (1985).

¹⁶² *Id.* at 418 U.S., 561–72. The Court continues to adhere to its refusal to require appointment of counsel. *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480, 496–97 (1980), and *id.* at 497–500 (Justice Powell concurring); *Baxter v. Palmigiano*, 425 U.S. 308 (1976).

¹⁶³ *Superintendent v. Hill*, 472 U.S. 445, 454, 457 (1985).

Determination whether due process requires a hearing before a prisoner is transferred from one institution to another requires a close analysis of the applicable statutes and regulations as well as a consideration of the particular harm suffered by the transferee. On the one hand, the Court found that no hearing need be held prior to the transfer from one prison to another prison in which the conditions were substantially less favorable. Since the State had not conferred any right to remain in the facility to which the prisoner was first assigned, defeasible upon the commission of acts for which transfer is a punishment, prison officials had unfettered discretion to transfer any prisoner for any reason or for no reason at all; consequently, there was nothing to hold a hearing about.¹⁶⁴ The same principles govern interstate prison transfers.¹⁶⁵ On the other hand, transfer of a prisoner to a mental hospital pursuant to a statute authorizing transfer if the inmate suffers from a “mental disease or defect” must be preceded by a hearing for two alternative reasons. First, the statute gave the inmate a liberty interest since it presumed he would not be moved absent a finding he was suffering from a mental disease or defect. Second, unlike transfers from one prison to another, transfer to a mental institution was not within the range of confinement covered by the prisoner’s sentence, and, moreover, imposed a stigma constituting a deprivation of a liberty interest.¹⁶⁶

What *kind* of a hearing is required before a state may force a mentally ill prisoner to take antipsychotic drugs against his will was at issue in *Washington v. Harper*.¹⁶⁷ There the Court held that a judicial hearing was not required. Instead, the inmate’s substantive liberty interest (derived from the Due Process Clause as well as from state law) was adequately protected by an administrative hearing before independent medical professionals, at which hearing the inmate has the right to a lay advisor but not an attorney.

Probation and Parole.—Sometimes convicted defendants are not sentenced to jail, but instead are placed on probation subject to incarceration upon violation of the conditions which are imposed; others who are jailed may subsequently qualify for release on parole before completing their sentence, and are subject to reincarceration upon violation of imposed conditions. Because both of these dispositions are statutory privileges granted by the govern-

¹⁶⁴ *Meacham v. Fano*, 427 U.S. 215 (1976); *Montanye v. Haymes*, 427 U.S. 236 (1976).

¹⁶⁵ *Olim v. Wakinekona*, 461 U.S. 238 (1983).

¹⁶⁶ *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480 (1980).

¹⁶⁷ 494 U.S. 210 (1990).

mental authority,¹⁶⁸ it was long assumed that the administrators of the systems did not have to accord procedural due process either in the granting stage or in the revocation stage. Now, both granting and revocation are subject to due process analysis, although the results tend to be disparate. Thus, in *Mempa v. Rhay*,¹⁶⁹ the trial judge had deferred sentencing and placed the convicted defendant on probation; when facts subsequently developed which indicated a violation of the conditions of probation, he was summoned and summarily sentenced to prison. The Court held that he had been entitled to counsel at the deferred sentencing hearing.

In *Morrissey v. Brewer*¹⁷⁰ a unanimous Court held that parole revocations must be accompanied by the usual due process hearing and notice requirements. “[T]he revocation of parole is not part of a criminal prosecution and thus the full panoply of rights due a defendant in such a proceeding does not apply to parole revocation . . . [But] the liberty of a parolee, although indeterminate, includes many of the core values of unqualified liberty and its termination inflicts a ‘grievous loss’ on the parolee and often on others. It is hardly useful any longer to try to deal with this problem in terms of whether the parolee’s liberty is a ‘right’ or a ‘privilege.’ By whatever name, the liberty is valuable and must be seen as within the protection of the Fourteenth Amendment. Its termination calls for some orderly process, however informal.”¹⁷¹ What process is due, then, turned upon the State’s interests. Its principal interest was that having once convicted a defendant, imprisoned him, and released him for rehabilitation purposes at some risk, it should “be able to return the individual to imprisonment without the burden of a new adversary criminal trial if in fact he has failed to abide by the conditions of his parole.” But the State has no interest in revoking parole without some informal procedural guarantees, inasmuch as this will not interfere with its reasonable interest.¹⁷²

Minimal due process, the Court held, requires that at both stages of the revocation process—the arrest of the parolee and the

¹⁶⁸ *Ughbanks v. Armstrong*, 208 U.S. 481 (1908), held that parole is not a constitutional right but instead is a “present” from government to the prisoner. In *Escoe v. Zerbst*, 295 U.S. 490 (1935), the Court’s premise was that as a matter of grace the parolee was being granted a privilege and that he should neither expect nor seek due process. Then-Judge Burger in *Hyser v. Reed*, 318 F. 2d 225 (D.C. Cir.), *cert. denied*, 375 U.S. 957 (1963), reasoned that due process was inapplicable because the parole board’s function was to assist the prisoner’s rehabilitation and restoration to society and that there was no adversary relationship between the board and the parolee.

¹⁶⁹ 389 U.S. 128 (1967).

¹⁷⁰ 408 U.S. 471 (1972).

¹⁷¹ *Id.* at 480, 482.

¹⁷² *Id.* at 483–84.

formal revocation—the parolee is entitled to certain rights. Promptly following arrest of the parolee, there should be an informal hearing to determine whether reasonable grounds exist for revocation of parole; this preliminary hearing should be conducted at or reasonably near the place of the alleged parole violation or arrest and as promptly as convenient after arrest while information is fresh and sources are available, and should be conducted by someone not directly involved in the case, though he need not be a judicial officer. The parolee should be given adequate notice that the hearing will take place and what violations are alleged, he should be able to appear and speak in his own behalf and produce other evidence, and he should be allowed to examine those who have given adverse evidence against him unless it is determined that the identity of such informant should not be revealed. Also, the hearing officer should prepare a digest of the hearing and base his decision upon the evidence adduced at the hearing.¹⁷³

Prior to the final decision on revocation, there should be a more formal revocation hearing at which there would be a final evaluation of any contested relevant facts and consideration whether the facts as determined warrant revocation. The hearing must take place within a reasonable time after the parolee is taken into custody and he must be enabled to controvert the allegations or offer evidence in mitigation. The procedural details of such hearings are for the States to develop but the Court specified minimum requirements of due process. “They include (a) written notice of the claimed violations of parole; (b) disclosure to the parolee of evidence against him; (c) opportunity to be heard in person and to present witnesses and documentary evidence; (d) the right to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses (unless the hearing officer specifically finds good cause for not allowing confrontation); (e) a ‘neutral and detached’ hearing body such as a traditional parole board, members of which need not be judicial officers or lawyers; and (f) a written statement by the factfinders as to the evidence relied on and the reasons for revoking parole.”¹⁷⁴ Ordinarily the written statement need not indicate that the sentencing court or review board considered alternatives to incarceration,¹⁷⁵ but a sentencing court must consider such alternatives if the probation violation consists of the failure of an indigent probationer, through no fault of his own, to pay a fine or restitution.¹⁷⁶

¹⁷³ *Id.* at 484–87.

¹⁷⁴ *Id.* at 487–89.

¹⁷⁵ *Black v. Romano*, 471 U.S. 606 (1985).

¹⁷⁶ *Bearden v. Georgia*, 461 U.S. 660, 672 (1983).

The Court has applied a flexible due process standard to the provision of counsel. Counsel is not invariably required in parole or probation revocation proceedings. The State should, however, provide the assistance of counsel where an indigent person may have difficulty in presenting his version of disputed facts without cross-examination of witnesses or presentation of complicated documentary evidence. Presumptively, counsel should be provided where the person requests counsel, based on a timely and colorable claim that he has not committed the alleged violation, or if that issue be uncontested, there are reasons in justification or mitigation that might make revocation inappropriate.¹⁷⁷

With respect to the granting of parole, the Court's analysis of the due process clause's meaning in *Greenholtz v. Nebraska Penal Inmates*¹⁷⁸ is much more problematical. Rejected was the theory that the mere establishment of the possibility of parole was sufficient to create a liberty interest entitling any prisoner meeting the general standards of eligibility to a due process protected expectation of being dealt with in any particular way. On the other hand, the Court did recognize in the particular statute before it the creation of some expectancy of release that was entitled to some measure of constitutional protection, while cautioning that only by a case-by-case analysis could it be said whether other parole statutes similarly created such expectancy.¹⁷⁹ In any event, the Court considered the nature of the decisions that parole authorities must make to hold that the full panoply of due process guarantees is not required; procedures designed to elicit specific facts are inappropriate under the circumstances. Rather, minimizing the risk of error is the prime consideration, and that goal was achieved by the board's largely informal methods; the lower court erred, therefore, in imposing requirements of formal hearings, notice, and specification of particular evidence in the record. The inmate was afforded an opportunity to be heard and when parole was denied he was informed in what respects he fell short of qualifying. That afforded the process that was due.

Where, however, government by its statutes and regulations creates no obligation of the pardoning authority and thus creates

¹⁷⁷ *Gagnon v. Scarpelli*, 411 U.S. 778 (1973).

¹⁷⁸ 442 U.S. 1 (1979). Justice Powell thought that creation of a parole system did create a legitimate expectancy of fair procedure protected by due process, but, save in one respect, he agreed with the Court that the procedure followed was adequate. *Id.* at 18. Justices Marshall, Brennan, and Stevens argued in dissent that the Court's analysis of the liberty interest was faulty and that due process required more than the board provided. *Id.* at 22.

¹⁷⁹ Following *Greenholtz*, the Court held in *Board of Pardons v. Allen*, 482 U.S. 369 (1987), that a liberty interest was created by a Montana statute providing that a prisoner "shall" be released upon certain findings by a parole board.

no legitimate expectancy of release, the prisoner may not by showing the favorable exercise of the authority in the great number of cases demonstrate such a legitimate expectancy. The mere existence of purely discretionary authority and the frequent exercise of it creates no entitlement.¹⁸⁰

The Problem of the Juvenile Offender.—All of the States of the Union and the District of Columbia make provision for dealing with juvenile offenders outside of the criminal system for adult offenders.¹⁸¹ These juvenile justice systems apply both to offenses that would be criminal if committed by an adult and to delinquent behavior not recognizable under laws dealing with adults, such as habitual truancy, deportment endangering the morals or health of the juvenile or others, or disobedience making the juvenile uncontrollable by his parents. The reforms of the early part of this century provided not only for segregating juveniles from adult offenders in the adjudication, detention, and correctional facilities, but they also dispensed with the substantive and procedural rules surrounding criminal trials which were mandated by due process. Justification for this abandonment of constitutional guarantees was offered by describing juvenile courts as civil not criminal and as not dispensing criminal punishment, and offering the theory that the state was acting as *parens patriae* for the juvenile offender and was in no sense his adversary.¹⁸² Disillusionment with the results of juvenile reforms coupled with judicial emphasis on constitutional protection of the accused led in the 1960s to a substantial restriction of these elements of juvenile jurisprudence.

After tracing in much detail this history of juvenile courts, the Court held in *In re Gault*¹⁸³ that the application of due process to juvenile proceedings would not endanger the good intentions vested in the system nor diminish the features of the system which were deemed desirable—emphasis upon rehabilitation rather than pun-

¹⁸⁰ Connecticut Bd. of Pardons v. Dumschat, 452 U.S. 458 (1981); Jago v. Van Curen, 454 U.S. 14 (1981). The former case involved not parole but commutation of a life sentence, commutation being necessary to become eligible for parole. The statute gave the Board total discretion to commute, but in at least 75% of the cases prisoner received a favorable action and virtually all of the prisoners who had their sentences commuted were promptly paroled. In *Van Curen*, the Court made express what had been implicit in *Dumschat*; the “mutually explicit understandings” concept under which some property interests are found protected does not apply to liberty interests. *Van Curen* is also interesting because there the parole board had granted the petition for parole but within days revoked it before the prisoner was released, upon being told that he had lied at the hearing before the board.

¹⁸¹ For analysis of the state laws as well as application of constitutional principles to juveniles, see SAMUEL M. DAVIS, RIGHTS OF JUVENILES: THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (2d ed. 1989).

¹⁸² *In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1, 12–29 (1967).

¹⁸³ 387 U.S. 1 (1967).

ishment, a measure of informality, avoidance of the stigma of criminal conviction, the low visibility of the process—but that the consequences of the absence of due process standards made their application necessary. “Ultimately, however, we confront the reality of that portion of the juvenile court process with which we deal in this case. A boy is charged with misconduct. The boy is committed to an institution where he may be restrained of liberty for years. It is of no constitutional consequence—and of limited practical meaning—that the institution to which he is committed is called an Industrial School. The fact of the matter is that, however euphemistic the title, a ‘receiving home’ or an ‘industrial school’ for juveniles is an institution of confinement in which the child is incarcerated for a greater or lesser time. His world becomes ‘a building with whitewashed walls, regimented routine and institutional hours. . . .’ Instead of mother and father and sisters and brothers and friends and classmates, his world is peopled by guards, custodians, state employees, and ‘delinquents’ confined with him for anything from waywardness to rape and homicide. “In view of this, it would be extraordinary if our Constitution did not require the procedural regularity and the exercise of care implied in the phrase ‘due process.’ Under our Constitution, the condition of being a boy does not justify a kangaroo court.”¹⁸⁴

Thus, the Court in *Gault* required that notice of charges be given in time for the juvenile to prepare a defense, required a hearing in which the juvenile could be represented by retained or appointed counsel, required observance of the rights of confrontation and cross-examination, and required that the juvenile be protected against self-incrimination.¹⁸⁵ It did not pass upon the right of appeal or the failure to make transcripts of hearings. Earlier, the Court had held that before a juvenile could be “waived” to an adult court for trial, there had to be a hearing and findings of reasons, a result based on statutory interpretation but apparently constitutionalized in *Gault*.¹⁸⁶ Subsequently, it was held that the “essentials of due process and fair treatment” required that a juvenile could be adjudged delinquent only on evidence beyond a reasonable doubt when the offense charged would be a crime if com-

¹⁸⁴ *Id.* at 27–28.

¹⁸⁵ *Id.* at 31–35. Justice Harlan concurred in part and dissented in part, *id.* at 65, agreeing on the applicability of due process but disagreeing with the standards of the Court. Justice Stewart dissented wholly, arguing that the application of procedures developed for adversary criminal proceedings to juvenile proceedings would endanger their objectives and contending that the decision was a backward step toward undoing the reforms instituted in the past. *Id.* at 78.

¹⁸⁶ *Kent v. United States*, 383 U.S. 541 (1966), noted on this point in *In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1, 30–31 (1967).

mitted by an adult,¹⁸⁷ but still later the Court held that jury trials were not constitutionally required in juvenile trials.¹⁸⁸

On a few occasions the Court has considered whether rights accorded to adults during investigation of crime are to be accorded juveniles. In one such case the Court ruled that a juvenile undergoing custodial interrogation by police had not invoked a *Miranda* right to remain silent by requesting permission to consult with his probation officer, since a probation officer could not be equated with an attorney, but indicated as well that a juvenile's waiver of *Miranda* rights was to be evaluated under the same totality-of-the-circumstances approach applicable to adults. That approach "permits—indeed it mandates—inquiry into all the circumstances surrounding the interrogation . . . includ[ing] evaluation of the juvenile's age, experience, education, background, and intelligence, and into whether he has the capacity to understand the warnings given him. . . ." ¹⁸⁹ In another case the Court ruled that, while the Fourth Amendment applies to searches of students by public school authorities, neither the warrant requirement nor the probable cause standard is appropriate.¹⁹⁰ Instead, a simple reasonableness

¹⁸⁷ *In re Winship*, 397 U.S. 358 (1970). Chief Justice Burger and Justice Stewart dissented, following essentially the Stewart reasoning in *Gault*. "The Court's opinion today rests entirely on the assumption that all juvenile proceedings are 'criminal prosecutions,' hence subject to constitutional limitation. . . . What the juvenile court systems need is not more but less of the trappings of legal procedure and judicial formalism; the juvenile system requires breathing room and flexibility in order to survive, if it can survive the repeated assaults from this Court." *Id.* at 375, 376. Justice Black dissented because he did not think the reasonable doubt standard a constitutional requirement at all. *Id.* at 377.

¹⁸⁸ *McKeiver v. Pennsylvania*, 403 U.S. 528 (1971). No opinion was concurred in by a majority of the Justices. Justice Blackmun's opinion of the Court, which was joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart and White, reasoned that a juvenile proceeding was not "a criminal prosecution" within the terms of the Sixth Amendment, so that jury trials were not automatically required; instead, the prior cases had proceeded on a "fundamental fairness" approach and in that regard a jury was not a necessary component of fair factfinding and its use would have serious repercussions on the rehabilitative and protection functions of the juvenile court. Justice White also submitted a brief concurrence emphasizing the differences between adult criminal trials and juvenile adjudications. *Id.* at 551. Justice Brennan concurred in one case and dissented in another because in his view open proceedings would operate to protect juveniles from oppression in much the same way as a jury would. *Id.* at 553. Justice Harlan concurred because he did not believe jury trials were constitutionally mandated in state courts. *Id.* at 557. Justices Douglas, Black, and Marshall dissented. *Id.* at 557.

¹⁸⁹ *Fare v. Michael C.*, 442 U.S. 707, 725 (1979).

¹⁹⁰ *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985) (upholding the search of a student's purse to determine whether the student possessed cigarettes in violation of school rule; evidence of drug activity held admissible in a prosecution under the juvenile laws).

standard governs all searches of students' persons and effects by school authorities.¹⁹¹

The Court ruled in *Schall v. Martin*¹⁹² that preventive detention of juveniles does not offend due process when it serves the legitimate state purpose of protecting society and the juvenile from potential consequences of pretrial crime, when the terms of confinement serve those legitimate purposes and are nonpunitive, and when procedures provide sufficient protection against erroneous and unnecessary detentions. A statute authorizing pretrial detention of accused juvenile delinquents on a finding of "serious risk" that the juvenile would commit crimes prior to trial, providing for expedited hearings (the maximum possible detention was 17 days), and guaranteeing a formal, adversarial probable cause hearing within that period, was found to satisfy these requirements.

Each state has a procedure by which juveniles may be tried as adults.¹⁹³ With the Court having clarified the constitutional requirements for imposition of capital punishment, it was only a matter of time before the Court would have to determine whether states may subject juveniles to capital punishment. In *Stanford v. Kentucky*,¹⁹⁴ the Court held that the Eighth Amendment does not categorically prohibit imposition of the death penalty for individuals who commit crimes at age 16 or 17; earlier the Court had invalidated a statutory scheme permitting capital punishment for crimes committed before age 16.¹⁹⁵ In weighing validity under the Eighth Amendment, the Court has looked to state practice to determine whether a consensus against execution exists.¹⁹⁶

Still to be considered by the Court are such questions as the substantive and procedural guarantees to be applied in proceedings when the matter at issue is non-criminal delinquent behavior.

The Problem of Civil Commitment.—As is the case with juvenile offenders, several other classes of persons are subject to confinement by processes and in courts deemed civil rather than criminal. Within this category of "protective commitment" are involuntary commitments for treatment of insanity and other degrees of mental incompetence, retardation, alcoholism, narcotics addiction,

¹⁹¹ This single rule, the Court explained, will permit school authorities "to regulate their conduct according to the dictates of reason and common sense." 469 U.S. at 343. Rejecting the suggestion of dissenting Justice Stevens, the Court was "unwilling to adopt a standard under which the legality of a search is dependent upon a judge's evaluation of the relative importance of various school rules." *Id.* at n.9.

¹⁹² 467 U.S. 253 (1984).

¹⁹³ See SAMUEL M. DAVIS, RIGHTS OF JUVENILES: THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM, ch. 4, "Waiver of Jurisdiction" (2d ed. 1989).

¹⁹⁴ 492 U.S. 361 (1989).

¹⁹⁵ *Thompson v. Oklahoma*, 487 U.S. 815 (1988).

¹⁹⁶ See analysis of Eighth Amendment principles, *supra* pp. 1491-92.

sexual psychopathy, and the like. Inasmuch as the deprivation of liberty is as severe as that experienced by juveniles adjudged delinquent, and in addition is accompanied with harm to reputation, it is surprising that the Court has only recently dealt with the issue.¹⁹⁷

In *O'Connor v. Donaldson*,¹⁹⁸ bypassing “the difficult issues of constitutional law” raised by the lower courts’ resolution of the case,¹⁹⁹ the Court held that “a State cannot constitutionally confine without more a nondangerous individual who is capable of surviving safely in freedom by himself or with the help of willing and responsible family members or friends.”²⁰⁰ The trial jury had found that Donaldson was not dangerous to himself or to others, and the Court ruled that he had been unconstitutionally confined.²⁰¹ Left to resolution another day were such questions as “when, or by what procedures, a mentally ill person may be confined by the State on any of the grounds which, under contemporary statutes, are generally advanced to justify involuntary confinement of such a person—to prevent injury to the public, to ensure his own survival or safety, or to alleviate or cure his illness”²⁰² and the right, if any, to receive treatment for the confined person’s illness. To conform to due process requirements, procedures for voluntary admission should recognize the possibility that persons in need of treatment may not be competent to give informed consent; this is not a situation where availability of a meaningful postdeprivation remedy can cure the due process violation.²⁰³

Procedurally, it is clear that an individual’s liberty interest in being free from unjustifiable confinement and from the adverse social consequences of being labeled mentally ill requires government to assume a greater share of the risk of error in proving the exist-

¹⁹⁷ Only in *Minnesota ex rel. Pearson v. Probate Court*, 309 U.S. 270 (1940), did the Court earlier approach consideration of the problem. Other cases reflected the Court’s concern with the rights of convicted criminal defendants and generally required due process procedures or that the commitment of convicted criminal defendants follow the procedures required for civil commitments. *Specht v. Patterson*, 386 U.S. 605 (1967); *Baxstrom v. Herold*, 383 U.S. 107 (1966); *Lynch v. Overholser*, 369 U.S. 705 (1962); *Humphrey v. Cady*, 405 U.S. 504 (1972); *Jackson v. Indiana*, 406 U.S. 715 (1972); *McNeil v. Director*, 407 U.S. 245 (1972). *Cf. Murel v. Baltimore City Criminal Court*, 407 U.S. 355 (1972).

¹⁹⁸ 422 U.S. 563 (1975).

¹⁹⁹ That is, the right to treatment of the involuntarily committed. *Supra*, pp. 1690–92.

²⁰⁰ 422 U.S. at 576.

²⁰¹ *Id.* at 576–77. The Court remanded to allow the trial court to determine whether Donaldson should recover personally from his doctors and others for his confinement, under standards formulated under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. *See Wood v. Strickland*, 420 U.S. 308 (1975); *Scheuer v. Rhodes*, 416 U.S. 232 (1974).

²⁰² *O'Connor v. Donaldson*, 422 U.S. 563, 573 (1975).

²⁰³ *Zinermon v. Burch*, 494 U.S. 113 (1990).

ence of such illness as a precondition to confinement. Thus, the evidentiary standard of a preponderance, normally used in litigation between private parties, is constitutionally inadequate in commitment proceedings. On the other hand, the criminal standard of beyond a reasonable doubt is not necessary because the state's aim is not punitive and because some or even much of the consequence of an erroneous decision not to commit may fall upon the individual. Moreover, the criminal standard addresses an essentially factual question, whereas interpretative and predictive determinations must also be made in reaching a conclusion on commitment. The Court therefore imposed a standard of "clear and convincing" evidence.²⁰⁴

Difficult questions of what due process may require in the context of commitment of allegedly mentally ill and mentally retarded children by their parents or by the State when such children are wards of the State were confronted in *Parham v. J.R.*²⁰⁵ Under the challenged laws there were no formal preadmission hearings, but psychiatric and social workers did interview parents and children and reached some form of independent determination that commitment was called for. The Court acknowledged the potential for abuse but balanced this against such factors as the responsibility of parents for the care and nurture of their children and the legal presumption that parents usually act in behalf of their children's welfare, the independent role of medical professionals in deciding to accept the children for admission, and the real possibility that the institution of an adversary proceeding would both deter parents from acting in good faith to institutionalize children needing such care and interfere with the ability of parents to assist with the care of institutionalized children.²⁰⁶ Similarly, the same concerns, reflected in the statutory obligation of the State to care for children in its custody, caused the Court to apply the same standards to involuntary commitment by the Government.²⁰⁷ Left to future resolution was the question of the due process requirements for postadmission review of the necessity for continued confinement.²⁰⁸

²⁰⁴ *Addington v. Texas*, 441 U.S. 418 (1979). See also *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480 (1980) (transfer of prison inmate to mental hospital).

²⁰⁵ 442 U.S. 584 (1979). See also *Secretary of Public Welfare v. Institutionalized Juveniles*, 442 U.S. 640 (1979).

²⁰⁶ 442 U.S. at 598–617. The dissenters agreed on this point. *Id.* at 626–37.

²⁰⁷ *Id.* at 617–20. The dissenters would have required a preconfinement hearing. *Id.* at 637–38.

²⁰⁸ *Id.* at 617. The dissent would have mandated a formal postadmission hearing. *Id.* at 625–26.

EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS

Scope and Application

State Action.—“[T]he action inhibited by the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment is only such action as may fairly be said to be that of the States. That Amendment erects no shield against merely private conduct, however discriminatory or wrongful.”¹ The Amendment by its express terms provides that “[n]o State . . .” and “nor shall any State . . .” engage in the proscribed conduct. “It is State action of a particular character that is prohibited. Individual invasion of individual rights is not the subject matter of the amendment. It has a deeper and broader scope. It nullifies and makes void all State legislation, and State action of every kind, which impairs the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States, or which injures them in life, liberty, or property without due process of law, or which denies to any of them the equal protection of the laws.”² While the state action doctrine is equally applicable to denials of privileges or immunities, due process, and equal protection, it is actually only with the last great right of the Fourteenth Amendment that the doctrine is invariably associated.³

“The vital requirement is State responsibility,” Justice Frankfurter once wrote, “that somewhere, somehow, to some extent, there be an infusion of conduct by officials, panoplied with State power, into any scheme” to deny protected rights.⁴ Certainly, state legislation commanding a discriminatory result is state action condemned by the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment, and is void.⁵ But the difficulty for the Court has begun when the conduct

¹Shelley v. Kraemer, 334 U.S. 1, 13 (1948). Similarly, the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, with its equal protection component, limits only federal governmental action and not that of private parties, as is true of each of the provisions of the Bill of Rights. The scope and reach of the “state action” doctrine is thus the same whether a State or the National Government is concerned. See CBS v. Democratic Nat’l Comm., 412 U.S. 94 (1973).

²Civil Rights Cases, 109 U.S. 3, 11 (1883). With regard to the principal issue in this decision, the limitation of the state action requirement on Congress’ enforcement powers, see *infra*, pp. 1929–33.

³Recently, however, because of broadening due process conceptions and the resulting litigation, issues of state action have been raised with respect to the due process clause. See, e.g., Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co., 419 U.S. 345 (1974); Flagg Bros. v. Brooks, 436 U.S. 149 (1978); Rendell-Baker v. Kohn, 457 U.S. 830 (1982); Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Co., 457 U.S. 922 (1982); Blum v. Yaretsky, 457 U.S. 991 (1982).

⁴Terry v. Adams, 345 U.S. 461, 473 (1953) (concurring). The Justice was speaking of the state action requirement of the Fifteenth Amendment. The Nineteenth and Twenty-sixth Amendments also hinge on state action; the Thirteenth Amendment, banning slavery and involuntary servitude, does not.

⁵United States v. Raines, 362 U.S. 17, 25 (1960). A prime example is the statutory requirement of racially segregated schools condemned in *Brown v. Board of*

complained of is not so clearly the action of a State but is, perhaps, the action of a minor state official not authorized or perhaps forbidden by state law so to act, or is, perhaps on the other hand, the action of a private party who nonetheless has some relationship with governmental authority.

The continuum of state action ranges from obvious legislated denial of equal protection to private action that is no longer so significantly related to or brigaded with state action that the Amendment applies. The prohibitions of the Amendment “have reference to actions of the political body denominated by a State, by whatever instruments or in whatever modes that action may be taken. A State acts by its legislative, its executive, or its judicial authorities. It can act in no other way. The constitutional provision, therefore, must mean that no agency of the State, or of the officers or agents by whom its powers are exerted, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. Whoever, by virtue of public position under a State government, deprives another of property, life, or liberty, without due process of law, or denies or takes away the equal protection of the laws, violates the constitutional inhibition; and as he acts in the name and for the State, and is clothed with the State’s power, his act is that of the State.”⁶

“Careful adherence to the ‘state action’ requirement preserves an area of individual freedom by limiting the reach of federal law and federal judicial power. It also avoids imposing on the State, its agencies or officials, responsibility for conduct for which they cannot fairly be blamed. A major consequence is to require the courts to respect the limits of their own power as directed against state governments and private interests. Whether this is good or bad policy, it is a fundamental fact of our political order.”⁷ That the doc-

Education, 347 U.S. 483 (1954). *And see* Peterson v. City of Greenville, 373 U.S. 244 (1963), holding that trespass convictions of African Americans “sitting-in” at a lunch counter over the objection of the manager cannot stand because of a local ordinance commanding such separation, irrespective of the manager’s probable attitude if no such ordinance existed.

⁶ Ex parte Virginia, 100 U.S. 339, 346–47 (1880).

⁷ Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Co., 457 U.S. 922, 936–37 (1982). “Freedom of the individual to choose his associates or his neighbors, to use and dispose of his property as he sees fit, to be irrational, arbitrary, capricious, even unjust in his personal relations are things all entitled to a large measure of protection from governmental interference. This liberty would be overridden in the name of equality, if the structures of the amendment were applied to governmental and private action without distinction. Also inherent in the concept of state action are values of federalism, a recognition that there are areas of private rights upon which federal power should not lay a heavy hand and which should properly be left to the more precise instruments of local authority.” Peterson v. City of Greenville, 373 U.S. 244, 250 (1963) (Justice Harlan concurring).

trine serves certain values and disserves others is not a criticism of it but a recognition that in formulating and applying the several tests by which the presence of “state action” is discerned,⁸ the Court has considerable discretion and the weights of the opposing values and interests will lead to substantially different applications of the tests. Thus, following the Civil War, when the Court sought to reassert federalism values, it imposed a rather rigid state action standard. During the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, when almost all state action contentions were raised in a racial context, the Court generally found the presence of state action. As it grew more sympathetic to federalism concerns in the late 1970s and 1980s, the Court began to reassert a strengthened state action doctrine, primarily but hardly exclusively in nonracial cases.

Operation of the state action doctrine was critical in determining whether school systems were segregated unconstitutionally by race. The original *Brown* cases and subsequent ones arose in the context of statutorily mandated separation of the races and occasioned therefore no controversy in finding state action.⁹ The aftermath in the South involved not so much state action as the determination of the remedies necessary to achieve a unitary system.¹⁰ But if racial segregation is not the result of state action in some aspect, then its existence is not subject to constitutional remedy.¹¹ Distinguishing between the two situations has occasioned much controversy.

Confronting in a case arising from Denver, Colorado, the issue of a school system in which no statutory dual system had ever been imposed, the Court restated the obvious principle that racial segregation caused by “intentionally segregative school board actions” is *de jure* and not *de facto*, just as if it had been mandated by statute. “[T]he differentiating factor between *de jure* segregation and so-called *de facto* segregation . . . is *purpose* or *intent* to segregate.”¹² Where it is proved that a meaningful portion of a school system is segregated as a result of official action, the official agency must bear the burden of proving that other school segregation within the system is adventitious and not the result of official action. It is not the responsibility of complainants to show that each

⁸“Only by sifting facts and weighing circumstances can the nonobvious involvement of the State in private conduct be attributed its true significance.” *Burton v. Wilmington Parking Auth.*, 365 U.S. 715, 722 (1961).

⁹*Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

¹⁰*Infra*, pp. 1843–47.

¹¹*Compare* *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457 (1982), *with* *Crawford v. Los Angeles Bd. of Educ.*, 458 U.S. 527 (1982).

¹²*Keyes v. Denver School District*, 413 U.S. 189, 208 (1973) (emphasis by Court). *See also* *Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449, 457 n.5 (1979).

school in a system is *de jure* segregated to be entitled to a system-wide desegregation plan.¹³ Moreover, the Court has also apparently adopted a rule to the effect that if it can be proved that at some time in the past a school board has purposefully maintained a racially separated system, a continuing obligation to dismantle that system can be said to have devolved upon the agency at that earlier point so that its subsequent actions can be held to a standard of having promoted desegregation or of not having promoted it, so that facially neutral or ambiguous school board policies can form the basis for a judicial finding of intentional discrimination.¹⁴

Different results, however, follow when inter-district segregation is an issue. Disregard of district lines is permissible by a federal court in formulating a desegregation plan only when it finds an inter-district violation. "Before the boundaries of separate and autonomous school districts may be set aside by consolidating the separate units for remedial purposes by imposing a cross-district remedy, it must first be shown that there has been a constitutional violation within one district that produces a significant segregative effect in another district. Specifically it must be shown that racially discriminatory acts of the state or local school districts, or of a single school district, have been a substantive cause of inter-district segregation."¹⁵ The *de jure/de facto* distinction is thus well established in school cases and is firmly grounded upon the "state action" language of the Fourteenth Amendment.

It has long been established that the actions of state officers and agents are attributable to the State. Thus, application of a federal statute imposing a criminal penalty on a state judge who excluded African Americans from jury duty was upheld as within congressional power under the Fourteenth Amendment; the judge's action constituted state action even though state law did not authorize him to select the jury in a racially discriminatory manner.¹⁶

¹³Id. at 208–213. The continuing validity of the *Keyes* shifting-of-the-burden principle, after *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229 (1976), and *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 433 U.S. 406 (1977), was asserted in *Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449, 455–458 & n.7, 467–68 (1979), and *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 443 U.S. 526, 540–42 (1979).

¹⁴*Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449, 458–61 (1979); *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 443 U.S. 526, 534–40 (1979).

¹⁵*Milliken v. Bradley*, 418 U.S. 717, 744–45 (1974).

¹⁶*Ex parte Virginia*, 100 U.S. 339 (1880). Similarly, the acts of a state governor are state actions, *Cooper v. Aaron*, 358 U.S. 1, 16–17 (1958); *Sterling v. Constantin*, 287 U.S. 378, 393 (1932), as are the acts of prosecuting attorneys, *Mooney v. Holohan*, 294 U.S. 103, 112, 113 (1935), state and local election officials, *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299 (1941), and law enforcement officials. *Griffin v. Maryland*, 378 U.S. 130 (1964); *Monroe v. Pape*, 365 U.S. 167 (1961); *Screws v. United States*, 325 U.S. 91 (1945). One need not be an employee of the State to act

The fact that the “state action” category is not limited to situations in which state law affirmatively authorizes discriminatory action was made clearer in *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*,¹⁷ in which the Court found unconstitutional state action in the discriminatory administration of an ordinance fair and non-discriminatory on its face. Not even the fact that the actions of the state agents are illegal under state law makes the action nonattributable to the State for purposes of the Fourteenth Amendment.¹⁸ “Misuse of power, possessed by virtue of state law and made possible only because the wrongdoer is clothed with the authority of state law, is action taken ‘under color of state law.’”¹⁹ When the denial of equal protection is not commanded by law or by administrative regulation but is nonetheless accomplished through police enforcement of “custom”²⁰ or through hortatory admonitions by public officials to private parties to act in a discriminatory manner,²¹ the action is state action. When a State clothes a private party with official authority, he may not engage in conduct forbidden the State.²²

Beyond this point we enter the area in which the discriminatory intent is that of a private individual and the question is whether a State has encouraged the effort or has impermissibly aided it.²³ Of notable importance and a subject of controversy since

“under color of” state law; he may merely participate in an act with state officers. *United States v. Price*, 383 U.S. 787 (1966).

¹⁷ 118 U.S. 356 (1886).

¹⁸ *Screws v. United States*, 325 U.S. 91 (1945); *Williams v. United States*, 341 U.S. 97 (1951); *United States v. Price*, 383 U.S. 787 (1966). *See also* *United States v. Raines*, 362 U.S. 17, 25 (1960). As Justice Brandeis noted in *Iowa-Des Moines National Bank v. Bennett*, 284 U.S. 239, 246 (1931), “acts done ‘by virtue of public position under a State government . . . and . . . in the name and for the State’ . . . are not to be treated as if they were the acts of private individuals, although in doing them the official acted contrary to an express command of the state law.” Note that for purposes of being amenable to suit in federal court, however, the immunity of the States does not shield state officers who are alleged to be engaging in illegal or unconstitutional action. *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123 (1908), *supra*, pp. 1537–44. *Cf. Screws v. United States*, *supra*, 147–48.

¹⁹ *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299, 326 (1941).

²⁰ *Cf. Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co.*, 398 U.S. 144 (1970).

²¹ *Lombard v. Louisiana*, 373 U.S. 267 (1963). No statute or ordinance mandated segregation at lunch counters but both the mayor and the chief of police had recently issued statements announcing their intention to maintain the existing policy of separation. Thus, the conviction of African Americans for trespass because they refused to leave a segregated lunch counter was voided.

²² *Griffin v. Maryland*, 378 U.S. 130 (1964). Guard at private entertainment ground was also deputy sheriff; he could not execute the racially discriminatory policies of his private employer. *See also Williams v. United States*, 341 U.S. 97 (1951).

²³ Examples already alluded to include *Lombard v. Louisiana*, 373 U.S. 267 (1963), in which certain officials had advocated continued segregation, *Peterson v. City of Greenville*, 373 U.S. 244 (1963), in which there were segregation-requiring ordinances and customs of separation, and *Robinson v. Florida*, 378 U.S. 153 (1964), in which health regulations required separate restroom facilities in any establishment serving both races.

it was decided is *Shelley v. Kraemer*.²⁴ There, property owners brought suit to enforce a racially restrictive covenant, seeking to enjoin the sale of a home by white sellers to black buyers. The covenants standing alone, Chief Justice Vinson said, violated no rights protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. “So long as the purposes of those agreements are effectuated by voluntary adherence to their terms, it would appear clear that there has been no action by the State and the provisions of the Amendment have not been violated.” However, that was not all. “These are cases in which the purposes of the agreements were secured only by judicial enforcement by state courts of the restrictive terms of the agreements.”²⁵ Establishing that the precedents were to the effect that judicial action of state courts was state action, the Court continued to find that judicial enforcement of these covenants was forbidden. “The undisputed facts disclose that petitioners were willing purchasers of properties upon which they desire to establish homes. The owners of the properties were willing sellers; and contracts of sale were accordingly consummated. . . .”

“These are not cases . . . in which the States have merely abstained from action, leaving private individuals free to impose such discriminations as they see fit. Rather, these are cases in which the States have made available to such individuals the full coercive power of government to deny to petitioners, on the grounds of race or color, the enjoyment of property rights in premises which petitioners are willing and financially able to acquire and which the grantors are willing to sell.”²⁶

Arguments about the scope of *Shelley* began immediately. Did the rationale mean that no private decision to discriminate could be effectuated in any manner by action of the State, as by enforcement of trespass laws or judicial enforcement of discrimination in wills? Or did it rather forbid the action of the State in interfering with the willingness of two private parties to deal with each other? Disposition of several early cases possibly governed by *Shelley* left this issue unanswered.²⁷ But the Court has experienced no dif-

²⁴ 334 U.S. 1 (1948).

²⁵ *Id.* at 13–14.

²⁶ *Id.* at 19. In *Hurd v. Hodge*, 334 U.S. 24 (1948), the Court outlawed judicial enforcement of restrictive covenants in the District of Columbia as violative of civil rights legislation and public policy. *Barrows v. Jackson*, 346 U.S. 249 (1953), held that damage actions for violations of racially restrictive covenants would not be judicially entertained.

²⁷ *Rice v. Sioux City Memorial Park Cemetery*, 245 Iowa 147, 60 N.W. 2d 110 (1953), *aff'd* by an equally divided Court, 348 U.S. 880 (1954), rehearing granted, judgment vacated & certiorari dismissed, 349 U.S. 70 (1955); *Black v. Cutter Laboratories*, 351 U.S. 292 (1956). The central issue in the “sit-in” cases, whether state enforcement of trespass laws at the behest of private parties acting on the basis of

ficuity in finding that state court enforcement of common-law rules in a way that has an impact upon speech and press rights is state action and triggers the application of constitutional rules.²⁸ It may be that the substantive rule that is being enforced is the dispositive issue, rather than the mere existence of state action. Thus, in *Evans v. Abney*,²⁹ a state court, asked to enforce a discriminatory stipulation in a will that property devised to a city for use as a public park should never be used by African Americans, ruled that the city could not operate the park in a segregated fashion; instead of striking the segregation requirement from the will, the court ordered return of the property to the decedent's heirs, inasmuch as the trust had failed. The Supreme Court held the decision permissible, inasmuch as the state court had merely carried out the testator's intent with no racial motivation itself, and distinguished *Shelley* on the basis that African Americans were not discriminated against by the reversion, because everyone was deprived of use of the park.³⁰

Similar to *Shelley* in controversy and the indefiniteness of its rationale, the latter element of which appears to have undergone a modifying rationalization, is *Reitman v. Mulkey*,³¹ in which, following enactment of an "open housing" law by the California legislature, an initiative and referendum measure was passed that repealed the law and amended the state constitution to prevent any agency of the State or of local government from henceforth forbidding racial discrimination in private housing. Upholding a state court invalidation of this amendment, the Court appeared to ground its decision on two lines of reasoning, either on the state court's premise that passage of the provision encouraged private racial discrimination impermissibly or on the basis that the provision made discriminatory racial practices immune from the ordi-

their own discriminatory motivations, was evaded by the Court, in finding some other form of state action and reversing all convictions. Individual Justices did elaborate, however. Compare *Bell v. Maryland*, 378 U.S. 226, 255–60 (1964) (opinion of Justice Douglas), with *id.* at 326 (Justices Black, Harlan, and White dissenting).

²⁸In *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254 (1964), and progeny, defamation actions based on common-law rules were found to implicate First Amendment rights and the Court imposed varying limiting rules on such rules of law. See *id.* at 265 (finding state action). Similarly, in *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886 (1982), a civil lawsuit between private parties, the application of state common-law rules to assess damages for actions in a boycott and picketing was found to constitute state action. *Id.* at 916 n.51.

²⁹396 U.S. 435 (1970). The matter had previously been before the Court in *Evans v. Newton*, 382 U.S. 296 (1966).

³⁰*Id.* at 445. Note the use of the same rationale in another context in *Palmer v. Thompson*, 403 U.S. 217, 226 (1971). On a different result in the "Girard College" will case, see *infra*, p. 1689 n.14.

³¹387 U.S. 369 (1967). The decision was 5-to-4, Justices Harlan, Black, Clark, and Stewart dissenting. *Id.* at 387.

nary legislative process, while not so limiting other processes, and thus impermissibly burdened minorities in the achievement of legitimate aims in a way other classes of persons were not burdened.³² In a subsequent case, the latter rationale was utilized in a unanimous decision voiding an Akron ordinance, which suspended an “open housing” ordinance and provided that any future ordinance regulating transactions in real property “on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry” must be submitted to a vote of the people before it could become effective, while any other ordinance would become effective when passed, except that it could be petitioned to referendum.³³

That *Mulkey* and *Hunter* stand for the proposition that imposing a barrier to racial amelioration legislation is the decisive and condemning factor is evident from two recent decisions with respect to state referendum decisions on busing for integration.³⁴ Both cases agree that “the simple repeal or modification of desegregation or antidiscrimination laws, without more, never has been viewed as embodying a presumptively invalid racial classification.”³⁵ It is thus not impermissible to overturn a previous governmental decision, or to defeat the effort initially to arrive at such a decision, simply because the state action may conceivably encourage private discrimination.

In other instances in which the discrimination is being practiced by private parties, the question essentially is whether there has been sufficient state involvement to bring the Fourteenth Amendment into play; that is, the private discrimination is not constitutionally forbidden “unless to some significant extent the State in any of its manifestations has been found to have become in-

³² See, e.g., *id.* at 377 (language suggesting both lines of reasoning).

³³ *Hunter v. Erickson*, 393 U.S. 385 (1969). In *Lee v. Nyquist*, 318 F. Supp. 710 (W.D.N.Y. 1970), *aff'd*, 402 U.S. 935 (1971), New York enacted a statute prohibiting the assignment of students or the establishment of school districts for the purpose of achieving racial balance in attendance, unless with the express approval of a locally elected school board or with the consent of the parents, a measure designed to restrict the state education commissioner’s program to ameliorate *de facto* segregation. The federal court held the law void, holding in reliance on *Mulkey* that the statute encouraged racial discrimination *and* that by treating educational matters involving racial criteria differently than it treated other educational matters it made more difficult a resolution of the *de facto* segregation problem.

³⁴ *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457 (1982); *Crawford v. Los Angeles Bd. of Educ.*, 458 U.S. 527 (1982). A five-to-four majority in *Seattle* found the fault to be a racially-based structuring of the political process making it more difficult to undertake actions designed to improve racial conditions than to undertake any other educational action. An 8-to-1 majority in *Crawford* found that repeal of a measure to bus to undo *de facto* segregation, without imposing any barrier to other remedial devices, was permissible.

³⁵ *Crawford*, 458 U.S. at 539, *quoted in Seattle*, 458 U.S. at 483. See also *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 433 U.S. 406, 414 (1977).

volved in it.”³⁶ There is no clear formula. “Only by sifting facts and weighing circumstances can the nonobvious involvement of the State in private conduct be attributed its true significance.”³⁷ State action was found in a number of circumstances. The “White Primary” was outlawed by the Court not because the party’s discrimination was commanded by statute but because the party operated under the authority of the State and it in fact controlled the outcome of elections.³⁸ Although the City of Philadelphia was acting as trustee in administering and carrying out the will of someone who had left money for a college, admission to which was stipulated to be for white boys only, the city was held to be engaged in forbidden state action in discriminating against African Americans in admission.³⁹ When state courts on petition of interested parties removed the City of Macon as trustees of a segregated park left in trust for such use in a will and appointed new trustees in order to keep the park segregated, the Court reversed, finding that the City was still inextricably involved in the maintenance and operation of the park.⁴⁰ In a significant case in which the Court explored a lengthy list of contacts between the State and a private corporation, it held that the lessee of property within an off-street parking building owned and operated by a municipality could not exclude African Americans from its restaurant. It was emphasized that the building was publicly built and owned, that the restaurant was an integral part of the complex, that the restaurant and the parking facilities complemented each other, that the parking authority had regulatory power over the lessee and had made stipulations but nothing related to racial discrimination, and that the financial success of the restaurant benefited the governmental agency; “the degree of state participation and involvement in discriminatory action” was sufficient to condemn it.⁴¹

The question arose, then, what degree of state participation was “significant”? Would licensing of a business clothe the actions of that business with sufficient state involvement? Would regulation? Or provision of police and fire protection? Would enforcement

³⁶ *Burton v. Wilmington Parking Authority*, 365 U.S. 715 (1961).

³⁷ *Id.* at 722.

³⁸ *Smith v. Allwright*, 321 U.S. 649 (1944).

³⁹ *Pennsylvania v. Board of Trustees*, 353 U.S. 230 (1957). On remand, the state courts substituted private persons as trustees to carry out the will. *In re Girard College Trusteeship*, 391 Pa. 434, 138 A. 2d 844, cert. denied, 357 U.S. 570 (1958). This expedient was, however, ultimately held unconstitutional. *Brown v. Pennsylvania*, 392 F.2d 120 (3d Cir.), cert. denied, 391 U.S. 921 (1968).

⁴⁰ *Evans v. Newton*, 382 U.S. 296 (1966). Justices Black, Harlan, and Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 312, 315. For the subsequent ruling in this case, see *Evans v. Abney*, 396 U.S. 435 (1970), considered *supra*, p. 1686.

⁴¹ *Burton v. Wilmington Parking Authority*, 365 U.S. 715 (1961).

of state trespass laws be invalid if it effectuated discrimination? The “sit-in” cases of the early 1960’s presented all these questions and more but did not resolve them.⁴² The basics of an answer came in *Moose Lodge No. 107 v. Irvis*,⁴³ in which the Court held that the fact that a private club was required to have a liquor license to serve alcoholic drinks and did have such a license did not bar it from discriminating against African Americans. It denied that private discrimination became constitutionally impermissible “if the private entity receives any sort of benefit or service at all from the State, or if it is subject to state regulation in any degree whatever,” since any such rule would eviscerate the state action doctrine. Rather, “where the impetus for the discrimination is private, the State must have ‘significantly involved itself with invidious discrimination.’”⁴⁴ Moreover, while the State had extensive powers to regulate in detail the liquor dealings of its licensees, “it cannot be said to in any way foster or encourage racial discrimination. Nor can it be said to make the State in any realistic sense a partner or even a joint venturer in the club’s enterprise.”⁴⁵ And there was nothing in the licensing relationship here that approached “the symbiotic relationship between lessor and lessee” which the Court had found in *Burton*.⁴⁶

The Court subsequently made clear that governmental involvement with private persons or private corporations is not the critical factor in determining the existence of “state action.” Rather, “the inquiry must be whether there is a sufficiently close nexus between the State and the challenged action of the regulated entity so that the action of the latter may be fairly treated as that of the State itself.”⁴⁷ Or, to quote Judge Friendly, who first enunciated the test this way, the “essential point” is “that the state must be involved not simply with some activity of the institution alleged to have inflicted injury upon a plaintiff but with the activity that caused the injury. Putting the point another way, the state action, not the private, must be the subject of the complaint.”⁴⁸ Therefore, the Court

⁴² See, e.g., the various opinions in *Bell v. Maryland*, 378 U.S. 226 (1964).

⁴³ 407 U.S. 163 (1972). One provision of the state law was, however, held unconstitutional. That provision required a licensee to observe all its by-laws and therefore mandated the Moose Lodge to follow the discrimination provision of its by-laws. *Id.* at 177–79.

⁴⁴ *Id.* at 173.

⁴⁵ *Id.* at 176–77.

⁴⁶ *Id.* at 174–75.

⁴⁷ *Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 351 (1974) (under the due process clause).

⁴⁸ *Powe v. Miles*, 407 F.2d. 73, 81 (2d Cir. 1968). See also *NCAA v. Tarkanian*, 488 U.S. 179 (1988) (college athletic association’s application of rules leading to a state university’s suspension of its basketball coach did not constitute state action on the part of the association).

found no such nexus between the State and a public utility's action in terminating service to a customer. Neither the fact that the business was subject to state regulation, nor that the State had conferred in effect a monopoly status upon the utility, nor that in reviewing the company's tariff schedules the regulatory commission had in effect approved the termination provision included therein (but had not required the practice, had "not put its own weight on the side of the proposed practice by ordering it")⁴⁹ operated to make the utility's action the State's action.⁵⁰ Significantly tightening the standard further against a finding of "state action," the Court asserted that plaintiffs must establish not only that a private party "acted under color of the challenged statute, but also that its actions are properly attributable to the State. . . ."⁵¹ And the actions are to be attributable to the State apparently only if the State compelled the actions and not if the State merely established the process through statute or regulation under which the private party acted. Thus, when a private party, having someone's goods in his possession and seeking to recover the charges owned on storage of the goods, acts under a permissive state statute to sell the goods and retain out of the proceeds his charges, his actions are not governmental action and need not follow the dictates of the due process clause.⁵² In the context of regulated nursing home situations, in which the homes were closely regulated and state officials reduced or withdrew Medicaid benefits paid to patients when they were discharged or transferred to institutions providing a lower level of care, the Court found that the actions of the homes in discharging or transferring were not thereby rendered the actions of the government.⁵³

In a few cases, the Court has indicated that discriminatory action by private parties may be precluded by the Fourteenth Amendment if the particular party involved is exercising a "public func-

⁴⁹ *Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 357 (1974). In dissent, Justice Marshall protested that the quoted language marked "a sharp departure" from precedent, "that state authorization and approval of 'private' conduct has been held to support a finding of state action." *Id.* at 369. Note that in *Cantor v. Detroit Edison Co.*, 428 U.S. 579 (1976), the plurality opinion used much the same analysis to deny antitrust immunity to a utility practice merely approved but not required by the regulating commission, but most of the Justices were on different sides of the same question in the two cases.

⁵⁰ *Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 351-58 (1974). On the due process limitations on the conduct of public utilities, see *Memphis Light, Gas & Water Div. v. Craft*, 436 U.S. 1 (1978).

⁵¹ *Flagg Bros. v. Brooks*, 436 U.S. 149, 156 (1978) (due process).

⁵² *Id.* at 164-66. If, however, a state officer acts with the private party in securing the property in dispute, that is sufficient to create the requisite state action and the private party may be subjected to suit if the seizure does not comport with due process. *Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Co.*, 457 U.S. 922 (1982).

⁵³ *Blum v. Yaretsky*, 457 U.S. 991 (1982).

tion.” This rationale is one of those which emerges from the various opinions in *Terry v. Adams*.⁵⁴ In *Marsh v. Alabama*,⁵⁵ a Jehovah’s Witness had been convicted of trespass after passing out literature on the streets of a company-owned town and the Court reversed. It is not at all clear from the opinion of the Court what it was that made the privately-owned town one to which the Constitution applied. In essence, it appears to have been that the town “had all the characteristics of any other American town,” that it was “like” a State. “The more an owner, for his advantage, opens up his property for use by the public in general, the more do his rights become circumscribed by the statutory and constitutional rights of those who use it.”⁵⁶ Subsequent efforts to expand upon *Marsh* were at first successful and then turned back, and the “public function” theory in the context of privately-owned shopping centers was sharply curtailed.⁵⁷

Attempts to apply such a theory to other kinds of private conduct, such as to private utilities,⁵⁸ to private utilization of permissive state laws to secure property claimed to belong to creditors,⁵⁹ to the operation of schools for “problem” children referred by public institutions,⁶⁰ and to the operations of nursing homes the patients of which are practically all funded by public resources,⁶¹ proved unavailing. The “public function” doctrine is to be limited to a delegation of “a power ‘traditionally exclusively reserved to the State.’”⁶² Therefore, the question is not “whether a private group is serving a ‘public function.’ . . . That a private entity performs a function which serves the public does not make its acts state action.”⁶³ Public function did play an important part, however, in the Court’s finding state action in exercise of peremptory challenges in jury selection by non-governmental parties.

In finding state action in the racially discriminatory use of peremptory challenges by a private party during *voir dire* in a civil case,⁶⁴ the Court applied tests developed in an earlier case involv-

⁵⁴ 345 U.S. 461 (1953).

⁵⁵ 326 U.S. 501 (1946).

⁵⁶ *Id.* at 506.

⁵⁷ See *Amalgamated Food Employees Union v. Logan Valley Plaza*, 391 U.S. 308 (1968), *limited in* *Lloyd Corp. v. Tanner*, 407 U.S. 551 (1972), and *overruled in* *Hudgens v. NLRB*, 424 U.S. 507 (1976). The *Marsh* principle is good only when private property has taken on *all* the attributes of a municipality. *Id.* at 516–17.

⁵⁸ *Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 352 (1974).

⁵⁹ *Flagg Bros. v. Brooks*, 436 U.S. 149, 157–159 (1978).

⁶⁰ *Rendell-Baker v. Kohn*, 457 U.S. 830, 842 (1982).

⁶¹ *Blum v. Yaretsky*, 457 U.S. 991, 1011–1012 (1982).

⁶² *Flagg Bros. v. Brooks*, 436 U.S. 149, 157 (1978) (quoting *Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 352 (1974)).

⁶³ *Rendell-Baker v. Kohn*, 457 U.S. 830, 842 (1982).

⁶⁴ *Edmonson v. Leesville Concrete Co.*, 500 U.S. 614 (1991).

ing garnishment and attachment.⁶⁵ The Court first asks “whether the claimed constitutional deprivation resulted from the exercise of a right or privilege having its source in state authority,” and then “whether the private party charged with the deprivation could be described in all fairness as a state actor.” In answering the second question, the Court considers three factors: “the extent to which the actor relies on governmental assistance and benefits, whether the actor is performing a traditional governmental function, and whether the injury caused is aggravated in a unique way by the incidents of governmental authority.”⁶⁶ There was no question that exercise of peremptory challenges derives from governmental authority (either state or federal, as the case may be); exercise of peremptory challenges is authorized by law, and the number is limited. Similarly, the Court easily concluded that private parties exercise peremptory challenges with the “overt” and “significant” assistance of the court. So too, jury selection is the performance of a traditional governmental function: the jury “is a quintessential governmental body, having no attributes of a private actor,” and it followed, so the Court majority believed, that selection of individuals to serve on that body is also a governmental function whether or not it is delegated to or shared with private individuals.⁶⁷ Finally, the Court concluded that “the injury caused by the discrimination is made more severe because the government permits it to occur within the courthouse itself.”⁶⁸ Dissenting Justice O’Connor complained that the Court was wiping away centuries of adversary practice in which “unrestrained private choice” has been recognized in exercise of peremptory challenges; “[i]t is antithetical to the nature of our adversarial process,” the Justice contended, “to say that a private attorney acting on behalf of a private client represents the government for constitutional purposes.”⁶⁹

Even though in a criminal case it is the government and the defendant who are adversaries, rather than two private parties, as is ordinarily the case in civil actions, the Court soon applied these same principles to hold that exercise of peremptory challenges by the defense in a criminal case also constitutes state action.⁷⁰ The same generalities apply with at least equal force: there is overt and significant governmental assistance in creating and structuring the

⁶⁵ *Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Corp.*, 457 U.S. 922 (1982).

⁶⁶ *Edmonson v. Leesville Concrete Co.*, 500 U.S. 614, 620–22 (1991) (citations omitted).

⁶⁷ *Id.* at 624, 625.

⁶⁸ *Id.* at 628.

⁶⁹ *Id.* at 639, 643.

⁷⁰ *Georgia v. McCollum*, 112 S. Ct. 2348 (1992). It was, of course, beyond dispute that a prosecutor’s exercise of peremptory challenges constitutes state action. See *Swain v. Alabama*, 380 U.S. 202 (1965); *Batson v. Kentucky*, 476 U.S. 79 (1986).

process, a criminal jury serves an important governmental function and its selection is also important, and the courtroom setting intensifies harmful effects of discriminatory actions. An earlier case⁷¹ holding that a public defender was not a state actor when engaged in general representation of a criminal defendant was distinguished, the Court emphasizing that “exercise of a peremptory challenge differs significantly from other actions taken in support of a defendant’s defense,” since it involves selection of persons to wield governmental power.⁷²

The rules developed by the Court for business regulation are that (1) the “mere fact that a business is subject to state regulation does not by itself convert its action into that of the State for purposes of the Fourteenth Amendment,”⁷³ and (2) “a State normally can be held responsible for a private decision only when it has exercised coercive power or has provided such significant encouragement, either overt or covert, that the choice must be deemed to be that of the State.”⁷⁴

Previously, the Court’s decisions with respect to state “involvement” in the private activities of individuals and entities raised the question whether financial assistance and tax benefits provided to private parties would so clothe them with state action that discrimination by them and other conduct would be subjected to constitutional constraints. Many lower courts had held state action to exist in such circumstances.⁷⁵ However the question might have

⁷¹ *Polk County v. Dodson*, 454 U.S. 512 (1981).

⁷² 112 U.S. at 2356. Justice O’Connor, again dissenting, pointed out that the Court’s distinction was inconsistent with *Dodson’s* declaration that public defenders are not vested with state authority “when performing a lawyer’s traditional functions as counsel to a defendant in a criminal proceeding.” *Id.* at 2362. Justice Scalia, also dissenting again, decried reduction of *Edmonson* “to the terminally absurd: A criminal defendant, in the process of defending himself against the state, is held to be acting on behalf of the state.” *Id.* at 2364. Chief Justice Rehnquist, who had dissented in *Edmonson*, concurred in *McCullum* in the belief that it was controlled by *Edmonson*, and Justice Thomas, who had not participated in *Edmonson*, expressed similar views in a concurrence.

⁷³ *Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 350 (1974); *Blum v. Yaretsky*, 457 U.S. 991, 1004 (1982). *Cf.* *Moose Lodge No. 107 v. Irvis*, 407 U.S. 163 (1972).

⁷⁴ *Blum v. Yaretsky*, 457 U.S. 991, 1004 (1982); *Flagg Bros. v. Brooks*, 436 U.S. 149, 166 (1978); *Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 357 (1974).

⁷⁵ On funding, *see Simkins v. Moses H. Cone Memorial Hosp.*, 323 F.2d 959 (4th Cir. 1963), cert. denied, 376 U.S. 938 (1964); *Kerr v. Enoch Pratt Free Library*, 149 F.2d 212 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 326 U.S. 721 (1945); *Christhilf v. Annapolis Emergency Hosp. Ass’n*, 496 F.2d 174 (4th Cir. 1974). *But cf. Greco v. Orange Mem. Hosp. Corp.*, 513 F.2d 873 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 423 U.S. 1000 (1975). On tax benefits, *see Green v. Connally*, 330 F. Supp. 1150 (D.D.C.) (three-judge court), aff’d. sub nom. *Coit v. Green*, 404 U.S. 997 (1971); *McGlotten v. Connally*, 338 F. Supp. 448 (D.D.C. 1972); *Jackson v. Statler Foundation*, 496 F.2d 623 (2d Cir. 1974). *But cf. New York City Jaycees v. United States Jaycees*, 512 F.2d 856 (2d Cir. 1976);

been answered under the older cases, it is evident that a negative answer flows from the premises of the more recent cases. In *Rendell-Baker v. Kohn*,⁷⁶ the private school received “problem” students referred to it by public institutions, it was heavily regulated, and it received between 90 and 99% of its operating budget from public funds. In *Blum v. Yaretsky*,⁷⁷ the nursing home had practically all of its operating and capital costs subsidized by public funds and more than 90% of its residents had their medical expenses paid from public funds; in setting reimbursement rates, the State included a formula to assure the home a profit. Nevertheless, in both cases the Court found that the entities remained private, and required plaintiffs to show that as to the complained of actions the State was involved, either through coercion or encouragement. “That programs undertaken by the State result in substantial funding of the activities of a private entity is no more persuasive than the fact of regulation of such an entity in demonstrating that the State is responsible for decisions made by the entity in the course of its business.”⁷⁸

In the social welfare area, the Court has drawn a sharp distinction between governmental action subject to substantive due process requirements, and governmental inaction, not so constrained. There being “no affirmative right to governmental aid,” the Court announced in *DeShaney v. Winnebago County Social Services Department*⁷⁹ that “as a general matter, . . . a State’s failure to protect an individual against private violence simply does not constitute a violation of the Due Process Clause.” Before there can be state involvement creating an affirmative duty to protect an individual, the Court explained, the state must have taken a person into its custody and held him there against his will so as to restrict his freedom to act on his own behalf. Thus, while the Court had recognized due process violations for failure to provide adequate medical care to incarcerated prisoners,⁸⁰ and for failure to ensure reasonable safety for involuntarily committed mental patients,⁸¹ no such affirmative duty arose from the failure of social services agents to protect an abused child from further abuse from his parent. Even though possible abuse had been reported to the agency and confirmed and monitored by the agency, and the agency

Greeny v. George Washington Univ., 512 F.2d 556 (D.C. Cir.), cert. denied, 423 U.S. 995 (1975).

⁷⁶ 457 U.S. 830 (1982).

⁷⁷ 457 U.S. 991 (1982).

⁷⁸ *Id.* at 1011.

⁷⁹ 489 U.S. 189, 197 (1989).

⁸⁰ *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97 (1976).

⁸¹ *Youngberg v. Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307 (1982).

had done nothing to protect the child, the Court emphasized that the actual injury was inflicted by the parent and “did not occur while [the child] was in the State’s custody.”⁸² While the State may have incurred liability in tort through the negligence of its social workers, “[not] every tort committed by a state actor [is] a constitutional violation.”⁸³ “[I]t is well to remember . . . that the harm was inflicted not by the State of Wisconsin, but by [the child’s] father.”⁸⁴

Judicial inquiry into the existence of “state action” may be directed toward the implementation of either of two remedies, and this may well lead to some difference in the search. In the cases considered here suits were against a private actor to compel him to halt his discriminatory action, to enjoin him to admit blacks to a lunch counter, for example. But one could just as readily bring suit against the government to compel it to cease aiding the private actor in his discriminatory conduct. Recurrence to the latter remedy might well avoid constitutional issues that an order directed to the private party would raise.⁸⁵ In any event, it must be determined whether the governmental involvement is sufficient to give rise to a constitutional remedy; in a suit against the private party it must be determined whether he is so involved with the government as to be subject to constitutional restraints, while in a suit against the government agency it must be determined whether the government’s action “impermissibly fostered” the private conduct.

Thus, in *Norwood v. Harrison*,⁸⁶ the Court struck down the provision of free textbooks by the State to private schools set up as racially segregated institutions to avoid desegregated public schools, even though the textbook program predated the establishment of these schools. “[A]ny tangible state assistance, outside the generalized services government might provide to private segregated schools in common with other schools, and with all citizens, is constitutionally prohibited if it has ‘a significant tendency to facilitate, reinforce, and support private discrimination.’ . . . The constitutional obligation of the State requires it to steer clear, not only of operating the old dual system of racially segregated schools, but also of giving significant aid to institutions that practice racial or

⁸² 489 U.S. at 201.

⁸³ *Id.* at 202.

⁸⁴ *Id.* at 203.

⁸⁵ For example, rights of association protected by the First Amendment. *See* *Moose Lodge No. 107 v. Irvis*, 407 U.S. 163, 179–80 (1972) (Justice Douglas dissenting); *Gilmore v. City of Montgomery*, 417 U.S. 556, 575 (1974); *Norwood v. Harrison*, 413 U.S. 455, 470 (1973). The right can be implicated as well by affirmative legislative action barring discrimination in private organizations. *See* *Runyon v. McCrary*, 427 U.S. 160, 175–79 (1976).

⁸⁶ 413 U.S. 455 (1973).

other invidious discriminations.”⁸⁷ And in a subsequent case, the Court approved a lower court order that barred the city from permitting exclusive temporary use of public recreational facilities by segregated private schools because that interfered with an outstanding order mandating public school desegregation. But it remanded for further factfinding with respect to permitting nonexclusive use of public recreational facilities and general government services by segregated private schools so that the district court could determine whether such uses “involve government so directly in the actions of those users as to warrant court intervention on constitutional grounds.”⁸⁸ Unlike the situation in which private club discrimination is attacked directly, “the question of the existence of state action centers in the extent of the city’s involvement in discriminatory actions by private agencies using public facilities. . . .” Receipt of just any sort of benefit or service at all does not by the mere provision—electricity, water, and police and fire protection, access generally to municipal recreational facilities—constitute a showing of state involvement in discrimination and the lower court’s order was too broad because not predicated upon a proper finding of state action. “If, however, the city or other governmental entity rations otherwise freely accessible recreational facilities, the case for state action will naturally be stronger than if the facilities are simply available to all comers without condition or reservation.” The lower court was directed to sift facts and weigh circumstances on a case-by-case basis in making determinations.⁸⁹

It should be noted, however, that the Court has interposed, without mentioning these cases, a potentially significant barrier to utilization of the principle set out in them. In a 1976 decision, which it has expanded since, it held that plaintiffs, seeking disallowal of governmental tax benefits accorded to institutions that allegedly discriminated against complainants and thus involved the government in their actions, must in order to bring the suit show that revocation of the benefit would cause the institutions to cease the complained-of conduct.⁹⁰

“Persons”.—In the case in which it was first called upon to interpret this clause, the Court doubted whether “any action of a

⁸⁷ *Gilmore v. City of Montgomery*, 417 U.S. 556, 568–69 (1974) (quoting *Norwood v. Harrison*, 413 U.S. 455, 466, 467 (1973)).

⁸⁸ *Gilmore v. City of Montgomery*, 417 U.S. 556, 570 (1974).

⁸⁹ *Id.* at 573–74. In *Blum v. Yaretsky*, 457 U.S. 991 (1982), plaintiffs, objecting to decisions of the nursing home in discharging or transferring patients, sued public officials, but they objected to the discharges and transfers, not to the changes in Medicaid benefits made by the officials.

⁹⁰ *Simon v. Eastern Kentucky Welfare Rights Organization*, 426 U.S. 26 (1976). *See id.* at 46, 63–64 (Justice Brennan concurring and dissenting).

State not directed by way of discrimination against the [N]egroes as a class, or on account of their race, will ever be held to come within the purview of this provision.”⁹¹ Nonetheless, in deciding the *Granger Cases* shortly thereafter, the Justices seemingly entertained no doubt that the railroad corporations were entitled to invoke the protection of the clause.⁹² Nine years later, Chief Justice Waite announced from the bench that the Court would not hear argument on the question whether the equal protection clause applied to corporations. “We are all of the opinion that it does.”⁹³ The word has been given the broadest possible meaning. “These provisions are universal in their application, to all persons within the territorial jurisdiction, without regard to any differences of race, of color, or of nationality. . . .”⁹⁴ The only qualification is that a municipal corporation cannot invoke the clause against its State.⁹⁵

“Within Its Jurisdiction”.—Persons “within its jurisdiction” are entitled to equal protection from a State. Largely because Article IV, §2, has from the beginning guaranteed the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States, the Court has rarely construed the phrase in relation to natural persons.⁹⁶ It was first held that a foreign corporation not doing business in a State under conditions that subjected it to process issuing from the courts of that State was not “within the jurisdiction” and could not complain of the preferences granted resident creditors in the distribution of assets of an insolvent corporation,⁹⁷ but this holding was subsequently qualified, the Court holding that a foreign corporation which sued in a court of a State in which it was not licensed to

⁹¹ *Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 81 (1873). *Cf.* *Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 406 U.S. 164, 177 (1972) (Justice Rehnquist dissenting).

⁹² *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Iowa*, 94 U.S. 155 (1877); *Peik v. Chicago & Nw. Ry.*, 94 U.S. 164 (1877); *Chicago, M. & St. P. R.R. v. Ackley*, 94 U.S. 179 (1877); *Winona & St. Peter R.R. v. Blake*, 94 U.S. 180 (1877).

⁹³ *Santa Clara County v. Southern Pac. R.R.*, 118 U.S. 394, 396 (1886). The background and developments from this utterance are treated in H. GRAHAM, *EVERYMAN'S CONSTITUTION—HISTORICAL ESSAYS ON THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT, THE “CONSPIRACY THEORY,” AND AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONALISM* (1968), chs. 9, 10, and pp. 566–84. Justice Black, in *Connecticut General Life Ins. Co. v. Johnson*, 303 U.S. 77, 85 (1938), and Justice Douglas, in *Wheeling Steel Corp. v. Glander*, 337 U.S. 562, 576 (1949), have disagreed that corporations are persons for equal protection purposes.

⁹⁴ *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356, 369 (1886). For modern examples, *see* *Levy v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 68, 70 (1968); *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365, 371 (1971).

⁹⁵ *City of Newark v. New Jersey*, 262 U.S. 192 (1923); *Williams v. Mayor of Baltimore*, 289 U.S. 36 (1933).

⁹⁶ *See Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202, 210–16 (1982) (explicating meaning of the phrase in the context of holding that aliens illegally present in a State are “within its jurisdiction” and may thus raise equal protection claims).

⁹⁷ *Blake v. McClung*, 172 U.S. 239, 261 (1898); *Sully v. American Nat'l Bank*, 178 U.S. 289 (1900).

do business to recover possession of property wrongfully taken from it in another State was “within the jurisdiction” and could not be subjected to unequal burdens in the maintenance of the suit.⁹⁸ The test of amenability to service of process within the State was ignored in a later case dealing with discriminatory assessment of property belonging to a nonresident individual.⁹⁹ When a State has admitted a foreign corporation to do business within its borders, that corporation is entitled to equal protection of the laws but not necessarily to identical treatment with domestic corporations.¹⁰⁰

Equal Protection: Judging Classifications by Law

A guarantee of equal protection of the laws was contained in every draft leading up to the final version of § 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment.¹⁰¹ Immediately pressing to its sponsors was the desire to provide a firm constitutional basis for already-enacted civil rights legislation,¹⁰² and, by amending the Constitution, to place repeal beyond the accomplishment of a simple majority in a future Congress.¹⁰³ No doubt there were conflicting interpretations of the phrase “equal protection” among sponsors and supporters and the legislative history does little to clarify whether any sort of consensus was accomplished and if so what it was.¹⁰⁴ While the Court early recognized that African Americans were the primary intended beneficiaries of the protections thus adopted,¹⁰⁵ the spare language was majestically unconfined to so limited a class or to so limited a purpose. Thus, as will be seen, the equal protection standard

⁹⁸ *Kentucky Finance Corp. v. Paramount Auto Exchange Corp.*, 262 U.S. 544 (1923).

⁹⁹ *Hillsborough v. Cromwell*, 326 U.S. 620 (1946).

¹⁰⁰ *Wheeling Steel Corp. v. Glander*, 337 U.S. 562 (1949); *Hanover Ins. Co. v. Harding*, 272 U.S. 494 (1926). See also *Philadelphia Fire Ass'n v. New York*, 119 U.S. 110 (1886).

¹⁰¹ The story is recounted in J. JAMES, *THE FRAMING OF THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT* (1956). See also *JOURNAL OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF FIFTEEN ON RECONSTRUCTION* (B. Kendrick, ed. 1914). The floor debates are collected in *1 STATUTORY HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES—CIVIL RIGHTS 181* (B. Schwartz, ed. 1970).

¹⁰² Civil Rights Act of 1866, ch. 31, 14 Stat. 27, now in part 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981, 1982. See *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 422–37 (1968).

¹⁰³ As in fact much of the legislation which survived challenge in the courts was repealed in 1894 and 1909. 28 Stat. 36; 35 Stat. 1088. See R. CARR, *FEDERAL PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS: QUEST FOR A SWORD* 45–46 (1947).

¹⁰⁴ TENBROEK, *EQUAL UNDER LAW* (rev. ed. 1965); Frank & Munro, *The Original Understanding of “Equal Protection of the Laws,”* 50 COLUM. L. REV. 131 (1950); Bickel, *The Original Understanding and the Segregation Decision*, 69 HARV. L. REV. 1 (1955); and see the essays collected in H. GRAHAM, *EVERYMAN’S CONSTITUTION—HISTORICAL ESSAYS ON THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT, THE “CONSPIRACY THEORY,” AND AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONALISM* (1968). In calling for reargument in *Brown v. Board of Education*, 345 U.S. 972 (1952), the Court asked for and received extensive analysis of the legislative history of the Amendment with no conclusive results. *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483, 489–90 (1954).

¹⁰⁵ *Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 81 (1873).

came to be applicable to all classifications by legislative and other official bodies, though not with much initial success,¹⁰⁶ until now the equal protection clause in the fields of civil rights and fundamental liberties looms large as a constitutional text affording the federal and state courts extensive powers of review with regard to differential treatment of persons and classes.

The Traditional Standard: Restrained Review.—The traditional standard of review of equal protection challenges of classifications developed largely though not entirely in the context of economic regulation.¹⁰⁷ It is still most validly applied there, although it appears in many other contexts as well. A more active review has been developed for classifications based on a “suspect” indicium or affecting a “fundamental” interest.

“The Fourteenth Amendment enjoins ‘the equal protection of the laws,’ and laws are not abstract propositions.” Justice Frankfurter once wrote. “They do not relate to abstract units, A, B, and C, but are expressions of policy arising out of specific difficulties, addressed to the attainment of specific ends by the use of specific remedies. The Constitution does not require things which are different in fact or opinion to be treated in law as though they were the same.”¹⁰⁸ The mere fact of classification will not void legislation,¹⁰⁹ then, because in the exercise of its powers a legislature has considerable discretion in recognizing the differences between and among persons and situations.¹¹⁰ “Class legislation, discriminating against some and favoring others, is prohibited; but legislation which, in carrying out a public purpose, is limited in its application, if within the sphere of its operation it affects alike all persons similarly situated, is not within the amendment.”¹¹¹ Or, more succinctly, “statutes create many classifications which do not deny equal protection; it is only ‘invidious discrimination’ which offends the Constitution.”¹¹²

¹⁰⁶In *Buck v. Bell*, 274 U.S. 200, 208 (1927), Justice Holmes characterized the equal protection clause as “the last resort of constitutional arguments.”

¹⁰⁷See *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356 (1886) (discrimination against Chinese on the West Coast).

¹⁰⁸*Tigner v. Texas*, 310 U.S. 141, 147 (1980).

¹⁰⁹*Atchison, T. & S.F.R.R. v. Matthews*, 174 U.S. 96, 106 (1899). See also from the same period, *Orient Ins. Co. v. Daggs*, 172 U.S. 557 (1869); *Bachtel v. Wilson*, 204 U.S. 36 (1907); *Watson v. Maryland*, 218 U.S. 173 (1910), and later cases. *Kotch v. Board of River Port Pilot Comm’rs*, 330 U.S. 552 (1947); *Goesaert v. Cleary*, 335 U.S. 464 (1948); *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420 (1961); *Schilb v. Kuebel*, 404 U.S. 357 (1971); *Railroad Retirement Bd. v. Fritz*, 449 U.S. 166 (1980); *Schweiker v. Wilson*, 450 U.S. 221 (1981).

¹¹⁰*Barrett v. Indiana*, 229 U.S. 26 (1913).

¹¹¹*Barbier v. Connolly*, 113 U.S. 27, 32 (1885).

¹¹²*Ferguson v. Skrupa*, 372 U.S. 726, 732 (1963); *Williamson v. Lee Optical Co.*, 348 U.S. 483, 489 (1955).

How then is the line between permissible and invidious classification to be determined? In *Lindsley v. Natural Carbonic Gas Co.*,¹¹³ the Court summarized one version of the rules still prevailing. “1. The equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment does not take from the State the power to classify in the adoption of police laws, but admits of the exercise of a wide scope of discretion in that regard, and avoids what is done only when it is without any reasonable basis and therefore is purely arbitrary. 2. A classification having some reasonable basis does not offend against that clause merely because it is not made with mathematical nicety or because in practice it results in some inequality. 3. When the classification in such a law is called in question, if any state of facts reasonably can be conceived that would sustain it, the existence of that state of facts at the time the law was enacted must be assumed. 4. One who assails the classification in such a law must carry the burden of showing that it does not rest upon any reasonable basis, but is essentially arbitrary.” Especially because of the emphasis upon the necessity for total arbitrariness, utter irrationality, and the fact that the Court will strain to conceive of a set of facts that will justify the classification, the test is extremely lenient and, assuming the existence of a constitutionally permissible goal, no classification will ever be upset. But, contemporaneously with this test, the Court also pronounced another lenient standard which did leave to the courts a judgmental role. In this test, “the classification must be reasonable, not arbitrary, and must rest upon some ground of difference having a fair and substantial relation to the object of the legislation, so that all persons similarly circumstanced shall be treated alike.”¹¹⁴ Use of the latter standard did in fact result in some invalidations.¹¹⁵

But then, coincident with the demise of substantive due process in the area of economic regulation,¹¹⁶ the Court reverted to the

¹¹³220 U.S. 61, 78–79 (1911), quoted in full in *Morey v. Doud*, 354 U.S. 457, 463–64 (1957). Classifications which are purposefully discriminatory fall before the equal protection clause without more. E.g., *Barbier v. Connolly*, 113 U.S. 27, 30 (1885); *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356, 373–74 (1886). Cf. *New York City Transit Auth. v. Beazer*, 440 U.S. 568, 593 n.40 (1979). Explicit in all the formulations is that a legislature must have had a permissible purpose, a requirement which is seldom failed, given the leniency of judicial review. But see *Zobel v. Williams*, 457 U.S. 55, 63–64 (1982), and *id.* at 65 (Justice Brennan concurring).

¹¹⁴F.S. *Royster Guano Co. v. Virginia*, 253 U.S. 412, 415 (1920). See also *Brown-Forman Co. v. Kentucky*, 217 U.S. 563, 573 (1910).

¹¹⁵E.g., *F.S. Royster Guano Co. v. Virginia*, 253 U.S. 412 (1920); *Stewart Dry Goods Co. v. Lewis*, 294 U.S. 550 (1935); *Mayflower Farms v. Ten Eyck*, 297 U.S. 266 (1936).

¹¹⁶In *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502, 537 (1934), speaking of the limits of the due process clause, the Court observed that “in the absence of other constitutional restrictions, a state is free to adopt whatever economic policy may reasonably be deemed to promote public welfare.”

former standard, deferring to the legislative judgment on questions of economics and related matters; even when an impermissible purpose could have been attributed to the classifiers it was usually possible to conceive of a reason that would justify the classification.¹¹⁷ Strengthening the deference was the recognition of discretion in the legislature not to try to deal with an evil or a class of evils all within the scope of one enactment but to approach the problem piecemeal, to learn from experience, and to ameliorate the harmful results of two evils differently, resulting in permissible over- and under-inclusive classifications.¹¹⁸

In recent years, the Court has been remarkably inconsistent in setting forth the standard which it is using, and the results have reflected this. It has upheld economic classifications that suggested impermissible intention to discriminate, reciting at length the *Lindsley* standard, complete with the conceiving-of-a-basis and the one-step-at-a-time rationale,¹¹⁹ and it has applied this relaxed standard to social welfare regulations.¹²⁰ In other cases, it has utilized the *Royster Guano* standard and has looked to the actual goal articulated by the legislature in determining whether the classification had a reasonable relationship to that goal,¹²¹ although it has usually ended up upholding the classification. Finally, purportedly applying the rational basis test, the Court has invalidated some

¹¹⁷E.g., *Tigner v. Texas*, 310 U.S. 141 (1940); *Kotch v. Board of River Port Pilot Comm'rs*, 330 U.S. 552 (1947); *Goesaert v. Cleary*, 335 U.S. 464 (1948); *Railway Express Agency v. City of New York*, 336 U.S. 106 (1949); *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420 (1961).

¹¹⁸*Williamson v. Lee Optical Co.*, 348 U.S. 483, 489 (1955); *McDonald v. Board of Election Comm'rs*, 394 U.S. 802, 809 (1969); *Schilb v. Kuebel*, 404 U.S. 357, 364–65 (1971); *City of New Orleans v. Dukes*, 427 U.S. 297, 303 (1976); *Minnesota v. Clover Leaf Creamery Co.*, 449 U.S. 456, 466 (1981).

¹¹⁹*City of New Orleans v. Dukes*, 427 U.S. 297, 303–04 (1976); *City of Pittsburg v. Alco Parking Corp.*, 417 U.S. 369 (1974).

¹²⁰*Dandridge v. Williams*, 397 U.S. 471, 485–86 (1970); *Jefferson v. Hackney*, 406 U.S. 535, 549 (1972). See also *New York City Transit Auth. v. Beazer*, 440 U.S. 568, 587–94 (1979).

¹²¹E.g., *McGinnis v. Royster*, 410 U.S. 263, 270–77 (1973); *Johnson v. Robison*, 415 U.S. 361, 374–83 (1974); *City of Charlotte v. International Ass'n of Firefighters*, 426 U.S. 283, 286–89 (1976). It is significant that these opinions were written by Justices who subsequently dissented from more relaxed standard of review cases and urged adherence to at least a standard requiring articulation of the goals sought to be achieved and an evaluation of the “fit” of the relationship between goal and classification. *Railroad Retirement Bd. v. Fritz*, 449 U.S. 166, 182 (1980) (Justices Brennan and Marshall dissenting); *Schweiker v. Wilson*, 450 U.S. 221, 239 (1981) (Justices Powell, Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens dissenting). See also *New York City Transit Auth. v. Beazer*, 440 U.S. 568, 594 (1979) (Justice Powell concurring in part and dissenting in part), and *id.* at 597, 602 (Justices White and Marshall dissenting).

classifications in the areas traditionally most subject to total deference.¹²²

Attempts to develop a consistent principle have so far been unsuccessful. In *Railroad Retirement Board v. Fritz*,¹²³ the Court acknowledged that “[t]he most arrogant legal scholar would not claim that all of these cases cited applied a uniform or consistent test under equal protection principles,” but then went on to note the differences between *Lindsley* and *Royster Guano* and chose the former. But, shortly, in *Schweiker v. Wilson*,¹²⁴ in an opinion written by a different Justice,¹²⁵ the Court sustained another classification, using the *Royster Guano* standard to evaluate whether the classification bore a substantial relationship to the goal actually chosen and articulated by Congress. In between these decisions, the Court approved a state classification after satisfying itself that the legislature had pursued a permissible goal, but setting aside the decision of the state court that the classification would not promote that goal; the Court announced that it was irrelevant whether in fact the goal would be promoted, the question instead being whether the legislature “could rationally have decided” that it would.¹²⁶

¹²² E.g., *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56, 74–79 (1972); *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438 (1972); *James v. Strange*, 407 U.S. 128 (1972); *Department of Agriculture v. Moreno*, 413 U.S. 528 (1973); *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432 (1985) (rejecting various justifications offered for exclusion of a home for the mentally retarded in an area where boarding homes, nursing and convalescent homes, and fraternity or sorority houses were permitted). The Court in *Reed v. Reed*, 404 U.S. 71, 76 (1971), utilized the *Royster Guano* formulation and purported to strike down a sex classification on the rational basis standard, but, whether the standard was actually used or not, the case was the beginning of the decisions applying a higher standard to sex classifications.

¹²³ 449 U.S. 166, 174–79 (1980). The quotation is *id.* at 176–77 n.10. The extent of deference is notable, inasmuch as the legislative history seemed clearly to establish that the purpose the Court purported to discern as the basis for the classification was not the congressional purpose at all. *Id.* at 186–97 (Justice Brennan dissenting). The Court observed, however, that it was “constitutionally irrelevant” whether the plausible basis was in fact within Congress’ reasoning, inasmuch as the Court has never required a legislature to articulate its reasons for enacting a statute. *Id.* at 179. For a continuation of the debate over actual purpose and conceivable justification, see *Kassel v. Consolidated Freightways Corp.*, 450 U.S. 662, 680–85 (1981) (Justice Brennan concurring), and *id.* at 702–06 (Justice Rehnquist dissenting). *Cf.* *Schweiker v. Wilson*, 450 U.S. 221, 243–45 (1981) (Justice Powell dissenting).

¹²⁴ 450 U.S. 221, 230–39 (1981). Nonetheless, the four dissenters thought that the purpose discerned by the Court was not the actual purpose, that it had in fact no purpose in mind, and that the classification was not rational. *Id.* at 239.

¹²⁵ Justice Blackmun wrote the Court’s opinion in *Wilson*, Justice Rehnquist in *Fritz*.

¹²⁶ *Minnesota v. Clover Leaf Creamery Co.*, 449 U.S. 456, 461–70 (1981). The quoted phrase is at 466.

In short, it is uncertain which formulation of the rational basis standard the Court will adhere to.¹²⁷ In the main, the issues in recent years have not involved the validity of classifications, but rather the care with which the Court has reviewed the facts and the legislation with its legislative history to uphold the challenged classifications. The recent decisions voiding classifications have not clearly set out which standard they have been using.¹²⁸ Determination in this area, then, must await presentation to the Court of a classification which it would sustain under the *Lindsley* standard and invalidate under *Royster Guano*.

The New Standards: Active Review.—When government legislates or acts either on the basis of a “suspect” classification or with regard to a “fundamental” interest, the traditional standard of equal protection review is abandoned, and the Court exercises a “strict scrutiny.” Under this standard government must demonstrate a high degree of need, and usually little or no presumption favoring the classification is to be expected. After much initial controversy within the Court, it has now created a third category, finding several classifications to be worthy of a degree of “intermediate” scrutiny requiring a showing of important governmental purposes and a close fit between the classification and the purposes.

Paradigmatic of “suspect” categories is classification by race. First in the line of cases dealing with this issue is *Korematsu v. United States*,¹²⁹ concerning the wartime evacuation of Japanese-Americans from the West Coast, in which the Court said that because only a single ethnic-racial group was involved the measure was “immediately suspect” and subject to “rigid scrutiny.” The school segregation cases¹³⁰ purported to enunciate no *per se* rule, however, although subsequent summary treatment of a host of segregation measures may have implicitly done so, until in striking down state laws prohibiting interracial marriage or cohabitation the Court declared that racial classifications “bear a far heavier burden of justification” than other classifications and were invalid

¹²⁷ In *City of Mesquite v. Aladdin's Castle*, 455 U.S. 283, 294 (1982), the Court observed that it was not clear whether it would apply *Royster Guano* to the classification at issue, citing *Fritz* as well as *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190 (1976), an intermediate standard case involving gender. Justice Powell denied that *Royster Guano* or *Reed v. Reed* had ever been rejected. *Id.* at 301 n.6 (dissenting). *See also id.* at 296–97 (Justice White).

¹²⁸ The exception is *Reed v. Reed*, 404 U.S. 71 (1971), which, though it purported to apply *Royster Guano*, may have applied heightened scrutiny. *See Zobel v. Williams*, 457 U.S. 55, 61–63 (1982), in which it found the classifications not rationally related to the goals, without discussing which standard it was using.

¹²⁹ 323 U.S. 214, 216 (1944). In applying “rigid scrutiny,” however, the Court was deferential to the judgment of military authorities, and to congressional judgment in exercising its war powers.

¹³⁰ *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

because no “overriding statutory purpose”¹³¹ was shown and they were not necessary to some “legitimate overriding purpose.”¹³² “A racial classification, regardless of purported motivation, is presumptively invalid and can be upheld only upon an extraordinary justification.”¹³³ Remedial racial classifications, that is, the development of “affirmative action” or similar programs that classify on the basis of race for the purpose of ameliorating conditions resulting from past discrimination, are subject to more than traditional review scrutiny, but whether the highest or some intermediate standard is the applicable test is uncertain.¹³⁴ A measure which does not draw a distinction explicitly on race but which does draw a line between those who seek to use the law to do away with or modify racial discrimination and those who oppose such efforts does in fact create an explicit racial classification and is constitutionally suspect.¹³⁵

Toward the end of the Warren Court, there emerged a trend to treat classifications on the basis of nationality or alienage as suspect,¹³⁶ to accord sex classifications a somewhat heightened traditional review while hinting that a higher standard might be appropriate if such classifications passed lenient review,¹³⁷ and to pass on statutory and administrative treatments of illegitimates inconsistently.¹³⁸ Language in a number of opinions appeared to suggest that poverty was a suspect condition, so that treating the poor adversely might call for heightened equal protection review.¹³⁹

¹³¹ *McLaughlin v. Florida*, 379 U.S. 184, 192, 194 (1964).

¹³² *Loving v. Virginia*, 388 U.S. 1, 11 (1967). In *Lee v. Washington*, 390 U.S. 333 (1968), it was indicated that preservation of discipline and order in a jail might justify racial segregation there if shown to be necessary.

¹³³ *Personnel Administrator v. Feeney*, 442 U.S. 256, 272 (1979), *quoted in* *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457, 485 (1982).

¹³⁴ *Regents of the Univ. of California v. Bakke*, 438 U.S. 265, 287–20 (1978) (Justice Powell announcing judgment of Court) (suspect), and *id.* at 355–79 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Blackmun concurring in part and dissenting in part) (intermediate scrutiny); *Fullilove v. Klutznick*, 448 U.S. 448, 491–92 (1980) (Chief Justice Burger announcing judgment of Court) (“a most searching examination” but not choosing a particular analysis), and *id.* at 495 (Justice Powell concurring), 523 (Justice Stewart dissenting) (suspect), 548 (Justice Stevens dissenting) (searching scrutiny).

¹³⁵ *Hunter v. Erickson*, 393 U.S. 385 (1969); *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457 (1982).

¹³⁶ *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365, 371–72 (1971).

¹³⁷ *Reed v. Reed*, 404 U.S. 71 (1971); for the hint, see *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438, 447 n.7 (1972).

¹³⁸ See *Levy v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 68 (1968) (strict review); *Labine v. Vincent*, 401 U.S. 532 (1971) (lenient review); *Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 406 U.S. 164 (1972) (modified strict review).

¹³⁹ *Cf. McDonald v. Board of Election Comm’rs*, 394 U.S. 802, 807 (1969); *Bullock v. Carter*, 405 U.S. 134 (1972). See *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 658–59 (1969) (Justice Harlan dissenting). *But cf. Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56 (1972); *Dandridge v. Williams*, 397 U.S. 471 (1970).

However, in a major evaluation of equal protection analysis early in this period, Justice Powell for the Court utilized solely the two-tier approach, determining that because the interests involved did not occasion strict scrutiny the Court would thus decide the case on minimum rationality standards.¹⁴⁰ Decisively rejected was the contention that a *de facto* wealth classification, with an adverse impact on the poor, was either a suspect classification or merited some scrutiny other than the traditional basis,¹⁴¹ a holding that has several times been strongly reaffirmed by the Court.¹⁴² But the Court's rejection of some form of intermediate scrutiny did not long survive.

Without extended consideration of the issue of standards, the Court more recently adopted an intermediate level of scrutiny, perhaps one encompassing several degrees of intermediate scrutiny. Thus, gender classifications must, in order to withstand constitutional challenge, "serve important governmental objectives and must be substantially related to achievement of those objectives."¹⁴³ And classifications that disadvantage illegitimates are

¹⁴⁰San Antonio Indep. School Dist. v. Rodriguez, 411 U.S. 1 (1973).

¹⁴¹Id. at 44–45. The Court asserted that only when there is an absolute deprivation of some right or interest because of inability to pay will there be strict scrutiny. Id. at 20.

¹⁴²E.g., United States v. Kras, 409 U.S. 434 (1973); Maher v. Roe, 432 U.S. 464 (1977); Harris v. McRae, 448 U.S. 297 (1980).

¹⁴³Craig v. Boren, 429 U.S. 190, 197 (1976). Justice Powell noted that he agreed the precedents made clear that gender classifications are subjected to more critical examination than when "fundamental" rights and "suspect classes" are absent, id. at 210 (concurring), and added: "As is evident from our opinions, the Court has had difficulty in agreeing upon a standard of equal protection analysis that can be applied consistently to the wide variety of legislative classifications. There are valid reasons for dissatisfaction with the 'two-tier' approach that has been prominent in the Court's decisions in the past decade. Although viewed by many as a result-oriented substitute for more critical analysis, that approach—with its narrowly limited 'upper tier'—now has substantial precedential support. As has been true of *Reed* and its progeny, our decision today will be viewed by some as a 'middle-tier' approach. While I would not endorse that characterization and would not welcome a further subdividing of equal protection analysis, candor compels the recognition that the relatively deferential 'rational basis' standard of review normally applied takes on a sharper focus when we address a gender-based classification. So much is clear from our recent cases." Id. at 210, n.*. Justice Stevens wrote that in his view the two-tiered analysis does not describe a method of deciding cases "but rather is a method the Court has employed to explain decisions that actually apply a single standard in a reasonably consistent fashion." Id. at 211, 212. Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist would employ the rational basis test for gender classification. Id. at 215, 217 (dissenting). Occasionally, because of the particular subject matter, the Court has appeared to apply a rational basis standard in fact if not in doctrine, E.g., *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57 (1981) (military); *Michael M. v. Superior Court*, 450 U.S. 464 (1981) (application of statutory rape prohibition to boys but not to girls). Four Justices in *Frontiero v. Richardson*, 411 U.S. 677, 684–87 (1973), were prepared to find sex a suspect classification, and in *Mississippi Univ. for Women v. Hogan*, 458 U.S. 718, 724 n. 9 (1982), the Court appeared to leave open the possibility that at least some sex classifications may be deemed suspect.

subject to a similar though less exacting scrutiny of purpose and fit.¹⁴⁴ This period also saw a withdrawal of the Court from the principle that alienage is always a suspect classification, so that some discriminations against aliens based on the nature of the political order, rather than economics or social interests, need pass only the lenient review standard.¹⁴⁵

Expansion of the characteristics which when used as a basis for classification must be justified by a higher showing than ordinary economic classifications has so far been resisted, the Court holding, for example, that age classifications are neither suspect nor entitled to intermediate scrutiny.¹⁴⁶ While resisting creation of new suspect or “quasi-suspect” classifications, however, the Court may nonetheless apply the *Royster Guano* rather than the *Lindsley* standard of rationality.¹⁴⁷

The other phase of active review of classifications holds that when certain fundamental liberties and interests are involved, government classifications which adversely affect them must be justified by a showing of a compelling interest necessitating the classification and by a showing that the distinctions are required to further the governmental purpose. The effect of applying the test, as in the other branch of active review, is to deny to legislative judgments the deference usually accorded them and to dispense with the general presumption of constitutionality usually given state classifications.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁴ *Mills v. Habluetzel*, 456 U.S. 91, 99 (1982); *Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347 (1979); *Lalli v. Lalli*, 439 U.S. 259 (1978); *Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762 (1977). In *Mathews v. Lucas*, 427 U.S. 495, 506 (1976), it was said that “discrimination against illegitimates has never approached the severity or pervasiveness of the historic legal and political discrimination against women and Negroes.” *Lucas* sustained a statutory scheme virtually identical to the one struck down in *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199 (1977), except that the latter involved sex while the former involved illegitimacy.

¹⁴⁵ Applying strict scrutiny, see, e.g., *Sugarman v. Dougall*, 413 U.S. 634 (1973); *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1 (1977). Applying lenient scrutiny in cases involving restrictions on alien entry into the political community, see *Foley v. Connelie*, 435 U.S. 291 (1978); *Ambach v. Norwick*, 441 U.S. 68 (1979); *Cabell v. Chavez-Salido*, 454 U.S. 432 (1982). See also *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982).

¹⁴⁶ *Massachusetts Bd. of Retirement v. Murgia*, 427 U.S. 307 (1976) (upholding mandatory retirement at age 50 for state police); *Vance v. Bradley*, 440 U.S. 93 (1979) (mandatory retirement at age 60 for foreign service officers); *Gregory v. Ashcroft*, 111 S. Ct. 2395 (1991) (mandatory retirement at age 70 for state judges). See also *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432, 442 (1985) (holding that a lower court “erred in holding mental retardation a quasi-suspect classification calling for a more exacting standard of judicial review than is normally accorded economic and social legislation”).

¹⁴⁷ *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432 (1985); See discussion supra pp. 1805–09.

¹⁴⁸ *Kramer v. Union Free School Dist.*, 395 U.S. 621, 627 (1969); *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 638 (1969).

It is thought¹⁴⁹ that the “fundamental right” theory had its origins in *Skinner v. Oklahoma ex rel. Williamson*,¹⁵⁰ in which the Court subjected to “strict scrutiny” a state statute providing for compulsory sterilization of habitual criminals, such scrutiny being thought necessary because the law affected “one of the basic civil rights.” In the apportionment decisions, Chief Justice Warren observed that “since the right to exercise the franchise in a free and unimpaired manner is preservative of other basic civil and political rights, any alleged infringement of the right of citizens to vote must be carefully and meticulously scrutinized.”¹⁵¹ A stiffening of the traditional test could be noted in the opinion of the Court striking down certain restrictions on voting eligibility¹⁵² and the phrase “compelling state interest” was used several times in Justice Brennan’s opinion in *Shapiro v. Thompson*.¹⁵³ Thereafter, the phrase was used in several voting cases in which restrictions were voided, and the doctrine was asserted in other cases.¹⁵⁴

While no opinion of the Court attempted to delineate the process by which certain “fundamental” rights were differentiated from others,¹⁵⁵ it was evident from the cases that the right to vote,¹⁵⁶ the right of interstate travel,¹⁵⁷ the right to be free of wealth distinctions in the criminal process,¹⁵⁸ and the right of procreation¹⁵⁹ were at least some of those interests that triggered active review when *de jure* or *de facto* official distinctions were made with respect to them. This branch of active review the Court also sought to rationalize and restrict in *Rodriguez*,¹⁶⁰ which involved both a claim of *de facto* wealth classifications being suspect and a claim that education was a fundamental interest so that affording less of it to people because they were poor activated the compelling state interest standard. The Court readily agreed that education was an important value in our society. “But the importance of a service performed by the State does not determine whether it must be re-

¹⁴⁹ *Id.* at 660 (Justice Harlan dissenting).

¹⁵⁰ 316 U.S. 535, 541 (1942).

¹⁵¹ *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 562 (1964).

¹⁵² *Carrington v. Rash*, 380 U.S. 89 (1965); *Harper v. Virginia Bd. of Elections*, 383 U.S. 663 (1966); *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23 (1968).

¹⁵³ 394 U.S. 618, 627, 634, 638 (1969).

¹⁵⁴ *Kramer v. Union Free School Dist.*, 395 U.S. 621 (1969); *Cipriano v. City of Houma*, 395 U.S. 701 (1969); *City of Phoenix v. Kolodziejki*, 399 U.S. 204 (1970); *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330 (1972).

¹⁵⁵ This indefiniteness has been a recurring theme in dissents. E.g., *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 655 (1969) (Justice Harlan); *Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 406 U.S. 164, 177 (1972) (Justice Rehnquist).

¹⁵⁶ E.g., *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330 (1972).

¹⁵⁷ E.g., *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618 (1969).

¹⁵⁸ E.g., *Tate v. Short*, 401 U.S. 395 (1971).

¹⁵⁹ *Skinner v. Oklahoma ex rel. Williamson*, 316 U.S. 535 (1942).

¹⁶⁰ *San Antonio Indep. School Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1 (1973).

garded as fundamental for purposes of examination under the Equal Protection Clause. . . . [T]he answer lies in assessing whether there is a right to education explicitly or implicitly guaranteed by the Constitution.”¹⁶¹ A right to education is not expressly protected by the Constitution, continued the Court, and it was unwilling to find an implied right because of its undoubted importance.

But just as *Rodriguez* was unable to prevent the Court’s adoption of a “three-tier” or “sliding-tier” standard of review in the first phase of the active-review doctrine, so it did not by stressing the requirement that an interest be expressly or impliedly protected by the Constitution prevent the addition of other interests to the list of “fundamental” interests. The difficulty was that the Court decisions on the right to vote, the right to travel, the right to procreate, as well as others, premise the constitutional violation to be of the equal protection clause, which does not itself guarantee the right but prevents the differential governmental treatment of those attempting to exercise the right.¹⁶² Thus, state limitation on the entry into marriage was soon denominated an incursion on a fundamental right which required a compelling justification.¹⁶³ While denials of public funding of abortions were held to implicate no fundamental interest—abortion being a fundamental interest—and no suspect classification—because only poor women needed public funding¹⁶⁴—other denials of public assistance because of illegitimacy, alienage, or sex have been deemed governed by the same standard of review as affirmative harms imposed on those grounds.¹⁶⁵ And in *Plyler v. Doe*,¹⁶⁶ the complete denial of education to the children of illegal aliens was found subject to intermediate scrutiny and invalidated.

Thus, the nature of active review in equal protection jurisprudence remains in flux, subject to shifting majorities and varying degrees of concern about judicial activism and judicial restraint. But the cases, more fully reviewed hereafter, clearly indicate that a sliding scale of review is a fact of the Court’s cases, however much its doctrinal explanation lags behind.

¹⁶¹ *Id.* at 30, 33–34. *But see id.* at 62 (Justice Brennan dissenting), 70, 110–17 (Justices Marshall and Douglas dissenting).

¹⁶² *Zobel v. Williams*, 457 U.S. 55, 60 & n.6 (1982), and *id.* at 66–68 (Justice Brennan concurring), 78–80 (Justice O’Connor concurring) (travel).

¹⁶³ *Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374 (1978).

¹⁶⁴ *Maher v. Roe*, 432 U.S. 464 (1977); *Harris v. McRae*, 448 U.S. 297 (1980).

¹⁶⁵ E.g., *Jiminez v. Weinberger*, 417 U.S. 628 (1974) (illegitimacy); *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1 (1977) (alienage); *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199 (1977) (sex).

¹⁶⁶ 457 U.S. 202 (1982).

Testing Facially Neutral Classifications Which Impact on Minorities

A classification expressly upon the basis of race triggers strict scrutiny and ordinarily results in its invalidation; similarly, a classification that facially makes a distinction on the basis of sex, or alienage, or illegitimacy triggers the level of scrutiny appropriate to it. A classification that is ostensibly neutral but is an obvious pretext for racial discrimination or for discrimination on some other forbidden basis is subject to heightened scrutiny and ordinarily invalidation.¹⁶⁷ But when it is contended that a law, which is in effect neutral, has a disproportionately adverse effect upon a racial minority or upon another group particularly entitled to the protection of the equal protection clause, a much more difficult case is presented.

It is necessary that one claiming harm through the disparate or disproportionate impact of a facially neutral law prove intent or motive to discriminate. “[A] law, neutral on its face and serving ends otherwise within the power of government to pursue, is not invalid under the Equal Protection Clause simply because it may affect a greater proportion of one race than of another.”¹⁶⁸ In reliance upon a prior Supreme Court decision that had seemed to eschew motive or intent and to pinpoint effect as the key to a constitutional violation¹⁶⁹ and upon the Court’s decisions reading congressional civil rights enactments as providing that when employment practices disqualifying disproportionate numbers of blacks are challenged, discriminatory purpose need not be proved, and

¹⁶⁷ See *e.g.*, *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356 (1886); *Guinn v. United States*, 238 U.S. 347 (1915); *Lane v. Wilson*, 307 U.S. 268 (1939); *Gomillion v. Lightfoot*, 364 U.S. 339 (1960). Government may make a racial classification that, for example, does not separate whites from blacks but that by focussing on an issue of racial import creates a classification that is suspect. *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457, 467–74 (1982).

¹⁶⁸ *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 242 (1976). A classification having a differential impact, absent a showing of discriminatory purpose, is subject to review under the lenient, rationality standard. *Id.* at 247–48; *Rogers v. Lodge*, 458 U.S. 613, 617 n.5 (1982). The Court has applied the same standard to a claim of selective prosecution allegedly penalizing exercise of First Amendment rights. *Wayte v. United States*, 470 U.S. 598 (1985) (no discriminatory purpose shown). *And see Bazemore v. Friday*, 478 U.S. 385 (1986) (existence of single-race, state-sponsored 4-H Clubs is permissible, given wholly voluntary nature of membership).

¹⁶⁹ The principal case was *Palmer v. Thompson*, 403 U.S. 217 (1971), in which a 5-to-4 majority refused to order a city to reopen its swimming pools closed allegedly to avoid complying with a court order to desegregate them. The majority opinion strongly warned against voiding governmental action upon an assessment of official motive, *id.* at 224–26, but it also, and the *Davis* Court so read it as actually deciding, drew the conclusion that since the pools were closed for both whites and blacks there was no discrimination. The city’s avowed reason for closing the pools—to avoid violence and economic loss—could not be impeached by allegations of a racial motive. *See also Wright v. Council of City of Emporia*, 407 U.S. 451 (1972).

that it is an insufficient response to demonstrate some rational basis for the challenged practices,¹⁷⁰ a number of lower federal courts had developed in constitutional litigation a “disproportionate impact” analysis under which a violation could be established upon a showing that a statute or practice adversely affected a class without regard to discriminatory purpose, absent some justification going substantially beyond what would be necessary to validate most other classifications.¹⁷¹ These cases were disapproved in *Davis*; but the Court did note that “an invidious discriminatory purpose may often be inferred from the totality of the relevant facts, including the fact, if it be true, that the law bears more heavily on one race than another. It is also not infrequently true that the discriminatory impact . . . may for all practical purposes demonstrate unconstitutionality because in various circumstances the discrimination is very difficult to explain on nonracial grounds.”¹⁷²

Both elucidation and not a little confusion followed upon application of *Davis* in the following Terms. Looking to a challenged zoning decision of a local board which had a harsher impact upon blacks and low-income persons than on others, the Court explained

¹⁷⁰ *Griggs v. Duke Power Co.*, 401 U.S. 424 (1971); *Albemarle Paper Co. v. Moody*, 422 U.S. 405 (1975). The *Davis* Court adhered to this reading of Title VII, merely refusing to import the statutory standard into the constitutional standard. *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 238–39, 246–48 (1976). Subsequent cases involving gender discrimination raised the question of the vitality of *Griggs*. *General Electric Co. v. Gilbert*, 429 U.S. 125 (1976); *Nashville Gas Co. v. Satty*, 434 U.S. 136 (1977), but the disagreement among the Justices appears to be whether *Griggs* applies to each section of the antidiscrimination provision of Title VII. *See Dothard v. Rawlinson*, 433 U.S. 321 (1977); *Furnco Const. Co. v. Waters*, 438 U.S. 567 (1978). *But see General Building Contractors Ass'n v. Pennsylvania*, 458 U.S. 375 (1982) (unlike Title VII, under 42 U.S.C. § 1981, derived from the Civil Rights Act of 1866, proof of discriminatory intent is required).

¹⁷¹ *See Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 244 n.12 (1976) (listing and disapproving cases). Cases not cited by the Court included the Fifth Circuit's wrestling with the *de facto/de jure* segregation distinction. In *Cisneros v. Corpus Christi Indep. School Dist.*, 467 F.2d 142, 148–50 (5th Cir. 1972) (*en banc*), cert. denied, 413 U.S. 920 (1973), the court held that motive and purpose were irrelevant and the “*de facto* and *de jure* nomenclature” to be “meaningless.” After the distinction was reiterated in *Keyes v. Denver School District*, 413 U.S. 189 (1973), the Fifth Circuit adopted the position that a decisionmaker must be presumed to have intended the probable, natural, or foreseeable consequences of his decision and thus that a school board decision, whatever its facial motivation, that results in segregation is intentional in the constitutional sense. *United States v. Texas Educ. Agency*, 532 F.2d 380 (5th Cir.), vacated and remanded for reconsideration in light of *Washington v. Davis*, 429 U.S. 990 (1976), modified and adhered to, 564 F.2d 162, reh. denied, 579 F.2d 910 (5th Cir. 1977–78), cert. denied, 443 U.S. 915 (1979). *See also United States v. Texas Educ. Agency*, 600 F.2d 518 (5th Cir. 1979). This form of analysis was, however, substantially cabined in *Massachusetts Personnel Adm'r v. Feeney*, 442 U.S. 256, 278–80 (1979), although foreseeability as one kind of proof was acknowledged by *Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449, 464–65 (1979).

¹⁷² *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 242 (1976).

in some detail how inquiry into motivation would work.¹⁷³ First, a plaintiff is not required to prove that an action rested solely on discriminatory purpose; establishing “a discriminatory purpose” among permissible purposes shifts the burden to the defendant to show that the same decision would have resulted absent the impermissible motive.¹⁷⁴ Second, determining whether a discriminatory purpose was a motivating factor “demands a sensitive inquiry into such circumstantial and direct evidence of intent as may be available.” Impact provides a starting point and “[s]ometimes a clear pattern, unexplainable on grounds other than race, emerges from the effect of the state action even when the governing legislation appears neutral on its face,” but this is a rare case.¹⁷⁵ In the absence of such a stark pattern, a court will look to such factors as the “historical background of the decision,” especially if there is a series of official discriminatory actions. The specific sequence of events may shed light on purpose, as would departures from normal procedural sequences or from substantive considerations usually relied on in the past to guide official actions. Contemporary statements of decisionmakers may be examined, and “[i]n some extraordinary instances the members might be called to the stand at trial to testify concerning the purpose of the official action, although even then such testimony frequently will be barred by privilege.”¹⁷⁶ In most circumstances, a court is to look to the totality of the circumstances to ascertain intent.

Strengthening of the intent standard was evidenced in a decision sustaining against sex discrimination challenge a state law giving an absolute preference in civil service hiring to veterans. Veterans who obtain at least a passing grade on the relevant examination may exercise the preference at any time and as many times as they wish and are ranked ahead of all nonveterans, no matter what their score. The lower court observed that the statutory and administrative exclusion of women from the armed forces until the recent past meant that virtually all women were excluded from state civil service positions and held that results so clearly foreseen

¹⁷³ *Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252 (1977).

¹⁷⁴ *Id.* at 265–66, 270 n.21. *See also* *Mt. Healthy City Bd. of Educ. v. Doyle*, 429 U.S. 274, 284–87 (1977) (once plaintiff shows defendant acted from impermissible motive in not rehiring him, burden shifts to defendant to show result would have been same in the absence of that motive; constitutional violation not established merely by showing of wrongful motive); *Hunter v. Underwood*, 471 U.S. 222 (1985) (circumstances of enactment made it clear that state constitutional amendment requiring disenfranchisement for crimes involving moral turpitude had been adopted for purpose of racial discrimination, even though it was realized that some poor whites would also be disenfranchised thereby).

¹⁷⁵ *Arlington Heights*, *supra*, at 266.

¹⁷⁶ *Id.* at 267–68.

could not be said to be unintended. Reversing, the Supreme Court found that the veterans preference law was not overtly or covertly gender based; too many men are nonveterans to permit such a conclusion and there are women veterans. That the preference implicitly incorporated past official discrimination against women was held not to detract from the fact that rewarding veterans for their service to their country was a legitimate public purpose. Acknowledging that the consequences of the preference were foreseeable, the Court pronounced this fact insufficient to make the requisite showing of intent. “Discriminatory purpose’ . . . implies more than intent as volition or intent as awareness of consequences. . . . It implies that the decisionmaker . . . selected or reaffirmed a particular course of action at least in part ‘because of,’ not merely ‘in spite of,’ its adverse effects upon an identifiable group.”¹⁷⁷

Moreover, in *City of Mobile v. Bolden*¹⁷⁸ a plurality of the Court apparently attempted to do away with the totality of circumstances test and to evaluate standing on its own each of the factors offered to show a discriminatory intent. At issue was the constitutionality of the use of multi-member electoral districts to select the city commission. A prior decision had invalidated a multi-member districting system as discriminatory against blacks and Hispanics, without considering whether its ruling was premised on discriminatory purpose or adverse impact but listing and weighing a series of factors the totality of which caused the Court to find invidious discrimination.¹⁷⁹ But in the plurality opinion in *Mobile*, each of the factors, viewed “alone,” was deemed insufficient to show purposeful discrimination.¹⁸⁰ Moreover, the plurality suggested that some of the factors thought to be derived from its precedents and forming part of the totality test in opinions of the

¹⁷⁷ *Massachusetts Personnel Adm'r v. Feeney*, 442 U.S. 256, 279 (1979). This case clearly established the application of *Davis* and *Arlington Heights* to all nonracial classifications attacked under the equal protection clause. But compare *Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449 (1979), and *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 443 U.S. 526 (1979), in the context of the quotation in the text. These cases found the *Davis* standard satisfied on a showing of past discrimination coupled with foreseeable impact in the school segregation area.

¹⁷⁸ 446 U.S. 55 (1980). Also decided by the plurality was that discriminatory purpose is a requisite showing to establish a violation of the Fifteenth Amendment and of the equal protection clause in the “fundamental interest” context, vote dilution, rather than just in the suspect classification context.

¹⁷⁹ *White v. Regester*, 412 U.S. 755 (1972), was the prior case. See also *Whitcomb v. Chavis*, 403 U.S. 124 (1971). Justice White, the author of *Register*, dissented in *Mobile*, supra, 446 U.S. 94, on the basis that “the totality of the facts relied upon by the District Court to support its inference of purposeful discrimination is even more compelling than that present in *White v. Regester*.” Justice Blackmun, id. at 80, and Justices Brennan and Marshall, agreed with him as alternate holdings, id. at 94, 103.

¹⁸⁰ Id. at 65–74.

lower federal courts—such as minority access to the candidate selection process, governmental responsiveness to minority interests, and the history of past discrimination—were of quite limited significance in determining discriminatory intent.¹⁸¹ But, contemporaneously with Congress' statutory rejection of the *Mobile* plurality standards,¹⁸² the Court, in *Rogers v. Lodge*,¹⁸³ appeared to disavow much of *Mobile* and to permit the federal courts to find discriminatory purpose on the basis of "circumstantial evidence"¹⁸⁴ that is more reminiscent of pre- *Washington v. Davis* cases than of the more recent decisions.

Rogers v. Lodge was also a multimember electoral district case brought under the equal protection clause¹⁸⁵ and the Fifteenth Amendment. The fact that the system operated to cancel out or dilute black voting strength, standing alone, was insufficient to condemn it; discriminatory intent in creating or maintaining the system was necessary. But direct proof of such intent is not required. "[A]n invidious purpose may often be inferred from the totality of the relevant facts, including the fact, if it is true, that the law bears more heavily on one race than another."¹⁸⁶ Turning to the lower court's enunciation of standards, the Court approved the *Zimmer* formulation. The fact that no black had ever been elected in the county, in which blacks were a majority of the population but a minority of registered voters, was "important evidence of purposeful exclusion."¹⁸⁷ Standing alone this fact was not sufficient, but a historical showing of past discrimination, of systemic exclusion of blacks from the political process as well as educational seg-

¹⁸¹ *Id.* at 73–74. The principal formulation of the test was in *Zimmer v. McKeithen*, 485 F.2d 1297, 1305 (5th Cir. 1973), *aff'd* on other grounds *sub nom.* *East Carroll Parish School Bd. v. Marshall*, 424 U.S. 636 (1976), and its components are thus frequently referred to as the *Zimmer* factors.

¹⁸² By the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1982, P.L. 97–205, 96 Stat. 131, 42 U.S.C. §1973 (as amended), see S. Rep. No. 417, 97th Congress, 2d sess. 27–28 (1982), Congress proscribed a variety of electoral practices "which results" in a denial or abridgment of the right to vote, and spelled out in essence the *Zimmer* factors as elements of a "totality of the circumstances" test.

¹⁸³ 458 U.S. 613 (1982). The decision, handed down within days of final congressional passage of the Voting Rights Act Amendments, was written by Justice White and joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and O'Connor. Justices Powell and Rehnquist dissented, *id.* at 628, as did Justice Stevens. *Id.* at 631.

¹⁸⁴ *Id.* at 618–22 (describing and disagreeing with the *Mobile* plurality, which had used the phrase at 446 U.S. 74). The *Lodge* Court approved the prior reference that motive analysis required an analysis of "such circumstantial and direct evidence" as was available. *Id.*, 618 (quoting *Arlington Heights*, 429 U.S. at 266).

¹⁸⁵ The Court confirmed the *Mobile* analysis that the "fundamental interest" side of heightened equal protection analysis requires a showing of intent when the criteria of classification are neutral and did not reach the Fifteenth Amendment issue in this case. *Id.* at 619 n. 6.

¹⁸⁶ *Id.* at 618 (quoting *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 242 (1976)).

¹⁸⁷ *Id.* at 623–24.

regation and discrimination, combined with continued unresponsiveness of elected officials to the needs of the black community, indicated the presence of discriminatory motivation. The Court also looked to the “depressed socio-economic status” of the black population as being both a result of past discrimination and a barrier to black access to voting power.¹⁸⁸ As for the district court’s application of the test, the Court reviewed it under the deferential “clearly erroneous” standard and affirmed it.

The Court in a jury discrimination case has also seemed to allow what it had said in *Davis* and *Arlington Heights* it would not permit.¹⁸⁹ Noting that disproportion alone is insufficient to establish a violation, the Court nonetheless held that plaintiff’s showing that 79 percent of the county’s population was Spanish-surnamed while jurors selected in recent years ranged from 39 to 50 percent Spanish-surnamed was sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case of discrimination. Several factors probably account for the difference. First, the Court has long recognized that discrimination in jury selection can be inferred from less of a disproportion than is needed to show other discriminations, in major part because if jury selection is truly random any substantial disproportion reveals the presence of an impermissible factor, whereas most official decisions are not random.¹⁹⁰ Second, the jury selection process was “highly subjective” and thus easily manipulated for discriminatory purposes, unlike the process in *Davis* and *Arlington Heights* which was regularized and open to inspection.¹⁹¹ Thus, jury cases are likely to continue to be special cases and in the usual fact situation, at least where the process is open, plaintiffs will bear a heavy and substantial burden in showing discriminatory racial and other animus.

¹⁸⁸Id. at 624–627. The Court also noted the existence of other factors showing the tendency of the system to minimize the voting strength of blacks, including the large size of the jurisdiction and the maintenance of majority vote and single-seat requirements and the absence of residency requirements.

¹⁸⁹*Castaneda v. Partida*, 430 U.S. 482 (1977). The decision was 5-to-4, Justice Blackmun writing the opinion of the Court and Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart, Powell, and Rehnquist dissenting. Id. at 504–507.

¹⁹⁰Id. at 493–94. This had been recognized in *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229, 241 (1976), and *Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252, 266 n.13 (1977).

¹⁹¹*Castaneda v. Partida*, 430 U.S. 482, 494, 497–99 (1977).

**TRADITIONAL EQUAL PROTECTION:
ECONOMIC REGULATION AND RELATED
EXERCISES OF THE POLICE POWER**

Taxation

At the outset, the Court did not regard the equal protection clause as having any bearing on taxation.¹⁹² It soon, however, took jurisdiction of cases assailing specific tax laws under this provision,¹⁹³ and in 1890 it cautiously conceded that “clear and hostile discriminations against particular persons and classes, especially such as are of an unusual character, unknown to the practice of our government, might be obnoxious to the constitutional prohibition.”¹⁹⁴ But it observed that the equal protection clause “was not intended to compel the States to adopt an iron rule of equal taxation” and propounded some conclusions valid today.¹⁹⁵ In succeeding years the clause has been invoked but sparingly to invalidate state levies. In the field of property taxation, inequality has been condemned only in two classes of cases: (1) discrimination in assessments, and (2) discrimination against foreign corporations. In addition, there are a handful of cases invalidating, because of inequality, state laws imposing income, gross receipts, sales and license taxes.

Classification for Purpose of Taxation.—The power of the State to classify for purposes of taxation is “of wide range and flexibility.”¹⁹⁶ A State may adjust its taxing system in such a way as

¹⁹² Davidson v. City of New Orleans, 96 U.S. 97, 106 (1878).

¹⁹³ Philadelphia Fire Ass'n v. New York, 119 U.S. 110 (1886); Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific R.R., 118 U.S. 394 (1886).

¹⁹⁴ Bell's Gap R.R. v. Pennsylvania, 134 U.S. 232, 237 (1890) (emphasis supplied).

¹⁹⁵ Id. The State “may, if it chooses, exempt certain classes of property from any taxation at all, such as churches, libraries, and the property of charitable institutions. It may impose different specific taxes upon various trades and professions, and may vary the rates of excise upon various products; it may tax real estate and personal property in a different manner; it may tax visible property only, and not tax securities for payment of money; it may allow deductions for indebtedness, or not allow them. All such regulations, and those of like character, so long as they proceed within reasonable limits and general usage, are within the discretion of the state legislature, or the people of the State in framing their Constitution.” See Lehnhausen v. Lake Shore Auto Parts Co., 410 U.S. 356 (1973); Kahn v. Shevin, 416 U.S. 351 (1974); and City of Pittsburgh v. Alco Parking Corp., 417 U.S. 369 (1974).

¹⁹⁶ Louisville Gas Co. v. Coleman, 227 U.S. 32, 37 (1928). Classifications for purpose of taxation have been held valid in the following situations:

Banks: a heavier tax on banks which make loans mainly from money of depositors than on other financial institutions which make loans mainly from money supplied otherwise than by deposits. First Nat'l Bank v. Tax Comm'n, 289 U.S. 60 (1933).

Bank deposits: a tax of 50 cents per \$100 on deposits in banks outside a State in contrast with a rate of 10 cents per \$100 on deposits in the State. Madden v. Kentucky, 309 U.S. 83 (1940).

Coal: a tax of 2 1/2 percent on anthracite but not on bituminous coal. *Heisler v. Thomas Colliery Co.*, 260 U.S. 245 (1922). Gasoline: a graduated severance tax on oils sold primarily for their gasoline content, measured by resort to Baume gravity. *Ohio Oil Co. v. Conway*, 281 U.S. 146 (1930); *Exxon Corp. v. Eagerton*, 462 U.S. 176 (1983) (prohibition on pass-through to consumers of oil and gas severance tax).

Chain stores: a privilege tax graduated according to the number of stores maintained. *Tax Comm'rs v. Jackson*, 283 U.S. 527 (1931); *Fox v. Standard Oil Co.*, 294 U.S. 87 (1935); a license tax based on the number of stores both within and without the State. *Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. v. Grosjean*, 301 U.S. 412 (1937) (distinguishing *Louis K. Liggett Co. v. Lee*, 288 U.S. 517 (1933)).

Electricity: municipal systems may be exempted. *Puget Sound Co. v. Seattle*, 291 U.S. 619 (1934); that portion of electricity produced which is used for pumping water for irrigating lands may be exempted. *Utah Power & Light Co. v. Pfost*, 286 U.S. 165 (1932).

Insurance companies: license tax measured by gross receipts upon domestic life insurance companies from which fraternal societies having lodge organizations and insuring lives of members only are exempt, and similar foreign corporations are subject to a fixed and comparatively slight fee for the privilege of doing local business of the same kind. *Northwestern Life Ins. Co. v. Wisconsin*, 247 U.S. 132 (1918).

Oleomargarine: classified separately from butter. *Magnano Co. v. Hamilton*, 292 U.S. 40 (1934).

Peddlers: classified separately from other vendors. *Caskey Baking Co. v. Virginia*, 313 U.S. 117 (1941).

Public utilities: a gross receipts tax at a higher rate for railroads than for other public utilities. *Ohio Tax Cases*, 232 U.S. 576 (1914); a gasoline storage tax which places a heavier burden upon railroads than upon common carriers by bus. *Nashville C. & St. L. Ry. v. Wallace*, 288 U.S. 249 (1933); a tax on railroads measured by gross earnings from local operations, as applied to a railroad which received a larger net income than others from the local activity of renting, and borrowing cars. *Illinois Cent. R.R. v. Minnesota*, 309 U.S. 157 (1940); a gross receipts tax applicable only to public utilities, including carriers, the proceeds of which are used for relieving the unemployed. *New York Rapid Transit Corp. v. New York*, 303 U.S. 573 (1938).

Wine: exemption of wine from grapes grown in the State while in the hands of the producer. *Cox v. Texas*, 202 U.S. 446 (1906).

Laws imposing miscellaneous license fees have been upheld as follows:

Cigarette dealers: taxing retailers and not wholesalers. *Cook v. Marshall County*, 196 U.S. 261 (1905).

Commission merchants: requirements that dealers in farm products on commission procure a license. *Payne v. Kansas*, 248 U.S. 112 (1918).

Elevators and warehouses: license limited to certain elevators and warehouses on right-of-way of railroad. *Cargill Co. v. Minnesota*, 180 U.S. 452 (1901); a license tax applicable only to commercial warehouses where no other commercial warehousing facilities in township subject to tax. *Independent Warehouses v. Scheele*, 331 U.S. 70 (1947).

Laundries: exemption from license tax of steam laundries and women engaged in the laundry business where not more than two women are employed. *Quong Wing v. Kirkendall*, 223 U.S. 59 (1912).

Merchants: exemption from license tax measured by amount of purchases, of manufacturers within the State selling their own product. *Armour & Co. v. Virginia*, 246 U.S. 1 (1918).

Sugar refineries: exemption from license applicable to refiners of sugar and molasses of planters and farmers grinding and refining their own sugar and molasses. *American Sugar Refining Co. v. Louisiana*, 179 U.S. 89 (1900).

Theaters: license graded according to price of admission. *Metropolis Theatre Co. v. Chicago*, 228 U.S. 61 (1913).

Wholesalers of oil: occupation tax on wholesalers in oil not applicable to wholesalers in other products. *Southwestern Oil Co. v. Texas*, 217 U.S. 114 (1910).

to favor certain industries or forms of industry¹⁹⁷ and may tax different types of taxpayers differently, despite the fact that they compete.¹⁹⁸ It does not follow, however, that because “some degree of inequality from the nature of things must be permitted, gross inequality must also be allowed.”¹⁹⁹ Classification may not be arbitrary. It must be based on a real and substantial difference²⁰⁰ and the difference need not be great or conspicuous,²⁰¹ but there must be no discrimination in favor of one as against another of the same class.²⁰² Also, discriminations of an unusual character are scrutinized with special care.²⁰³ A gross sales tax graduated at increasing rates with the volume of sales,²⁰⁴ a heavier license tax on each unit in a chain of stores where the owner has stores located in more than one county,²⁰⁵ and a gross receipts tax levied on corporations operating taxicabs, but not on individuals,²⁰⁶ have been held to be a repugnant to the equal protection clause. But it is not the function of the Court to consider the propriety or justness of the tax, to seek for the motives and criticize the public policy which prompted the adoption of the statute.²⁰⁷ If the evident intent and general operation of the tax legislation is to adjust the burden with a fair and reasonable degree of equality, the constitutional requirement is satisfied.²⁰⁸

One not within the class claimed to be discriminated against cannot raise the question of constitutionality of a statute on the ground that it denies equal protection of the law.²⁰⁹ If a tax applies to a class which may be separately taxed, those within the class may not complain because the class might have been more

¹⁹⁷ *Quong Wing v. Kirkendall*, 223 U.S. 59, 62 (1912). See also *Hammond Packing Co. v. Montana*, 233 U.S. 331 (1914); *Allied Stores of Ohio v. Bowers*, 358 U.S. 522 (1959).

¹⁹⁸ *Puget Sound Co. v. Seattle*, 291 U.S. 619, 625 (1934). See *City of Pittsburgh v. Alco Parking Corp.*, 417 U.S. 369 (1974).

¹⁹⁹ *Colgate v. Harvey*, 296 U.S. 404, 422 (1935).

²⁰⁰ *Southern Ry. v. Greene Co.*, 216 U.S. 400, 417 (1910); *Quaker City Cab Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 277 U.S. 389, 400 (1928).

²⁰¹ *Keeney v. New York*, 222 U.S. 525, 536 (1912); *Tax Comm'rs v. Jackson*, 283 U.S. 527, 538 (1931).

²⁰² *Giozza v. Tierman*, 148 U.S. 657, 662 (1893).

²⁰³ *Louisville Gas Co. v. Coleman*, 227 U.S. 32, 37 (1928). See also *Bell's Gap R.R. v. Pennsylvania*, 134 U.S. 232, 237 (1890).

²⁰⁴ *Stewart Dry Goods Co. v. Lewis*, 294 U.S. 550 (1935). See also *Valentine v. Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co.*, 299 U.S. 32 (1936).

²⁰⁵ *Louis K. Liggett Co. v. Lee*, 288 U.S. 517 (1933).

²⁰⁶ *Quaker City Cab Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 277 U.S. 389 (1928). This case was formally overruled in *Lehnhausen v. Lake Shore Auto Parts Co.*, 410 U.S. 356 (1973).

²⁰⁷ *Tax Comm'rs v. Jackson*, 283 U.S. 527, 537 (1931).

²⁰⁸ *Colgate v. Harvey*, 296 U.S. 404, 422 (1935).

²⁰⁹ *Darnell v. Indiana*, 226 U.S. 390, 398 (1912); *Farmers Bank v. Minnesota*, 232 U.S. 516, 531 (1914).

aply defined nor because others, not of the class, are taxed improperly.²¹⁰

Foreign Corporations and Nonresidents.—The equal protection clause does not require identical taxes upon all foreign and domestic corporations in every case.²¹¹ In 1886, a Pennsylvania corporation previously licensed to do business in New York challenged an increased annual license tax imposed by that State in retaliation for a like tax levied by Pennsylvania against New York corporations. This tax was held valid on the ground that the State, having power to exclude entirely, could change the conditions of admission for the future and could demand the payment of a new or further tax as a license fee.²¹² Later cases whittled down this rule considerably. The Court decided that “after its admission, the foreign corporation stands equal and is to be classified with domestic corporations of the same kind,”²¹³ and that where it has acquired property of a fixed and permanent nature in a State, it cannot be subjected to a more onerous tax for the privilege of doing business than is imposed on domestic corporations.²¹⁴ A state statute taxing foreign corporations writing fire, marine, inland navigation and casualty insurance on net receipts, including receipts from casualty business, was held invalid under the equal protection clause where foreign companies writing only casualty insurance were not subject to a similar tax.²¹⁵ Later, the doctrine of *Philadelphia Fire Association v. New York* was revived to sustain an increased tax on gross premiums which was exacted as an annual license fee from foreign but not from domestic corporations.²¹⁶ Even though the right of a foreign corporation to do business in a State rests on a license, yet the equal protection clause is held to insure it equality of treatment, at least so far as ad valorem taxation is concerned.²¹⁷ The Court, in *WHYY v. Glassboro*²¹⁸ held that a foreign nonprofit corporation licensed to do business in the taxing State is denied equal treatment in violation of the equal protection clause where an exemption from state property taxes granted to domestic cor-

²¹⁰ *Morf v. Bingaman*, 298 U.S. 407, 413 (1936).

²¹¹ *Baltic Mining Co. v. Massachusetts*, 231 U.S. 68, 88 (1913). See also *Cheney Brothers Co. v. Massachusetts*, 246 U.S. 147, 157 (1918).

²¹² *Philadelphia Fire Ass'n v. New York*, 119 U.S. 110, 119 (1886).

²¹³ *Hanover Fire Ins. Co. v. Harding*, 272 U.S. 494, 511 (1926).

²¹⁴ *Southern Ry. v. Green*, 216 U.S. 400, 418 (1910).

²¹⁵ *Concordia Ins. Co. v. Illinois*, 292 U.S. 535 (1934).

²¹⁶ *Lincoln Nat'l Life Ins. Co. v. Read*, 325 U.S. 673 (1945). This decision was described as “an anachronism” in *Western & Southern Life Ins. Co. v. State Bd. Of Equalization*, 451 U.S. 648, 667 (1981), the Court reaffirming the rule that taxes discriminating against foreign corporations must bear a rational relation to a legitimate state purpose.

²¹⁷ *Wheeling Steel Corp. v. Glander*, 337 U.S. 562, 571, 572 (1949).

²¹⁸ 393 U.S. 117 (1968).

porations is denied to a foreign corporation solely because it was organized under the laws of a sister State and where there is no greater administrative burden in evaluating a foreign corporation than a domestic corporation in the taxing State.

State taxation of insurance companies, insulated from Commerce Clause attack by the McCarran-Ferguson Act, must pass similar hurdles under the Equal Protection Clause. In *Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. v. Ward*,²¹⁹ the Court concluded that taxation favoring domestic over foreign corporations “constitutes the very sort of parochial discrimination that the Equal Protection Clause was intended to prevent.” Rejecting the assertion that it was merely imposing “Commerce Clause rhetoric in equal protection clothing,” the Court explained that the emphasis is different even though the result in some cases will be the same: the Commerce Clause measures the effects which otherwise valid state enactments have on interstate commerce, while the Equal Protection Clause merely requires a rational relation to a valid state purpose.²²⁰ However, the Court’s holding that the discriminatory purpose was invalid under equal protection analysis would also be a basis for invalidation under a different strand of Commerce Clause analysis.²²¹

Income Taxes.—A state law which taxes the entire income of domestic corporations which do business in the State, including that derived within the State, while exempting entirely the income received outside the State by domestic corporations which do no local business, is arbitrary and invalid.²²² In taxing the income of a nonresident, there is no denial of equal protection in limiting the deduction of losses to those sustained within the State, although residents are permitted to deduct all losses, wherever incurred.²²³ A retroactive statute imposing a graduated tax at rates different from those in the general income tax law, on dividends received in

²¹⁹470 U.S. 869, 878 (1985). The vote was 5–4, with Justice Powell’s opinion for the Court being joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices White, Blackmun, and Stevens. Justice O’Connor’s dissent was joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Rehnquist.

²²⁰470 U.S. at 880.

²²¹The first level of the Court’s “two-tiered” analysis of state statutes affecting commerce tests for virtual *per se* invalidity. “When a state statute directly regulates or discriminates against interstate commerce, or when its effect is to favor in-state economic interests over out-of-state interests, we have generally struck down the statute without further inquiry.” *Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573, 579 (1986).

²²²*F.S. Royster Guano Co. v. Virginia*, 253 U.S. 412 (1920). See also *Walters v. City of St. Louis*, 347 U.S. 231 (1954), sustaining municipal income tax imposed on gross wages of employed persons but only on net profits of business men and self-employed.

²²³*Shaffer v. Carter*, 252 U.S. 37, 56, 57 (1920); *Travis v. Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.*, 252 U.S. 60, 75, 76 (1920).

a prior year which were deductible from gross income under the law in effect when they were received, does not violate the equal protection clause.²²⁴

Inheritance Taxes.—There is no denial of equal protection in prescribing different treatment for lineal relations, collateral kindred and unrelated persons, or in increasing the proportionate burden of the tax progressively as the amount of the benefit increases.²²⁵ A tax on life estates where the remainder passes to lineal heirs is valid despite the exemption of life estates where the remainder passes to collateral heirs.²²⁶ There is no arbitrary classification in taxing the transmission of property to a brother or sister, while exempting that to a son-in-law or daughter-in-law.²²⁷ Vested and contingent remainders may be treated differently.²²⁸ The exemption of property bequeathed to charitable or educational institutions may be limited to those within the State.²²⁹ In computing the tax collectible from a nonresident decedent's property within the State, a State may apply the pertinent rates to the whole estate wherever located and take that proportion thereof which the property within the State bears to the total; the fact that a greater tax may result than would be assessed on an equal amount of property if owned by a resident, does not invalidate the result.²³⁰

Motor Vehicle Taxes.—In demanding compensation for the use of highways, a State may exempt certain types of vehicles, according to the purpose for which they are used, from a mileage tax on carriers.²³¹ A state maintenance tax act, which taxes vehicle property carriers for hire at greater rates than similar vehicles carrying property not for hire is reasonable, since the use of roads by one hauling not for hire generally is limited to transportation of his own property as an incident to his occupation and is substantially less than that of one engaged in business as a common carrier.²³² A property tax on motor vehicles used in operating a stage line that makes constant and unusual use of the highways may be measured by gross receipts and be assessed at a higher rate than taxes on property not so employed.²³³ Common motor carriers of freight operating over regular routes between fixed termini may be

²²⁴ Welch v. Henry, 305 U.S. 134 (1938).

²²⁵ Magoun v. Illinois Trust & Savings Bank, 170 U.S. 283, 288, 300 (1898).

²²⁶ Billings v. Illinois, 188 U.S. 97 (1903).

²²⁷ Campbell v. California, 200 U.S. 87 (1906).

²²⁸ Salomon v. State Tax Comm'n, 278 U.S. 484 (1929).

²²⁹ Board of Educ. v. Illinois, 203 U.S. 553 (1906).

²³⁰ Maxwell v. Bugbee, 250 U.S. 525 (1919).

²³¹ Continental Baking Co. v. Woodring, 286 U.S. 352 (1932).

²³² Dixie Ohio Express Co. v. State Revenue Comm'n, 306 U.S. 72, 78 (1939).

²³³ Alward v. Johnson, 282 U.S. 509 (1931).

taxed at higher rates than other carriers, common and private.²³⁴ A fee for the privilege of transporting motor vehicles on their own wheels over the highways of the State for purpose of sale does not violate the equal protection clause as applied to cars moving in caravans.²³⁵ The exemption from a tax for a permit to bring cars into the State in caravans of cars moved for sale between zones in the State is not an unconstitutional discrimination where it appears that the traffic subject to the tax places a much more serious burden on the highways than that which is exempt.²³⁶ Also sustained as valid have been exemptions of vehicles weighing less than 3000 pounds from graduated registration fees imposed on carriers for hire, notwithstanding that the exempt vehicles, when loaded, may outweigh those taxed;²³⁷ and exemptions from vehicle license taxes levied on private motor carriers of persons whose vehicles haul passengers and farm products between points not having railroad facilities or farm and dairy products for producers thereof.²³⁸

Property Taxes.—The State's latitude of discretion is notably wide in the classification of property for purposes of taxation and the granting of partial or total exemption on the grounds of policy,²³⁹ whether the exemption results from the terms of the statute itself or the conduct of a state official implementing state policy.²⁴⁰ A provision for the forfeiture of land for nonpayment of taxes is not invalid because the conditions to which it applies exist only in a part of the State.²⁴¹ Also, differences in the basis of assessment are not invalid where the person or property affected might properly be placed in a separate class for purposes of taxation.²⁴² Early cases drew the distinction between intentional and systematic discriminatory action by state officials in undervaluing some property while taxing at full value other property in the same class—an action that could be invalidated under the equal protection clause—and mere errors in judgment resulting in unequal valuation or undervaluation—actions that did not support a claim of discrimina-

²³⁴ *Bekins Van Lines v. Riley*, 280 U.S. 80 (1929).

²³⁵ *Morf v. Bingaman*, 298 U.S. 407 (1936).

²³⁶ *Clark v. Paul Gray, Inc.*, 306 U.S. 583 (1939).

²³⁷ *Carley & Hamilton v. Snook*, 281 U.S. 66 (1930).

²³⁸ *Aero Mayflower Transit Co. v. Georgia Public Serv. Comm'n*, 295 U.S. 285 (1935).

²³⁹ *F.S. Royster Guano Co. v. Virginia*, 253 U.S. 412, 415 (1920).

²⁴⁰ *Missouri v. Dockery*, 191 U.S. 165 (1903).

²⁴¹ *Kentucky Union Co. v. Kentucky*, 219 U.S. 140, 161 (1911).

²⁴² *Charleston Fed. S. & L. Ass'n v. Alderson*, 324 U.S. 182 (1945); *Nashville C. & St. L. Ry. v. Browning*, 310 U.S. 362 (1940).

tion.²⁴³ More recently, however, the Court in *Allegheny Pittsburgh Coal Co. v. Webster County Commission*,²⁴⁴ found a denial of equal protection to property owners whose assessments, based on recent purchase prices, ranged from 8 to 35 times higher than comparable neighboring property for which the assessor failed over a 10-year period to readjust appraisals. Then, only a few years later, the Court upheld a California ballot initiative that imposed a quite similar result: property that is sold is appraised at purchase price, while assessments on property that has stayed in the same hands since 1976 may rise no more than 2% per year.²⁴⁵ *Allegheny Pittsburgh* was distinguished, the disparity in assessments being said to result from administrative failure to implement state policy rather than from implementation of a coherent state policy.²⁴⁶ California's acquisition-value system favoring those who hold on to property over those who purchase and sell property was viewed as furthering rational state interests in promoting "local neighborhood preservation, continuity, and stability," and in protecting reasonable reliance interests of existing homeowners.²⁴⁷

An owner aggrieved by discrimination is entitled to have his assessment reduced to the common level.²⁴⁸ Equal protection is denied if a State does not itself remove the discrimination; it cannot impose upon the person against whom the discrimination is directed the burden of seeking an upward revision of the assessment of other members of the class.²⁴⁹ A corporation whose valuations were accepted by the assessing commission cannot complain that it was taxed disproportionately, as compared with others, if the commission did not act fraudulently.²⁵⁰

Special Assessment.—A special assessment is not discriminatory because apportioned on an *ad valorem* basis, nor does its validity depend upon the receipt of some special benefit as distinguished from the general benefit to the community.²⁵¹ Railroad property may not be burdened for local improvements upon a basis so wholly different from that used for ascertaining the contribution demanded of individual owners as necessarily to produce manifest

²⁴³ *Sunday Lake Iron Co. v. Wakefield*, 247 U.S. 350 (1918); *Raymond v. Chicago Traction Co.*, 207 U.S. 20, 35, 37 (1907); *Coutler v. Louisville & Nashville R.R.*, 196 U.S. 599 (1905). See also *Chicago, B. & Q. Ry. v. Babcock*, 204 U.S. 585 (1907).

²⁴⁴ 488 U.S. 336 (1989).

²⁴⁵ *Nordlinger v. Hahn*, 112 S. Ct. 2326 (1992).

²⁴⁶ *Id.* at 2334–35.

²⁴⁷ *Id.* at 2333.

²⁴⁸ *Sioux City Bridge v. Dakota County*, 260 U.S. 441, 446 (1923).

²⁴⁹ *Hillsborough v. Cromwell*, 326 U.S. 620, 623 (1946); *Allegheny Pittsburgh Coal Co. v. Webster County Comm'n*, 488 U.S. 336 (1989).

²⁵⁰ *St. Louis-San Francisco Ry v. Middlekamp*, 256 U.S. 226, 230 (1921).

²⁵¹ *Memphis & Charleston Ry. v. Pace*, 282 U.S. 241 (1931).

inequality.²⁵² A special highway assessment against railroads based on real property, rolling stock, and other personal property is unjustly discriminatory when other assessments for the same improvement are based on real property alone.²⁵³ A law requiring the franchise of a railroad to be considered in valuing its property for apportionment of a special assessment is not invalid where the franchises were not added as a separate personal property value to the assessment of the real property.²⁵⁴ In taxing railroads within a levee district on a mileage basis, it is not necessarily arbitrary to fix a lower rate per mile for those having less than 25 miles of main line within the district than for those having more.²⁵⁵

Police Power Regulation

Classification.—Justice Holmes' characterization of the equal protection clause as the "usual last refuge of constitutional arguments"²⁵⁶ was no doubt made with the practice in mind of contestants tacking on an equal protection argument to a due process challenge of state economic regulation. Few police regulations have been held unconstitutional on this ground.

"[T]he Fourteenth Amendment permits the States a wide scope of discretion in enacting laws which affect some groups of citizens differently than others. The constitutional safeguard is offended only if the classification rests on grounds wholly irrelevant to the achievement of the State's objective. State legislatures are presumed to have acted within their constitutional power despite the fact that, in practice, their laws result in some inequality. A statutory discrimination will not be set aside if any state of facts reasonably may be conceived to justify it."²⁵⁷ The Court has made it clear that only the totally irrational classification in the economic field will be struck down,²⁵⁸ and it has held that legislative classifica-

²⁵² *Kansas City So. Ry. v. Road Imp. Dist. No. 6*, 256 U.S. 658 (1921); *Thomas v. Kansas City So. Ry.*, 261 U.S. 481 (1923).

²⁵³ *Road Imp. Dist. v. Missouri Pacific R.R.*, 274 U.S. 188 (1927).

²⁵⁴ *Branson v. Bush*, 251 U.S. 182 (1919).

²⁵⁵ *Columbus & Greenville Ry. v. Miller*, 283 U.S. 96 (1931).

²⁵⁶ *Buck v. Bell*, 274 U.S. 200, 208 (1927).

²⁵⁷ *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420, 425–26 (1961).

²⁵⁸ *City of New Orleans v. Dukes*, 427 U.S. 297 (1976). Upholding an ordinance that banned all pushcart vendors from the French Quarter, except those in continuous operation for more than eight years, the Court summarized its method of decision here. "When local economic regulation is challenged solely as violating the Equal Protection Clause, this Court consistently defers to legislative determinations as to the desirability of particular statutory discriminations. . . . Unless a classification trammels fundamental personal rights or is drawn upon inherently suspect distinctions such as race, religion, or alienage, our decisions presume the constitutionality of the statutory discriminations and require only that the classification challenged be rationally related to a legitimate state interest. States are accorded wide latitude in the regulation of their local economies under their police powers,

tions that impact severely upon some businesses and quite favorably upon others may be saved through stringent deference to legislative judgment.²⁵⁹ So deferential is the classification that it denies the challenging party any right to offer evidence to seek to prove that the legislature is wrong in its conclusion that its classification will serve the purpose it has in mind, so long as the question is at least debatable and the legislature “*could rationally have decided*” that its classification would foster its goal.²⁶⁰

and rational distinctions may be made with substantially less than mathematical exactitude. Legislatures may implement their program step-by-step . . . in such economic areas, adopting regulations that only partially ameliorate a perceived evil and deferring complete elimination of the evil to future regulations. . . . In short, the judiciary may not sit as a super-legislature to judge the wisdom or undesirability of legislative policy determinations made in areas that neither affect fundamental rights nor proceed along suspect lines . . . ; in the local economic sphere, it is only the invidious discrimination, the wholly arbitrary act, which cannot stand consistently with the Fourteenth Amendment.” *Id.* at 303–04.

²⁵⁹The “grandfather” clause upheld in *Dukes* preserved the operations of two concerns that had operated in the Quarter for 20 years. The classification was sustained on the basis of (1) the City Council proceeding step-by-step and eliminating vendors of more recent vintage, (2) the Council deciding that newer businesses were less likely to have built up substantial reliance interests in continued operation in the Quarter, and (3) the Council believing that both “grandfathered” vending interests had themselves become part of the distinctive character and charm of the Quarter. *Id.* 305–06. *See also* *Friedman v. Rogers*, 440 U.S. 1, 17–18 (1979); *United States v. Maryland Savings-Share Ins. Corp.*, 400 U.S. 4, 6 (1970).

²⁶⁰*Minnesota v. Clover Leaf Creamery Co.*, 449 U.S. 456, 461–70 (1981). The quoted phrase is at 466 (emphasis by Court). Purporting to promote the purposes of resource conservation, easing solid waste disposal problems, and conserving energy, the legislature had banned plastic nonreturnable milk cartons but permitted all other nonplastic nonreturnable containers, such as paperboard cartons. The state court had thought the distinction irrational, but the Supreme Court thought the legislature could have believed a basis for the distinction existed. Courts will receive evidence that a distinction is wholly irrational. *United States v. Carolene Products Co.*, 304 U.S. 144, 153–54 (1938).

Classifications under police regulations have been held valid as follows:

Advertising: discrimination between billboard and newspaper advertising of cigarettes, *Packer Corp. v. Utah*, 285 U.S. 105 (1932); prohibition of advertising signs on motor vehicles, except when used in the usual business of the owner and not used mainly for advertising, *Fifth Ave. Coach Co. v. New York*, 221 U.S. 467 (1911); prohibition of advertising on motor vehicles except notices or advertising of products of the owner, *Railway Express Agency v. New York*, 336 U.S. 106 (1949); prohibition against sale of articles on which there is a representation of the flag for advertising purposes, except newspapers, periodicals and books, *Halter v. Nebraska*, 205 U.S. 34 (1907).

Amusement: prohibition against keeping billiard halls for hire, except in case of hotels having twenty-five or more rooms for use of regular guests. *Murphy v. California*, 225 U.S. 623 (1912).

Attorneys: Kansas law and court regulations requiring resident of Kansas, licensed to practice in Kansas and Missouri and maintaining law offices in both States, but who practices regularly in Missouri, to obtain local associate counsel as a condition of appearing in a Kansas court. *Martin v. Walton*, 368 U.S. 25 (1961). Two dissenters, Justices Douglas and Black, would sustain the requirement, if limited in application to an attorney who practiced only in Missouri.

Cattle: a classification of sheep, as distinguished from cattle, in a regulation restricting the use of public lands for grazing. *Bacon v. Walker*, 204 U.S. 311 (1907). *See also Omaechevarria v. Idaho*, 246 U.S. 343 (1918).

Cotton gins: in a State where cotton gins are held to be public utilities and their rates regulated, the granting of a license to a cooperative association distributing profits ratably to members and nonmembers does not deny other persons operating gins equal protection when there is nothing in the laws to forbid them to distribute their net earnings among their patrons. *Corporation Comm'n v. Lowe*, 281 U.S. 431 (1930).

Debt adjustment business: operation only as incident to legitimate practice of law. *Ferguson v. Skrupa*, 372 U.S. 726 (1963).

Eye glasses: law exempting sellers of ready-to-wear glasses from regulations forbidding opticians to fit or replace lenses without prescriptions from ophthalmologist or optometrist and from restrictions on solicitation of sale of eye glasses by use of advertising matter. *Williamson v. Lee Optical Co.*, 348 U.S. 483 (1955).

Fish processing: stricter regulation of reduction of fish to flour or meal than of canning. *Bayside Fish Co. v. Gentry*, 297 U.S. 422 (1936).

Food: bread sold in loaves must be of prescribed standard sizes, *Schmidinger v. Chicago*, 226 U.S. 578 (1913); food preservatives containing boric acid may not be sold, *Price v. Illinois*, 238 U.S. 446 (1915); lard not sold in bulk must be put up in containers holding one, three or five pounds or some whole multiple thereof, *Armour & Co. v. North Dakota*, 240 U.S. 510 (1916); milk industry may be placed in a special class for regulation, *Lieberman v. Van De Carr*, 199 U.S. 552 (1906); vendors producing milk outside city may be classified separately, *Adams v. Milwaukee*, 228 U.S. 572 (1913); producing and nonproducing vendors may be distinguished in milk regulations, *St. John v. New York*, 201 U.S. 633 (1906); different minimum and maximum milk prices may be fixed for distributors and storekeepers, *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502 (1934); price differential may be granted for sellers of milk not having a well advertised trade name, *Borden's Farm Products Co. v. Ten Eyck*, 297 U.S. 251 (1936); oleomargarine colored to resemble butter may be prohibited, *Capital City Dairy Co. v. Ohio*, 183 U.S. 238 (1902); table syrups may be required to be so labeled and disclose identity and proportion of ingredients, *Corn Products Rfg. Co. v. Eddy*, 249 U.S. 427 (1919).

Geographical discriminations: legislation limited in application to a particular geographical or political subdivision of a State, *Ft. Smith Co. v. Paving Dist.*, 274 U.S. 387, 391 (1927); ordinance prohibiting a particular business in certain sections of a municipality, *Hadacheck v. Sebastian*, 239 U.S. 394 (1915); statute authorizing a municipal commission to limit the height of buildings in commercial districts to 125 feet and in other districts to 80 to 100 feet, *Welch v. Swasey*, 214 U.S. 91 (1909); ordinance prescribing limits in city outside of which no woman of lewd character shall dwell, *L'Hote v. New Orleans*, 177 U.S. 587, 595 (1900). And see *North v. Russell*, 427 U.S. 328, 338 (1976).

Hotels: requirement that keepers of hotels having over fifty guests employ night watchmen. *Miller v. Strahl*, 239 U.S. 426 (1915).

Insurance companies: regulation of fire insurance rates with exemption for farmers mutuals, *German Alliance Ins. Co. v. Kansas*, 233 U.S. 389 (1914); different requirements imposed upon reciprocal insurance associations than upon mutual companies, *Hoopeston Canning Co. v. Cullen*, 318 U.S. 313 (1943); prohibition against life insurance companies or agents engaging in undertaking business, *Daniel v. Family Ins. Co.*, 336 U.S. 220 (1949).

Intoxicating liquors: exception of druggist or manufacturers from regulation. *Lloyd v. Dollison*, 194 U.S. 445 (1904); *Eberle v. Michigan*, 232 U.S. 700 (1914).

Landlord-tenant: requiring trial no later than six days after service of complaint and limiting triable issues to the tenant's default, provisions applicable in no other legal action, under procedure allowing landlord to sue to evict tenants for nonpayment of rent, inasmuch as prompt and peaceful resolution of the dispute is proper objective and tenants have other means to pursue other relief. *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56 (1972).

Lodging houses: requirement that sprinkler systems be installed in buildings of nonfireproof construction is valid as applied to such a building which is safeguarded by a fire alarm system, constant watchman service and other safety arrangements. *Queenside Hills Co. v. Saxl*, 328 U.S. 80 (1946).

Markets: prohibition against operation of private market within six squares of public market. *Natal v. Louisiana*, 139 U.S. 621 (1891).

Medicine: a uniform standard of professional attainment and conduct for all physicians, *Hurwitz v. North*, 271 U.S. 40 (1926); reasonable exemptions from medical registration law. *Watson v. Maryland*, 218 U.S. 173 (1910); exemption of persons who heal by prayer from regulations applicable to drugless physicians, *Crane v. Johnson*, 242 U.S. 339 (1917); exclusion of osteopathic physicians from public hospitals, *Hayman v. Galveston*, 273 U.S. 414 (1927); requirement that persons who treat eyes without use of drugs be licensed as optometrists with exception for persons treating eyes by use of drugs, who are regulated under a different statute, *McNaughton v. Johnson*, 242 U.S. 344 (1917); a prohibition against advertising by dentists, not applicable to other professions, *Semler v. Dental Examiners*, 294 U.S. 608 (1935).

Motor vehicles: guest passenger regulation applicable to automobiles but not to other classes of vehicles, *Silver v. Silver*, 280 U.S. 117 (1929); exemption of vehicles from other States from registration requirement, *Storaasli v. Minnesota*, 283 U.S. 57 (1931); classification of driverless automobiles for hire as public vehicles, which are required to procure a license and to carry liability insurance, *Hodge Co. v. Cincinnati*, 284 U.S. 335 (1932); exemption from limitations on hours of labor for drivers of motor vehicles of carriers of property for hire, of those not principally engaged in transport of property for hire, and carriers operating wholly in metropolitan areas, *Welch Co. v. New Hampshire*, 306 U.S. 79 (1939); exemption of busses and temporary movements of farm implements and machinery and trucks making short hauls from common carriers from limitations in net load and length of trucks, *Sproles v. Binford*, 286 U.S. 374 (1932); prohibition against operation of uncertified carriers, *Bradley v. Public Utility Comm'n*, 289 U.S. 92 (1933); exemption from regulations affecting carriers for hire, of persons whose chief business is farming and dairying, but who occasionally haul farm and dairy products for compensation, *Hicklin v. Coney*, 290 U.S. 169 (1933); exemption of private vehicles, street cars and omnibuses from insurance requirements applicable to taxicabs, *Packard v. Banton*, 264 U.S. 140 (1924).

Peddlers and solicitors: a State may classify and regulate itinerant vendors and peddlers, *Emert v. Missouri*, 156 U.S. 296 (1895); may forbid the sale by them of drugs and medicines, *Baccus v. Louisiana*, 232 U.S. 334 (1914); prohibit drumming or soliciting on trains for business for hotels, medical practitioners, and the like, *Williams v. Arkansas*, 217 U.S. 79 (1910); or solicitation of employment to prosecute or collect claims, *McCloskey v. Tobin*, 252 U.S. 107 (1920). And a municipality may prohibit canvassers or peddlers from calling at private residences unless requested or invited by the occupant to do so. *Breard v. City of Alexandria*, 341 U.S. 622 (1951).

Property destruction: destruction of cedar trees to protect apple orchards from cedar rust, *Miller v. Schoene*, 276 U.S. 272 (1928).

Railroads: prohibition on operation on a certain street, *Railroad Co. v. Richmond*, 96 U.S. 521 (1878); requirement that fences and cattle guards and allow recovery of multiple damages for failure to comply, *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Humes*, 115 U.S. 512 (1885); *Minneapolis Ry. v. Beckwith*, 129 U.S. 26 (1889); *Minneapolis & St. Louis Ry. v. Emmons*, 149 U.S. 364 (1893); assessing railroads with entire expense of altering a grade crossing, *New York & N.E. R.R. v. Bristol*, 151 U.S. 556 (1894); liability for fire communicated by locomotive engines, *St. Louis & S. F. Ry. v. Mathews*, 165 U.S. 1 (1897); required weed cutting; *Missouri, Kan., & Tex. Ry. v. May*, 194 U.S. 267 (1904); presumption against a railroad failing to give prescribed warning signals, *Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Ford*, 287 U.S. 502 (1933); required use of locomotive headlights of a specified form and power, *Atlantic Coast Line Ry. v. Georgia*, 234 U.S. 280 (1914); presumption that railroads are liable for

The Court has condemned a variety of statutory classifications as failing to survive the rational basis test, although some of the cases are of doubtful vitality today and some have been questioned. Thus, the Court invalidated a statute which forbade stock insurance companies to act through agents who were their salaried employees but permitted mutual companies to operate in this manner.²⁶¹ A law which required private motor vehicle carriers to obtain certificates of convenience and necessity and to furnish security for the protection of the public was held invalid because of the exemption of carriers of fish, farm, and dairy products.²⁶² The same result befell a statute which permitted mill dealers without well advertised trade names the benefit of a price differential but which restricted this benefit to such dealers entering the business before a certain date.²⁶³ In a decision since overruled, the Court

damage caused by operation of their locomotives, *Seaboard Air Line Ry. v. Watson*, 287 U.S. 86 (1932); required sprinkling of streets between tracks to lay the dust, *Pacific Gas Co. v. Police Court*, 251 U.S. 22 (1919). State "full-crew" laws do not violate the equal protection clause by singling out the railroads for regulation and by making no provision for minimum crews on any other segment of the transportation industry, *Firemen v. Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry.*, 393 U.S. 129 (1968).

Sales in bulk: requirement of notice of bulk sales applicable only to retail dealers. *Lemieux v. Young*, 211 U.S. 489 (1909).

Secret societies: regulations applied only to one class of oath-bound associations, having a membership of 20 or more persons, where the class regulated has a tendency to make the secrecy of its purpose and membership a cloak for conduct inimical to the personal rights of others and to the public welfare. *New York ex rel. Bryant v. Zimmerman*, 278 U.S. 63 (1928).

Securities: a prohibition on the sale of capital stock on margin or for future delivery which is not applicable to other objects of speculation, e.g., cotton, grain. *Otis v. Parker*, 187 U.S. 606 (1903).

Sunday closing law: notwithstanding that they prohibit the sale of certain commodities and services while permitting the vending of others not markedly different, and, even as to the latter, frequently restrict their distribution to small retailers as distinguished from large establishments handling salable as well as nonsalable items, such laws have been upheld. Despite the desirability of having a required day of rest, a certain measure of mercantile activity must necessarily continue on that day and in terms of requiring the smallest number of employees to forego their day of rest and minimizing traffic congestion, it is preferable to limit this activity to retailers employing the smallest number of workers; also, it curbs evasion to refuse to permit stores dealing in both salable and nonsalable items to be open at all. *McGowan v. Maryland*, 366 U.S. 420 (1961); *Two Guys from Harrison-Allentown v. McGinley*, 366 U.S. 582 (1961); *Braunfeld v. Brown*, 366 U.S. 599 (1961); *Gallagher v. Crown Kosher Market*, 366 U.S. 617 (1961). See also *Soon Hing v. Crowley*, 113 U.S. 703 (1885); *Petit v. Minnesota*, 177 U.S. 164 (1900).

Telegraph companies: a statute prohibiting stipulation against liability for negligence in the delivery of interstate messages, which did not forbid express companies and other common carriers to limit their liability by contract. *Western Union Telegraph Co. v. Milling Co.*, 218 U.S. 406 (1910).

²⁶¹ *Hartford Ins. Co. v. Harrison*, 301 U.S. 459 (1937).

²⁶² *Smith v. Cahoon*, 283 U.S. 553 (1931).

²⁶³ *Mayflower Farms v. Ten Eyck*, 297 U.S. 266 (1936). See *United States v. Maryland Savings-Share Ins. Corp.*, 400 U.S. 4, 7 n.2 (1970) (reserving question of case's validity, but interpreting it as standing for the proposition that no showing of a valid legislative purpose had been made).

struck down a law which exempted by name the American Express Company from the terms pertaining to the licensing, bonding, regulation, and inspection of “currency exchanges” engaged in the sale of money orders.²⁶⁴

Other Business and Employment Relations

Labor Relations.—Objections to labor legislation on the ground that the limitation of particular regulations to specified industries was obnoxious to the equal protection clause have been consistently overruled. Statutes limiting hours of labor for employees in mines, smelters,²⁶⁵ mills, factories,²⁶⁶ or on public works²⁶⁷ have been sustained. And a statute forbidding persons engaged in mining and manufacturing to issue orders for payment of labor unless redeemable at face value in cash was similarly held unobjectionable.²⁶⁸ The exemption of mines employing less than ten persons from a law pertaining to measurement of coal to determine a miner’s wages is not unreasonable.²⁶⁹ All corporations²⁷⁰ or public service corporations²⁷¹ may be required to issue to employees who leave their service letters stating the nature of the service and the cause of leaving even though other employers are not so required.

Industries may be classified in a workmen’s compensation act according to the respective hazards of each,²⁷² and the exemption of farm laborers and domestic servants does not render such an act invalid.²⁷³ A statute providing that no person shall be denied opportunity for employment because he is not a member of a labor union does not offend the equal protection clause.²⁷⁴ At a time

²⁶⁴ *Morey v. Doud*, 354 U.S. 457 (1957), *overruled by City of New Orleans v. Dukes*, 427 U.S. 297 (1976), where the exemption of one concern had been by precise description rather than by name.

²⁶⁵ *Holden v. Hardy*, 169 U.S. 366 (1888).

²⁶⁶ *Bunting v. Oregon*, 243 U.S. 426 (1917).

²⁶⁷ *Atkin v. Kansas*, 191 U.S. 207 (1903).

²⁶⁸ *Keokee Coke Co. v. Taylor*, 234 U.S. 224 (1914). *See also Knoxville Iron Co. v. Harbison*, 183 U.S. 13 (1901).

²⁶⁹ *McLean v. Arkansas*, 211 U.S. 539 (1909).

²⁷⁰ *Prudential Ins. Co. v. Cheek*, 259 U.S. 530 (1922).

²⁷¹ *Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry. v. Perry*, 259 U.S. 548 (1922).

²⁷² *Mountain Timber Co. v. Washington*, 243 U.S. 219 (1917).

²⁷³ *New York Central R.R. v. White*, 243 U.S. 188 (1917); *Middletown v. Texas Power & Light Co.*, 249 U.S. 152 (1919); *Ward & Gow v. Krinsky*, 259 U.S. 503 (1922).

²⁷⁴ *Lincoln Fed. Labor Union v. Northwestern Iron & Metal Co.*, 335 U.S. 525 (1949). Neither is it a denial of equal protection for a city to refuse to withhold from its employees’ paychecks dues owing their union, although it withholds for taxes, retirement-insurance programs, saving programs, and certain charities, because its offered justification that its practice of allowing withholding only when it benefits all city or department employees is a legitimate method to avoid the burden of withholding money for all persons or organizations that request a checkoff. *City of Charlotte v. Firefighters*, 426 U.S. 283 (1976).

when protective labor legislation generally was falling under “liberty of contract” applications of the due process clause, the Court generally approved protective legislation directed solely to women workers²⁷⁵ and this solicitude continued into present times in the approval of laws which were more questionable,²⁷⁶ but passage of the sex discrimination provision of the 1964 Civil Rights Act has generally called into question all such protective legislation addressed solely to women.²⁷⁷

Monopolies and Unfair Trade Practices.—On the principle that the law may hit the evil where it is most felt, state antitrust laws applicable to corporations but not to individuals,²⁷⁸ or to vendors of commodities but not to vendors of labor,²⁷⁹ have been upheld. Contrary to its earlier view, the Court now holds that an antitrust act which exempts agricultural products in the hands of the producer is valid.²⁸⁰ Diversity with respect to penalties also has been sustained. Corporations violating the law may be proceeded against by bill in equity, while individuals are indicted and tried.²⁸¹ A provision, superimposed upon the general antitrust law, for revocation of the licenses of fire insurance companies that enter into illegal combinations, does not violate the equal protection clause.²⁸² A grant of monopoly privileges, if otherwise an appropriate exercise of the police power, is immune to attack under that clause.²⁸³ Likewise, enforcement of an unfair sales act, whereby merchants are privileged to give trading stamps, worth two and one-half percent of the price, with goods sold at or near statutory cost, while a competing merchant, not issuing stamps, is precluded from making an equivalent price reduction, effects no discrimination. There is a reasonable basis for concluding that destructive, deceptive competition results from selective loss-leader selling whereas such abuses do not attend issuance of trading stamps “across the board,” as a discount for payment in cash.²⁸⁴

Administrative Discretion.—A municipal ordinance which vests in supervisory authorities a naked and arbitrary power to grant or withhold consent to the operation of laundries in wooden

²⁷⁵ E.g., *Muller v. Oregon*, 208 U.S. 412 (1908).

²⁷⁶ *Goesaert v. Cleary*, 335 U.S. 464 (1948).

²⁷⁷ Title VII, 78 Stat. 253, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e. On sex discrimination generally, see *infra*, pp. 1875–86.

²⁷⁸ *Mallinckrodt Works v. St. Louis*, 238 U.S. 41 (1915).

²⁷⁹ *International Harvester Co. v. Missouri*, 234 U.S. 199 (1914).

²⁸⁰ *Tigner v. Texas*, 310 U.S. 141 (1940) (overruling *Connolly v. Union Sewer Pipe Co.*, 184 U.S. 540 (1902)).

²⁸¹ *Standard Oil Co. v. Tennessee*, 217 U.S. 413 (1910).

²⁸² *Carroll v. Greenwich Ins. Co.*, 199 U.S. 401 (1905).

²⁸³ *Pacific States Co. v. White*, 296 U.S. 176 (1935); see also *Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36 (1873); *Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U.S. 502, 529 (1934).

²⁸⁴ *Safeway Stores v. Oklahoma Grocers*, 360 U.S. 334, 339–41 (1959).

buildings, without consideration of the circumstances of individual cases, constitutes a denial of equal protection of the law when consent is withheld from certain persons solely on the basis of nationality.²⁸⁵ But a city council may reserve to itself the power to make exceptions from a ban on the operation of a dairy within the city,²⁸⁶ or from building line restrictions.²⁸⁷ Written permission of the mayor or president of the city council may be required before any person shall move a building on a street.²⁸⁸ The mayor may be empowered to determine whether an applicant has a good character and reputation and is a suitable person to receive a license for the sale of cigarettes.²⁸⁹ In a later case,²⁹⁰ the Court held that the unfettered discretion of river pilots to select their apprentices, which was almost invariably exercised in favor of their relatives and friends, was not a denial of equal protection to persons not selected despite the fact that such apprenticeship was requisite for appointment as a pilot.

Social Welfare.—The traditional “reasonable basis” standard of equal protection adjudication developed in the main in cases involving state regulation of business and industry. “The administration of public welfare assistance, by contrast, involves the most basic economic needs of impoverished human beings. We recognize the dramatically real factual difference between the cited cases and this one, but we can find no basis for applying a different constitutional standard.”²⁹¹ Thus, a formula for dispensing aid to dependent children which imposed an upper limit on the amount one family could receive, regardless of the number of children in the family, so that the more children in a family the less money per child was received, was found to be rationally related to the legitimate state interest in encouraging employment and in maintaining an equitable balance between welfare families and the families of the working poor.²⁹² Similarly, a state welfare assistance formula which, after calculation of individual need, provided less of the determined amount to families with dependent children than to those

²⁸⁵ *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356 (1886).

²⁸⁶ *Fischer v. St. Louis*, 194 U.S. 361 (1904).

²⁸⁷ *Gorieb v. Fox*, 274 U.S. 603 (1927).

²⁸⁸ *Wilson v. Eureka City*, 173 U.S. 32 (1899).

²⁸⁹ *Gundling v. Chicago*, 177 U.S. 183 (1900).

²⁹⁰ *Kotch v. Board of River Port Pilot Comm'rs*, 330 U.S. 552 (1947).

²⁹¹ *Dandridge v. Williams*, 397 U.S. 471, 485 (1970). Decisions respecting the rights of the indigent in the criminal process and dicta in *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 627 (1969), had raised the prospect that because of the importance of “food, shelter, and other necessities of life,” classifications with an adverse or perhaps severe impact on the poor and needy would be subjected to a higher scrutiny. *Dandridge* was a rejection of this approach, which was more fully elaborated in another context in *San Antonio School Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1, 18–29 (1973).

²⁹² *Dandridge v. Williams*, 397 U.S. 471, 483–87 (1970).

persons in the aged and infirm categories did not violate equal protection because a State could reasonably believe that the aged and infirm are the least able to bear the hardships of an inadequate standard of living, and that the apportionment of limited funds was therefore rational.²⁹³ While reiterating that this standard of review is “not a toothless one,” the Court has nonetheless sustained a variety of distinctions on the basis that Congress could rationally have believed them justified,²⁹⁴ acting to invalidate a provision only once and then on the premise that Congress was actuated by an improper purpose.²⁹⁵

Similarly, the Court has rejected the contention that access to housing, despite its great importance, is of any fundamental interest which would place a bar upon the legislature’s giving landlords a much more favorable and summary process of judicially-controlled eviction actions than was available in other kinds of litigation.²⁹⁶

However, a statute which prohibited the dispensing of contraceptive devices to single persons for birth control but not for disease prevention purposes and which contained no limitation on dispensation to married persons was held to violate the equal protection clause on several grounds. On the basis of the right infringed by the limitation, the Court saw no rational basis for the State to distinguish between married and unmarried persons. Similarly, the exemption from the prohibition for purposes of disease prevention nullified the argument that the rational basis for the law was the deterrence of fornication, the rationality of which the Court doubted in any case.²⁹⁷ Also denying equal protection was a law afford-

²⁹³ *Jefferson v. Hackney*, 406 U.S. 535 (1972). *See also* *Richardson v. Belcher*, 404 U.S. 78 (1971) (sustaining Social Security provision reducing disability benefits by amount received from worker’s compensation but not that received from private insurance).

²⁹⁴ E.g., *Mathews v. De Castro*, 429 U.S. 181 (1976) (provision giving benefits to married woman under 62 with dependent children in her care whose husband retires or becomes disabled but denying benefits to divorced woman under 62 with dependents represents rational judgment with respect to likely dependency of married but not divorced women); *Califano v. Boles*, 443 U.S. 282 (1979) (limitation of benefits to widows and divorced wives of wage earners does not deny equal protection to mother of illegitimate child of wage earner who was never married to wage earner).

²⁹⁵ *Department of Agriculture v. Moreno*, 413 U.S. 528 (1973) (also questioning rationality).

²⁹⁶ *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56 (1972). The Court did invalidate one provision of the law requiring tenants against whom an eviction judgment had been entered after a trial to post a bond in double the amount of rent to become due by the determination of the appeal, because it bore no reasonable relationship to any valid state objective and arbitrarily distinguished between defendants in eviction actions and defendants in other actions. *Id.* at 74–79.

²⁹⁷ *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438 (1972).

ing married parents, divorced parents, and unmarried mothers an opportunity to be heard with regard to the issue of their fitness to continue or to take custody of their children, an opportunity the Court decided was mandated by due process, but presuming the unfitness of the unmarried father and giving him no hearing.²⁹⁸

Punishment of Crime.—Equality of protection under the law implies that in the administration of criminal justice no person shall be subject to any greater or different punishment than another in similar circumstances.²⁹⁹ Comparative gravity of criminal offenses is, however, largely a matter of state discretion, and the fact that some offenses are punished with less severity than others does not deny equal protection.³⁰⁰ Heavier penalties may be imposed upon habitual criminals for like offenses,³⁰¹ even after a pardon for an earlier offense,³⁰² and such persons may be made ineligible for parole.³⁰³ A state law doubling the sentence on prisoners attempting to escape does not deny equal protection by subjecting prisoners who attempt to escape together to different sentences depending on their original sentences.³⁰⁴

A statute denying state prisoners good time credit for presentence incarceration but permitting those prisoners who obtain bail or other release immediately to receive good time credit for the entire period which they ultimately spend in custody, good time counting toward the date of eligibility for parole, does not deny the prisoners incarcerated in local jails equal protection inasmuch as the distinction is rationally justified by the fact that good time credit is designed to encourage prisoners to engage in rehabilitation courses and activities which exist only in state prisons and not in local jails.³⁰⁵

²⁹⁸ *Stanley v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 645, 658 (1972).

²⁹⁹ *Pace v. Alabama*, 106 U.S. 583 (1883). See *Salzburg v. Maryland*, 346 U.S. 545 (1954), sustaining law rendering illegally seized evidence inadmissible in prosecutions in state courts for misdemeanors but permitting use of such evidence in one county in prosecutions for certain gambling misdemeanors. Distinctions based on county areas were deemed reasonable. In *North v. Russell*, 427 U.S. 328 (1976), the Court sustained the provision of law-trained judges for some police courts and lay judges for others, depending upon the state constitutional classification of cities according to population, since as long as all people within each classified area are treated equally, the different classifications within the court system are justifiable.

³⁰⁰ *Collins v. Johnston*, 237 U.S. 502, 510 (1915); *Pennsylvania v. Ashe*, 302 U.S. 51 (1937).

³⁰¹ *McDonald v. Massachusetts*, 180 U.S. 311 (1901); *Moore v. Missouri*, 159 U.S. 673 (1895); *Graham v. West Virginia*, 224 U.S. 616 (1912).

³⁰² *Carlesi v. New York*, 233 U.S. 51 (1914).

³⁰³ *Ughbanks v. Armstrong*, 208 U.S. 481 (1908).

³⁰⁴ *Pennsylvania v. Ashe*, 302 U.S. 51 (1937).

³⁰⁵ *McGinnis v. Royster*, 410 U.S. 263 (1973). Cf. *Hurtado v. United States*, 410 U.S. 578 (1973).

The equal protection clause does, however, render invalid a statute requiring the sterilization of persons convicted of various offenses when the statute draws a line between like offenses, such as between larceny by fraud and embezzlement.³⁰⁶ A statute which provided that convicted defendants sentenced to imprisonment must reimburse the State for the furnishing of free transcripts of their trial by having amounts deducted from prison pay denied such persons equal protection when it did not require reimbursement of those fined, given suspended sentences, or placed on probation.³⁰⁷ Similarly, a statute enabling the State to recover the costs of such transcripts and other legal defense fees by a civil action was defective under the equal protection clause because indigent defendants against whom judgment was entered under the statute did not have the benefit of exemptions and benefits afforded other civil judgment debtors.³⁰⁸ But a bail reform statute which provided for liberalized forms of release and which imposed the costs of operating the system upon one category of released defendants, generally those most indigent, was not invalid because the classification was rational and because the measure was in any event a substantial improvement upon the old bail system.³⁰⁹ The Court in the last several years has applied the clause strictly to prohibit numerous *de jure* and *de facto* distinctions based on wealth or indigency.³¹⁰

EQUAL PROTECTION AND RACE

Overview

The Fourteenth Amendment “is one of a series of constitutional provisions having a common purpose; namely, securing to a race recently emancipated, a race that through many generations had been held in slavery, all the civil rights that the superior race enjoy. The true spirit and meaning of the amendments . . . cannot be understood without keeping in view the history of the times when they were adopted, and the general objects they plainly sought to accomplish. At the time when they were incorporated into the Constitution, it required little knowledge of human nature to anticipate that those who had long been regarded as an inferior and subject race would, when suddenly raised to the rank of citi-

³⁰⁶ *Skinner v. Oklahoma ex rel. Williamson*, 316 U.S. 535 (1942).

³⁰⁷ *Rinaldi v. Yeager*, 384 U.S. 305 (1966). *But see Fuller v. Oregon*, 417 U.S. 40 (1974) (imposition of reimbursement obligation for state-provided defense assistance upon convicted defendants but not upon those acquitted or whose convictions are reversed is objectively rational).

³⁰⁸ *James v. Strange*, 407 U.S. 128 (1972).

³⁰⁹ *Schilb v. Kuebel*, 404 U.S. 357 (1971).

³¹⁰ *Infra*, pp. 1916–25.

zanship, be looked upon with jealousy and positive dislike, and that State laws might be enacted or enforced to perpetuate the distinctions that had before existed. . . . [The Fourteenth Amendment] was designed to assure to the colored race the enjoyment of all the civil rights that under the law are enjoyed by white persons, and to give to that race the protection of the general government in that enjoyment, whenever it should be denied by the States. It not only gave citizenship and the privileges of citizenship to persons of color, but it denied to any State the power to withhold from them the equal protection of the laws, and authorized Congress to enforce its provision by appropriate legislation.”¹ Thus, a state law which on its face worked a discrimination against African Americans was void.² In addition, “[t]hough the law itself be fair on its face and impartial in appearance, yet, if it is applied and administered by public authority with an evil eye and an unequal hand, so as practically to make unjust and illegal discriminations between persons in similar circumstances, material to their rights, the denial of equal justice is still within the prohibition of the Constitution.”³

Education

Development and Application of “Separate But Equal”.—Cases decided soon after ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment may be read as precluding any state-imposed distinction based on race,⁴ but the Court in *Plessy v. Ferguson*⁵ adopted a principle first propounded in litigation attacking racial segregation in the schools of Boston, Massachusetts.⁶ *Plessy* concerned not schools but a state law requiring the furnishing of “equal but separate” facilities for rail transportation and requiring the separation of “white

¹ *Strauder v. West Virginia*, 100 U.S. 303, 306–07 (1880).

² *Id.* (law providing for jury service specified white males). Moreover it will not do to argue that a law that segregates the races or prohibits contacts between them discriminates equally against both races. *Buchanan v. Warley*, 245 U.S. 60 (1917) (ordinance prohibiting blacks from occupying houses in blocks where whites were predominant and whites from occupying houses in blocks where blacks were predominant). Compare *Pace v. Alabama*, 106 U.S. 583 (1883) (sustaining conviction under statute that imposed a greater penalty for adultery or fornication between a white person and an African American than was imposed for similar conduct by members of the same race, using “equal application” theory), with *McLaughlin v. Florida*, 379 U.S. 184, 188 (1964), and *Loving v. Virginia*, 388 U.S. 1, 10 (1967) (rejecting theory).

³ *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356, 373–74 (1886) (discrimination against Chinese).

⁴ *Slaughter-House Cases*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 36, 67–72 (1873); *Strauder v. West Virginia*, 100 U.S. 303, 307–08 (1880); *Virginia v. Rives*, 100 U.S. 313, 318 (1880); *Ex parte Virginia*, 100 U.S. 339, 344–45 (1880).

⁵ 163 U.S. 537 (1896).

⁶ *Roberts v. City of Boston*, 59 Mass. 198, 206 (1849).

and colored” passengers. “The object of the [Fourteenth] [A]mendment was undoubtedly to enforce the absolute equality of the two races before the law, but in the nature of things it could not have been intended to abolish distinctions based upon color, or to enforce social, as distinguished from political, equality, or a commingling of the two races upon terms unsatisfactory to either. Laws permitting, and even requiring their separation in places where they are liable to be brought into contact do not necessarily imply the inferiority of either race to the other, and have been generally, if not universally, recognized as within the competency of the state legislatures in exercise of their police power.”⁷ The Court observed that a common instance of this type of law was the separation by race of children in school, which had been upheld, it was noted, “even by courts of states where the political rights of the colored race have been longest and most earnestly enforced.”⁸

Subsequent cases following *Plessy* that actually concerned school segregation did not expressly question the doctrine and the Court’s decisions assumed its validity. It held, for example, that a Chinese student was not denied equal protection by being classified with African Americans and sent to school with them rather than with whites,⁹ and it upheld the refusal of an injunction to require a school board to close a white high school until it opened a high school for African Americans.¹⁰ And no violation of the equal protection clause was found when a state law prohibited a private college from teaching whites and African Americans together.¹¹

In 1938, the Court began to move away from “separate but equal.” It then held that a State which operated a law school open to whites only and which did not operate any law school open to African Americans violated an applicant’s right to equal protection, even though the State offered to pay his tuition at an out-of-state law school. The requirement of the clause was for equal facilities

⁷*Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537, 543–44 (1896). “We consider the underlying fallacy of the plaintiff’s argument to consist in the assumption that the enforced separation of the two races stamps the colored race with a badge of inferiority. If this be so, it is not by reason of anything found in the act, but solely because the colored race chooses to put that construction upon it.” *Id.* at 552, 559.

⁸*Id.* at 544–45. The act of Congress in providing for separate schools in the District of Columbia was specifically noted. Justice Harlan’s well-known dissent contended that the purpose and effect of the law in question was discriminatory and stamped African Americans with a badge of inferiority. “[I]n view of the Constitution, in the eye of the law, there is in this country no superior, dominant, ruling class of citizens. There is no caste here. Our Constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens.” *Id.* at 552, 559.

⁹*Gong Lum v. Rice*, 275 U.S. 78 (1927).

¹⁰*Cummings v. Board of Education*, 175 U.S. 528 (1899).

¹¹*Berea College v. Kentucky*, 211 U.S. 45 (1908).

within the State.¹² When Texas established a law school for African Americans after the plaintiff had applied and been denied admission to the school maintained for whites, the Court held the action to be inadequate, finding that the nature of law schools and the associations possible in the white school necessarily meant that the separate school was unequal.¹³ Equally objectionable was the fact that when Oklahoma admitted an African American law student to its only law school it required him to remain physically separate from the other students.¹⁴

Brown v. Board of Education.—“Separate but equal” was formally abandoned in *Brown v. Board of Education*,¹⁵ involving challenges to segregation *per se* in the schools of four States in which the lower courts had found that the schools provided were equalized or were in the process of being equalized. Though the Court had asked for argument on the intent of the framers, extensive research had proved inconclusive, and the Court asserted that it could not “turn the clock back to 1867. . . or even to 1896,” but must rather consider the issue in the context of the vital importance of education in 1954. The Court reasoned that denial of opportunity for an adequate education would often be a denial of the opportunity to succeed in life, that separation of the races in the schools solely on the basis of race must necessarily generate feelings of inferiority in the disfavored race adversely affecting education as well as other matters, and therefore that the equal protection clause was violated by such separation. “We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.”¹⁶

After hearing argument on what remedial order should issue, the Court remanded the cases to the lower courts to adjust the effectuation of its mandate to the particularities of each school district. “At stake is the personal interest of the plaintiffs in admission to public schools as soon as practicable on a nondiscriminatory basis.” The lower courts were directed to “require that the defendants make a prompt and reasonable start toward full compliance,” although “[o]nce such a start has been made,” some additional time would be needed because of problems arising in the course of com-

¹² *Missouri ex rel. Gaines v. Canada*, 305 U.S. 337 (1938). See also *Sipuel v. Board of Regents*, 332 U.S. 631 (1948).

¹³ *Sweatt v. Painter*, 339 U.S. 629 (1950).

¹⁴ *McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents*, 339 U.S. 637 (1950).

¹⁵ 347 U.S. 483 (1954). Segregation in the schools of the District of Columbia was held to violate the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment in *Bolling v. Sharpe*, 347 U.S. 497 (1954).

¹⁶ *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483, 489–90, 492–95 (1954).

pliance and the lower courts were to allow it if on inquiry delay were found to be “in the public interest and [to be] consistent with good faith compliance . . . to effectuate a transition to a racially nondiscriminatory school system.” But in any event the lower courts were to require compliance “with all deliberate speed.”¹⁷

Brown’s Aftermath.—For the next several years, the Court declined to interfere with the administration of its mandate, ruling only in those years on the efforts of Arkansas to block desegregation of schools in Little Rock.¹⁸ In the main, these years were taken up with enactment and administration of “pupil placement laws” by which officials assigned each student individually to a school on the basis of formally nondiscriminatory criteria, and which required the exhaustion of state administrative remedies before each pupil seeking reassignment could bring individual litigation.¹⁹ The lower courts eventually began voiding these laws for discriminatory application, permitting class actions,²⁰ and the Supreme Court voided the exhaustion of state remedies requirement.²¹ In the early 1960’s, various state practices—school closings,²² minority transfer plans,²³ zoning,²⁴ and the like—were ruled impermissible, and the Court indicated that the time was running out for full implementation of the *Brown* mandate.²⁵

¹⁷ *Brown v. Board of Education*, 349 U.S. 294, 300–01 (1955).

¹⁸ *Cooper v. Aaron*, 358 U.S. 1 (1958).

¹⁹ E.g., *Covington v. Edwards*, 264 F.2d 780 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 361 U.S. 840 (1959); *Holt v. Raleigh City Bd. of Educ.*, 265 F.2d 95 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 361 U.S. 818 (1959); *Dove v. Parham*, 271 F.2d 132 (8th Cir. 1959).

²⁰ E.g., *McCoy v. Greensboro City Bd. of Educ.*, 283 F.2d 667 (4th Cir. 1960); *Green v. School Board of Roanoke*, 304 F.2d 118 (4th Cir. 1962); *Gibson v. Board of Pub. Instruction of Dade County*, 272 F.2d 763 (5th Cir. 1959); *Northcross v. Board of Educ. of Memphis*, 302 F.2d 818 (6th Cir. 1962), cert. denied, 370 U.S. 944 (1962).

²¹ *McNeese v. Board of Education*, 373 U.S. 668 (1963).

²² *Griffin v. Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County*, 377 U.S. 218 (1964) (holding that “under the circumstances” the closing by a county of its schools while all the other schools in the State were open denied equal protection, the circumstances apparently being the state permission and authority for the closing and the existence of state and county tuition grant/tax credit programs making an official connection with the “private” schools operating in the county and holding that a federal court is empowered to direct the appropriate officials to raise and expend money to operate schools). On school closing legislation in another State, see *Bush v. Orleans Parish School Bd.*, 187 F. Supp. 42, 188 F. Supp. 916 (E.D. La. 1960), aff’d, 365 U.S. 569 (1961); *Hall v. St. Helena Parish School Bd.*, 197 F. Supp. 649 (E.D. La. 1961), aff’d, 368 U.S. 515 (1962).

²³ *Goss v. Board of Educ. of City of Knoxville*, 373 U.S. 683 (1963). Such plans permitted as of right a student assigned to a school in which students of his race were a minority to transfer to a school where the student majority was of his race.

²⁴ *Northcross v. Board of Educ. of Memphis*, 333 F.2d 661 (6th Cir. 1964).

²⁵ The first comment appeared in dictum in a nonschool case, *Watson v. City of Memphis*, 373 U.S. 526, 530 (1963), and was implied in *Goss v. Board of Educ. of City of Knoxville*, 373 U.S. 683, 689 (1963). In *Bradley v. School Bd. of City of Richmond*, 382 U.S. 103, 105 (1965), the Court announced that “[d]elays in deseg-

About this time, “freedom of choice” plans were promulgated under which each child in the school district could choose each year which school he wished to attend, and, subject to space limitations, he could attend that school. These were first approved by the lower courts as acceptable means to implement desegregation, subject to the reservation that they be fairly administered.²⁶ Enactment of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and HEW enforcement in a manner as to require effective implementation of affirmative actions to desegregate²⁷ led to a change of attitude in the lower courts and the Supreme Court. In *Green v. School Board of New Kent County*,²⁸ the Court posited the principle that the only desegregation plan permissible is one which actually results in the abolition of the dual school, and charged school officials with an affirmative obligation to achieve it. School boards must present to the district courts “a plan that promises realistically to work and promises realistically to work *now*,” in such a manner as “to convert promptly to a system without a ‘white’ school and a ‘Negro’ school, but just schools.”²⁹ Furthermore, as the Court and lower courts had by then made clear, school desegregation encompassed not only the abolition of dual attendance systems for students, but also the

regating school systems are no longer tolerable.” A grade-a-year plan was implicitly disapproved in *Calhoun v. Latimer*, 377 U.S. 263 (1964), vacating and remanding 321 F.2d 302 (5th Cir. 1963). See *Singleton v. Jackson Municipal Separate School Dist.*, 355 F.2d 865 (5th Cir. 1966).

²⁶ E.g., *Bradley v. School Bd. of City of Richmond*, 345 F.2d 310 (4th Cir.), rev’d on other grounds, 382 U.S. 103 (1965); *Bowman v. School Bd. of Charles City County*, 382 F.2d 326 (4th Cir. 1967).

²⁷ Pub. L. 88-352, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq. (prohibiting discrimination in federally assisted programs). HEW guidelines were designed to afford guidance to state-local officials in interpretations of the law and were accepted as authoritative by the courts and utilized. *Davis v. Board of School Comm’rs of Mobile County*, 364 F.2d 896 (5th Cir. 1966); *Kemp v. Beasley*, 352 F.2d 14 (8th Cir. 1965).

²⁸ 391 U.S. 430 (1968); *Raney v. Board of Educ. of Gould School Dist.*, 391 U.S. 443 (1968). These cases had been preceded by a circuit-wide promulgation of similar standards in *United States v. Jefferson County Bd. of Educ.*, 372 F.2d 836 (5th Cir. 1966), modified & aff’d. en banc, 380 F.2d 385 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 389 U.S. 840 (1967).

²⁹ *Green*, 391 U.S. at 439, 442 (1968). “*Brown II* was a call for the dismantling of well-entrenched dual systems tempered by an awareness that complex and multifaceted problems would arise which would require time and flexibility for a successful resolution. School boards such as the respondent then operating state-compelled dual systems were nevertheless clearly charged with the affirmative duty to take whatever steps might be necessary to convert to a unitary system in which racial discrimination would be eliminated root and branch.” *Id.* at 437-38. The case laid to rest the dictum of *Briggs v. Elliott*, 132 F. Supp. 776, 777 (E.D.S.C. 1955), that the Constitution “does not require integration” but “merely forbids discrimination.” *Green* and *Raney v. Board of Educ. of Gould School Dist.*, 391 U.S. 443 (1968), found “freedom of choice” plans inadequate, and *Monroe v. Board of Comm’rs of City of Jackson*, 391 U.S. 450 (1968), found a “free transfer” plan inadequate.

merging into one system of faculty,³⁰ staff, and services, so that no school could be marked as either a “black” or a “white” school.³¹

Implementation of School Desegregation.—In the aftermath of *Green*, the various Courts of Appeals held inadequate an increasing number of school board plans based on “freedom of choice,” on zoning which followed traditional residential patterns, or on some combination of the two.³² The Supreme Court’s next opportunity to speak on the subject came when HEW sought to withdraw desegregation plans it had submitted at court request and asked for a postponement of a court-imposed deadline, which was reluctantly granted by the Fifth Circuit. The Court unanimously reversed and announced that “continued operation of segregated schools under a standard of allowing ‘all deliberate speed’ for desegregation is no longer constitutionally permissible. Under explicit holdings of this Court the obligation of every school district is to terminate dual school systems at once and to operate now and hereafter only unitary schools.”³³

In the October 1970 Term the Court in *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education*³⁴ undertook to elaborate the requirements for achieving a unitary school system and delineating the methods which could or must be used to achieve it, and at the same time struck down state inhibitions on the process.³⁵ The opinion in *Swann* emphasized that the goal since *Brown* was the dismantling of an officially-imposed dual school system. “Independent of student assignment, where it is possible to identify a ‘white school’ or a ‘Negro school’ simply by reference to the racial composition of teachers and staff, the quality of school buildings and equipment, or the organization of sports activities, a *prima facie* case of

³⁰ *Bradley v. School Bd. of City of Richmond*, 382 U.S. 103 (1965) (faculty desegregation is integral part of any pupil desegregation plan); *United States v. Montgomery County Bd. of Educ.*, 395 U.S. 225 (1969) (upholding district court order requiring assignment of faculty and staff on a ratio based on racial population of district).

³¹ *United States v. Jefferson County Bd. of Educ.*, 372 F.2d 836 (5th Cir. 1966), mod. & aff’d en banc, 380 F.2d 385 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 389 U.S. 840 (1967).

³² *Hall v. St. Helena Parish School Bd.*, 417 F.2d 801 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 396 U.S. 904 (1969); *Henry v. Clarksdale Mun. Separate School Dist.*, 409 F.2d 682 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 396 U.S. 940 (1969); *Brewer v. School Bd. of City of Norfolk*, 397 F.2d 37 (4th Cir. 1968); *Clark v. Board of Educ. of City of Little Rock*, 426 F.2d 1035 (8th Cir. 1970).

³³ *Alexander v. Holmes County Bd. of Educ.*, 396 U.S. 19, 20 (1969). The Court summarily reiterated its point several times in the Term. *Carter v. West Fana Parish School Board*, 396 U.S. 290 (1970); *Northcross v. Board of Educ. of Memphis*, 397 U.S. 232 (1970); *Dowell v. Bd. of Educ. of Oklahoma City*, 396 U.S. 269 (1969).

³⁴ 402 U.S. 1 (1971); see also *Davis v. Board of School Comm’rs of Mobile County*, 402 U.S. 33 (1971).

³⁵ *McDaniel v. Barresi*, 402 U.S. 39 (1971); *North Carolina State Bd. of Educ. v. Swann*, 402 U.S. 43 (1971).

violation of substantive constitutional rights under the Equal Protection Clause is shown.”³⁶ While “the existence of some small number of one-race, or virtually one-race, schools within a district is not in and of itself the mark of a system that still practices segregation by law,” any such situation must be closely scrutinized by the lower courts, and school officials have a heavy burden to prove that the situation is not the result of state-fostered segregation. Any desegregation plan which contemplates such a situation must before a court accepts it be shown not to be affected by present or past discriminatory action on the part of state and local officials.³⁷ When a federal court has to develop a remedial desegregation plan, it must start with an appreciation of the mathematics of the racial composition of the school district population; its plan may rely to some extent on mathematical ratios but it should exercise care that this use is only a starting point.³⁸

Because current attendance patterns may be attributable to past discriminatory actions in site selection and location of school buildings, the Court in *Swann* determined that it is permissible, and may be required, to resort to altering of attendance boundaries and grouping or pairing schools in noncontiguous fashion in order to promote desegregation and undo past official action; in this remedial process, conscious assignment of students and drawing of boundaries on the basis of race is permissible.³⁹ Transportation of students—busing—is a permissible tool of educational and desegregation policy, inasmuch as a neighborhood attendance policy may be inadequate due to past discrimination. The soundness of any busing plan must be weighed on the basis of many factors, including the age of the students; when the time or distance of travel is so great as to risk the health of children or significantly impinge on the educational process, the weight shifts.⁴⁰ Finally, the Court indicated, once a unitary system has been established, no affirmative obligation rests on school boards to adjust attendance year by year to reflect changes in composition of neighborhoods so long as the change is solely attributable to private action.⁴¹

³⁶ 402 U.S. at 18.

³⁷ *Id.* at 25–27.

³⁸ *Id.* at 22–25.

³⁹ *Id.* at 27–29.

⁴⁰ *Id.* at 29–31.

⁴¹ *Id.* at 31–32. In *Pasadena City Bd. of Educ. v. Spangler*, 427 U.S. 424 (1976), the Court held that after a school board has complied with a judicially-imposed desegregation plan in student assignments and thus undone the existing segregation, it is beyond the district court’s power to order it subsequently to implement a new plan to undo the segregative effects of shifting residential patterns. The Court agreed with the dissenters, Justices Marshall and Brennan, *id.*, 436, 441, that the school board had not complied in other respects, such as in staff hiring and pro-

Northern Schools: Inter- and Intradistrict Desegregation.—The appearance in the Court of school cases from large metropolitan areas in which the separation of the races was not mandated by law but allegedly by official connivance through zoning of school boundaries, pupil and teacher assignment policies, and site selections, required the development of standards for determining when segregation was *de jure* and what remedies should be imposed when such official separation was found.⁴²

Accepting the findings of lower courts that the actions of local school officials and the state school board were responsible in part for the racial segregation existing within the school system of the City of Detroit, the Court in *Milliken v. Bradley*⁴³ set aside a desegregation order which required the formulation of a plan for a metropolitan area including the City and 53 adjacent suburban school districts. The basic holding of the Court was that such a remedy could be implemented only to cure an inter-district constitutional violation, a finding that the actions of state officials and of the suburban school districts were responsible, at least in part, for the interdistrict segregation, through either discriminatory actions within those jurisdictions or constitutional violations within one district that had produced a significant segregative effect in another district.⁴⁴ The permissible scope of an inter-district order, however, would have to be considered in light of the Court's language regarding the value placed upon local educational units. "No single tradition in public education is more deeply rooted than local control over the operation of schools; local autonomy has long been thought essential both to the maintenance of community concern and support for public schools and to quality of the educational process."⁴⁵ Too, the complexity of formulating and overseeing the implementation of a plan that would effect a *de facto* consolidation of multiple school districts, the Court indicated, would impose a task which few, if any, judges are qualified to perform and one

motion, but it thought that was irrelevant to the issue of neutral student assignments.

⁴²The presence or absence of a statute mandating separation provides no talisman indicating the distinction between *de jure* and *de facto* segregation. *Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449, 457 n.5 (1979). As early as *Ex parte Virginia*, 100 U.S. 339, 347 (1880), it was said that "no agency of the State, or of the officers or agents by whom its powers are exerted, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. Whoever, by virtue of public position under a State government, . . . denies or takes away the equal protection of the laws . . . violates the constitutional inhibition: and as he acts in the name and for the State, and is clothed with the State's power, his act is that of the State." The significance of a statute is that it simplifies in the extreme a complainant's proof.

⁴³418 U.S. 717 (1974).

⁴⁴*Id.* at 745.

⁴⁵*Id.* at 741-42.

which would deprive the people of control of their schools through elected representatives.⁴⁶ “The constitutional right of the Negro respondents residing in Detroit is to attend a unitary school system in that district.”⁴⁷

“The controlling principle consistently expounded in our holdings,” said the Court in the *Detroit* case, “is that the scope of the remedy is determined by the nature and extent of the constitutional violation.”⁴⁸ While this axiom caused little problem when the violation consisted of statutorily mandated separation,⁴⁹ it has required a considerable expenditure of judicial effort and parsing of opinions to work out in the context of systems in which the official practice was nondiscriminatory but official action operated to the contrary. At first, the difficulty was obscured through the creation of presumptions that eased the burden of proof on plaintiffs, but later the Court had appeared to stiffen the requirements on plaintiffs.

Determination of the existence of a constitutional violation and the formulation of remedies, within one district, first was presented to the Court in a northern setting in *Keyes v. Denver School District*.⁵⁰ The lower courts had found the school segregation existing within one part of the City to be attributable to official action, but as to the central city they found the separation not to be the result

⁴⁶Id. at 742–43. This theme has been sounded in a number of cases in suits seeking remedial actions in particularly intractable areas. *Mayor of Philadelphia v. Educational Equality League*, 415 U.S. 605, 615 (1974); *O’Shea v. Littleton*, 414 U.S. 488, 500–02 (1974). In *Hills v. Gautreaux*, 425 U.S. 284, 293 (1976), the Court wrote that it had rejected the metropolitan order because of “fundamental limitations on the remedial powers of the federal courts to restructure the operation of local and state governmental entities. . . .” In other places, the Court stressed the absence of interdistrict violations, *id.*, 294, and in still others paired the two reasons. *Id.* at 296.

⁴⁷*Milliken v. Bradley*, 418 U.S. 717, 746 (1974). The four dissenters argued both that state involvement was so pervasive that an inter-district order was permissible and that such an order was mandated because it was the State’s obligation to establish a unitary system, an obligation which could not be met without an inter-district order. *Id.* at 757, 762, 781.

⁴⁸Id. at 744. See *Hills v. Gautreaux*, 425 U.S. 284, 294 n.11 (1976) (“[T]he Court’s decision in *Milliken* was premised on a controlling principle governing the permissible scope of federal judicial power.”); *Austin Indep. School Dist. v. United States*, 429 U.S. 990, 991 (1976) (Justice Powell concurring) (“a core principle of desegregation cases” is that set out in *Milliken*).

⁴⁹When an entire school system has been separated into white and black schools by law, disestablishment of the system and integration of the entire system is required. “Having once found a violation, the district judge or school authorities should make every effort to achieve the greatest possible degree of actual desegregation, taking into account the practicalities of the situation. . . . The measure of any desegregation plan is its effectiveness.” *Davis v. Board of School Comm’rs*, 402 U.S. 33, 37 (1971). See *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Bd. of Educ.*, 402 U.S. 1, 25 (1971).

⁵⁰413 U.S. 189 (1973).

of official action and refused to impose a remedy for those schools. The Supreme Court found this latter holding to be error, holding that when it is proved that a significant portion of a system is officially segregated, the presumption arises that segregation in the remainder or other portions of the system is also similarly contrived. The burden shifts to the school board or other officials to rebut the presumption by proving, for example, that geographical structure or natural boundaries have caused the dividing of a district into separate identifiable and unrelated units. Thus, a finding that one significant portion of a school system is officially segregated may well be the predicate for finding that the entire system is a dual one, necessitating the imposition upon the school authorities of the affirmative obligation to create a unitary system throughout.⁵¹

Keyes then was consistent with earlier cases requiring a showing of official complicity in segregation and limiting the remedy to the violation found; by creating presumptions *Keyes* simply afforded plaintiffs a way to surmount the barriers imposed by strict application of the requirements. Following the enunciation in the *Detroit* inter-district case, however, of the “controlling principle” of school desegregation cases, the Court appeared to move away from the *Keyes* approach.⁵² First, the Court held that federal equity power was lacking to impose orders to correct demographic shifts “not attributed to any segregative actions on the part of the defendants.”⁵³ A district court that had ordered implementation of a student assignment plan that resulted in a racially neutral system exceeded its authority, the Court held, by ordering annual readjustments to offset the demographic changes.⁵⁴

Second, in the first *Dayton* case the lower courts had found three constitutional violations that had resulted in some pupil seg-

⁵¹Id. at 207–211. Justice Rehnquist argued that imposition of a district-wide segregation order should not proceed from a finding of segregative intent and effect in only one portion, that in effect the Court was imposing an affirmative obligation to integrate without first finding a constitutional violation. Id. at 254 (dissenting). Justice Powell cautioned district courts against imposing disruptive desegregation plans, especially substantial busing in large metropolitan areas, and stressed the responsibility to proceed with reason, flexibility, and balance. Id. at 217, 236 (concurring and dissenting). See his opinion in *Austin Indep. School Dist. v. United States*, 429 U.S. 990, 991 (1976) (concurring).

⁵²Of significance was the disallowance of the disproportionate impact analysis in constitutional interpretation and the adoption of an apparently strengthened intent requirement. *Washington v. Davis*, 426 U.S. 229 (1976); *Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Dev. Corp.*, 429 U.S. 252 (1977); *Massachusetts Personnel Adm'r v. Feeney*, 442 U.S. 256 (1979). This principle applies in the school area. *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 433 U.S. 406, 419 (1977).

⁵³*Pasadena City Bd. of Educ. v. Spangler*, 427 U.S. 424 (1976).

⁵⁴Id. at 436.

regation, and, based on these three, viewed as “cumulative violations,” a district-wide transportation plan had been imposed. Reversing, the Supreme Court reiterated that the remedial powers of the federal courts are called forth by violations and are limited by the scope of those violations. “Once a constitutional violation is found, a federal court is required to tailor ‘the scope of the remedy’ to fit ‘the nature and extent of the constitutional violation.’”⁵⁵ The goal is to restore the plaintiffs to the position they would have occupied had they not been subject to unconstitutional action. Lower courts “must determine how much incremental segregative effect these violations had on the racial distribution of the Dayton school population as presently constituted, when that distribution is compared to what it would have been in the absence of such constitutional violations. The remedy must be designed to redress that difference, and only if there has been a systemwide impact may there be a systemwide remedy.”⁵⁶ The Court then sent the case back to the district court for the taking of evidence, the finding of the nature of the violations, and the development of an appropriate remedy.

Surprisingly, however, *Keyes* was reaffirmed and broadly applied in subsequent appeals of the *Dayton* case after remand and in an appeal from Columbus, Ohio.⁵⁷ Following the Supreme Court standards, the *Dayton* district court held that the plaintiffs had failed to prove official segregative intent, but was reversed by the appeals court. The *Columbus* district court had found and had been affirmed in finding racially discriminatory conduct and had ordered extensive busing. The Supreme Court held that the evidence adduced in both district courts showed that the school boards had carried out segregating actions affecting a substantial portion of each school system prior to and contemporaneously with the 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*. The *Keyes* presumption therefore required the school boards to show that systemwide discrimination had not existed, and they failed to do so. Because each system was a dual one in 1954, it was subject to an “affirmative duty to take whatever steps might be necessary to convert to a unitary system in which racial discrimination would be eliminated

⁵⁵ *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 433 U.S. 406, 420 (1977) (quoting *Hills v. Gautreaux*, 425 U.S. 284, 294 (1976)).

⁵⁶ *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 433 U.S. 406, 420 (1977). The Court did not discuss the presumptions that had been permitted by *Keyes*. Justice Brennan, the author of *Keyes*, concurred on the basis that the violations found did not justify the remedy imposed, asserting that the methods of proof utilized in *Keyes* were still valid. *Id.* at 421.

⁵⁷ *Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449 (1979); *Dayton Bd. of Educ. v. Brinkman*, 443 U.S. 526 (1979).

root and branch.”⁵⁸ Following 1954, segregated schools continued to exist and the school boards had in fact taken actions which had the effect of increasing segregation. In the context of the on-going affirmative duty to desegregate, the foreseeable impact of the actions of the boards could be utilized to infer segregative intent, thus satisfying the *Davis-Arlington Heights* standards.⁵⁹ The Court further affirmed the district-wide remedies, holding that its earlier *Dayton* ruling had been premised upon the evidence of only a few isolated discriminatory practices; here, because systemwide impact had been found, systemwide remedies were appropriate.⁶⁰

Reaffirmation of the breadth of federal judicial remedial powers came when, in a second appeal of the *Detroit* case, the Court unanimously upheld the order of a district court mandating compensatory or remedial educational programs for school children who had been subjected to past acts of *de jure* segregation. So long as the remedy is related to the condition found to violate the Constitution, so long as it is remedial, and so long as it takes into account the interests of state and local authorities in managing their own affairs, federal courts have broad and flexible powers to remedy past wrongs.⁶¹

The broad scope of federal courts’ remedial powers was more recently reaffirmed in *Missouri v. Jenkins*.⁶² There the Court ruled that a federal district court has the power to order local authorities to impose a tax increase in order to pay to remedy a constitutional violation, and if necessary may enjoin operation of state laws prohibiting such tax increases. However, the Court also held, the district court had abused its discretion by itself imposing an increase in property taxes without first affording local officials “the opportunity to devise their own solutions.”⁶³

⁵⁸ *Columbus Bd. of Educ. v. Penick*, 443 U.S. 449, 459 (1979) (quoting *Green v. School Bd. of New Kent County*, 391 U.S. 430, 437–38 (1968)). Contrast the Court’s more recent decision in *Bazemore v. Friday*, 478 U.S. 385 (1986) (per curiam), holding that adoption of “a wholly neutral admissions policy” for voluntary membership in state-sponsored 4-H Clubs was sufficient even though single race clubs continued to exist under that policy. There is no constitutional requirement that states in all circumstances pursue affirmative remedies to overcome past discrimination, the Court concluded; the voluntary nature of the clubs, unrestricted by state definition of attendance zones or other decisions affecting membership, presented a “wholly different milieu” from public schools. *Id.* at 408 (concurring opinion of Justice White, endorsed by the Court’s per curiam opinion).

⁵⁹ *Id.* at 461–65.

⁶⁰ *Id.* at 465–67.

⁶¹ *Milliken v. Bradley*, 433 U.S. 267 (1977). The Court also affirmed that part of the order directing the State of Michigan to pay one-half the costs of the mandated programs. *Id.* at 288–91.

⁶² 495 U.S. 33 (1990).

⁶³ *Id.* at 52. Similarly, the Court held in *Spallone v. United States*, 493 U.S. 265 (1990), that a district court had abused its discretion in imposing contempt sanc-

Efforts to Curb Busing and Other Desegregation Remedies.—Especially during the 1970s, courts and Congress grappled with the appropriateness of various remedies for *de jure* racial separation in the public schools, both North and South. Busing of school children created the greatest amount of controversy. *Swann*, of course, sanctioned an order requiring fairly extensive busing, as did the more recent *Dayton* and *Columbus* cases, but the earlier case cautioned as well that courts must observe limits occasioned by the nature of the educational process and the well-being of children,⁶⁴ and subsequent cases declared the principle that the remedy must be no more extensive than the violation found.⁶⁵ Congress has enacted several provisions of law, either permanent statutes or annual appropriations limits, that purport to restrict the power of federal courts and administrative agencies to order or to require busing, but these, either because of drafting infelicities or because of modifications required to obtain passage, have been largely ineffectual.⁶⁶ Stronger proposals, for statutes or for constitutional amendments, were introduced in Congress, but none passed both Houses.⁶⁷

Of considerable importance to the possible validity of any substantial congressional restriction on judicial provision of remedies for *de jure* segregation violations are two decisions contrastingly dealing with referenda-approved restrictions on busing and other

tions directly on members of a city council for refusing to vote to implement a consent decree designed to remedy housing discrimination. Instead, the court should have proceeded first against the city alone, and should have proceeded against individual council members only if the sanctions against the city failed to produce compliance.

⁶⁴ *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education*, 402 U.S. 1, 30–31 (1971).

⁶⁵ *Milliken v. Bradley*, 418 U.S. 717, 744 (1974).

⁶⁶ E.g., § 407(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 248, 42 U.S.C. § 2000c-6, construed to cover only *de facto* segregation in *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Bd. of Educ.*, 402 U.S. 1, 17–18 (1971); § 803 of the Education Amendments of 1972, 86 Stat. 372, 20 U.S.C. § 1653 (expired), interpreted in *Drummond v. Acree*, 409 U.S. 1228 (1972) (Justice Powell in Chambers), and the Equal Educational Opportunities and Transportation of Students Act of 1974, 88 Stat. 514 (1974), 20 U.S.C. §§ 1701–1757, see especially § 1714, interpreted in *Morgan v. Kerrigan*, 530 F.2d 401, 411–15 (1st Cir.), cert. denied, 426 U.S. 995 (1976), and *United States v. Texas Education Agency*, 532 F.2d 380, 394 n.18 (5th Cir.), vacated on other grounds sub nom. *Austin Indep. School Dist. v. United States*, 429 U.S. 990 (1976); and a series of annual appropriations riders, first passed as riders to the 1976 and 1977 Labor-HEW bills, § 108, 90 Stat. 1434 (1976), and § 101, 91 Stat. 1460, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, upheld against facial attack in *Brown v. Califano*, 627 F.2d 1221 (D.C. Cir. 1980).

⁶⁷ See, e.g., *The 14th Amendment and School Busing, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution*, 97th Congress, 1st Sess. (1981); and *School Desegregation, Hearings before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights*, 97th Congress, 1st Sess. (1981).

remedies in Washington State and California.⁶⁸ Voters in Washington, following a decision by the school board in Seattle to undertake a mandatory busing program, approved an initiative that prohibited school boards from assigning students to any but the nearest or next nearest school that offered the students' course of study; there were so many exceptions, however, that the prohibition in effect applied only to busing for racial purposes. In California the state courts had interpreted the state constitution to require school systems to eliminate both *de jure* and *de facto* segregation. The voters approved an initiative that prohibited state courts from ordering busing unless the segregation was in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment, and a federal judge would be empowered to order it under United States Supreme Court precedents.

By a narrow division, the Court held unconstitutional the Washington measure, and with near unanimity of result if not of reasoning it sustained the California measure. The constitutional flaw in the Washington measure, the Court held, was that it had chosen a racial classification—busing for desegregation—and imposed more severe burdens upon those seeking to obtain such a policy than it imposed with respect to any other policy. Local school boards could make education policy on anything but busing. By singling out busing and making it more difficult than anything else, the voters had expressly and knowingly enacted a law that had an intentional impact on a minority.⁶⁹ The Court discerned no such impediment in the California measure, a simple repeal of a remedy that had been within the government's discretion to provide. Moreover, the State continued under an obligation to alleviate *de facto* segregation by every other feasible means. The initiative had merely foreclosed one particular remedy—court-ordered mandatory busing—as inappropriate.⁷⁰

Termination of Court Supervision.—With most school desegregation decrees having been entered decades ago, the issue has arisen as to what showing of compliance is necessary for a school district to free itself of continuing court supervision. The Court grappled with the issue, first in a case involving Oklahoma City

⁶⁸ *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457 (1982); *Crawford v. Los Angeles Bd. of Educ.*, 458 U.S. 527 (1982). The decisions were in essence an application of *Hunter v. Erickson*, 393 U.S. 385 (1969).

⁶⁹ *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457, 470–82 (1982). Justice Blackmun wrote the opinion of the Court and was joined by Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens. Dissenting were Justices Powell, Rehnquist, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger. *Id.* at 488. The dissent essentially argued that because the State was ultimately entirely responsible for all educational decisions, its choice to take back part of the power it had delegated did not raise the issues the majority thought it did.

⁷⁰ *Crawford v. Los Angeles Bd. of Educ.*, 458 U.S. 527, 535–40 (1982).

public schools, then in a case involving the University of Mississippi college system. A desegregation decree may be lifted, the Court said in *Oklahoma City Board of Education v. Dowell*,⁷¹ upon a showing that the purposes of the litigation have been “fully achieved,”—i.e., that the school district is being operated “in compliance with the commands of the Equal Protection Clause,” that it has been so operated “for a reasonable period of time,” and that it is “unlikely” that the school board would return to its former violations. On remand, the trial court was directed to determine “whether the Board had complied in good faith with the desegregation decree since it was entered, and whether the vestiges of past [*de jure*] discrimination had been eliminated to the extent practicable.”⁷² In *United States v. Fordice*,⁷³ the Court determined that the State of Mississippi had not, by adopting and implementing race-neutral policies, eliminated all vestiges of its prior *de jure*, racially segregated, “dual” system of higher education. The State must also, to the extent practicable and consistent with sound educational practices, eradicate policies and practices that are traceable to the dual system and that continue to have segregative effects. The Court identified several surviving aspects of Mississippi’s prior dual system which are constitutionally suspect, and which must be justified or eliminated. The State’s admissions policy, requiring higher test scores for admission to the five historically white institutions than for admission to the three historically black institutions, is suspect because it originated as a means of preserving segregation. Also suspect are the widespread duplication of programs, a possible remnant of the dual “separate-but-equal” system; institutional mission classifications making three historically white schools the flagship “comprehensive” universities; and the retention and operation of all eight schools rather than the possible merger of some.

Juries

It has been established since *Strauder v. West Virginia*⁷⁴ that exclusion of an identifiable racial or ethnic group from a grand

⁷¹ 498 U.S. 237 (1991).

⁷² *Id.* at 249–50.

⁷³ 112 S. Ct. 2727 (1992).

⁷⁴ 100 U.S. 303 (1880). *Cf.* *Virginia v. Rives*, 100 U.S. 313 (1880). Discrimination on the basis of race, color, or previous condition of servitude in jury selection has also been statutorily illegal since enactment of § 4 of the Civil Rights Act of 1875, 18 Stat. 335, 18 U.S.C. § 243. *See Ex parte Virginia*, 100 U.S. 339 (1880). In *Hernandez v. Texas*, 347 U.S. 475 (1954), the Court found jury discrimination against Mexican-Americans to be a denial of equal protection, a ruling it reiterated in *Castaneda v. Partida*, 430 U.S. 482 (1977), finding proof of discrimination by statistical dispari-

jury⁷⁵ which indicts a defendant or a petit jury⁷⁶ which tries him, or from both,⁷⁷ denies a defendant of the excluded race equal protection and necessitates reversal of his conviction or dismissal of his indictment.⁷⁸ Even if the defendant's race differs from that of the excluded jurors, the Court has recently held, the defendant has third party standing to assert the rights of jurors excluded on the basis of race.⁷⁹ "Defendants in criminal proceedings do not have the only cognizable legal interest in nondiscriminatory jury selection. People excluded from juries because of their race are as much aggrieved as those indicted and tried by juries chosen under a system of racial exclusion."⁸⁰ Thus, persons may bring actions seeking affirmative relief to outlaw discrimination in jury selection, instead of depending on defendants to raise the issue.⁸¹

A *prima facie* case of deliberate and systematic exclusion is made when it is shown that no African Americans have served on juries for a period of years⁸² or when it is shown that the number of African Americans who served was grossly disproportionate to the percentage of African Americans in the population and eligible

ties, even though Mexican-surnamed individuals constituted a governing majority of the county and a majority of the selecting officials were Mexican-American.

⁷⁵ *Bush v. Kentucky*, 107 U.S. 110 (1883); *Carter v. Texas*, 177 U.S. 442 (1900); *Rogers v. Alabama*, 192 U.S. 226 (1904); *Pierre v. Louisiana*, 306 U.S. 354 (1939); *Smith v. Texas*, 311 U.S. 128 (1940); *Hill v. Texas*, 316 U.S. 400 (1942); *Cassell v. Texas*, 339 U.S. 282 (1950); *Reece v. Georgia*, 350 U.S. 85 (1955); *Eubanks v. Louisiana*, 356 U.S. 584 (1958); *Arnold v. North Carolina*, 376 U.S. 773 (1964); *Alexander v. Louisiana*, 405 U.S. 625 (1972).

⁷⁶ *Hollins v. Oklahoma*, 295 U.S. 394 (1935); *Avery v. Georgia*, 345 U.S. 559 (1953).

⁷⁷ *Neal v. Delaware*, 103 U.S. 370 (1881); *Martin v. Texas*, 200 U.S. 316 (1906); *Norris v. Alabama*, 294 U.S. 587 (1935); *Hale v. Kentucky*, 303 U.S. 613 (1938); *Patton v. Mississippi*, 332 U.S. 463 (1947); *Coleman v. Alabama*, 377 U.S. 129 (1964); *Whitus v. Georgia*, 385 U.S. 545 (1967); *Jones v. Georgia*, 389 U.S. 24 (1967); *Sims v. Georgia*, 385 U.S. 538 (1967).

⁷⁸ Even if there is no discrimination in the selection of the petit jury which convicted him, a defendant who shows discrimination in the selection of the grand jury which indicted him is entitled to a reversal of his conviction. *Cassell v. Texas*, 339 U.S. 282 (1950); *Alexander v. Louisiana*, 405 U.S. 625 (1972); *Vasquez v. Hillery*, 474 U.S. 254 (1986) (habeas corpus remedy).

⁷⁹ *Powers v. Ohio*, 111 S. Ct. 1364, 1373 (1991). See also *Peters v. Kiff*, 407 U.S. 493 (1972) (defendant entitled to have his conviction or indictment set aside if he proves such exclusion). The Court in 1972 was substantially divided with respect to the reason for rejecting the "same class" rule—that the defendant be of the excluded class—but in *Taylor v. Louisiana*, 419 U.S. 522 (1975), involving a male defendant and exclusion of women, the Court ascribed the result to the fair-cross-section requirement of the Sixth Amendment, which would have application across-the-board.

⁸⁰ *Carter v. Jury Comm'n of Greene County*, 396 U.S. 320, 329 (1970).

⁸¹ *Id.*; *Turner v. Fouche*, 396 U.S. 346 (1970).

⁸² *Norris v. Alabama*, 294 U.S. 587 (1935); *Patton v. Mississippi*, 332 U.S. 463 (1947); *Hill v. Texas*, 316 U.S. 400 (1942).

for jury service.⁸³ Once this *prima facie* showing has been made, the burden is upon the jurisdiction to prove that discrimination was not practiced; it is not adequate that jury selection officials testify under oath that they did not discriminate.⁸⁴ Although the Court in connection with a showing of great disparities in the racial makeup of jurors called has voided certain practices which made discrimination easy to accomplish,⁸⁵ it has not outlawed discretionary selection pursuant to general standards of educational attainment and character which can be administered fairly.⁸⁶ Similarly, it declined to rule that African Americans must be included on all-white jury commissions which administer the jury selection laws in some States.⁸⁷

In *Swain v. Alabama*,⁸⁸ African Americans regularly appeared on jury venires but no African American had actually served on a jury. It appeared that the absence was attributable to the action of the prosecutor in peremptorily challenging all potential African American jurors, but the Court refused to set aside the conviction. The use of peremptory challenges to exclude the African Americans in the particular case was permissible, the Court held, regardless of the prosecutor's motive, although it was indicated the consistent use of such challenges to remove African Americans would be unconstitutional. Because the record did not disclose that the prosecution was responsible solely for the fact that no African American had ever served on a jury and that some exclusions were not the result of defense peremptory challenges, defendant's claims were rejected.

The *Swain* holding as to the evidentiary standard was overruled in *Batson v. Kentucky*, the Court ruling that "a defendant may establish a *prima facie* case of purposeful [racial] discrimination in selection of the petit jury solely on evidence concerning the prosecutor's exercise of peremptory challenges at the defendant's [own] trial." To rebut this showing, the prosecutor "must articulate

⁸³*Pierre v. Louisiana*, 306 U.S. 354 (1939); *Cassell v. Texas*, 339 U.S. 282 (1950); *Eubanks v. Louisiana*, 356 U.S. 584 (1958); *Whitus v. Georgia*, 385 U.S. 545 (1967); *Alexander v. Louisiana*, 405 U.S. 625 (1972). For an elaborate discussion of statistical proof, see *Castaneda v. Partida*, 430 U.S. 482 (1977).

⁸⁴*Norris v. Alabama*, 294 U.S. 587 (1935); *Eubanks v. Georgia*, 385 U.S. 545 (1967); *Sims v. Georgia*, 389 U.S. 404 (1967); *Turner v. Fouche*, 396 U.S. 346, 360–361 (1970).

⁸⁵*Avery v. Georgia*, 345 U.S. 559 (1953) (names of whites and African Americans listed on differently colored paper for drawing for jury duty); *Whitus v. Georgia*, 385 U.S. 545 (1967) (jurors selected from county tax books, in which names of African Americans were marked with a "c").

⁸⁶*Carter v. Jury Comm'n of Greene County*, 396 U.S. 320, 331–37 (1970), and cases cited.

⁸⁷*Id.* at 340–41.

⁸⁸380 U.S. 202 (1965).

a neutral explanation related to the particular case,” but the explanation “need not rise to the level justifying exercise of a challenge for cause.”⁸⁹ The Court has also extended *Batson* to apply to racially discriminatory use of peremptory challenges by private litigants in civil litigation,⁹⁰ and by a defendant in a criminal case,⁹¹ the principal issue in these cases being the presence of state action, not the invalidity of purposeful racial discrimination.

Discrimination in the selection of grand jury foremen presents a closer question, answer to which depends in part on the responsibilities of a foreman in the particular system challenged. Thus the Court had “assumed without deciding” that discrimination in selection of foremen for state grand juries would violate equal protection in a system in which the judge selected a foreman to serve as a thirteenth voting juror, and that foreman exercised significant powers.⁹² That situation was distinguished, however, in a due process challenge to the federal system, where the foreman’s responsibilities are “essentially clerical” and where the selection is from among the members of an already-chosen jury.⁹³

Capital Punishment

In *McCleskey v. Kemp*⁹⁴ the Court rejected an equal protection claim of a black defendant who received a death sentence following conviction for murder of a white victim, even though a statistical study showed that blacks charged with murdering whites were

⁸⁹ 476 U.S. 79, 96, 98 (1986). The principles were applied in *Trevino v. Texas*, 112 S. Ct. 1547 (1991), holding that a criminal defendant’s allegation of a state’s pattern of historical and habitual use of peremptory challenges to exclude members of racial minorities was sufficient to raise an equal protection claim under *Swain* as well as *Batson*. In *Hernandez v. New York*, 500 U.S. 352 (1991), a prosecutor was held to have sustained his burden of providing a race-neutral explanation for using peremptory challenges to strike bilingual Latino jurors; the prosecutor had explained that, based on the answers and demeanor of the prospective jurors, he had doubted whether they would accept the interpreter’s official translation of trial testimony by Spanish-speaking witnesses. The *Batson* ruling applies to cases pending on direct review or not yet final when *Batson* was decided, *Griffith v. Kentucky*, 479 U.S. 314 (1987), but does not apply to a case on federal habeas corpus review, *Allen v. Hardy*, 478 U.S. 255 (1986).

⁹⁰ *Edmonson v. Leesville Concrete Co.*, 111 S. Ct. 2077 (1991).

⁹¹ *Georgia v. McCollum*, 112 S. Ct. 2348 (1992).

⁹² *Rose v. Mitchell*, 443 U.S. 545, 551 n.4 (1979).

⁹³ *Hobby v. United States*, 468 U.S. 339 (1984). Note also that in this limited context where injury to the defendant was largely conjectural, the Court seemingly revived the same class rule, holding that a white defendant challenging on due process grounds exclusion of blacks as grand jury foremen could not rely on equal protection principles protecting blacks defendants from “the injuries of stigmatization and prejudice” associated with discrimination. *Id.* at 347.

⁹⁴ 481 U.S. 279 (1987). The decision was 5–4, with Justice Powell’s opinion of the Court being joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and by Justices White, O’Connor, and Scalia, and with Justices Brennan, Blackmun, Stevens, and Marshall dissenting.

more than four times as likely to receive a death sentence in the state than were defendants charged with killing blacks. The Court distinguished *Batson v. Kentucky* by characterizing capital sentencing as “fundamentally different” from jury venire selection; consequently, reliance on statistical proof of discrimination is less rather than more appropriate.⁹⁵ “Because discretion is essential to the criminal justice process, we would demand exceptionally clear proof before we would infer that the discretion has been abused.”⁹⁶ Also, the Court noted, there is not the same opportunity to rebut a statistical inference of discrimination; jurors may not be required to testify as to their motives, and for the most part prosecutors are similarly immune from inquiry.⁹⁷

Housing

*Buchanan v. Warley*⁹⁸ invalidated an ordinance which prohibited blacks from occupying houses in blocks where the greater number of houses were occupied by whites and which prohibited whites from doing so where the greater number of houses were occupied by blacks. Although racially restrictive covenants do not themselves violate the equal protection clause, the judicial enforcement of them, either by injunctive relief or through entertaining damage actions, does violate the Fourteenth Amendment.⁹⁹ Referendum passage of a constitutional amendment repealing a “fair housing” law and prohibiting further state or local action in that direction was held unconstitutional in *Reitman v. Mulkey*,¹⁰⁰ though on somewhat ambiguous grounds, while a state constitutional requirement that decisions of local authorities to build low-rent housing projects in an area must first be submitted to referendum, although other similar decisions were not so limited, was

⁹⁵ 481 U.S. at 294. Dissenting Justices Brennan, Blackmun and Stevens challenged this position as inconsistent with the Court’s usual approach to capital punishment, in which greater scrutiny is required. *Id.* at 340, 347–48, 366.

⁹⁶ *Id.* at 297. Discretion is especially important to the role of a capital sentencing jury, which must be allowed to consider any mitigating factor relating to the defendant’s background or character, or to the nature of the offense; the Court also cited the “traditionally ‘wide discretion’” accorded decisions of prosecutors. *Id.* at 296.

⁹⁷ The Court distinguished *Batson* by suggesting that the death penalty challenge would require a prosecutor “to rebut a study that analyzes the past conduct of scores of prosecutors” whereas the peremptory challenge inquiry would focus only on the prosecutor’s own acts. 481 U.S. at 296 n.17.

⁹⁸ 245 U.S. 60 (1917). *See also* *Harmon v. Tyler*, 273 U.S. 668 (1927); *Richmond v. Deans*, 281 U.S. 704 (1930).

⁹⁹ *Shelley v. Kraemer*, 334 U.S. 1 (1948); *Hurd v. Hodge*, 334 U.S. 24 (1948); *Barrows v. Jackson*, 346 U.S. 249 (1953). *Cf.* *Corrigan v. Buckley*, 271 U.S. 323 (1926).

¹⁰⁰ 387 U.S. 369 (1967).

found to accord with the equal protection clause.¹⁰¹ Private racial discrimination in the sale or rental of housing is subject to two federal laws prohibiting most such discrimination.¹⁰² Provision of publicly assisted housing, of course, must be on a nondiscriminatory basis.¹⁰³

Other Areas of Discrimination

Transportation.—The “separate but equal” doctrine won Supreme Court endorsement in the transportation context,¹⁰⁴ and its passing in the education field did not long predate its demise in transportation as well.¹⁰⁵ During the interval, the Court held invalid a state statute which permitted carriers to provide sleeping and dining cars for white persons only,¹⁰⁶ held that a carrier’s provision of unequal, or nonexistent, first class accommodations to African Americans violated the Interstate Commerce Act,¹⁰⁷ and voided both state-required and privately imposed segregation of the races on interstate carriers as burdens on commerce.¹⁰⁸ *Boynton v. Virginia*¹⁰⁹ voided a trespass conviction of an interstate African American bus passenger who had refused to leave a restaurant which the Court viewed as an integral part of the facilities devoted to interstate commerce and therefore subject to the Interstate Commerce Act.

Public Facilities.—In the aftermath of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the Court in a lengthy series of *per curiam* opinions established the invalidity of segregation in publicly provided or supported facilities and of required segregation in any facility or function.¹¹⁰ A municipality could not operate a racially-segregated park

¹⁰¹ *James v. Valtierra*, 402 U.S. 137 (1971). The Court did not perceive that either on its face or as applied the provision was other than racially neutral. Justices Marshall, Brennan, and Blackmun dissented. *Id.* at 143.

¹⁰² Civil Rights Act of 1866, 14 Stat. 27, 42 U.S.C. §1982, *see Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409 (1968), and Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, 82 Stat. 73, 42 U.S.C. §3601 et seq.

¹⁰³ *See Hills v. Gautreaux*, 425 U.S. 284 (1976).

¹⁰⁴ *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537 (1896).

¹⁰⁵ *Gayle v. Browder*, 352 U.S. 903 (1956), *affg* 142 F. Supp. 707 (M.D. Ala.) (statute requiring segregation on buses is unconstitutional). “We have settled beyond question that no State may require racial segregation of interstate transportation facilities. . . . This question is no longer open; it is foreclosed as a litigable issue.” *Bailey v. Patterson*, 369 U.S. 31, 33 (1962).

¹⁰⁶ *McCabe v. Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry.*, 235 U.S. 151 (1914).

¹⁰⁷ *Mitchell v. United States*, 313 U.S. 80 (1941).

¹⁰⁸ *Morgan v. Virginia*, 328 U.S. 373 (1946); *Henderson v. United States*, 339 U.S. 816 (1950).

¹⁰⁹ 364 U.S. 454 (1960).

¹¹⁰ E.g., *Mayor & City Council of Baltimore v. Dawson*, 350 U.S. 877 (1955) (public beaches and bathhouses); *Holmes v. City of Atlanta*, 350 U.S. 879 (1955) (municipal golf courses); *Muir v. Louisville Park Theatrical Ass’n*, 347 U.S. 971 (1954) (city lease of park facilities); *New Orleans City Park Improvement Ass’n v.*

pursuant to a will which left the property for that purpose and which specified that only whites could use the park,¹¹¹ but it was permissible for the state courts to hold that the trust had failed and to imply a reverter to the decedent's heirs.¹¹² A municipality under court order to desegregate its publicly-owned swimming pools was held to be entitled to close the pools instead, so long as it entirely ceased operation of them.¹¹³

Marriage.—Statutes which forbid the contracting of marriage between persons of different races are unconstitutional¹¹⁴ as are statutes which penalize interracial cohabitation.¹¹⁵ Similarly, a court may not deny custody of a child based on a parent's remarriage to a person of another race and the presumed "best interests of the child" to be free from the prejudice and stigmatization that might result.¹¹⁶

Judicial System.—Segregation in courtrooms is unlawful and may not be enforced through contempt citations for disobedience¹¹⁷ or through other means. Treatment of parties to or witnesses in judicial actions based on their race is impermissible.¹¹⁸ Jail inmates have a right not to be segregated by race unless there is some overriding necessity arising out of the process of keeping order.¹¹⁹

Detiege, 358 U.S. 54 (1958) (public parks and golf courses); State Athletic Comm'n v. Dorsey, 359 U.S. 533 (1959) (statute requiring segregated athletic contests); Turner v. City of Memphis, 369 U.S. 350 (1962) (administrative regulation requiring segregation in airport restaurant); Schiro v. Bynum, 375 U.S. 395 (1964) (ordinance requiring segregation in municipal auditorium).

¹¹¹Evans v. Newton, 382 U.S. 296 (1966). State courts had removed the city as trustee but the Court thought the city was still inextricably bound up in the operation and maintenance of the park. Justices Black, Harlan, and Stewart dissented because they thought the removal of the city as trustee removed the element of state action. *Id.* at 312, 315.

¹¹²Evans v. Abney, 396 U.S. 435 (1970). The Court thought that in effectuating the testator's intent in the fashion best permitted by the Fourteenth Amendment, the state courts engaged in no action violating the equal protection clause. Justices Douglas and Brennan dissented. *Id.* at 448, 450.

¹¹³Palmer v. Thompson, 403 U.S. 217 (1971). The Court found that there was no official encouragement of discrimination through the act of closing the pools and that inasmuch as both white and black citizens were deprived of the use of the pools there was no unlawful discrimination. Justices White, Brennan, and Marshall dissented, arguing that state action taken solely in opposition to desegregation was impermissible, both in defiance of the lower court order and because it penalized African Americans for asserting their rights. *Id.* at 240. Justice Douglas also dissented. *Id.* 231.

¹¹⁴Loving v. Virginia, 388 U.S. 1 (1967).

¹¹⁵McLaughlin v. Florida, 379 U.S. 184 (1964).

¹¹⁶Palmore v. Sidoti, 466 U.S. 429 (1984).

¹¹⁷Johnson v. Virginia, 373 U.S. 61 (1963).

¹¹⁸Hamilton v. Alabama, 376 U.S. 650 (1964) (reversing contempt conviction of witness who refused to answer questions so long as prosecutor addressed her by her first name).

¹¹⁹Lee v. Washington, 390 U.S. 333 (1968); Wilson v. Kelley, 294 F. Supp. 1005 (N.D.Ga.), *aff'd*, 393 U.S. 266 (1968).

Public Designation.—It is unconstitutional to designate candidates on the ballot by race¹²⁰ and apparently any sort of designation by race on public records is suspect although not necessarily unlawful.¹²¹

Public Accommodations.—Whether or not discrimination practiced by operators of retail selling and service establishments gave rise to a denial of constitutional rights occupied the Court's attention considerably in the early 1960's, but it avoided finally deciding one way or the other, generally finding forbidden state action in some aspect of the situation.¹²² Passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act obviated any necessity to resolve the issue.¹²³

Elections.—While, of course, the denial of the franchise on the basis of race or color violates the Fifteenth Amendment and a series of implementing statutes enacted by Congress,¹²⁴ the administration of election statutes so as to treat white and black voters or candidates differently can constitute a denial of equal protection as well.¹²⁵ Additionally, cases of gerrymandering of electoral districts and the creation or maintenance of electoral practices that dilute and weaken black and other minority voting strength is subject to Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendment and statutory attack.¹²⁶

Permissible Remedial Utilizations of Racial Classifications

Of critical importance in equal protection litigation is the degree to which government is permitted to take race or another suspect classification into account in order to formulate and implement a remedy to overcome the effects of past discrimination against the class. Often the issue is framed in terms of "reverse discrimination," inasmuch as the governmental action deliberately favors members of the class and may simultaneously impact adversely

¹²⁰ Anderson v. Martin, 375 U.S. 399 (1964).

¹²¹ Tancil v. Woolls, 379 U.S. 19 (1964) (summarily affirming lower court rulings sustaining law requiring that every divorce decree indicate race of husband and wife, but voiding laws requiring separate lists of whites and African Americans in voting, tax and property records).

¹²² E.g., Burton v. Wilmington Parking Authority, 365 U.S. 715 (1961); Turner v. City of Memphis, 369 U.S. 350 (1962); Peterson v. City of Greenville, 373 U.S. 244 (1963); Lombard v. Louisiana, 373 U.S. 267 (1963); Robinson v. Florida, 378 U.S. 153 (1964).

¹²³ Title II, 78 Stat. 243, 42 U.S.C. §2000a to 2000a-6. See Hamm v. City of Rock Hill, 379 U.S. 306 (1964). On the various positions of the Justices on the constitutional issue, see the opinions in Bell v. Maryland, 378 U.S. 226 (1964).

¹²⁴ See infra, pp. 1946-50.

¹²⁵ E.g., Hadnott v. Amos, 394 U.S. 358 (1971); Hunter v. Underwood, 471 U.S. 222 (1985) (disenfranchisement for crimes involving moral turpitude adopted for purpose of racial discrimination).

¹²⁶ E.g., Gomillion v. Lightfoot, 364 U.S. 339 (1960); United Jewish Orgs. v. Carey, 430 U.S. 144 (1977); Rogers v. Lodge, 458 U.S. 613 (1982).

upon nonmembers of the class.¹²⁷ While the Court in prior cases had accepted both the use of race and other suspect criteria as valid factors in formulating remedies to overcome discrimination¹²⁸ and the according of preferences to class members when the class had previously been the object of discrimination,¹²⁹ it had never until recently given plenary review to programs that expressly used race as the prime consideration in the awarding of some public benefit.¹³⁰

In *United Jewish Organizations v. Carey*¹³¹ the State, in order to comply with the Voting Rights Act and to obtain the United States Attorney General's approval for a redistricting law, had drawn a plan which consciously used racial criteria to create a certain number of districts with nonwhite populations large enough to permit the election of nonwhite candidates in spite of the lower voting turnout of nonwhites. In the process a Hasidic Jewish community previously located entirely within one senate and one assembly district was divided between two senate and two assembly districts, and members of that community sued, alleging that the value of their votes had been diluted solely for the purpose of achieving a racial quota. The Supreme Court approved the districting, although the fragmented majority of seven concurred in no majority opinion.

Justice White, delivering the judgment of the Court, based the result on alternative grounds. First, because the redistricting took

¹²⁷ While the emphasis is upon governmental action, private affirmative actions may implicate statutory bars to uses of race. E.g., *McDonald v. Santa Fe Trail Transp. Co.*, 427 U.S. 273 (1976), held, not in the context of an affirmative action program, that whites were as entitled as any group to protection of federal laws banning racial discrimination in employment. The Court emphasized that it was not passing at all on the permissibility of affirmative action programs. *Id.* at 280 n.8. In *United Steelworkers v. Weber*, 443 U.S. 193 (1979), the Court held that title VII did not prevent employers from instituting voluntary, race-conscious affirmative action plans. *Accord*, *Johnson v. Transportation Agency*, 480 U.S. 616 (1987). Nor does title VII prohibit a court from approving a consent decree providing broader relief than the court would be permitted to award. *Local 93, Int'l Ass'n of Firefighters v. City of Cleveland*, 478 U.S. 501 (1986). And, court-ordered relief pursuant to title VII may benefit persons not themselves the victims of discrimination. *Local 28 of the Sheet Metal Workers' Int'l Ass'n v. EEOC*, 478 U.S. 421 (1986).

¹²⁸ E.g., *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education*, 402 U.S. 1, 22–25 (1971).

¹²⁹ Programs to overcome past societal discriminations against women have been approved, *Kahn v. Shevin*, 416 U.S. 351 (1974); *Schlesinger v. Ballard*, 419 U.S. 498 (1975); *Califano v. Webster*, 430 U.S. 313 (1977), but gender classifications are not as suspect as racial ones. Preferential treatment for American Indians was approved, *Morton v. Mancari*, 417 U.S. 535 (1974), but on the basis that the classification was political rather than racial.

¹³⁰ The constitutionality of a law school admissions program in which minority applicants were preferred for a number of positions was before the Court in *DeFunis v. Odegaard*, 416 U.S. 312 (1974), but the merits were not reached.

¹³¹ 430 U.S. 144 (1977). Chief Justice Burger dissented, *id.*, 180, and Justice Marshall did not participate.

place pursuant to the administration of the Voting Rights Act, the Justice argued that compliance with the Act necessarily required States to be race conscious in the drawing of lines so as not to dilute minority voting strength, that this requirement was not dependent upon a showing of past discrimination, and that the States retained discretion to determine just what strength minority voters needed in electoral districts in order to assure their proportional representation. Moreover, the creation of the certain number of districts in which minorities were in the majority was reasonable under the circumstances.¹³²

Second, Justice White wrote that, irrespective of what the Voting Rights Act may have required, what the State had done did not violate either the Fourteenth or the Fifteenth Amendment. This was so because the plan, even though it used race in a purposeful manner, represented no racial slur or stigma with respect to whites or any other race; the plan did not operate to minimize or unfairly cancel out white voting strength because as a class whites would be represented in the legislature in accordance with their proportion of the population in the jurisdiction.¹³³

With the Court so divided, light on the constitutionality of affirmative action was anticipated in *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*,¹³⁴ but again the Court fragmented. The Davis campus medical school each year admitted 100 students; the school set aside 16 of those seats for disadvantaged minority students, who were qualified but not necessarily as qualified as those winning admission to the other 84 places. Twice denied admission, Bakke sued, arguing that had not the 16 positions been set aside he could have been admitted. The state court ordered him admitted and ordered the school not to consider race in admissions. By two 5-to-4 votes, the Supreme Court affirmed the order admitting Bakke but set aside the order forbidding the consideration of race in admissions.

¹³²Id. at 155–65. Joining this part of the opinion were Justices Brennan, Blackmun, and Stevens.

¹³³Id. at 165–68. Joining this part of the opinion were Justices Stevens and Rehnquist. In a separate opinion, Justice Brennan noted that preferential race policies were subject to several substantial arguments: (1) they may disguise a policy that perpetuates disadvantageous treatment; (2) they may serve to stimulate society's latent race consciousness; (3) they may stigmatize recipient groups as much as overtly discriminatory practices against them do; (4) they may be perceived by many as unjust. The presence of the Voting Rights Act and the Attorney General's supervision made the difference to him in this case. Id. at 168. Justices Stewart and Powell concurred, agreeing with Justice White that there was no showing of a purpose on the legislature's part to discriminate against white voters and that the effect of the plan was insufficient to invalidate it. Id. at 179.

¹³⁴438 U.S. 265 (1978).

Four Justices did not reach the constitutional question. In their view, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964¹³⁵ outlawed the college's program and made unnecessary any consideration of the Constitution. They thus would admit Bakke and bar use of race in admissions.¹³⁶ The remaining five Justices agreed among themselves that Title VI, on its face and in light of its legislative history, proscribed only what the equal protection clause proscribed.¹³⁷ They thus reached the constitutional issue but resolved it differently. Four Justices, in an opinion by Justice Brennan, argued that racial classifications designed to further remedial purposes were not foreclosed by the Constitution under appropriate circumstances. Even ostensibly benign racial classifications could be misused and produce stigmatizing effects; therefore, they must be searchingly scrutinized by courts to ferret out these instances. But benign racial preferences, unlike invidious discriminations, need not be subjected to strict scrutiny; instead, an intermediate scrutiny would do. As applied, then, this review would enable the Court to strike down any remedial racial classification that stigmatized any group, that singled out those least well represented in the political process to bear the brunt of the program, or that was not justified by an important and articulated purpose.¹³⁸

Justice Powell argued that all racial classifications are suspect and require strict scrutiny. Since none of the justifications asserted by the college met this high standard of review, he would have invalidated the program. But he did perceive justifications for a less rigid consideration of race as one factor among many in an admissions program; diversity of student body was an important and protected interest of an academy and would justify an admissions set of standards that made affirmative use of race. Ameliorating the effects of past discrimination would justify the remedial use of race, the Justice thought, when the entity itself had been found by appropriate authority to have discriminated, but the college could not inflict harm upon other groups in order to remedy past societal discrimination.¹³⁹ Justice Powell thus joined the first group in agree-

¹³⁵ 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §2000d to 2000d-7. The Act bars discrimination on the ground of race, color, or national origin by any recipient of federal financial assistance.

¹³⁶ 438 U.S. at 408-21 (Justices Stevens, Stewart, and Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger).

¹³⁷ *Id.* at 284-87 (Justice Powell), 328-55 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Blackmun).

¹³⁸ *Id.* at 355-79 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Blackmun). The intermediate standard of review adopted by the four Justices is that formulated for gender cases. "Racial classifications designed to further remedial purposes 'must serve important governmental objectives and must be substantially related to achievement of those objectives.'" *Id.* at 359.

¹³⁹ *Id.* at 287-320.

ing that Bakke should be admitted, but he joined the second group in permitting the college to consider race to some degree in its admissions.¹⁴⁰

Finally, in *Fullilove v. Klutznick*,¹⁴¹ the Court resolved most of the outstanding constitutional question regarding the validity of race-conscious affirmative action programs. Although again there was no majority opinion of the Court, the series of opinions by the six Justices voting to uphold a congressional provision requiring that at least ten percent of public works funds be set aside for minority business enterprises all recognized that alleviation and remediation of past societal discrimination was a legitimate goal and that race was a permissible classification to use in remedying the present effects of past discrimination. Judgment of the Court was issued by Chief Justice Burger, who emphasized Congress' pre-eminent role under the Commerce clause and under the Fourteenth Amendment to find as a fact the existence of past discrimination and its continuing effects and to implement remedies which were race conscious in order to cure those effects.¹⁴² The principal concurring opinion by Justice Marshall applied the Brennan analysis in *Bakke*, utilizing middle-tier scrutiny to hold that the race conscious set-aside was "substantially related to the achievement of the important and congressionally articulated goal of remedying the present effects of past discrimination."¹⁴³

Taken together, the opinions recognize that at least in Congress there resides the clear power to make the findings that will form the basis for a judgment of the necessity to use racial classifications in an affirmative way; these findings need not be extensive or express and may be collected in many ways. Whether federal agencies or state legislatures and state agencies have the same breadth and leeway to make findings and formulate remedies was left unsettled but that they have some such power seems evident.¹⁴⁴ Further, while the opinions emphasized the limited duration and magnitude of the set-aside program, they appeared to at-

¹⁴⁰ See *id.*, 319–320 (Justice Powell).

¹⁴¹ 448 U.S. 448 (1980). Justice Stewart, joined by Justice Rehnquist, dissented in one opinion, *id.* at 522, while Justice Stevens dissented in another. *Id.* at 532.

¹⁴² *Id.* at 456–92. Justices White and Powell joined this opinion. Justice Powell also concurred in a separate opinion, *id.* at 495, which qualified to some extent his agreement with the Chief Justice.

¹⁴³ *Id.* at 517.

¹⁴⁴ *Id.* at 473–480. The program was an exercise of Congress' spending power, but the constitutional objections raised had not been previously resolved in that context. The plurality therefore turned to Congress' regulatory powers, which in this case undergirded the spending power, and found the power to repose in the commerce clause with respect to private contractors and in §5 of the Fourteenth Amendment with respect to state agencies. The Marshall plurality appeared to attach no significance in this regard to the fact that Congress was the acting party.

tach no constitutional significance to these limitations, thus leaving the way open for programs of a scope sufficient to remedy all the identified effects of past discrimination.¹⁴⁵ But the most important part of these opinions rests in the clear sustaining of race classifications as permissible in remedies and in the approving of some forms of racial quotas. Rejected were the arguments that a stigma attaches to those minority beneficiaries of such programs, that burdens are placed on innocent third parties, and that the program is overinclusive, benefitting some minority members who had suffered no discrimination.¹⁴⁶

The Court remains divided in ruling on constitutional challenges¹⁴⁷ to affirmative action plans. As a general matter, authority to apply racial classifications is at its greatest when Congress is acting pursuant to section 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment or other of its powers, or when a court is acting to remedy proven discrimination. But impact on disadvantaged non-minorities can also be important. Two recent cases illustrate the latter point. In *Wygant v. Jackson Board of Education*,¹⁴⁸ the Court invalidated a provision of a collective bargaining agreement giving minority teachers a preferential protection from layoffs; in *United States v. Paradise*,¹⁴⁹ the Court upheld as a remedy for past discrimination a court-ordered racial quota in promotions. Justice White, concurring in *Wygant*, emphasized the harsh, direct effect of layoffs on affected non-minority employees.¹⁵⁰ By contrast, a plurality of Justices in *Paradise* viewed the remedy in that case as affecting non-minorities less harshly than did the layoffs in *Wygant*, since the

¹⁴⁵ Id. at 484–85, 489 (Chief Justice Burger), 513–15 (Justice Powell).

¹⁴⁶ Id. at 484–489 (Chief Justice Burger), 514–515 (Justice Powell), 520–521 (Justice Marshall).

¹⁴⁷ Guidance on constitutional issues is not necessarily afforded by cases arising under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Court having asserted that “the *statutory* prohibition with which the employer must contend was not intended to extend as far as that of the Constitution,” and that “voluntary employer action can play a crucial role in furthering Title VII’s purpose of eliminating the effects of discrimination in the workplace.” *Johnson v. Transportation Agency*, 480 U.S. 616, 628 n.6, 630 (1987) (upholding a local governmental agency’s voluntary affirmative action plan predicated upon underrepresentation of women rather than upon past discriminatory practices by that agency) (emphasis original). The constitutionality of the agency’s plan was not challenged. *See id.* at 620 n.2.

¹⁴⁸ 476 U.S. 267 (1986).

¹⁴⁹ 480 U.S. 149 (1987).

¹⁵⁰ 476 U.S. at 294. A plurality of Justices in *Wygant* thought that past societal discrimination alone is insufficient to justify racial classifications; they would require some convincing evidence of past discrimination by the governmental unit involved. 476 U.S. at 274–76 (opinion of Justice Powell, joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justices Rehnquist and O’Connor).

promotion quota would merely delay promotions of those affected, rather than cause the loss of their jobs.¹⁵¹

A clear distinction has been drawn between federal and state power to apply racial classifications. In *City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson Co.*,¹⁵² the Court invalidated a minority set-aside requirement that holders of construction contracts with the city subcontract at least 30% of the dollar amount to minority business enterprises. Applying strict scrutiny, the Court found Richmond's program to be deficient because it was not tied to evidence of past discrimination in the city's construction industry. By contrast, the Court in *Metro Broadcasting, Inc. v. FCC*¹⁵³ applied a more lenient standard of review in upholding two racial preference policies used by the FCC in the award of radio and television broadcast licenses. The FCC policies, the Court explained, are "benign, race-conscious measures" that are "substantially related" to the achievement of an "important" governmental objective of broadcast diversity.¹⁵⁴

In *Croson*, the Court ruled that the city had failed to establish a "compelling" interest in the racial quota system because it failed to identify past discrimination in its construction industry. Mere recitation of a "benign" or remedial purpose will not suffice, the Court concluded, nor will reliance on the disparity between the number of contracts awarded to minority firms and the minority population of the city. "[W]here special qualifications are necessary, the relevant statistical pool for purposes of demonstrating exclusion must be the number of minorities qualified to undertake the particular task."¹⁵⁵ The overinclusive definition of minorities, including U.S. citizens who are "Blacks, Spanish-speaking, Orientals, Indians, Eskimos, or Aleuts," also "impugn[ed] the city's claim of remedial motivation," there having been "no evidence" of any past

¹⁵¹ 480 U.S. at 182–83 (opinion of Justice Brennan, joined by Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell). A majority of Justices emphasized that the egregious nature of the past discrimination by the governmental unit justified the ordered relief. 480 U.S. at 153 (opinion of Justice Brennan), *id.* at 189 (Justice Stevens).

¹⁵² 488 U.S. 469 (1989). *Croson* was decided by a 6–3 vote. The portions of Justice O'Connor's opinion adopted as the opinion of the Court were joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and by Justices White, Stevens, and Kennedy. The latter two Justices joined only part of Justice O'Connor's opinion; each added a separate concurring opinion. Justice Scalia concurred separately; Justices Marshall, Brennan, and Blackmun dissented.

¹⁵³ 497 U.S. 547 (1990). This was a 5–4 decision, Justice Brennan's opinion of the Court being joined by Justices White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens. Justice O'Connor wrote a dissenting opinion joined by the Chief Justice and by Justices Scalia and Kennedy, and Justice Kennedy added a separate dissenting opinion joined by Justice Scalia.

¹⁵⁴ 497 U.S. at 564–65.

¹⁵⁵ 488 U.S. at 501–02.

discrimination against non-Blacks in the Richmond construction industry.¹⁵⁶

It followed that Richmond's set-aside program also was not "narrowly tailored" to remedy the effects of past discrimination in the city: an individualized waiver procedure made the quota approach unnecessary, and a minority entrepreneur "from anywhere in the country" could obtain an absolute racial preference.¹⁵⁷

At issue in *Metro Broadcasting* were two minority preference policies of the FCC, one recognizing an "enhancement" for minority ownership and participation in management when the FCC considers competing license applications, and the other authorizing a "distress sale" transfer of a broadcast license to a minority enterprise. These racial preferences—unlike the set-asides at issue in *Fullilove*—originated as administrative policies rather than statutory mandates. Because Congress later endorsed these policies, however, the Court was able to conclude that they bore "the imprimatur of longstanding congressional support and direction."¹⁵⁸

Metro Broadcasting is noteworthy for several other reasons as well. The Court rejected the dissent's argument—seemingly accepted by a *Croson* majority—that Congress's more extensive authority to adopt racial classifications must trace to section 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment, and instead ruled that Congress also may rely on race-conscious measures in exercise of its commerce and spending powers.¹⁵⁹ This meant that the governmental interest furthered by a race-conscious policy need not be remedial, but could be a less focused interest such as broadcast diversity. Secondly, as noted above, the Court eschewed strict scrutiny analysis: the governmental interest need only be "important" rather than "compelling," and the means adopted need only be "substantially related" rather than "narrowly tailored" to furthering the interest. This means that, for the time being, at least, federal legislation imposing racial preferences need pass a lower hurdle than state and local legislation regardless of whether the federal legislation is an exercise of section 5 power.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁶ Id. at 506.

¹⁵⁷ Id. at 508.

¹⁵⁸ 497 U.S. at 600. Justice O'Connor's dissenting opinion contended that the case "does not present 'a considered decision of the Congress and the President.'" Id. at 607 (quoting *Fullilove*, 448 U.S. at 473).

¹⁵⁹ 497 U.S. at 563 & n.11. For the dissenting views of Justice O'Connor see id. at 606–07. See also *Croson*, 488 U.S. at 504 (opinion of Court).

¹⁶⁰ Because Justice Brennan, who authored the Court's opinion in *Metro Broadcasting*, retired at the end of the 1989–90 Term, the continuing vitality of the opinion bears watching.

THE NEW EQUAL PROTECTION

Classifications Meriting Close Scrutiny

Alienage and Nationality.—“It has long been settled . . . that the term ‘person’ [in the equal protection clause] encompasses lawfully admitted resident aliens as well as citizens of the United States and entitles both citizens and aliens to the equal protection of the laws of the State in which they reside.”¹ Thus, one of the earliest equal protection decisions struck down the administration of a facially-lawful licensing ordinance which was being applied to discriminate against Chinese.² But the Court in many cases thereafter recognized a permissible state interest in distinguishing between its citizens and aliens by restricting enjoyment of resources and public employment to its own citizens.³ But in *Hirabayashi v. United States*,⁴ it was announced that “[d]istinctions between citizens solely because of their ancestry” was “odious to a free people whose institutions are founded upon the doctrine of equality.” And in *Korematsu v. United States*,⁵ classifications based upon race and nationality were said to be suspect and subject to the “most rigid scrutiny.” These dicta resulted in a 1948 decision which appeared

¹ *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365, 371 (1971). See also *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356, 369 (1886); *Truax v. Raich*, 239 U.S. 33, 39 (1915); *Takahashi v. Fish & Game Comm’n*, 334 U.S. 410, 420 (1948). Aliens, even unlawful aliens, are “persons” to whom the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments apply. *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202, 210–16 (1982). The Federal Government may not discriminate invidiously against aliens, *Mathews v. Diaz*, 426 U.S. 67, 77 (1976). However, because of the plenary power delegated by the Constitution to the national government to deal with aliens and naturalization, federal classifications are judged by less demanding standards than are those of the States, and many classifications which would fail if attempted by the States have been sustained because Congress has made them. *Id.* at 78–84; *Fiallo v. Bell*, 430 U.S. 787 (1977). Additionally, state discrimination against aliens may fail because it imposes burdens not permitted or contemplated by Congress in its regulations of admission and conditions of admission. *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52 (1941); *Toll v. Moreno*, 458 U.S. 1 (1982). Such state discrimination may also violate treaty obligations and be void under the supremacy clause, *Askura v. City of Seattle*, 265 U.S. 332 (1924), and some federal civil rights statutes, such as 42 U.S.C. §1981, protect resident aliens as well as citizens. *Graham v. Richardson*, *supra*, at 376–80.

² *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356 (1886).

³ *McGready v. Virginia*, 94 U.S. 391 (1877); *Patson v. Pennsylvania*, 232 U.S. 138 (1914) (limiting aliens’ rights to develop natural resources); *Hauenstein v. Lynham*, 100 U.S. 483 (1880); *Blythe v. Hinckley*, 180 U.S. 333 (1901) (restriction of devolution of property to aliens); *Terrace v. Thompson*, 263 U.S. 197 (1923); *Porterfield v. Webb*, 263 U.S. 225 (1923); *Webb v. O’Brien*, 263 U.S. 313 (1923); *Frick v. Webb*, 263 U.S. 326 (1923) (denial of right to own and acquire land); *Heim v. McCall*, 239 U.S. 175 (1915); *People v. Crane*, 214 N.Y. 154, 108 N.E. 427, *aff’d*, 239 U.S. 195 (1915) (barring public employment to aliens); *Ohio ex rel. Clarke v. Deckebach*, 274 U.S. 392 (1927) (prohibiting aliens from operating poolrooms). The Court struck down a statute restricting the employment of aliens by private employers, however. *Truax v. Raich*, 239 U.S. 33 (1915).

⁴ 320 U.S. 81, 100 (1943).

⁵ 323 U.S. 214, 216 (1944).

to call into question the rationale of the “particular interest” doctrine under which earlier discriminations had been justified. There the Court held void a statute barring issuance of commercial fishing licenses to persons “ineligible to citizenship,” which in effect meant resident alien Japanese.⁶ “The Fourteenth Amendment and the laws adopted under its authority thus embody a general policy that all persons lawfully in this country shall abide ‘in any state’ on an equality of legal privileges with all citizens under non-discriminatory laws.” Justice Black said for the Court that “the power of a state to apply its laws exclusively to its alien inhabitants as a class is confined within narrow limits.”⁷

Announcing “that classifications based on alienage . . . are inherently suspect and subject to close scrutiny,” the Court struck down state statutes which either wholly disqualified resident aliens for welfare assistance or imposed a lengthy durational residency requirement on eligibility.⁸ Thereafter, in a series of decisions, the Court adhered to its conclusion that alienage was a suspect classification and voided a variety of restrictions. More recently, however, it has created a major “political function” exception to strict scrutiny review, which shows some potential of displacing the previous analysis almost entirely.

In *Sugarman v. Dougall*,⁹ the Court voided the total exclusion of aliens from a State’s competitive civil service. A State’s power “to preserve the basic conception of a political community” enables it to prescribe the qualifications of its officers and voters,¹⁰ the Court held, and this power would extend “also to persons holding state elective or important nonelective executive, legislative, and judicial positions, for officers who participate directly in the formulation, execution, or review of broad public policy perform functions that go to the heart of representative government.”¹¹ But a flat ban upon much of the State’s career public service, both of policy-making and non-policy-making jobs, ran afoul of the requirement that in achieving a valid interest through the use of a suspect classifica-

⁶Takahashi v. Fish & Game Comm’n, 334 U.S. 410 (1948).

⁷Id. at 420. The decision was preceded by *Oyama v. California*, 332 U.S. 633 (1948), which was also susceptible to being read as questioning the premise of the earlier cases.

⁸Graham v. Richardson, 403 U.S. 365, 372 (1971).

⁹413 U.S. 634 (1973).

¹⁰Id. at 647–49. See also *Foley v. Connelie*, 435 U.S. 291, 296 (1978). Aliens can be excluded from voting, *Skatfe v. Rorex*, 553 P.2d 830 (Colo. 1976), appeal dismissed for lack of substantial federal question, 430 U.S. 961 (1977), and can be excluded from service on juries. *Perkins v. Smith*, 370 F. Supp. 134 (D.Md. 1974) (3-judge court), aff’d, 426 U.S. 913 (1976).

¹¹*Sugarman v. Dougall*, 413 U.S. 634, 647 (1973). Such state restrictions are “not wholly immune from scrutiny under the Equal Protection Clause.” Id. at 648.

tion the State must employ means that are precisely drawn in light of the valid purpose.¹²

State bars against the admission of aliens to the practice of law were also struck down, the Court holding that the State had not met the “heavy burden” of showing that its denial of admission to aliens was necessary to accomplish a constitutionally permissible and substantial interest. The State’s admitted interest in assuring the requisite qualifications of persons licensed to practice law could be adequately served by judging applicants on a case-by-case basis and in no sense could the fact that a lawyer is considered to be an officer of the court serve as a valid justification for a flat prohibition.¹³ Nor could Puerto Rico offer a justification for excluding aliens from one of the “common occupations of the community,” hence its bar on licensing aliens as civil engineers was voided.¹⁴

In *Nyquist v. Mauclet*,¹⁵ the Court seemed to expand the doctrine. Challenged was a statute that restricted the receipt of scholarships and similar financial support to citizens or to aliens who were applying for citizenship or who filed a statement affirming their intent to apply as soon as they became eligible. Therefore, since any alien could escape the limitation by a voluntary act, the disqualification was not aimed at aliens as a class, nor was it based on an immutable characteristic possessed by a “discrete and insular minority”—the classification that had been the basis for declaring alienage a suspect category in the first place. But the Court voided the statute. “The important points are that §661(3) is directed at aliens and that only aliens are harmed by it. The fact that the statute is not an absolute bar does not mean that it does not discriminate against the class.”¹⁶ Two proffered justifications

¹² Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 649. In the course of the opinion, the Court held inapplicable the doctrine of “special public interest,” the idea that a State’s concern with the restriction of the resources of the State to the advancement and profit of its citizens is a valid basis for discrimination against out-of-state citizens and aliens generally, but it did not declare the doctrine invalid. *Id.* at 643–45. The “political function” exception is inapplicable to notaries public, who do not perform functions going to the heart of representative government. *Bernal v. Fainter*, 467 U.S. 216 (1984).

¹³ *In re Griffiths*, 413 U.S. 717 (1973). Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 730, and 649 (*Sugarman* dissent also applicable to *Griffiths*).

¹⁴ *Examining Board v. Flores de Otero*, 426 U.S. 572 (1976). Since the jurisdiction was Puerto Rico, the Court was not sure whether the requirement should be governed by the Fifth or Fourteenth Amendment but deemed the question immaterial since the same result would be achieved. The quoted expression is from *Truax v. Raich*, 239 U.S. 33, 41 (1915).

¹⁵ 432 U.S. 1 (1977).

¹⁶ *Id.* at 9. Chief Justice Burger and Justices Powell, Rehnquist, and Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 12, 15, 17. Justice Rehnquist’s dissent argued that the nature of the disqualification precluded it from being considered suspect.

were held insufficient to meet the high burden imposed by the strict scrutiny doctrine.

However, in the following Term, the Court denied that every exclusion of aliens was subject to strict scrutiny, “because to do so would ‘obliterate all the distinctions between citizens and aliens, and thus deprecate the historic values of citizenship.’”¹⁷ Upholding a state restriction against aliens qualifying as state policemen, the Court reasoned that the permissible distinction between citizen and alien is that the former “is entitled to participate in the processes of democratic decisionmaking. Accordingly, we have recognized ‘a State’s historic power to exclude aliens from participation in its democratic political institutions,’ . . . as part of the sovereign’s obligation “to preserve the basic conception of a political community.’”¹⁸ When a State acts thusly by classifying against aliens, its action is not subject to strict scrutiny but rather need only meet the rational basis test. It is therefore permissible to reserve to citizens offices having the “most important policy responsibilities,” a reservation drawn from *Sugarman*, but the critical factor in this case is the analysis finding that the police function is “one of the basic functions of government.” “The execution of the broad powers vested” in police officers “affects members of the public significantly and often in the most sensitive areas of daily life. . . . Clearly the exercise of police authority calls for a very high degree of judgment and discretion, the abuse or misuse of which can have serious impact on individuals. The office of a policeman is in no sense one of ‘the common occupations of the community’ . . .”¹⁹

Continuing to enlarge the exception, the Court in *Ambach v. Norwick*²⁰ upheld a bar to qualifying as a public school teacher for

¹⁷ *Foley v. Connelie*, 435 U.S. 291, 295 (1978). The opinion was by Chief Justice Burger and the quoted phrase was from his dissent in *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1, 14 (1977). Justices Marshall, Stevens, and Brennan dissented. *Id.* at 302, 307.

¹⁸ *Id.* at 295–96. Formally following *Sugarman v. Dougall*, *supra*, the opinion considerably enlarged the exception noted in that case; *see also* *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1, 11 (1977) (emphasizing the “narrowness of the exception”). Concurring in *Foley*, *supra*, 300, Justice Stewart observed that “it is difficult if not impossible to reconcile the Court’s judgment in this case with the full sweep of the reasoning and authority of some of our past decisions. It is only because I have become increasingly doubtful about the validity of those decisions (in at least some of which I concurred) that I join the opinion of the Court in this case.” On the other hand, Justice Blackmun, who had written several of the past decisions, including *Mauclet*, concurred also, finding the case consistent. *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.* at 297–98. In *Elrod v. Burns*, 427 U.S. 347 (1976), barring patronage dismissals of police officers, the Court had nonetheless recognized an exception for policymaking officers which it did not extend to the police.

²⁰ 441 U.S. 68 (1979). The opinion, by Justice Powell, was joined by Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart, White, and Rehnquist. Dissenting were Justices Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens. The disqualification standard was of

resident aliens who have not manifested an intention to apply for citizenship. The “governmental function” test took on added significance, the Court saying that the “distinction between citizens and aliens, though ordinarily irrelevant to private activity, is fundamental to the definition and government of a State.”²¹ Thus, “governmental entities, when exercising the functions of government, have wider latitude in limiting the participation of noncitizens.”²² Teachers, the Court thought, because of the role of public education in inculcating civic values and in preparing children for participation in society as citizens and because of the responsibility and discretion they have in fulfilling that role, perform a task that “go[es] to the heart of representative government.”²³ The citizenship requirement need only bear a rational relationship to the state interest, and the Court concluded it clearly did so.

Then, in *Cabell v. Chavez-Salido*,²⁴ the Court sustained a state law imposing a citizenship requirement upon all positions designated as “peace officers,” upholding in context that eligibility prerequisite for probation officers. First, the Court held that the extension of the requirement to an enormous range of people who were variously classified as “peace officers” did not reach so far nor was it so broad and haphazard as to belie the claim that the State was attempting to ensure that an important function of government be in the hands of those having a bond of citizenship. “[T]he classifications used need not be precise; there need only be a substantial fit.”²⁵ As to the particular positions, the Court held that “they, like the state troopers involved in *Foley*, sufficiently partake of the sovereign’s power to exercise coercive force over the individual that they may be limited to citizens.”²⁶

Thus, the Court so far has drawn a tripartite differentiation with respect to governmental restrictions on aliens. First, it has disapproved the earlier line of cases and now would foreclose attempts by the States to retain certain economic benefits, primarily employment and opportunities for livelihood, exclusively for citizens. Second, when government exercises principally its spending functions, such as those with respect to public employment gen-

course, that held invalid as a disqualification for receipt of educational assistance in *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1 (1977).

²¹ *Ambach v. Norwick*, 441 U.S. 68, 75 (1979).

²² *Id.*

²³ *Id.* at 75–80. The quotation, *id.* at 76, is from *Sugarman v. Dougall*, 413 U.S. 634, 647 (1973).

²⁴ 454 U.S. 432 (1982). Joining the opinion of the Court were Justices White, Powell, Rehnquist, O’Connor, and Chief Justice Burger. Dissenting were Justices Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens. *Id.* at 447.

²⁵ *Id.* at 442.

²⁶ *Id.* at 445.

erally and to eligibility for public benefits, its classifications with an adverse impact on aliens will be strictly scrutinized and usually fail. Third, when government acts in its sovereign capacity, when it acts within its constitutional prerogatives and responsibilities to establish and operate its own government, its decisions with respect to the citizenship qualifications of an appropriately designated class of public office holders will be subject only to traditional rational basis scrutiny.²⁷ However, the “political function” standard is elastic, and so long as disqualifications are attached to specific occupations²⁸ rather than to the civil service in general, as in *Sugarman*, the concept seems capable of encompassing the exclusion.

When confronted with a state statute that authorized local school boards to exclude from public schools alien children who were not legally admitted to the United States, the Court determined that an intermediate level of scrutiny was appropriate and found that the proffered justifications did not sustain the classification.²⁹ Inasmuch as it was clear that the undocumented status of the children was not irrelevant to valid government goals and inasmuch as the Court had previously held that access to education was not a “fundamental interest” which triggered strict scrutiny of governmental distinctions relating to education,³⁰ the Court’s decision to accord intermediate review was based upon an amalgam of at least three factors. First, alienage was a characteristic that provokes special judicial protection when used as a basis for discrimination. Second, the children were innocent parties who were having a particular onus imposed on them because of the misconduct of their parents. Third, the total denial of an education to these chil-

²⁷ *Id.* at 438–39

²⁸ Thus, the statute in *Chavez-Salido* applied to such positions as toll-service employees, cemetery sextons, fish and game wardens, and furniture and bedding inspectors, and yet the overall classification was deemed not so ill-fitting as to require its voiding.

²⁹ *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 432 (1982). Joining the opinion of the Court were Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens. Dissenting were Chief Justice Burger and Justices White, Rehnquist, and O’Connor. *Id.* at 242.

³⁰ In *San Antonio School Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1 (1973), while holding that education is not a fundamental interest, the Court expressly reserved the question whether a total denial of education to a class of children would infringe upon a fundamental interest. *Id.* at 18, 25 n.60, 37. The *Plyler* Court’s emphasis upon the total denial of education and the generally suspect nature of alienage classifications left ambiguous whether the state discrimination would have been subjected to strict scrutiny if it had survived intermediate scrutiny. Justice Powell thought the Court had rejected strict scrutiny, 457 U.S. at 238 n.2 (concurring), while Justice Blackmun thought it had not reached the question, *id.* at 235 n.3 (concurring). Indeed, their concurring opinions seem directed more toward the disability visited upon innocent children than the broader complex of factors set out in the opinion of the Court. *Id.* at 231, 236.

dren would stamp them with an “enduring disability” that would harm both them and the State all their lives.³¹ The Court evaluated each of the State’s attempted justifications and found none of them satisfying the level of review demanded.³² It seems evident that *Plyler v. Doe* is a unique case and that whatever it may doctrinally stand for, a sufficiently similar factual situation calling for application of its standards is unlikely to be replicated.

Sex.—Shortly after ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, the refusal of Illinois to license a woman to practice law was challenged before the Supreme Court, and the Court rejected the challenge in tones which prevailed well into the twentieth century. “The civil law, as well as nature itself, has always recognized a wide difference in the respective spheres and destinies of man and woman. Man is, or should be, woman’s protector and defender. The natural and proper timidity and delicacy which belongs to the female sex evidently unfits it for many of the occupations of civil life. The constitution of the family organization, which is founded in the divine ordinance, as well as in the nature of things, indicates the domestic sphere as that which properly belongs to the domain and functions of womanhood.”³³ On the same premise, a statute restricting the franchise to men was sustained.³⁴

The greater number of cases have involved legislation aimed to protect women from oppressive working conditions, as by prescrib-

³¹ *Id.* at 223–24.

³² Rejected state interests included preserving limited resources for its lawful residents, deterring an influx of illegal aliens, avoiding the special burden caused by these children, and serving children who were more likely to remain in the State and contribute to its welfare. *Id.* at 227–30.

³³ *Bradwell v. Illinois*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 130, 141 (1873). The cases involving alleged discrimination against women contain large numbers of quaint quotations from unlikely sources. Upholding a law which imposed a fee upon all persons engaged in the laundry business, but excepting businesses employing not more than two women, Justice Holmes said: “If Montana deems it advisable to put a lighter burden upon women than upon men with regard to an employment that our people commonly regard as more appropriate for the former, the Fourteenth Amendment does not interfere by creating a fictitious equality where there is a real difference.” *Quong Wing v. Kirkendall*, 223 U.S. 59, 63 (1912). And upholding a law prohibiting most women from tending bar, Justice Frankfurter said: “The fact that women may now have achieved the virtues that men have long claimed as their prerogatives and now indulge in vices that men have long practiced, does not preclude the States from drawing a sharp line between the sexes, certainly in such matters as the regulation of the liquor traffic. . . . The Constitution does not require legislatures to reflect sociological insight, or shifting social standards, any more than it requires them to keep abreast of the latest scientific standards.” *Goesaert v. Cleary*, 335 U.S. 464, 466 (1948).

³⁴ *Minor v. Happersett*, 88 U.S. (21 Wall.) 162 (1875) (privileges and immunities).

ing maximum hours³⁵ or minimum wages³⁶ or by restricting some of the things women could be required to do.³⁷ A 1961 decision upheld a state law which required jury service of men but which gave women the option of serving or not. “We cannot say that it is constitutionally impermissible for a State acting in pursuit of the general welfare, to conclude that a woman should be relieved from the civic duty of jury service unless she herself determines that such service is consistent with her own special responsibilities.”³⁸ Another type of protective legislation for women that was sustained by the Court is that premised on protection of morals, as by forbidding the sale of liquor to women.³⁹ In a highly controversial ruling, the Court sustained a state law which forbade the licensing of any female bartender, except for the wives or daughters of male owners. The Court purported to view the law as one for the protection of the health and morals of women generally, with the exception being justified by the consideration that such women would be under the eyes of a protective male.⁴⁰

A wide variety of sex discriminations by governmental and private parties, including the protective labor legislation previously sustained, is now subjected to federal statutory proscription, banning, for instance, sex discrimination in employment and requiring equal pay for equal work.⁴¹ Some states have followed suit.⁴²

³⁵ *Muller v. Oregon*, 208 U.S. 412 (1908); *Dominion Hotel v. Arizona*, 249 U.S. 265 (1919).

³⁶ *West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish*, 300 U.S. 379 (1937).

³⁷ E.g., *Radice v. New York*, 264 U.S. 292 (1924) (prohibiting night work by women in restaurants). A similar restriction set a maximum weight that women could be required to lift.

³⁸ *Hoyt v. Florida*, 368 U.S. 57, 62 (1961).

³⁹ *Cronin v. Adams*, 192 U.S. 108 (1904).

⁴⁰ *Goesaert v. Cleary*, 335 U.S. 464 (1948).

⁴¹ Thus, title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 80 Stat. 662, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., bans discrimination against either sex in employment. See, e.g., *Phillips v. Martin-Marietta Corp.*, 400 U.S. 542 (1971); *Dothard v. Rawlinson*, 433 U.S. 321 (1977); *Los Angeles Dep't of Water & Power v. Manhart*, 435 U.S. 702 (1978); *Arizona Governing Comm. for Tax Deferred Plans v. Norris*, 463 U.S. 1073 (1983) (actuarially based lower monthly retirement benefits for women employees violates Title VII); *Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson*, 477 U.S. 57 (1986) (“hostile environment” sex harassment claim is actionable). Reversing rulings that pregnancy discrimination is not reached by the statutory bar on sex discrimination, *General Electric Co. v. Gilbert*, 429 U.S. 125 (1976); *Nashville Gas Co. v. Satty*, 434 U.S. 136 (1977), Congress enacted the Pregnancy Discrimination Act, Pub. L. 95-555 (1978), 92 Stat. 2076, amending 42 U.S.C. § 2000e. The Equal Pay Act, 77 Stat. 56 (1963), amending the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 206(d), generally applies to wages paid for work requiring “equal skill, effort, and responsibility.” See *Corning Glass Works v. Brennan*, 417 U.S. 188 (1974). On the controversial issue of “comparable worth” and the interrelationship of title VII and the Equal Pay Act, see *County of Washington v. Gunther*, 452 U.S. 161 (1981).

⁴² See, e.g., *Roberts v. United States Jaycees*, 468 U.S. 609 (1984) (state prohibition on gender discrimination in aspects of public accommodation, as applied to membership in a civic organization, is justified by compelling state interest).

While the proposed Equal Rights Amendment pended before the States and ultimately failed of ratification,⁴³ the Supreme Court undertook a major evaluation of sex classification doctrine, first applying a “heightened” traditional standard of review (with bite) to void a discrimination and then, after coming within a vote of making sex a suspect classification, settling upon an intermediate standard. These standards continue, with some uncertainties of application and some tendencies among the Justices both to lessen and to increase the burden of governmental justification, to provide the analysis for evaluation of sex classifications.

In *Reed v. Reed*,⁴⁴ the Court held invalid a state probate law which gave males preference over females when both were equally entitled to administer an estate. Because the statute “provides that different treatment be accorded to the applicants on the basis of their sex,” Chief Justice Burger wrote, “it thus establishes a classification subject to scrutiny under the Equal Protection Clause.” The Court proceeded to hold that under traditional equal protection standards—requiring a classification to be reasonable and not arbitrarily related to a lawful objective—the classification made was an arbitrary way to achieve the objective the State advanced in defense of the law, that is, to reduce the area of controversy between otherwise equally qualified applicants for administration. Thus, the Court used traditional analysis but the holding seems to go somewhat further to say that not all lawful interests of a State may be advanced by a classification based solely on sex.⁴⁵

It is now established that sex classifications, in order to withstand equal protection scrutiny, “must serve important governmental objectives and must be substantially related to achievement of those objectives.”⁴⁶ Thus, after several years in which sex dis-

⁴³ On the Equal Rights Amendment, see *supra*, pp. 904–06, 913.

⁴⁴ 404 U.S. 71 (1971).

⁴⁵ *Id.* at 75–77. *Cf.* *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438, 447 n.7 (1972). A statute similar to that in *Reed* was before the Court in *Kirchberg v. Feenstra*, 450 U.S. 455 (1981) (invalidating statute giving husband unilateral right to dispose of jointly owned community property without wife’s consent).

⁴⁶ *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190, 197 (1976); *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199, 210–11 (1977) (plurality opinion); *Califano v. Webster*, 430 U.S. 313, 316–317 (1977); *Orr v. Orr*, 440 U.S. 268, 279 (1979); *Caban v. Mohammed*, 441 U.S. 380, 388 (1979); *Massachusetts Personnel Adm’r v. Feeney*, 442 U.S. 256, 273 (1979); *Califano v. Westcott*, 443 U.S. 76, 85 (1979); *Wengler v. Druggists Mutual Ins. Co.*, 446 U.S. 142, 150 (1980); *Kirchberg v. Feenstra*, 450 U.S. 455, 461 (1981); *Mississippi Univ. for Women v. Hogan*, 458 U.S. 718, 723–24 (1982). *But see* *Michael M. v. Superior Court*, 450 U.S. 464, 468–69 (1981) (plurality opinion); *id.* at 483 (Justice Blackmun concurring); *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57, 69–72 (1981). The test is the same whether women or men are disadvantaged by the classification, *Orr v. Orr*, *supra*, at 279; *Caban v. Mohammed*, *supra*, at 394; *Mississippi Univ. for Women v. Hogan*, *supra* at 724, although Justice Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger strongly argued that when males are disadvantaged only the rational basis test

inctions were more often voided than sustained without a clear statement of the standard of review,⁴⁷ a majority of the Court has arrived at the intermediate standard which many had thought it was applying in any event.⁴⁸ The Court first examines the statutory or administrative scheme to determine if the purpose or objective is permissible and, if it is, whether it is important. Then, having ascertained the actual motivation of the classification, the Court engages in a balancing test to determine how well the classification serves the end and whether a less discriminatory one would serve that end without substantial loss to the government.⁴⁹

Some sex distinctions were seen to be based solely upon “old notions,” no longer valid if ever they were, about the respective roles of the sexes in society, and those distinctions failed to survive even traditional scrutiny. Thus, a state law defining the age of majority as 18 for females and 21 for males, entitling the male child to support by his divorced father for three years longer than the female child, was deemed merely irrational, grounded as it was in the assumption of the male as the breadwinner, needing longer to prepare, and the female as suited for wife and mother.⁵⁰ Similarly,

is appropriate. *Craig v. Boren*, *supra*, 217, 218–21; *Califano v. Goldfarb*, *supra*, at 224. That adoption of a standard has not eliminated difficulty in deciding such cases should be evident by perusal of the cases following.

⁴⁷In *Frontiero v. Richardson*, 411 U.S. 677 (1973), four Justices were prepared to hold that sex classifications are inherently suspect and must therefore be subjected to strict scrutiny. *Id.* at 684–87 (Justices Brennan, Douglas, White, and Marshall). Three Justices, reaching the same result, thought the statute failed the traditional test and declined for the moment to consider whether sex was a suspect classification, finding that inappropriate while the Equal Rights Amendment was pending. *Id.* at 691 (Justices Powell and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger). Justice Stewart found the statute void under traditional scrutiny and Justice Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 691. In *Mississippi Univ. for Women v. Hogan*, 458 U.S. 718, 724 n.9 (1982), Justice O'Connor for the Court expressly reserved decision whether a classification that survived intermediate scrutiny would be subject to strict scrutiny.

⁴⁸While their concurrences in *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190, 210, 211 (1976), indicate some reticence about express reliance on intermediate scrutiny, Justices Powell and Stevens have since joined or written opinions stating the test and applying it. *E.g.*, *Caban v. Mohammed*, 441 U.S. 380, 388 (1979) (Justice Powell writing the opinion of the Court); *Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347, 359 (1979) (Justice Powell concurring); *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199, 217 (1977) (Justice Stevens concurring); *Caban v. Mohammed*, *supra*, at 401 (Justice Stevens dissenting). Chief Justice Burger and Justice Rehnquist have not clearly stated a test, although their deference to legislative judgment approaches the traditional scrutiny test. *But see Califano v. Westcott*, *supra*, at 93 (joining Court on substantive decision). *And cf. Mississippi Univ. for Women v. Hogan*, 458 U.S. 718, 734–35 (1982) (Justice Blackmun dissenting).

⁴⁹The test is thus the same as is applied to illegitimacy classifications, although with apparently more rigor when sex is involved.

⁵⁰*Stanton v. Stanton*, 421 U.S. 7 (1975). *See also Stanton v. Stanton*, 429 U.S. 501 (1977). Assumptions about the traditional roles of the sexes afford no basis for support of classifications under the intermediate scrutiny standard. *E.g.*, *Orr v. Orr*, 440 U.S. 268, 279–80 (1979); *Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347, 355 (1979); *Kirchberg v. Feenstra*, 450 U.S. 455 (1981). Justice Stevens in particular has been

a state jury system that in effect excluded almost all women was deemed to be based upon an overbroad generalization about the role of women as a class in society, and the administrative convenience served could not justify it.⁵¹

Assumptions about the relative positions of the sexes, however, are not without some basis in fact, and sex may sometimes be a reliable proxy for the characteristic, such as need, with which it is the legislature's actual intention to deal. But heightened scrutiny requires evidence of the existence of the distinguishing fact and its close correspondence with the condition for which sex stands as proxy. Thus, in the case which first expressly announced the intermediate scrutiny standard, the Court struck down a state statute that prohibited the sale of "non-intoxicating" 3.2 beer to males under 21 and to females under 18.⁵² Accepting the argument that traffic safety was an important governmental objective, the Court emphasized that sex is an often inaccurate proxy for other, more germane classifications. Taking the statistics offered by the State as of value, while cautioning that statistical analysis is a "dubious" business that is in tension with the "normative philosophy that underlies the Equal Protection Clause," the Court thought the correlation between males and females arrested for drunk driving showed an unduly tenuous fit to allow the use of sex as a distinction.⁵³

Invalidating an Alabama law imposing alimony obligations upon males but not upon females, the Court acknowledged that assisting needy spouses was a legitimate and important governmental objective and would then have turned to ascertaining whether sex was a sufficiently accurate proxy for dependency, so it could be said that the classification was substantially related to achievement of the objective.⁵⁴ However, the Court observed that the State already conducted individualized hearings with respect to the need of the wife, so that with little additional burden needy males could be identified and helped. The use of the sex standard

concerned whether legislative classifications by sex simply reflect traditional ways of thinking or are the result of a reasoned attempt to reach some neutral goal, e.g., *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199, 222–23 (1978) (concurring), and he will sustain some otherwise impermissible distinctions if he finds the legislative reasoning to approximate the latter approach. *Caban v. Mohammed*, 441 U.S. 380, 401 (1979) (dissenting).

⁵¹ *Taylor v. Louisiana*, 419 U.S. 522 (1975). The precise basis of the decision was the Sixth Amendment right to a representative cross section of the community, but the Court dealt with and disapproved the reasoning in *Hoyt v. Florida*, 368 U.S. 57 (1961), in which a similar jury selection process was upheld against due process and equal protection challenge.

⁵² *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190 (1976).

⁵³ *Id.* at 198, 199–200, 201–04.

⁵⁴ *Orr v. Orr*, 440 U.S. 268 (1979).

as a proxy, therefore, was not justified because it needlessly burdened needy men and advantaged financially secure women whose husbands were in need.⁵⁵

Discrimination between unwed mothers and unwed fathers received different treatments through the Court's perception of the justifications and presumptions underlying each. A New York law permitted the unwed mother but not the unwed father of an illegitimate child to block his adoption by withholding consent. Acting in the instance of one who acknowledged his parenthood and who had maintained a close relationship with his child over the years, the Court could discern no substantial relationship between the classification and some important state interest. Promotion of adoption of illegitimates and their consequent legitimation was important, but the assumption that all unwed fathers either stood in a different relationship to their children than did the unwed mother or that the difficulty of finding the fathers would unreasonably burden the adoption process was overbroad, as the facts of the case revealed. No barrier existed to the State dispensing with consent when the father or his location is unknown, but disqualification of all unwed fathers may not be used as a shorthand for that step.⁵⁶ On the other hand, the Court sustained a Georgia statute which permitted the mother of an illegitimate child to sue for the wrongful death of the child but which allowed the father to sue only if he had legitimated the child and there is no mother.⁵⁷ There was no opinion of the Court, but both opinions making up the result emphasized that the objective of the State, the avoidance of dif-

⁵⁵Id. at 280–83. An administrative convenience justification was not available, therefore. Id. at 281 & n.12. While such an argument has been accepted as a sufficient justification in at least some illegitimacy cases, *Mathews v. Lucas*, 427 U.S. 495, 509 (1976), it has neither wholly been ruled out nor accepted in sex cases. In *Lucas*, supra, 509–10, the Court interpreted *Frontiero v. Richardson*, 411 U.S. 677 (1973), as having required a showing at least that for every dollar lost to a recipient not meeting the general purpose qualification a dollar is saved in administrative expense. In *Wengler v. Druggists Mutual Ins. Co.*, 446 U.S. 142, 152 (1980), the Court said that “[i]t may be that there are levels of administrative convenience that will justify discriminations that are subject to heightened scrutiny . . . , but the requisite showing has not been made here by the mere claim that it would be inconvenient to individualize determinations about widows as well as widowers.” Justice Stevens apparently would demand a factual showing of substantial savings. *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199, 219 (1977) (concurring).

⁵⁶*Caban v. Mohammed*, 441 U.S. 380 (1979). Four Justices dissented. Id. at 394 (Justice Stewart), 401 (Justices Stevens and Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger). For the conceptually different problem of classification between different groups of women on the basis of marriage or absence of marriage to a wage earner, see *Califano v. Boles*, 443 U.S. 282 (1979).

⁵⁷*Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347 (1979). Justices White, Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun, who had been in the majority in *Caban*, dissented. Id. at 361.

facilities in proving paternity, was an important one which was advanced by the classification.⁵⁸

As in the instance of illegitimacy classifications, the issue of sex qualifications for the receipt of governmental financial benefits has divided the Court and occasioned close distinctions. A statutory scheme under which a serviceman could claim his spouse as a “dependent” for allowances while a servicewoman’s spouse was not considered a “dependent” unless he was shown in fact to be dependent upon her for more than one half of his support was held an invalid dissimilar treatment of similarly situated men and women, not justified by the administrative convenience rationale.⁵⁹ In *Weinberger v. Wiesenfeld*,⁶⁰ the Court struck down a Social Security provision that gave survivor’s benefits based on the insured’s earnings to the widow and minor children but gave such benefits only to the children and not to the widower of a deceased woman worker. Focusing not only upon the discrimination against the widower but primarily upon the discrimination visited upon the woman worker whose earnings did not provide the same support for her family that a male worker’s did, the Court saw the basis for the distinction resting upon the generalization that a woman would stay home and take care of the children while a man would not. Since the Court perceived the purpose of the provision to be to enable the surviving parent to choose to remain at home to care for minor children, the sex classification ill fitted the end and was invidiously discriminatory.

But when in *Califano v. Goldfarb*⁶¹ the Court was confronted with a Social Security provision structured much as the benefit sections struck down in *Frontiero* and *Wiesenfeld*, even in the light of an express heightened scrutiny, no majority of the Court could be

⁵⁸The plurality opinion determined that the statute did not invidiously discriminate against men as a class; it was no overbroad generalization but proceeded from the fact that only men could legitimate children by unilateral action. The sexes were not similarly situated, therefore, and the classification recognized that. As a result, all that was required was that the means be a rational way of dealing with the problem of proving paternity. *Id.* at 353–58. Justice Powell found the statute valid because the sex-based classification was substantially related to the objective of avoiding problems of proof in proving paternity. He also emphasized that the father had it within his power to remove the bar by legitimating the child. *Id.* at 359.

⁵⁹*Frontiero v. Richardson*, 411 U.S. 677 (1973).

⁶⁰420 U.S. 636 (1975).

⁶¹430 U.S. 199 (1977). The dissent argued that whatever the classification utilized, social insurance programs should not automatically be subjected to heightened scrutiny but rather only to traditional rationality review. *Id.* at 224 (Justice Rehnquist with Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart and Blackmun). In *Wengler v. Druggists Mutual Ins. Co.*, 446 U.S. 142 (1980), voiding a state workers’ compensation provision identical to that voided in *Goldfarb*, only Justice Rehnquist continued to adhere to this view, although the others may have yielded only to precedent.

obtained for the reason for striking down the statute. The section provided that a widow was entitled to receive survivors' benefits based on the earnings of her deceased husband, regardless of dependency, but payments were to go to the widower of a deceased wife only upon proof that he had been receiving at least half of his support from her. The plurality opinion treated the discrimination as consisting of disparate treatment of women wage-earners whose tax payments did not earn the same family protection as male wage earners' taxes. Looking to the purpose of the benefits provision, the plurality perceived it to be protection of the familial unit rather than of the individual widow or widower and to be keyed to dependency rather than need. The sex classification was thus found to be based on an assumption of female dependency which ill-served the purpose of the statute and was an ill-chosen proxy for the underlying qualification. Administrative convenience could not justify use of such a questionable proxy.⁶² Justice Stevens, concurring, accepted most of the analysis of the dissent but nonetheless came to the conclusion of invalidity. His argument was essentially that while either administrative convenience or a desire to remedy discrimination against female spouses could justify use of a sex classification, neither purpose was served by the sex classification actually used in this statute.⁶³

Again, the Court divided closely when it *sustained* two instances of classifications claimed to constitute sex discrimination. In *Rostker v. Goldberg*,⁶⁴ rejecting presidential recommendations, Congress provided for registration only of males for a possible future military draft, excluding women altogether. The Court discussed but did not explicitly choose among proffered equal protection standards, but it apparently applied the intermediate test of *Craig v. Boren*. However, it did so in the context of its often-stated

⁶²Id. at 430 U.S. 204–09, 212–17 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Powell). Congress responded by eliminating the dependency requirement but by adding a pension offset provision reducing spousal benefits by the amount of various other pensions received. Continuation in this context of the *Goldfarb* gender-based dependency classification for a five-year “grace period” was upheld in *Heckler v. Mathews*, 465 U.S. 728 (1984), as directly and substantially related to the important governmental interest in protecting against the effects of the pension offset the retirement plans of individuals who had based their plans on unreduced pre-*Goldfarb* payment levels.

⁶³Id. at 217. Justice Stevens adhered to this view in *Wengler v. Druggists Mutual Ins. Co.*, 446 U.S. 142, 154 (1980). Note the unanimity of the Court on the substantive issue, although it was divided on remedy, in voiding in *Califano v. Westcott*, 443 U.S. 76 (1979), a Social Security provision giving benefits to families with dependent children who have been deprived of parental support because of the unemployment of the father but giving no benefits when the mother is unemployed.

⁶⁴453 U.S. 57 (1981). Joining the opinion of the Court were Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger. Dissenting were Justices White, Marshall, and Brennan. Id. at 83, 86.

preference for extreme deference to military decisions and to congressional resolution of military decisions. Evaluating the congressional determination, the Court found that it has not been “unthinking” or “reflexively” based upon traditional notions of the differences between men and women; rather, Congress had extensively deliberated over its decision. It had found, the Court asserted, that the purpose of registration was the creation of a pool from which to draw combat troops when needed, an important and indeed compelling governmental interest, and the exclusion of women was not only “sufficiently but closely” related to that purpose because they were ill-suited for combat, could be excluded from combat, and registering them would be too burdensome to the military system.⁶⁵

In *Michael M. v. Superior Court*,⁶⁶ the Court did expressly adopt the *Craig v. Boren* intermediate standard, but its application of the test appeared to represent a departure in several respects from prior cases in which it had struck down sex classifications. *Michael M.* involved the constitutionality of a statute that punished males, but not females, for having sexual intercourse with a nonspousal person under 18 years of age. The plurality and the concurrence generally agreed, but with some difference of emphasis, that while the law was founded on a clear sex distinction it was justified because it did serve an important governmental interest, the prevention of teenage pregnancies. Inasmuch as women may become pregnant and men may not, women would be better deterred by that biological fact, and men needed the additional legal deterrence of a criminal penalty. Thus, the law recognized that for purposes of this classification men and women were not similarly situated, and the statute did not deny equal protection.⁶⁷

Cases of “benign” discrimination, that is, statutory classifications that benefit women and disadvantage men in order to overcome the effects of past societal discrimination against women,

⁶⁵Id. at 69–72, 78–83. The dissent argued that registered persons would fill noncombat positions as well as combat ones and that drafting women would add to women volunteers providing support for combat personnel and would free up men in other positions for combat duty. Both dissents assumed without deciding that exclusion of women from combat served important governmental interests. Id. at 83, 93. The majority’s reliance on an administrative convenience argument, it should be noted, id., 81, was contrary to recent precedent. *Supra*, p. 1880 n.55.

⁶⁶450 U.S. 464 (1981). Joining the opinion of the Court were Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, and Powell, and Chief Justice Burger, constituting only a plurality. Justice Blackmun concurred in a somewhat more limited opinion. Id. at 481. Dissenting were Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens. Id. at 488, 496.

⁶⁷Id. at 470–74, 481. The dissents questioned both whether the pregnancy deterrence rationale was the purpose underlying the distinction and whether, if it was, the classification was substantially related to achievement of the goal. Id. at 488, 496.

have presented the Court with some difficulty. Although the first two cases were reviewed under apparently traditional rational basis scrutiny, the more recent cases appear to subject these classifications to the same intermediate standard as any other sex classification. *Kahn v. Shevin*⁶⁸ upheld a state property tax exemption allowing widows but not widowers a \$500 exemption. In justification, the State had presented extensive statistical data showing the substantial economic and employment disabilities of women in relation to men. The provision, the Court found, was “reasonably designed to further the state policy of cushioning the financial impact of spousal loss upon the sex for whom that loss imposes a disproportionately heavy burden.”⁶⁹ And in *Schlesinger v. Ballard*,⁷⁰ the Court sustained a provision requiring the mandatory discharge from the Navy of a male officer who has twice failed of promotion to certain levels, which in Ballard’s case meant discharge after nine years of service, whereas women officers were entitled to 13 years of service before mandatory discharge for want of promotion. The difference was held to be a rational recognition of the fact that male and female officers were dissimilarly situated and that women had far fewer promotional opportunities than men had.

Although in each of these cases the Court accepted the proffered justification of remedial purpose without searching inquiry, later cases caution that “the mere recitation of a benign, compensatory purpose is not an automatic shield which protects against any inquiry into the actual purposes underlying a statutory scheme.”⁷¹ Rather, after specifically citing the heightened scrutiny that all sex classifications are subjected to, the Court looks to the statute and to its legislative history to ascertain that the scheme does not actually penalize women, that it was actually enacted to compensate for past discrimination, and that it does not reflect merely “archaic and overbroad generalizations” about women in its moving force. But where a statute is “deliberately enacted to compensate for particular economic disabilities suffered by women,” it

⁶⁸ 416 U.S. 351 (1974).

⁶⁹ *Id.* at 355.

⁷⁰ 419 U.S. 498 (1975).

⁷¹ *Weinberger v. Wiesenfeld*, 420 U.S. 636, 648 (1975); *Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199, 209 n.8 (1977); *Orr v. Orr*, 440 U.S. 268, 280–82 (1979); *Wengler v. Drugists Mutual Ins. Co.*, 446 U.S. 142, 150–52 (1980). In light of the stiffened standard, Justice Stevens has called for overruling *Kahn*, *Califano v. Goldfarb*, *supra*, 223–24, but Justice Blackmun would preserve that case. *Orr v. Orr*, *supra*, at 284. *Cf. Regents of the Univ. of California v. Bakke*, 438 U.S. 265, 302–03 (1978) (Justice Powell; less stringent standard of review for benign sex classifications).

serves an important governmental objective and will be sustained if it is substantially related to achievement of that objective.⁷²

Many of these lines of cases converged in *Mississippi University for Women v. Hogan*,⁷³ in which the Court stiffened and applied its standards for evaluating claimed benign distinctions benefiting women and additionally appeared to apply the intermediate standard itself more strictly. The case involved a male nurse who wished to attend a female-only nursing school located in the city in which he lived and worked; if he could not attend this particular school he would have had to commute 147 miles to another nursing school which did accept men, and he would have had difficulty doing so and retaining his job. The State defended on the basis that the female-only policy was justified as providing “educational affirmative action for females.” Recitation of a benign purpose, the Court said, was not alone sufficient. “[A] State can evoke a compensatory purpose to justify an otherwise discriminatory classification only if members of the gender benefited by the classification actually suffer a disadvantage related to the classification.”⁷⁴ But women did not lack opportunities to obtain training in nursing; instead they dominated the field. In the Court’s view, the state policy did not compensate for discriminatory barriers facing women, but it perpetuated the stereotype of nursing as a woman’s job. “[A]lthough the State recited a ‘benign, compensatory purpose,’ it failed to establish that the alleged objective is the actual purpose underlying the discriminatory classification.”⁷⁵ Even if the classification was premised on the proffered basis, the Court concluded, it did not substantially and directly relate to the objective, because the school permitted men to audit the nursing classes and women could still be adversely affected by the presence of men.⁷⁶

⁷² *Califano v. Webster*, 430 U.S. 313, 316–18, 320 (1977). There was no doubt that the provision sustained in *Webster* had been adopted expressly to relieve past societal discrimination. The four *Goldfarb* dissenters concurred specially, finding no difference between the two provisions. *Id.* at 321.

⁷³ 458 U.S. 718 (1982). Joining the opinion of the Court were Justices O’Connor, Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens. Dissenting were Chief Justice Burger and Justices Blackmun, Powell, and Rehnquist. *Id.* at 733, 735.

⁷⁴ *Id.* at 728.

⁷⁵ *Id.* at 730. In addition to obligating the State to show that in fact there was existing discrimination or effects from past discrimination, the Court also appeared to take the substantial step of requiring the State “to establish that the legislature intended the single-sex policy to compensate for any perceived discrimination.” *Id.* at 730 n.16. A requirement that the proffered purpose be the actual one and that it must be shown that the legislature actually had that purpose in mind would be a notable stiffening of equal protection standards.

⁷⁶ In the major dissent, Justice Powell argued that only a rational basis standard ought to be applied to sex classifications that would “expand women’s choices,” but that the exclusion here satisfied intermediate review because it promoted diversity of educational opportunity and was premised on the belief that single-sex col-

Another area presenting some difficulty is that of the relationship of pregnancy classifications to gender discrimination. In *Cleveland Board of Education v. LaFluer*,⁷⁷ a case decided upon due process grounds, two school systems requiring pregnant school teachers to leave work four and five months respectively before the expected childbirths were found to have acted arbitrarily and irrationally in establishing rules not supported by anything more weighty than administrative convenience buttressed with some possible embarrassment of the school boards in the face of pregnancy. On the other hand, the exclusion of pregnancy from a state financed program of payments to persons disabled from employment was upheld against equal protection attack as supportable by legitimate state interests in the maintenance of a self-sustaining program with rates low enough to permit the participation of low-income workers at affordable levels.⁷⁸ The absence of supportable reasons in one case and their presence in the other may well have made the significant difference.

Illegitimacy.—After wrestling in a number of cases with the question of the permissibility of governmental classifications disadvantaging illegitimates and the standard for determining which classifications are sustainable, the Court arrived at a standard difficult to state and even more difficult to apply.⁷⁹ Although

leges offer “distinctive benefits” to society. *Id.* at 735, 740 (emphasis by Justice), 743. The Court noted that because the State maintained no other single-sex public university or college, the case did not present “the question of whether States can provide ‘separate but equal’ undergraduate institutions for males and females,” *id.* at 720 n.1, although Justice Powell thought the decision did preclude such institutions. *Id.* at 742–44. *See Vorchheimer v. School Dist. of Philadelphia*, 532 F. 2d 880 (3d Cir. 1976) (finding no equal protection violation in maintenance of two single-sex high schools of equal educational offerings, one for males, one for females), *aff’d* by an equally divided Court, 430 U.S. 703 (1977) (Justice Rehnquist not participating).

⁷⁷ 414 U.S. 632 (1974). Justice Powell concurred on equal protection grounds. *Id.* at 651. *See also Turner v. Department of Employment Security*, 423 U.S. 44 (1975).

⁷⁸ *Geduldig v. Aiello*, 417 U.S. 484 (1974). The Court denied that the classification was based upon “gender as such.” Classification was on the basis of pregnancy, and while only women can become pregnant, that fact alone was not determinative. “The program divides potential recipients into two groups—pregnant woman and nonpregnant persons. While the first group is exclusively female, the second includes members of both sexes.” *Id.* at 496 n.20. For a rejection of a similar attempted distinction, *see Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1, 9 (1977); and *Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762, 774 (1977). *See also Phillips v. Martin-Marietta Corp.*, 400 U.S. 542 (1971). For the transmutation of *Geduldig* into statutory interpretation and Congress’ response, *see supra*, p. 1876 n.41.

⁷⁹ The first cases set the stage for the lack of consistency. *Compare Levy v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 68 (1968), and *Glonn v. American Guar. & Liab. Ins. Co.*, 391 U.S. 73 (1968), invalidating laws which precluded wrongful death actions in cases involving the child or the mother when the child was illegitimate, in which scrutiny was strict, *with Labine v. Vincent*, 401 U.S. 532 (1971), involving intestate succession, in which scrutiny was rational basis, *and Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*,

“illegitimacy is analogous in many respects to the personal characteristics that have been held to be suspect when used as the basis of statutory differentiations,” the analogy is “not sufficient to require ‘our most exacting scrutiny.’” The scrutiny to which it is entitled is intermediate, “not a toothless [scrutiny],” but somewhere between that accorded race and that accorded ordinary economic classifications. Basically, the standard requires a determination of a legitimate legislative aim and a careful review of how well the classification serves, or “fits,” the aim.⁸⁰ The common rationale of all the illegitimacy cases is not clear, is in many respects not wholly consistent,⁸¹ but the theme that seems to be imposed on them by the more recent cases is that so long as the challenged statute does not so structure its conferral of rights, benefits, or detriments that some illegitimates who would otherwise qualify in terms of the statute’s legitimate purposes are disabled from participation, the imposition of greater burdens upon illegitimates or some classes of illegitimates than upon legitimates is permissible.⁸²

Intestate succession rights for illegitimates has divided the Court over the entire period. At first advertent to the broad power of the States over descent of real property, the Court employed re-

406 U.S. 164 (1972), involving a workmen’s compensation statute distinguishing between legitimates and illegitimates, in which scrutiny was intermediate.

⁸⁰ *Mathews v. Lucas*, 427 U.S. 495, 503–06 (1976); *Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762, 766–67 (1977); *Lalli v. Lalli*, 439 U.S. 259, 265 (1978). Scrutiny in previous cases had ranged from negligible, *Labine v. Vincent*, 401 U.S. 532 (1971), to something approaching strictness, *Jiminez v. Weinberger*, 417 U.S. 628, 631–632 (1974). *Mathews* itself illustrates the uncertainty of statement, suggesting at one point that the *Labine* standard may be appropriate, *supra*, at 506, and at another that the standard appropriate to sex classifications is to be used, *id.* at 510, while observing a few pages earlier that illegitimacy is entitled to less exacting scrutiny than either race or sex. *Id.* at 506. *Trimble* settles on intermediate scrutiny but does not assess the relationship between its standard and the sex classification standard. *See Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347 (1979), and *Caban v. Mohammed*, 441 U.S. 380 (1979) (both cases involving classifications reflecting both sex and illegitimacy interests).

⁸¹ The major inconsistency arises from three 5-to-4 decisions. *Labine v. Vincent*, 401 U.S. 532 (1971), was largely overruled by *Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762 (1977), which itself was substantially limited by *Lalli v. Lalli*, 439 U.S. 259 (1978). Justice Powell was the swing vote for different disposition of the latter two cases. Thus, while four Justices argued for stricter scrutiny and usually invalidation of such classifications, *Lalli v. Lalli*, *supra*, at 277 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens dissenting), and four favor relaxed scrutiny and usually sustaining the classifications, *Trimble v. Gordon*, *supra*, 776, 777 (Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart, Blackmun, and Rehnquist dissenting), Justice Powell applied his own intermediate scrutiny and selectively voided and sustained. *See Lalli v. Lalli*, *supra*, (plurality opinion by Justice Powell).

⁸² A classification that absolutely distinguishes between legitimates and illegitimates is not alone subject to such review; one that distinguishes among classes of illegitimates is also subject to it, *Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762, 774 (1977), as indeed are classifications based on other factors. E.g., *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1, 9 (1977) (alienage).

laxed scrutiny to sustain a law denying illegitimates the right to share equally with legitimates in the estate of their common father, who had acknowledged the illegitimates but who had died intestate.⁸³ *Labine* was strongly disapproved, however, and virtually overruled in *Trimble v. Gordon*,⁸⁴ which found an equal protection violation in a statute allowing illegitimate children to inherit by intestate succession from their mothers but from their fathers only if the father had “acknowledged” the child and the child had been legitimated by the marriage of the parents. The father in *Trimble* had not acknowledged his child, and had not married the mother, but a court had determined that he was in fact the father and had ordered that he pay child support. Carefully assessing the purposes asserted to be the basis of the statutory scheme, the Court found all but one to be impermissible or inapplicable and that one not served closely enough by the restriction. First, it was impermissible to attempt to influence the conduct of adults not to engage in illicit sexual activities by visiting the consequences upon the offspring.⁸⁵ Second, the assertion that the statute mirrored the assumed intent of decedents, in that, knowing of the statute’s operation, they would have acted to counteract it through a will or otherwise, was rejected as unproved and unlikely.⁸⁶ Third, the argument that the law presented no insurmountable barrier to illegitimates inheriting since a decedent could have left a will, married the mother, or taken steps to legitimate the child, was rejected as inapposite.⁸⁷ Fourth, the statute did address a substantial problem, a permissible state interest, presented by the difficulties of proving pater-

⁸³*Labine v. Vincent*, 401 U.S. 532 (1971). *Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 406 U.S. 164, 170 (1972), had confined the analysis of *Labine* to the area of state inheritance laws in expanding review of illegitimacy classifications.

⁸⁴430 U.S. 762 (1977). Chief Justice Burger and Justices Stewart, Blackmun, and Rehnquist dissented, finding the statute “constitutionally indistinguishable” from the one sustained in *Labine*. *Id.* at 776. Justice Rehnquist also dissented separately. *Id.* at 777.

⁸⁵*Id.* at 768–70. While this purpose had been alluded to in *Labine v. Vincent*, 401 U.S. 532, 538 (1971), it was rejected as a justification in *Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 406 U.S. 164, 173, 175 (1972). Visiting consequences upon the parent appears to be permissible. *Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347, 352–53 (1979).

⁸⁶*Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762, 774–76 (1977). The Court cited the failure of the state court to rely on this purpose and its own examination of the statute.

⁸⁷*Id.* at 773–74. This justification had been prominent in *Labine v. Vincent*, 401 U.S. 532, 539 (1971), and its absence had been deemed critical in *Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 406 U.S. 164, 170–71 (1972). The *Trimble* Court thought this approach “somewhat of an analytical anomaly” and disapproved it. However, the degree to which one could conform to the statute’s requirements and the reasonableness of those requirements in relation to a legitimate purpose are prominent in Justice Powell’s reasoning in subsequent cases. *Lalli v. Lalli*, 439 U.S. 259, 266–74 (1978); *Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347, 359 (1979) (concurring). See also *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1 (1977) (alienage); *Mississippi Univ. for Women v. Hogan*, 458 U.S. 718, 723 n.8 (1982) (sex); and compare *id.* at 736 (Justice Powell dissenting).

nity and avoiding spurious claims. However, the court thought the means adopted, total exclusion, did not approach the “fit” necessary between means and ends to survive the scrutiny appropriate to this classification. The state court was criticized for failing “to consider the possibility of a middle ground between the extremes of complete exclusion and case-by-case determination of paternity. For at least some significant categories of illegitimate children of intestate men, inheritance rights can be recognized without jeopardizing the orderly settlement of estates or the dependability of titles to property passing under intestacy laws.”⁸⁸ Because the state law did not follow a reasonable middle ground, it was invalidated.

A reasonable middle ground was discerned, at least by Justice Powell, in *Lalli v. Lalli*,⁸⁹ concerning a statute which permitted legitimate children to inherit automatically from both their parents, while illegitimates could inherit automatically only from their mothers, and could inherit from their intestate fathers only if a court of competent jurisdiction had, during the father’s lifetime, entered an order declaring paternity. The child tendered evidence of paternity, including a notarized document in which the putative father, in consenting to his marriage, referred to him as “my son” and several affidavits by persons who stated that the elder Lalli had openly and frequently acknowledged that the younger Lalli was his child. In the prevailing view, the single requirement of entry of a court order during the father’s lifetime declaring the child as his met the “middle ground” requirement of *Trimble*; it was addressed closely and precisely to the substantial state interest of seeing to the orderly disposition of property at death by establishing proof of paternity of illegitimate children and avoiding spurious claims against intestate estates. To be sure, some illegitimates who were unquestionably established as children of the deceased would be disqualified because of failure of compliance, but individual fairness is not the test. The test rather is whether the requirement is closely enough related to the interests served to meet the standard

⁸⁸*Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762, 770–73 (1977). The result is in effect a balancing one, the means-ends relationship must be a substantial one in terms of the advantages of the classification as compared to the harms of the classification means. Justice Rehnquist’s dissent is especially critical of this approach. *Id.* at 777, 781–86. Also not interfering with orderly administration of estates is application of *Trimble* in a probate proceeding ongoing at the time *Trimble* was decided; the fact that the death had occurred prior to *Trimble* was irrelevant. *Reed v. Campbell*, 476 U.S. 852 (1986).

⁸⁹439 U.S. 259 (1978). The four *Trimble* dissenters joined Justice Powell in the result, although only two joined his opinion. Justices Blackmun and Rehnquist concurred because they thought *Trimble* wrongly decided and ripe for overruling. *Id.* at 276. The four dissenters, who had joined the *Trimble* majority with Justice Powell, thought the two cases were indistinguishable. *Id.* at 277.

of rationality imposed. Also, no doubt the State's interest could have been served by permitting other kinds of proof, but that too is not the test of the statute's validity. Hence, the balancing necessitated by the Court's promulgation of standards in such cases caused it to come to different results on closely related fact patterns, making predictability quite difficult but perhaps manageable.⁹⁰

The Court's difficulty in arriving at predictable results has extended outside the area of descent of property. Thus, a Texas child support law affording legitimate children a right to judicial action to obtain support from their fathers while not affording the right to illegitimate children denied the latter equal protection. "A State may not invidiously discriminate against illegitimate children by denying them substantial benefits accorded children generally. We therefore hold that once a State posits a judicially enforceable right on behalf of children to needed support from their natural fathers *there is no constitutionally sufficient justification* for denying such an essential right to a child simply because its natural father has not married its mother."⁹¹

Similarly, a federal Social Security provision was held invalid which made eligible for benefits, because of an insured parent's dis-

⁹⁰ Illustrating the difficulty are two cases in which the fathers of illegitimate children challenged statutes treating them differently than mothers of such children were treated. In *Parham v. Hughes*, 441 U.S. 347 (1979), the majority viewed the distinction as a gender-based one rather than as an illegitimacy classification and sustained a bar to a wrongful death action by the father of an illegitimate child who had not legitimated him; in *Caban v. Mohammed*, 441 U.S. 380 (1980), again viewing the distinction as a gender-based one, the majority voided a state law permitting the mother but not the father of an illegitimate child to block his adoption by refusing to consent. Both decisions were 5-to-4.

⁹¹ *Gomez v. Perez*, 409 U.S. 535, 538 (1978) (emphasis supplied). Following the decision, Texas authorized illegitimate children to obtain support from their fathers. But the legislature required as a first step that paternity must be judicially determined, and imposed a limitations period within which suit must be brought of one year from birth of the child. If suit is not brought within that period the child could never obtain support at any age from his father. No limitation was imposed on the opportunity of a natural child to seek support, up to age 18. In *Mills v. Habluetzel*, 456 U.S. 91 (1982), the Court invalidated the one-year limitation. While a State has an interest in avoiding stale or fraudulent claims, the limit must not be so brief as to deny such children a reasonable opportunity to show paternity. Similarly, a 2-year statute of limitations on paternity and support actions was held to deny equal protection to illegitimates in *Pickett v. Brown*, 462 U.S. 1 (1983), and a 6-year limit was struck down in *Clark v. Jeter*, 486 U.S. 456 (1988). In both cases the Court pointed to the fact that increasingly sophisticated genetic tests are minimizing the "lurking problems with respect to proof of paternity" referred to in *Gomez*, 409 U.S. at 538. Also, the state's interest in imposing the 2-year limit was undercut by exceptions (e.g., for illegitimates receiving public assistance), and by different treatment for minors generally; similarly, the importance of imposing a 6-year limit was belied by that state's more recent enactment of a non-retroactive 18-year limit for paternity and support actions.

ability, all legitimate children as well as those illegitimate children capable of inheriting personal property under state intestacy law and those children who were illegitimate only because of a nonobvious defect in their parents' marriage, regardless of whether they were born after the onset of the disability, but which made all other illegitimate children eligible only if they were born prior to the onset of disability and if they were dependent upon the parent prior to the onset of disability. The Court deemed the purpose of the benefits to be to aid all children and rejected the argument that the burden on illegitimates was necessary to avoid fraud.⁹²

However, in a second case, an almost identical program, providing benefits to children of a deceased insured, was sustained because its purpose was found to be to give benefits to children who were dependent upon the deceased parent and the classifications served that purpose. Presumed dependent were all legitimate children as well as those illegitimate children who were able to inherit under state intestacy laws, who were illegitimate only because of the technical invalidity of the parent's marriage, who had been acknowledged in writing by the father, who had been declared to be the father's by a court decision, or who had been held entitled to the father's support by a court. Illegitimate children not covered by these presumptions had to establish that they were living with the insured parent or were being supported by him when the parent died. According to the Court, all the presumptions constituted an administrative convenience which was a permissible device because those illegitimate children who were entitled to benefits because they were in fact dependent would receive benefits upon proof of the fact and it was irrelevant that other children not dependent in fact also received benefits.⁹³

⁹² *Jiminez v. Weinberger*, 417 U.S. 628 (1974). *But cf.* *Califano v. Boles*, 443 U.S. 282 (1979). *See also* *New Jersey Welfare Rights Org. v. Cahill*, 411 U.S. 619 (1973) (limiting welfare assistance to households in which parents are ceremonially married and the children are legitimate or adopted denied illegitimate children equal protection); *Richardson v. Davis*, 409 U.S. 1069 (1972), affg 342 F. Supp. 588 (D. Conn.) (3-judge court), and *Richardson v. Griffin*, 409 U.S. 1069 (1972), affg 346 F. Supp. 1226 (D. Md.) (3-judge court) (Social Security provision entitling illegitimate children to monthly benefit payments only to extent that payments to widow and legitimate children do not exhaust benefits allowed by law denies illegitimates equal protection).

⁹³ *Mathews v. Lucas*, 427 U.S. 495 (1976). It can be seen that the only difference between *Jiminez* and *Lucas* is that in the former the Court viewed the benefits as owing to all children and not just to dependents, while in the latter the benefits were viewed as owing only to dependents and not to all children. But it is not clear that in either case the purpose determined to underlie the provision of benefits was compelled by either statutory language or legislative history. For a particularly good illustration of the difference such a determination of purpose can make and the way the majority and dissent in a 5-to-4 decision read the purpose differently, *see Califano v. Boles*, 443 U.S. 282 (1979).

Fundamental Interests: The Political Process

“The States have long been held to have broad powers to determine the conditions under which the right of suffrage may be exercised. . . , absent of course the discrimination which the Constitution condemns.”⁹⁴ The Constitution provides that the qualifications of electors in congressional elections are to be determined by reference to the qualifications prescribed in the States for the electors of the most numerous branch of the legislature, and the States are authorized to determine the manner in which presidential electors are selected.⁹⁵ The second section of the Fourteenth Amendment provides for a proportionate reduction in a State’s representation in the House when it denies the franchise to its qualified male citizens⁹⁶ and specific discriminations on the basis of race, sex, and age are addressed in other Amendments. “We do not suggest that any standards which a State desires to adopt may be required of voters. But there is wide scope for exercise of its jurisdiction. Residence requirements, age, previous criminal record . . . are obvious examples indicating factors which a State may take into consideration in determining the qualification of voters. The ability to read and write likewise has some relation to standards designed to promote intelligent use of the ballot.”⁹⁷

The perspective of this 1959 opinion by Justice Douglas has now been revolutionized. “Undoubtedly, the right of suffrage is a fundamental matter in a free and democratic society. Especially since the right to exercise the franchise in a free and unimpaired manner is preservative of other basic civil and political rights, any alleged infringement of the rights of citizens to vote must be carefully and meticulously scrutinized.”⁹⁸ “Any unjustified discrimination in determining who may participate in political affairs or in the selection of public officials undermines the legitimacy of representative government. . . . Statutes granting the franchise to residents on a selective basis always pose the danger of denying

⁹⁴ *Lassiter v. Northampton County Bd. of Elections*, 360 U.S. 45, 50–51 (1959).

⁹⁵ Article I, §2, cl. 1 (House of Representatives); Seventeenth Amendment (Senators); Article II, §1, cl. 2 (presidential electors). See Article I, §4, cl. 1 and discussion *supra*, pp. 118–21.

⁹⁶ Fourteenth Amendment, §2. Justice Harlan argued that the inclusion of this provision impliedly permitted the States to discriminate with only the prescribed penalty in consequence and that therefore the equal protection clause was wholly inapplicable to state election laws. *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 589 (1964) (dissenting); *Carrington v. Rash*, 380 U.S. 89, 97 (1965) (dissenting); *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 152 (1970) (concurring and dissenting). Justice Brennan undertook a rebuttal of this position in *Oregon v. Mitchell*, *supra* at 229, 250 (concurring and dissenting). *But see Richardson v. Ramirez*, 418 U.S. 24 (1974), where §2 was relevant in precluding an equal protection challenge.

⁹⁷ *Lassiter v. Northampton County Bd. of Elections*, 360 U.S. 45, 51 (1959).

⁹⁸ *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 561–62 (1964).

some citizens any effective voice in the governmental affairs which substantially affect their lives. Therefore, if a challenged state statute grants the right to vote to some bona fide residents of requisite age and citizenship and denies the franchise to others, the Court must determine whether the exclusions are *necessary* to promote a *compelling* state interest.

“And, for these reasons, the deference usually given to the judgment of legislators does not extend to decisions concerning which resident citizens may participate in the election of legislators and other public officials. . . . [W]hen we are reviewing statutes which deny some residents the right to vote, the general presumption of constitutionality afforded state statutes and the traditional approval given state classifications if the Court can conceive of a ‘rational basis’ for the distinctions made are not applicable.”⁹⁹ Using this analytical approach, the Court has established a regime of close review of a vast range of state restrictions on the eligibility to vote, on access to the ballot by candidates and parties, and on the weighing of votes cast through the devices of apportionment and districting. Changes in Court membership over the years has led to some relaxation in the application of principles, but even as the Court has drawn back in other areas it has tended to preserve, both doctrinally and in fact, the election cases.¹⁰⁰

Voter Qualifications.—A State may require residency as a qualification to vote but since durational residency requirements impermissibly restrict the right to vote and penalize the assertion of the constitutional right to travel they are invalid.¹⁰¹ The Court indicated that the States have a justified interest in preventing fraud and in facilitating determination of the eligibility of potential

⁹⁹ *Kramer v. Union Free School Dist.*, 395 U.S. 621, 626–28 (1969). See also *Hill v. Stone*, 421 U.S. 289, 297 (1975). But cf. *Holt Civic Club v. City of Tuscaloosa*, 439 U.S. 60 (1978).

¹⁰⁰ Thus, in *San Antonio School Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1, 34–35 nn.74 & 78 (1973), a major doctrinal effort to curb the “fundamental interest” side of the “new” equal protection, the Court acknowledged that the right to vote did not come within its prescription that rights to be deemed fundamental must be explicitly or implicitly guaranteed in the Constitution. Nonetheless, citizens have a “constitutionally protected right to participate in elections” which is protected by the equal protection clause. *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330, 336 (1972). The franchise is the guardian of all other rights. *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 562 (1964).

¹⁰¹ *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330 (1972). Justice Blackmun concurred specially, *id.* at 360, Chief Justice Burger dissented, *id.* at 363, and Justices Powell and Rehnquist did not participate. The voided statute imposed a requirement of one year in the State and three months in the county. The Court did not indicate what duration less than ninety days would be permissible, although it should be noted that in the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1970, 84 Stat. 316, 42 U.S.C. § 1973aa-1, Congress prescribed a thirty-day period for purposes of voting in presidential elections. Note also that it does not matter whether one travels interstate or intrastate. *Hadnott v. Amos*, 320 F. Supp. 107 (M.D. Ala. 1970), *aff’d*, 405 U.S. 1035 (1972).

registrants and granted that durational residency requirements furthered these interests, but, it said, the State had not shown that the requirements were “necessary,” that is that the interests could not be furthered by means which imposed a lesser burden on the right to vote. Other asserted interests—knowledgeability of voters, common interests, intelligent voting—were said either not to be served by the requirements or to be impermissible interests.

A 50-day durational residency requirement was sustained in the context of the closing of the registration process at 50 days prior to elections and of the mechanics of the State’s registration process. The period, the Court found, was necessary to achieve the State’s legitimate goals.¹⁰²

A State that exercised general criminal, taxing, and other jurisdiction over persons on certain federal enclaves within the State, the Court held, could not treat these persons as nonresidents for voting purposes.¹⁰³ A statute which provided that anyone who entered military service outside the State could not establish voting residence in the State so long as he remained in the military was held to deny to such a person the opportunity such as all non-military persons enjoyed of showing that he had established residence.¹⁰⁴ Restricting the suffrage to those persons who had paid a poll tax was an invidious discrimination because it introduced a “capricious or irrelevant factor” of wealth or ability to pay into an area in which it had no place.¹⁰⁵ Extending this ruling, the Court held that the eligibility to vote in local school elections may not be limited to persons owning property in the district or who have children in school,¹⁰⁶ and denied States the right to restrict the vote

¹⁰² *Marston v. Lewis*, 410 U.S. 679 (1973). Registration was by volunteer workers who made statistically significant errors requiring corrections by county recorders before certification. Primary elections were held in the fall, thus occupying the time of the recorders, so that a backlog of registrations had to be processed before the election. A period of 50 days rather than 30, the Court thought, was justifiable. However, the same period was upheld for another State on the authority of *Marston* in the absence of such justification, but it appeared that plaintiffs had not controverted the State’s justifying evidence. *Burns v. Fortson*, 410 U.S. 686 (1973). Justices Brennan, Douglas, and Marshall dissented in both cases. *Id.* at 682, 688.

¹⁰³ *Evans v. Cornman*, 398 U.S. 419 (1970).

¹⁰⁴ *Carrington v. Rash*, 380 U.S. 89 (1965).

¹⁰⁵ *Harper v. Virginia Bd. of Elections*, 383 U.S. 663 (1966). Justices Black, Harlan, and Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 670, 680. Poll tax qualifications had previously been upheld in *Breedlove v. Suttles*, 302 U.S. 277 (1937); and *Butler v. Thompson*, 341 U.S. 937 (1951).

¹⁰⁶ *Kramer v. Union Free School Dist.*, 395 U.S. 621 (1969). The Court assumed without deciding that the franchise in some circumstances could be limited to those “primarily interested” or “primarily affected” by the outcome, but found that the restriction permitted some persons with no interest to vote and disqualified others with an interest. Justices Stewart, Black, and Harlan dissented. *Id.* at 594.

to property owners in elections on the issuance of revenue bonds¹⁰⁷ or general obligation bonds.¹⁰⁸

However, the Court held that because the activities of a water storage district fell so disproportionately on landowners as a group, a limitation of the franchise in elections for the district's board of directors to landowners, whether resident or not and whether natural persons or not, excluding non-landowning residents and lessees of land, and weighing the votes granted according to assessed valuation of land, comported with equal protection standards.¹⁰⁹ Adverting to the reservation in prior local governmental unit election cases¹¹⁰ that some functions of such units might be so specialized as to permit deviation from the usual rules, the Court then proceeded to assess the franchise restrictions according to the traditional standards of equal protection rather than by those of strict scrutiny.¹¹¹ Also narrowly approached was the issue of the effect of the District's activities, the Court focusing upon the assessments against landowners as the sole means of paying expenses rather than additionally noting the impact upon lessees and non-landowning residents of such functions as flood control. The approach taken in this case seems different in great degree from that in prior cases and could in the future alter the results in other local government cases. These cases were extended somewhat in *Ball v. James*,¹¹² in which the Court sustained a system in which voting eligibility was limited to landowners and votes were allocated to these voters on the basis of the number of acres they owned. The entity was a water reclamation district which stores and delivers water to 236,000 acres of land in the State and subsidizes its water operations by selling electricity to hundreds of thousands of consumers in a nearby metropolitan area. The entity's

¹⁰⁷ *Cipriano v. City of Houma*, 395 U.S. 701 (1969). Justices Black, Harlan, and Stewart concurred specially. *Id.* at 707.

¹⁰⁸ *City of Phoenix v. Kolodziejski*, 399 U.S. 204 (1970). Justice Stewart and Chief Justice Burger dissented. *Id.* at 215. In *Hill v. Stone*, 421 U.S. 289 (1975), the Court struck down a limitation on the right to vote on a general obligation bond issue to persons who have "rendered" or listed real, mixed, or personal property for taxation in the election district. It was not a "special interest" election since a general obligation bond issue is a matter of general interest.

¹⁰⁹ *Salyer Land Co. v. Tulare Water Storage Dist.*, 410 U.S. 719 (1973). *See also* *Associated Enterprises v. Toltec Watershed Improv. Dist.*, 410 U.S. 743 (1973) (limitation of franchise to property owners in the creation and maintenance of district upheld). Justices Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall dissented in both cases. *Id.* at 735, 745.

¹¹⁰ 410 U.S. at 727–28.

¹¹¹ *Id.* at 730, 732. Thus, the Court posited reasons that might have moved the legislature to adopt the exclusions.

¹¹² 451 U.S. 355 (1981). Joining the opinion of the Court were Justices Stewart, Powell, Rehnquist, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger. Dissenting were Justices White, Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun. *Id.* at 374.

board of directors was elected through a system in which the eligibility to vote was as described above. The Court thought the entity was a specialized and limited form to which its general franchise rulings did not apply.¹¹³

Finding that prevention of “raiding”—the practice whereby voters in sympathy with one party vote in another’s primary election in order to distort that election’s results—is a legitimate and valid state goal, as one element in the preservation of the integrity of the electoral process, the Court sustained a state law requiring those voters eligible at that time to register to enroll in the party of their choice at least 30 days before the general election in order to be eligible to vote in the party’s next primary election, 8 to 11 months hence. The law did not impose a prohibition upon voting but merely imposed a time deadline for enrollment, the Court held, and it was because of the plaintiffs’ voluntary failure to register that they did not meet the deadline.¹¹⁴ But a law which prohibited a person from voting in the primary election of a political party if he has voted in the primary election of any other party within the preceding 23 months was subjected to strict scrutiny and was voided, inasmuch as it constituted a severe restriction upon a voter’s right to associate with the party of his choice by requiring him to forgo participation in at least one primary election in order to change parties.¹¹⁵ A less restrictive “closed primary” system was also invalidated, the Court finding insufficient justification for a state’s preventing a political party from allowing independents to vote in its primary.¹¹⁶

It must not be forgotten, however, that it is only when a State extends the franchise to some and denies it to others that a “right to vote” arises and is protected by the equal protection clause. If a State chooses to fill an office by means other than through an election, neither the equal protection clause nor any other constitutional provision prevents it from doing so. Thus, in *Rodriguez v.*

¹¹³The water district cases were distinguished in *Quinn v. Millsap*, 491 U.S. 95, 109 (1989), the Court holding that a “board of freeholders” appointed to recommend a reorganization of local government had a mandate “far more encompassing” than land use issues, since its recommendations “affect[] all citizens . . . regardless of land ownership.”

¹¹⁴*Rosario v. Rockefeller*, 410 U.S. 752 (1973). Justices Powell, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall dissented. *Id.* at 763.

¹¹⁵*Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51 (1973). Justices Blackmun and Rehnquist dissented. *Id.* at 61, 65.

¹¹⁶*Tashjian v. Republican Party of Connecticut*, 479 U.S. 208 (1986). Although independents were allowed to register in a party on the day before a primary, the state’s justifications for “protect[ing] the integrity of the Party against the Party itself” were deemed insubstantial. *Id.* at 224.

Popular Democratic Party,¹¹⁷ the Court unanimously sustained a Puerto Rico statute which authorized the political party to which an incumbent legislator belonged to designate his successor in office until the next general election upon his death or resignation. Neither the fact that the seat was filled by appointment nor the fact that the appointment was by the party, rather than by the Governor or some other official, raised a constitutional question.

The right of unconvicted jail inmates and convicted misdemeanants (who typically are under no disability) to vote by absentee ballot remains unsettled. In an early case applying rational basis scrutiny, the Court held that the failure of a State to provide for absentee balloting by unconvicted jail inmates, when absentee ballots were available to other classes of voters, did not deny equal protection when it was not shown that the inmates could not vote in any other way.¹¹⁸ Subsequently, the Court held unconstitutional a statute denying absentee registration and voting rights to persons confined awaiting trial or serving misdemeanor sentences, but it is unclear whether the basis was the fact that persons confined in jails outside the county of their residences could register and vote absentee while those confined in the counties of their residences could not, or whether the statute's jumbled distinctions among categories of qualified voters on no rational standard made it wholly arbitrary.¹¹⁹

Access to the Ballot.—The equal protection clause applies to state specification of qualifications for elective and appointive office. While one may “have no right” to be elected or appointed to an office, all persons “do have a federal constitutional right to be considered for public service without the burden of invidiously discriminatory disqualification. The State may not deny to some the privilege of holding public office that it extends to others on the basis of distinctions that violate federal constitutional guaran-

¹¹⁷ 457 U.S. 1 (1982). See also *Fortson v. Morris*, 385 U.S. 231 (1966) (legislature could select Governor from two candidates having highest number of votes cast when no candidate received majority); *Sailors v. Board of Elections*, 387 U.S. 105 (1967) (appointment rather than election of county school board); *Valenti v. Rockefeller*, 292 F. Supp. 851 (S.D.N.Y. 1968) (three-judge court), *aff'd*, 393 U.S. 405 (1969) (gubernatorial appointment to fill United States Senate vacancy).

¹¹⁸ *McDonald v. Board of Election Comm'rs*, 394 U.S. 802 (1969). *But see* *Goosby v. Osser*, 409 U.S. 512 (1973) (*McDonald* does not preclude challenge to absolute prohibition on voting).

¹¹⁹ *O'Brien v. Skinner*, 414 U.S. 524 (1974). See *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767, 794–95 (1974).

tees.”¹²⁰ In *Bullock v. Carter*,¹²¹ the Court utilized a somewhat modified form of the strict test in passing upon a filing fee system for primary election candidates which imposed the cost of the election wholly on the candidates and which made no alternative provision for candidates unable to pay the fees; the reason for application of the standard, however, was that the fee system deprived some classes of voters of the opportunity to vote for certain candidates and it worked its classifications along lines of wealth. The system itself was voided because it was not reasonably connected with the State’s interest in regulating the ballot and did not serve that interest and because the cost of the election could be met out of the state treasury, thus avoiding the discrimination.¹²²

Recognizing the state interest in maintaining a ballot of reasonable length in order to promote rational voter choice, the Court observed nonetheless that filing fees alone do not test the genuineness of a candidacy or the extent of voter support for an aspirant. Therefore, effectuation of the legitimate state interest must be achieved by means that do not unfairly or unnecessarily burden the party’s or the candidate’s “important interest in the continued availability of political opportunity. The interests involved are not merely those of parties or individual candidates; the voters can assert their preferences only through candidates or parties or both and it is this broad interest that must be weighed in the balance.” “[T]he process of qualifying candidates for a place on the ballot may not constitutionally be measured solely in dollars.”¹²³ In the absence of reasonable alternative means of ballot access, the Court held, a State may not disqualify an indigent candidate unable to pay filing fees.¹²⁴

In *Clements v. Fashing*,¹²⁵ the Court sustained two provisions of state law, one that barred certain officeholders from seeking

¹²⁰ *Turner v. Fouche*, 396 U.S. 346, 362–63 (1970) (voiding a property qualification for appointment to local school board). *See also* *Chappelle v. Greater Baton Rouge Airport Dist.*, 431 U.S. 159 (1977) (voiding a qualification for appointment as airport commissioner of ownership of real or personal property that is assessed for taxes in the jurisdiction in which airport is located); *Quinn v. Millsap*, 491 U.S. 95 (1989) (voiding property ownership requirement for appointment to board authorized to propose reorganization of local government). *Cf.* *Snowden v. Hughes*, 321 U.S. 1 (1944).

¹²¹ 405 U.S. 134, 142–44 (1972).

¹²² *Id.* at 144–49.

¹²³ *Lubin v. Panish*, 415 U.S. 709, 716 (1974).

¹²⁴ Concurring, Justices Blackmun and Rehnquist suggested that a reasonable alternative would be to permit indigents to seek write-in votes without paying a filing fee, *id.* at 722, but the Court indicated this would be inadequate. *Id.* at 719 n.5.

¹²⁵ 457 U.S. 957 (1982). A plurality of four contended that save in two circumstances—ballot access classifications based on wealth and ballot access classifications imposing burdens on new or small political parties or independent candidates—limitations on candidate access to the ballot merit only traditional rational

election to the legislature during the term of office for which they had been elected or appointed, but that did not reach other officeholders whose terms of office expired with the legislators' terms and did not bar legislators from seeking other offices during their terms, and the other that automatically terminated the terms of certain officeholders who announced for election to other offices, but that did not apply to other officeholders who could run for another office while continuing to serve. The Court was splintered in such a way, however, that it is not possible to derive a principle from the decision applicable to other fact situations.

In *Williams v. Rhodes*,¹²⁶ a complex statutory structure which had the effect of keeping off the ballot all but the candidates of the two major parties was struck down under the strict test because it deprived the voters of the opportunity of voting for independent and third-party candidates and because it seriously impeded the exercise of the right to associate for political purposes. Similarly, a requirement that an independent candidate for office in order to obtain a ballot position must obtain 25,000 signatures, including 200 signatures from each of at least 50 of the State's 102 counties, was held to discriminate against the political rights of the inhabitants of the most populous counties, when it was shown that 93.4% of the registered voters lived in the 49 most populous counties.¹²⁷ But to provide that the candidates of any political organization obtaining 20% or more of the vote in the last gubernatorial or presidential election may obtain a ballot position simply by winning the party's primary election while requiring candidates of other parties or independent candidates to obtain the signatures of less than five percent of those eligible to vote at the last election for the office sought is not to discriminate unlawfully, inasmuch as

basis scrutiny, because candidacy is not a fundamental right. The plurality found both classifications met the standard. *Id.* at 962–73 (Justices Rehnquist, Powell, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger). Justice Stevens concurred, rejecting the plurality's standard, but finding that inasmuch as the disparate treatment was based solely on the State's classification of the different offices involved, and not on the characteristics of the persons who occupy them or seek them, the action did not violate the equal protection clause. *Id.* at 973. The dissent primarily focused on the First Amendment but asserted that the classifications failed even a rational basis test. *Id.* at 976 (Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Blackmun).

¹²⁶ 393 U.S. 23 (1968). "[T]he totality of the Ohio restrictive laws taken as a whole imposes a burden on voting and associational rights which we hold is an invidious discrimination, in violation of the Equal Protection Clause." *Id.* at 34. Justices Douglas and Harlan would have relied solely on the First Amendment, *id.* at 35, 41, while Justices Stewart and White and Chief Justice Warren dissented. *Id.* at 48, 61, 63.

¹²⁷ *Moore v. Ogilvie*, 394 U.S. 814 (1969) (overruling *MacDougall v. Green*, 335 U.S. 281 (1948)).

the State placed no barriers of any sort in the way of obtaining signatures and since write-in votes were also freely permitted.¹²⁸

Reviewing under the strict test the requirements for qualification of new parties and independent candidates for ballot positions, the Court recognized as valid objectives and compelling interests the protection of the integrity of the nominating and electing process, the promotion of party stability, and the assurance of a modicum of order in regulating the size of the ballot by requiring a showing of some degree of support for independents and new parties before they can get on the ballot.¹²⁹ “[T]o comply with the First and Fourteenth Amendments the State must provide a feasible opportunity for new political organizations and their candidates to appear on the ballot.”¹³⁰ Decision whether or not a state statutory structure affords a feasible opportunity is a matter of degree, “very much a matter of ‘consider[ing] the facts and circumstances behind the law, the interest which the State claims to be protecting, and the interest of those who are disadvantaged by the classification.’”¹³¹

Thus, in order to assure that parties seeking ballot space command a significant, measurable quantum of community support, Texas was upheld in treating different parties in ways rationally constructed to achieve this objective. Candidates of parties whose gubernatorial choice polled more than 200,000 votes in the last general election had to be nominated by primary elections and went on the ballot automatically, because the prior vote adequately demonstrated support. Candidates whose parties polled less than 200,000 but more than 2 percent could be nominated in primary elections or in conventions. Candidates of parties not coming within either of the first two categories had to be nominated in conventions and could obtain ballot space only if the notarized list of participants at the conventions totalled at least one percent of the total votes cast for governor in the last preceding general election or, failing this, if in the 55 succeeding days a requisite number of qualified voters signed petitions to bring the total up to one percent of the gubernatorial vote. [W]hat is demanded may not be so excessive or impractical as to be in reality a mere device to always,

¹²⁸ *Jenness v. Fortson*, 403 U.S. 431 (1971).

¹²⁹ *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724 (1974); *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767 (1974); *Illinois State Bd. of Elections v. Socialist Workers Party*, 440 U.S. 173 (1979). *And see* *Indiana Communist Party v. Whitcomb*, 414 U.S. 441 (1974) (impermissible to condition ballot access upon a political party’s willingness to subscribe to oath that party “does not advocate the overthrow of local, state or national government by force or violence,” opinion of Court based on First Amendment, four Justices concurring on equal protection grounds).

¹³⁰ *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 746 (1974).

¹³¹ *Id.* at 730 (quoting *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23, 30 (1968)).

or almost always, exclude parties with significant support from the ballot,” but the Court thought that one percent, or 22,000 signatures in 1972, “falls within the outer boundaries of support the State may require.”¹³² Similarly, independent candidates can be required to obtain a certain number of signatures as a condition to obtain ballot space.¹³³ A State may validly require that each voter participate only once in each year’s nominating process and it may therefore disqualify any person who votes in a primary election from signing nominating or supporting petitions for independent parties or candidates.¹³⁴ Equally valid is a state requirement that a candidate for elective office, as an independent or in a regular party, must not have been affiliated with a political party, or with one other than the one of which he seeks its nomination, within one year prior to the primary election at which nominations for the general election are made.¹³⁵ So too, a state may limit access to the general election ballot to candidates who received at least 1% of the primary votes cast for the particular office.¹³⁶ But it is impermissible to print the names of the candidates of the two major parties only on the absentee ballots, leaving off independents and other parties.¹³⁷ Also invalidated was a requirement that independent candidates for President and Vice-President file nominating petitions by March 20 in order to qualify for the November ballot.¹³⁸

¹³² *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767, 783 (1974). In *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 738–40 (1974), the Court remanded so that the district court could determine whether the burden imposed on an independent party was too severe, it being required in 24 days in 1972 to gather 325,000 signatures from a pool of qualified voters who had not voted in that year’s partisan primary elections. See also *Illinois State Bd. of Elections v. Socialist Workers Party*, 440 U.S. 173 (1979) (voiding provision that required a larger number of signatures to get on ballot in subdivisions than statewide).

¹³³ *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767, 788–91 (1974). The percentages varied with the office but no more than 500 signatures were needed in any event.

¹³⁴ *Id.* at 785–87.

¹³⁵ *Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 728–37 (1974). Dissenting, Justices Brennan, Douglas and Marshall thought the state interest could be adequately served by a shorter time period than a year before the primary election, which meant in effect 17 months before the general election. *Id.* at 755.

¹³⁶ *Munro v. Socialist Workers Party*, 479 U.S. 189 (1986).

¹³⁷ *American Party of Texas v. White*, 415 U.S. 767, 794–95 (1974). Upheld, however, was state financing of the primary election expenses that excluded convention expenses of the small parties. *Id.* at 791–94. But the major parties had to hold conventions simultaneously with the primary elections the cost of which they had to bear. For consideration of similar contentions in the context of federal financing of presidential elections, see *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 93–97 (1976).

¹³⁸ *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780 (1983). State interests in assuring voter education, treating all candidates equally (candidates participating in a party primary also had to declare candidacy in March), and preserving political stability, were deemed insufficient to justify the substantial impediment to independent candidates and their supporters.

Apportionment and Districting.—Prior to 1962, attacks in federal courts on the drawing of boundaries for congressional and legislative election districts or the apportionment of seats to previously existing units ran afoul of the “political question” doctrine.¹³⁹ But *Baker v. Carr*¹⁴⁰ reinterpreted the doctrine in considerable degree and opened the federal courts to voter complaints founded on unequally populated voting districts. *Wesberry v. Sanders*¹⁴¹ found in Article I, §2, of the Constitution a command that in the election of Members of the House of Representatives districts were to be made up of substantially equal numbers of persons. In six decisions handed down on June 15, 1964, the Court required the alteration of the election districts for practically all the legislative bodies in the United States.¹⁴²

“We hold that, as a basic constitutional standard, the Equal Protection Clause requires that the seats in both houses of a bicameral state legislature must be apportioned on a population basis. Simply stated, an individual’s right to vote for state legislators is unconstitutionally impaired when its weight is in a substantial fashion diluted when compared with the votes of citizens living in other parts of the State.”¹⁴³ What was required was that each

¹³⁹Supra, pp. 687–98. Applicability of the doctrine to cases of this nature was left unresolved in *Smiley v. Holm*, 285 U.S. 355 (1932), and *Wood v. Broom*, 287 U.S. 1 (1932), was supported by only a plurality in *Colegrove v. Green*, 328 U.S. 549 (1946), but became the position of the Court in subsequent cases. *Cook v. Fortson*, 329 U.S. 675 (1946); *Colegrove v. Barrett*, 330 U.S. 804 (1947); *MacDougall v. Green*, 335 U.S. 281 (1948); *South v. Peters*, 339 U.S. 276 (1950); *Hartsfield v. Sloan*, 357 U.S. 916 (1958).

¹⁴⁰369 U.S. 186 (1962).

¹⁴¹376 U.S. 1 (1964). Supra, pp. 106–08. Striking down a county unit system of electing a governor, the Court, in an opinion by Justice Douglas, had already coined a variant phrase of the more popular “one man, one vote.” “The conception of political equality from the Declaration of Independence to Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, to the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Nineteenth Amendments can mean only one thing—one person, one vote.” *Gray v. Sanders*, 372 U.S. 368, 381 (1963).

¹⁴²*Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533 (1964); *WMCA, Inc. v. Lomenzo*, 377 U.S. 633 (1964); *Maryland Comm. for Fair Representation v. Tawes*, 377 U.S. 656 (1964); *Donis v. Mann*, 377 U.S. 678 (1964); *Roman v. Sincock*, 377 U.S. 695 (1964); *Lucas v. Forty-Fourth General Assembly of Colorado*, 377 U.S. 713 (1964). In the last case, the Court held that approval of the apportionment plan in a vote of the people was insufficient to preserve it from constitutional attack. “An individual’s constitutionally protected right to cast an equally weighed vote cannot be denied even by a vote of a majority of a State’s electorate, if the apportionment scheme adopted by the voters fails to measure up to the requirements of the Equal Protection Clause.” *Id.* at 736. Justice Harlan dissented wholly, denying that the equal protection clause had any application at all to apportionment and districting and contending that the decisions were actually the result of a “reformist” nonjudicial attitude on the part of the Court. 377 U.S. at 589. Justices Stewart and Clark dissented in two and concurred in four cases on the basis of their view that the equal protection clause was satisfied by a plan that was rational and that did not systematically frustrate the majority will. 377 U.S., 741, 744.

¹⁴³*Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 568 (1964).

State “make an honest and good faith effort to construct districts, in both houses of its legislature, as nearly of equal population as is practicable. We realize that it is a practical impossibility to arrange legislative districts so that each one has an identical number of residents, or citizens, or voters. Mathematical exactness or precision is hardly a workable constitutional requirement.”¹⁴⁴

Among the principal issues raised by these decisions were which units were covered by the principle, to what degree of exactness population equality had to be achieved, and to what other elements of the apportionment and districting process the equal protection clause extended.

The first issue has largely been resolved, although some few problem areas persist. It has been held that a school board the members of which were appointed by boards elected in units of disparate populations and which exercised only administrative powers rather than legislative powers was not subject to the principle of the apportionment ruling.¹⁴⁵ *Avery v. Midland County*¹⁴⁶ held that when a State delegates lawmaking power to local government and provides for the election by district of the officials to whom the power is delegated, the districts must be established of substantially equal populations. But in *Hadley v. Junior College District*,¹⁴⁷ the Court abandoned much of the limitation which was explicit in these two decisions and held that whenever a State chooses to vest “governmental functions” in a body and to elect the members of that body from districts, the districts must have substantially equal populations. The “governmental functions” should not be characterized as “legislative” or “administrative” or necessarily important or unimportant; it is the fact that members of the body are elected from districts which triggers the application.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁴ *Id.* at 577.

¹⁴⁵ *Sailors v. Board of Education*, 387 U.S. 105 (1967).

¹⁴⁶ 390 U.S. 474 (1968). Justice Harlan continued his dissent from the *Reynolds* line of cases, *id.* at 486, while Justices Fortas and Stewart called for a more discerning application and would not have applied the principle to the county council here. *Id.* at 495, 509.

¹⁴⁷ 397 U.S. 50 (1970). The governmental body here was the board of trustees of a junior college district. Justices Harlan and Stewart and Chief Justice Burger dissented. *Id.* at 59, 70.

¹⁴⁸ The Court observed that there might be instances “in which a State elects certain functionaries whose duties are so far removed from normal governmental activities and so disproportionately affect different groups that a popular election in compliance with *Reynolds* supra, might not be required. . . .” *Id.* at 56. For cases involving such units, see *Salyer Land Co. v. Tulare Water Storage Dist.*, 410 U.S. 719 (1973); *Associated Enterprises v. Toltec Watershed Imp. Dist.*, 410 U.S. 743 (1973); *Ball v. James*, 451 U.S. 355 (1981). Judicial districts need not comply with *Reynolds*. *Wells v. Edwards*, 347 F. Supp. 453 (M.D. La. 1972) (three-judge court), *aff'd. per curiam*, 409 U.S. 1095 (1973).

The second issue has been largely but not precisely resolved. In *Swann v. Adams*,¹⁴⁹ the Court set aside a lower court ruling “for the failure of the State to present or the District Court to articulate acceptable reasons for the variations among the populations of the various legislative districts. . . . *De minimis* deviations are unavoidable, but variations of 30% among senate districts and 40% among house districts can hardly be deemed *de minimis* and none of our cases suggests that differences of this magnitude will be approved without a satisfactory explanation grounded on acceptable state policy.” Two congressional district cases were disposed of on the basis of *Swann*,¹⁵⁰ but when the Court ruled that no congressional districting could be approved without a “good-faith effort to achieve precise mathematical equality” or the justification of “each variance, no matter how small,¹⁵¹ it did not then purport to utilize this standard in judging legislative apportionment and districting.¹⁵² And in *Abate v. Mundt*¹⁵³ the Court approved a plan for apportioning a county governing body which permitted a substantial population disparity, explaining that in the absence of a built-in bias tending to favor any particular area or interest, a plan could take account of localized factors in justifying deviations from equality which might in other circumstances cause the invalidation of a plan.¹⁵⁴ The total population deviation allowed in *Abate* was 11.9%; the Court refused,

¹⁴⁹ 385 U.S. 440, 443–44 (1967). See also *Kilgarlin v. Hill*, 386 U.S. 120 (1967).

¹⁵⁰ *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*, 385 U.S. 450 (1967); *Duddleston v. Grills*, 385 U.S. 455 (1967).

¹⁵¹ *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*, 394 U.S. 526, 530–31 (1969); *Wells v. Rockefeller*, 394 U.S. 542 (1969). *Supra*, pp. 107–08. The Court has continued to adhere to this strict standard for congressional districting, voiding a plan in which the maximum deviation between largest and smallest district was 0.7%, or 3,674 persons. *Karcher v. Daggett*, 462 U.S. 725 (1983) (rejecting assertion that deviations less than estimated census error are necessarily permissible).

¹⁵² The Court relied on *Swann* in disapproving of only slightly smaller deviations (roughly 28% and 25%) in *Whitcomb v. Chavis*, 403 U.S. 124, 161–63 (1971). In *Connor v. Williams*, 404 U.S. 549, 550 (1972), the Court said of plaintiffs’ reliance on *Preisler* and *Wells* that “these decisions do not squarely control the instant appeal since they do not concern state legislative apportionment, but they do raise substantial questions concerning the constitutionality of the District Court’s plan as a design for permanent apportionment.”

¹⁵³ 403 U.S. 182 (1971).

¹⁵⁴ It should also be noted that while the Court has used total population figures for purposes of computing variations between districts, it did approve in *Burns v. Richardson*, 384 U.S. 73 (1966), the use of eligible voter population as the basis for apportioning in the context of a State with a large transient military population, but with the caution that such a basis would be permissible only so long as the results did not diverge substantially from that obtained by using a total population base. Merely discounting for military populations was disapproved in *Davis v. Mann*, 377 U.S. 678, 691 (1964), but whether some more precise way of distinguishing between resident and nonresident population would be constitutionally permissible is unclear. *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*, 394 U.S. 526, 534 (1969); *Hadley v. Junior College Dist.*, 397 U.S. 50, 57 n.9 (1970).

however, to extend *Abate* to approve a total deviation of 78% resulting from an apportionment plan providing for representation of each of New York City's five boroughs on the New York City Board of Estimate.¹⁵⁵

Nine years after *Reynolds v. Sims*, the Court reexamined the population equality requirement of the apportionment cases. Relying upon language in prior decisions that distinguished legislative apportionment from congressional districting as possibly justifying different standards of permissible deviations from equality, the Court held that more flexibility is constitutionally permissible with respect to the former than to the latter.¹⁵⁶ But it was in determining how much greater flexibility was permissible that the Court moved in new directions. First, applying the traditional standard of rationality rather than the strict test of compelling necessity, the Court held that a maximum 16.4% deviation from equality of population was justified by the State's policy of maintaining the integrity of political subdivision lines, or according representation to subdivisions *qua* subdivisions, because the legislature was responsible for much local legislation.¹⁵⁷ Second, just as the first case "demonstrates, population deviations among districts may be sufficiently large to require justification but nonetheless be justified and legally sustainable. It is now time to recognize . . . that minor deviations from mathematical equality among state legislative districts are insufficient to make out a *prima facie* case of invidious

¹⁵⁵ *New York City Bd. of Estimate v. Morris*, 489 U.S. 688 (1989). Under the plan each of the City's five boroughs was represented on the board by its president and each of these members had one vote; three citywide elected officials (the mayor, the comptroller, and the president of the city council) were also placed on the board and given two votes apiece (except that the mayor had no vote on the acceptance or modification of his budget proposal). The Court also ruled that, when measuring population deviation for a plan that mixes at-large and district representation, the at-large representation must be taken into account. *Id.* at 699–701.

¹⁵⁶ *Mahan v. Howell*, 410 U.S. 315, 320–25 (1973).

¹⁵⁷ *Id.* at 325–30. The Court indicated that a 16.4% deviation "may well approach tolerable limits." *Id.* at 329. Dissenting, Justices Brennan, Douglas, and Marshall would have voided the plan; additionally, they thought the deviation was actually 23.6% and that the plan discriminated geographically against one section of the State, an issue not addressed by the Court. In *Chapman v. Meier*, 420 U.S. 1, 21–26 (1975), holding that a 20% variation in a court-developed plan was not justified, the Court indicated that such a deviation in a legislatively-produced plan would be quite difficult to justify. *See also Summers v. Cenarrusa*, 413 U.S. 906 (1973) (vacating and remanding for further consideration the approval of a 19.4% deviation). In *Brown v. Thomson*, 462 U.S. 835 (1983), the Court held that a consistent state policy assuring each county at least one representative can justify substantial deviation from population equality when only the marginal impact of representation for the state's least populous county was challenged (the effect on plaintiffs, voters in larger districts, was that they would elect 28 of 64 members rather than 28 of 63), but there was indication in Justice O'Connor's concurring opinion that a broader-based challenge to the plan, which contained a 16% average deviation and an 89% maximum deviation, could have succeeded.

discrimination under the Fourteenth Amendment so as to require justification by the State.”¹⁵⁸ This recognition of a *de minimis* deviation, below which no justification was necessary, was mandated, the Court felt, by the margin of error in census statistics, by the population change over the ten-year life of an apportionment, and by the relief it afforded federal courts able thus to avoid over-involvement in essentially a political process. The “goal of fair and effective representation” is furthered by eliminating gross population variations among districts, but it is not achieved by mathematical equality solely. Other relevant factors are to be taken into account.¹⁵⁹ But when a judicially-imposed plan is to be formulated upon state default, it “must ordinarily achieve the goal of population equality with little more than *de minimis* variation” and deviations from approximate population equality must be supported by enunciation of historically significant state policy or unique features.¹⁶⁰

Gerrymandering and the permissible use of multimember districts present examples of the third major issue. It is clear that racially based gerrymandering is unconstitutional under the Fifteenth Amendment, at least when it is accomplished through the manipulation of district lines.¹⁶¹ Partisan gerrymandering raised more difficult issues. Several lower courts ruled that the issue was beyond judicial cognizance,¹⁶² and the Supreme Court itself, upholding an apportionment plan frankly admitted to have been drawn with the intent to achieve a rough approximation of the

¹⁵⁸ *Gaffney v. Cummings*, 412 U.S. 735, 745 (1973). The maximum deviation was 7.83%. The Court did not precisely indicate at what point a deviation had to be justified, but it applied the *de minimis* standard in *White v. Regester*, 412 U.S. 755 (1973), in which the maximum deviation was 9.9%. “Very likely, larger differences between districts would not be tolerable without justifications.” *Id.* at 764. Justices Brennan, Douglas, and Marshall dissented. *See also* *Brown v. Thomson*, 462 U.S. 835, 842 (1983): “Our decisions have established, as a general matter, that an apportionment plan with a maximum population deviation under 10% falls within [the] category of minor deviations [insufficient to make out a *prima facie* case].”

¹⁵⁹ *Gaffney v. Cummings*, 412 U.S. 735, 748 (1973). By contrast, the Court has held that estimated margin of error for census statistics does not justify deviation from population equality in congressional districting. *Karcher v. Daggett*, 462 U.S. 725 (1983).

¹⁶⁰ *Chapman v. Meier*, 420 U.S. 1, 21–27 (1975). The Court did say that court-ordered reapportionment of a state legislature need not attain the mathematical preciseness required for congressional redistricting. *Id.* at 27 n.19. Apparently, therefore, the Court’s reference to both “*de minimis*” variations and “approximate population equality” must be read as referring to some range approximating the *Gaffney* principle. *See also* *Connor v. Finch*, 431 U.S. 407 (1977).

¹⁶¹ *Gomillion v. Lightfoot*, 364 U.S. 339 (1960); *Wright v. Rockefeller*, 376 U.S. 52 (1964); *Sims v. Baggett*, 247 F. Supp. 96 (M.D. Ala. 1965) (three-judge court).

¹⁶² E.g., *WMCA, Inc. v. Lomenzo*, 238 F. Supp. 916 (S.D.N.Y. 1965) (three-judge court), *aff’d*, 382 U.S. 4 (1965); *Sincock v. Gately*, 262 F. Supp. 739 (D. Del. 1967) (three-judge court).

statewide political strengths of the two parties, recognized the goal as legitimate and observed that, while the manipulation of apportionment and districting is not wholly immune from judicial scrutiny, “we have not ventured far or attempted the impossible task of extirpating politics from what are the essentially political processes of the sovereign States.”¹⁶³

More recently, however, in a decision of potentially major import reminiscent of *Baker v. Carr*, the Court in *Davis v. Bandemer*¹⁶⁴ ruled that partisan gerrymandering in state legislative redistricting is justiciable under the Equal Protection Clause. But although the vote was 6 to 3 in favor of justiciability, a majority of Justices could not agree on the proper test for determining whether particular gerrymandering is unconstitutional, and the lower court’s holding of unconstitutionality was reversed by vote of 7 to 2.¹⁶⁵ Thus, while courthouse doors are now ajar for claims of partisan gerrymandering, it is unclear what it will take to succeed on the merits. On the justiciability issue, the Court viewed the “political question” criteria as no more applicable than they had been in *Baker v. Carr*. Because *Reynolds v. Sims* had declared “fair and effective representation for all citizens”¹⁶⁶ to be “the basic aim of legislative apportionment,” and because racial gerrymandering issues had been treated as justiciable, the Court viewed the representational issues raised by partisan gerrymandering as indistinguishable. Agreement as to the existence of “judicially discoverable and manageable standards for resolving” gerrymandering issues, however, did not result in a consensus as to what those standards are.¹⁶⁷ While a majority of Justices agreed that discriminatory ef-

¹⁶³ *Gaffney v. Cummings*, 412 U.S. 735, 751, 754 (1973).

¹⁶⁴ 478 U.S. 109 (1986). The vote on justiciability was 6–3, with Justice White’s opinion of the Court being joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens. This represented an apparent change of view by 3 of the majority Justices, who just 2 years earlier had denied that “the existence of noncompact or gerrymandered districts is by itself a constitutional violation.” *Karcher v. Daggett*, 466 U.S. 910, 917 (1983) (Justice Brennan, joined by Justices White and Marshall, dissenting from denial of stay in challenge to district court’s rejection of a remedial districting plan on the basis that it contained “an intentional gerrymander”).

¹⁶⁵ Only Justices Powell and Stevens thought the Indiana redistricting plan void; Justice White, joined by Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun, thought the record inadequate to demonstrate continuing discriminatory impact, and Justice O’Connor, joined by Chief Justice Burger and by Justice Rehnquist, would have ruled that partisan gerrymandering is nonjusticiable as constituting a political question not susceptible to manageable judicial standards.

¹⁶⁶ 377 U.S. 533, 565–66 (1964). This phrase has had a life of its own in the commentary. See D. Alfange, Jr., *Gerrymandering and the Constitution: Into the Thorns of the Thicket at Last*, 1986 SUP. CT. REV. 175, and sources cited therein. It is not clear from its original context, however, that the phrase was coined with such broad application in mind.

¹⁶⁷ The quotation is from the *Baker v. Carr* measure for existence of a political question, 369 U.S. 186, 217 (1962).

fect as well as discriminatory intent must be shown, there was significant disagreement as to what constitutes discriminatory effect. Justice White's plurality opinion suggested that there need be "evidence of continued frustration of the will of a majority of the voters or effective denial to a minority of voters of a fair chance to influence the political process."¹⁶⁸ Moreover, continued frustration of the chance to influence the political process can not be demonstrated by the results of only one election; there must be a history of disproportionate results or a finding that such results will continue. Justice Powell, joined by Justice Stevens, did not formulate a strict test, but suggested that "a heavy burden of proof" should be required, and that courts should look to a variety of factors as they relate to "the fairness of a redistricting plan" in determining whether it contains invalid gerrymandering. Among these factors are the shapes of the districts, adherence to established subdivision lines, statistics relating to vote dilution, the nature of the legislative process by which the plan was formulated, and evidence of intent revealed in legislative history.¹⁶⁹

It had been thought that the use of multimember districts to submerge racial, ethnic, and political minorities might be treated differently,¹⁷⁰ but in *Whitcomb v. Chavis*¹⁷¹ the Court, while dealing with the issue on the merits, so enveloped it in strict standards of proof and definitional analysis as to raise the possibility that it might be beyond judicial review.

In *Chavis* the Court held that inasmuch as the multimember districting represented a state policy of more than 100 years observance and could not therefore be said to be motivated by racial or political bias, only an actual showing that the multimember delegation in fact inadequately represented the allegedly submerged minority would suffice to raise a constitutional question. But the Court also rejected as impermissible the argument that any interest group had any sort of right to be represented in a legislative body, in proportion to its members' numbers or on some other basis, so that the failure of that group to elect anyone merely meant that alone or in combination with other groups it simply lacked the strength to obtain enough votes, whether the election be

¹⁶⁸ 478 U.S. at 133. Joining in this part of the opinion were Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun.

¹⁶⁹ 478 U.S. at 173. A similar approach had been proposed in Justice Stevens' concurring opinion in *Karcher v. Daggett*, 462 U.S. 725, 744 (1983).

¹⁷⁰ *Fortson v. Dorsey*, 379 U.S. 433, 439 (1965); *Burns v. Richardson*, 384 U.S. 73, 88–89 (1965); *Kilgarlin v. Hill*, 386 U.S. 120, 125 n.3 (1967).

¹⁷¹ 403 U.S. 124 (1971). Justice Harlan concurred specially, *id.* at 165, and Justices Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall, dissented, finding racial discrimination in the operation of the system. *Id.* at 171.

in single-member or in multimember districts. That fact of life was not of constitutional dimension, whether the group was composed of blacks, or Republicans or Democrats, or some other category of persons. Thus, the submerging argument was rejected, as was the argument of a voter in another county that the Court should require uniform single-member districting in populous counties because voters in counties which elected large delegations in blocs had in effect greater voting power than voters in other districts; this argument the Court found too theoretical and too far removed from the actualities of political life.

Subsequently, and surprisingly in light of *Chavis*, the Court in *White v. Regester*¹⁷² affirmed a district court invalidation of the use of multimember districts in two Texas counties on the ground that, when considered in the totality of the circumstances of discrimination in registration and voting and in access to other political opportunities, such use denied African Americans and Mexican Americans the opportunity to participate in the election process in a reliable and meaningful manner.¹⁷³

Doubt was cast on the continuing vitality of *White v. Regester*, however, by the badly split opinion of the Court in *City of Mobile v. Bolden*.¹⁷⁴ A plurality undermined the earlier case in two respects, although it is not at all clear that a majority of the Court had been or could be assembled on either point. First, the plurality argued that an intent to discriminate on the part of the redistricting body must be shown before multimember districting can be held to violate the equal protection clause.¹⁷⁵ Second, the plurality read *White v. Regester* as being consistent with this principle and the various factors developed in that case to demonstrate the existence of unconstitutional discrimination to be in fact indicia of intent; however, the plurality seemingly disregarded the totality of

¹⁷² 412 U.S. 755, 765–70 (1973).

¹⁷³ “To sustain such claims, it is not enough that the racial group allegedly discriminated against has not had legislative seats in proportion to its voting potential. The plaintiffs’ burden is to produce evidence to support findings that the political processes leading to nomination and election were not equally open to participation by the group in question—that its members had less opportunity than did other residents in the district to participate in the political processes and to elect legislators of their choice.” *Id.* at 765–66.

¹⁷⁴ 446 U.S. 55 (1980). On Congress’ response to the case, *see supra*, pp. 1818–19; *infra*, p. 1936.

¹⁷⁵ *Id.* at 65–68 (Justices Stewart, Powell, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger). On intent versus impact analysis, *see supra*, pp. 1815–20. Justices Blackmun and Stevens concurred on other grounds, *id.* at 80, 83, and Justices White, Brennan, and Marshall dissented. *Id.* at 94, 103. Justice White agreed that purposeful discrimination must be found, *id.* at 101, while finding it to have been shown, Justice Blackmun assumed that intent was required, and Justices Stevens, Brennan, and Marshall would not so hold.

circumstances test utilized in *Regester* and evaluated instead whether each factor alone was sufficient proof of intent.¹⁷⁶

Again switching course, the Court in *Rogers v. Lodge*¹⁷⁷ approved the findings of the lower courts that a multimember electoral system for electing a county board of commissioners was being maintained for a racially discriminatory purpose, although it had not been instituted for that purpose. Applying a totality of the circumstances test, and deferring to lower court factfinding, the Court, in an opinion by one of the *Mobile* dissenters, canvassed a range of factors which it held could combine to show a discriminatory motive, and largely overturned the limitations which the *Mobile* plurality had attempted to impose in this area. With the enactment of federal legislation specifically addressed to the issue of multimember districting and dilution of the votes of racial minorities, however, it may be that the Court will have little further opportunity to develop the matter in the context of constitutional litigation.¹⁷⁸ In *Thornburg v. Gingles*,¹⁷⁹ the Court held that multimember districting violates § 2 of the Voting Rights Act by diluting the voting power of a racial minority when that minority is “sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute a majority in a single-member district,” when it is politically cohesive, and when block voting by the majority “usually” defeats preferred candidates of the minority.

Finally, it should be said that the Court has approved the discretionary exercise of equity powers by the lower federal courts in drawing district boundaries and granting other relief in districting and apportionment cases,¹⁸⁰ although that power is bounded by

¹⁷⁶ *Id.* at 68–74. Four Justices rejected this view of the plurality, while Justice Stevens also appeared to do so but followed a mode of analysis significantly different than that of any other Justice.

¹⁷⁷ 458 U.S. 613 (1982). Joining the opinion of the Court were Justices White, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger. Dissenting were Justices Powell and Rehnquist, *id.* at 628, and Justice Stevens. *Id.* at 631.

¹⁷⁸ On the legislation, *see supra*, pp. 1818–19; *infra*, p. 1936.

¹⁷⁹ 478 U.S. 30, 50–51 (1986). Use of multimember districting for purposes of political gerrymandering was at issue in *Davis v. Bandemer*, 478 U.S. 109 (1986), decided the same day as *Gingles*, but there was no agreement as to the appropriate constitutional standard. A plurality led by Justice White relied on the *Whitcomb v. Chavis* reasoning, suggesting that proof that multimember districts were constructed for the advantage of one political party falls short of the necessary showing of deprivation of opportunity to participate in the electoral process. 478 U.S. at 136–37. Two Justices thought the proof sufficient for a holding of invalidity, the minority party having won 46% of the vote but only 3 of 21 seats from the multimember districts, and “the only discernible pattern [being] the appearance of these districts in areas where their winner-take-all aspects can best be employed to debase [one party’s] voting strength,” (*id.* at 179–80, Justices Powell and Stevens), and three Justices thought political gerrymandering claims to be nonjusticiable.

¹⁸⁰ *E.g.*, *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533, 586–87 (1964); *Sixty-Seventh Minnesota State Senate v. Beens*, 406 U.S. 187, 195–200 (1972); *White v. Weiser*, 412

the constitutional violations found, so that courts do not have *carte blanche*, and they should ordinarily respect the structural decisions made by state legislatures and the state constitutions.¹⁸¹

Weighing of Votes.—It is not the weighing of votes but the manner in which it is done which brings the equal protection clause into play. *Gray v. Sanders*¹⁸² struck down the Georgia county unit system under which each county was allocated either two, four, or six votes in statewide elections and the candidate carrying the county received those votes. Since there were a few very populous counties and scores of poorly-populated ones, the rural counties in effect dominated statewide elections and candidates with popular majorities statewide could be and were defeated. But *Gordon v. Lance*¹⁸³ approved a provision requiring a 60 percent affirmative vote in a referendum election before constitutionally prescribed limits on bonded indebtedness or tax rates could be exceeded. The Court acknowledged that the provision departed from strict majority rule but stated that the Constitution did not prescribe majority rule; it instead proscribed discrimination through dilution of voting power or denial of the franchise because of some class characteristic—race, urban residency, or the like—while the provision in issue was neither directed to nor affected any identifiable class.

The Right to Travel

Durational Residency Requirements.—A durational residency requirement creates two classes of persons: those who have been within the State for the prescribed period and those who have not been.¹ But persons who have moved recently, at least from

U.S. 783, 794–95 (1973); *Upham v. Seamon*, 456 U.S. 37, 41–42 (1982). When courts draw their own plans, the court is held to tighter standards than is a legislature and has to observe smaller population deviations and utilize single-member districts more than multimember ones. *Connor v. Johnson*, 402 U.S. 690, 692 (1971); *Chapman v. Meier*, 420 U.S. 1, 14–21 (1975); *Wise v. Lipscomb*, 437 U.S. 535, 540 (1978). *Cf. Mahan v. Howell*, 410 U.S. 315, 333 (1973).

¹⁸¹ E.g., *Sixty-Seventh Minnesota State Senate v. Beens*, 406 U.S. 187 (1972) (reduction of numbers of members); *Whitcomb v. Chavis*, 403 U.S. 124, 160–61 (1971) (disregard of policy of multimember districts not found unconstitutional); *White v. Weiser*, 412 U.S. 783, 794–95 (1973); *Upham v. Seamon*, 406 U.S. 37 (1982). *But see Karcher v. Daggett*, 466 U.S. 910 (1983) (denying cert. over dissent's suggestion that court-adopted congressional districting plan had strayed too far from the structural framework of the legislature's invalidated plan).

¹⁸² 372 U.S. 368 (1963).

¹⁸³ 403 U.S. 1 (1971).

¹ *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330, 334 (1972). Inasmuch as the right to travel is implicated by state distinctions between residents and nonresidents, the relevant constitutional provision is the privileges and immunities clause, Article IV, §2, cl. 1.

State to State,² have exercised a right protected by the Constitution of the United States, and the durational residency classification either deters the exercise of the right or penalizes those who have exercised the right.³ Any such classification is invalid “unless shown to be necessary to promote a *compelling governmental interest*.”⁴ The constitutional right to travel has long been recognized,⁵ but it is only relatively recently that the strict standard of equal protection review has been applied to nullify those durational residency provisions which have been brought before the Court.

Thus, in *Shapiro v. Thompson*,⁶ durational residency requirements conditioning eligibility for welfare assistance on one year’s residence in the State⁷ were voided. If the purpose of the requirements was to inhibit migration by needy persons into the State or to bar the entry of those who came from low-paying States to higher-paying ones in order to collect greater benefits, the Court said, the purpose was impermissible.⁸ If on the other hand the purpose was to serve certain administrative and related governmental objectives—the facilitation of the planning of budgets, the provision of an objective test of residency, minimization of opportunity for fraud, and encouragement of early entry of new residents into the labor force—the requirements were rationally related to the pur-

² Intrastate travel is protected to the extent that the classification fails to meet equal protection standards in some respect. *Compare* *Hadnott v. Amos*, 320 F. Supp. 107 (M.D. Ala. 1970) (three-judge court), *aff’d. per curiam*, 405 U.S. 1035 (1972), *with* *Arlington County Bd. v. Richards*, 434 U.S. 5 (1977). The same principle applies in the commerce clause cases, in which discrimination may run against in-state as well as out-of-state concerns. *Cf.* *Dean Milk Co. v. City of Madison*, 340 U.S. 349 (1951).

³ *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 629–31, 638 (1969); *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330, 338–42 (1972); *Memorial Hospital v. Maricopa County*, 415 U.S. 250 (1974); *Jones v. Helms*, 452 U.S. 412, 420–21 (1981). *See also* *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 236–39 (1970) (Justices Brennan, White, and Marshall), and *id.* at 285–92 (Justices Stewart and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger).

⁴ *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 634 (1969) (emphasis by Court); *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365, 375–76 (1971).

⁵ *Crandall v. Nevada*, 73 U.S. (6 Wall.) 35 (1868); *Edwards v. California*, 314 U.S. 160 (1941) (both cases in context of direct restrictions on travel). The source of the right to travel and the reasons for reliance on the equal protection clause are questions puzzled over and unresolved by the Court. *United States v. Guest*, 383 U.S. 745, 758, 759 (1966), and *id.* at 763–64 (Justice Harlan concurring and dissenting), *id.* at 777 n.3 (Justice Brennan concurring and dissenting); *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 629–31 (1969), and *id.* at 671 (Justice Harlan dissenting); *San Antonio School Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1, 31–32 (1973); *Jones v. Helms*, 452 U.S. 412, 417–19 (1981); *Zobel v. Williams*, 457 U.S. 55, 60 & n.6 (1982), and *id.* at 66–68 (Justice Brennan concurring), 78–81 (Justice O’Connor concurring).

⁶ 394 U.S. 618 (1969).

⁷ The durational residency provision established by Congress for the District of Columbia was also voided. *Id.* at 641–42.

⁸ *Id.* at 627–33. *Gaddis v. Wyman*, 304 F. Supp. 717 (N.D.N.Y. 1969), *aff’d sub nom.* *Wyman v. Bowens*, 397 U.S. 49 (1970), struck down a provision construed so as to bar only persons who came into the State solely to obtain welfare assistance.

pose but they were not *compelling* enough to justify a classification which infringed on a fundamental interest.⁹ Similarly, in *Dunn v. Blumstein*,¹⁰ where the durational residency requirements denied the franchise to newcomers, the assertion of such administrative justifications was constitutionally insufficient to justify the classification.

However, a state one-year durational residency requirement for the initiation of a divorce proceeding was sustained in *Sosna v. Iowa*.¹¹ While it is not clear what the precise basis of the ruling is, it appears that the Court found that the State's interest in requiring that those who seek a divorce from its courts be genuinely attached to the State and its desire to insulate divorce decrees from the likelihood of collateral attack justified the requirement.¹² Similarly, durational residency requirements for lower in-state tuition at public colleges have been held constitutionally justifiable, again, however, without a clear statement of reason.¹³

A state scheme for returning to its residents a portion of the income earned from the vast oil deposits discovered within Alaska foundered upon the formula for allocating the dividends; that is, each adult resident received one unit of return for each year of residency subsequent to 1959, the first year of Alaska's statehood. The law thus created fixed, permanent distinctions between an ever-in-

⁹ 394 U.S. at 633–38. *Shapiro* was reaffirmed in *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365 (1971) (striking down durational residency requirements for aliens applying for welfare assistance), and in *Memorial Hospital v. Maricopa County*, 415 U.S. 250 (1974) (voiding requirement of one year's residency in county as condition to indigent's receiving nonemergency hospitalization or medical care at county's expense). When Connecticut and New York reinstated the requirements, pleading a financial emergency as the compelling state interest, they were summarily rebuffed. *Rivera v. Dunn*, 329 F. Supp. 554 (D. Conn. 1971), *aff'd per curiam*, 404 U.S. 1054 (1972); *Lopez v. Wyman*, Civ. No. 1971–308 (W.D.N.Y. 1971), *aff'd per curiam*, 404 U.S. 1055 (1972). The source of the funds, state or federal, is irrelevant to application of the principle. *Pease v. Hansen*, 404 U.S. 70 (1971).

¹⁰ 405 U.S. 330 (1972). *But see* *Marston v. Lewis*, 410 U.S. 679 (1973), and *Burns v. Fortson*, 410 U.S. 686 (1973). Durational residency requirements of five and seven years respectively for candidates for elective office were sustained in *Kanapaux v. Ellisor*, 419 U.S. 891 (1974), and *Sununu v. Stark*, 420 U.S. 958 (1975).

¹¹ 419 U.S. 393 (1975). Justices Marshall and Brennan dissented on the merits. *Id.* at 418.

¹² *Id.* at 409. But the Court also indicated that the plaintiff was not absolutely barred from the state courts, but merely required to wait for access (which was true in the prior cases as well and there held immaterial), and that possibly the state interests in marriage and divorce were more exclusive and thus more immune from federal constitutional attack than were the matters at issue in the previous cases. The Court also did not indicate whether it was using strict or traditional scrutiny.

¹³ *Starns v. Malkerson*, 326 F. Supp. 234 (D.Minn. 1970), *aff'd per curiam*, 401 U.S. 985 (1971). *Cf.* *Vlandis v. Kline*, 412 U.S. 441, 452 & n.9 (1973), and *id.* at 456, 464, 467 (*dicta*). In *Memorial Hospital v. Maricopa County*, 415 U.S. 250, 256 (1974), the Court, noting the results, stated that "some waiting periods . . . may not be penalties" and thus would be valid.

creasing number of classes of bona fide residents based on how long they had been in the State. The differences between the durational residency cases previously decided did not alter the bearing of the right to travel principle upon the distribution scheme, but the Court's decision went off on the absence of any permissible purpose underlying the apportionment classification and it thus failed even the rational basis test.¹⁴

Unresolved still are issues such as durational residency requirements for occupational licenses and other purposes.¹⁵ Too, it should be noted that this line of cases does not apply to state residency requirements themselves, as distinguished from durational provisions,¹⁶ and the cases do not inhibit the States when, having reasons for doing so, they bar travel by certain persons.¹⁷

Marriage and Familial Relations

In *Zablocki v. Redhail*,¹⁸ importing into equal protection analysis the doctrines developed in substantive due process, the Court identified the right to marry as a "fundamental interest" that necessitates "critical examination" of governmental restrictions which "interfere directly and substantially" with the right.¹⁹ Struck down was a statute that prohibited any resident under an obligation to support minor children from marrying without a court order; such order could only be obtained upon a showing that the support obligation had been and was being complied with and that the children were not and were not likely to become public charges. The plaintiff was an indigent wishing to marry but prevented from doing so because he was not complying with a court order to pay support to an illegitimate child he had fathered, and because the child was re-

¹⁴ *Zobel v. Williams*, 457 U.S. 55 (1982). Somewhat similar was the Court's invalidation on equal protection grounds of a veterans preference for state employment limited to persons who were state residents when they entered military service; four Justices also thought the preference penalized the right to travel. *Attorney General of New York v. Soto-Lopez*, 476 U.S. 898 (1986).

¹⁵ *La Tourette v. McMaster*, 248 U.S. 465 (1919), upholding a two-year residence requirement to become an insurance broker, must be considered of questionable validity. Durational periods for admission to the practice of law or medicine or other professions have evoked differing responses by lower courts.

¹⁶ E.g., *McCarthy v. Philadelphia Civil Service Comm'n*, 424 U.S. 645 (1976) (ordinance requiring city employees to be and to remain city residents upheld). See *Memorial Hospital v. Maricopa County*, 415 U.S. 250, 255 (1974). See also *Martinez v. Bynum*, 461 U.S. 321 (1983) (bona fide residency requirement for free tuition to public schools).

¹⁷ *Jones v. Helms*, 452 U.S. 412 (1981) (statute made it a misdemeanor to abandon a dependent child but a felony to commit the offense and then leave the State).

¹⁸ 434 U.S. 374 (1978).

¹⁹ Although the Court's due process decisions have broadly defined a protected liberty interest in marriage and family, no previous case had held marriage to be a fundamental right occasioning strict scrutiny. *Id.* at 396, 397 (Justice Powell concurring).

ceiving public assistance. Applying “critical examination,” the Court observed that the statutory prohibition could not be sustained unless it was justified by sufficiently important state interests and was closely tailored to effectuate only those interests.²⁰ Two interests were offered that the Court was willing to accept as legitimate and substantial: requiring permission under the circumstances furnished an opportunity to counsel applicants on the necessity of fulfilling support obligations, and the process protected the welfare of children who needed support, either by providing an incentive to make support payments or by preventing applicants from incurring new obligations through marriage. The first interest was not served, the Court found, there being no provision for counseling and no authorization of permission to marry once counseling had taken place. The second interest was found not to be effectuated by the means. Alternative devices to collect support existed, the process simply prevented marriage without delivering any money to the children, and it singled out obligations incurred through marriage without reaching any other obligations.

Other restrictions that relate to the incidents of or prerequisites for marriage were carefully distinguished by the Court as neither entitled to rigorous scrutiny nor put in jeopardy by the decision.²¹ For example, in *Califano v. Jobst*,²² a unanimous Court sustained a Social Security provision that revoked disabled dependents’ benefits of any person who married, except when the person married someone who was also entitled to receive disabled dependents’ benefits. Plaintiff, a recipient of such benefits, married someone who was also disabled but not qualified for the benefits, and his benefits were terminated. He sued, alleging that distinguishing between classes of persons who married eligible persons and who married ineligible persons infringed upon his right to marry. The Court rejected the argument, finding that benefit entitlement was not based upon need but rather upon actual dependency upon the insured wage earner; marriage, Congress could have assumed, generally terminates the dependency upon a parent-wage earner. Therefore, it was permissible as an administrative convenience to make marriage the terminating point but to make an exception

²⁰ Id. at 388. Although the passage is not phrased in the usual compelling interest terms, the concurrence and the dissent so viewed it without evoking disagreement from the Court. Id. at 396 (Justice Powell), 403 (Justice Stevens), 407 (Justice Rehnquist). Justices Powell and Stevens would have applied intermediate scrutiny to void the statute, both for its effect on the ability to marry and for its impact upon indigents. Id. at 400, 406 n.10.

²¹ Id. at 386–87. Chief Justice Burger thought the interference here was “intentional and substantial,” whereas the provision in *Jobst* was neither. Id. at 391 (concurring).

²² 434 U.S. 47 (1977).

when both marriage partners were receiving benefits, as a means of lessening hardship and recognizing that dependency was likely to continue. The marriage rule was therefore not to be strictly scrutinized or invalidated “simply because some persons who might otherwise have married were deterred by the rule or because some who did marry were burdened thereby.”²³

It seems obvious, therefore, that the determination of marriage and familial relationships as fundamental will be a fruitful beginning of litigation in the equal protection area.²⁴

Poverty and Fundamental Interests: The Intersection of Due Process and Equal Protection

Generally.—Whatever may be the status of wealth distinctions *per se* as a suspect classification,²⁵ there is no doubt that when the classification affects some area characterized as or considered to be fundamental in nature in the structure of our polity—the ability of criminal defendants to obtain fair treatment throughout the system, the right to vote, to name two examples—then the classifying body bears a substantial burden in justifying what it has done. The cases begin with *Griffin v. Illinois*,²⁶ surely one of the most seminal cases in modern constitutional law. There, the State conditioned full direct appellate review, review as to which all convicted defendants were entitled, on the furnishing of a bill of exceptions or report of the trial proceedings, in the preparation of which the stenographic transcript of the trial was usually essential. Only indigent defendants sentenced to death were furnished free transcripts; all other convicted defendants had to pay a fee to obtain them. “In criminal trials,” Justice Black wrote in the plurality opinion, “a State can no more discriminate on account of pov-

²³Id. at 54. See also *Mathews v. De Castro*, 429 U.S. 181 (1976) (provision giving benefits to a married woman under 62 with dependent children in her care whose husband retires or becomes disabled but denying them to a divorced woman under 62 with dependents represents a rational judgment by Congress with respect to likely dependency of married but not divorced women and does not deny equal protection); *Califano v. Boles*, 443 U.S. 282 (1979) (limitation of certain Social Security benefits to widows and divorced wives of wage earners does not deprive mother of illegitimate child who was never married to wage earner of equal protection).

²⁴See, e.g., *Quilloin v. Walcott*, 434 U.S. 246 (1978) (State’s giving to father of legitimate child who is divorced or separated from mother while denying to father of illegitimate child a veto over the adoption of the child by another does not under the circumstances deny equal protection. The circumstances were that the father never exercised custody over the child or shouldered responsibility for his supervision, education, protection, or care, although he had made some support payments and given him presents). Accord, *Lehr v. Robertson*, 463 U.S. 248 (1983).

²⁵*San Antonio School Dist. v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 1 (1973).

²⁶351 U.S. 12 (1956). The opinion of the court was joined by Justices Black, Douglas, and Clark, and Chief Justice Warren. Justice Frankfurter concurred. Id. at 20. Justices Burton, Minton, Reed, and Harlan dissented. Id. at 26, 29.

erty than on account of religion, race, or color.” While the State was not obligated to provide an appeal at all, when it does so it may not structure its system “in a way that discriminates against some convicted defendants on account of their poverty.” The system’s fault was that it treated defendants with money differently than it treated defendants without money. “There can be no equal justice where the kind of trial a man gets depends on the amount of money he has.”²⁷

The principle of *Griffin* was extended in *Douglas v. California*,²⁸ in which the court held to be a denial of due process and equal protection a system whereby in the first appeal as of right from a conviction counsel was appointed to represent indigents only if the appellate court first examined the record and determined that counsel would be of advantage to the appellant. “There is lacking that equality demanded by the Fourteenth Amendment where the rich man, who appeals as of right, enjoys the benefit of counsel’s examination into the record, research of the law, and marshaling of arguments on his behalf, while the indigent, already burdened by a preliminary determination that his case is without merit, is forced to shift for himself.”²⁹

From the beginning, Justice Harlan opposed reliance on the equal protection clause at all, arguing that a due process analysis was the proper criterion to follow. “It is said that a State cannot discriminate between the ‘rich’ and the ‘poor’ in its system of criminal appeals. That statement of course commands support, but it hardly sheds light on the true character of the problem confronting us here. . . . All that Illinois has done is to fail to alleviate the consequences of differences in economic circumstances that exist wholly apart from any state action.” A fee system neutral on its face was not a classification forbidden by the equal protection clause.

²⁷Id. at 17, 18, 19. Although Justice Black was not explicit, it seems clear that the system was found to violate both the due process and the equal protection clauses. Justice Frankfurter’s concurrence dealt more expressly with the premise of the Black opinion. “It does not face actuality to suggest that Illinois affords every convicted person, financially competent or not, the opportunity to take an appeal, and that it is not Illinois that is responsible for disparity in material circumstances. Of course, a State need not equalize economic conditions. . . . But when a State deems it wise and just that convictions be susceptible to review by an appellate court, it cannot by force of its exactions draw a line which precludes convicted indigent persons, forsooth erroneously convicted, from securing such a review merely by disabling them from bringing to the notice of an appellate tribunal errors of the trial court which would upset the conviction were practical opportunity for review not foreclosed.” Id. at 23.

²⁸372 U.S. 353 (1963). Justice Clark dissented, protesting the Court’s “new fetish for indigency,” id. at 358, 359, and Justices Harlan and Stewart dissented. Id. at 360.

²⁹Id. at 357–58.

“[N]o economic burden attendant upon the exercise of a privilege bears equally upon all, and in other circumstances the resulting differentiation is not treated as an invidious classification by the State, even though discrimination against ‘indigents’ by name would be unconstitutional.”³⁰ As he protested in *Douglas*: “The States, of course, are prohibited by the Equal Protection Clause from discriminating between ‘rich’ and ‘poor’ *as such* in the formulation and application of their laws. But it is a far different thing to suggest that this provision prevents the State from adopting a law of general applicability that may affect the poor more harshly than it does the rich, or, on the other hand, from making some effort to redress economic imbalances while not eliminating them entirely.”³¹

Due process furnished the standard, Justice Harlan felt, for determining whether fundamental fairness had been denied. Where an appeal was barred altogether by the imposition of a fee, the line might have been crossed to unfairness, but on the whole he did not see that a system which merely recognized differences between and among economic classes, which as in *Douglas* made an effort to ameliorate the fact of the differences by providing appellate scrutiny of cases of right, was a system which denied due process.³²

The Court has reiterated that both due process and equal protection concerns are implicated by restrictions on indigents’ exercise of the right of appeal. “In cases like *Griffin* and *Douglas*, due process concerns were involved because the States involved had set up a system of appeals as of right but had refused to offer each defendant a fair opportunity to obtain an adjudication on the merits of his appeal. Equal protection concerns were involved because the State treated a class of defendants—indigent ones—differently for purposes of offering them a meaningful appeal.”³³

Criminal Procedure.—“[I]t is now fundamental that, once established . . . avenues [of appellate review] must be kept free of unreasoned distinctions that can only impede open and equal access to the courts.”³⁴ “In all cases the duty of the State is to provide the indigent as adequate and effective an appellate review as that given appellants with funds. . . .”³⁵ No State may condition the right to appeal³⁶ or the right to file a petition for *habeas cor-*

³⁰ *Griffin v. Illinois*, 351 U.S. 12, 34, 35 (1956).

³¹ *Douglas v. California*, 372 U.S. 353, 361 (1963).

³² *Id.* at 363–67.

³³ *Evitts v. Lucey*, 469 U.S. 387, 405 (1985) (holding that due process requires that counsel provided for appeals as of right must be effective).

³⁴ *Rinaldi v. Yeager*, 384 U.S. 305, 310 (1966).

³⁵ *Draper v. Washington*, 372 U.S. 487, 496 (1963).

³⁶ *Burns v. Ohio*, 360 U.S. 252 (1959); *Douglas v. Green*, 363 U.S. 192 (1960).

*pus*³⁷ or other form of postconviction relief upon the payment of a docketing fee or some other type of fee when the petitioner has no means to pay. Similarly, although the States are not required to furnish full and complete transcripts of their trials to indigents when excerpted versions or some other adequate substitute is available, if a transcript is necessary to adequate review of a conviction, either on appeal or through procedures for postconviction relief, the transcript must be provided to indigent defendants or to others unable to pay.³⁸ This right may not be denied by drawing a felony-misdemeanor distinction or by limiting it to those cases in which confinement is the penalty.³⁹ A defendant's right to counsel is to be protected as well as the similar right of the defendant with funds.⁴⁰ The right to counsel on appeal necessarily means the right to *effective* assistance of counsel.⁴¹

But, deciding a point left unresolved in *Douglas*, the Court held that neither the due process nor the equal protection clause required a State to furnish counsel to a convicted defendant seeking, after he had exhausted his appeals of right, to obtain discretionary review of his case in the State's higher courts or in the United States Supreme Court. Due process fairness does not re-

³⁷ *Smith v. Bennett*, 365 U.S. 708 (1961).

³⁸ *Griffin v. Illinois*, 351 U.S. 12 (1956); *Eskridge v. Washington State Bd. of Prison Terms & Paroles*, 357 U.S. 214 (1958) (unconstitutional to condition free transcript upon trial judge's certification that "justice will thereby be promoted"); *Draper v. Washington*, 372 U.S. 487 (1963) (unconstitutional to condition free transcript upon judge's certification that the allegations of error were not "frivolous"); *Lane v. Brown*, 372 U.S. 477 (1963) (unconstitutional to deny free transcript upon determination of public defender that appeal was in vain); *Long v. District Court*, 385 U.S. 192 (1966) (indigent prisoner entitled to free transcript of his habeas corpus proceeding for use on appeal of adverse decision therein); *Gardner v. California*, 393 U.S. 367 (1969) (on filing of new habeas corpus petition in appellate court upon an adverse nonappealable habeas ruling in a lower court where transcript was needed, one must be provided an indigent prisoner). See also *Rinaldi v. Yeager*, 384 U.S. 305 (1966). For instances in which a transcript was held not to be needed, see *Britt v. North Carolina*, 404 U.S. 266 (1971); *United States v. MacCollom*, 426 U.S. 317 (1976).

³⁹ *Williams v. Oklahoma City*, 395 U.S. 458 (1969); *Mayer v. City of Chicago*, 404 U.S. 189 (1971).

⁴⁰ *Douglas v. California*, 372 U.S. 353 (1963); *Swenson v. Bosler*, 386 U.S. 258 (1967); *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967); *Entsminger v. Iowa*, 386 U.S. 748 (1967). A rule requiring a court-appointed appellate counsel to file a brief explaining reasons why he concludes that a client's appeal is frivolous does not violate the client's right to assistance of counsel on appeal. *McCoy v. Court of Appeals*, 486 U.S. 429 (1988). The right is violated if the court allows counsel to withdraw by merely certifying that the appeal is "meritless" without also filing an *Anders* brief supporting the certification. *Penson v. Ohio*, 488 U.S. 75 (1988). On the other hand, since there is no constitutional right to counsel for indigent prisoners seeking postconviction collateral relief, there is no requirement that withdrawal be justified in an *Anders* brief if a state has provided counsel for postconviction proceedings. *Pennsylvania v. Finley*, 481 U.S. 551 (1987) (counsel advised the court that there were no arguable bases for collateral relief).

⁴¹ *Evitts v. Lucey*, 469 U.S. 387 (1985).

quire that after an appeal has been provided the State must always provide counsel to indigents at every stage. “Unfairness results only if indigents are singled out by the State and denied meaningful access to that system because of their poverty.” That essentially equal protection issue was decided against the defendant in the context of an appellate system in which one appeal could be taken as of right to an intermediate court, with counsel provided if necessary, and in which further appeals might be granted not primarily upon any conclusion about the result below but upon considerations of significant importance.⁴² Not even death row inmates have a constitutional right to an attorney to prepare a petition for collateral relief in state court.⁴³

This right to legal assistance, especially in the context of the constitutional right to the writ of habeas corpus, means that in the absence of other adequate assistance, as through a functioning public defender system, a State may not deny prisoners legal assistance of another inmate⁴⁴ and it must make available certain minimal legal materials.⁴⁵

The Criminal Sentence.—A convicted defendant may not be imprisoned solely because of his indigency. *Williams v. Illinois*⁴⁶ held that it was a denial of equal protection for a State to extend the term of imprisonment of a convicted defendant beyond the statutory maximum provided because he was unable to pay the fine which was also levied upon conviction. And *Tate v. Short*⁴⁷ held that in situations in which no term of confinement is prescribed for an offense but only a fine, the court may not jail persons who cannot pay the fine, unless it is impossible to develop an alternative, such as installment payments or fines scaled to ability to pay. Willful refusal to pay may, however, be punished by confinement.

⁴² *Ross v. Moffitt*, 417 U.S. 600 (1974). See also *Fuller v. Oregon*, 417 U.S. 40 (1974) (statute providing, under circumscribed conditions, that indigent defendant, who receives state-compensated counsel and other assistance for his defense, who is convicted, and who subsequently becomes able to repay costs, must reimburse State for costs of his defense in no way operates to deny him assistance of counsel or the equal protection of the laws).

⁴³ *Murray v. Giarratano*, 492 U.S. 1 (1989) (upholding Virginia’s system under which “unit attorneys” assigned to prisons are available for some advice prior to the filing of a claim, and a personal attorney is assigned if an inmate succeeds in filing a petition with at least one non-frivolous claim).

⁴⁴ *Johnson v. Avery*, 393 U.S. 483 (1969).

⁴⁵ *Younger v. Gilmore*, 404 U.S. 15 (1971); *Bounds v. Smith*, 430 U.S. 817 (1977).

⁴⁶ 399 U.S. 235 (1970).

⁴⁷ 401 U.S. 395 (1971). The Court has not yet treated a case in which the permissible sentence is “\$30 or 30 days” or some similar form where either confinement or a fine will satisfy the State’s penal policy.

Voting.—Treatment of indigency in a civil type of “fundamental interest” analysis came in *Harper v. Virginia Board of Elections*,⁴⁸ in which it was held that “a State violates the Equal Protection Clause . . . whenever it makes the affluence of the voter or payment of any fee an electoral standard. Voter qualifications have no relation to wealth nor to paying or not paying this or any other tax.” The Court emphasized both the fundamental interest in the right to vote and the suspect character of wealth classifications. “[W]e must remember that the interest of the State, when it comes to voting, is limited to the power to fix qualifications. Wealth, like race, creed, or color, is not germane to one’s ability to participate intelligently in the electoral process. Lines drawn on the basis of wealth or property, like those of race . . . are traditionally disfavored.”⁴⁹

The two factors—classification in effect along wealth lines and adverse effect upon the exercise of the franchise—were tied together in *Bullock v. Carter*⁵⁰ in which the setting of high filing fees for certain offices was struck down upon analysis by a stricter standard than the traditional equal protection standard but apparently a somewhat lesser standard than the compelling state interest test. The Court held that the high filing fees were not rationally related to the State’s interest in allowing only serious candidates on the ballot since some serious candidates could not pay the fees while some frivolous candidates could and that the State could not finance the costs of holding the elections from the fees when the voters were thereby deprived of their opportunity to vote for candidates of their preferences.

Extending *Bullock*, the Court has held it impermissible for a State to deny indigents, and presumably other persons unable to pay filing fees, a place on the ballot for failure to pay filing fees, however reasonable in the abstract the fees may be. A State must provide such persons a reasonable alternative for getting on the ballot.⁵¹ Similarly, a sentencing court in revoking probation must consider alternatives to incarceration if the reason for revocation is the inability of the indigent to pay a fine or restitution.⁵²

⁴⁸ 383 U.S. 663, 666 (1966). The poll tax required to be paid as a condition of voting was \$1.50 annually. Justices Black, Harlan, and Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 670, 680.

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 668. The Court observed that “the right to vote is too precious, too fundamental to be so burdened or conditioned.” *Id.* at 670.

⁵⁰ 405 U.S. 134 (1972).

⁵¹ *Lubin v. Panish*, 415 U.S. 709 (1974). Note that the Court indicated that *Bullock* was decided on the basis of restrained review. *Id.* at 715.

⁵² *Bearden v. Georgia*, 461 U.S. 660 (1983).

Access to Courts.—In *Boddie v. Connecticut*,⁵³ Justice Harlan carried a majority of the Court with him in utilizing a due process analysis to evaluate the constitutionality of a State's filing fees in divorce actions which a group of welfare assistance recipients attacked as preventing them from obtaining divorces. The Court found that when the State monopolized the avenues to a pacific settlement of a dispute over a fundamental matter such as marriage—only the State could terminate the marital status—then it denied due process by inflexibly imposing fees which kept some persons from using that avenue. Justice Harlan's opinion averred that a facially neutral law or policy which did in fact deprive an individual of a protected right would be held invalid even though as a general proposition its enforcement served a legitimate governmental interest. The opinion concluded with a cautioning observation that the case was not to be taken as establishing a general right to access to the courts.

The *Boddie* opinion left unsettled whether a litigant's interest in judicial access to effect a pacific settlement of some dispute was an interest entitled to some measure of constitutional protection as a value of independent worth or whether a litigant must be seeking to resolve a matter involving a fundamental interest in the only forum in which any resolution was possible. Subsequent decisions established that the latter answer was the choice of the Court. In *United States v. Kras*,⁵⁴ the Court held that the imposition of filing fees which blocked the access of an indigent to a discharge of his debts in bankruptcy denied the indigent neither due process nor equal protection. The marital relationship in *Boddie* was a fundamental interest, the Court said, and upon its dissolution depended associational interests of great importance; however, an interest in the elimination of the burden of debt and in obtaining a new start in life, while important, did not rise to the same constitutional level as marriage. Moreover, a debtor's access to relief in bankruptcy had not been monopolized by the government to the same degree as dissolution of a marriage; one may, "in theory, and often in actuality," manage to resolve the issue of his debts by some other means, such as negotiation. While the alternatives in many cases, such as *Kras*, seem barely likely of successful pursuit, the Court seemed to be suggesting that absolute preclusion was a necessary element before a right of access could be considered.⁵⁵

⁵³ 401 U.S. 371 (1971).

⁵⁴ 409 U.S. 434 (1973).

⁵⁵ *Id.* at 443–46. The equal protection argument was rejected by utilizing the traditional standard of review, bankruptcy legislation being placed in the area of economics and social welfare, and the use of fees to create a self-sustaining bankruptcy system being considered to be a rational basis. Dissenting, Justice Stewart

Subsequently, on the initial appeal papers and without hearing oral argument, the Court summarily upheld the application to indigents of filing fees that in effect precluded them from appealing decisions of a state administrative agency reducing or terminating public assistance.⁵⁶

Educational Opportunity.—Making even clearer its approach in *de facto* wealth classification cases, the Court in *San Antonio School District v. Rodriguez*⁵⁷ rebuffed an intensive effort with widespread support in lower court decisions to invalidate the system prevalent in 49 of the 50 States of financing schools primarily out of property taxes, with the consequent effect that the funds available to local school boards within each state were widely divergent. Plaintiffs had sought to bring their case within the strict scrutiny—compelling state interest doctrine of equal protection review by claiming that under the tax system there resulted a *de facto* wealth classification that was “suspect” or that education was a “fundamental” right and the disparity in educational financing could not therefore be justified. The Court held, however, that there was neither a suspect classification nor a fundamental interest involved, that the system must be judged by the traditional restrained standard, and that the system was rationally related to the State’s interest in protecting and promoting local control of education.⁵⁸

Important as the result of the case is, the doctrinal implications are far more important. The attempted denomination of wealth as a suspect classification failed on two levels. First, the Court noted that plaintiffs had not identified the “class of dis-

argued that *Boddie* required a different result, denied that absolute preclusion of alternatives was necessary, and would have evaluated the importance of an interest asserted rather than providing that it need be fundamental. *Id.* at 451. Justice Marshall’s dissent was premised on an asserted constitutional right to be heard in court, a constitutional right of access regardless of the interest involved. *Id.* at 458. Justices Douglas and Brennan concurred in Justice Stewart’s dissent, as indeed did Justice Marshall.

⁵⁶ *Ortwein v. Schwab*, 410 U.S. 656 (1973). The division was the same 5-to-4 that prevailed in *Kras*. See also *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56 (1972). But cases involving the *Boddie* principle do continue to arise. *Little v. Streater*, 452 U.S. 1 (1981) (in paternity suit that State required complainant to initiate, indigent defendant entitled to have State pay for essential blood grouping test); *Lassiter v. Department of Social Services*, 452 U.S. 18 (1981) (recognizing general right of appointed counsel in indigent parents when State seeks to terminate parental status, but using balancing test to determine that right was not present in this case).

⁵⁷ 411 U.S. 1 (1973). The opinion by Justice Powell was concurred in by the Chief Justice and Justices Stewart, Blackmun, and Rehnquist. Justices Douglas, Brennan, White, and Marshall dissented. *Id.* at 62, 63, 70.

⁵⁸ *Id.* at 44–55. Applying the rational justification test, Justice White would have found that the system did not use means rationally related to the end sought to be achieved. *Id.* at 63.

advantaged ‘poor’” in such a manner as to further their argument. That is, the Court found that the existence of a class of poor persons, however defined, did not correlate with property-tax-poor districts; neither as an absolute nor as a relative consideration did it appear that tax-poor districts contained greater numbers of poor persons than did property-rich districts, except in random instances. Second, the Court held, there must be an absolute deprivation of some right or interest rather than merely a relative one before the deprivation because of inability to pay will bring into play strict scrutiny. “The individuals, or groups of individuals, who constituted the class discriminated against in our prior cases shared two distinguishing characteristics: because of their impecuniosity they were completely unable to pay for some desired benefit, and as a consequence, they sustained an absolute deprivation of a meaningful opportunity to enjoy that benefit.”⁵⁹ No such class had been identified here and more importantly no one was being absolutely denied an education; the argument was that it was a lower quality education than that available in other districts. Even assuming that to be the case, however, it did not create a suspect classification.

Education is an important value in our society, the Court agreed, being essential to the effective exercise of freedom of expression and intelligent utilization of the right to vote. But a right to education is not expressly protected by the Constitution, continued the Court, nor should it be implied simply because of its undoubted importance. The quality of education increases the effectiveness of speech or the ability to make informed electoral choice but the judiciary is unable to determine what level of quality would be sufficient. Moreover, the system under attack did not deny educational opportunity to any child, whatever the result in that case might be; it was attacked for providing relative differences in spending and those differences could not be correlated with differences in educational quality.⁶⁰

Rodriguez clearly promised judicial restraint in evaluating challenges to the provision of governmental benefits when the effect is relatively different because of the wealth of some of the recipients or potential recipients and when the results, what is obtained, vary in relative degrees. Wealth or indigency is not a *per se* suspect classification but it must be related to some interest that is fundamental, and *Rodriguez* doctrinally imposed a considerable

⁵⁹Id. at 20. *But see* id. at 70, 117–24 (Justices Marshall and Douglas dissenting).

⁶⁰Id. at 29–39. *But see* id. at 62 (Justice Brennan dissenting), 70, 110–17 (Justices Marshall and Douglas dissenting).

barrier to the discovery or creation of additional fundamental interests. As the decisions reviewed earlier with respect to marriage and the family reveal, that barrier has not held entirely firm, but within a range of interests, such as education,⁶¹ the case remains strongly viable. Relying on *Rodriguez* and distinguishing *Plyler*, the Court in *Kadrmas v. Dickinson Public Schools*⁶² rejected an indigent student's equal protection challenge to a state statute permitting school districts to charge a fee for school bus service, in the process rejecting arguments that either "strict" or "heightened" scrutiny is appropriate. Moreover, the Court concluded, there is no constitutional obligation to provide bus transportation, or to provide it for free if it is provided at all.⁶³

Abortion.—*Rodriguez* furnished the principal analytical basis for the Court's subsequent decision in *Maher v. Roe*,⁶⁴ holding that a State's refusal to provide public assistance for abortions that were not medically necessary under a program that subsidized all medical expenses otherwise associated with pregnancy and childbirth did not deny to indigent pregnant women equal protection of the laws. As in *Rodriguez*, it was held that the indigent are not a suspect class.⁶⁵ Again, as in *Rodriguez* and in *Kras*, it was held that when the State has not monopolized the avenues for relief and the burden is only relative rather than absolute, a governmental failure to offer assistance, while funding alternative actions, is not undue governmental interference with a fundamental right.⁶⁶ Expansion of this area of the law of equal protection seems especially limited.

SECTION 2. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting

⁶¹ Cf. *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982). The case is also noted for its proposition that there were only two equal protection standards of review, a proposition even the author of the opinion has now abandoned.

⁶² 487 U.S. 450 (1988). This was a 5–4 decision, with Justice O'Connor's opinion of the Court being joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justices White, Scalia, and Kennedy, and with Justices Marshall, Brennan, Stevens, and Blackmun dissenting.

⁶³ 487 U.S. at 462. The plaintiff child nonetheless continued to attend school, so the requirement was reviewed as an additional burden but not a complete obstacle to her education.

⁶⁴ 432 U.S. 464 (1977).

⁶⁵ *Id.* at 470–71.

⁶⁶ *Id.* at 471–74. See also *Harris v. McRae*, 448 U.S. 297, 322–23 (1980). Total deprivation was the theme of *Boddie* and was the basis of concurrences by Justices Stewart and Powell in *Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374, 391, 396 (1978), in that the State imposed a condition indigents could not meet and made no exception for them. The case also emphasized that *Dandridge v. Williams*, 397 U.S. 471 (1970), imposed a rational basis standard in equal protection challenges to social welfare cases. *But see Califano v. Goldfarb*, 430 U.S. 199 (1977), where the majority rejected the dissent's argument that this should always be the same.

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

APPORTIONMENT OF REPRESENTATION

With the abolition of slavery by the Thirteenth Amendment, the African Americans formerly counted as three-fifths of persons would be fully counted in the apportionment of seats in the House of Representatives, increasing as well the electoral vote, there appeared the prospect that politically the readmitted Southern States would gain the advantage in Congress when combined with Democrats from the North. Inasmuch as the South was adamantly opposed to African American suffrage, all the congressmen would be elected by whites. Many wished to provide for the enfranchisement of the African American and proposals to this effect were voted on in both the House and the Senate, but only a few Northern States permitted African Americans to vote and a series of referenda on the question in Northern States revealed substantial white hostility to the proposal. Therefore, a compromise was worked out, to effect a reduction in the representation of any State which discriminated against males in the franchise.⁶⁷

No serious effort was ever made in Congress to effectuate § 2, and the only judicial attempt was rebuffed.⁶⁸ With subsequent constitutional amendments adopted and the utilization of federal coer-

⁶⁷ See generally J. JAMES, *THE FRAMING OF THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT* (1956).

⁶⁸ *Saunders v. Wilkins*, 152 F.2d 235 (4th Cir. 1945), cert. denied, 328 U.S. 870 (1946).

cive powers to enfranchise persons, the section is little more than an historical curiosity.⁶⁹

However, in *Richardson v. Ramirez*,⁷⁰ the Court relied upon the implied approval of disqualification upon conviction of crime to uphold a state law disqualifying convicted felons for the franchise even after the service of their terms. It declined to assess the state interests involved and to evaluate the necessity of the rule, holding rather that because of §2 the equal protection clause was simply inapplicable.

SECTION 3. No Person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But congress may by a vote of two thirds of each House, remove such disability.

SECTION 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obliga-

⁶⁹The section did furnish a basis to Justice Harlan to argue that inasmuch as §2 recognized a privilege to discriminate subject only to the penalty provided, the Court was in error in applying §1 to questions relating to the franchise. Compare *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 152 (1970) (Justice Harlan concurring and dissenting), with *id.* at 229, 250 (Justice Brennan concurring and dissenting). The language of the section recognizing 21 as the usual minimum voting age no doubt played some part in the Court's decision in *Oregon v. Mitchell* as well. It should also be noted that the provision relating to "Indians not taxed" is apparently obsolete now in light of an Attorney General ruling that all Indians are subject to taxation. 39 Op. Att'y Gen. 518 (1940).

⁷⁰418 U.S. 24 (1974). Justices Marshall, Douglas, and Brennan dissented. *Id.* at 56, 86.

tion incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

DISQUALIFICATION AND PUBLIC DEBT

The right to remove disabilities imposed by this section was exercised by Congress at different times on behalf of enumerated individuals.⁷¹ In 1872, the disabilities were removed, by a blanket act, from all persons “except Senators and Representatives of the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congresses, officers in the judicial, military and naval service of the United States, heads of departments, and foreign ministers of the United States.”⁷² Twenty-six years later, Congress enacted that “the disability imposed by section 3 . . . incurred heretofore, is hereby removed.”⁷³

Although §4 “was undoubtedly inspired by the desire to put beyond question the obligations of the Government issued during the Civil War, its language indicates a broader connotation. . . . ‘[T]he validity of the public debt’. . . [embraces] whatever concerns the integrity of the public obligations,” and applies to government bonds issued after as well as before adoption of the Amendment.⁷⁴

SECTION 5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

ENFORCEMENT

Generally.—In the aftermath of the Civil War, Congress, in addition to proposing to the States the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and

⁷¹ E.g., and notably, the Private Act of December 14, 1869, ch.1, 16 Stat. 607.

⁷² Ch. 193, 17 Stat. 142.

⁷³ Act of June 6, 1898, ch. 389, 30 Stat. 432. Legislation by Congress providing for removal was necessary to give effect to the prohibition of §3, and until removed in pursuance of such legislation persons in office before promulgation of the Fourteenth Amendment continued to exercise their functions lawfully. *Griffin’s Case*, 11 Fed. Cas. 7 (C.C.D.Va. 1869) (No. 5815). Nor were persons who had taken part in the Civil War and had been pardoned by the President before the adoption of this Amendment precluded by this section from again holding office under the United States. 18 Op. Att’y Gen. 149 (1885). On the construction of “engaged in rebellion,” see *United States v. Powell*, 27 Fed. Cas. 605 (C.C.D.N.C. 1871) (No. 16,079).

⁷⁴ *Perry v. United States*, 294 U.S. 330, 354 (1935), in which the Court concluded that the Joint Resolution of June 5, 1933, insofar as it attempted to override the gold-clause obligation in a Fourth Liberty Loan Gold Bond “went beyond the congressional power.” On a Confederate bond problem, see *Branch v. Haas*, 16 F. 53 (C.C.M.D. Ala. 1883) (citing *Hanauer v. Woodruff*, 82 U.S. (15 Wall.) 439 (1873), and *Thorington v. Smith*, 75 U.S. (8 Wall.) 1 (1869)). See also *The Pietro Campanella*, 73 F. Supp. 18 (D. Md. 1947).

Fifteenth Amendments, enacted seven statutes designed in a variety of ways to implement the provisions of these Amendments.⁷⁵ Several of these laws were general civil rights statutes which broadly attacked racial and other discrimination on the part of private individuals and groups as well as by the States, but the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional or rendered ineffective practically all of these laws over the course of several years.⁷⁶ In the end, Reconstruction was abandoned and with rare exceptions no cases were brought under the remaining statutes until fairly recently.⁷⁷ Beginning with the Civil Rights Act of 1957, however, Congress generally acted pursuant to its powers under the commerce clause⁷⁸ until Supreme Court decisions indicated an expansive concept of congressional power under the Civil War Amendments,⁷⁹ which culminated in broad provisions against private interference with civil rights in the 1968 legislation.⁸⁰ The story of these years is largely an account of the "state action" doctrine in terms of its limitation on congressional powers;⁸¹ lately, it is the still-unfolding history of the lessening of the doctrine combined with a judicial vesting of discretion in Congress to reinterpret the scope and content of the rights guaranteed in these three constitutional amendments.

State Action.—In enforcing by appropriate legislation the Fourteenth Amendment guarantees against state denials, Congress

⁷⁵ Civil Rights Act of 1866, ch. 31, 14 Stat. 27; the Enforcement Act of 1870, ch. 114, 16 Stat. 140; Act of February 28, 1871, ch. 99, 16 Stat. 433; the Ku Klux Klan Act of 1871, ch. 22, 17 Stat. 13; Civil Rights Act of 1875, 18 Stat. 335. The modern provisions surviving of these statutes are 18 U.S.C. §§241, 242, 42 U.S.C. §§1981–83, 1985–1986, and 28 U.S.C. §1343. Two lesser statutes were the Slave Kidnapping Act of 1866, ch. 86, 14 Stat. 50, and the Peonage Abolition Act, ch. 187, 14 Stat. 546, 18 U.S.C. §§1581–88, and 42 U.S.C. §1994.

⁷⁶ See generally R. CARR, FEDERAL PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS: QUEST FOR A SWORD (1947).

⁷⁷ For cases under 18 U.S.C. §§241 and 242 in their previous codifications, see *United States v. Mosley*, 238 U.S. 383 (1915); *United States v. Gradwell*, 243 U.S. 476 (1917); *United States v. Bathgate*, 246 U.S. 220 (1918); *United States v. Wheeler*, 254 U.S. 281 (1920). The resurgence of the use of these statutes began with *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299 (1941), and *Screws v. United States*, 325 U.S. 91 (1945).

⁷⁸ The 1957 and 1960 Acts primarily concerned voting; the public accommodations provisions of the 1964 Act and the housing provisions of the 1968 Act were premised on the commerce power.

⁷⁹ *United States v. Guest*, 383 U.S. 745 (1966); *Katzenbach v. Morgan*, 384 U.S. 641 (1966). The development of congressional enforcement powers in these cases was paralleled by a similar expansion of the enforcement powers of Congress with regard to the Thirteenth Amendment, *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409 (1968), *supra*, pp. 1554–55, and the Fifteenth Amendment. *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301 (1966), *infra*, pp. 1946–50.

⁸⁰ 82 Stat. 73, 18 U.S.C. §245. The statute has yet to receive its constitutional testing.

⁸¹ On the "state action" doctrine in the context of the direct application of 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment, see *supra*, pp. 1786–1802.

has the discretion to adopt remedial measures, such as authorizing persons being denied their civil rights in state courts to remove their cases to federal courts,⁸² and to provide criminal⁸³ and civil⁸⁴ liability for state officials and agents⁸⁵ or persons associated with them⁸⁶ who violate protected rights. These statutory measures designed to eliminate discrimination “under color of law”⁸⁷ present no problems of constitutional foundation, although there may well be other problems of application.⁸⁸ But the Reconstruction Congresses did not stop with statutory implementation of rights guaranteed against state infringement, moving as well against private interference.

Thus, in the Civil Rights Act of 1875⁸⁹ Congress had proscribed private racial discrimination in the admission to and use of inns, public conveyances, theaters, and other places of public amusement. The *Civil Rights Cases*⁹⁰ found this enactment to be beyond Congress’ power to enforce the Fourteenth Amendment. It was observed that § 1 was prohibitory only upon the States and did not reach private conduct. Therefore, Congress’ power under § 5 to enforce § 1 by appropriate legislation was held to be similarly limited. “It does not invest Congress with power to legislate upon subjects which are within the domain of State legislation; but to provide modes of relief against State legislation, or State action, of the kind referred to. It does not authorize Congress to create a code of

⁸² Section 3 of the Civil Rights Act of 1866, 14 Stat. 27, 28 U.S.C. § 1443. See *Virginia v. Rives*, 100 U.S. 313, 318 (1880); *Strauder v. West Virginia*, 100 U.S. 303 (1880). The statute is of limited utility because of the interpretation placed on it almost from the beginning. Compare *Georgia v. Rachel*, 384 U.S. 780 (1966), with *City of Greenwood v. Peacock*, 384 U.S. 808 (1966).

⁸³ 18 U.S.C. §§ 241, 242. See *Screws v. United States*, 325 U.S. 91 (1945); *Williams v. United States*, 341 U.S. 97 (1951); *United States v. Guest*, 383 U.S. 745 (1966); *United States v. Price*, 383 U.S. 787 (1966); *United States v. Johnson*, 390 U.S. 563 (1968).

⁸⁴ 42 U.S.C. § 1983. See *Monroe v. Pape*, 365 U.S. 167 (1961); see also 42 U.S.C. § 1985(3), construed in *Griffin v. Breckenridge*, 403 U.S. 88 (1971).

⁸⁵ *Ex parte Virginia*, 100 U.S. 339 (1880).

⁸⁶ *United States v. Price*, 383 U.S. 787 (1966).

⁸⁷ Both 18 U.S.C. § 242 and 42 U.S.C. § 1983 contain language restricting application to deprivations under color of state law, whereas 18 U.S.C. § 241 lacks such language. The newest statute, 18 U.S.C. § 245, contains, of course, no such language. On the meaning of “custom” as used in the “under color of” phrase, see *Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co.*, 398 U.S. 144 (1970).

⁸⁸ E.g., the problem of “specific intent” in *Screws v. United States*, 325 U.S. 91 (1945), and *Williams v. United States*, 341 U.S. 97 (1951), and the problem of what “right or privilege” is “secured” to a person by the Constitution and laws of the United States, which divided the Court in *United States v. Williams*, 341 U.S. 70 (1951), and which was resolved in *United States v. Price*, 383 U.S. 787 (1966).

⁸⁹ 18 Stat. 335, §§ 1, 2.

⁹⁰ 109 U.S. 3 (1883). The Court also rejected the Thirteenth Amendment foundation for the statute, a foundation revived by *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409 (1968).

municipal law for the regulation of private rights; but to provide modes of redress against the operation of State laws, and the action of State officers executive or judicial, when these are subversive of the fundamental rights specified in the amendment.”⁹¹ The holding in this case had already been preceded by *United States v. Cruikshank*⁹² and by *United States v. Harris*⁹³ in which the Federal Government had prosecuted individuals for killing and injuring African Americans. The Amendment did not increase the power of the Federal Government vis-a-vis individuals, the Court held, only with regard to the States themselves.⁹⁴

Cruikshank did, however, recognize a small category of federal rights which Congress could protect against private deprivation, rights which the Court viewed as deriving particularly from one’s status as a citizen of the United States and which Congress had a general police power to protect.⁹⁵ These rights included the right to vote in federal elections, general and primary,⁹⁶ the right to federal protection while in the custody of federal officers,⁹⁷ and the right to inform federal officials of violations of federal law.⁹⁸ The right of interstate travel is a basic right derived from the Federal Constitution which Congress may protect.⁹⁹ In *United States v. Williams*,¹⁰⁰ in the context of state action, the Court divided four-to-four over whether the predecessor of 18 U.S.C. §241 in its reference to a “right or privilege secured . . . by the Constitution or laws of the United States” encompassed rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment, or was restricted to those rights “which Congress can beyond doubt constitutionally secure against inter-

⁹¹ 109 U.S. at 11. Justice Harlan’s dissent reasoned that Congress had the power to protect rights secured by the Fourteenth Amendment against invasion by both state and private action, but also viewed places of public accommodation as serving a quasi-public function which satisfied the state action requirement in any event. *Id.* at 46–48, 56–57.

⁹² 92 U.S. 542 (1876). The action was pursuant to §6 of the 1870 Enforcement Act, ch. 114, 16 Stat. 140, the predecessor of 18 U.S.C. §241.

⁹³ 106 U.S. 629 (1883). The case held unconstitutional a provision of §2 of the 1871 Act, ch. 22, 17 Stat. 13.

⁹⁴ See also *Baldwin v. Franks*, 120 U.S. 678 (1887); *Hodges v. United States*, 203 U.S. 1 (1906); *United States v. Wheeler*, 254 U.S. 281 (1920). Under the Fifteenth Amendment, see *James v. Bowman*, 190 U.S. 127 (1903).

⁹⁵ *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542, 552–53, 556 (1876). The rights which the Court assumed the United States could protect against private interference were the right to petition Congress for a redress of grievances and the right to vote free of interference on racial grounds in a federal election.

⁹⁶ *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884); *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299 (1941).

⁹⁷ *Logan v. United States*, 144 U.S. 263 (1892).

⁹⁸ *In re Quarles*, 158 U.S. 532 (1895). See also *United States v. Waddell*, 112 U.S. 76 (1884) (right to homestead).

⁹⁹ *United States v. Guest*, 383 U.S. 745 (1966); *Griffin v. Breckenridge*, 403 U.S. 88 (1971).

¹⁰⁰ 341 U.S. 70 (1951).

ference by private individuals.” This issue was again reached in *United States v. Price*¹⁰¹ and *United States v. Guest*,¹⁰² again in the context of state action, in which the Court concluded that the statute included within its scope rights guaranteed by the due process and equal protection clauses.

Inasmuch as both *Price* and *Guest* concerned conduct which the Court found implicated with sufficient state action, it did not then have to reach the question of § 241’s constitutionality when applied to private action interfering with rights not the subject of a general police power. But Justice Brennan, responding to what he apparently interpreted as language in the opinion of the Court construing Congress’ power under § 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment to be limited by the state action requirement, appended a lengthy statement, which a majority of the Justices joined, arguing that Congress’ power was broader.¹⁰³ “Although the Fourteenth Amendment itself . . . ‘speaks to the State or to those acting under the color of its authority,’ legislation protecting rights created by that Amendment, such as the right to equal utilization of state facilities, need not be confined to punishing conspiracies in which state officers participate. Rather, § 5 authorizes Congress to make laws that it concludes are reasonably necessary to protect a right created by and arising under that Amendment; and Congress is thus fully empowered to determine that punishment of private conspiracies interfering with the exercise of such a right is necessary to its full protection.”¹⁰⁴ The Justice throughout the opinion refers to “Fourteenth Amendment rights,” by which he meant rights which, in the words of 18 U.S.C. § 241, are “secured . . . by the Constitution,” i.e., by the Fourteenth Amendment through prohibitory words addressed only to governmental officers. Thus, the equal protection clause commands that all “public facilities owned or operated by or on behalf of the State,” be available equally to all persons; that ac-

¹⁰¹ 383 U.S. 787 (1966) (due process clause).

¹⁰² 383 U.S. 745 (1966) (equal protection clause).

¹⁰³ Justice Brennan’s opinion, *id.* at 774, was joined by Chief Justice Warren and Justice Douglas. His statement that “[a] majority of the members of the Court expresses the view today that § 5 empowers Congress to enact laws punishing *all* conspiracies to interfere with the exercise of Fourteenth Amendment rights, whether or not state officers or others acting under the color of state law are implicated in the conspiracy,” *id.* at 782 (emphasis by the Justice), was based upon the language of Justice Clark, joined by Justices Black and Fortas, *id.* at 761, that inasmuch as Justice Brennan reached the issue the three Justices were also of the view “that there now can be no doubt that the specific language of § 5 empowers the Congress to enact laws punishing all conspiracies—with or without state action—that interfere with Fourteenth Amendment rights.” *Id.* at 762. In the opinion of the Court, Justice Stewart disclaimed any intention of speaking of Congress’ power under § 5. *Id.* at 755.

¹⁰⁴ *Id.* at 782.

cess is a right granted by the Constitution, and §5 is viewed “as a positive grant of legislative power, authorizing Congress to exercise its discretion in fashioning remedies to achieve civil and political equality for all citizens.” Within this discretion is the “power to determine that in order adequately to protect the right to equal utilization of state facilities, it is also appropriate to punish other individuals” who would deny such access.¹⁰⁵

It is not clear, following changes in Court personnel and in the absence of definitive adjudication, whether this expansion of Congress’ power still commands a majority of the Court.¹⁰⁶ If the Court adheres to the expansion, it is not clear what the limits and potentialities of the expansion are, whether it is only with regard to “state facilities” that Congress may reach private interfering conduct, and what “rights” are reasonably and properly encompassed within the concept of “Fourteenth Amendment rights.”

Congressional Definition of Fourteenth Amendment Rights.—In the *Civil Rights Cases*,¹⁰⁷ the Court observed that “the legislation which Congress is authorized to adopt in this behalf is not general legislation upon the rights of the citizen, but corrective legislation,” that is, laws to counteract and overrule those state laws which §1 forbade the States to adopt. And the Court was quite clear that under its responsibilities of judicial re-

¹⁰⁵ *Id.* at 777–79, 784.

¹⁰⁶ The civil statute paralleling the criminal statute held unconstitutional in *United States v. Harris*, 106 U.S. 629 (1883), is 42 U.S.C. §1985(3), similarly derived from §2 of the 1871 Act, 17 Stat. 13, and it too lacks a “color of law” requirement. This provision was read into it in *Collins v. Hardyman*, 341 U.S. 651 (1951), to avoid what the Court then saw as a substantial constitutional problem. In *Griffin v. Breckenridge*, 403 U.S. 88 (1971), “color of law” was read out of the statute. While it might be “difficult to conceive of what might constitute a deprivation of the equal protection of the laws by private persons . . . there is nothing inherent in the phrase that requires the action working the deprivation to come from the State.” *Id.* at 97. What the language actually required, said the unanimous Court, was an “intent to deprive of equal protection, or equal privileges and immunities, means that there must be some racial, or perhaps otherwise class-based, invidiously discriminatory animus behind the conspirators’ action. The conspiracy, in other words, must aim at a deprivation of the equal enjoyment of rights secured by the law to all.” *Id.* at 102. As so construed, the statute was held constitutional as applied in the complaint before the Court on the basis of the Thirteenth Amendment and the right to travel; there was no necessity therefore, to consider Congress’ §5 powers. *Id.* at 107.

The lower courts are quite divided with respect to what constitutes a nonrace, class-based animus within the requisite for §1985(3) coverage and whether a private conspiracy may be reached. *See, e.g.*, *Action v. Gannon*, 450 F.2d 1227 (8th Cir. 1971); *Dombrowski v. Dowling*, 459 F.2d 190 (7th Cir. 1972); *Great American Fed. S. & L. Ass’n v. Novotny*, 584 F.2d 1235 (3d Cir. 1978) (en banc), rev’d, 442 U.S. 366 (1979); *Scott v. Moore*, 680 F.2d 979 (5th Cir. 1982) (en banc). The Supreme Court’s *Novotny* decision was based solely on statutory interpretation and avoided both questions, although both Justices Powell and Stevens would require a showing of state action. 442 U.S. at 378, 381 (concurring).

¹⁰⁷ 109 U.S. 3, 13–14 (1883).

view, it was the body which would determine that a state law was impermissible and that a federal law passed pursuant to §5 was necessary and proper to enforce §1.¹⁰⁸ But in *United States v. Guest*,¹⁰⁹ Justice Brennan protested that this view “attributes a far too limited objective to the Amendment’s sponsors, that in fact “the primary purpose of the Amendment was to augment the power of Congress, not the judiciary.”

In *Katzenbach v. Morgan*,¹¹⁰ Justice Brennan, this time speaking for the Court, in effect overrode the limiting view and posited a doctrine by which Congress was to define the substance of what the legislation enacted pursuant to §5 must be appropriate to. That is, in upholding the constitutionality of a provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965¹¹¹ barring the application of English literacy requirements to a certain class of voters, the Court rejected a state argument “that an exercise of congressional power under §5 . . . that prohibits the enforcement of a state law can only be sustained if the judicial branch determines that the state law is prohibited by the provisions of the Amendment that Congress sought to enforce.”¹¹² Inasmuch as the Court had previously upheld an English literacy requirement under equal protection challenge,¹¹³ acceptance of the argument would have doomed the federal law. But, said Justice Brennan, Congress itself might have questioned the justifications put forward by the State in defense of its law and might have concluded that instead of being supported by acceptable reasons the requirements were unrelated to those justifications and discriminatory in intent and effect. The Court would not evaluate the competing considerations which might have led Congress to its conclusion; since Congress “brought a specially informed legislative competence” to an appraisal of voting requirements, “it was Congress’ prerogative to weigh” the considerations and the Court would sustain the conclusion if “we perceive a basis upon which Congress

¹⁰⁸ *Cf. Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. (1 Cr.) 137 (1803).

¹⁰⁹ 383 U.S. 745, 783 and n.7 (1966) (concurring and dissenting).

¹¹⁰ 384 U.S. 641 (1966). Besides the ground of decision discussed here, *Morgan* also advanced an alternative ground for upholding the statute. That is, Congress might have overridden the state law not because the law itself violated the equal protection clause but because being without the vote meant the class of persons was subject to discriminatory state and local treatment and giving these people the ballot would afford a means of correcting that situation. The statute therefore was an appropriate means to enforce the equal protection clause under “necessary and proper” standards. *Id.* at 652–653. A similar “necessary and proper” approach underlay *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301 (1966), under the Fifteenth Amendment’s enforcement clause.

¹¹¹ 79 Stat. 439, 42 U.S.C. §1973b(e).

¹¹² 384 U.S. at 648.

¹¹³ *Lassiter v. Northampton County Bd. of Elections*, 360 U.S. 45 (1959).

might predicate a judgment” that the requirements constituted invidious discrimination.¹¹⁴

In dissent, Justice Harlan protested that “[i]n effect the Court reads §5 of the Fourteenth Amendment as giving Congress the power to define the *substantive* scope of the Amendment. If that indeed be the true reach of §5, then I do not see why Congress should not be able as well to exercise its §5 ‘discretion’ by enacting statutes so as in effect to dilute equal protection and due process decisions of this Court.”¹¹⁵ Justice Brennan rejected this reasoning. “We emphasize that Congress’ power under §5 is limited to adopting measures to enforce the guarantees of the Amendment; §5 grants Congress no power to restrict, abrogate, or dilute these guarantees.”¹¹⁶ Congress responded, however, in both fashions. On the one hand, in the 1968 Civil Rights Act it relied on *Morgan* in expanding federal powers to deal with private violence that is racially motivated, and to some degree in outlawing most private housing discrimination;¹¹⁷ on the other hand, it enacted provisions of law purporting to overrule the Court’s expansion of the self-incrimination and right-to-counsel clauses of the Bill of Rights, expressly invoking *Morgan*.¹¹⁸

Congress’ power under *Morgan* returned to the Court’s consideration when several States challenged congressional legislation¹¹⁹ lowering the voting age in all elections to 18 and prescribing residency and absentee voting requirements for the conduct of presidential elections. In upholding the latter provision and in dividing over the former, the Court revealed that *Morgan’s* vitality was in some considerable doubt, at least with regard to the reach which many observers had previously seen.¹²⁰ Four Justices accepted *Morgan* in full,¹²¹ while one Justice rejected it totally¹²² and an-

¹¹⁴ *Katzenbach v. Morgan*, 384 U.S. 641, 653–56 (1966).

¹¹⁵ *Id.* at 668. Justice Stewart joined this dissent.

¹¹⁶ *Id.* at 651 n.10. Justice O’Connor for the Court quoted and reiterated Justice Brennan’s language in *Mississippi Univ. for Women v. Hogan*, 458 U.S. 718, 731–33 (1982).

¹¹⁷ 82 Stat. 73, 18 U.S.C. §245. *See* S. Rep. No. 721, 90th Congress, 1st Sess. 6–7 (1967). *See also* 82 Stat. 81, 42 U.S.C. §3601 et seq.

¹¹⁸ Title II, Omnibus Safe Streets and Crime Control Act, 82 Stat. 210, 18 U.S.C. §§3501, 3502. *See* S. Rep. No. 1097, 90th Congress, 2d Sess. 53–63 (1968). The cases which were subjects of the legislation were *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966), and *United States v. Wade*, 388 U.S. 218 (1967), insofar as federal criminal trials were concerned.

¹¹⁹ Titles II and III of the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1970, 84 Stat. 316, 42 U.S.C. §§1973aa–1, 1973bb.

¹²⁰ *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112 (1970).

¹²¹ *Id.* at 229, 278–81 (Justices Brennan, White, and Marshall), 135, 141–44 (Justice Douglas).

¹²² *Id.* at 152, 204–09 (Justice Harlan).

other would have limited it to racial cases.¹²³ The other three Justices seemingly restricted *Morgan* to its alternate rationale in passing on the age reduction provision but the manner in which they dealt with the residency and absentee voting provision afforded Congress some degree of discretion in making substantive decisions about what state action is discriminatory above and beyond the judicial view of the matter.¹²⁴

More recent decisions read broadly Congress' power to make determinations that appear to be substantive decisions with respect to constitutional violations.¹²⁵ Acting under both the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, Congress has acted to reach state electoral practices that "result" in diluting the voting power of minorities, although the Court apparently requires that it be shown that electoral procedures must have been created or maintained with a discriminatory animus before they may be invalidated under the two Amendments.¹²⁶ Moreover, movements have been initiated in Congress by opponents of certain of the Court's decisions, notably the abortion rulings, to utilize §5 powers to curtail the rights the Court has derived from the due process clause and other provisions of the Constitution.¹²⁷

¹²³Id. at 119, 126–31 (Justice Black).

¹²⁴The age reduction provision could be sustained "only if Congress has the power not only to provide the means of eradicating situations that amount to a violation of the Equal Protection Clause, but also to determine as a matter of substantive constitutional law what situations fall within the ambit of the clause, and what state interests are 'compelling.'" Id. at 296 (Justices Stewart and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger). In their view, Congress did not have that power and *Morgan* did not confer it. But in voting to uphold the residency and absentee provision, the Justices concluded that "Congress could rationally conclude that the imposition of durational residency requirements unreasonably burdens and sanctions the privilege of taking up residence in another State" without reaching an independent determination of their own that the requirements did in fact have that effect. Id. at 286.

¹²⁵See *City of Rome v. United States*, 446 U.S. 156, 173–83 (1980), under the Fifteenth Amendment. *Infra*, pp. 1948–50. See also *Fullilove v. Klutznick*, 448 U.S. 448, 476–78 (1980) (plurality opinion by Chief Justice Burger), and *id.* at 500–02 (Justice Powell concurring).

¹²⁶The Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1982, Pub. L. 97–205, 96 Stat. 131, amending 42 U.S.C. §1973, were designed to overturn *City of Mobile v. Bolden*, 446 U.S. 55 (1980). A substantial change of direction in *Rogers v. Lodge*, 458 U.S. 613 (1982), handed down coextensively with congressional enactment, seems to have brought Congress and the Court into essential alignment, thus avoiding a possible constitutional conflict.

¹²⁷See *The Human Life Bill*, Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Separation of Powers, 97th Congress, 1st sess. (1981). An elaborate constitutional analysis of the bill appears in Estreicher, *Congressional Power and Constitutional Rights: Reflections on Proposed "Human Life" Legislation*, 68 VA. L. REV. 333 (1982).

FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT

RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO VOTE

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RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO VOTE

FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

ABOLITION OF SUFFRAGE QUALIFICATIONS ON BASIS OF RACE

Adoption and Judicial Enforcement

Adoption.—The final decision of Congress not to include anything relating to the right to vote in the Fourteenth Amendment, aside from the provisions of § 2,¹ left the issue of African American suffrage solely with the States, and Northern States were generally as loath as Southern to grant the ballot to African Americans, both the newly-freed and those who had never been slaves.² But in the second session of the 39th Congress, the right to vote was extended to African Americans by statute in the District of Columbia and the territories, and the seceded States as a condition of readmission had to guarantee African American suffrage.³ Following the election of President Grant, the “lame duck” third session of the Fortieth Congress sent the proposed Fifteenth Amendment to the States for ratification. The struggle was intense because Congress was divided into roughly three factions: those who opposed any federal constitutional guarantee of African American suffrage, those who wanted to go beyond a limited guarantee and enact universal male suffrage, including abolition of all educational and property-holding tests, and those who wanted or who were willing to settle for an amendment merely proscribing racial qualifications in deter-

¹ *Supra*, pp. 1926–27. Of course, the equal protection clause has been extensively utilized by the Court to protect the right to vote. *Supra*, pp. 1892–1911.

² W. GILLETTE, *THE RIGHT TO VOTE: POLITICS AND THE PASSAGE OF THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT* 25–28 (1965).

³ *Id.* at 29–31; ch. 6, 14 Stat. 375 (1866) (District of Columbia); ch. 15, 14 Stat. 379 (1867) (territories); ch. 36, 14 Stat. 391 (1867) (admission of Nebraska to statehood upon condition of guaranteeing against racial qualifications in voting); ch. 153, 14 Stat. 428 (1867) (First Reconstruction Act).

mining who could vote under any other standards the States wished to have.⁴ The later group ultimately prevailed.

The Judicial View of the Amendment.—In its initial appraisals of this Amendment, the Supreme Court appeared disposed to emphasize only its purely negative aspects. “The Fifteenth Amendment,” it announced, did “not confer the right . . . [to vote] upon any one,” but merely “invested the citizens of the United States with a new constitutional right which is . . . exemption from discrimination in the exercise of the elective franchise on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”⁵ But in subsequent cases, the Court, conceding “that this article” has originally been construed as giving “no affirmative right to the colored man to vote” and as having been “designed primarily to prevent discrimination against him,” professed to be able “to see that under some circumstances it may operate as the immediate source of a right to vote. In all cases where the former slave-holding States had not removed from their Constitutions the words ‘white man’ as a qualification for voting, this provision did, in effect, confer on him the right to vote, because . . . it annulled the discriminating word white, and this left him in the enjoyment of the same right as white persons. And such would be the effect of any future constitutional provision of a State which would give the right of voting exclusively to white people. . . .”⁶

Grandfather Clauses.—Until quite recently, the history of the Fifteenth Amendment has been largely a record of belated judicial condemnation of various state efforts to disenfranchise African Americans either overtly through statutory enactment or covertly through inequitable administration of electoral laws and toleration of discriminatory membership practices of political parties. Of several devices which have been voided, one of the first to be held unconstitutional was the “grandfather clause.” Beginning in 1895, several States enacted temporary laws whereby persons who had been voters, or descendants of those who had been voters, on January 1, 1867, could be registered notwithstanding their inability to meet any literacy requirement. Unable because of the date to avail themselves of the exemption, African Americans were disabled to

⁴ Gillette, *supra* n., at 46–78. The congressional debate is conveniently collected in 1 B. SCHWARTZ, STATUTORY HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES—CIVIL RIGHTS 372 (1971).

⁵ *United States v. Reese*, 92 U.S. 214, 217–18 (1876); *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542, 566 (1876).

⁶ *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651, 665 (1884); *Guinn v. United States* 238 U.S. 347, 363 (1915). A state constitutional provision limiting the right of suffrage to whites was automatically nullified by ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment. *Neal v. Delaware*, 103 U.S. 370 (1881).

vote on grounds of illiteracy or through discriminatory administration of literacy tests, while illiterate whites were permitted to register without taking any tests. With the achievement of the intended result, most States permitted their laws to lapse, but Oklahoma's grandfather clause had been enacted as a permanent amendment to the state constitution. A unanimous Court condemned the device as recreating and perpetuating "the very conditions which the [Fifteenth] Amendment was intended to destroy."⁷

The Court did not experience any difficulty in voiding a subsequent Oklahoma statute of 1916 which provided that all persons, except those who voted in 1914, who were qualified to vote in 1916 but who failed to register between April 30 and May 11, 1916, with some exceptions for sick and absent persons who were given an additional brief period to register, should be perpetually disenfranchised. The Fifteenth Amendment, Justice Frankfurter declared for the Court, nullified "sophisticated as well as simple-minded modes of discrimination. It hits onerous procedural requirements which effectively handicap exercise of the franchise by the colored race although the abstract right to vote may remain unrestricted as to race."⁸ The impermissible effect of the statute, said the Court, was automatically to continue as permanent voters, without their being obliged to register again, all white persons who were on registration lists in 1914 by virtue of the previously invalidated grandfather clause, whereas African Americans, prevented from registering by that clause, had been afforded only a 20-day registration opportunity to avoid permanent disenfranchisement.

The White Primary.—Indecision was displayed by the Court, however, when it was called upon to deal with the exclusion of African Americans from participation in primary elections.⁹ Prior to its becoming convinced that primary contests were in fact elections to which federal constitutional guarantees applied,¹⁰ the Court had relied upon the equal protection clause to strike down the Texas White Primary Law¹¹ and a subsequent Texas statute which contributed to a like exclusion by limiting voting in primary elections to members of state political parties as determined by the central committees thereof.¹² When exclusion of African Americans was thereafter perpetuated by political parties not acting in obedience to any statutory command, this discrimination was for a time

⁷ *Guinn v. United States*, 238 U.S. 347 (1915).

⁸ *Lane v. Wilson*, 307 U.S. 268, 275 (1939).

⁹ See also *supra*, p. 120.

¹⁰ *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299 (1941); *Smith v. Allwright*, 321 U.S. 649 (1944).

¹¹ *Nixon v. Herndon*, 273 U.S. 536 (1927).

¹² *Nixon v. Condon*, 286 U.S. 73 (1932).

viewed as not constituting state action and therefore as not prohibited by either the Fourteenth or the Fifteenth Amendments.¹³ This holding was reversed nine years later when the Court declared that where the selection of candidates for public office is entrusted by statute to political parties, a political party in making its selection at a primary election is a state agency, and hence it may not under the Fifteenth Amendment exclude African Americans from such elections.¹⁴ An effort by South Carolina to escape the effects of this ruling by repealing all statutory provisions regulating primary elections and political organizations conducting them was nullified by a lower federal court with no doctrinal difficulty,¹⁵ but the Supreme Court, although nearly unanimous on the result, was unable to come to a majority agreement with regard to the exclusion of African Americans by the Jaybird Association, a county-wide organization which, independently of state laws and the use of state election machinery or funds, nearly monopolized access to Democratic nomination for local offices. The exclusionary policy was held unconstitutional but there was no opinion of the Court.¹⁶

Literacy Tests.—At an early date the Court held that literacy tests which are drafted so as to apply alike to all applicants for the voting franchise would be deemed to be fair on their face and in the absence of proof of discriminatory enforcement could not be said to deny equal protection.¹⁷ But an Alabama constitutional amendment the legislative history of which disclosed that both its object and its intended administration were to disenfranchise African Americans was condemned as violative of the Fifteenth Amendment.¹⁸

Racial Gerrymandering.—The Court's series of decisions interpreting the equal protection clause as requiring the apportionment and districting of state legislatures solely on a population basis¹⁹ had its beginning in *Gomillion v. Lightfoot*,²⁰ in which the Court found a Fifteenth Amendment violation in the redrawing of a municipal boundary line into a 28-sided figure which excluded from the city all but four or five of 400 African Americans but no

¹³ *Grove v. Townsend*, 295 U.S. 45 (1935).

¹⁴ *Smith v. Allwright*, 321 U.S. 649 (1944).

¹⁵ *Rice v. Elmore*, 165 F.2d 387 (4th Cir. 1947), cert. denied, 333 U.S. 875 (1948); see also *Baskin v. Brown*, 174 F.2d 391 (4th Cir. 1949).

¹⁶ *Terry v. Adams*, 345 U.S. 461 (1953). For an analysis of the opinions, see *infra*, p. 1945.

¹⁷ *Williams v. Mississippi*, 170 U.S. 213 (1898); cf. *Lassiter v. Northampton County Bd. of Elections*, 360 U.S. 45 (1960).

¹⁸ *Davis v. Schnell*, 81 F. Supp. 872 (M.D. Ala. 1949), aff'd 336 U.S. 933 (1949). On congressional action on literacy tests, see *infra*, pp. 1946–47.

¹⁹ *Supra*, pp. 1902–11.

²⁰ 364 U.S. 339 (1960). See also *Wright v. Rockefeller*, 376 U.S. 52 (1964).

whites, and which thereby continued white domination of municipal elections. Subsequent decisions, particularly concerning the validity of multi-member districting and alleged dilution of minority voting power, were decided under the equal protection clause,²¹ and in *City of Mobile v. Bolden*,²² in the course of a considerably divided decision with respect to the requirement of discriminatory motivation in Fifteenth Amendment cases,²³ a plurality of the Court sought to restrict the Fifteenth Amendment to cases in which there is official denial or abridgment of the right to register and vote, and to exclude indirect dilution claims.²⁴ Congressional amendment of § 2 of the Voting Rights Act may obviate the further development of constitutional jurisprudence in this area, however.²⁵

Congressional Enforcement

Although the Fifteenth Amendment is “self-executing,”²⁶ the Court early emphasized that the right granted to be free from racial discrimination “should be kept free and pure by congressional enactment whenever that is necessary.”²⁷ Following ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment in 1870, Congress passed the Enforcement Act of 1870,²⁸ which had started out as a bill to prohibit state officers from restricting suffrage on racial grounds and providing criminal penalties and ended up as a comprehensive measure aimed as well at private action designed to interfere with the rights guaranteed under the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amend-

²¹ E.g., *Whitcomb v. Chavis*, 403 U.S. 124 (1971); *White v. Regester*, 412 U.S. 755 (1973).

²² 446 U.S. 55 (1980).

²³ On the issue of motivation versus impact under the equal protection clause, see supra, pp. 1815–20. On the plurality’s view, see 446 U.S. at 61–65. Justice White appears clearly to agree that purposeful discrimination is a necessary component of equal protection clause violation, and may have agreed as well that the same requirement applies under the Fifteenth Amendment. *Id.* at 94–103. Only Justice Marshall unambiguously adhered to the view that discriminatory effect is sufficient. *Id.* at 125. See also *Beer v. United States*, 425 U.S. 130, 146–49 & nn.3–5 (1976) (dissenting).

²⁴ *Id.* at 65. At least three Justices disagreed with this view and would apply the Fifteenth Amendment to vote dilution claims. *Id.* at 84 n.3 (Justice Stevens concurring), 102 (Justice White dissenting), 125–35 (Justice Marshall dissenting). The issue was reserved in *Rogers v. Lodge*, 458 U.S. 613, 619 n.6 (1982).

²⁵ See Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1982, Pub. L. 97–205, 96 Stat. 131, amending 42 U.S.C. § 1973. The Supreme Court interpreted the 1982 amendments to section 2 in *Thornburg v. Gingles*, 478 U.S. 30 (1986), determining that Congress had effectively overruled the *City of Mobile* intent standard in returning to a “totality of the circumstances” results test.

²⁶ *Guinn v. United States*, 238 U.S. 347, 362–63 (1915).

²⁷ Ex parte *Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651, 665 (1884).

²⁸ 16 Stat. 140. Debate on the Act is collected in 1 B. SCHWARTZ, STATUTORY HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES—CIVIL RIGHTS 454 (1971). See also The Enforcement Act of 1871, ch. 99, 16 Stat. 433.

ments. Insofar as this legislation reached private action, it was largely nullified by the Supreme Court and the provisions aimed at official action proved ineffectual and much of it was later repealed.²⁹ More recent legislation has been much more far-reaching in this respect and has been sustained.

State Action.—Like § 1 of the Fourteenth, § 1 of the Fifteenth Amendment prohibits official denial of the rights therein guaranteed, giving rise to the “state action” doctrine.³⁰ Nevertheless, the Supreme Court in two early cases seemed to be of the opinion that Congress could protect the rights against private deprivation, on the theory that Congress impliedly had power to protect the enjoyment of every right conferred by the Constitution against deprivation from any source.³¹ But in *James v. Bowman*³² the Court held that legislation based on the Fifteenth Amendment which attempted to prohibit private as well as official interference with the right to vote on racial grounds was unconstitutional, and that interpretation was not questioned until 1941.³³ But the Court’s interpretation of the “state action” requirement in cases brought under § 1 of the Fifteenth Amendment narrowed the requirement there and opened the possibility, when these decisions are considered with cases decided under the Fourteenth Amendment, that

²⁹ Ch. 25 28 Stat. 36 (1894); ch. 321 35 Stat. 1153 (1909). See R. CARR, FEDERAL PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS: QUEST FOR A SWORD 35–55 (1947), for a brief history of the enactment and repeal of the statutes. The surviving statutes of this period are 18 U.S.C. §§ 241–42, and 42 U.S.C. §§ 1971(a), 1983, and 1985(3).

³⁰ *Supra*, pp. 1786–1802. “The State . . . must mean not private citizens but those clothed with the authority and influence which official position affords. The application of the prohibition of the Fifteenth Amendment to ‘any State’ is translated by legal jargon to read ‘State Action.’ This phrase gives rise to a false direction in that it implies some impressive machinery or deliberative conduct normally associated with what orators call a sovereign state. The vital requirement is State responsibility—that somewhere, somehow, to some extent, there be an infusion of conduct by officials, panoplied with State power, into any scheme by which colored citizens are denied voting rights merely because they are colored.” *Terry v. Adams*, 345 U.S. 461, 473 (1953) (Justice Frankfurter concurring).

³¹ The idea was fully spelled out in Justice Bradley’s opinion on circuit in *United States v. Cruikshank*, 25 Fed. Cas. 707, 712, 713 (No. 14,897) (C.C.D. La. 1874). The Supreme Court’s decision in *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542, 555–56 (1876), and *United States v. Reese*, 92 U.S. 214, 217–18 (1876), may be read to support the contention. *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884), involved a federal election and the assertion of congressional power to reach private interference with the right to vote in federal elections, but the Court went further to broadly state the power of Congress to protect the citizen in the exercise of rights conferred by the Constitution, among which was the right to be free from discrimination in voting protected by the Fifteenth Amendment. *Id.* at 665–66.

³² 190 U.S. 127 (1903), holding unconstitutional Rev. Stat. § 5507, which was § 5 of the Enforcement Act of 1870, ch. 114, 16 Stat. 140.

³³ E.g., *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299, 315 (1941); *United States v. Williams*, 341 U.S. 70, 77 (1951).

Congress is not limited to legislation directed to official discrimination.³⁴

Thus, in *Smith v. Allwright*,³⁵ the exclusion of African Americans from political parties without the compulsion or sanction of state law was nonetheless held to violate the Fifteenth Amendment because political parties were so regulated otherwise as to be in effect agents of the State and thus subject to the Fifteenth Amendment; additionally, in one passage the Court suggested that the failure of the State to prevent the racial exclusion might be the act implicating the Amendment.³⁶ Then, in *Terry v. Adams*,³⁷ the political organization was not regulated by the State at all and selected its candidates for the Democratic primary election by its own processes; all eligible white voters in the jurisdiction were members of the organization but African Americans were excluded. Nevertheless, the Court held that this exclusion violated the Fifteenth Amendment although no rationale was agreed upon by a majority of the Justices. Four of them thought the case simply indistinguishable from *Smith v. Allwright* and thus did not deal with the central issue.³⁸ Justice Frankfurter thought the participation of local elected officials in the processes of the organization was sufficient to implicate state action.³⁹ Three Justices thought that when a purportedly private organization is permitted by the State to assume the functions normally performed by an agency of the State, then that association is subject to federal constitutional restrictions,⁴⁰ but this opinion also, in citing selected passages of *Yarbrough* and *Reese* and Justice Bradley's circuit opinion in *Cruikshank*, appeared to be suggesting that the state action requirement is not indispensable.⁴¹ The 1957 Civil Rights Act⁴² included a provision

³⁴ *Supra*, pp. 1933–36.

³⁵ 321 U.S. 649 (1944).

³⁶ "The United States is a constitutional democracy. Its organic law grants to all citizens a right to participate in the choice of elected officials without restrictions by any State because of race. This grant to the people of the opportunity for choice is not to be nullified by a State through casting its electoral process in a form which permits a private organization to practice racial discrimination in the election. Constitutional rights would be of little value if they could be thus indirectly denied." *Id.* at 664.

³⁷ 345 U.S. 461 (1953).

³⁸ *Id.* at 477 (Justices Clark, Reed, and Jackson, and Chief Justice Vinson).

³⁹ *Id.* at 470.

⁴⁰ *Id.* at 462, 468–69, 470 (Justices Black, Douglas, and Burton).

⁴¹ *Id.* at 466–68. Justice Minton understood Justice Black's opinion to do away with the state action requirement. *Id.* at 485 (dissenting).

⁴² 71 Stat. 637, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1971(b), 1971(c). In a suit to enjoin state officials from violating 42 U.S.C. § 1971(a), derived from Rev. Stat. 2004, applying to all elections, the defendants challenged the constitutionality of the law because it applied to private action as well as state. The Court held that inasmuch as the statute could constitutionally be applied to the defendants it would not hear their contention that

prohibiting private action with intent to intimidate or coerce persons in respect of voting in federal elections and authorized the Attorney General to seek injunctive relief against such private actions regardless of the character of the election. The 1965 Voting Rights Act⁴³ went further and prohibited and penalized private actions to intimidate voters in federal, state, or local elections. The Supreme Court has yet to consider the constitutionality of these sections.

Federal Remedial Legislation.—The history of federal remedial legislation is of modern vintage.⁴⁴ The 1957 Civil Rights Act⁴⁵ authorized the Attorney General of the United States to seek injunctive relief to prevent interference with the voting rights of citizens. The 1960 Civil Rights Act⁴⁶ expanded on this authorization by permitting the Attorney General to seek a court finding of “pattern or practice” of discrimination in any particular jurisdiction and authorizing upon the entering of such a finding the registration of all qualified persons in the jurisdiction of the race discriminated against by court-appointed referees. This authorization moved the vindication of voting rights beyond a case-by-case process. Further amendments were added in 1964.⁴⁷ Finally, in the Voting Rights Act of 1965⁴⁸ Congress went substantially beyond what it had done before. It provided that if the Attorney General determined that any State or political subdivision maintained on November 1, 1964, any “test or device”⁴⁹ and that less than 50 per cent of the

as applied to others it would be void. *United States v. Raines*, 362 U.S. 17 (1960), disapproving the approach of *United States v. Reese*, 92 U.S. 214 (1876).

⁴³ Pub. L. No. 89-110, §§ 11-12, 79 Stat. 443, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1973i, 1973j.

⁴⁴ The 1871 Act, ch. 99, 16 Stat. 433, provided for a detailed federal supervision of the electoral process, from registration to the certification of returns. It was repealed in 1894. ch. 25, 28 Stat. 36. In *Giles v. Harris*, 189 U.S. 475 (1903), the Court, in an opinion by Justice Holmes, refused to order the registration of 6,000 African Americans who alleged that they were being wrongly denied the franchise, the Court observing that no judicial order would do them any good in the absence of judicial supervision of the actual voting, which it was not prepared to do, and suggesting that the petitioners apply to Congress or the President for relief.

⁴⁵ Pub. L. No. 85-315, 71 Stat. 634. See *United States v. Raines*, 362 U.S. 17 (1960); *United States v. Alabama*, 192 F. Supp. 677 (M.D. Ala. 1961), aff'd, 304 F.2d 583 (5th Cir.), aff'd, 371 U.S. 37 (1962).

⁴⁶ Pub. L. No. 86-449, 74 Stat. 86.

⁴⁷ Pub. L. No. 88-352, 78 Stat. 241.

⁴⁸ Pub. L. No. 89-110, 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C. § 1973 et seq.

⁴⁹ The phrase “test or device” was defined as any requirement for (1) demonstrating the ability to read, write, understand, or interpret any matter, (2) demonstrating any educational achievement or knowledge, (3) demonstrating good moral character, (4) proving qualifications by vouching of registered voters. Aimed primarily at literacy tests, *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301, 333-34 (1966), the Act was considerably broadened through the Court’s interpretation of § 5, 42 U.S.C. § 1973c, which require the approval either of the Attorney General or a three-judge court in the District of Columbia before a State could put into effect any new voting qualification or prerequisite to voting or standard, practice, or procedure with respect to voting, to include such changes as apportionment and districting, adop-

voting age population in that jurisdiction was registered on November 1, 1964, or voted in the 1964 presidential election, such tests or devices were to be suspended for five years and no person should be denied the right to vote on the basis of such a test or device. A State could reinstitute such a test or device within the prescribed period only by establishing in a three-judge court in the District of Columbia that the test or device did not have a discriminatory intent or effect and the covered jurisdiction could only change its election laws in that period by obtaining the approval of the Attorney General or a three-judge court in the District of Columbia. The Act also provided for the appointment of federal examiners who could register persons meeting nondiscriminatory state qualifications who then must be permitted to vote.

These laws the Supreme Court upheld and expansively applied. In *United States v. Mississippi*⁵⁰ the Court held that the Attorney General was properly authorized to sue for preventive relief to protect the right of citizens to vote, that the State could be sued, and that various election officers were defendants and the suit could not be defeated by the resignation of various officers. A lower federal court's judgment voiding an "interpretation test," which required an applicant to interpret a section of the state or federal constitution to the satisfaction of the voting registrar was approved in *Louisiana v. United States*.⁵¹ The test was bad because it vested vast discretion in the registrars to determine qualifications while imposing no definite and objective standards for administration of the tests, a system which the evidence showed had been administered so as to disqualify African Americans and qualify whites. The Court also affirmed the lower court's decree invalidating imposition of a new objective test for new voters unless the State required all present voters to reregister so that all voters were tested by the same standards.

But it was in upholding the constitutionality of the 1965 Act that the Court sketched in the outlines of a broad power in Con-

tion of at-large instead of district elections, candidate qualification regulations, provisions for assistance of illiterate voters, movement of polling places, adoption of appointive instead of elective positions, annexations, and public employer restrictions upon employees running for elective office. *Allen v. State Board of Elections*, 393 U.S. 544 (1969); *Perkins v. Matthews*, 400 U.S. 379 (1971); *Georgia v. United States*, 411 U.S. 526 (1973); *Dougherty County Bd. of Educ. v. White*, 439 U.S. 32 (1978). *See also* *United States v. Board of Comm'rs of Sheffield*, 435 U.S. 110 (1978) (pre-coverage provisions apply to all entities having power over any aspect of voting, not just "political subdivisions" as defined in Act).

⁵⁰ 380 U.S. 128 (1965).

⁵¹ 380 U.S. 145 (1965). *See also* *United States v. Thomas*, 362 U.S. 58 (1960); *United States v. Alabama*, 362 U.S. 602 (1960); *Alabama v. United States*, 371 U.S. 37 (1962).

gress to enforce the Fifteenth Amendment.⁵² While § 1 authorized the courts to strike down state statutes and procedures which denied the vote on the basis of race, the Court held, § 2 authorized Congress to go beyond proscribing certain discriminatory statutes and practices to “enforcing” the guarantee by any rational means at its disposal. The standard was the same as that employed under the “necessary and proper” clause supporting other congressional legislation. Congress was therefore justified in deciding that certain areas of the Nation were the primary locations of voting discrimination and in directing its remedial legislation to those areas. Congress chose a rational formula based on the existence of voting tests which could be used to discriminate and based on low registration or voting rates demonstrating the likelihood that the tests had been so used; it could properly suspend for a period all literacy tests in the affected areas upon findings that they had been administered discriminatorily and that illiterate whites had been registered while both literate and illiterate African Americans had not been; it could require the States to seek federal permission to reinstitute old tests or to institute new ones; and it could provide for federal examiners to register qualified voters. The nearly unanimous decision affords Congress a vast amount of discretion to enact measures designed to enforce the Amendment through broad affirmative prescriptions rather than through proscriptions of specific practices.⁵³ Subsequent decisions confirm the reach of this power. In one case, the Court held that evidence of discrimination in the educational opportunities available to black children in the county as compared to that available to white children during the period in which most of the adults who were now potential voters were in school precluded a North Carolina county from reinstituting a literacy test because of the past educational discrimination.⁵⁴ And when Congress in 1970⁵⁵ suspended for a five-year period literacy tests throughout the Nation, the Court unanimously sustained the action as a valid measure to enforce the Fifteenth Amendment.⁵⁶

Moreover, in *City of Rome v. United States*,⁵⁷ the Court read even more broadly the scope of Congress’ remedial powers under § 2 of the Fifteenth Amendment, paralleling the similar reasoning under § 5 of the Fourteenth. The jurisdiction sought to escape from

⁵² *South Carolina v. Katzenbach*, 383 U.S. 301 (1966).

⁵³ Justice Black dissented from that portion of the decision which upheld the requirement that before a State could change its voting laws it must seek approval of the Attorney General or a federal court. *Id.* at 355.

⁵⁴ *Gaston County v. United States*, 395 U.S. 285 (1969).

⁵⁵ 84 Stat. 315, 42 U.S.C. § 1973aa.

⁵⁶ *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 400 U.S. 112, 131–34, 144–47, 216–17, 231–36, 282–84 (1970).

⁵⁷ 446 U.S. 156 (1980).

coverage of the Voting Rights Act by showing that it had not utilized any discriminatory practices within the prescribed period. The lower court had found that the City had engaged in practices without any discriminatory motive but that the practices had had a discriminatory impact. The City thus argued that, inasmuch as the Fifteenth Amendment reached only purposeful discrimination, the Act's proscription of effect as well as purpose went beyond Congress' power. The Court held, however, that even if discriminatory intent was a prerequisite to finding a violation of § 1 of the Fifteenth Amendment by the courts,⁵⁸ Congress had the authority to go beyond that and proscribe electoral devices that had the effect of discriminating. The section, like § 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment, was in effect a "necessary and proper clause" enabling Congress to enact enforcement legislation which was rationally related to the end sought and which was not prohibited by it but was consistent with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, even though the actual practice outlawed or restricted would not be judicially found to violate the Fifteenth Amendment. In so acting, Congress could prohibit state action that perpetuated the effect of past discrimination, or that, because of the existence of past purposeful discrimination, raised a risk of purposeful discrimination that might not lend itself to judicial invalidation. "It is clear, then, that under § 2 of the Fifteenth Amendment Congress may prohibit practices that in and of themselves do not violate § 1 of the Amendment, so long as the prohibitions attacking racial discrimination in voting are 'appropriate,' as that term is defined in *McCulloch v. Maryland* and *Ex parte Virginia* Congress could rationally have concluded that, because electoral changes by jurisdictions with a demonstrable history of intentional racial discrimination in voting create the risk of purposeful discrimination, it was proper to prohibit changes that have a discriminatory impact."⁵⁹ *City of Rome* is highly significant for the validity of congressional additions to the Voting Rights Act. In 1975 and 1982, the Act was extended and revised to increase its effectiveness,⁶⁰ and the 1982 Amendments

⁵⁸ *Cf. City of Mobile v. Bolden*, 446 U.S. 55 (1980).

⁵⁹ *City of Rome v. United States*, 446 U.S. 156, 177 (1980). Justices Powell, Rehnquist, and Stewart dissented. *Id.* at 193, 206.

⁶⁰ The 1975 amendments, Pub. L. 94-73, 89 Stat. 400, extended the Act for seven years, expanded it to include those areas having minorities distinguished by their language, i.e., "persons who are American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives or of Spanish heritage," 207, 42 U.S.C. § 1973 1f(c)(3), in which certain statistical tests are met and requiring election materials be provided in the language(s) of the group(s), and enlarged to require bilingual elections if more than five percent of the voting age citizens of a political subdivision are members of a single language minority group whose illiteracy rate is higher than the national rate. The 1982 amendments, Pub. L. 97-205, 96 Stat. 131, in addition to the § 2 revision, alter after August 5, 1984, the provisions by which a covered jurisdiction may take itself from

were addressed to revitalizing § 2 of the Act, which, unlike §§ 4 and 5, that remain limited to a number of jurisdictions, applies nationwide.⁶¹ As enacted in 1965, § 2 largely tracked the language of the Fifteenth Amendment itself. In *City of Mobile v. Bolden*,⁶² a majority of the Court agreed that the Fifteenth Amendment and § 2 of the Act were coextensive, but the Justices did not agree on the meaning thus to be ascribed to the statute. A plurality did believe that because the constitutional provision reached only purposeful discrimination, § 2 was similarly limited. It was one major purpose of Congress in 1982 to set aside this possible interpretation and provide that any electoral practice “which results in a denial or abridgement” of the right to vote on account of race or color will violate the Act.⁶³ The subsequent Court adoption, or re-adoption, of the standards by which it can be determined when a practice denies or abridges the right to vote, though couched in terms of proving intent or motivation, may well bring the constitutional and statutory standards into such close agreement that the constitutional question will not arise.⁶⁴

under the Act by proving to the special court in the District of Columbia that it has complied with the Act for the previous ten years and that it has taken positive steps both to encourage minority political participation and to remove structural barriers to minority electoral influence. Moreover, the amendments change the result in *Beer v. United States*, 425 U.S. 130 (1976), in which the Court had held that a covered jurisdiction was precluded from altering a voting practice only if the change would lead to a retrogression in the position of racial minorities; even if the change was only a little ameliorative of existing discrimination, the jurisdiction could implement it. The 1982 amendments provide that the change may not be approved if it would “perpetuate voting discrimination,” in effect applying the new § 2 results test to preclearance procedures. S. Rep. No. 417, 97th Congress, 2d Sess. 12 (1982); H.R. Rep. No. 227, 97th Congress, 1st Sess. 28 (1981).

⁶¹ Private parties may bring suit to challenge electoral practices under § 2. It provided, before the 1982 amendments, that “[n]o voting qualification or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure shall be imposed or applied by any State or political subdivision to deny or abridge the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color.”

⁶² 446 U.S. 55 (1980). *See id.* at 60–61 (Justices Stewart, Powell, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger), and *id.* at 105 n.2 (Justice Marshall dissenting).

⁶³ In § 3 of the 1982 amendments, § 2 of the Act was amended by the insertion of the quoted phrase and the addition of a section setting out a nonexclusive list of factors making up a totality of circumstances test by which a violation of § 2 would be determined. 96 Stat. 134, amending 42 U.S. § 1973. Without any discussion of the Fifteenth Amendment, the Court in *Thornburg v. Gingles*, 478 U.S. 30 (1986), interpreted and applied the “totality of the circumstances” test in the context of multimember districting.

⁶⁴ *See Rogers v. Lodge*, 458 U.S. 613 (1982).

SIXTEENTH AMENDMENT

INCOME TAX

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INCOME TAX

SIXTEENTH AMENDMENT

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

INCOME TAX

History and Purpose of the Amendment

The ratification of this Amendment was the direct consequence of the Court's decision in 1895 in *Pollock v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co.*,¹ whereby the attempt of Congress the previous year to tax incomes uniformly throughout the United States² was held by a divided court to be unconstitutional. A tax on incomes derived from property,³ the Court declared, was a "direct tax" which Congress under the terms of Article I, § 2, and § 9, could impose only by the rule of apportionment according to population, although scarcely fifteen years prior the Justices had unanimously sustained⁴ the collection of a similar tax during the Civil War,⁵ the only other occasion preceding the Sixteenth Amendment in which Congress had ventured to utilize this method of raising revenue.⁶

During the interim between the *Pollock* decision in 1895 and the ratification of the Sixteenth Amendment in 1913, the Court gave evidence of a greater awareness of the dangerous consequences to national solvency which that holding threatened, and partially circumvented the threat, either by taking refuge in redefinitions of "direct tax" or, and more especially, by emphasizing, virtually to the exclusion of the former, the history of excise taxation. Thus, in a series of cases, notably *Nicol v. Ames*,⁷

¹ 157 U.S. 429 (1895); 158 U.S. 601 (1895).

² Ch. 349, § 27, 28 Stat. 509, 553.

³ The Court conceded that taxes on incomes from "professions, trades, employments, or vocations" levied by this act were excise taxes and therefore valid. The entire statute, however, was voided on the ground that Congress never intended to permit the entire "burden of the tax to be borne by professions, trades, employments, or vocations" after real estate and personal property had been exempted, 158 U.S. at 635.

⁴ *Springer v. United States*, 102 U.S. 586 (1881).

⁵ Ch. 173, § 116, 13 Stat. 223, 281 (1864).

⁶ For an account of the *Pollock* decision, see supra, pp. 352-56.

⁷ 173 U.S. 509 (1899).

Knowlton v. Moore,⁸ and *Patton v. Brady*,⁹ the Court held the following taxes to have been levied merely upon one of the “incidents of ownership” and hence to be excises: a tax which involved affixing revenue stamps to memoranda evidencing the sale of merchandise on commodity exchanges, an inheritance tax, and a war revenue tax upon tobacco on which the hitherto imposed excise tax had already been paid and which was held by the manufacturer for resale.

Because of such endeavors the Court thus found it possible to sustain a corporate income tax as an excise “measured by income” on the privilege of doing business in corporate form.¹⁰ The adoption of the Sixteenth Amendment, however, put an end to speculation whether the Court, unaided by constitutional amendment, would persist along these lines of construction until it had reversed its holding in the *Pollock* case. Indeed, in its initial appraisal¹¹ of the Amendment it classified income taxes as being inherently “indirect.” “[T]he command of the amendment that all income taxes shall not be subject to apportionment by a consideration of the sources from which the taxed income may be derived, forbids the application to such taxes of the rule applied in the *Pollock* case by which alone such taxes were removed from the great class of excises, duties, and imports subject to the rule of uniformity and were placed under the other or direct class.”¹² “[T]he Sixteenth Amendment conferred no new power of taxation but simply prohibited the previous complete and plenary power of income taxation possessed by Congress from the beginning from being taken out of the category of indirect taxation to which it inherently belonged.”¹³

Income Subject to Taxation

Building upon definitions formulated in cases construing the Corporation Tax Act of 1909,¹⁴ the Court initially described income as the “gain derived from capital, from labor, or from both combined,” inclusive of the “profit gained through a sale or conversion of capital assets”;¹⁵ in the following array of factual situations it

⁸ 178 U.S. 41 (1900).

⁹ 184 U.S. 608 (1902).

¹⁰ *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*, 220 U.S. 107 (1911).

¹¹ *Brushaber v. Union Pac. R.R.*, 240 U.S. 1 (1916); *Stanton v. Baltic Mining Co.*, 240 U.S. 103 (1916); *Tyee Realty Co. v. Anderson*, 240 U.S. 115 (1916).

¹² *Brushaber v. Union Pac. R.R.*, 240 U.S. 1, 18–19 (1916).

¹³ *Stanton v. Baltic Mining Co.*, 240 U.S. 103, 112 (1916).

¹⁴ *Stratton's Independence v. Howbert*, 231 U.S. 399 (1913); *Doyle v. Mitchell Bros. Co.*, 247 U.S. 179 (1918).

¹⁵ *Eisner v. Macomber*, 252 U.S. 189 (1920); *Bowers v. Kerbaugh-Empire Co.*, 271 U.S. 170 (1926).

subsequently applied this definition to achieve results that have been productive of extended controversy.

Corporate Dividends: When Taxable.—Rendered in conformity with the belief that all income “in the ordinary sense of the word” became taxable under the Sixteenth Amendment, the earliest decisions of the Court on the taxability of corporate dividends occasioned little comment. Emphasizing that in all such cases the stockholder is to be viewed as “a different entity from the corporation,” the Court in *Lynch v. Hornby*,¹⁶ held that a cash dividend equal to 24 percent of the par value of the outstanding stock and made possible largely by the conversion into money of assets earned prior to the adoption of the Amendment, was income taxable to the stockholder for the year in which he received it, notwithstanding that such an extraordinary payment might appear “to be a mere realization in possession of an inchoate and contingent interest . . . [of] the stockholder . . . in a surplus of corporate assets previously existing.” In *Peabody v. Eisner*,¹⁷ decided on the same day and deemed to have been controlled by the preceding case, the Court ruled that a dividend paid in the stock of another corporation, although representing earnings that had accrued before ratification of the Amendment, was also taxable to the shareholder as income. The dividend was likened to a distribution in specie.

Two years later the Court decided *Eisner v. Macomber*,¹⁸ and the controversy which that decision precipitated still endures. Departing from the interpretation placed upon the Sixteenth Amendment in the earlier cases, i.e., that the purpose of the Amendment was to correct the “error” committed in the Pollock case and to restore income taxation to “the category of indirect taxation to which it inherently belonged,” Justice Pitney, who delivered the opinion in the *Eisner* case, indicated that the sole purpose of the Sixteenth Amendment was merely to “remove the necessity which otherwise might exist for an apportionment among the States of taxes laid on

¹⁶ 247 U.S. 339, 344 (1918). On the other hand, in *Lynch v. Turrish*, 247 U.S. 221 (1918), the single and final dividend distributed upon liquidation of the entire assets of a corporation, although equaling twice the par value of the capital stock, was declared to represent only the intrinsic value of the latter earned prior to the effective date of the Amendment, and hence was not taxable as income to the shareholder in the year in which actually received. Similarly, in *Southern Pacific Co. v. Lowe*, 247 U.S. 330 (1918), dividends paid out of surplus accumulated before the effective date of the Amendment by a railway company whose entire capital stock was owned by another railway company and whose physical assets were leased to and used by the latter was declared to be a nontaxable bookkeeping transaction between virtually identical corporations.

¹⁷ 247 U.S. 347 (1918).

¹⁸ 252 U.S. 189, 206–08 (1920).

income.” He thereupon undertook to demonstrate how what was not income, but an increment of capital when received, could later be transmitted into income upon sale or conversion and could be taxed as such without the necessity of apportionment. In short, the term “income” acquired to some indefinite extent a restrictive significance.

Specifically, the Justice held that a stock dividend was capital when received by a stockholder of the issuing corporation and did not become taxable without apportionment, that is, as “income,” until sold or converted, and then only to the extent that a gain was realized upon the proportion of the original investment which such stock represented. “A stock dividend,” Justice Pitney maintained, “far from being a realization of profits to the stockholder, . . . tends rather to postpone such realization, in that the fund represented by the new stock has been transferred from surplus to capital, and no longer is available for actual distribution . . . not only does a stock dividend really take nothing from . . . the corporation and add nothing to that of the shareholder, but . . . the antecedent accumulation of profits evidenced thereby, while indicating that the shareholder is richer because of an increase of his capital, at the same time shows [that] he has not realized or received any income in” what is no more than a “bookkeeping transaction.” But conceding that a stock dividend represented a gain, the Justice concluded that the only gain taxable as “income” under the Amendment was “a gain, a profit, something of exchangeable value proceeding from the property, severed from the capital however invested or employed, and coming in, being ‘derived,’ that is, received or drawn by the recipient [the taxpayer] for his separate use, benefit, and disposal;” Only the latter in his opinion, answered the description of income “derived” from property, whereas “a gain accruing to a capital, not a growth or an increment of value in the investment” did not.¹⁹ Although steadfastly refusing to depart from the principle²⁰ which it asserted in *Eisner v. Macomber*, the Court

¹⁹Id. at 207, 211–12 (1920). This decision has been severely criticized, chiefly on the ground that gains accruing to capital over a period of years are not income and are not transformed into income by being dissevered from capital through sale or conversion. Critics have also experienced difficulty in understanding how a tax on income which has been severed from capital can continue to be labeled a “direct” tax on the capital from which the severance has thus been made. Finally, the contention has been made that in stressing the separate identities of a corporation and its stockholders, the Court overlooked the fact that when a surplus has been accumulated, the stockholders are thereby enriched, and that a stock dividend may therefore be appropriately viewed simply as a device whereby the corporation reinvests money earned in their behalf. *See also* *Merchants’ L. & T. Co. v. Smietanka*, 255 U.S. 509 (1921).

²⁰Reconsideration was refused in *Helvering v. Griffiths*, 318 U.S. 371 (1943).

in subsequent decisions has, however, slightly narrowed the application thereof. Thus, the distribution, as a dividend, to stockholders of an existing corporation of the stock of a new corporation to which the former corporation, under a reorganization, had transferred all its assets, including a surplus of accumulated profits, was treated as taxable income. The fact that a comparison of the market value of the shares in the older corporation immediately before, with the aggregate market value of those shares plus the dividend shares immediately after, the dividend showed that the stockholders experienced no increase in aggregate wealth was declared not to be a proper test for determining whether taxable income had been received by these stockholders.²¹ On the other hand, no taxable income was held to have been produced by the mere receipt by a stockholder of rights to subscribe for shares in a new issue of capital stock, the intrinsic value of which was assumed to be in excess of the issuing price. The right to subscribe was declared to be analogous to a stock dividend, and “only so much of the proceeds obtained upon the sale of such rights as represents a realized profit over cost” to the stockholders was deemed to be taxable income.²² Similarly, on grounds of consistency with *Eisner v. Macomber*, the Court has ruled that inasmuch as it gave the stockholder an interest different from that represented by his former holdings, a dividend in common stock to holders of preferred stock,²³ or a dividend

²¹United States v. Phellis, 257 U.S. 156 (1921); Rockefeller v. United States, 257 U.S. 176 (1921). See also Cullinan v. Walker, 262 U.S. 134 (1923).

In *Marr v. United States*, 268 U.S. 536, 540–41 (1925), it was held that the increased market value of stock issued by a new corporation in exchange for stock of an older corporation, the assets of which it was organized to absorb, was subject to taxation as income to the holder, notwithstanding that the income represented profits of the older corporation and that the capital remained invested in the same general enterprise. *Weiss v. Stearn*, 265 U.S. 242 (1924), in which the additional value in new securities was held not taxable, was likened to *Eisner v. Macomber*, and distinguished from the aforementioned cases on the ground of preservation of corporate identity. Although the “new corporation had . . . been organized to take over the assets and business of the old . . . , the corporate identity was deemed to have been substantially maintained because the new corporation was organized under the laws of the same State with presumably the same powers as the old. There was also no change in the character of the securities issued,” with the result that “the proportional interest of the stockholder after the distribution of the new securities was deemed to be exactly the same.”

Under existing law, however, when a taxpayer exchanges all of the outstanding stock for a minor percentage of the total shares of a larger corporation, plus cash, the gain to be recognized in full is not limited to the cash but embraces the excess of the sum of the market value of the stock acquired plus the cash over the cost of the original stock plus the expenses of the sale. *Turnbow v. Commissioner*, 368 U.S. 337 (1961).

²²*Miles v. Safe Deposit Co.*, 259 U.S. 247 (1922).

²³*Koshland v. Helvering*, 298 U.S. 441 (1936).

in preferred stock accepted by a holder of common stock²⁴ was income taxable under the Sixteenth Amendment.

Corporate Earnings: When Taxable.—On at least two occasions the Court has rejected as untenable the contention that a tax on undistributed corporate profits is essentially a penalty rather than a tax or that it is a direct tax on capital and hence is not exempt from the requirement of apportionment. Inasmuch as the exaction was permissible as a tax, its validity was held not to be impaired by its penal objective, namely, “to force corporations to distribute earnings in order to create a basis for taxation against the stockholders.” As to the added contention that, because liability was assessed upon a mere purpose to evade imposition of surtaxes against stockholders, the tax was a direct tax on a state of mind, the Court replied that while “the existence of the defined purpose was a condition precedent to the imposition of the tax liability, . . . [did] not prevent it from being a true income tax within the meaning of the Sixteenth Amendment.”²⁵ Subsequently, in *Helvering v. Northwest Steel Mills*,²⁶ this appraisal of the constitutionality of the undistributed profits tax was buttressed by the following observation: “It is true that the surtax is imposed upon the annual income only if it is not distributed, but this does not serve to make it anything other than a true tax on income within the meaning of the Sixteenth Amendment. Nor is it true . . . that because there might be an impairment of the capital stock, the tax on the current annual profit would be the equivalent of a tax upon capital. Whether there was an impairment of the capital stock or not, the tax . . . was imposed on profits earned during . . .—a tax year—and therefore on profits constituting income within the meaning of the Sixteenth Amendment.”²⁷

Likening a cooperative to a corporation, federal courts have also declared to be taxable income the net earnings of a farmers' cooperative, a portion of which was used to pay dividends on capital stock without reference to patronage. The argument that such

²⁴ *Helvering v. Gowran*, 302 U.S. 238 (1937).

²⁵ *Helvering v. National Grocery Co.*, 304 U.S. 282, 288–89 (1938). In *Helvering v. Mitchell*, 303 U.S. 391 (1938), the defendant contended the collection of fifty per cent of any deficiency in addition to the deficiency alleged to have resulted from a fraudulent intent to evade the income tax amounted to the imposition of a criminal penalty. The Court, however, described the additional sum as a civil and not a criminal sanction, and one which could be constitutionally employed to safeguard the Government against loss of revenue. In contrast, the exaction upheld in *Helvering v. National Grocery Co.*, though conceded to possess the attributes of a civil sanction, was declared to be sustainable as a tax.

²⁶ 311 U.S. 46 (1940). See also *Crane-Johnson Co. v. Helvering*, 311 U.S. 54 (1940).

²⁷ 311 U.S. 53.

earnings were in reality accumulated savings of its patrons which the cooperative held as their bailee was rejected as unsound for the reason that “while those who might be entitled to patronage dividends have . . . an interest in such earnings, such interest never ripens into an individual ownership . . . until and if a patronage dividend be declared.” Had such net earnings been apportioned to all of the patrons during the year, “there might be . . . a more serious question as to whether such earnings constituted ‘income’ [of the cooperative] within the Amendment.”²⁸ Similarly, the power of Congress to tax the income of an unincorporated joint stock association has been held to be unaffected by the fact that under state law the association is not a legal entity and cannot hold title to property, or by the fact that the shareholders are liable for its debts as partners.²⁹

Whether subsidies paid to corporations in money or in the form of grants of land or other physical property constitute taxable income has also concerned the Court. In *Edwards v. Cuba Railroad*,³⁰ it ruled that subsidies of lands, equipment, and money paid by Cuba for the construction of a railroad were not taxable income but were to be viewed as having been received by the railroad as a reimbursement for capital expenditures in completing such project. On the other hand, sums paid out by the Federal Government to fulfill its guarantee of minimum operating revenue to railroads during the six months following relinquishment of their control by that government were found to be taxable income. Such payments were distinguished from those excluded from computation of income in the preceding case in that the former were neither bonuses, nor gifts, nor subsidies, “that is, contributions to capital.”³¹ Other corporate receipts deemed to be taxable as income include the following: (1) “insiders profits” realized by a director and stockholder of a corporation from transaction in its stock, which, as required by the Securities and Exchange Act,³² are paid over to the corporation;³³ (2) money received as exemplary damages for fraud or as the punitive two-thirds portion of a treble damage antitrust recovery;³⁴ and (3) compensation awarded for the fair rental value of trucking facilities operated by the taxpayer under control and possession of the Government during World War II, for in the last

²⁸ *Farmers Union Co-op v. Commissioner*, 90 F.2d 488, 491, 492 (8th Cir. 1937).

²⁹ *Burk-Waggoner Ass'n v. Hopkins*, 269 U.S. 110 (1925).

³⁰ 268 U.S. 628 (1925).

³¹ *Texas & Pacific Ry. Co. v. United States*, 286 U.S. 285, 289 (1932); *Continental Tie & L. Co. v. United States*, 286 U.S. 290 (1932).

³² 15 U.S.C. § 78p.

³³ *General American Investors Co. v. Commissioner*, 348 U.S. 434 (1955).

³⁴ *Commissioner v. Glenshaw Glass Co.*, 348 U.S. 426 (1955).

instance the Government never acquired title to the property and had not damaged it beyond ordinary wear.³⁵

Gains: When Taxable.—When through forfeiture of a lease in 1933, a landlord became possessed of a new building erected on his land by the outgoing tenant, the resulting gain to the former was taxable to him in that year. Although “economic gain is not always taxable as income, it is settled that the realization of gain need not be in cash derived from the sale of an asset. . . . The fact that the gain is a portion of the value of the property received by the . . . [landlord] does not negative its realization. . . . [Nor is it necessary] to recognition of taxable gain that . . . [the landlord] should be able to sever the improvement begetting the gain from his original capital.” Hence, the taxpayer was incorrect in contending that the Amendment “does not permit the taxation of such [a] gain without apportionment amongst the states.³⁶ Consistent with this holding the Court has also ruled that when an apartment house was acquired by bequest subject to an unassumed mortgage and several years thereafter was sold for a price slightly in excess of the mortgage, the basis for determining the gain from that sale was the difference between the selling price, undiminished by the amount of the mortgage, and the value of the property at the time of the acquisition, less deductions for depreciation during the years the building was held by the taxpayer. The latter’s contention that the Revenue Act, as thus applied, taxed something which was not revenue was declared to be unfounded.³⁷

As against the argument of a donee that a gift of stock became a capital asset when received and that therefore, when disposed of, no part of that value could be treated as taxable income to said donee, the Court has declared that it was within the power of Congress to require a donee of stock, who sells it at a profit, to pay income tax on the difference between the selling price and the value when the donor acquired it.³⁸ Moreover, “the receipt in cash or property . . . not [being] the only characteristic of realization of

³⁵ Commissioner v. Gillette Motor Co., 364 U.S. 130 (1960).

³⁶ Helvering v. Brunn, 309 U.S. 461, 468–69 (1940).

³⁷ Crane v. Commissioner, 331 U.S. 1, 15–16 (1947).

³⁸ The donor could not, “by mere gift, enable another to hold this stock free from . . . [the] right . . . [of] the sovereign to take part of any increase in its value when separated through sale or conversion and reduced to possession.” Taft v. Bowers, 278 U.S. 470, 482, 484 (1929). However, when a husband, as part of a divorce settlement, transfers his own corporate stock to his wife, he is deemed to have exchanged the stock for the release of his wife’s inchoate, marital rights, the value of which are presumed to be equal to the current, market value of the stock, and, accordingly, he incurs a taxable gain measured by the difference between the initial purchase price of the stock and said market value upon transfer. United States v. Davis, 370 U.S. 65 (1962).

income to a taxpayer on the cash receipt basis," it follows that one who is normally taxable only on the receipt of interest payments cannot escape taxation thereon by giving away his right to such income in advance of payment. When "the taxpayer does not receive payment of income in money or property, realization may occur when the last step is taken by which he obtains the fruition of the economic gain which has already accrued to him." Hence an owner of bonds, reporting on the cash receipts basis, who clipped interest coupons therefrom before their due date and gave them to his son, was held to have realized taxable income in the amount of said coupons, notwithstanding that his son had collected them upon maturity later in the year.³⁹

³⁹ *Helvering v. Horst*, 311 U.S. 112, 115–16 (1940).

With a frequency that for obvious reasons is progressively diminishing, the Court also has been called upon to resolve questions as to whether gains, realized after 1913, on transactions consummated prior to ratification of the Sixteenth Amendment are taxable, and if so, how such tax is to be determined. The Court's answer generally has been that if the gain to the person whose income is under consideration became such subsequently to the date at which the amendment went into effect, namely, March 1, 1913, and is a real, and not merely an apparent, gain, said gain is taxable. Thus, one who purchased stock in 1912 for \$500 could not limit his taxable gain to the difference, \$695, the value of the stock on March 1, 1913 and \$13,931, the price obtained on the sale thereof, in 1916; but was obliged to pay tax on the entire gain, that is the difference between the original purchase price and the proceeds of the sale, *Goodrich v. Edwards*, 255 U.S. 527 (1921). Conversely, one who acquired stock in 1912 for \$291,600 and who sold the same in 1916 for only \$269,346, incurred a loss and could not be taxed at all, notwithstanding the fact that on March 1, 1913, his stock had depreciated to \$148,635. *Walsh v. Brewster*, 255 U.S. 536 (1921). On the other hand, although the difference between the amount of life insurance premiums paid as of 1908, and the amount distributed in 1919, when the insured received the amount of his policy plus cash dividends apportioned thereto since 1908, constituted a gain, that portion of the latter which accrued between 1908 and 1913 was deemed to be an accretion of capital and hence not taxable. *Lucas v. Alexander*, 279 U.S. 473 (1929).

However, a litigant who, in 1915, reduced to judgment a suit pending on February 26, 1913, for an accounting under a patent infringement, was unable to have treated as capital, and excluded from the taxable income produced by such settlement, that portion of his claim which had accrued prior to March 1, 1913. Income within the meaning of the Amendment was interpreted to be the fruit that is born of capital, not the potency of fruition. All that the taxpayer possessed in 1913 was a contingent chose in action which was inchoate, uncertain, and contested. *United States v. Safety Car Heating Co.*, 297 U.S. 88 (1936).

Similarly, purchasers of coal lands subject to mining leases executed before adoption of the Amendment could not successfully contend that royalties received during 1920–1926 were payments for capital assets sold before March 1, 1913, and hence not taxable. Such an exemption, these purchasers argued, would have been in harmony with applicable local law whereunder title to coal passes immediately to the lessee on execution of such leases. To the Court, on the other hand, such leases were not to be viewed "as a 'sale' of the mineral content of the soil" inasmuch as minerals "may or may not be present in the leased premises, and may or may not be found [therein]. . . . If found, their abstraction . . . is a time consuming operation and the payments made by the lessee . . . do not normally become payable as the result of a single transaction. . . ." The result for tax purposes would have been the same even had the lease provided that title to the minerals would pass

Income from Illicit Transactions.—In *United States v. Sullivan*,⁴⁰ the Court, held that gains derived from illicit traffic were taxable income under the act of 1921.⁴¹ Said Justice Holmes for the unanimous Court: “We see no reason . . . why the fact that a business is unlawful should exempt it from paying the taxes that if lawful it would have to pay.”⁴² Consistent therewith, although not without dissent, the Court ruled that Congress has the power to tax as income moneys received by an extortioner,⁴³ and, more recently, that embezzled money is taxable income of an embezzler in the year of embezzlement. “When the taxpayer acquires earnings, lawfully or unlawfully, without the consensual recognition, express or implied, of an obligation to repay and without restriction as to their disposition, ‘he has received income . . . , even though it may still be claimed that he is not entitled to retain the money, and even though he may still be adjudged liable to restore its equivalent.’”⁴⁴

Deductions and Exemptions.—Notwithstanding the authorization contained in the Sixteenth Amendment to tax income “from whatever source derived,” Congress has been held not to be precluded thereby from granting exemptions.⁴⁵ Thus, the fact that “under the Revenue Acts of 1913, 1916, 1917, and 1918, stock fire insurance companies were taxed . . . upon gains realized from the sale . . . of property accruing subsequent to March 1, 1913,” but were not so taxed by the Revenue Acts of 1921, 1924, and 1926, did not prevent Congress, under the terms of the Revenue Act of 1928, from taxing all the gain attributable to increase in value after March 1, 1913, which such a company realized from a sale of property in 1928. The constitutional power of Congress to tax a gain being well established, Congress was declared competent to choose “the moment of its realization and the amount realized”; and “its failure to impose a tax upon the increase in value in the earlier years . . . [could not] preclude it from taxing the gain in the year when realized”⁴⁶ Congress is equally well equipped with the “power to condition, limit, or deny deductions from gross in-

only “on severance by the lessee.” *Bankers Coal Co. v. Burnet*, 287 U.S. 308 (1932); *Burnet v. Harmel*, 287 U.S. 103, 106–107, 111 (1932).

⁴⁰ 274 U.S. 259 (1927).

⁴¹ 42 Stat. 227, 250, 268.

⁴² 274 U.S. 259, 263. Profits from illegal undertakings being taxable as income, expenses in the form of salaries and rentals incurred by bookmakers are deductible. *Commissioner v. Sullivan*, 356 U.S. 27 (1958).

⁴³ *Rutkin v. United States*, 343 U.S. 130 (1952). Four Justices, Black, Reed, Frankfurter, and Douglas, dissented.

⁴⁴ *James v. United States*, 366 U.S. 213, 219 (1961) (overruling *Commissioner v. Wilcox*, 327 U.S. 404 (1946)).

⁴⁵ *Brushaber v. Union Pac. R.R.*, 240 U.S. 1 (1916).

⁴⁶ *MacLaughlin v. Alliance Ins. Co.*, 286 U.S. 244, 250 (1932).

comes in order to arrive at the net that it chooses to tax.”⁴⁷ Accordingly, even though the rental value of a building used by its owner does not constitute income within the meaning of the Amendment,⁴⁸ Congress was competent to provide that an insurance company shall not be entitled to deductions for depreciation, maintenance, and property taxes on real estate owned and occupied by it unless it includes in its computation of gross income the rental value of the space thus used.⁴⁹

Also, a taxpayer who erected a \$3,000,000 office building on land, the unimproved worth of which was \$660,000, and who subsequently purchased the lease on the latter for \$2,100,000 is entitled to compute depreciation over the remaining useful life of the building on that portion of \$1,440,000, representing the difference between the price and the unimproved value, as may be allocated to the building; but he cannot deduct the \$1,440,000 as a business expense incurred in eliminating the cost of allegedly excessive rentals under the lease, nor can he treat that sum as a prepayment of rent to be amortized over the 21-year period that the lease was to run.⁵⁰

Diminution of Loss.—Mere diminution of loss is neither gain, profit, nor income. Accordingly, one who in 1913 borrowed a sum of money to be repaid in German marks and who subsequently lost

⁴⁷ *Helvering v. Ind. L. Ins. Co.*, 292 U.S. 371, 381 (1934); *Helvering v. Winmill*, 305 U.S. 79, 84 (1938).

⁴⁸ A tax on the rental value of property so occupied is a direct tax on the land and must be apportioned. *Helvering v. Ind. L. Ins. Co.*, 291 U.S. 371, 378–79 (1934).

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 381. Expenditures incurred in the prosecution of work under a contract for the purpose of earning profits are not capital investments, the cost of which, if converted, must first be restored from the proceeds before there is a capital gain taxable as income. Accordingly, a dredging contractor, recovering a judgment for breach of warranty of the character of the material to be dredged, must include the amount thereof in the gross income of the year in which it was received, rather than of the years during which the contract was performed, even though it merely represents a return of expenditures made in performing the contract and resulting in a loss. The gain or profit subject to tax under the Sixteenth Amendment is the excess of receipts over allowable deductions during the accounting period, without regard to whether or not such excess represents a profit ascertained on the basis of particular transactions of the taxpayer when they are brought to a conclusion. *Burnet v. Sanford & Brooks Co.*, 282 U.S. 359 (1931).

The grant on denial of deductions is not based on the taxpayers' engagement in constitutionally protected activities, and, accordingly, no deduction is granted for sums expended in combating legislation, enactment of which would destroy taxpayer's business. *Commarrano v. United States*, 358 U.S. 498 (1959).

Likewise, when tank truck owners, either intentionally for business reasons or unintentionally, violate state maximum weight laws, and incur fines, the latter are not deductible, for fines are penalties rather than tolls for the use of highways, and Congress is not to be viewed as having intended to encourage enterprises to violate state policy. *Tank Truck Rentals v. Commissioner*, 356 U.S. 30 (1958); *Hoover Express Co. v. United States*, 356 U.S. 38 (1958).

⁵⁰ *Millinery Corp. v. Commissioner*, 350 U.S. 456 (1956).

the money in a business transaction cannot be taxed on the curtailment of debt effected by using depreciated marks in 1921 to settle a liability of \$798,144 for \$113,688, the "saving" having been exceeded by a loss on the entire operation.⁵¹

⁵¹ *Bowers v. Kerbaugh-Empire Co.*, 271 U.S. 170 (1926).

POPULAR ELECTION OF SENATORS

SEVENTEENTH AMENDMENT

Clause 1. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

Clause 2. When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of each State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

Clause 3. This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

POPULAR ELECTION OF SENATORS

The ratification of this Amendment was the outcome of increasing popular dissatisfaction with the operation of the originally established method of electing Senators. As the franchise became exercisable by greater numbers of people, the belief became widespread that Senators ought to be popularly elected in the same manner as Representatives. Acceptance of this idea was fostered by the mounting accumulation of evidence of the practical disadvantages and malpractices attendant upon legislative selection, such as deadlocks within legislatures resulting in vacancies remaining unfilled for substantial intervals, the influencing of legislative selection by corrupt political organizations and special interest groups through purchase of legislative seats, and the neglect of duties by legislators as a consequence of protracted electoral contests. Prior to ratification, however, many States had perfected arrangements

calculated to afford the voters more effective control over the selection of Senators. State laws were amended so as to enable voters participating in primary elections to designate their preference for one of several party candidates for a senatorial seat, and nominations unofficially effected thereby were transmitted to the legislature. Although their action rested upon no stronger foundation than common understanding, the legislatures generally elected the winning candidate of the majority, and, indeed, in two States, candidates for legislative seats were required to promise to support, without regard to party ties, the senatorial candidate polling the most votes. As a result of such developments, at least 29 States by 1912, one year before ratification, were nominating Senators on a popular basis, and, as a consequence, the constitutional discretion of the legislatures had been reduced to little more than that retained by presidential electors.¹

Very shortly after ratification it was established that if a person possessed the qualifications requisite for voting for a Senator, his right to vote for such an officer was not derived merely from the constitution and laws of the State in which they are chosen but had its foundation in the Constitution of the United States.² Consistent with this view, federal courts declared that when local party authorities, acting pursuant to regulations prescribed by a party's state executive committee, refused to permit an African American, on account of his race, to vote in a primary to select candidates for the office of U.S. Senator, they deprived him of a right secured to him by the Constitution and laws, in violation of this Amendment.³ An Illinois statute, on the other hand, which required that a petition to form, and to nominate candidates for, a new political party be signed by at least 25,000 voters from at least 50 counties was held not to impair any right under the Seventeenth Amendment, notwithstanding that 52 percent of the State's voters were residents of one county, 87 percent were residents of 49 counties, and only 13 percent resided in the 53 least populous counties.⁴

¹ G. HAYNES, *THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES* 79-117 (1938).

² *United States v. Aczel*, 219 F. 917 (D. Ind. 1915) (citing *Ex parte Yarbrough*, 110 U.S. 651 (1884)).

³ *Chapman v. King*, 154 F.2d 460 (5th Cir. 1946), cert. denied, 327 U.S. 800 (1946).

⁴ *MacDougall v. Green*, 355 U.S. 281 (1948), overruled on equal protection grounds in *Moore v. Ogilvie*, 394 U.S. 814 (1969). See *Forsenius v. Harman*, 235 F. Supp. 66 (E.D.Va. 1964) aff'd on other grounds, 380 U.S. 529 (1965), where a three-judge District Court held that the certificate of residence requirement established by the Virginia legislature as an alternative to payment of a poll tax in federal elections was an additional qualification to voting in violation of the Seventeenth Amendment and Art. I, §2.

PROHIBITION OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS

EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

SECTION 2. The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

SECTION 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Validity of Adoption

Cases relating to this question are presented and discussed under Article V.

Enforcement

Cases produced by enforcement and arising under the Fourth and Fifth Amendments are considered in the discussion appearing under the those Amendments.

Repeal

This Amendment was repealed by the Twenty-first Amendment, and titles I and II of the National Prohibition Act¹ were subsequently specifically repealed by the act of August 27, 1935,² federal prohibition laws effective in various Districts and Territories were repealed as follows: District of Columbia—April 5, 1933, and

¹ Ch. 85, 41 Stat. 305.

² Ch. 740, 49 Stat. 872.

January 24, 1934;³ Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands—March 2, 1934;⁴ Hawaii—March 26, 1934;⁵ and Panama Canal Zone—June 19, 1934.⁶

Taking judicial notice of the fact that ratification of the Twenty-first Amendment was consummated on December 5, 1933, the Supreme Court held that the National Prohibition Act, insofar as it rested upon a grant of authority to Congress by the Eighteenth Amendment, thereupon become inoperative, with the result that prosecutions for violations of the National Prohibition Act, including proceedings on appeal, pending on, or begun after, the date of repeal, had to be dismissed for want of jurisdiction. Only final judgments of conviction rendered while the National Prohibition Act was in force remained unaffected.⁷ Likewise a heavy "special excise tax," insofar as it could be construed as part of the machinery for enforcing the Eighteenth Amendment, was deemed to have become inapplicable automatically upon the latter's repeal.⁸ However, liability on a bond conditioned upon the return on the day of trial of a vessel seized for illegal transportation of liquor was held not to have been extinguished by repeal when the facts disclosed that the trial took place in 1931 and had resulted in conviction of the

³ Ch. 19, 48 Stat. 25; ch. 4, 48 Stat. 319.

⁴ Ch. 37, 48 Stat. 361.

⁵ Ch. 88, 48 Stat. 467.

⁶ Ch. 657, 48 Stat. 1116.

⁷ *United States v. Chambers*, 291 U.S. 217, 222–26 (1934). *See also* *Ellerbee v. Aderhold*, 5 F. Supp. 1022 (N.D. Ga. 1934); *United States ex rel. Randall v. United States Marshal for Eastern Dist. of New York*, 143 F.2d 830 (2d Cir. 1944). The Twenty-first Amendment containing "no saving clause as to prosecutions for offenses therefore committed," these holdings were rendered unavoidable by virtue of the well-established principle that after "the expiration or repeal of a law, no penalty can be enforced, nor punishment inflicted, for violations of the law committed while it was in force. . . ." *The General Pinkney*, 9 U.S. (5 Cr.) 281, 283 (1809), *quoted in* *United States v. Chambers*, *supra*, 291 U.S. at 223.

⁸ *United States v. Constantine*, 296 U.S. 287 (1935). The Court also took the position that even if the statute embodying this "tax" had not been "adopted to penalize violations of the Amendment," but merely to obtain a penalty for violations of State liquor laws, "it ceased to be enforceable at the date of repeal," for with the lapse of the unusual enforcement powers contained in the Eighteenth Amendment, Congress could not, without infringing upon powers reserved to the States by the Tenth Amendment, "impose cumulative penalties above and beyond those specified by State law for infractions of . . . [a] State's criminal code by its own citizens." Justice Cardozo, with whom Justices Brandeis and Stone were associated, dissented on the ground that, on its face, the statute levying this "tax" was "an appropriate instrument of . . . fiscal policy. . . . Classification by Congress according to the nature of the calling affected by a tax . . . does not cease to be permissible because the line of division between callings to be favored and those to be reprovved corresponds with a division between innocence and criminality under the statutes of a state." *Id.* 294, 296, 297–98. In earlier cases it was nevertheless recognized that Congress also may tax what it forbids and that the basic tax on distilled spirits remained valid and enforceable during as well as after the life of the Amendment. *See United States v. Yuginovich*, 256 U.S. 450, 462 (1921); *United States v. Stafoff*, 260 U.S. 477 (1923); *United States v. Rizzo*, 297 U.S. 530 (1936).

crew. The liability became complete upon occurrence of the breach of the express contractual condition and a civil action for recovery was viewed as unaffected by the loss of penal sanctions.⁹

⁹United States v. Mack, 295 U.S. 480 (1935).

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE RIGHTS

NINETEENTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

SECTION 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

The Amendment was adopted after a long campaign by its advocates who had largely despaired of attaining their goal through modification of individual state laws. Agitation in behalf of women's suffrage was recorded as early as the Jackson Administration but the initial results were meager. Beginning in 1838, Kentucky authorized women to vote in school elections and its action was later copied by a number of other States. Kansas in 1887 granted women unlimited rights to vote in municipal elections. Not until 1869, however, when the Wyoming Territory accorded women suffrage rights on an equal basis with men and continued the practice following admission to statehood, did these advocates register a notable victory. Progress continued to be discouraging, only ten additional States having joined Wyoming by 1914, and, judicial efforts having failed,¹ and a vigorous campaign brought congressional passage of a proposed Amendment and the necessary state ratifications.²

Following the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Fifteenth Amendment, the state courts which passed on the effect of the Amendment ruled that it did not confer upon women the right to vote but only the right not to be discriminated against on the basis of their sex in the setting of voting qualifications,³ a formalistic distinction to be sure but one which has restrained the possible applications of the Amendment. In only one case has the Supreme

¹Minor v. Happersett, 88 U.S. (21 Wall.) 162 (1875), a challenge under the privileges of immunities clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

²E. FLEXNER, CENTURY OF STRUGGLE—THE WOMAN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES (1959).

³State v. Mittle, 120 S.C. 526 (1922), writ of error dismissed, 260 U.S. 705 (1922); Graves v. Eubank, 205 Ala. 174 (1921); In re Cavelier, 287 N.Y.S. 739 (1936).

Court itself dealt with the Amendment's effect, holding that a Georgia poll tax statute which exempted from payment women who did not register to vote did not discriminate in any manner against the right of men to vote, although it did note that the Amendment "applies to men and women alike and by its own force supersedes inconsistent measures, whether federal or State."⁴

⁴Breedlove v. Suttles, 302 U.S. 227, 283-84 (1937).

**COMMENCEMENT OF THE TERMS OF THE PRESIDENT,
VICE PRESIDENT, AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, ETC.**

TWENTIETH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

SECTION 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

SECTION 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of

choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

SECTION 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

SECTION 6. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

Purpose of the Amendment

The Senate Committee on the Judiciary in its report suggested several reasons for the proposed Twentieth Amendment. It said in part:

“[W]hen our Constitution was adopted there was some reason for such a long intervention of time between the election and the actual commencement of work by the new Congress. . . . Under present conditions [of communication and transportation] the result of elections is known all over the country within a few hours after the polls close, and the Capital City is within a few days’ travel of the remotest portions of the country. . . .

“Another effect of the amendment would be to abolish the so-called short session of Congress. . . . Every other year, under our Constitution, the terms of Members of the House and one-third of the Members of the Senate expire on the 4th day of March. . . . Experience has shown that this brings about a very undesirable legislative condition. It is a physical impossibility during such a short session for Congress to give attention to much general legislation for the reason that it requires practically all of the time to dispose of the regular appropriation bills. . . . The result is a congested condition that brings about either no legislation or illy considered legislation. . . .

“If it should happen that in the general election in November in presidential years no candidate for President had received a majority of all the electoral votes, the election of a President would then be thrown into the House of Representatives and the memberships of the House of Representatives called upon to elect a President would be the old Congress and not the new one just elected

by the people. It might easily happen that the Members of the House of Representative, upon whom devolved the solemn duty of electing a Chief Magistrate for 4 years, had themselves been repudiated at the election that had just occurred, and the country would be confronted with the fact that a repudiated House, defeated by the people themselves at the general election, would still have the power to elect a President who would be in control of the country for the next 4 years. It is quite apparent that such a power ought not to exist, and that the people having expressed themselves at the ballot box should through the Representatives then selected, be able to select the President for the ensuing term. . . .

“The question is sometimes asked, Why is an amendment to the Constitution necessary to bring about this desirable change? The Constitution [before this amendment] does not provide the date when the terms of Senators and Representatives shall begin. It does fix the term of Senators at 6 years and of Members of the House of Representatives at 2 years. The commencement of the terms of the first President and Vice President and of Senators and Representatives composing the First Congress was fixed by an act of [the Continental] Congress adopted September 13, 1788, and that act provided ‘that the first Wednesday in March next to be the time for commencing proceedings under the Constitution.’ It happened that the first Wednesday in March was the 4th day of March, and hence the terms of the President and Vice President and Members of Congress began on the 4th day of March. Since the Constitution provides that the term of Senators shall be 6 years and the term of Members of the House of Representatives 2 years, it follows that this change cannot be made without changing the terms of office of Senators and Representatives, which would in effect be a change of the Constitution. By another act (the act of March 1, 1792) Congress provided that the terms of President and Vice President should commence on the 4th day of March after their election. It seems clear, therefore, that an amendment to the Constitution is necessary to give relief from existing conditions.”¹

As thus stated, the exact term of the President and Vice President was fixed by the Constitution, Art. II, §1, cl. 1, at 4 years, and became actually effective, by resolution of the Continental Congress, on the 4th of March 1789. Since this amendment was declared adopted on February 6, 1933, §1 in effect shortened, by the interval between January 20 and March 4, 1937, the terms of the President and Vice President elected in 1932.

¹ S. Rep. No. 26, 72d Cong., 1st Sess., 2, 4, 5, 6 (1932).

Similarly, it shortened, by the intervals between January 3 and March 4, the terms of Senators elected for terms ending March 4, 1935, 1937, and 1939; and thus temporarily modified the Seventeenth Amendment, fixing the terms of Senators at 6 years. It also shortened the terms of Representatives elected to the Seventy-third Congress, by the interval between January 3 and March 4, 1935, and temporarily modified Article I, §2, clause 1, fixing the terms of Representatives at 2 years.

Section 1 further modifies the Twelfth Amendment in its reference to March 4 as the date by which the House must exercise its choice of a President.

Section 2 supersedes clause 2 of §4 of Article I. The setting of an exact hour for meeting constitutes a recognition of the long practice of Congress, which in 1867 was for the first time enacted into permanent law,² only to be repealed in 1871.³

When the 3d of January fell on Sunday (in 1937), Congress did by law appoint a different day for its assemblage.⁴

Pursuant to the authority conferred upon it by §3 of this amendment, Congress shaped the Presidential Succession Act of 1948⁵ to meet the situation which would arise from the failure of both President elect and Vice President elect to qualify on or before the time fixed for the beginning of the new Presidential term.

²Ch. 10, 14 Stat. 378.

³Ch. 21, §30, 17 Stat. 12. *See* 1 A. HINDS' PRECEDENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES §11 (1907).

⁴Ch. 713, 49 Stat. 1826.

⁵Ch. 644, 62 Stat. 672, as amended, 3 U.S.C. §19. *See also* the Twenty-fifth Amendment, *infra*, pp. 1991–93.

REPEAL OF THE EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT

TWENTY-FIRST AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

SECTION 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Effect of Repeal

The operative effect of § 1, repealing the Eighteenth Amendment, is considered in the commentary dealing with that Amendment.

Scope of Regulatory Power Conferred upon the States

Discrimination as Between Domestic and Imported Products.—In a series of interpretive decisions rendered shortly after ratification of this Amendment, the Court established the proposition that States are competent to adopt legislation discriminating against imported intoxicating liquors in favor of those of domestic origin and that such discrimination offends neither the commerce clause of Article I nor the equal protection and due process clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment. Thus, in *State Board of Equalization v. Young's Market Co.*,¹ a California statute was upheld which exacted a \$500 annual license fee for the privilege of importing beer from other States and a \$750 fee for the privilege of manufacturing beer; and in *Mahoney v. Triner Corp.*,² a Minnesota statute was sustained which prohibited a licensed manufacturer or

¹ 299 U.S. 59 (1936).

² 304 U.S. 401 (1938).

wholesaler from importing any brand of intoxicating liquor containing more than 25 percent alcohol by volume and ready for sale without further processing, unless such brand was registered in the United States Patent Office. Also validated in *Brewing Co. v. Liquor Comm'n*³ and *Finch & Co. v. McKittrick*⁴ were retaliation laws enacted by Michigan and Missouri, respectively, by the terms of which sales in each of these States of beer manufactured in a State already discriminating against beer produced in Michigan or Missouri were rendered unlawful.

Conceding, in *State Board of Equalization v. Young's Market Co.*,⁵ that "prior to the Twenty-first Amendment it would obviously have been unconstitutional to have imposed any fee for . . . the privilege of importation . . . even if the State had exacted an equal fee for the privilege of transporting domestic beer from its place of manufacture to the [seller's] place of business," the Court proclaimed that this Amendment "abrogated the right to import free, so far as concerns intoxicating liquors." Inasmuch as the States were viewed as having acquired therefrom an unconditioned authority to prohibit totally the importation of intoxicating beverages, it logically followed that any discriminatory restriction falling short of total exclusion was equally valid, notwithstanding the absence of any connection between such restriction and public health, safety or morals. As to the contention that the unequal treatment of imported beer would contravene the equal protection clause, the Court succinctly observed that a "classification recognized by the Twenty-first Amendment cannot be deemed forbidden by the Fourteenth."⁶

In *Seagram & Sons v. Hostetter*⁷ a case involving a state statute regulating the price of intoxicating liquors, the Court upheld the statute, asserting that the Twenty-first Amendment bestowed upon the States broad regulatory power over the liquor sales within their territories.⁸ It was also noted that States are not totally bound by traditional commerce clause limitations when they restrict the importation of toxicants destined for use, distribution, or

³ 305 U.S. 391 (1939).

⁴ 305 U.S. 395 (1939).

⁵ 299 U.S. 59, 62 (1936).

⁶ *Id.* at 63–64. In the three decisions rendered subsequently, the Court merely restated these conclusions. The contention that discriminatory regulation of imported liquors violated the due process clause was summarily rejected in *Brewing Co. v. Liquor Comm'n*, 305 U.S. 391, 394 (1939).

⁷ 384 U.S. 35 (1966).

⁸ *Id.* at 42. See *United States v. Frankfort Distilleries*, 324 U.S. 293, 299 (1945) and *Nippert v. Richmond*, 327 U.S. 416, 425 (1946).

consumption within their borders.⁹ In such a situation the Twenty-first Amendment demands wide latitude for regulation by the State.¹⁰ The Court added that there was nothing in the Twenty-first Amendment or any other part of the Constitution that required state laws regulating the liquor business to be motivated exclusively by a desire to promote temperance.¹¹

Recent cases have undercut the expansive interpretation of state powers in the *Young's Market* and *Triner Corp.* cases. Twenty-first Amendment and Commerce Clause principles are to be harmonized where possible. The Court now phrases the question in terms of "whether the interests implicated by a state regulation are so closely related to the powers reserved by the Twenty-first Amendment that the regulation may prevail, notwithstanding that its requirements directly conflict with express federal policies."¹² "[T]he central power reserved by §2 of the Twenty-first Amendment [is] that of exercising 'control over whether to permit importation or sale of liquor and how to structure the liquor distribution system.'"¹³ Because "[t]he central purpose of the [Amendment] was not to empower States to favor local liquor industries by erecting barriers to competition," the "central tenet" of the Commerce Clause will control to invalidate "mere economic protectionism," at least where the state cannot justify its tax or regulation as "designed to promote temperance or to carry out any other purpose of the . . . Amendment."¹⁴

Regulation of Transportation and "Through" Shipments.—When passing upon the constitutionality of legislation regulating the carriage of liquor interstate, a majority of the Justices seemed disposed to by-pass the Twenty-first Amendment and to resolve the issue exclusively in terms of the commerce clause and state power. This trend toward devaluation of the Twenty-first

⁹Id. at 384 U.S. 35. See, e.g. *Hostetter v. Idlewild Liquor Corp.*, 377 U.S. 324, 330 (1964) and *State Bd. of Equalization v. Young's Market Co.*, 299 U.S. 59 (1936).

¹⁰384 U.S. at 35. The Court went on to assert that it was not deciding then whether the mode of liquor regulation chosen by a State in such circumstances could ever constitute so grave an interference with a company's operations elsewhere as to make the regulation invalid under the commerce clause. Id. at 42–43.

¹¹Id. at 47.

¹²*Capital Cities Cable, Inc. v. Crisp*, 467 U.S. 691, 714 (1984).

¹³467 U.S. at 715 (quoting *California Retail Liquor Dealers Ass'n. v. Midcal Aluminum, Inc.*, 445 U.S. 97, 110 (1980)).

¹⁴*Bacchus Imports, Ltd., v. Dias*, 468 U.S. 263, 276 (1984). See also *Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573 (1986) (attempt to regulate prices of out-of-state sales); *Capital Cities Cable, Inc. v. Crisp*, 467 U.S. 691 (1984) (state's limited interest in banning wine commercials carried on cable TV while permitting various other forms of liquor advertisement is outweighed by federal interest in promoting access to cable TV); and *324 Liquor Corp. v. Duffy*, 479 U.S. 335 (1987) (retail price maintenance in violation of Sherman Act).

Amendment was set in motion by *Ziffrin, Inc. v. Reeves*¹⁵ wherein a Kentucky statute, forbidding the transportation of intoxicating liquors by carriers other than licensed common carriers, was enforced as to an Indiana corporation, engaged in delivering liquor obtained from Kentucky distillers to consignees in Illinois but licensed only as a contract carrier under the Federal Motor Carriers Act. After acknowledging that “the Twenty-first Amendment sanctions the right of a State to legislate concerning intoxicating liquors brought from without, unfettered by the Commerce Clause,”¹⁶ the Court then proceeded to found its ruling largely upon decisions antedating the Amendment which sustained similar state regulations as a legitimate exercise of the police power not unduly burdening interstate commerce. In the light of the cases enumerated in the preceding paragraph, wherein the Twenty-first Amendment was construed as according a plenary power to the States, such extended emphasis on the police power and the commerce clause would seem to have been unnecessary. Thereafter, a total eclipse of the Twenty-first Amendment was recorded in *Duckworth v. Arkansas*¹⁷ and *Carter v. Virginia*,¹⁸ wherein, without even considering that Amendment, a majority of the Court upheld, as not contravening the commerce clause, statutes regulating the transport through the State of liquor cargoes originating and ending outside the regulating State’s boundaries.¹⁹

Regulation of Imports Destined for a Federal Area.—Intoxicating beverages brought into a State for ultimate delivery at a National Park located therein but over which the United States retained exclusive jurisdiction has been construed as not constituting “transportation . . . into [a] State for delivery and use therein” within the meaning of § 2 of the Amendment. The importation having had as its objective delivery and use in a federal area over which the State retained no jurisdiction, the increased powers which the State acquired from the Twenty-first Amendment were declared to be inapplicable. California therefore could not extend the importation license and other regulatory requirements of its Al-

¹⁵ 308 U.S. 132 (1939).

¹⁶ *Id.* at 138.

¹⁷ 314 U.S. 390 (1941).

¹⁸ 321 U.S. 131 (1944). *See also* *Cartlidge v. Rancey*, 168 F.2d 841 (5th Cir. 1948), cert. denied, 335 U.S. 885 (1948).

¹⁹ Arkansas required a permit for the transportation of liquor across its territory, but granted the same upon application and payment of a nominal fee. Virginia required carriers engaged in similar through-shipments to use the most direct route, carry a bill of lading describing that route, and post a \$1000 bond conditioned on lawful transportation; and also stipulated that the true consignee be named in the bill of lading and be one having the legal right to receive the shipment at destination.

coholic Beverage Control Act to a retail liquor dealer doing business in the Park.²⁰ On the other hand, a state may apply non-discriminatory liquor regulations to sales at federal enclaves under concurrent federal and state jurisdiction, and may require that liquor sold at such federal enclaves be labelled as being restricted for use only within the enclave.²¹

Foreign Imports, Exports; Taxation, Regulation.—The Twenty-first Amendment did not repeal the export-import clause, Art. I, § 10, cl. 2, nor obliterate the commerce clause, Art. I, § 8, cl. 3. Accordingly, a State cannot tax imported Scotch whiskey while it remains “in unbroken packages in the hands of the original importer and prior to [his] resale or use” thereof.²² Likewise, New York is precluded from terminating the business of an airport dealer who, under sanction of federal customs laws, acquired “tax-free liquors for export” from out-of-state sources for resale exclusively to airline passengers, with delivery deferred until the latter arrive at foreign destinations.²³ Similarly, a state “affirmation law” prohibiting wholesalers from charging lower prices on out-of-state sales than those already approved for in-state sales is invalid as a direct regulation of interstate commerce. “The Commerce Clause operates with full force whenever one State attempts to regulate the transportation and sale of alcoholic beverages destined for distribution and consumption in a foreign country . . . or another State.”²⁴

Effect of Section 2 upon Other Constitutional Provisions.—Notwithstanding the 1936 assertion that “[a] classification recognized by the Twenty-first Amendment cannot be deemed forbidden by the Fourteenth,”²⁵ the Court has now in a series of

²⁰ *Collins v. Yosemite Park Co.*, 304 U.S. 518, 537–38 (1938). The principle was reaffirmed in *United States v. Mississippi Tax Comm'n*, 412 U.S. 363 (1973), holding that Mississippi could not apply its tax regulations to liquor sold to military officers' clubs and other nonappropriated fund activities located on bases within the State and over which the United States had obtained exclusive jurisdiction. “Absent an appropriate express reservation . . . the Twenty-first Amendment confers no power on a State to regulate—whether by licensing, taxation, or otherwise—the importation of distilled spirits into territory over which the United States exercises exclusive jurisdiction.” *Id.* 375. Nor may states tax importation of liquor for sale at bases over which the United States exercises concurrent jurisdiction only. *United States v. Mississippi Tax Comm'n*, 421 U.S. 599 (1975).

²¹ *North Dakota v. United States*, 495 U.S. 423 (1990) (also upholding application to federal enclaves of a uniform requirement that shipments into the state be reported to state officials).

²² *Department of Revenue v. Beam Distillers*, 377 U.S. 341 (1964). The Court distinguished *Gordon v. Texas*, 355 U.S. 369 (1958) and *De Bary v. Louisiana*, 227 U.S. 108 (1913).

²³ *Hostetter v. Idlewild Liquor Corp.*, 377 U.S. 324 (1964).

²⁴ *Brown-Forman Distillers Corp. v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573, 585 (1986) (citation omitted). *Accord*, *Healy v. Beer Institute*, 491 U.S. 324 (1989).

²⁵ *State Bd. of Equalization v. Young's Market Co.*, 299 U.S. 59, 64 (1936). In *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190, 206–07 (1976), this case and others like it are distin-

cases acknowledged that § 2 of the Twenty-first Amendment did not repeal provisions of the Constitution adopted before ratification of the Twenty-first, save for the severe cabining of commerce clause application to the liquor traffic, but it has formulated no consistent rationale for a determination of the effect of the later provision upon earlier ones. In *Craig v. Boren*,²⁶ the Court invalidated a state law that prescribed different minimum drinking ages for men and women as violating the equal protection clause. To the State's Twenty-first Amendment argument, the Court replied that the Amendment "primarily created an exception to the normal operation of the Commerce Clause" and that its "relevance . . . to other constitutional provisions" is doubtful. "Neither the text nor the history of the Twenty-first Amendment suggests that it qualifies individual rights protected by the Bill of Rights and the Fourteenth Amendment where the sale or use of liquor is concerned."²⁷ The square holding on this point is "that the operation of the Twenty-first Amendment does not alter the application of the equal protection standards that would otherwise govern this case."²⁸ Other decisions reach the same result but without discussing the application of the Amendment.²⁹ Similarly, a state "may not exercise its power under the Twenty-first Amendment in a way which impinges upon the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment."³⁰

That these cases do not draw a bright line between the commerce clause and other constitutional provisions is evident from *California v. LaRue*.³¹ There, the Court sustained the facial constitutionality of regulations barring a lengthy list of actual or simulated sexual activities and motion picture portrayals of these activities in establishments licensed to sell liquor by the drink. In an action attacking the validity of the regulations as applied to ban nude dancing in bars, the Court considered at some length the material

guished as involving the importation of intoxicants into a State, an area of increased state regulatory power, and as involving purely economic regulation traditionally meriting only restrained review. Neither distinguishing element, of course, addresses the precise language quoted. For consideration of equal protection analysis in an analogous situation, the statutory exemption of state insurance regulations from commerce clause purview, see *Western & Southern Life Ins. Co. v. State Bd. of Equalization*, 451 U.S. 648, 655-74 (1981).

²⁶ 429 U.S. 190 (1976).

²⁷ *Id.* at 206 (quoting P. BREST, PROCESSES OF CONSTITUTIONAL DECISIONMAKING—CASES AND MATERIALS 258 (1975)).

²⁸ *Id.* at 209-10.

²⁹ E.g., *Moose Lodge No. 107 v. Irvis*, 407 U.S. 163, 178-97 (1972) (invalidating a state liquor regulation as an equal protection denial in a racial context); *Wisconsin v. Constantineau*, 400 U.S. 433 (1971) (invalidating a state law authorizing the posting of someone as an "excessive drinker" and thus barring him from buying liquor, as reconstrued in *Paul v. Davis*, 424 U.S. 693, 707-09 (1976)).

³⁰ *Larkin v. Grendel's Den, Inc.*, 459 U.S. 116, 122 n.5 (1982).

³¹ 409 U.S. 109 (1972).

adduced at the public hearings which resulted in the rules demonstrating the anti-social consequences of the activities in the bars. It conceded that the regulations reached expression that would not be deemed legally obscene under prevailing standards and reached expressive conduct that would not be prohibitable under prevailing standards,³² but the Court thought that the constitutional protection of conduct that partakes “more of gross sexuality than of communication” was outweighed by the State’s interest in maintaining order and decency. Moreover, the Court continued, the second section of the Twenty-first Amendment gave an “added presumption in favor of the validity” of the regulations as applied to prohibit questioned activities in places serving liquor by the drink.³³

A much broader ruling was forthcoming when the Court considered the constitutionality of a state regulation banning topless dancing in bars. “Pursuant to its power to regulate the sale of liquor within its boundaries, it has banned topless dancing in establishments granted a license to serve liquor. The State’s power to ban the sale of alcoholic beverages entirely includes the lesser power to ban the sale of liquor on premises where topless dancing occurs.”³⁴ This recurrence to the greater-includes-the-lesser-power argument, relatively rare in recent years,³⁵ would if it were broadly applied give the States in the area of regulation of alcoholic beverages a review-free discretion of unknown scope.

Effect on Federal Regulation

The Twenty-first Amendment of itself did not, it was held, bar a prosecution under the Sherman Antitrust Act of producers, wholesalers, and retailers charged with conspiring to fix and maintain retail prices of alcoholic beverages in Colorado.³⁶ In a concur-

³² Cf. *Schad v. Borough of Mount Ephraim*, 452 U.S. 61 (1981) (ban on live nude dancing in Borough); *Doran v. Salem Inn*, 422 U.S. 922 (1975) (ban on nude dancing in “any public place” applied to topless dancing in bars).

³³ 409 U.S. at 114–19. In *Doran v. Salem Inn*, 422 U.S. 922, 932–33 (1975), the Court described its holding in *LaRue* more broadly, saying that “we concluded that the broad powers of the States to regulate the sale of liquor, conferred by the Twenty-first Amendment, outweighed any First Amendment interest in nude dancing and that a State could therefore ban such dancing as part of its liquor license control program.”

³⁴ *New York State Liquor Auth. v. Bellanca*, 452 U.S. 714, 717 (1981).

³⁵ For a rejection of the argument in another context, contemporaneously with *Bellanca*, see *Western & Southern Life Ins. Co. v. State Bd. of Equalization*, 451 U.S. 648, 657–68 (1981). And for utilization of the argument in the commercial speech context, see *Posadas de Puerto Rico Associates v. Tourism Co. of Puerto Rico*, 478 U.S. 328, 345–46 (1986). *But see* *Capital Cities Cable, Inc. v. Crisp*, 467 U.S. 691 (1984), not addressing the commercial speech issue but holding state regulation of liquor advertisements on cable TV to be preempted, in spite of the Twenty-first Amendment, by federal policies promoting access to cable TV).

³⁶ *United States v. Frankfurt Distilleries*, 324 U.S. 293, 297–99 (1945).

ring opinion, supported by Justice Roberts, Justice Frankfurter took the position that if the State of Colorado had in fact “authorized the transactions here complained of, the Sherman Law could not override such exercise of state power. . . . [Since] the Sherman Law . . . can have no greater potency than the Commerce Clause itself, it must equally yield to state power drawn from the Twenty-first Amendment.”³⁷

Following a review of the cases in this area, the Court has observed “that there is no bright line between federal and state powers over liquor. The Twenty-first Amendment grants the States virtually complete control over whether to permit importation or sale of liquor and how to structure the liquor distribution system. Although States retain substantial discretion to establish other liquor regulations, those controls may be subject to the federal commerce power in appropriate situations. The competing state and federal interests can be reconciled only after careful scrutiny of those concerns in a ‘concrete case.’”³⁸ Invalidating under the Sherman Act a state fair trade scheme imposing a resale price maintenance policy for wine, the Court balanced the federal interest in free enterprise expressed through the antitrust laws against the asserted state interests in promoting temperance and orderly marketing conditions. Since the state courts had found the policy under attack promoted neither interest significantly, the Supreme Court experienced no difficulty in concluding that the federal interest prevailed. Whether more substantial state interests or means more suited to promoting the state interests would survive attack under federal legislation must await further litigation.

Congress may condition receipt of federal highway funds on a state’s agreeing to raise the minimum drinking age to 21, the Twenty-first Amendment not constituting an “independent constitutional bar” to this sort of spending power exercise even though Congress may lack the power to achieve its purpose directly.³⁹

³⁷Id. at 301–02. For application of federal laws, see *William Jameson & Co. v. Morgenthau*, 307 U.S. 171 (1939); *Kiefer-Stewart Co. v. Joseph E. Seagram & Sons*, 340 U.S. 211 (1951); *Schwegmann Bros. v. Calvert Corp.*, 341 U.S. 384 (1951); *Joseph E. Seagram & Sons v. Hostetter*, 384 U.S. 35 (1966); *Burke v. Ford*, 389 U.S. 320 (1967).

³⁸*California Retail Liquor Dealers Ass’n v. Midcal Aluminum*, 445 U.S. 97, 110 (1980).

³⁹*South Dakota v. Dole*, 483 U.S. 203, 210 (1987).

PRESIDENTIAL TENURE

TWENTY-SECOND AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

SECTION 2. This Article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

LIMITATION OF PRESIDENTIAL TERMS

“By reason of the lack of a positive expression upon the subject of the tenure of the office of President, and by reason of a well-defined custom which has risen in the past that no President should have more than two terms in that office, much discussion has resulted upon this subject. Hence it is the purpose of this . . . [proposal] . . . to submit this question to the people so they, by and through the recognized processes, may express their views upon this question, and if they shall so elect, they may . . . thereby set at rest this problem.”¹

¹H.R. Rep. No. 17, 80th Cong., 1st Sess. 2 (1947).

**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS FOR THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA**

TWENTY-THIRD AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

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

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**ENFRANCHISEMENT OF RESIDENTS OF DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA**

“The purpose of this . . . constitutional amendment is to provide the citizens of the District of Columbia with appropriate rights of voting in national elections for President and Vice President of the United States. It would permit District citizens to elect Presidential electors who would be in addition to the electors from the States and who would participate in electing the President and Vice President.

“The District of Columbia, with more than 800,000 people, has a greater number of persons than the population of each of 13 of our States. District citizens have all the obligations of citizenship, including the payment of Federal taxes, of local taxes, and service in our Armed Forces. They have fought and died in every U.S. war since the District was founded. Yet, they cannot now vote in national elections because the Constitution has restricted that privi-

lege to citizens who reside in States. The resultant constitutional anomaly of imposing all the obligations of citizenship without the most fundamental of its privileges will be removed by the proposed constitutional amendment. . .

“[This] . . . amendment would change the Constitution only to the minimum extent necessary to give the District appropriate participation in national elections. It would not make the District of Columbia a State. It would not give the District of Columbia any other attributes of a State or change the constitutional powers of the Congress to legislate with respect to the District of Columbia and to prescribe its form of government. . . . It would, however, perpetuate recognition of the unique status of the District as the seat of Federal Government under the exclusive legislative control of Congress.”¹

¹H.R. Rep. No. 1698, 86th Cong., 2d Sess. 1, 2 (1960).

ABOLITION OF THE POLL TAX QUALIFICATION IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS

TWENTY-FOURTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

EXPANSION OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Ratification of the Twenty-fourth Amendment marked the culmination of an endeavor begun in Congress in 1939 to effect elimination of the poll tax as a qualification for voting in federal elections. Property qualifications extend back to colonial days, but the poll tax itself as a qualification was instituted in eleven States of the South following the end of Reconstruction, although at the time of the ratification of this Amendment only five States still retained it.¹ Congress viewed the qualification as “an obstacle to the proper exercise of a citizen’s franchise” and expected its removal to “provide a more direct approach to participation by more of the people in their government.” Congress similarly thought a constitutional amendment necessary,² inasmuch as the qualifications had previously escaped constitutional challenge on several grounds.³ However, not long after ratification of the Amendment Congress by statute had impuned the continuing validity of the poll tax as a

¹Harman v. Forssenius, 380 U.S. 528, 538–40, 543–44 (1965); United States v. Texas, 252 F. Supp. 234, 238–45 (W.D. Tex.) (three-judge court), *aff’d* on other grounds, 384 U.S. 155 (1966).

²H.R. Rep. No. 1821, 87th Cong., 2d Sess. 3, 5 (1962).

³Breedlove v. Suttles, 302 U.S. 277 (1937); Saunders v. Wilkins, 152 F. 2d 235 (4th Cir. 1945), *cert. denied*, 328 U.S. 870 (1946); Butler v. Thompson, 97 F. Supp. 17 (E.D. Va), *aff’d*, 341 U.S. 937 (1951).

qualification in state elections⁴ and the Supreme Court had voided it as a violation of the equal protection clause.⁵

In *Harman v. Forssenius*,⁶ the Court struck down a Virginia statute which eliminated the poll tax as an absolute qualification for voting in federal elections and gave federal voters the choice either of paying the tax or of filing a certificate of residence six months before the election. Viewing the latter requirement as imposing upon voters in federal elections an onerous procedural requirement which was not imposed on those who continued to pay the tax, the Court unanimously held the law to conflict with the new Amendment by penalizing those who chose to exercise a right guaranteed them by the Amendment.

⁴ Voting Rights Act of 1965, 10, 79 Stat. 442, 42 U.S.C. §1973h. For the results of actions instituted by the Attorney General under direction of this section, see *United States v. Texas*, 252 F. Supp. 234 (W.D. Tex.) (three-judge court). *aff'd* on other grounds, 384 U.S. 155 (1966); *United States v. Alabama*, 252 F. Supp. 95 (M.D. Ala. 1966) (three-judge court).

⁵ *Harper v. Virginia State Bd. of Elections*, 383 U.S. 663 (1966).

⁶ 380 U.S. 528 (1965).

PRESIDENTIAL VACANCY, DISABILITY, AND INABILITY

TWENTY-FIFTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

SECTION 2. Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

SECTION 3. Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

SECTION 4. Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the

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an assassin's bullet, Wilson an invalid for the last eighteen months of his term, the result of a stroke—with its unanswered questions: who was to determine the existence of an inability, how was the matter to be handled if the President sought to continue, in what manner should the Vice President act, would he be acting President or President, what was to happen if the President recovered. Congress finally proposed this Amendment to the States in the aftermath of President Kennedy's assassination, with the Vice Presidency vacant and a President who had previously had a heart attack.

This Amendment saw multiple use during the 1970s and resulted for the first time in our history in the accession to the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of two men who had not faced the voters in a national election. First, Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned on October 10, 1973, and President Nixon nominated Gerald R. Ford of Michigan to succeed him, following the procedures of § 2 of the Amendment for the first time. Hearings were held upon the nomination by the Senate Rules Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, both Houses thereafter confirmed the nomination, and the new Vice President took the oath of office December 6, 1973. Second, President Richard M. Nixon resigned his office August 9, 1974, and Vice President Ford immediately succeeded to the office and took the presidential oath of office at noon of the same day. Third, again following § 2 of the Amendment, President Ford nominated Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York to be Vice President; on August 20, 1974, hearings were held in both Houses, confirmation voted and Mr. Rockefeller took the oath of office December 19, 1974.¹

¹For the legislative history, *see* S. Rep. No. 66, 89th Cong., 1st Sess. (1965); H.R. Rep. No. 203, 89th Cong., 1st Sess. (1965); H.R. Rep. No. 564, 89th Cong., 1st Sess. (1965). For an account of the history of the succession problem, *see* R. SILVA, *PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION* (1951).

REDUCTION OF VOTING AGE QUALIFICATION

TWENTY-SIXTH AMENDMENT

SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

THE EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD VOTE

In extending the Voting Rights Act of 1965 in 1970¹ Congress included a provision lowering the age qualification to vote in all elections, federal, state, and local, to 18.² In a divided decision, the Supreme Court held that Congress was empowered to lower the age qualification in federal elections, but voided the application of the provision in all other elections as beyond congressional power.³ Confronted thus with the possibility that they might have to maintain two sets of registration books and go to the expense of running separate election systems for federal elections and for all other elections, the States were receptive to the proposing of an Amendment by Congress to establish a minimum age qualification at 18 for all elections, and ratified it promptly.⁴

¹ 79 Stat. 437, as extended and amended by 84 Stat. 314, 42 U.S.C. §1971 et seq.

² Title 3, 84 Stat. 318, 42 U.S.C. §1973bb.

³ Oregon v. Mitchell, 400 U.S. 112 (1970).

⁴ S. Rep. No. 26, 92d Cong., 1st Sess. (1971); H.R. Rep. No. 37, 92d Cong., 1st Sess. (1971).

CONGRESSIONAL PAY LIMITATION

TWENTY-SEVENTH AMENDMENT

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

REGULATING CONGRESSIONAL PAY

Referred to the state legislatures at the same time as those proposals that eventually became the Bill of Rights, the congressional pay amendment had long been assumed to be dead.¹ This provision had its genesis, as did several others of the first amendments, in the petitions of the States ratifying the Constitution.² It, however, was ratified by only six States (out of the eleven needed), and it was rejected by five States. Aside from the idiosyncratic action of the Ohio legislature in 1873, which ratified the proposal in protest of a controversial pay increase adopted by Congress, the pay limitation provision lay dormant until the 1980s. Then, an aide to a Texas legislator discovered the proposal and began a crusade that culminated some ten years later in its proclaimed ratification.³

Now that the provision is apparently a part of the Constitution,⁴ it will likely play a minor role. What it commands was already statutorily prescribed, and, at most, it may have implications for automatic cost-of-living increases in pay for Members of Congress.⁵

¹ Indeed, in *Dillon v. Gloss*, 256 U.S. 368, 375 (1921), the Court, albeit in dictum, observed that, unless the inference was drawn that ratification must occur within some reasonable time of proposal, “four amendments proposed long ago—two in 1789, one in 1810 and one in 1861—are still pending and in a situation where their ratification in some of the States many years since by representatives of generations now largely forgotten may be effectively supplemented in enough more States to make three-fourths by representatives of the present or some future generation. To that view few would be able to subscribe, and in our opinion it is quite untenable.” (Emphasis supplied).

² A comprehensive, scholarly treatment of the background, development, failure, and subsequent success of this amendment is Bernstein, *The Sleeper Wakes: The History and Legacy of the Twenty-Seventh Amendment*, 61 *FORD. L. REV.* 497 (1992). A briefer account is *The Congressional Pay Amendment*, 16 *Ops. of the Office of Legal Counsel*, U.S. Dept. of Justice 102, App. at 127–136 (1992) (prelim. pr.).

³ The ratification issues are considered *supra* in the discussion of Article V.

⁴ In the only case to date brought under the Amendment, the parties did not raise the question of the validity of its ratification; the court refused to consider the issue raised by an *amicus*. *Boehner v. Anderson*, 809 F.Supp. 138, 139 (D.D.C. 1992). It is not at all clear the issue is justiciable.

⁵ See *supra*, p. 126.

14. Revised Statutes 1977 (Act of May 31, 1870, 16 Stat. 144).

Provision that “all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall have the same right in every State and Territory to make and enforce contracts . . . as is enjoyed by white citizens . . . ,” held invalid under the Thirteenth Amendment.

Hodges v. United States, 203 U.S. 1 (1906), overruled in *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 441–43 (1968).

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Brown, Fuller, Peckham, McKenna, Holmes, Moody, and Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Day.

15. Revised Statutes 4937–4947 (Act of July 8, 1870, 16 Stat. 210), and Act of August 14, 1876 (19 Stat. 141).

Original trademark law, applying to marks “for exclusive use within the United States,” and a penal act designed solely for the protection of rights defined in the earlier measure, held not supportable by Article I, §8, clause 8 (copyright clause), nor Article I, §8, clause 3, by reason of its application to intrastate as well as interstate commerce.

Trade-Mark Cases, 100 U.S. 82 (1879).

16. Revised Statutes 5132, subdivision 9 (Act of March 2, 1867, 14 Stat. 539).

Provision penalizing “any person respecting whom bankruptcy proceedings are commenced . . . who, within 3 months before the commencement of proceedings in bankruptcy, under the false color and pretense of carrying on business and dealing in the ordinary course of trade, obtains on credit from any person any goods or chattels with intent to defraud . . . ,” held a police regulation not within the bankruptcy power (Article I, §4, clause 4).

United States v. Fox, 95 U.S. 670 (1878).

17. Revised Statutes 5507 (Act of May 31, 1870, 16 Stat. 141, 4).

Provision penalizing “every person who prevents, hinders, controls, or intimidates another from exercising . . . the right of suffrage, to whom that right is guaranteed by the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, by means of bribery . . . ,” held not authorized by the Fifteenth Amendment.

James v. Bowman, 190 U.S. 127 (1903).

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Fuller, Peckham, Holmes, and Day, and Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Brown.

18. Revised Statutes 5519 (Act of April 20, 1871, 17 Stat. 13, §2).

Section providing punishment in case “two or more persons in any State . . . conspire . . . for the purpose of depriving . . . any per-

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HELD UNCONSTITUTIONAL IN WHOLE OR
IN PART BY THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

ACTS OF CONGRESS HELD UNCONSTITUTIONAL IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

1. Act of September 24, 1789 (1 Stat. 81, § 13, in part).

Provision that “. . . [the Supreme Court] shall have power to issue . . . writs of mandamus, in cases warranted by the principles and usages of law, to any . . . persons holding office, under authority of the United States” as applied to the issue of mandamus to the Secretary of State requiring him to deliver to plaintiff a commission (duly signed by the President) as justice of the peace in the District of Columbia held an attempt to enlarge the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, fixed by Article III, § 2.

Marbury v. Madison, 5 U.S. (1 Cr.) 137 (1803).

2. Act of February 20, 1812 (2 Stat. 677).

Provisions establishing board of revision to annul titles conferred many years previously by governors of the Northwest Territory were held violative of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Reichart v. Felps, 73 U.S. (6 Wall.) 160 (1868).

3. Act of March 6, 1820 (3 Stat. 548, § 8, proviso).

The Missouri Compromise, prohibiting slavery within the Louisiana Territory north of 36° 30' except Missouri, held not warranted as a regulation of Territory belonging to the United States under Article IV, § 3, clause 2 (and see Fifth Amendment).

Scott v. Sandford, 60 U.S. (19 How.) 393 (1857).

Concurring: Chief Justice Taney.

Concurring specially: Justices Wayne, Nelson, Grier, Daniel, Campbell, and Catron.

Dissenting: Justices McLean, Curtis.

4. Act of February 25, 1862 (12 Stat. 345, § 1); July 11, 1862 (12 Stat. 532, § 1); March 3, 1863 (12 Stat. 711, § 3), each in part only.

“Legal tender clauses,” making noninterest-bearing United States notes legal tender in payment of “all debts, public and private,” so far as applied to debts contracted before passage of the act, held not within express or implied powers of Congress under Article I, § 8, and inconsistent with Article I, § 10, and Fifth Amendment.

Hepburn v. Griswold, 75 U.S. (8 Wall.) 603 (1870); overruled in *Knox v. Lee (Legal Tender Cases)*, 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 457 (1871).

Concurring: Chief Justice Chase, and Justices Nelson, Clifford, Grier, and Field.

Dissenting: Justices Miller, Swayne, and Davis.

5. Act of May 20, 1862 (§35, 12 Stat. 394); Act of May 21, 1862 (12 Stat. 407); Act of June 25, 1864 (13 Stat. 187); Act of July 23, 1866 (14 Stat. 216); Revised Statutes Relating to the District of Columbia, Act of June 22, 1874, (§§ 281, 282, 294, 304, 18 Stat. pt. 2).

Provisions of law requiring, or construed to require, racial separation in the schools of the District of Columbia, held to violate the equal protection component of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Bolling v. Sharpe, 347 U.S. 497 (1954).

6. Act of March 3, 1863 (12 Stat. 756, § 5).

“So much of the fifth section . . . as provides for the removal of a judgment in a State court, and in which the cause was tried by a jury to the circuit court of the United States for a retrial on the facts and law, is not in pursuance of the Constitution, and is void” under the Seventh Amendment.

The Justices v. Murray, 76 U.S. (9 Wall.) 274 (1870).

7. Act of March 3, 1863 (12 Stat. 766, § 5).

Provision for an appeal from the Court of Claims to the Supreme Court—there being, at the time, a further provision (§ 14) requiring an estimate by the Secretary of the Treasury before payment of final judgment, held to contravene the judicial finality intended by the Constitution, Article III.

Gordon v. United States, 69 U.S. (2 Wall.) 561 (1865). (Case was dismissed without opinion; the grounds upon which this decision was made were stated in a posthumous opinion by Chief Justice Taney printed in the appendix to volume 117 U.S. 697.)

8. Act of June 30, 1864 (13 Stat. 311, § 13).

Provision that “any prize cause now pending in any circuit court shall, on the application of all parties in interest . . . be transferred by that court to the Supreme Court. . . ,” as applied in a case where no action had been taken in the Circuit Court on the appeal from the district court, held to propose an appeal procedure not within Article III, § 2.

The Alicia, 74 U.S. (7 Wall.) 571 (1869).

9. Act of January 24, 1865 (13 Stat. 424).

Requirement of a test oath (disavowing actions in hostility to the United States) before admission to appear as attorney in a federal court by virtue of any previous admission, held invalid as applied to an attorney who had been pardoned by the President for all offenses during the Rebellion—as ex post facto (Article I, § 9, clause 3) and an interference with the pardoning power (Article II, § 2, clause 1).

Ex parte Garland, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 333 (1867).

Concurring: Justices Field, Wayne, Grier, Nelson, and Clifford.

Dissenting: Justices Miller, Swayne, and Davis, and Chief Justice Chase.

10. Act of March 2, 1867 (14 Stat. 484, § 29).

General prohibition on sale of naphtha, etc., for illuminating purposes, if inflammable at less temperature than 110° F., held invalid “except so far as the section named operates within the United States, but without the limits of any State,” as being a mere police regulation.

United States v. Dewitt, 76 U.S. (9 Wall.) 41 (1870).

11. Act of May 31, 1870 (16 Stat. 140, §§ 3, 4).

Provisions penalizing (1) refusal of local election official to permit voting by persons offering to qualify under State laws, applicable to any citizens; and (2) hindering of any person from qualifying or voting, held invalid under Fifteenth Amendment.

United States v. Reese, 92 U.S. 214 (1876).

Concurring: Chief Justice Waite, and Justices Miller, Field, Bradley, Swayne, Davis, and Strong.

Dissenting: Justices Clifford, Hunt.

12. Act of July 12, 1870 (16 Stat. 235).

Provision making Presidential pardons inadmissible in evidence in Court of Claims, prohibiting their use by that court in deciding claims or appeals, and requiring dismissal of appeals by the Supreme Court in cases where proof of loyalty had been made otherwise than as prescribed by law, held an interference with judicial power under Article III, § 1, and with the pardoning power under Article II, § 2, clause 1.

United States v. Klein, 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 128 (1872).

Concurring: Chief Justice Chase, and Justices Nelson, Swayne, Davis, Strong, Clifford, and Field.

Dissenting: Justices Miller, Bradley.

13. Act of June 22, 1874 (18 Stat. 1878, § 4).

Provision authorizing federal courts, in suits for forfeitures under revenue and custom laws, to require production of documents, with allegations expected to be proved therein to be taken as proved on failure to produce such documents, was held violative of the search and seizure provision of the Fourth Amendment and the self-incrimination clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Boyd v. United States, 116 U.S. 616 (1886).

Concurring: Justices Bradley, Field, Harlan, Woods, Matthews, Gray, and Blatchford.

Concurring specially: Justice Miller and Chief Justice Waite.

14. Revised Statutes 1977 (Act of May 31, 1870, 16 Stat. 144).

Provision that “all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall have the same right in every State and Territory to make and enforce contracts . . . as is enjoyed by white citizens . . . ,” held invalid under the Thirteenth Amendment.

Hodges v. United States, 203 U.S. 1 (1906), overruled in *Jones v. Alfred H. Mayer Co.*, 392 U.S. 409, 441–43 (1968).

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Brown, Fuller, Peckham, McKenna, Holmes, Moody, and Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Day.

15. Revised Statutes 4937–4947 (Act of July 8, 1870, 16 Stat. 210), and Act of August 14, 1876 (19 Stat. 141).

Original trademark law, applying to marks “for exclusive use within the United States,” and a penal act designed solely for the protection of rights defined in the earlier measure, held not supportable by Article I, §8, clause 8 (copyright clause), nor Article I, §8, clause 3, by reason of its application to intrastate as well as interstate commerce.

Trade-Mark Cases, 100 U.S. 82 (1879).

16. Revised Statutes 5132, subdivision 9 (Act of March 2, 1867, 14 Stat. 539).

Provision penalizing “any person respecting whom bankruptcy proceedings are commenced . . . who, within 3 months before the commencement of proceedings in bankruptcy, under the false color and pretense of carrying on business and dealing in the ordinary course of trade, obtains on credit from any person any goods or chattels with intent to defraud . . . ,” held a police regulation not within the bankruptcy power (Article I, §4, clause 4).

United States v. Fox, 95 U.S. 670 (1878).

17. Revised Statutes 5507 (Act of May 31, 1870, 16 Stat. 141, 4).

Provision penalizing “every person who prevents, hinders, controls, or intimidates another from exercising . . . the right of suffrage, to whom that right is guaranteed by the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, by means of bribery . . . ,” held not authorized by the Fifteenth Amendment.

James v. Bowman, 190 U.S. 127 (1903).

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Fuller, Peckham, Holmes, and Day, and Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Brown.

18. Revised Statutes 5519 (Act of April 20, 1871, 17 Stat. 13, §2).

Section providing punishment in case “two or more persons in any State . . . conspire . . . for the purpose of depriving . . . any per-

son . . . of the equal protection of the laws . . . or for the purpose of preventing or hindering the constituted authorities of any State . . . from giving or securing to all persons within such State . . . the equal protection of the laws . . . ,” held invalid as not being directed at state action proscribed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

United States v. Harris, 106 U.S. 629 (1883).

Concurring: Justices Woods, Miller, Bradley, Gray, Field, Matthews, and Blatchford, and Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

In *Baldwin v. Franks*, 120 U.S. 678 (1887), an attempt was made to distinguish the *Harris* case and to apply the statute to a conspiracy directed at aliens within a State, but the provision was held not enforceable in such limited manner.

19. Revised Statutes of the District of Columbia, §1064 (Act of June 17, 1870, 16 Stat. 154, §3).

Provision that “prosecutions in the police court [of the District of Columbia] shall be by information under oath, without indictment by grand jury or trial by petit jury,” as applied to punishment for conspiracy, held to contravene Article III, §2, clause 3, requiring jury trial of all crimes.

Callan v. Wilson, 127 U.S. 540 (1888).

20. Act of March 1, 1875 (18 Stat. 336, §§1, 2).

Provision “That all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall be entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations . . . of inns, public conveyances on land or water, theaters, and other places of public amusement; subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law, and applicable alike to citizens of every race and color, regardless of any previous condition of servitude”—subject to penalty, held not to be supported by the Thirteenth or Fourteenth Amendments.

Civil Rights Cases, 109 U.S. 3 (1883), as to operation within States.

Concurring: Justices Bradley, Miller, Field, Woods, Matthews, Gray, and Blatchford, and Chief Justice Waite.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

21. Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 479, §2).

Provision that “if the party [i.e., a person stealing property from the United States] has been convicted, then the judgment against him shall be conclusive evidence in the prosecution against [the] receiver that the property of the United States therein described has been embezzled, stolen, or purloined,” held to contravene the Sixth Amendment.

Kirby v. United States, 174 U.S. 47 (1899).

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Gray, Shiras, White and Peckham, and Chief Justice Fuller.

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Dissenting: Justices Brown and McKenna.

22. Act of July 12, 1876 (19 Stat. 80, § 6, in part).

Provision that “postmasters of the first, second, and third classes . . . may be removed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate,” held to infringe the executive power under Article II, § 1, clause 1.

Myers v. United States, 272 U.S. 52 (1926).

Concurring: Chief Justice Taft, and Justices Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler, Sanford, and Stone.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, McReynolds and Brandeis.

23. Act of August 11, 1888 (25 Stat. 411).

Directive, in a provision for the purchase or condemnation of a certain lock and dam in the Monongahela River, that “. . . in estimating the sum to be paid by the United States, the franchise of said corporation to collect tolls shall not be considered or estimated . . . ,” held to contravene the Fifth Amendment.

Monongahela Navigation Co. v. United States, 148 U.S. 312 (1893).

24. Act of May 5, 1892 (27 Stat. 25, § 4).

Provision of a Chinese exclusion act, that Chinese persons “convicted and adjudged to be not lawfully entitled to be or remain in the United States shall be imprisoned at hard labor for a period not exceeding 1 year and thereafter removed from the United States . . . (such conviction and judgment being had before a justice, judge, or commissioner upon a summary hearing), held to contravene the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.

Wong Wing v. United States, 163 U.S. 228 (1896).

Concurring: Justices Shiras, Harlan, Gray, Brown, White, and Peckham, and Chief Justice Fuller.

Concurring in part and dissenting in part: Justice Field.

25. Joint Resolution of August 4, 1894 (28 Stat. 1018, No. 41).

Provision authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to approve a second lease of certain land by an Indian chief in Minnesota (granted to lessor’s ancestor by art. 9 of a treaty with the Chippewa Indians), held an interference with judicial interpretation of treaties under Article III, § 2, clause 1 (and repugnant to the Fifth Amendment).

Jones v. Meehan, 175 U.S. 1 (1899).

26. Act of August 27, 1894 (28 Stat. 553–60, §§ 27–37).

Income tax provisions of the tariff act of 1894. “The tax imposed by §§ 27 and 37, inclusive . . . so far as it falls on the income of real estate and of personal property, being a direct tax within the meaning of the Constitution, and, therefore, unconstitutional and void because not apportioned according to representation [Article I, § 2, clause 3],

all those sections, constituting one entire scheme of taxation, are necessarily invalid” (158 U.S. 601, 637).

Pollock v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., 157 U.S. 429 (1895), and rehearing, 158 U.S. 601 (1895).

Concurring: Chief Justice Fuller, and Justices Gray, Brewer, Brown, Shiras, Jackson.

Concurring specially: Justice Field.

Dissenting: Justices White and Harlan.

27. Act of January 30, 1897, (29 Stat. 506).

Prohibition on sale of liquor “. . . to any Indian to whom allotment of land has been made while the title to the same shall be held in trust by the Government. . . ,” held a police regulation infringing state powers, and not warranted by the commerce clause, Article I, §8, clause 3.

Matter of Heff, 197 U.S. 488 (1905), overruled in *United States v. Nice*, 241 U.S. 591 (1916).

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Brown, White, Peckham, McKenna, Holmes, and Day, and Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

28. Act of June 1, 1898 (30 Stat. 428).

Section 10, penalizing “any employer subject to the provisions of this act” who should “threaten any employee with loss of employment . . . because of his membership in . . . a labor corporation, association, or organization” (the act being applicable “to any common carrier . . . engaged in the transportation of passengers or property . . . from one State . . . to another State . . . ,” etc.), held an infringement of the Fifth Amendment and not supported by the commerce clause.

Adair v. United States, 208 U.S. 161 (1908).

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Brewer, White, Peckham, and Day, and Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices McKenna and Holmes.

29. Act of June 13, 1898 (30 Stat. 448, 459).

Stamp tax on foreign bills of lading, held a tax on exports in violation of Article I, §9.

Fairbank v. United States, 181 U.S. 283 (1901).

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Brown, Shiras, Peckham, and Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Gray, White, and McKenna.

30. Same (30 Stat. 448, 460).

Tax on charter parties, as applied to shipments exclusively from ports in United States to foreign ports, held a tax on exports in violation of Article I, §9.

United States v. Hvoslef, 237 U.S. 1 (1915).

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31. Same (30 Stat. 448, 461).

Stamp tax on policies of marine insurance on exports, held a tax on exports in violation of Article I, § 9.

Thames & Mersey Marine Ins. Co. v. United States, 237 U.S. 19 (1915).

32. Act of June 6, 1900 (31 Stat. 359, § 171).

Section of the Alaska Code providing for a six-person jury in trials for misdemeanors, held repugnant to the Sixth Amendment, requiring “jury” trial of crimes.

Rasmussen v. United States, 197 U.S. 516 (1905).

Concurring: Justices White, Brewer, Peckham, McKenna, Holmes, and Day, and Chief Justice Fuller.

Concurring specially: Justices Harlan and Brown.

33. Act of March 3, 1901 (31 Stat. 1341, § 935).

Section of the District of Columbia Code granting the same right of appeal, in criminal cases, to the United States or the District of Columbia as to the defendant, but providing that a verdict was not to be set aside for error found in rulings during trial, held an attempt to take an advisory opinion, contrary to Article III, § 2.

United States v. Evans, 213 U.S. 297 (1909).

34. Act of June 11, 1906 (34 Stat. 232).

Act providing that “every common carrier engaged in trade or commerce in the District of Columbia . . . or between the several States . . . shall be liable to any of its employees . . . for all damages which may result from the negligence of any of its officers . . . or by reason of any defect . . . due to its negligence in its cars, engines . . . roadbed,” etc., held not supportable under Article I, § 8, clause 3 because it extended to intrastate as well as interstate commercial activities.

The Employers' Liability Cases, 207 U.S. 463 (1908). (The act was upheld as to the District of Columbia in *Hyde v. Southern Ry.*, 31 App. D.C. 466 (1908); and as to the Territories, in *El Paso & N.E. Ry. v. Gutierrez*, 215 U.S. 87 (1909).)

Concurring: Justices White and Day.

Concurring specially: Justices Peckham and Brewer and Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Moody, Harlan, McKenna, and Holmes.

35. Act of June 16, 1906 (34 Stat. 269, § 2).

Provision of Oklahoma Enabling Act restricting relocation of the State capital prior to 1913, held not supportable by Article IV, § 3, authorizing admission of new States.

Coyle v. Smith, 221 U.S. 559 (1911).

Concurring: Justices Lurton, White, Harlan, Day, Hughes, Van Devanter, and Lamar.

Dissenting: Justices McKenna and Holmes.

36. Act of February 20, 1907 (34 Stat. 889, § 3).

Provision in the Immigration Act of 1907 penalizing “whoever . . . shall keep, maintain, control, support, or harbor in any house or other place, for the purpose of prostitution . . . any alien woman or girl, within 3 years after she shall have entered the United States,” held an exercise of police power not within the control of Congress over immigration (whether drawn from the commerce clause or based on inherent sovereignty).

Keller v. United States, 213 U.S. 138 (1909).

Concurring: Justices Brewer, White, Peckham, McKenna, and Day, and Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Harlan, and Moody.

37. Act of March 1, 1907 (34 Stat. 1028).

Provisions authorizing certain Indians “to institute their suits in the Court of Claims to determine the validity of any acts of Congress passed since . . . 1902, insofar as said acts . . . attempt to increase or extend the restrictions upon alienation . . . of allotments of lands of Cherokee citizens . . . ,” and giving a right of appeal to the Supreme Court, held an attempt to enlarge the judicial power restricted by Article III, § 2, to cases and controversies.

Muskrat v. United States, 219 U.S. 346 (1911).

38. Act of May 27, 1908 (35 Stat. 313, § 4).

Provision making locally taxable “all land [of Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes] from which restrictions have been or shall be removed,” held a violation of the Fifth Amendment, in view of the Atoka Agreement, embodied in the Curtis Act of June 28, 1898, providing tax-exemption for allotted lands while title in original allottee, not exceeding 21 years.

Choate v. Trapp, 224 U.S. 665 (1912).

39. Act of February 9, 1909, § 2, 35 Stat. 614, as amended.

Provision of Narcotic Drugs Import and Export Act creating a presumption that possessor of cocaine knew of its illegal importation into the United States held, in light of the fact that more cocaine is produced domestically than is brought into the country and in absence of any showing that defendant could have known his cocaine was imported, if it was, inapplicable to support conviction from mere possession of cocaine.

Turner v. United States, 396 U.S. 398 (1970).

Concurring specially: Justices Black and Douglas.

40. Act of August 19, 1911 (37 Stat. 28).

A proviso in § 8 of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act fixing a maximum authorized expenditure by a candidate for Senator “in any

campaign for his nomination and election,” as applied to a primary election, held not supported by Article I, §4, giving Congress power to regulate the manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives.

Newberry v. United States, 256 U.S. 232 (1921), overruled in *United States v. Classic*, 313 U.S. 299 (1941).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, McKenna, Holmes, Day, and Van Devanter.
Concurring specially: Justices Pitney, Brandeis, and Clarke.
Dissenting: Chief Justice White (concurring in part).

41. Act of June 18, 1912 (37 Stat. 136, §8).

Part of §8 giving Juvenile Court of the District of Columbia (proceeding upon information) concurrent jurisdiction of desertion cases (which were, by law, punishable by fine or imprisonment in the workhouse at hard labor for 1 year), held invalid under the Fifth Amendment, which gives right to presentment by a grand jury in case of infamous crimes.

United States v. Moreland, 258 U.S. 433 (1922).

Concurring: Justices McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, Pitney, and McReynolds.
Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, and Chief Justice Taft.

42. Act of March 4, 1913 (37 Stat. 988, part of par. 64).

Provision of the District of Columbia Public Utility Commission Act authorizing appeal to the United States Supreme Court from decrees of the District of Columbia Court Appeals modifying valuation decisions of the Utilities Commission, held an attempt to extend the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to cases not strictly judicial within the meaning of Article III, §2.

Keller v. Potomac Elec. Co., 261 U.S. 428 (1923).

43. Act of September 1, 1916 (39 Stat. 675).

The original Child Labor Law, providing “that no producer . . . shall ship . . . in interstate commerce . . . any article or commodity the product of any mill . . . in which within 30 days prior to the removal of such product therefrom children under the age of 14 years have been employed or permitted to work more than 8 hours in any day or more than 6 days in any week . . . ,” held not within the commerce power of Congress.

Hammer v. Dagenhart, 247 U.S. 251 (1918).

Concurring: Justices Day, Van Devanter, Pitney, and McReynolds, and Chief Justice White.
Dissenting: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Brandeis, and Clarke.

44. Act of September 8, 1916 (39 Stat. 757, §2(a), in part).

Provision of the income tax law of 1916, that a “stock dividend shall be considered income, to the amount of its cash value,” held invalid (in spite of the Sixteenth Amendment) as an attempt to tax

something not actually income, without regard to apportionment under Article I, §2, clause 3.

Eisner v. Macomber, 252 U.S. 189 (1920).

Concurring: Justices Pitney, McKenna, Van Devanter, and McReynolds, and Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Day, Brandeis, Clarke.

45. Act of October 6, 1917 (40 Stat. 395).

The amendment of §§ 24 and 256 of the Judicial Code (which prescribe jurisdiction of district courts) “saving . . . to claimants the rights and remedies under the workmen’s compensation law of any State,” held an attempt to transfer federal legislative powers to the States—the Constitution, by Article III, §2, and Article I, §8, having adopted rules of general maritime law.

Knickerbocker Ice Co. v. Stewart, 253 U.S. 149 (1920).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, McKenna, Day and Van Devanter, and Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Pitney, Brandeis, and Clarke.

46. Act of September 19, 1918 (40 Stat. 960).

That part of the Minimum Wage Law of the District of Columbia which authorized the Wage Board “to ascertain and declare . . . (a) Standards of minimum wages for women in any occupation within the District of Columbia, and what wages are inadequate to supply the necessary cost of living to any such women workers to maintain them in good health and to protect their morals . . . ,” held to interfere with freedom of contract under the Fifth Amendment.

Adkins v. Children’s Hospital, 261 U.S. 525 (1923), overruled in *West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish*, 300 U.S. 379 (1937).

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, McKenna, Van Devanter, McReynolds, and Butler.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Taft, and Justices Sanford, and Holmes.

47. Act of February 24, 1919 (40 Stat. 1065, §213, in part).

That part of §213 of the of Revenue Act of 1919 which provided that “. . . for the purposes of the title . . . the term ‘gross income’ . . . includes gains, profits, and income derived from salaries, wages, or compensation for personal service (including in the case of . . . judges of the Supreme and inferior courts of the United States . . . the compensation received as such) . . .” as applied to a judge in office when the act was passed, held a violation of the guaranty of judges’ salaries, in Article III, §1.

Evans v. Gore, 253 U.S. 245 (1920).

Miles v. Graham, 268 U.S. 501 (1925), held it invalid as applied to a judge taking office subsequent to the date of the act. Both cases were overruled by *O’Malley v. Woodrough*, 307 U.S. 277 (1939).

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, McKenna, Day, Pitney, McReynolds, and Clarke, and Chief Justice White.

2012 ACTS OF CONGRESS HELD UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Dissenting: Justices Holmes and Brandeis.

48. Act of February 24, 1919 (40 Stat. 1097, § 402(c)).

That part of the estate tax law providing that the “gross estate” of a decedent should include value of all property “to the extent of any interest therein of which the decedent has at any time made a transfer or with respect to which he had at any time created a trust, in contemplation of or intended to take effect in possession or enjoyment at or after his death (whether such transfer or trust is made or created before or after the passage of this act), except in case of a *bona fide* sale . . .” as applied to a transfer of property made prior to the act and intended to take effect “in possession or enjoyment” at death of grantor, but not in fact testamentary or designed to evade taxation, held confiscatory, contrary to Fifth Amendment.

Nichols v. Coolidge, 274 U.S. 531 (1927).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sutherland, and Butler, and Chief Justice Taft.

Concurring specially (only in the result): Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Sanford, and Stone.

49. Act of February 24, 1919, title XII (40 Stat. 1138, entire title).

The Child Labor Tax Act, providing that “every person . . . operating . . . any . . . factory . . . in which children under the age of 14 years have been employed or permitted to work . . . shall pay . . . in addition to all other taxes imposed by law, an excise tax equivalent to 10 percent of the entire net profits received . . . for such year from the sale . . . of the product of such . . . factory . . .,” held beyond the taxing power under Article I, § 8, clause 1, and an infringement of state authority.

Bailey v. Drexel Furniture Co. (Child Labor Tax Case), 259 U.S. 20 (1922).

Concurring: Chief Justice Taft, and Justices McKenna, Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, Pitney, McReynolds, and Brandeis.

Dissenting: Justice Clarke.

50. Act of October 22, 1919 (41 Stat. 298, § 2), amending Act of August 10, 1917 (40 Stat. 277, § 4).

(a) § 4 of the Lever Act, providing in part “that it is hereby made unlawful for any person willfully . . . to make any unjust or unreasonable rate or charge in handling or dealing in or with any necessities . . . and fixing a penalty, held invalid to support an indictment for charging an unreasonable price on sale—as not setting up an ascertainable standard of guilt within the requirement of the Sixth Amendment.

United States v. L. Cohen Grocery Co., 255 U.S. 81 (1921).

Concurring: Chief Justice White, and Justices McKenna, Holmes, Van Devanter, McReynolds, and Clarke.

Concurring specially: Justices Pitney and Brandeis.

(b) That provision of § 4 making it unlawful “to conspire, combine, agree, or arrange with any other person to . . . exact excessive prices for any necessities” and fixing a penalty, held invalid to support an indictment, on the reasoning of the *Cohen Grocery* case.

Weeds, Inc. v. United States, 255 U.S. 109 (1921).

Concurring: Chief Justice White, and Justices McKenna, Holmes, Van Devanter, McReynolds, and Clarke.

Concurring specially: Justices Pitney and Brandeis.

51. Act of August 24, 1921 (42 Stat. 187, Future Trading Act).

(a) § 4 (and interwoven regulations) providing a “tax of 20 cents a bushel on every bushel involved therein, upon each contract of sale of grain for future delivery, except . . . where such contracts are made by or through a member of a board of trade which has been designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as a ‘contract market’ . . .,” held not within the taxing power under Article I, § 8.

Hill v. Wallace, 259 U.S. 44 (1922).

(b) § 3, providing “That in addition to the taxes now imposed by law there is hereby levied a tax amounting to 20 cents per bushel on each bushel involved therein, whether the actual commodity is intended to be delivered or only nominally referred to, upon each . . . option for a contract either of purchase or sale of grain . . .,” held invalid on the same reasoning.

Trusler v. Crooks, 269 U.S. 475 (1926).

52. Act of November 23, 1921 (42 Stat. 261, 245, in part).

Provision of Revenue Act of 1921 abating the deduction (4 percent of mean reserves) allowed from taxable income of life insurance companies in general by the amount of interest on their tax-exempts, and so according no relative advantage to the owners of the tax-exempt securities, held to destroy a guaranteed exemption.

National Life Ins. Co. v. United States, 277 U.S. 508 (1928).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler, and Sanford, and Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, and Stone.

53. Act of June 10, 1922 (42 Stat. 634).

A second attempt to amend §§ 24 and 256 of the Judicial Code, relating to jurisdiction of district courts, by saving “to claimants for compensation for injuries to or death of persons other than the master or members of the crew of a vessel, their rights and remedies under the workmen’s compensation law of any State . . .” held invalid on authority of *Knickerbocker Ice Co. v. Stewart*.

Washington v. Dawson & Co., 264 U.S. 219 (1924).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, McKenna, Holmes, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler, and Sanford, and Chief Justice Taft.

2014 ACTS OF CONGRESS HELD UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Dissenting: Justice Brandeis.

54. Act of June 2, 1924 (43 Stat. 313).

The gift tax provisions of the Revenue Act of 1924, applicable to gifts made during the calendar year, were held invalid under the Fifth Amendment insofar as they applied to gifts made before passage of the act.

Untermeyer v. Anderson, 276 U.S. 440 (1928).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Sanford, Van Devanter, Sutherland, and Butler, and Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, and Stone.

55. Act of February 26, 1926 (44 Stat. 70, § 302, in part).

Stipulation creating a conclusive presumption that gifts made within two years prior to the death of the donor were made in contemplation of death of donor and requiring the value thereof to be included in computing the death transfer tax on decedent's estate was held to effect an invalid deprivation of property without due process.

Heiner v. Donnan, 285 U.S. 312 (1932).

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Butler, and Roberts, and Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Stone and Brandeis.

56. Act of February 26, 1926 (44 Stat. 95, § 701).

Provision imposing a special excise tax of \$1,000 on liquor dealers operating in States where such business is illegal, was held a penalty, without constitutional support following repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment.

United States v. Constantine, 296 U.S. 287 (1935).

Concurring: Justices Roberts, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, and Butler, and Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, and Stone.

57. Act of March 20, 1933 (48 Stat. 11, § 17, in part).

Clause in the Economy Act of 1933 providing “. . . all laws granting or pertaining to yearly renewable term war risk insurance are hereby repealed,” held invalid to abrogate an outstanding contract of insurance, which is a vested right protected by the Fifth Amendment.

Lynch v. United States, 292 U.S. 571 (1934).

58. Act of May 12, 1933 (48 Stat. 31).

Agricultural Adjustment Act providing for processing taxes on agricultural commodities and benefit payments therefore to farmers, held not within the taxing power under Article I, § 8, clause 1.

United States v. Butler, 297 U.S. 1 (1936).

Concurring: Justices Roberts, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, and Butler, and Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Stone, Brandeis, and Cardozo.

59. Joint Resolution of June 5, 1933 (48 Stat. 113, § 1).

Abrogation of gold clause in Government obligations, held a repudiation of the pledge implicit in the power to borrow money (Article I, § 8, clause 2), and within the prohibition of the Fourteenth Amendment, against questioning the validity of the public debt. (The majority of the Court, however, held plaintiff not entitled to recover under the circumstances.)

Perry v. United States, 294 U.S. 330 (1935).

Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, and Justices Brandeis, Roberts, and Cardozo.

Concurring specially: Justice Stone.

Dissenting: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sutherland, and Butler.

60. Act of June 16, 1933 (48 Stat. 195, the National Industrial Recovery Act).

(a) Title I, except § 9.

Provisions relating to codes of fair competition, authorized to be approved by the President in his discretion “to effectuate the policy” of the act, held invalid as a delegation of legislative power (Article I, § 1) and not within the commerce power (Article I, § 8, clause 3).

Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States, 295 U.S. 495 (1935).

Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, and Justices Van Devanter, McReynolds, Brandeis, Sutherland, Butler, and Roberts.

Concurring specially: Justices Cardozo and Stone.

(b) § 9(c).

Clause of the oil regulation section authorizing the President “to prohibit the transportation in interstate . . . commerce of petroleum . . . produced or withdrawn from storage in excess of the amount permitted . . . by any State law . . .” and prescribing a penalty for violation of orders issued thereunder, held invalid as a delegation of legislative power.

Panama Refining Co. v. Ryan, 293 U.S. 388 (1935).

Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, and Justices Van Devanter, McReynolds, Brandeis, Sutherland, Butler, Stone, and Roberts.

Dissenting: Justice Cardozo.

61. Act of June 16, 1933 (48 Stat. 307, § 13).

Temporary reduction of 15 percent in retired pay of judges, retired from service but subject to performance of judicial duties under the Act of March 1, 1929 (45 Stat. 1422), was held a violation of the guaranty of judges’ salaries in Article III, § 1.

Booth v. United States, 291 U.S. 339 (1934).

62. Act of April 27, 1934 (48 Stat. 646 §6), amending § 5(i) of Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933.

Provision for conversion of state building and loan associations into federal associations, upon vote of 51 percent of the votes cast at a meeting of stockholders called to consider such action, held an encroachment on reserved powers of State.

Hopkins Savings Ass'n v. Cleary, 296 U.S. 315 (1935).

63. Act of May 24, 1934 (48 Stat. 798).

Provision for readjustment of municipal indebtedness, though "adequately related" to the bankruptcy power, was held invalid as an interference with state sovereignty.

Ashton v. Cameron County Dist., 298 U.S. 513 (1936).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler, and Roberts.

Dissenting: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, and Stone, and Chief Justice Hughes.

64. Act of June 27, 1934 (48 Stat. 1283).

The Railroad Retirement Act, establishing a detailed compulsory retirement system for employees of carriers subject to the Interstate Commerce Act, held, not a regulation of commerce within the meaning of Article I, §8, clause 3, and violative of the due process clause (Fifth Amendment).

Railroad Retirement Bd. v. Alton Ry., 295 U.S. 330 (1935).

Concurring: Justices Roberts, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, and Butler.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Hughes, and Justices Brandeis, Stone, and Cardozo.

65. Act of June 28, 1934 (48 Stat. 1289, ch. 869).

The Frazier-Lemke Act, adding subsection (s) to §75 of the Bankruptcy Act, designed to preserve to mortgagors the ownership and enjoyment of their farm property and providing specifically, in paragraph 7, that a bankrupt left in possession has the option at any time within 5 years of buying at the appraised value—subject meanwhile to no monetary obligation other than payment of reasonable rental, held a violation of property rights, under the Fifth Amendment.

Louisville Bank v. Radford, 295 U.S. 555 (1935).

66. Act of August 24, 1935 (48 Stat. 750).

Amendments of Agricultural Adjustment Act held not within the taxing power, the amendments not having cured the defects of the original act held unconstitutional in *United States v. Butler*, 297 U.S. 1 (1936).

Rickert Rice Mills v. Fontenot, 297 U.S. 110 (1936).

67. Act of August 30, 1935 (49 Stat. 991).

Bituminous Coal Conservation Act of 1935, held to impose, not a tax within Article I, § 8, but a penalty not sustained by the commerce clause (Article I, § 8, clause 3).

Carter v. Carter Coal Co., 298 U.S. 238 (1936).

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Butler, and Roberts.

Concurring specially: Chief Justice Hughes.

Concurring in part and dissenting in part: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, and Stone.

68. Act of June 25, 1938 (52 Stat. 1040).

Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act of 1938, § 301(f), prohibiting the refusal to permit entry or inspection of premises by federal officers held void for vagueness and as violative of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

United States v. Cardiff, 344 U.S. 174 (1952).

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Black, Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Clark, and Minton, and Chief Justice Vinson.

Dissenting: Justice Burton.

69. Act of June 30, 1938 (52 Stat. 1251).

Federal Firearms Act, § 2(f), establishing a presumption of guilt based on a prior conviction and present possession of a firearm, held to violate the test of due process under the Fifth Amendment.

Tot v. United States, 319 U.S. 463 (1943).

Concurring: Justices Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, and Rutledge, and Chief Justice Stone.

Concurring specially: Justices Black and Douglas.

70. Act of August 10, 1939 (§ 201(d), 53 Stat. 1362, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 402(g)).

Provision of Social Security Act that grants survivors' benefits based on the earnings of a deceased husband and father covered by the Act to his widow and to the couple's children in her care but that grants benefits based on the earnings of a covered deceased wife and mother only to the minor children and not to the widower held violative of the right to equal protection secured by the Fifth Amendment's due process clause, since it unjustifiably discriminates against female wage earners required to pay social security taxes by affording them less protection for their survivors than is provided for male wage earners.

Weinberger v. Wiesenfeld, 420 U.S. 636 (1975).

71. Act of October 14, 1940 (54 Stat. 1169 § 401(g)); as amended by Act of January 20, 1944 (58 Stat. 4, § 1).

Provision of Aliens and Nationality Code (8 U.S.C. § 1481(a)(8)), derived from the Nationality Act of 1940, as amended, that citizen-

ship shall be lost upon conviction by court martial and dishonorable discharge for deserting the armed services in time of war, held invalid as imposing a cruel and unusual punishment barred by the Eighth Amendment and not authorized by the war powers conferred by Article I, § 8, clauses 11 to 14.

Trop v. Dulles, 356 U.S. 86 (1958).

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justice Whittaker.

Concurring specially: Justices Black, Douglas, and Brennan.

Dissenting: Justices Frankfurter, Burton, Clark, and Harlan.

72. Act of November 15, 1943 (57 Stat. 450).

Urgent Deficiency Appropriation Act of 1943, § 304, providing that no salary should be paid to certain named federal employees out of moneys appropriated, held to violate Article I, § 9, clause 3, forbidding enactment of bill of attainder or ex post facto law.

United States v. Lovett, 328 U.S. 303 (1946).

Concurring: Justices Black, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge, and Burton, and Chief Justice Stone.

Concurring specially: Justices Frankfurter and Reed.

73. Act of September 27, 1944 (58 Stat. 746, § 401(J)); and Act of June 27, 1952 (66 Stat. 163, 267–268, § 349(a)(10)).

§ 401(J) of Immigration and Nationality Act of 1940, added in 1944, and § 49(a)(10) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 depriving one of citizenship, without the procedural safeguards guaranteed by the Fifth and Sixth Amendments, for the offense of leaving or remaining outside the country, in time of war or national emergency, to evade military service held invalid.

Kennedy v. Mendoza-Martinez, 372 U.S. 144 (1963).

Concurring: Justices Goldberg, Black, Douglas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justice Brennan.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Clark, Stewart, and White.

74. Act of July 31, 1946 (ch. 707, § 7, 60 Stat. 719).

District court decision holding invalid under First and Fifth Amendments statute prohibiting parades or assemblages on United States Capitol grounds is summarily affirmed.

Chief of Capitol Police v. Jeanette Rankin Brigade, 409 U.S. 972 (1972).

75. Act of June 25, 1948 (62 Stat. 760).

Provision of Lindberg Kidnapping Act which provided for the imposition of the death penalty only if recommended by the jury held unconstitutional inasmuch as it penalized the assertion of a defendant's Sixth Amendment right to jury trial.

United States v. Jackson, 390 U.S. 570 (1968).

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Douglas, Harlan, Brennan, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices White and Black.

76. Act of August 18, 1949 (63 Stat. 617, 40 U.S.C. § 13k).

Provision, insofar as it applies to the public sidewalks surrounding the Supreme Court building, which bars the display of any flag, banner, or device designed to bring into public notice any party, organization, or movement, held violative of the free speech clause of the First Amendment.

United States v. Grace, 461 U.S. 171 (1983).

Concurring: Justices White, Brennan, Blackmun, Powell, Rehnquist, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Concurring in part and dissenting in part: Justices Marshall and Stevens.

77. Act of May 5, 1950 (64 Stat. 107).

Article 3(a) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, subjecting civilian ex-servicemen to court martial for crime committed while in military service, held to violate Article III, §2, and the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.

Toth v. Quarles, 350 U.S. 11 (1955).

Concurring: Justices Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Clark, Harlan, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Reed, Burton, and Minton.

78. Act of May 5, 1950 (64 Stat. 107).

Insofar as Article 2(11) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice subjects civilian dependents accompanying members of the armed forces overseas in time of peace to trial, in capital cases, by court martial, it is violative of Article III, §2, and the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.

Reid v. Covert, 354 U.S. 1 (1957).

Concurring: Justices Black, Douglas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specifically: Justices Frankfurter and Harlan.

Dissenting: Justices Clark and Burton.

Insofar as the aforementioned provision is invoked in time of peace for the trial of noncapital offenses committed on land bases overseas by employees of the armed forces who have not been inducted or who have not voluntarily enlisted therein, it is violative of the Sixth Amendment.

McElroy v. United States ex rel. Guagliardo, 361 U.S. 281 (1960).

Concurring: Justices Clark, Black, Douglas, and Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Frankfurter.

Concurring in Part and dissenting in Part: Justices Whittaker and Stewart.

Insofar as the aforementioned provision is invoked in time of peace for the trial of noncapital offenses committed by civilian dependents accompanying members of the armed forces overseas, it is violative of Article III, §2, and the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.

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Kinsella v. United States ex rel. Singleton, 361 U.S. 234 (1960).

Concurring: Justices Clark, Black, Douglas, and Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Frankfurter.

Concurring in part and dissenting in part: Justices Whittaker and Stewart.

Insofar as the aforementioned provision is invoked in time of peace for the trial of a capital offense committed by a civilian employee of the armed forces overseas, it is violative of Article III, § 2, and the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.

Grisham v. Hagan, 361 U.S. 278 (1960).

Concurring: Justices Clark, Black, Douglas, and Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Frankfurter.

Concurring in part and dissenting in part: Justices Whittaker and Stewart.

79. Act of August 16, 1950 (64 Stat. 451, as amended).

Statutory scheme authorizing the Postmaster General to close the mails to distributors of obscene materials held unconstitutional in the absence of procedural provisions to assure prompt judicial determination that protected materials were not being restrained.

Blount v. Rizzi, 400 U.S. 410 (1971).

80. Act of August 28, 1950 (§ 202(c)(1)(D), 64 Stat. 483, 42 U.S.C. § 402(c)(1)(C)).

District court decision holding invalid as a violation of the equal protection component of the Fifth Amendment's due process clause a Social Security provision entitling a husband to insurance benefits through his wife's benefits, provided he received at least one-half of his support from her at the time she became entitled, but requiring no such showing of support for the wife to qualify for benefits through her husband, is summarily affirmed.

Califano v. Silbowitz, 430 U.S. 934 (1977).

81. Act of August 28, 1950 (§ 202(f)(1)(E), 64 Stat. 485, 42 U.S.C. § 402(f)(1)(D)).

Social Security Act provision awarding survivor's benefits based on earnings of a deceased wife to widower only if he was receiving at least half of his support from her at the time of her death, whereas widow receives benefits regardless of dependency, held violative of equal protection element of Fifth Amendment's due process clause because of its impermissible sex classification.

Califano v. Goldfarb, 430 U.S. 199 (1977).

Concurring: Justices Brennan, White, Marshall, and Powell.

Concurring specially: Justice Stevens.

Dissenting: Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.

82. Act of September 23, 1950 (Title I, § 5, 64 Stat. 992).

Provision of Subversive Activities Control Act making it unlawful for member of Communist front organization to work in a defense plant held to be an overbroad infringement of the right of association protected by the First Amendment.

United States v. Robel, 389 U.S. 258 (1967).

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Stewart, and Fortas.

Concurring specially: Justice Brennan.

Dissenting: Justices White and Harlan.

83. Act of September 23, 1950 (64 Stat. 993, § 6).

Subversive Activities Control Act of 1950, § 6, providing that any member of a Communist organization, which has registered or has been ordered to register, commits a crime if he attempts to obtain or use a passport, held violative of due process under the Fifth Amendment.

Aptheker v. Secretary of State, 378 U.S. 500 (1964).

Concurring: Justices Goldberg, Brennan, and Stewart, and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justices Black and Douglas.

Dissenting: Justices Clark, Harlan, and White.

84. Act of September 28, 1950 (Title I, §§ 7, 8, 64 Stat. 993).

Provisions of Subversive Activities Control Act of 1950 requiring in lieu of registration by the Communist Party registration by Party members may not be applied to compel registration by, or to prosecute for refusal to register, alleged members who have asserted their privilege against self-incrimination, inasmuch as registration would expose such persons to criminal prosecution under other laws.

Albertson v. Subversive Activities Control Board, 382 U.S. 70 (1965).

85. Act of October 30, 1951 § 5(f)(ii), 65 Stat. 683, 45 U.S.C. § 231a(c)(3)(ii).

Provision of Railroad Retirement Act similar to section voided in *Goldfarb* (no. 81, *supra*).

Railroad Retirement Bd. v. Kalina, 431 U.S. 909 (1977).

86. Act of June 27, 1952 (Title III, 349, 66 Stat. 267).

Provision of Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 providing for revocation of United States citizenship of one who votes in a foreign election held unconstitutional under § 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Afroyim v. Rusk, 387 U.S. 253 (1967).

Concurring: Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Clark, Stewart, and White.

87. Act of June 27, 1952 (66 Stat. 163, 269, § 352(a)(1)).

§ 352(a)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, depriving a naturalized person of citizenship for "having a continuous

residence for three years” in state of his birth or prior nationality, held violative of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Schneider v. Rusk, 377 U.S. 163 (1964).

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Black, Stewart, and Goldberg, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Clark, Harlan, and White.

88. Act of August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 525, Int. Rev. Code of 1954, §§4401–4423).

Provisions of tax laws requiring gamblers to pay occupational and excise taxes may not be used over an assertion of one’s privilege against self-incrimination either to compel extensive reporting of activities, leaving the registrant subject to prosecution under the laws of all the States with the possible exception of Nevada, or to prosecute for failure to register and report, because the scheme abridged the Fifth Amendment privilege.

Marchetti v. United States, 390 U.S. 39 (1968), and *Grosso v. United States*, 390 U.S. 62 (1968).

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Black, Douglas, White, and Fortas.

Concurring specially: Justices Brennan and Stewart.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Warren.

89. Act of August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 560, Marijuana Tax Act, §§4741, 4744, 4751, 4753).

Provisions of tax laws requiring possessors of marijuana to register and to pay a transfer tax may not be used over an assertion of the privilege against self-incrimination to compel registration or to prosecute for failure to register.

Leary v. United States, 395 U.S. 6 (1969).

Concurring specially: Chief Justice Warren and Justice Stewart.

90. Act of August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 728, Int. Rev. Code of 1954, §§5841, 5851).

Provisions of tax laws requiring the possessor of certain firearms, which it is made illegal to receive or to possess, to register with the Treasury Department may not be used over an assertion of the privilege against self-incrimination to prosecute one for failure to register or for possession of an unregistered firearm since the statutory scheme abridges the Fifth Amendment privilege.

Haynes v. United States, 390 U.S. 85 (1968).

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Black, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Fortas.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Warren.

91. Act of August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 867, Int. Rev. Code of 1954, §7302).

Provision of tax laws providing for forfeiture of property used in violating internal revenue laws may not be constitutionally used in face of invocation of privilege against self-incrimination to condemn money in possession of gambler who had failed to comply with the

registration and reporting scheme held void in *Marchetti v. United States*, 390 U.S. 39 (1968).

United States v. United States Coin & Currency, 401 U.S. 715 (1971).

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justices White, Stewart, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.

92. Act of July 18, 1956 (§ 106, Stat. 570).

Provision of Narcotic Drugs Import and Export Act creating a presumption that possessor of marijuana knew of its illegal importation into the United States held, in absence of showing that all marijuana in United States was of foreign origin and that domestic users could know that their marijuana was more likely than not of foreign origin, unconstitutional under the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Leary v. United States, 395 U.S. 6 (1969).

Concurring specially: Justice Black.

93. Act of August 10, 1956 (70A Stat. 65, Uniform Code of Military Justice, Articles 80, 130, 134).

Servicemen may not be charged under the Act and tried in military courts because of the commission of non-service connected crimes committed off-post and off-duty which are subject to civilian court jurisdiction where the guarantees of the Bill of Rights are applicable.

O'Callahan v. Parker, 395 U.S. 258 (1969), overruled in *Solorio v. United States*, 483 U.S. 435 (1987).

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Black Brennan, Fortas, and Marshall, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Stewart, and White.

94. Act of August 10, 1956 (70A Stat. 35, § 772(f)).

Proviso of statute permitting the wearing of United States military apparel in theatrical productions only if the portrayal does not tend to discredit the armed force imposes an unconstitutional restraint upon First Amendment freedoms and precludes a prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 702 for unauthorized wearing of uniform in a street skit disrespectful of the military.

Schacht v. United States, 398 U.S. 58 (1970).

95. Act of September 2, 1958 (§ 5601(b)(1), 72 Stat. 1399).

Provision of Internal Revenue Code creating a presumption that one's presence at the site of an unregistered still shall be sufficient for conviction under a statute punishing possession, custody, or control of an unregistered still unless defendant otherwise explained his presence at the site to the jury held unconstitutional because the presumption is not a legitimate, rational, or reasonable inference that defendant was engaged in one of the specialized functions proscribed by the statute.

United States v. Romano, 382 U.S. 136 (1965).

96. Act of September 2, 1958 (§1(25)(B), 72 Stat. 1446), and Act of September 7, 1962 (§401, 76 Stat. 469).

Federal statutes providing that spouses of female members of the Armed Forces must be dependent in fact in order to qualify for certain dependent's benefits, whereas spouses of male members are statutorily deemed dependent and automatically qualified for allowances, whatever their actual status, held an invalid sex classification under the equal protection principles of the Fifth Amendment's due process clause.

Frontiero v. Richardson, 411 U.S. 677 (1973).

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, White, and Marshall.

Concurring specially: Justices Powell and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger; Justice Stewart.

Dissenting: Justice Rehnquist.

97. Act of September 14, 1959 (§504, 73 Stat. 536).

Provision of Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 making it a crime for a member of the Communist Party to serve as an officer or, with the exception of clerical or custodial positions, as an employee of a labor union held to be a bill of attainder and unconstitutional.

United States v. Brown, 381 U.S. 437 (1965).

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Goldberg.

Dissenting: Justices White, Clark, Harlan, and Stewart.

98. Act of October 11, 1962 (§305, 76 Stat. 840).

Provision of Postal Services and Federal Employees Salary Act of 1962 authorizing Post Office Department to detain material determined to be "communist political propaganda" and to forward it to the addressee only if he requested it after notification by the Department, the material to be destroyed otherwise, held to impose on the addressee an affirmative obligation which amounted to an abridgment of First Amendment rights.

Lamont v. Postmaster General, 381 U.S. 301 (1965).

99. Act of October 15, 1962 (76 Stat. 914).

Provision of District of Columbia laws requiring that a person to be eligible to receive welfare assistance must have resided in the District for at least one year impermissibly classified persons on the basis of an assertion of the right to travel interstate and therefore held to violate the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Shapiro v. Thompson, 394 U.S. 618 (1969).

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, Stewart, White, Fortas, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black and Harlan.

100. Act of December 16, 1963 (77 Stat. 378, 20 U.S.C. §754).

Provision of Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963 which in effect removed restriction against religious use of facilities constructed

with federal funds after 20 years held to violate the establishment clause of the First Amendment inasmuch as the property will still be of considerable value at the end of the period and removal of the restriction would constitute a substantial governmental contribution to religion.

Tilton v. Richardson, 403 U.S. 672 (1971).

101. Act of July 30, 1965 (§ 339, 79 Stat. 409).

Section of Social Security Act qualifying certain illegitimate children for disability insurance benefits by presuming dependence but disqualifying other illegitimate children, regardless of dependency, if the disabled wage earner parent did not contribute to the child's support before the onset of the disability or if the child did not live with the parent before the onset of disability, held to deny latter class of children equal protection as guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Jiminez v. Weinberger, 417 U.S. 628 (1974).

Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Douglas, Brennan, Stewart White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Dissenting: Justice Rehnquist.

102. Act of September 3, 1966 (§ 102(b), 80 Stat. 831), and Act of April 8, 1974 (§§ 6(a)(1) amending § 3(d) of Act, 6(a)(2) amending 3 (e)(2)(C), 6(a)(5) amending § 3(s)(5), and 6(a)(6) amending § 3(x)).

Those section of the Fair Labor Standards Act extending wage and hour coverage to the employees of state and local governments held invalid because Congress lacks the authority under the commerce clause to regulate employee activities in areas of traditional governmental functions of the States.

National League of Cities v. Usery, 426 U.S. 833 (1976).

Concurring: Justices Rehnquist, Stewart, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Dissenting: Justices Brennan, White, and Marshall; Justice Stevens.

103. Act of January 2, 1968 (§ 163(a)(2), 81 Stat. 872).

District court decisions holding unconstitutional under Fifth Amendment's due process clause section of Social Security Act that reduced, perhaps to zero, benefits coming to illegitimate children upon death of parent in order to satisfy the maximum payment due the wife and legitimate children are summarily affirmed.

Richardson v. Davis, 409 U.S. 1069 (1972).

104. Act of January 2, 1968 (§ 203, 81 Stat. 882).

Provision of Social Security Act extending benefits to families whose dependent children have been deprived of parental support because of the unemployment of the father but not giving benefits when the mother becomes unemployed held to impermissibly classify on the basis of sex and violate the Fifth Amendment's due process clause.

Califano v. Westcott, 443 U.S. 76 (1979).

105. Act of June 22, 1970 (ch. III, 84 Stat. 318).

Provision of Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1970 which set a minimum voting age qualification of 18 in state and local elections held to be unconstitutional because beyond the powers of Congress to legislate.

Oregon v. Mitchell, 400 U.S. 112 (1970).

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Stewart, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.

Concurring specially: Justice Black.

Dissenting: Justices Douglas, Brennan, White, and Marshall.

106. Act of December 29, 1970 (§ 8(a), 84 Stat. 1598, 29 U.S.C. § 637(a)).

Provision of Occupational Safety and Health Act authorizing inspections of covered work places in industry without warrants held to violate Fourth Amendment.

Marshall v. Barlow's Inc., 436 U.S. 307 (1978).

Concurring: Justices White, Stewart, Marshall, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Dissenting: Justices Stevens, Blackmun, and Rehnquist.

107. Act of January 11, 1971, (§ 2, 84 Stat. 2048).

Provision of Food Stamp Act disqualifying from participation in program any household containing an individual unrelated by birth, marriage, or adoption to any other member of the household violates the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Department of Agriculture v. Moreno, 413 U.S. 528 (1973).

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, Stewart, White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Dissenting: Justice Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger.

108. Act of January 11, 1971 (§ 4, 84 Stat. 2049).

Provision of Food Stamp Act disqualifying from participation in program any household containing a person 18 years or older who had been claimed as a dependent child for income tax purposes in the present or preceding tax year by a taxpayer not a member of the household violates the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment.

Department of Agriculture v. Murry, 413 U.S. 508 (1973).

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justices Blackmun, Rehnquist, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

109. Federal Election Campaign Act of February 7, 1972 (86 Stat. 3), as amended by the Federal Campaign Act Amendments of 1974 (88 Stat. 1263), adding or amending 18 U.S.C. §§ 608(a), 608(e), and 2 U.S.C. § 437c.

Provisions of election law that forbid a candidate or the members of his immediate family from expending personal funds in excess of specified amounts, that limit to \$1,000 the independent expenditures of any person relative to an identified candidate, and that forbid ex-

penditures by candidates for federal office in excess of specified amounts violate the First Amendment speech guarantees; provisions of the law creating a commission to oversee enforcement of the Act are an invalid infringement of constitutional separation of powers in that they devolve responsibilities upon a commission four of whose six members are appointed by Congress and all six of whom are confirmed by the House of Representatives as well as by the Senate, not in compliance with the appointments clause.

Buckley v. Valeo, 424 U.S. 1 (1976).

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Stewart, Blackmun, Powell, and Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

Dissenting (expenditure provisions only): Justice White.

Dissenting (candidate's personal funds only): Justice Marshall.

110. Act of October 1, 1976 (title II, 90 Stat. 1446); Act of October 12, 1979 (101(c), 93 Stat. 657)).

Provisions of appropriations laws rolling back automatic pay increases for federal officers and employees is unconstitutional as to Article III judges because, the increases having gone into effect, they violate the security of compensation clause of Article III, § 1.

United States v. Will, 449 U.S. 200 (1980).

111. Act of November 6, 1978 (§ 241(a), 92 Stat. 2668, 28 U.S.C. § 1471)

Assignment to judges who do not have tenure and guarantee of compensation protections afforded Article III judges of jurisdiction over all proceedings arising under or in the bankruptcy act and over all cases relating to proceedings under the bankruptcy act is invalid, inasmuch as judges without Article III protection may not receive at least some of this jurisdiction.

Northern Pipeline Const. Co. v. Marathon Pipe Line Co., 458 U.S. 50 (1982).

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Concurring specially: Justices Rehnquist and O'Connor.

Dissenting: Justices White and Powell and Chief Justice Burger.

112. Act of May 30, 1980 (94 Stat. 399, 45 U.S.C. § 1001 et seq.) as amended by the Act of October 14, 1980 (94 Stat. 1959).

Acts of Congress applying to bankruptcy reorganization of one railroad and guaranteeing employee benefits is repugnant to the requirement of Article I, § 8, cl. 4, that bankruptcy legislation be "uniform."

Railroad Labor Executives Ass'n v. Gibbons, 455 U.S. 457 (1982).

113. Act of March 3, 1873 (ch. 258, § 2, 17 Stat. 599, recodified in 39 U.S.C. § 3001(e)(2)).

Comstock Act provision barring from the mails any unsolicited advertisement for contraceptives, as applied to circulars and flyers promoting prophylactics or containing information discussing the de-

sirability and availability of prophylactics, violates the free speech clause of the First Amendment.

Bolger v. Youngs Drug Products Corp., 463 U.S. 60 (1983).

Justices concurring: Marshall, White, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices concurring specially: Rehnquist and O'Connor; Stevens.

114. Act of Feb. 15, 1938, ch. 29, 52 Stat. 30.

District of Columbia Code §22-1115, prohibiting the display of any sign within 500 feet of a foreign embassy if the sign tends to bring the foreign government into "public odium" or "public disrepute," violates the First Amendment.

Boos v. Barry, 485 U.S. 312 (1988).

Justices concurring: O'Connor, Brennan, Marshall, Stevens, Scalia.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist, and White and Blackmun.

115. Act of June 27, 1952 (ch. 477, §244(e)(2), 66 Stat. 214, 8 U.S.C. §1254 (c)(2).

Provision of the immigration law that permits either House of Congress to veto the decision of the Attorney General to suspend the deportation of certain aliens violates the bicameralism and presentation requirements of lawmaking imposed upon Congress by Article I, §§1 and 7.

INS v. Chadha, 462 U.S. 919 (1983).

Justices concurring: Chief Justice Burger, and Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Justice concurring specially: Powell.

Justices dissenting: Rehnquist and White.

116. Act of September 2, 1958 (Pub. L. 85-921, §1, 72 Stat. 1771, 18 U.S.C. §504(1)).

Exemptions from ban on photographic reproduction of currency "for philatelic, numismatic, educational, historical, or newsworthy purposes" violates the First Amendment because it discriminates on the basis of the content of a publication.

Regan v. Time, Inc., 468 U.S. 641 (1984).

Justices concurring: White, Brennan, Blackmun, Marshall, Powell, Rehnquist, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice dissenting: Stevens.

117. Act of November 7, 1967 (Pub. L. 90-129, §201(8), 81 Stat. 368), as amended by Act of August 13, 1981 (Pub. L. 97-35, §1229, 95 Stat. 730, 47 U.S.C. §399).

Communications Act provision banning noncommercial educational stations receiving grants from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting from engaging in editorializing violates the First Amendment.

FCC v. League of Women Voters, 468 U.S. 364 (1984).

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: White, Rehnquist, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

118. Act of December 10, 1971 (Pub. L. 92-178, § 801, 85 Stat. 570, 26 U.S.C. § 9012(f)).

Provision of Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act limiting to \$1,000 the amount that independent committees may expend to further the election of a presidential candidate financing his campaign with public funds is an impermissible limitation of freedom of speech and association protected by the First Amendment.

FEC v. National Conservative Political Action Comm., 470 U.S. 480 (1985).

Justices concurring: Rehnquist, Brennan, Blackmun, Powell, O'Connor, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: White and Marshall.

119. Act of May 11, 1976, Pub. L. 92-225, § 316, 90 Stat. 490, 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

Provision of Federal Election Campaign Act requiring that independent corporate campaign expenditures be financed by voluntary contributions to a separate segregated fund violates the First Amendment as applied to a corporation organized to promote political ideas, having no stockholders, and not serving as a front for a business corporation or union.

FEC v. Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Inc., 479 U.S. 238 (1986).

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Powell, and Scalia.

Justice concurring specially: O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist, and Justices White, Blackmun, and Stevens.

120. Act of November 9, 1978 (Pub. L. 95-621, § 202(c)(1), 92 Stat. 3372, 15 U.S.C. § 3342(c)(1)).

Decision of Court of Appeals holding unconstitutional provision giving either House of Congress power to veto rules of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on certain natural gas pricing matters is summarily affirmed on the authority of *Chadha*.

Process Gas Consumers Group v. Consumer Energy Council, 463 U.S. 1216 (1983).

121. Act of May 28, 1980 (Pub. L. 96-252, § 21(a)), 94 Stat. 393, 15 U.S.C. § 57a-1(a).

Decision of Court of Appeals holding unconstitutional provision of FTC Improvements Act giving Congress power by concurrent resolution to veto final rules of the FTC is summarily affirmed on the basis of *Chadha*.

United States Senate v. FTC, 463 U.S. 1216 (1983).

122. Act of Jan. 12, 1983 (Pub. L. 97-459, § 207), 96 Stat. 2519, 25 U.S.C. § 2206.

Section of Indian Land Consolidation Act providing for escheat to tribe of fractionated interests in land representing less than 2% of a tract's total acreage violates the Fifth Amendment's takings clause by completely abrogating rights of intestacy and devise.

Hodel v. Irving, 481 U.S. 704 (1987).

Justices concurring: O'Connor, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices concurring specially: Stevens and White.

123. Act of Jan. 15, 1985, (Pub. L. 99-240, § 5(d)(2)(C)), 99 Stat. 1842, 42 U.S.C. § 2021e(d)(2)(C).

"Take-title" incentives contained in the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1985, designed to encourage states to cooperate in the federal regulatory scheme, offend principles of federalism embodied in the Tenth Amendment. These incentives, which require that non-participating states take title to waste or become liable for generators' damages, cross the line distinguishing encouragement from coercion. Congress may not simply commandeer the legislative and regulatory processes of the states, nor may it force a transfer from generators to state governments. A required choice between two unconstitutionally coercive regulatory techniques is also impermissible.

New York v. United States, 112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992).

Justices concurring: O'Connor, Scalia, Kennedy, Souter, Thomas, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices dissenting: White, Blackmun, and Stevens.

124. Act of December 12, 1985 (Pub. L. 99-177, § 251), 99 Stat. 1063, 2 U.S.C. § 901.

That portion of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act which authorizes the Comptroller General to determine the amount of spending reductions which must be accomplished each year to reach congressional targets and which authorizes him to report a figure to the President which the President must implement violates the constitutional separation of powers inasmuch as the Comptroller General is subject to congressional control (removal) and cannot be given a role in the execution of the laws.

Bowsher v. Synar, 478 U.S. 714 (1986).

Justices concurring: Chief Justice Burger, and Brennan, Powell, Rehnquist, and O'Connor.

Justices concurring specially: Stevens and Marshall.

Justices dissenting: White and Blackmun.

125. Act of Oct. 30, 1986 (Pub. L. 99-591, title VI, §6007(f)), 100 Stat. 3341, 49 U.S.C. App. §2456(f).

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Act of 1986, which transferred operating control of two Washington, D.C., area airports from the Federal Government to a regional airports authority, violates separation of powers principles by conditioning that transfer on the establishment of a Board of Review, composed of Members of Congress and having veto authority over actions of the airports authority's board of directors.

Metropolitan Washington Airports Auth. v. Citizens for the Abatement of Aircraft Noise, 501 U.S. 252 (1991)

Justices concurring: Stevens, Blackmun, O'Connor, Scalia, Kennedy, and Souter.

Justices dissenting: White, Marshall, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

126. Act of April 28, 1988 (Pub. L. 100-297 §6101), 102 Stat. 424, 47 U.S.C. §223(b)(1).

Amendment to Communications Act of 1934 imposing an outright ban on "indecent" but not obscene messages violates the First Amendment, since it has not been shown to be narrowly tailored to further the governmental interest in protecting minors from hearing such messages.

Sable Communications of California v. FCC, 492 U.S. 115 (1989).

127. Act of Oct. 28, 1989 (Pub. L. 101-131), 103 Stat. 777, 18 U.S.C. §700.

The Flag Protection Act of 1989, criminalizing burning and certain other forms of destruction of the United States flag, violates the First Amendment. Most of the prohibited acts involve disrespectful treatment of the flag, and evidence a purpose to suppress expression out of concern for its likely communicative impact.

United States v. Eichman, 496 U.S. 310 (1990).

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Scalia, Kennedy.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, White, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

**STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY
PROVISIONS AND MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES
HELD UNCONSTITUTIONAL ON THEIR
FACE OR AS ADMINISTERED
(1789-1992)**

STATE ACTS HELD UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Hereinafter presented are brief summaries of Supreme Court decisions in which provisions of state constitutions, statutes, and municipal ordinances were found to be unconstitutional either in substance or as enforced, including provisions which conflicted with federal legislative acts and were therefore void because of the supremacy clause. Appended thereto are the names of the Justices who concurred in, and dissented from, such rulings. The names of the Justices have not been set forth when their decisions were unanimous.

I. STATE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND STATUTES

1. *United States v. Peters*, 9 U.S. (5 Cr.) 115 (1809)

A Pennsylvania statute prohibiting the execution of any process issued to enforce a certain sentence of a federal court, on the ground that the federal court lacked jurisdiction in the cause, could not oust the federal court of jurisdiction. A state statute purporting to annul the judgment of a court of the United States and to destroy rights acquired thereunder is without legal foundation.

2. *Fletcher v. Peck*, 10 U.S. (6 Cr.) 87 (1810)

A Georgia statute annulling conveyance of public lands authorized by a prior enactment was violative of the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10) of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, C.J., Washington, Livingston, Todd.
Justice Dissenting: Johnson (in part).

3. *New Jersey v. Wilson*, 11 U.S. (7 Cr.) 164 (1812).

A New Jersey law purporting to repeal an exemption from taxation contained in a prior enactment conveying certain lands was violative of the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10).

4. *Terrett v. Taylor*, 13 U.S. (9 Cr.) 43 (1815).

Although subsequently cited as a contract clause case (*Piqua Branch Bank v. Knoop*, 16 How. (57 U.S.) 369, 389 (1853)), the Court in the instant decision, without referring to the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10), voided, as contrary to the principles of natural justice, two Virginia acts which purported to divest the Episcopal Church of title to property "acquired under the faith of previous laws."

5. *Sturges v. Crowninshield*, 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 122 (1819).

Retroactive operation of a New York insolvency law to discharge the obligation of a debtor on a promissory note negotiated prior to its adoption violated the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10).

6. *McMillan v. McNeil*, 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 209 (1819).

A Louisiana insolvency law had no extraterritorial operation, and although adopted in 1808, its invocation to relieve a debtor of an obligation contracted by him in 1811, while a resident of South Carolina, offended the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10).

7. *McCulloch v. Maryland*, 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 316 (1819).

Under the principle of national supremacy (Art. VI) whereunder instrumentalities of the Federal Government are immune for state taxation, a Maryland law imposing a tax on notes issued by a branch of the Bank of United States was held unconstitutional.

8. *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*, 17 U.S. (4 Wheat.) 518 (1819).

A New Hampshire law which altered a charter granted to a private eleemosynary corporation by the British Crown prior to the Revolution was deemed violative of the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10).

Justices Concurring: Marshall, C.J., Washington, Johnson, Livingston, Story.
Justice Dissenting: Duvall.

9. *Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank v. Smith*, 19 U.S. (6 Wheat.) 131 (1821).

A state insolvency law, insofar as it purported to discharge a debtor from obligations contracted prior to its passage, was violative of the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10).

10. *Green v. Biddle*, 21 U.S. (8 Wheat.) 1 (1823).

Inasmuch as the compact between Virginia and Kentucky negotiated on the occasion of the separation of the latter from the former stipulated that rights in lands within the ceded area should remain valid and secure under the laws of Kentucky, and should be determined by Virginia law as of the time of separation, a subsequent Kentucky law which diminished the rights of a lawful owner by reducing the scope of his remedies against an adverse possessor violated the obligation of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10)

Justice Concurring: Johnson (separately).

11. *Society for the Propagation of the Gospel v. New Haven*, 21 U.S. (8 Wheat.) 464 (1823).

The property of a charitable corporation chartered by the Crown, being specifically protected by the treaty of peace of 1783, an act of Vermont adopted in 1794 and purporting to convey such property to local subdivisions was void.

12. *Gibbons v. Ogden*, 22 U.S. (9 Wheat.) 1 (1824).

By reason of conflict with the federal licensing act of 1793 authorizing vessels to navigate coastal waters, a New York statute granting to certain persons an exclusive right to navigate New York waters was void.

13. *Osborn v. Bank of the United States*, 22 U.S. (9 Wheat.) 738 (1824).

An Ohio statute levying a tax on the Bank of the United States, a federal instrumentality, was unenforceable (Art VI).

Justices Concurring: Marshall, C.J., Washington, Todd, Duvall, Story, Thompson.

Justice Dissenting: Johnson.

14. *Ogden v. Saunders*, 25 U.S. (12 Wheat.) 213 (1827).

(1) Although a state insolvency law may be applied to discharge a debt contracted subsequently to the passage of such law, (2) the statute could not be accorded extraterritorial enforcement to the extent of discharging a claim sought to be collected by a citizen of another State either in a federal court or in the courts of other States.

Justices Concurring: Johnson, Marshall, C.J., Duvall, Story.

Justices Dissenting: Washington, Thompson, Trimble.

15. *Brown v. Maryland*, 25 U.S. (12 Wheat.) 419 (1827).

A Maryland statute which required an importer to obtain a license before reselling in the original package articles imported from abroad was in conflict with the federal power to regulate foreign commerce (Art. I, §8, cl. 3) and with the constitutional provision (Art. I, §10, cl. 2) prohibiting States from levying import duties.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, C.J., Washington, Johnson, Duvall, Story, Trimble.

Justice Dissenting: Thompson.

16. *Craig v. Missouri*, 29 U.S. (4 Pet.) 410 (1830).

A Missouri act, under the authority of which certificates in denominations of 50 to \$10 were issued, payable in discharge of taxes or debts owned to the State and of salaries due public officers violated the constitutional prohibition (Art. I, §10, cl. 10) against emission of "bills of credit" by States. Justices Concurring: Marshall, C.J., Duvall, Story, Baldwin.

Justices Dissenting: Johnson, Thompson, McLean.

17. *Worcester v. Georgia*, 31 U.S. (6 Pet.) 515 (1832).

A Georgia law which imposed penalties on white persons who, without first obtaining a license therefor, established a residence within the limits of the Cherokee Nation, was unenforceable by reason of conflict with treaties negotiated by the United States with such Indian tribes and by virtue of extending to an area beyond the jurisdiction of the State.

18. *Boyle v. Zacharie*, 31 U.S. (6 Pet.) 635 (1832).

Consistently with the principle of *Ogden v. Saunders*, a Maryland insolvency law could not be invoked to effect discharge of an obligation contracted in Louisiana subsequently to its passage.

19. *Dobbins v. Commissioners of Erie County*, 41 U.S. (16 Pet.) 435 (1842).

A Pennsylvania law which diminished the compensation of a federal officer by subjecting him to county taxes imposed an invalid burden on a federal instrumentality (Art. VI).

20. *Prigg v. Pennsylvania*, 41 U.S. (16 Pet.) 539 (1842).

A Pennsylvania statute (1826) which penalized an owner's recovery of a runaway slave was violative of Art. IV, §2, cl. 3, and federal legislation implementing the latter provision.

Justices Concurring: Story, Catron, McKinley, Taney, C.J. (separately), Thompson (separately), Baldwin (separately), Wayne (separately), Daniel (separately), McLean (separately).

21. *Bronson v. Kinzie*, 42 U.S. (1 How.) 311 (1843).

Illinois mortgage moratorium law which, when applied to a mortgage negotiated prior to its passage, reduced the remedies of the mortgage lender by conferring a new right of redemption upon a defaulting borrower, impaired an obligation of contract contrary to Art. I, §10, of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., Baldwin, Wayne, Catron, Daniel.
Justice Dissenting: McLean.

22. *McCracken v. Hayward*, 43 U.S. (2 How.) 608 (1844).

Illinois mortgage moratorium law, which, when applied to a mortgage executed prior to its passage, diminished remedies of the mortgage lender by prohibiting consummation of a foreclosure unless the foreclosure price equaled two-thirds of the value of the mortgaged property, impaired the lender's obligation of contract contrary to Art. I, §10, of the Constitution.

23. *Gordon v. Appeal Tax Court*, 44 U.S. (3 How.) 133 (1845).

As to stockholders of Maryland state banks afforded an exemption under prior act of 1821, Maryland statute of 1841 taxing these stockholders impaired the obligation of contract.

24. *Searight v. Stokes*, 44 U.S. (3 How.) 151 (1845).

Inasmuch as under federal acts ceding to Pennsylvania that part of the Cumberland Road within its limits, and Pennsylvania laws accepting the same, the carriage of mail over said road was to be free from toll, later Pennsylvania law imposing tolls on coaches transporting passengers could not extend to the mail carried therein.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., Story, Wayne, Catron, McKinley, Nelson.
Justices Dissenting: McLean, Daniel.

25. *Neil, Moore & Co. v. Ohio*, 44 U.S. (3 How.) 720 (1845).

Ohio toll levied on passengers transported on mail coaches traversing Cumberland Road in that State, but which exempted pas-

sengers traveling on other coaches, was void by reason of conflict with the terms of federal and Ohio acts adopted in relation to transfer and acceptance of said part of the road by Ohio.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., Story, McLean, Wayne, Catron, McKinley, Nelson.

Justice Dissenting: Daniel. 2

26. *Planters' Bank v. Sharp*, 47 U.S. (6 How.) 301 (1848).

Mississippi law which nullified the power of a bank under a previously issued charter to discount bills of exchange and promissory notes and to institute actions for collection of the same was void by reason of impairing an obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10).

Justices Concurring: McLean, Wayne, Catron, Nelson, Woodbury, Grier.

Justices Dissenting: Taney, C.J., Daniel.

27. *Passenger Cases*, 48 U.S. (7 How.) 283 (1849).

Collection by New York and Massachusetts of per capita taxes on alien and domestic passengers arriving in the ports of these States was violative of the federal power to regulate foreign and interstate commerce (Art. I, § 8, cl. 3).

Justices Concurring: McLean (separately), Wayne (separately), Catron (separately), McKinley (separately), Grier (separately).

Justices Dissenting: Taney, C.J. (separately), Daniel (separately), Woodbury (separately), Nelson.

28. *Woodruff v. Trapnall*, 51 U.S. (10 How.) 190 (1851).

A judgment debtor of the State of Arkansas tendered, in satisfaction of the judgment, banknotes in circulation at the time of the repeal by the State of that section of the said bank's charter providing that such notes should be received in discharge of public debts. By reason of the inhibition of the contract clause of the Constitution, the legislative repeal could neither affect such notes nor abrogate the pledge of the State to receive them in payment of debts.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., McLean, Wayne, McKinley, Woodbury.

Justices Dissenting: Catron, Daniel, Nelson, Grier.

29. *Achison v. Huddleson*, 53 U.S. (12 How.) 293 (1852).

Inasmuch as by the terms of a Maryland statute, assented to by Congress, no toll was to be levied by that State on passenger coaches carrying mails over the Cumberland Road, later Maryland law imposing tolls on passengers in such coaches was void by reason of conflict with an earlier compact between Maryland and the Federal Government and also by virtue of imposing a burden on federal carriage of the mails (Art. VI).

30. *Trustees for Vincennes University v. Indiana*, 55 U.S. (14 How.) 268 (1853).

Inasmuch as the incorporation by the territorial legislature of the University in 1806 operated to vest in the latter certain federal lands reserved for educational purposes, subsequent enactment by Indiana ordering the sale of such lands and use of the proceeds for other purposes was invalid because of impairment of the contractual rights of the University.

Justices Concurring: McLean, Wayne, Nelson, Grier, Curtis.
Justices Dissenting: Taney, C.J., Catron, Daniel.

31. *Curran v. Arkansas*, 56 U.S. (15 How.) 304 (1854).

Retroactive laws which vested all property of the state bank in Arkansas and thereby prevented it from honoring its outstanding bills payable on demand to the holders thereof impaired the contractual rights of the latter and were void.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., McLean, Wayne, Grier, Curtis, Campbell.
Justices Dissenting: Catron, Daniel, Nelson.

32. *State Bank of Ohio v. Knoop*, 57 U.S. (16 How.) 369 (1854).

Inasmuch as state banks, on acceptance of a charter under the Ohio banking law of 1845, were directed, in lieu of all taxes, to pay six percent of annual dividends to the States, a later statute which exposed these banks to higher taxes effected an invalid impairment of the obligation of contract.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., McLean, Wayne, Nelson, Grier, Curtis.
Justices Dissenting: Catron, Daniel, Campbell.

33. *Hays v. The Pacific Mail Steamship Co.*, 58 U.S. (17 How.) 596 (1855).

California lacked jurisdiction to impose property taxes on vessels owned by a New York company and registered in New York as their home port which engaged in the coastwise trade entailing calls at California ports which were too brief to establish a tax situs.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., McLean, Wayne, Catron, Nelson, Grier, Curtis, Campbell.
Justices Dissenting: Daniel.

34. *Dodge v. Woolsey*, 59 U.S. (18 How.) 331 (1856).

Levy under an 1851 Ohio law of a bank tax at a higher rate than that specified in the bank's charter in 1845 was invalid by reason of impairment of the obligation of contract.

Justices Concurring: Taney, C.J., McLean, Wayne, Nelson, Grier, Curtis.
Justices Dissenting: Catron, Daniel, Campbell.

35. *Sinnot v. Davenport*, 63 U.S. (22 How.) 227 (1860).

An Alabama statute requiring owners of steamboats navigating the waters of that State to register under the penalty of a \$500 fine

for each offense was in conflict with the act of Congress providing for the enrollment and license of vessels engaged in the coastwise trade and therefore inoperative.

Accord: Foster v. Davenport, 63 U.S. (22 How.) 244 (1860), which held that this statute also was inoperative when applied to a lighter and a towboat assisting the movement wholly within Alabama territorial waters of vessels engaged in foreign and interstate commerce.

36. *Almy v. California*, 65 U.S. (24 How.) 169 (1861).

A California stamp tax imposed on bills of lading for gold or silver transported from California to any place outside the State was void as a tax on exports forbidden by Art. I, § 10, cl. 2 of the Constitution.

37. *Howard v. Bugbee*, 65 U.S. (24 How.) 461 (1861).

An Alabama statute authorizing redemption of mortgaged property in two years after sale under a foreclosure decree, by bona fide creditors of the mortgagor could not be applied to sales under mortgages executed prior to the enactment without invalid impairment of the obligation of contracts (Art. I, § 10).

38. *Bank of Commerce v. New York City*, 67 U.S. (2 Black) 620 (1863).

Securities of the United States being exempt from state taxation, inclusion of the value thereof in the capital of a bank subjected to taxation by the terms of a New York law rendered the latter void.

Accord: Bank Tax Case, 69 U.S. (2 Wall.) 200 (1865).

39. *Hawthorne v. Calef*, 69 U.S. (2 Wall.) 10 (1865).

A Maine statute terminating the liability of corporate stock for the debts of the corporation impaired the obligation of contracts as respects claims of creditors outstanding at the time of such termination.

40. *The Binghamton Bridge*, 70 U.S. (3 Wall.) 51 (1866).

An obligation of contract was impaired when a state legislature, after having issued a charter to a bridge company containing assurances that erection of other bridges within two miles of said bridge would not be authorized, subsequently chartered a second company to construct a bridge within a few rods of the first.

41. *Van Allen v. The Assessors*, 70 U.S. (3 Wall.) 573 (1866).

A New York law authorizing localities to tax as personal property national bank stock held by residents, but which imposed no comparable tax on shares of state banks, was violative of federal legislation authorizing state taxation of national bank stock at rates no higher than those imposed on state bank shares. Taxation of the capital of state banks did not provide such equality, for that part of the capital of state banks invested in federal securities was exempt.

Justices Concurring: Grier, Davis, Nelson, Clifford, Miller, Field.

Justices Dissenting: Chase, C.J., Wayne, Swayne.

42. *Accord: Bradley v. Illinois*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 459 (1867), voiding a similar Illinois tax law on the ground that a tax on the capital of state banks was not the equivalent of the state tax on shares of national banks and accordingly the tax on the latter was in conflict with federal law consenting to taxation of national bank shares at rates not in excess of those imposed on shares of state banks.

43. *McGee v. Mathis*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 143 (1867).

Arkansas statute of 1855 repealing an 1851 grant of tax exemption applicable to swamp lands, paid for either before or after repeal with scrip issued before the repeal, impaired a contract of the State with holders of such scrip (Art. I, § 10).

44. *Cummings v. Missouri*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 277 (1867).

Missouri constitutional provisions which required clergymen, as a prerequisite to the practice of their profession, to take an oath that they had never been guilty of hostility to the United States, or of certain other acts which were lawful when committed, was void as a bill of attainder and as an ex post facto law.

Justices Concurring: Wayne, Grier, Nelson, Clifford, Field.

Justices Dissenting: Swayne, Davis, Miller.

45. *The Moses Taylor*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 411 (1867).

A California statute vesting state courts with in rem jurisdiction over vessels for causes of action cognizable in admiralty invalidly infringed the admiralty jurisdiction exclusively conferred upon federal courts by § 9 of the Judiciary Act.

46. *Von Hoffman v. Quincy*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 535 (1867).

Illinois law limiting taxing powers granted to a municipality under a prior law authorizing it to issue bonds and amortize the same by levy of taxes impaired the obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10).

47. *The Hine v. Trevor*, 71 U.S. (4 Wall.) 555 (1867).

Iowa statute providing an in rem remedy in state courts for maritime causes of action was void by reason of conflict with § 9 of the Judiciary Act of 1789 which vested admiralty jurisdiction exclusively in the federal courts.

48. *Christmas v. Russell*, 72 U.S. (5 Wall.) 290 (1867).

A Mississippi statute which prohibited enforcement of a judgment of a sister State against a resident of Mississippi whenever barred by the Mississippi statute of limitations was violative of the full faith and credit clause of Art. IV.

49. *The Kansas Indians*, 72 U.S. (5 Wall.) 737 (1867).

When a treaty with Indian tribes exempted their lands from levy, sale, and forfeiture, a State could not validly collect its tax on lands held in severalty by members of such tribes under patents issued them pursuant to such treaty. Tribal Indians thus recognized by the National Government are exempt from the jurisdiction of the State.

50. *The New York Indians*, 72 U.S. (5 Wall.) 761 (1867).

A New York statute imposing a tax on lands reserved to an Indian tribe by treaty was void, notwithstanding provision therein that sale of land for nonpayment of the tax would not affect the right of occupancy by the Indians.

51. *Steamship Company v. Portwardens*, 73 U.S. (6 Wall.) 31 (1867).

A Louisiana statute which provided that port wardens might collect, in addition to other fees, a tax of five dollars from every ship entering the port of New Orleans, whether any service was performed or not, was in conflict with the commerce clause of the Constitution (Art. I, § 8, cl. 3).

52. *Crandall v. Nevada*, 73 U.S. (6 Wall.) 35 (1868).

A Nevada tax collected from every person leaving the State by rail or stage coach abridged the privileges of United States citizens to move freely across state lines in fulfillment of their relations with the National Government.

53. *Bank v. Supervisors*, 74 U.S. (7 Wall.) 26 (1868).

New York tax could not be collected on United States notes expressly exempted from state taxation by federal law authorizing their issuance as legal tender.

54. *Northern Central Ry. v. Jackson*, 74 U.S. (7 Wall.) 262 (1869).

Pennsylvania was without jurisdiction to enforce its law taxing interest on railway bonds secured by a mortgage applicable to railway property part of which was located in another State.

Justices Concurring: Chase, C.J., Nelson, Davis, Field, Miller, Grier.
Justices Dissenting: Clifford, Swayne.

55. *The Belfast*, 74 U.S. (7 Wall.) 624 (1869).

Inasmuch as a shipper's lien under a contract of carriage between ports within the same State is a maritime lien enforceable by in rem proceedings exclusively within the admiralty jurisdiction of federal court, an Alabama law creating a maritime lien enforceable by in rem proceedings in its own courts was void.

56. *Furman v. Nichol*, 75 U.S. (8 Wall.) 44 (1869).

Tennessee statute repealing prior law making notes of the Banks of Tennessee receivable in payment of taxes impaired the obligation of contract as to the notes already in circulation (Art. I, § 10).

57. *Home of the Friendless v. Rouse*, 75 U.S. (8 Wall.) 430 (1869); *The Washington University v. Rouse*, 75 U.S. (8 Wall.) 439 (1869).

Missouri statute taxing corporations afforded tax exemption by their charter impaired the obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10).

Justices Concurring: Nelson, Clifford, Grier, Swayne, Davis.

Justices Dissenting: Chase, C.J., Miller, Field.

58. *State Tonnage Tax Cases*, 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 204 (1871).

Alabama taxes levied on vessels owned by its citizens and employed in intrastate commerce "at so much per ton of the registered tonnage" were violative of the constitutional prohibition against the levy of tonnage duties by States.

59. *Ward v. Maryland*, 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 418 (1871).

Maryland law which exacted a traders' license from nonresidents at a higher rate than was collected from residents was violative of the privileges and immunities clause of Art. IV, § 2.

60. *Gibson v. Chouteau*, 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 92 (1872).

State legislation cannot interfere with the disposition of the public domain by Congress, and therefore a Missouri statute of limitations, which was inapplicable to the United States, could not be applied so as to accord title to an adverse possessor as against a grantee from the United States, notwithstanding that the adverse possession preceded the federal conveyance.

Justices Concurring: Field, Nelson, Swayne, Clifford, Miller, Bradley, Chase, C.J.

Justices Dissenting: Davis, Strong.

61. *Wilmington R.R. v. Reid*, 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 264 (1872).

North Carolina statute which levied a tax on the franchise and property of a railroad which had been accorded tax exemption by the terms of its charter impaired the obligation of contract.

62. *White v. Hart*, 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 646 (1872).

Obligations of contracts clause (Art. I, § 10) precluded reliance on a Georgia constitutional provision of 1868, prohibiting enforcement of any contract, the consideration for which was a slave, to defeat enforcement of a note based on such consideration and negotiated prior to adoption of said provision.

Justices Concurring: Swayne, Nelson, Davis, Strong, Clifford, Miller, Field, Bradley.

Justice Dissenting: Chase, C.J.

63. Accord: *Osborne v. Nicholson*, 80 U.S. (13 Wall.) 654 (1872), invalidating a similar Arkansas constitutional provision adopted in 1868.

Justices Concurring: Swayne, Nelson, Davis, Strong, Clifford, Miller, Field, Bradley.

Justice Dissenting: Chase, C.J.

64. *Delmas v. Insurance Company*, 81 U.S. (14 Wall.) 661 (1872).

A Louisiana constitutional provision rendering unenforceable contracts, the consideration for which was Confederate money, was inapplicable, by reason of the obligation of contracts clause of the Federal Constitution (Art. I, §10) to contracts consummated before adoption of the former provision.

65. *Case of the State Freight Tax*, 82 U.S. (15 Wall.) 232 (1873).

A Pennsylvania law which imposed a tax on freight transported interstate, into and out of Pennsylvania, was an invalid regulation of interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Story, Chase, C.J., Clifford, Miller, Field, Bradley, Hunt.
Justices Dissenting: Swayne, Davis.

66. *State Tax on Foreign-Held Bonds*, 82 U.S. (15 Wall.) 300 (1873).

Pennsylvania law, so far as it directed domestic corporations to withhold on behalf of the State a portion of interest due on bonds owned by nonresidents, impaired the obligation of contract and denied due process by taxing property beyond its jurisdiction.

Justices Concurring: Field, Chase, C.J., Bradley, Swayne, Strong.
Justices Dissenting: Davis, Clifford, Miller, Hunt.

67. *Gunn v. Barry*, 82 U.S. (15 Wall.) 610 (1873).

Georgia constitutional provision increasing amount of homestead exemption impaired the obligation of contract, insofar as it applied to a judgment obtained under a less liberal exemption provision.

68. *Pierce v. Carskadon*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 234 (1873).

A West Virginia Act of 1865, depriving defendants of right to re-hearing on a judgment obtained under an earlier law unless they made oath that they had not committed certain offenses, constituted an invalid bill of attainder and ex post facto law.

Justices Concurring: Field, Chase, C.J., Clifford, Miller, Swayne, Davis, Strong, Hunt.
Justice Dissenting: Bradley.

69. *Humphrey v. Pegues*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 244 (1873).

South Carolina taxing laws, as applied to a railroad whose charter exempted it from taxation, impaired the obligation of contract.

70. *Walker v. Whitehead*, 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 314 (1873).

Georgia law restricting remedies for obtaining a judgment, so far as it affected prior contracts, impaired the obligation of contract.

71. *Barings v. Dabney*, 86 U.S. (19 Wall.) 1 (1873).

South Carolina act appropriating for payment of state debts the assets of an insolvent bank, in which the State owned all the stock,

disadvantaged private creditors of the bank and thereby impaired the obligation of contract.

72. *Peete v. Morgan*, 86 U.S. (19 Wall.) 581 (1874).

Texas act of 1870 imposing a tonnage tax on foreign vessels to defray quarantine expenses held violative of Art I, § 10, prohibiting levy without consent of Congress.

73. *Pacific R.R. v. Maguire*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 36 (1874).

Missouri law which levied a tax on railroad prior to expiration of a grant of exemption impaired obligation of contract.

Justices Concurring: Waite, C.J., Field, Bradley, Swayne, Davis, Hunt.
Justices Dissenting: Clifford, Miller.

74. *Insurance Co. v. Morse*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 445 (1874).

Wisconsin act admitting foreign insurance companies to transact business within the State, upon their agreement not to remove suits to federal courts, exacted an unconstitutional condition.

Justices Concurring: Clifford, Miller, Field, Bradley, Swayne, Strong, Hunt.
Justices Dissenting: Waite, C.J., Davis.

75. *Loan Association v. Topeka*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 655 (1875).

Kansas act of 1872, authorizing municipalities to issue bonds repayable out of tax revenues in support of private enterprise, amounted to collection of money in aid of a private, rather than public purpose, and was violative of due process.

Justices Concurring: Strong, Swayne, Davis, Waite, C.J., Miller, Field, Bradley.
Justice Dissenting: Clifford.

76. *Wilmington & Weldon R.R. v. King*, 91 U.S. 3 (1875).

North Carolina statute, insofar as it authorized a jury in suits on contracts—negotiated previously during the Civil War—to place their own estimates upon the value of the contract instead of taking the value stipulated by the parties, impaired the obligation of such contracts.

Justices Concurring: Waite, C.J., Clifford, Miller, Field, Swayne, Davis, Strong, Hunt.
Justice Dissenting: Bradley.

77. *Welton v. Missouri*, 91 U.S. 275 (1876).

Missouri act which required payment of a license fee by peddlers of merchandise produced outside the State, but exempted peddlers of State-produced merchandise, imposed an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce.

78. *Morrill v. Wisconsin*, 154 U.S. 626 (1877).

Wisconsin statute void on basis of *Welton v. Missouri*.

79. *Henderson v. Mayor of New York*, 92 U.S. 259 (1876).

New York act of 1849, which required owner of ocean-going passenger vessel to post bond of \$300 for each passenger as surety against their becoming public charges, or, in lieu thereof, to pay a tax of \$1.50 for each, contravened exclusive federal power to regulate foreign commerce.

80. *Chy Lung v. Freeman*, 92 U.S. 275 (1876).

California law, which required master of vessel to post \$500 bond for each alien "lewd and debauched female" passenger landed, contravened the federal power to regulate foreign commerce.

81. *Inman Steamship Co. v. Tinker*, 94 U.S. 238 (1877).

New York act of 1865, providing for collection from docking vessels of a fee measured by tonnage, imposed tonnage duty in violation of Art. I, § 10.

82. *Foster v. Masters of New Orleans*, 94 U.S. 246 (1877).

Louisiana statute requiring survey of hatches of every sea-going vessel arriving at New Orleans, contravened the federal power to regulate foreign and interstate commerce.

83. *New Jersey v. Yard*, 95 U.S. 104 (1877).

Statute increasing tax above rate stipulated in State's contract with railroad corporations impaired the obligation of contract.

84. *Railroad Co. v. Husen*, 95 U.S. 465 (1878).

Missouri act prohibiting the bringing of cattle into the State between March and November contravened the power of Congress over interstate commerce.

85. *Hall v. DeCuir*, 95 U.S. 485 (1878).

Louisiana Reconstruction Act, prohibiting interstate common carriers of passengers from making any discrimination on the basis of race or color, held invalid as a regulation of interstate commerce.

86. *Farrington v. Tennessee*, 95 U.S. 679 (1878).

Tennessee law increasing the tax on a bank above the rate specified in its charter, held to impair the obligation of that contract.

Concurring: Justices Swayne, Miller, Hunt, Bradley, Harlan, and Chief Justice Waite.

Dissenting: Justices Strong, Clifford, and Field.

87. *Pensacola Tel. Co. v. Western Union Tel. Co.*, 96 U.S. 1 (1878).

Florida legislative grant of a telegraphic monopoly held "inoperative" as in conflict with a congressional act dealing with the construction of telegraph lines and based on its commerce and postal power.

Concurring: Chief Justice Waite, Justices Clifford, Strong, Bradley, Swayne, and Miller.

Dissenting: Justices Field, Hunt.

88. *Edwards v. Kearzey*, 96 U.S. 595 (1878).

North Carolina constitutional provision increasing amount of debtor's property exempt from sale under execution of a judgment impaired the obligation of contracts negotiated prior to its adoption.

Concurring: Chief Justice Waite, Justices Swayne, Bradley, Strong, Miller.

Concurring specially: Justices Field, Hunt.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

89. *Keith v. Clark*, 97 U.S. 454 (1878).

Provision of the Tennessee Constitution of 1865, forbidding the receipt for taxes of the bills of the Bank of Tennessee and declaring the issues of the bank during the insurrectionary period void, held to impair the obligation of contract.

Concurring: Justices Miller, Clifford, Strong, Hunt, Swayne, Field.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Waite, Justices Bradley, Harlan.

90. *Cook v. Pennsylvania*, 97 U.S. 566 (1878).

Pennsylvania act taxing auction sales, when applied to sales of imported goods in the original packages, was void as a duty on imports and a regulation of foreign commerce.

91. *Northwestern University v. Illinois ex rel. Miller*, 99 U.S. 309 (1878).

Revenue law of Illinois, so far as it modified tax exemptions granted to Northwestern University by an earlier statute, impaired the obligation of contract.

92. *Strauder v. West Virginia*, 100 U.S. 303 (1880).

West Virginia law barring Negroes from jury service violated the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justices Strong, Miller, Hunt, Swayne, Bradley, Harlan, Chief Justice Waite.

Dissenting: Justices Field, Clifford.

93. *Guy v. Baltimore*, 100 U.S. 434 (1880).

Maryland statute and Baltimore ordinance, levying tax solely on products of other States, held to impose an invalid burden upon foreign and interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Hunt, Clifford, Strong, Miller, Swayne, Field, Bradley.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Waite.

94. *Tiernan v. Rinker*, 102 U.S. 123 (1880).

Texas statute, insofar as it levied occupational tax only upon sale of out-of-state beer and wine, was violative of the federal power to regulate foreign and interstate commerce.

95. *Hartman v. Greenhow*, 102 U.S. 672 (1880).

Virginia act, adopted subsequently to law providing for issuance of bonds and acceptance of interest coupons thereon in full payment of taxes, which levied a new property tax collectible by way of deduction from such interest coupons, impaired the obligation of contract.

Concurring: Justices Field, Clifford, Harlan, Strong, Hunt, Swayne, Bradley, Chief Justice Waite.
Dissenting: Justice Miller.

96. *Hall v. Wisconsin*, 103 U.S. 5 (1880).

Wisconsin act which repealed prior statute authorizing payment of fixed sum for performance of a contract to complete a geological survey, impaired the obligation of contract, notwithstanding that the second act was enacted prior to total fulfillment of the contract.

97. *Webber v. Virginia*, 103 U.S. 344 (1881).

Virginia license acts, requiring a license for sale of goods made outside the State but not within the State, held in conflict with the commerce clause.

98. *United States ex rel. Wolff v. New Orleans*, 103 U.S. 358 (1881).

Louisiana act withdrawing from New Orleans the power to levy taxes adequate to amortize previously issued bonds impaired the obligation of contract.

Accord: *Louisiana v. Pilsbury*, 105 U.S. 278 (1881).

99. *Asylum v. New Orleans*, 105 U.S. 362 (1881).

The general taxing laws for New Orleans when applied to the property of an asylum, whose charter exempted it from taxation, impaired the obligation of contract.

Justices Concurring: Bradley, Waite, C.J., Woods, Gray, Harlan, Matthews, Blatchford.
Justices Dissenting: Miller, Field.

100. *Western Union Telegraph Co. v. Texas*, 105 U.S. 460 (1882).

Texas tax collected on private telegraph messages sent out of the State imposed an invalid burden on foreign and interstate commerce; and insofar as it was imposed on official messages sent by federal officers amounted to an unconstitutional burden on a federal instrumentality.

101. *Ralls County Court v. United States*, 105 U.S. 733 (1881).

Missouri law which deprived a county of the taxing power requisite to meet interest payments on previously issued bonds impaired the obligation of contract.

102. *Parkersburg v. Brown*, 106 U.S. 487 (1882).

West Virginia law authorizing a city to issue its bonds in aid of manufacturers was void by reason of sanctioning an expenditure of

public funds for a private purpose contrary to the requirements of due process.

103. *New York v. Compagnie Gen. Transatlantique*, 107 U.S. 59 (1882).

New York law imposing a tax on every alien arriving from a foreign country, and holding the vessel liable for payment of the tax was an invalid regulation of foreign commerce.

104. *Kring v. Missouri*, 107 U.S. 221 (1883).

A Missouri law which abolished a rule existing at the time the crime was committed, whereunder subsequent prosecution for first degree murder was precluded after conviction for second degree murder has been set aside on appeal, was void as an ex post facto law.

Concurring: Justices Miller, Harlan, Field, Blatchford, Woods.

Dissenting: Justices Matthews, Bradley, Gray, Chief Justice Waite.

105. *Nelson v. St. Martin's Parish*, 111 U.S. 716 (1884).

Louisiana act repealing taxing authority of a municipality to pay judgments hitherto rendered against it impaired the obligation of contract.

106. *Cole v. La Grange*, 113 U.S. 1 (1885).

Missouri act authorizing city to issue bonds in aid of manufacturing corporations was void by reason of sanctioning defrayment of public moneys for other than public purpose and depriving taxpayers of property without due process.

107. *Gloucester Ferry Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 114 U.S. 196 (1885).

Pennsylvania taxing laws, when applied to the capital stock of a New Jersey ferry corporation carrying on no business in the State except the landing and receiving of passengers and freight, was void as a tax on interstate commerce.

108. *Virginia Coupon Cases*, 114 U.S. 269 (1885).

Virginia act which terminated privilege accorded bondholders under prior law of tendering coupons from said bonds in payment of taxes impaired the obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10).

Concurring: Justices Matthews, Field, Harlan, Woods, Blatchford.

Dissenting: Justices Bradley, Miller, Gray, Chief Justice Waite.

109. *Effinger v. Kenney*, 115 U.S. 566 (1885).

Virginia Act of 1867, which provided that in suits to enforce contracts for the sale of property negotiated during the Civil War and payable in Confederate notes, the measure of recovery was to be the value of the land at the time of sale rather than the value of such notes at that time, impaired the obligation of contracts (Art. I, § 10).

110. *Louisville Gas Co. v. Citizens' Gas Co.*, 115 U.S. 683 (1885).

Act of 1872 chartering and authorizing a corporation to supply gas in Louisville, Kentucky, impaired the obligation of contract resulting from the grant of an exclusive privilege to an older company in 1869.

111. *Fisk v. Jefferson Police Jury*, 116 U.S. 131 (1885).

When a public officer has completed services (1871–1874), for which the compensation was fixed by law, an implied obligation to pay him at such rate arises, and such contract was impaired by a Louisiana constitutional provision of 1880 which reduced the taxing power of a parish to such extent as to deprive the officer of any effective means of collecting the sum due him.

112. *Mobile v. Watson*, 116 U.S. 289 (1886).

Alabama law which deprived Mobile and its successor of the power to levy taxes sufficient to amortize previously issued bonds impaired the obligation of contracts.

113. *Walling v. Michigan*, 116 U.S. 446 (1886).

Michigan law taxing nonresidents soliciting sale of foreign liquors to be shipped into the State imposed an invalid restraint on interstate commerce.

114. *Royall v. Virginia*, 116 U.S. 572 (1886).

When a Virginia law provided that coupons on state bonds were acceptable in payment of state fees, subsequent law requiring legal tender in payment of a professional license fee impaired the obligation of contract between the coupon holder and the State and also voided invocation of another law imposing penalty for practice without a license (refused for want of payment in legal tender).

115. *Pickard v. Pullman Southern Car Co.*, 117 U.S. 34 (1886).

Tennessee privilege tax on railway sleeping cars was void insofar as it applied to cars moving in interstate commerce.

116. *Van Brocklin v. Tennessee*, 117 U.S. 151 (1886).

A State cannot validly sell for taxes lands which the United States owned at the time the taxes were levied, but in which it ceased to have an interest at the time of sale (Art. VI).

117. *Sprague v. Thompson*, 118 U.S. 90 (1886).

Georgia law requiring out-of-state coastal vessels, subject to certain discriminating exemptions, to take on a pilot upon entering Georgia ports, was void by reason of conflict with federal pilotage law.

118. *Wabash, St. L. & P. Ry. v. Illinois*, 118 U.S. 557 (1886).

Illinois law, prohibiting long-short haul rate discrimination, when applied to interstate transportation, encroached upon the federal commerce power.

Concurring: Justices Miller, Field, Harlan, Woods, Matthews, Blatchford.

Dissenting: Justices Bradley, Gray, Chief Justice Waite.

119. *Robbins v. Shelby Taxing District*, 120 U.S. 489 (1887).

Tennessee law taxing drummers not operating from a domestic licensed place of business, insofar as it applied to drummers soliciting sales of goods on behalf of out-of-state business firms, was an invalid regulation of interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Bradley, Miller, Harlan, Woods, Matthews, Blatchford.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Waite, Justices Gray, Field.

120. *Corson v. Maryland*, 120 U.S. 502 (1887).

Maryland law licensing salesmen, insofar as it was applied to a New York resident soliciting orders on behalf of a New York firm, was an invalid regulation of interstate commerce.

121. *Barron v. Burnside*, 121 U.S. 186 (1887).

Iowa law, conditioning admission of a foreign corporation to do local business on surrender of right to invoke the diversity of citizenship jurisdiction of federal courts exacted an invalid forfeiture of a constitutional right.

122. *Fargo v. Michigan*, 121 U.S. 230 (1887).

Michigan act, insofar as it taxed the gross receipts of companies and corporations engaged in interstate commerce, was held to be in conflict with the commerce powers of Congress.

123. *Seibert v. Lewis*, 122 U.S. 284 (1887).

Missouri law requiring certain petitions, not exacted when county bonds were issued, before taxes could be levied to amortize said bonds, impaired the obligation of contracts.

124. *Philadelphia Steamship Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 122 U.S. 326 (1887).

Pennsylvania gross receipts tax on public utilities, insofar as it was applied to the gross receipts of a domestic corporation derived from transportation of persons and property on the high seas, was in conflict with the exclusive federal power to regulate foreign and interstate commerce.

125. *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Pendleton*, 122 U.S. 347 (1887).

Indiana statute concerning the delivery of telegrams, so far as applied to deliveries sent from Indiana to other States, was an invalid regulation of commerce.

126. *Bowman v. Chicago & Nw. Ry.*, 125 U.S. 465 (1888).

Iowa liquor statute requiring interstate carriers to procure a certificate from the auditor of the county of destination before bringing liquor into the State, was violative of the commerce clause.

Concurring: Justices Matthews, Field (separately), Miller, Bradley, Blatchford.
Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Gray, Chief Justice Waite.

127. *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Massachusetts*, 125 U.S. 530 (1888).

Massachusetts law, authorizing an injunction to restrain tax delinquents from doing business until payments are made, could not be validly invoked to restrain a telegraph company operating lines over United States military and post roads pursuant to federal authorization.

128. *California v. Pacific R.R.*, 127 U.S. 1 (1888).

Unless Congress consents, a state tax, levied on the franchise of interstate railway corporations chartered by Congress pursuant to its commerce power, is void.

129. *Ratterman v. Western Union Tel. Co.*, 127 U.S. 411 (1888).

An Ohio law which levied a tax on the receipts of a telegraph company was invalid to the extent that part of such receipts levied on were derived from interstate commerce.

130. *Asher v. Texas*, 128 U.S. 129 (1888).

By reason of conflict with the federal power to regulate interstate commerce, a Texas law which imposed a license tax on drummers could not validly be enforced against one who solicited orders for the purchase of merchandise from out-of-state sellers.

131. *Stoutenburgh v. Hennick*, 129 U.S. 141 (1889).

Clause of the District act requiring commercial agents selling by sample to pay a license tax, held a regulation of interstate commerce when applied to agents soliciting purchases on behalf of principals outside of the District of Columbia.

Concurring: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Field, Bradley, Harlan, Matthews, Gray, Blatchford, Lamar.
Dissenting: Justice Miller.

132. *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Alabama*, 132 U.S. 472 (1889).

Alabama tax law, as applied to revenue of telegraph company made by sending messages outside the State, was held to be an invalid regulation of commerce.

133. *Medley, Petitioner*, 134 U.S. 160 (1890).

Colorado law, when applied to a person convicted of a murder committed prior to the enactment and which increased the penalty to be imposed, was void as an ex post facto law.

Concurring: Justices Miller, Field, Harlan, Gray, Blatchford, Lamar, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Brewer, Bradley.

134. *Chicago, M. & St. P. Ry. v. Minnesota*, 134 U.S. 418 (1890).

State rate regulatory law which empowered a commission to establish rate schedules that were final and not subject to judicial review as to their reasonableness was violative of the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justices Blatchford, Miller, Field, Harlan, Brewer, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Bradley, Gray, Lamar.

135. *Leisy v. Hardin*, 135 U.S. 100 (1890).

Iowa prohibition law, enforced as to an interstate shipment of liquor in the original packages or kegs, was violative of the federal power to regulate interstate commerce.

Concurring: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Miller, Field, Bradley, Blatchford, Lamar.

Dissenting: Justices Gray, Harlan, Brewer.

136. *Lyng v. Michigan*, 135 U.S. 161 (1890).

Michigan statute taxing sale of imported liquor in original package, held invalid regulation of interstate commerce.

Concurring: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Miller, Field, Bradley, Blatchford, Lamar.

Dissenting: Justices Gray, Harlan, Brewer.

137. *McGahey v. Virginia*, 135 U.S. 662 (1890).

Virginia acts which stipulated that if the genuineness of coupons tendered in payment of taxes was in issue, the bond from which the coupon was cut must be produced, which precluded use of expert testimony to establish the genuineness of the coupons, and which, in suits for payment of taxes, imposed on the defendant tendering coupons as payment the burden of establishing the validity of said coupons, were deemed to abridge the remedies available to the bondholders so materially as to impair the obligation of contract.

138. *Norfolk & Western R.R. v. Pennsylvania*, 136 U.S. 114 (1890).

Pennsylvania act, imposing a license tax on foreign corporation common carrier doing business in the State, was held to be invalid as a tax on interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Lamar, Miller, Field, Bradley, Harlan, Blatchford.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Gray, Brewer.

139. *Minnesota v. Barber*, 136 U.S. 313 (1890).

Minnesota statute, which made it illegal to offer for sale any meat other than that taken from animals passed by state inspectors,

held to discriminate against meat producers from other States and to place an undue burden upon interstate commerce.

140. *Brimmer v. Rebman*, 138 U.S. 78 (1891).

Virginia statute prohibiting sale of meat killed 100 miles or more from place of sale, unless it was first inspected in Virginia, held void as interference with interstate commerce and imposing a discriminatory tax.

141. *Pennoyer v. McConnaughy*, 140 U.S. 1 (1891).

Oregon act of 1887 which voided all certificates for the sale of public land unless 20% of the purchase price had been paid prior to 1879 altered the terms of purchase provided under preexisting law and therefore impaired the obligations of the contract.

142. *Crutcher v. Kentucky*, 141 U.S. 47 (1891).

Kentucky law, which required license from foreign express corporation agents before doing business in the State, was held invalid under the commerce clause.

Concurring: Justices Bradley, Field, Harlan, Blatchford, Lamar, Brewer.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justice Gray.

143. *Voight v. Wright*, 141 U.S. 62 (1891).

Virginia statute which required state inspection of all but domestic flour held invalid under commerce clause.

144. *Mobile & Ohio R.R. v. Tennessee*, 153 U.S. 486 (1894).

Tennessee statutes which levied taxes on a railroad company enjoying tax exemption under an earlier charter impaired the obligation of contract.

Concurring: Justices Jackson, Field, Harlan, Brown, White.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Gray, Brewer, Shiras.

145. *New York, L. E. & W. R.R. v. Pennsylvania*, 153 U.S. 628 (1894).

Pennsylvania act of 1885 which required a New York corporation, when paying interest in New York City on its outstanding securities, to withhold a Pennsylvania tax levied on resident owners of such securities was violative of due process by reason of its application to property beyond the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. The act also impaired the obligation of contracts by increasing the conditions originally exacted of the railroad in return for permission to construct and operate over trackage in Pennsylvania.

146. *Covington & Cincinnati Bridge Co. v. Kentucky*, 154 U.S. 204 (1894).

Kentucky act regulating toll rates on bridge across the Ohio River held unconstitutional regulation of interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Brown, Harlan, Brewer, Shiras, Jackson.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Field, Gray, White.

147. *Gulf, C. & S. F. Ry. v. Hefley*, 158 U.S. 98 (1895).

Texas statute regulating railroad rates, when applied to interstate freight transportation, was held to conflict with Interstate Commerce Act.

148. *Bank of Commerce v. Tennessee*, 161 U.S. 134 (1896).

Tennessee revenue laws which imposed a tax on stock beyond that stipulated under the provision of a state charter held to impair the obligation of contracts.

149. *Barnitz v. Beverly*, 163 U.S. 118 (1896).

Kansas law granting to mortgagor a right, not existent when the mortgage was negotiated, namely, a right to redeem foreclosed property, impaired the obligation of contracts.

150. *Illinois Central R.R. v. Illinois*, 163 U.S. 142 (1896).

Illinois statute required railroad to run New Orleans train into Cairo and back to mail line, although there was already adequate service to Cairo. This requirement was held to be an unconstitutional obstruction of interstate commerce and of passage of United States mails.

151. *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Nebraska*, 164 U.S. 403 (1896).

A railroad was deprived of property without due process of law by a Nebraska statute which compelled it to permit a third party to erect a grain elevator on its right of way.

152. *Scott v. Donald*, 165 U.S. 58 (1897).

South Carolina act regulating sale of alcoholic beverages exclusively at state dispensaries, when enforced against a resident importing out-of-state liquor, constituted an invalid discriminatory regulation of interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Shiras, Field, Harlan, Gray, White, Peckham, Fuller.

Dissenting: Justice Brown.

153. *Gulf, C. & S. F. Ry. v. Ellis*, 165 U.S. 150 (1897).

Texas law which required railroads to pay court costs and attorneys' fees to litigants successfully prosecuting claims against them deprived the railroads of due process and equal protection of the law.

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Field, Harlan, Brown, Shiras, Peckham.

Dissenting: Justices Gray, White, Chief Justice Fuller.

154. *Allgeyer v. Louisiana*, 165 U.S. 578 (1897).

Louisiana law imposing penalty for soliciting contract of insurance on behalf of insurers which have not complied with Louisiana law effected a denial of liberty of contract contrary to due process

when applied to an insurance contract negotiated in New York with a New York company and with premiums and losses to be paid in New York.

155. *Smyth v. Ames*, 169 U.S. 466 (1898).

Nebraska statute setting intrastate freight rates held to impose rates so low as to be unreasonable and to amount to a deprivation of property without due process of law.

156. *Houston & Texas Central Ry. v. Texas*, 170 U.S. 243 (1898).

Texas constitutional provision, as enforced to recover certain sections of land held by a railroad company under a previous legislative grant, judged an impairment of obligation of contract.

157. *Thompson v. Utah*, 170 U.S. 343 (1898).

Provision in Utah constitution, providing for the trial of non-capital criminal cases in courts of general jurisdiction by a jury of eight persons, held an ex post facto law applied to felonies committed before the territory became a State.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Gray, Brown, Shiras, White, McKenna, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Brewer, Peckham.

158. *Schollenberger v. Pennsylvania*, 171 U.S. 1 (1898).

Pennsylvania law which prohibited the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine was invalid to the extent that it prohibited interstate importation and resale of oleomargarine in original packages.

Concurring: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Brewer, Brown, Shiras, White, Peckham, McKenna.

Dissenting: Justices Gray, Harlan.

159. *Collins v. New Hampshire*, 171 U.S. 30 (1898).

New Hampshire law which prohibited the sale of oleomargarine unless it was pink in color, was invalid as an arbitrary means of rendering the product unmarketable and also could not be enforced to prevent the interstate transportation and resale of oleomargarine produced in another State and not colored pink.

Concurring: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Brewer, Brown, Shiras, White, Peckham, McKenna.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Gray.

160. *Blake v. McClung*, 172 U.S. 239 (1898).

Tennessee acts which granted Tennessee creditors priority over non-resident creditors having claims against foreign corporations admitted to do local business infringed the privileges and immunities clause of Art. IV, § 2.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Gray, Brown, Shiras, White, McKenna, Peckham.

Dissenting: Justice Brewer, Chief Justice Fuller.

161. *Norwood v. Baker*, 172 U.S. 269 (1898).

The exaction, as authorized by Ohio law, from the owner of property, via special assessment, of the cost of a public improvement in substantial excess of the benefits accruing to him amounted to a taking of property for public use without compensation and was violative of due process.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Brown, White, Peckham, McKenna, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Brewer, Gray, Shiras.

162. *Dewey v. Des Moines*, 173 U.S. 193 (1899).

Nonresident owner of property in Iowa was deprived of property without due process when the State, without having acquired personal jurisdiction via service of process, subjected him to a personal liability to pay a special assessment in conformity with a statute invalidly authorizing imposition of liability in such manner.

163. *Ohio v. Thomas*, 173 U.S. 276 (1899).

Ohio statute which regulated the use of oleomargarine in the State held void as applied to a soldiers' home in Ohio created by Congress and administered as a federal institution.

164. *Lake Shore & Mich. So. Ry. v. Smith*, 173 U.S. 684 (1899).

Michigan act which required railroads to sell 1,000-mile tickets at a fixed price in favor of the purchaser, his wife, and children, with provisions for forfeiture if presented by any other person in payment of fare, and for expiration within two years, subject to redemption of unused portion and collection of 3¢ per mile already traveled, effected a taking of property without due process and a denial of equal protection.

Concurring: Justices Peckham, Harlan, Brewer, Brown, Shiras, White.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Gray, McKenna.

165. *Houston & Texas Central R.R. v. Texas*, 177 U.S. 66 (1900).

Subsequent repeal of a Texas statute which permitted treasury warrants to be given to the State for payment of interest on bonds issued by a railroad and held by the State, with accompanying endeavor to hold the railroad liable for back interest paid on the warrants, was invalid by reason of impairment of the obligation of contract.

166. *Cleveland, C. C. & St. L. Ry. v. Illinois*, 177 U.S. 514 (1900).

Illinois law which required all regular passenger trains to stop at county seats for receipt and discharge of passengers imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce when applied to an express train serving only through passengers between New York and St. Louis.

167. *Stearns v. Minnesota*, 179 U.S. 223 (1900).

State statute repealing all former tax exemption laws and providing for the taxation of lands granted to railroads held to impair the obligation of contracts.

- Duluth & I. R.R. v. St. Louis County*, 179 U.S. 302 (1900).

Act of Minnesota legislature providing ways in which railroad corporations could discharge property taxes held void under the ruling in *Stearns v. Minnesota*.

168. *Cotting v. Kansas City Stock Yards Co.*, 183 U.S. 79 (1901).

Kansas statute, regulating public stock yards, violates the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment in that it applied only to one stockyard company in the State.

169. *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Eubank*, 184 U.S. 27 (1902).

Section of Kentucky constitution on long and short haul railroad rates held invalid where interstate shipments were involved.

Concurring: Justices Peckham, Harlan, Brown, Shiras, White, McKenna, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices Brewer, Gray.

170. *Connolly v. Union Sewer Pipe Co.*, 184 U.S. 540 (1902).

Act of Illinois, which regulated monopolies but exempted agricultural products and livestock in the hands of the producer from the operation of the law, held to deny the equal protection of the laws.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Brewer, Brown, Shiras, White, Peckham, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justice McKenna.

171. *Stockard v. Morgan*, 185 U.S. 27 (1902).

Tennessee license tax on agent soliciting and selling by sample for company in another State held invalid regulation of commerce.

172. *Louisville & J. Ferry Co. v. Kentucky*, 188 U.S. 385 (1903).

An Indiana franchise granted to a Kentucky corporation for operating a ferry from the Indiana to the Kentucky shore had its tax situs in Indiana; and, accordingly, Kentucky lacked jurisdiction with the result that its law which authorized a levy thereon effected a deprivation of property without due process of law.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Brewer, Brown, White, Peckham, McKenna, Holmes.

Dissenting: Justice Shiras, Chief Justice Fuller.

173. *The Roanoke*, 189 U.S. 185 (1903).

Washington law which accorded contractor or subcontractor a lien on a foreign vessel for work done and which made no provision for protection of owner in event contractor was fully paid before notice of

subcontractor's lien was received deprived the owner of normal defenses and constituted an invalid interference with admiralty jurisdiction exclusively vested in federal courts by Art. III.

174. *The Robert W. Parsons*, 191 U.S. 17 (1903).

New York statutes giving a lien for repairs upon vessels and providing for the enforcement of such liens by proceedings *in rem*, held void as in conflict with the exclusive admiralty and maritime jurisdiction of the federal courts.

Concurring: Justices Brown, White, McKenna, Holmes, Day.
Dissenting: Justices Brewer, Peckham, Harlan, Chief Justice Fuller.

175. *Allen v. Pullman Company*, 191 U.S. 171 (1903).

Tennessee tax of \$500 per year per pullman car, when applied to cars moving in interstate as well as intrastate commerce, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

176. *Bradley v. Lightcap*, 195 U.S. 1 (1904).

Illinois law, passed after a mortgage was executed, which provided that if a mortgagee did not obtain a deed within five years after the period of redemption had lapsed, he lost the estate (whereas under the law existing when the mortgage was executed, failure by the mortgagee to take out a deed had no effect on the title of the mortgagee against the mortgagor) was held void as impairing the obligation of contract and depriving the mortgagee of property rights without due process.

177. *Central of Georgia Ry. v. Murphey*, 196 U.S. 194 (1905).

Sections of Georgia code, imposing the duty on common carriers of reporting on the shipment of freight to the shipper, held void when applied to interstate shipments.

178. *Lochner v. New York*, 198 U.S. 45 (1905).

New York law establishing 10-hour day in bakeries was violative of due process by reason of interfering with the employees' freedom to contract in relation to their labor.

Concurring: Justices Peckham, Brewer, Brown, McKenna, Fuller.
Dissenting: Justices Harlan, White, Day, Holmes (separately).

179. *Union Transit Co. v. Kentucky*, 199 U.S. 194 (1905).

Inasmuch as tangible personal property acquires a tax situs in the State where it is permanently located, attempt by Kentucky, in which the owner was domiciled, to tax railway cars located in Indiana, was void and amounted to a deprivation of property without due process.

Concurring: Justices Brown, Harlan, Brewer, Peckham, McKenna, Day.
Dissenting: Justices Holmes, White, Chief Justice Fuller.

180. *Houston & Texas Central R.R. v. Mayes*, 201 U.S. 321 (1906).

Texas statute exacting of an interstate railroad an absolute requirement that it furnish a certain number of cars on a given day to transport merchandise to another State imposed an invalid, unreasonable burden on interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Brown, Peckham, Holmes, Day.
Dissenting: Justices Harlan, McKenna, Chief Justice Fuller.

181. *Powers v. Detroit & Grand Haven Ry.*, 201 U.S. 543 (1906).

When a railroad is reorganized under a special act but no new corporation is chartered, tax concession granted by such act amounted to a contract which could not be impaired by subsequent enactment which purported to alter the rate of the tax.

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Harlan, Brown, Peckham, McKenna, Holmes, Day, Chief Justice Fuller.
Dissenting: Justice White.

182. *Vicksburg v. Vicksburg Waterworks Co.*, 202 U.S. 453 (1906).

A water company owning an exclusive franchise to supply a city with water was entitled to an injunction restraining impairment of such contract by attempted erection by city of its own water system pursuant to Mississippi statutory authorization.

Concurring: Justices Day, Brewer, Brown, White, Peckham, McKenna, Holmes, Chief Justice Fuller.
Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

183. *American Smelting Co. v. Colorado*, 204 U.S. 103 (1907).

A statute stipulating that foreign corporations, as a condition for admission to do business, pay a fee based on their capital stock whereupon they would be subjected to all the liabilities and restrictions imposed upon domestic corporations amounted to a contract, the obligation of which was invalidly impaired by a later statute which imposed higher annual license fees on foreign corporations admitted under the preceding terms than were levied on domestic corporations, whose corporate existence had not expired.

Concurring: Justices Peckham, Brewer, White, McKenna, Day.
Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Holmes, Moody, Chief Justice Fuller.

184. *Home Savings Bank v. Des Moines*, 205 U.S. 503 (1907).

A state law levying a tax on a state bank, assessed on its shares measured by the value of its capital, surplus, and individual earnings, was void insofar as the assessment embraced federal bonds owned by the bank and was in conflict with a federal enactment exempting such bonds from state taxes.

Concurring: Justices Moody, Brewer, White, McKenna, Holmes, Day.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices Harlan, Peckham.

185. *Adams Express Co. v. Kentucky*, 206 U.S. 129 (1907).

Kentucky law proscribing C.O.D. shipments of liquor, providing that the place where the money is paid or the goods delivered shall be deemed to be the place of sale, and making the carrier jointly liable with the vendor was, as applied to interstate shipments, an invalid regulation of interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Holmes, Peckham, Moody, White, Day, McKenna, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

Accord: American Express Co. v. Kentucky, 206 U.S. 139 (1907).

186. *Central of Georgia Ry. v. Wright*, 207 U.S. 127 (1907).

Georgia statutory assessment procedure which afforded taxpayer no opportunity to be heard as to valuation of property not returned by him under honest belief that it was not taxable and which permitted him to challenge the assessment only for fraud and corruption was violative of the due process requirements of the Fourteenth Amendment.

187. *Darnell & Son v. Memphis*, 208 U.S. 113 (1908).

Tennessee tax law which exempted domestic crops and manufactured products while extending the levy to like products of out-of-state origin imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

188. *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123 (1908).

Minnesota railroad rate statute which imposed such excessive penalties that parties affected were deterred from testing its validity in the courts denied a railroad the equal protection of the laws.

189. *Galveston, H. & S.A. Ry. v. Texas*, 210 U.S. 217 (1908).

Texas gross receipts tax insofar as it was levied on railroad receipts which included income derived from interstate commerce was invalid by reason of imposing a burden on interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Brewer, Peckham, Day, Moody.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, White, McKenna, Chief Justice Fuller.

190. *Willcox v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 212 U.S. 19 (1909).

New York law which required a public utility to perform its service in such a manner that its entire plant would have to be rebuilt at a cost on which no return could be obtained under the rates fixed unconstitutionally deprived the utility of its property without due process.

191. *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Stock Yards Co.*, 212 U.S. 132 (1909).

Kentucky constitutional provision which required a carrier to deliver its cars to connecting carriers without providing adequate protection for their return or compensation for their use effected an invalid taking of property without due process of law.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Brewer, White, Peckham, Day, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justices McKenna, Harlan, Moody.

192. *Nielson v. Oregon*, 212 U.S. 315 (1909).

For want of jurisdiction, Oregon could not validly prosecute as a violator of its law prohibiting the use of purse nets one who, pursuant to a license from Washington, used such a net on the Washington side of the Columbia River.

193. *Adams Express Co. v. Kentucky*, 214 U.S. 218 (1909).

Kentucky law proscribing the sale of liquor to an inebriate, as applied to a carrier delivering liquor to such person from another State, was void by reason of conflict with the commerce clause.

Concurring: Justices Brewer, Holmes, Peckham, Moody, White, Day, McKenna, Chief Justice Fuller.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

194. *Louisiana ex rel. Hubert v. Orleans*, 215 U.S. 170 (1909).

Louisiana act of 1870 providing for registration and collection of judgments against New Orleans, so far as it delayed payment, or collection of taxes for payment, of contract claims existing before its passage, effected an invalid impairment of the obligation of such contracts.

195. *North Dakota ex rel. Flaherty v. Hanson*, 215 U.S. 515 (1910).

North Dakota statute which required the recipient of a federal retail liquor license, solely because of payment therefor and without reference to the doing of any act within North Dakota, to publish official notices of the terms of such license and of the place where it is posted, to display on his premises an affidavit confirming such publication, and to file an authenticated copy of such federal license together with a \$10 fee was void for imposing a burden on the federal taxing power.

Concurring: Justices White, Harlan, Brewer, Day.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices McKenna, Holmes.

196. *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Kansas*, 216 U.S. 1 (1910).

Kansas statute imposing a charter fee, computed as a percentage of authorized capital stock, on corporations for the privilege of doing business in Kansas could not validly be collected from a foreign corporation engaged in interstate commerce, and also was violative of due process insofar as it was imposed on property, part of which was located beyond the limits of that State.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Brewer, White (separately), Day, Moody.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Peckham, Chief Justice Fuller.

197. *Ludwig v. Western Union Tel. Co.*, 216 U.S. 146 (1910).

Arkansas law which required a foreign corporation engaged in interstate commerce to pay, as a license fee for doing an intrastate business, a given amount of its entire capital stock, whether employed in Arkansas or elsewhere, was void by reason of imposing a burden on interstate commerce and embracing property outside the jurisdiction of the State.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Moody, Lurton, White, Day, Brewer.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices McKenna, Holmes.

198. *Southern Ry. v. Greene*, 216 U.S. 400 (1910).

Alabama law which imposed on foreign corporations already admitted to do business an additional franchise or privilege tax not levied on domestic corporations exposed the foreign corporations to denial of equal protection of the laws.

Concurring: Justices Day, Harlan, Brewer, White.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller, Justices McKenna, Holmes.

199. *International Textbook Co. v. Pigg*, 217 U.S. 91 (1910).

Kansas, which by law exacted of foreign corporations engaged in interstate commerce the following conditions for admission and retention of the right to do business in that State, namely, procurement of a license, submission of an annual financial statement, and which prohibited them from filing actions in Kansas courts unless such conditions were met, imposed an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, White, Holmes, Day, Lurton.
Dissenting: Chief Justice, Fuller, Justice McKenna.

200. *St. Louis S.W. Ry. v. Arkansas*, 217 U.S. 136 (1910).

Arkansas law, and commission order issued under the authority thereof, which required an interstate carrier, upon application of a local shipper, to deliver promptly the number of freight cars requested for loading purposes and which, without regard to the effect of such demand on its interstate traffic, exposed it to severe penalties for non-compliance, imposed an invalid, unreasonable burden on interstate commerce. The rules of the American Railway Association as to availability of a member carrier's cars for interstate shipments being a matter of federal regulation, it was beyond the power of a state court to pass on their sufficiency.

Concurring: Justices White, Harlan, McKenna, Holmes, Day, Lurton.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Fuller.

201. *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Nebraska*, 217 U.S. 196 (1910).

Nebraska law compelling railroad, at its own expense, and upon request of grain elevator operators, to install switches connecting

such elevators with its right of way deprived the carrier of property without due process of law.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, White, Day, Lurton, Chief Justice Fuller.
Dissenting: Justices Harlan, McKenna.

202. *Dozier v. Alabama*, 218 U.S. 124 (1910).

Alabama law which imposed license tax on agents, not having a permanent place of business in that State and soliciting orders for the purchase and delivery of pictures and frames manufactured in, and delivered from, another State, with the title remaining in the vendor until the agent collected the purchase price, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commercial transactions.

203. *Herndon v. Chicago, R.I. & P. Ry.*, 218 U.S. 135 (1910).

When a railroad already has provided adequate accommodations at any point, a Missouri regulation which required interstate trains to stop at such point imposed an invalid, unreasonable burden on interstate commerce. Also, a Missouri law which forfeited the right of an admitted foreign carrier to do a local business upon its instituting a right of action in a federal court extracted an unconstitutional condition.

204. *Bailey v. Alabama*, 219 U.S. 219 (1911).

Alabama law which made a refusal to perform labor contracted for, without return of money or property advanced under the contract, *prima facie* evidence of fraud and which was enforced under local rules of evidence which precluded one accused thereof from testifying as to uncommunicated motives was an invalid peonage law proscribed by the Thirteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justices Hughes, Lamar, Harlan, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna, Chief Justice White.
Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Lurton.

205. *Oklahoma v. Kansas Nat. Gas. Co.*, 221 U.S. 229 (1911).

Oklahoma law which withheld from foreign corporations engaged in interstate commerce a privilege afforded domestic corporations engaged in local commerce, namely, of building pipe lines across its highways and transporting to points outside its boundaries natural gas extracted and reduced to possession therein, was invalid as a restraint on interstate commerce and as a deprivation of property without due process of law.

Concurring: Justices McKenna, Harlan, Day, Van Devanter, Lamar, Chief Justice White.
Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Lurton, Hughes.

206. *Berryman v. Whitman College*, 222 U.S. 334 (1912).

Although the federal organic act of 1867 forbade the Washington territorial legislature from granting tax exemption privileges to pri-

vate corporations, the territorial acts of 1859, as amended by an act of 1883 which accorded a tax exemption to Whitman College, gave rise to a contract which was impaired by the act of the state legislature, enacted in 1905, subjecting the college to taxation.

207. *Northern Pacific Ry. v. Washington*, 222 U.S. 370 (1912).

Consistent with doctrine of national supremacy and preemption, state laws, including one of the State of Washington, regulating hours of service embracing employees of interstate carriers, became inoperative immediately upon the adoption of the Federal Hours of Service Law notwithstanding that the latter did not go into effect until a year after its passage.

208. *Southern Ry. v. Reid*, 222 U.S. 424 (1912).

Inasmuch as it conflicted with §2 of the Hepburn Act of 1906 (34 Stat. 584) forbidding interstate railway carriers to make shipments until rates had been fixed and published by the Interstate Commerce Commission, which in this matter had not yet acted, a North Carolina statute requiring carriers, under penalty for refusal, to transport interstate freight as soon as it was received was unenforceable.

Concurring: Justices McKenna, Holmes, Hughes, Van Devanter, Lamar, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Lurton.

Accord: Southern Ry. v. Reid & Beam, 222 U.S. 444 (1912).

Accord: Southern Ry. v. Burlington Lumber Co., 225 U.S. 99 (1912).

209. *Louisville & Nashville R.R. v. Cook Brewing Co.*, 223 U.S. 70 (1912).

Kentucky statute prohibiting common carriers from transporting intoxicating liquors to "dry" points in Kentucky was constitutionally inapplicable to interstate shipments of such liquor to consignees in Kentucky.

210. *Atchison T. & S. F. Ry. v. O'Connor*, 223 U.S. 280 (1912).

Colorado law levying tax of 2¢ on each \$1,000 of a corporation's capital stock could not constitutionally be collected from a Kansas corporation engaged in interstate commerce, the greater part of whose property and business were located and conducted outside Colorado.

211. *Oklahoma v. Wells, Fargo & Co.*, 223 U.S. 298 (1912).

Oklahoma law which purported to be an *ad valorem* tax on the property of corporations, levied in the form of a three per cent gross receipts tax, and computed, in the case of express companies doing an interstate business, as a percentage of gross receipts from all sources, interstate as well as intrastate, which is equal to the proportion which its business in Oklahoma bears to its total business was void as applied to such express companies; the tax burdened interstate

commerce and was levied, contrary to due process, on property in the form of income from investments and bonds located outside the State.

212. *Haskell v. Kansas Natural Gas Co.*, 224 U.S. 217 (1912).

Oklahoma conservation law, insofar as it withheld from foreign corporations the right to lay pipe lines across highways for purposes of transporting natural gas in interstate commerce, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

213. *St. Louis, I. M. & S. Ry. v. Wynne*, 224 U.S. 354 (1912).

Arkansas law compelling railroads to pay claimants within 30 days after notice of injury to livestock caused by their trains, and, upon default thereof, authorizing claimants to recover double the damages awarded by a jury plus an attorney's fee, notwithstanding that the amount sued for was less than the amount originally claimed, in effect penalized the railroads for their refusal to pay excessive claims, and accordingly effected an arbitrary deprivation of property without due process of law.

214. *Bucks Stove Co. v. Vickers*, 226 U.S. 205 (1912).

Kansas law which exacted certain requirements, such as obtaining permission of the State Charter Board, paying filing and license fees, and submitting annual statements listing all stockholders, as a condition prerequisite to doing business in Kansas and suing in its courts could not constitutionally be applied to foreign corporations engaged in interstate commerce; a State cannot exact a franchise for the privilege of engaging in such commerce.

215. *Chicago, R. I. & P. Ry. v. Hardwick Elevator Co.*, 226 U.S. 426 (1913).

Congress, by enactment of the Hepburn Act (34 Stat. 584 (1906)) having preempted the field of regulation pertaining to the duty of carriers to deliver cars in interstate commerce, a Minnesota Reciprocal Demurrage Law imposing like regulations was void.

216. *Accord: St. Louis, I. Mt. & S. Ry. v. Edwards*, 227 U.S. 265 (1913).

Arkansas Demurrage Law of 1907 penalizing carriers for failure to notify consignees of arrival of shipments was similarly held void.

217. *Adams Express Co. v. Croninger*, 226 U.S. 491 (1913).

Congress through adoption of the Carmack Amendment having preempted the field of regulation pertaining to the liability of interstate carriers for loss and damage to interstate shipments, a Kentucky law in conflict therewith which precluded an interstate carrier from contracting to limit its liability to an agreed or declared value was void.

218. *Accord: Chicago, B. & Q. Ry. v. Miller*, 226 U.S. 513 (1913).

An Iowa law and a provision of the Nebraska Constitution were held to have been superseded by the Carmack Amendment.

219. *Accord: Chicago, St. P., M. & O. Ry. v. Latta*, 226 U.S. 519 (1913).

Nebraska constitutional provision was held to have been superseded.

220. *Crenshaw v. Arkansas*, 227 U.S. 389 (1913).

Arkansas statute, exacting license and fee from peddlers of lightning rods and other articles, as applied to representatives of a Missouri corporation soliciting orders for the sale and subsequent delivery of stoves by said corporation, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

Accord: Rogers v. Arkansas, 227 U.S. 401 (1913).

221. *Accord: Stewart v. Michigan*, 232 U.S. 665 (1914), voiding application of a similar Michigan law.

222. *McDermott v. Wisconsin*, 228 U.S. 115 (1913).

Wisconsin food labeling law, insofar as it exacted labelling requirements as to articles in interstate commerce which were in conflict with those required under the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

223. *Missouri, K. & T. Ry. v. Harriman Bros.*, 227 U.S. 657 (1913).

Inasmuch as the federal Carmack Amendment preempted the field of regulation pertaining to determination of an interstate railroad's liability for loss or damages to goods in transit, Texas law outlawing contractual stipulations specifying a period of limitations for filing of claims by a shipper which was briefer than that sanctioned by the federal law was unenforceable.

Concurring: Justices Lurton, McKenna, Holmes, Hughes (separately), Day, Van Devanter, Lamar, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Pitney.

224. *Ettor v. Tacoma*, 228 U.S. 148 (1913).

Washington statute of 1907 repealing a prior act of 1893 with the result that rights to consequential damages for a change of street grade that had already accrued under the earlier act were destroyed amounted to an invalid deprivation of property without due process of law.

225. *St. Louis, S. F. & T. Ry. v. Seale*, 229 U.S. 156 (1913).

When the Federal Employers' Liability Act was applicable, by reason that the injured employee was engaged in interstate commerce, a Texas law affording a remedy for said injuries was superseded by reason of the supremacy of the former.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, McKenna, Holmes, Day, Lurton, Hughes, Pitney, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Lamar.

226. *Chicago, B. & Q. R.R. v. Hall*, 229 U.S. 511 (1913).

Iowa law pertaining to attachment of wages of a railroad worker adjudicated bankrupt within less than four months thereafter was in conflict with federal bankruptcy law nullifying liens obtained within four months prior to the filing of a petition in bankruptcy and hence was not entitled to full faith and credit in Nebraska courts.

227. *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Tucker*, 230 U.S. 340 (1913).

Kansas statute which did not permit a carrier to have the sufficiency of rates established thereunder determined by judicial review and which exposed the carrier, when sued for charging rates in excess thereof, to a liability for liquidated damages in the sum of \$500, which was unrelated to actual damages, effected an unconstitutional deprivation of property without due process of law.

228. *Chicago, M. & St. P. Ry. v. Polt*, 232 U.S. 165 (1914).

North Dakota law which made railroads liable for double damages in case of failure to pay a claim, within 60 days after notice, or to offer to pay a sum equal to what a jury found the claimant entitled to was arbitrary and deprived the carriers of property without due process of law.

Accord: Chicago, M. & St. P. Ry. v. Kennedy, 232 U.S. 626 (1914).

229. *Harrison v. St. Louis, S. F. & T. R.R.*, 232 U.S. 318 (1914).

Oklahoma law which prohibited foreign corporations, upon penalty of forfeiting their license to do business in that State, from invoking the diversity of citizenship jurisdiction of federal courts and instituting actions therein exacted an unconstitutional condition.

230. *Foote v. Maryland*, 232 U.S. 495 (1914).

Maryland Oyster Inspection tax of 1910, levied on oysters coming from other States, the proceeds from which were used partly for inspection and partly for other purposes, such as the policing of state waters, was void as imposing a burden on interstate commerce in excess of the expenses absolutely necessary for inspection.

231. *Farmers Bank v. Minnesota*, 232 U.S. 516 (1914).

Minnesota tax on bonds issued by a municipality of the Territory of Oklahoma and held by Minnesota corporations was void as a tax on a federal instrumentality (Art. VI).

232. *Russell v. Sebastian*, 233 U.S. 195 (1914).

Amendment in 1911 of California constitution of 1879, and municipal ordinances of Los Angeles adopted in pursuance of the amendment were ineffectual by reason of the prohibition against impairment of contracts contained in Art. I, §10, of the Federal Constitution, to deprive a utility of rights acquired before said amendment,

which embraced the privilege of laying gas pipes under the streets of Los Angeles.

233. *Singer Sewing Machine Co. v. Brickell*, 233 U.S. 304 (1914).

Alabama sewing machine license tax could not be collected from those agencies of a foreign corporation engaged wholly in an interstate business, that is, in soliciting orders for machines to be accepted and fulfilled at the Georgia office of the seller.

234. *Tennessee Coal Co. v. George*, 233 U.S. 354 (1914).

Since venue is not part of a transitory cause of action, Alabama law which created such cause of action by making the employer liable to the employee for injuries attributable to defective machinery was inoperative insofar as it sought to withhold from such employee the right to sue on such action in courts of any State other than Alabama; the full faith and credit clause of Art. IV does not preclude a court in another State which acquired jurisdiction from enforcing such right of action.

235. *Carondelet Canal Co. v. Louisiana*, 233 U.S. 362 (1914).

Louisiana act of 1906 repealing prior act of 1858 and sequestering with compensation certain property acquired by a canal company under the repealed enactment impaired an obligation of contract.

236. *Smith v. Texas*, 233 U.S. 630 (1914).

Texas act of 1914 stipulating that only those who have previously served two years as freight train conductors or brakemen shall be eligible to serve as railroad train conductors was arbitrary and effected a denial of the equal protection of the laws.

237. *Erie R.R. v. New York*, 233 U.S. 671 (1914).

Congress having completely preempted the field by its Hours of Service Act of 1907, notwithstanding that it did not take effect until 1908, a New York labor law of 1907 regulating hours of service of railroad telegraph operators engaged in interstate commerce effected an invalid regulation of such commerce.

238. *International Harvester Co. v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 216 (1914).

Kentucky criminal and antitrust provisions, both constitutional and statutory, were void for vagueness and hence violative of due process because a prohibition of combinations which establish prices that are greater or lower than the "real market value" of an article as established by "fair competition" and "under normal market conditions" afforded no standard that was possible to know in advance and to obey.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Hughes, Lamar, Day, Lurton, Van Devanter, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices McKenna, Pitney.

Accord: International Harvester Co. v. Kentucky, 234 U.S. 579 (1914); *Collins v. Kentucky*, 234 U.S. 634 (1914); *American Machine Co. v. Kentucky*, 236 U.S. 660 (1915).

239. *Missouri Pacific Ry. v. Larabee*, 234 U.S. 459 (1914).

Kansas statute empowering a Kansas court to award against a litigant attorney's fees attributable to the presentation before the United States Supreme Court of an appeal in a mandamus proceeding was inoperative consistently with the principle of national supremacy, for a state court cannot be empowered by state law to assess fees for services rendered in a federal court when such assessment is sanctioned neither by federal law nor by the rules of the Supreme Court.

240. *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Brown*, 234 U.S. 542 (1914).

South Carolina law making mental anguish resulting from negligent non-delivery of a telegram a cause of action could not be invoked to support an action for negligent non-delivery in the District of Columbia, an area beyond the jurisdiction of South Carolina and, consistent with due process, removed from the scope of its legislative power. The statute, as applied to messages sent from South Carolina to another jurisdiction, also was an invalid regulation of interstate commerce.

241. *United States v. Reynolds*, 235 U.S. 133 (1914).

Alabama law which permitted person convicted of an offense to contract with another whereby, in consideration of the latter becoming surety for the convicted person's fine, the convicted person agreed to perform certain services, and which further stipulated that if such contract was breached, the convicted person would become subject to a fine equal to the damages sustained by the other contracting party and payment of which would be remitted to said contracting party imposed a form of peonage proscribed by the Thirteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justice Holmes (separately).

242. *McCabe v. Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry.*, 235 U.S. 151 (1914).

Oklahoma Separate Coach Law violated the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment by permitting carriers to provide sleeping, dining, and chair cars for whites but not for Negroes.

Concurring: Chief Justice White (separately), Justices Holmes (separately), Lamar (separately), McReynolds (separately).

243. *Sioux Remedy Co. v. Cope*, 235 U.S. 197 (1914).

South Dakota law which required a foreign corporation to appoint a local agent to accept service of process as a condition precedent to suing in state courts to collect a claim arising out of interstate commerce imposed an invalid burden on said commerce.

244. *Choctaw & Gulf R.R. v. Harrison*, 235 U.S. 292 (1914).

Oklahoma privilege tax, insofar as it was levied on sale of coal extracted from lands owned by Indian tribes and leased on their behalf by the Federal Government was invalid as a tax on federal instrumentality.

245. *Coppage v. Kansas*, 236 U.S. 1 (1915).

Kansas law proscribing "yellow dog" contracts whereby the employer exacted of employees an agreement not to join or remain a member of a union as a condition of acquiring and retaining employment deprived employees of liberty of contract contrary to due process.

Concurring: Justices Pitney, McKenna, Van Devanter, Lamar, McReynolds, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Day, Hughes, Holmes (separately).

246. *Heyman v. Hays*, 236 U.S. 178 (1915).

Tennessee county privilege tax law, insofar as it was enforced as to a liquor dealer doing a strictly mail-order business confined to shipments to out-of-state destinations was void as a burden on interstate commerce.

Accord: Southern Operating Co. v. Hayes, 236 U.S. 188 (1915).

247. *Globe Bank v. Martin*, 236 U.S. 288 (1915).

Consistently with the principle of national supremacy, attachments and liens on real estate of a bankrupt, acquired pursuant to Kentucky laws within four months prior to the filing of a petition in bankruptcy under federal law, were null and void, and distribution of the proceeds from the sale of such real estate was governed by federal rather than by state law.

248. *Southern Ry. v. Railroad Comm'n*, 236 U.S. 439 (1915).

An Indiana statute requiring railway companies to place grab-irons and hand-holds on the sides and ends of every car having been superseded by the Federal Safety Appliance Act, penalties imposed under the former could not be recovered as to cars operated on interstate railroads, although engaged only in intrastate traffic.

249. *Kirmeyer v. Kansas*, 236 U.S. 568 (1915).

Kansas prohibition law could not be validly enforced to prevent Kansas dealer from accepting orders for alcoholic beverages which were to be completed by interstate delivery to Kansas purchasers from a point in Missouri; under the federal Wilson Act the interstate transportation did not end until delivery to the consignee was completed.

250. *Northern Pacific Ry. v. North Dakota ex rel. McCue*, 236 U.S. 585 (1915).

North Dakota law compelling carriers to haul certain commodities at less than compensatory rates deprived them of property without due process.

Concurring: Justices Hughes, McKenna, Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, Lamar, McReynolds, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Pitney.

251. *Norfolk & Western Ry. v. Conley*, 236 U.S. 605 (1915).

West Virginia law which compelled carriers to haul passengers at noncompensatory rates deprived them of property without due process.

Concurring: Justices Hughes, McKenna, Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, Lamar, McReynolds, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Pitney.

252. *Wright v. Central of Georgia Ry.*, 236 U.S. 674 (1915).

Since the lessee of two railroads, built under special charters containing irrevocable contracts exempting the railway property from taxation in excess of a given rate was to be viewed as in the same position as the owners, levy of an ad valorem tax on the lessee in excess of the charter rate impaired the obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10).

Concurring: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Hughes, Pitney, McReynolds.

- Accord: Wright v. Louisville & Nashville R.R.*, 236 U.S. 687 (1915).

Concurring: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Hughes, Pitney, McReynolds.

253. *Davis v. Virginia*, 236 U.S. 697 (1915).

Solicitation by a peddler in Virginia of orders for portraits made in another State, with an option to the purchaser to select frames upon delivery of the portrait by the peddler, amounted to a single transaction in interstate commerce, and Virginia therefore could not validly impose a peddler's license tax on the solicitor of such orders.

242. *Chicago, B. & Q. Ry. v. Wisconsin R.R. Comm'n*, 237 U.S. 220 (1915).

Wisconsin statute requiring interstate trains to stop at villages of a specified number of inhabitants, without regard to the volume of business done there, was void as imposing an unreasonable burden on interstate commerce.

255. *Coe v. Armour Fertilizer Works*, 237 U.S. 413 (1915).

Florida statute denied due process insofar as it provided, after execution against a corporation had been returned "no property," a second execution to issue against a stockholder for the same debt to be enforced against his property to the extent of any unpaid subscription owing on his stock and without notice to such stockholder.

256. *Charleston & W. C. Ry. v. Varnville Co.*, 237 U.S. 597 (1915).

South Carolina law which imposed a penalty on carriers for their failure to adjust claims within 40 days imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce and also was in conflict with the federal Carmack Amendment.

257. *Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. v. Vosburg*, 238 U.S. 56 (1915).

Kansas Reciprocal Demurrage Law of 1905 which allowed recovery of an attorney's fee by the shipper in case of delinquency by the carrier but which accorded the carrier no like privilege in case of delinquency on the part of the shipper denied the carrier equal protection of the law.

258. *Rossi v. Pennsylvania*, 238 U.S. 62 (1915).

Pennsylvania liquor law could not be enforced against one who solicited orders for the delivery of alcoholic beverages to be shipped to the consignee from another State; under the federal Wilson Act of 1890 liquor shipped in interstate commerce did not become subject to State regulation until after delivery to the consignee.

259. *Guinn v. United States*, 238 U.S. 347 (1915).

Oklahoma grandfather clause, in its 1910 constitution, exempting from a literacy requirement and automatically enfranchising all entitled to vote as of January 1, 1866, or who were descendants of those entitled to vote on the latter date, was violative of the Fifteenth Amendment protecting Negroes from discriminatory denial of the right to vote based on race.

260. *Accord: Mayers v. Anderson*, 238 U.S. 368 (1915) wherein a similar Maryland grandfather clause was voided.

261. *Southwestern Tel. Co. v. Danaher*, 238 U.S. 482 (1915).

Arkansas statute was held to be unreasonable and violative of due process for the reason that, as enforced, it subjected a telephone company to a \$6300 penalty for discriminatory refusal to serve when, pursuant to company regulations known to the State and uniformly enforced for economical collection of its approved rates, it suspended services to a delinquent and refused to resume services, while the delinquency remained unpaid, at the reduced rate afforded to those who paid the monthly service charge in advance.

262. *Chicago, M. & St. P. Ry. v. Wisconsin*, 238 U.S. 491 (1915).

Wisconsin statute which compelled sleeping car companies, if upper berth was not sold, to accord use of the space thereof to purchaser of a lower berth took salable property from the owner without compensation and therefore effected a deprivation of property without due process of law.

Concurring: Justices Lamar, Day, Hughes, Van Devanter, Pitney, McReynolds, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices McKenna, Holmes.

263. *Truax v. Raich*, 239 U.S. 33 (1915).

Arizona statute which compelled establishments hiring five or more workers to reserve 80 per cent of the employment opportunities to citizens denied aliens the equal protection of the laws.

Concurring: Justices Hughes, Holmes, Pitney, Lamar, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice McReynolds.

264. *Provident Savings Ass'n v. Kentucky*, 239 U.S. 103 (1915).

Kentucky statute levying tax, in the nature of a license tax for the doing of local business, on premiums collected in New York by a foreign insurance company after it had ceased to do business in that State was violative of due process by reason of affecting activities beyond the jurisdiction of the State.

265. *Indian Oil Co. v. Oklahoma*, 240 U.S. 522 (1916).

Oklahoma tax on lessee's interest in Indian lands, acquired pursuant to federal statutory authorization, was void as a tax on a federal instrumentality.

266. *Rosenberger v. Pacific Express Co.*, 241 U.S. 48 (1916).

Texas statute imposing special licenses on express companies maintaining offices for C.O.D. delivery of interstate shipments of alcoholic beverages imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce under the terms of the Wilson Act of 1890 (26 Stat. 313).

267. *McFarland v. American Sugar Co.*, 241 U.S. 79 (1916).

Louisiana law which established a rebuttable presumption that any person systematically purchasing sugar in Louisiana at a price below that which he paid in any other State was a party to a monopoly or conspiracy in restraint of trade was violative of both the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment in that it declared an individual presumptively guilty of a crime and exempted countless others paying the same price.

268. *Wisconsin v. Philadelphia & Reading Coal Co.*, 241 U.S. 329 (1916).

Wisconsin law which revoked the license of any foreign corporation which removed to a federal court a suit instituted against it by a Wisconsin citizen imposed an unconstitutional condition.

269. *Detroit United Ry. v. Michigan*, 242 U.S. 238 (1916).

Construction of acts of 1905 and 1907 as compelling a Detroit City Railway to extend its lines to suburban areas annexed by Detroit only on the same terms as were contained in its initial franchise as authorized by the Detroit ordinance of 1889, wherein its fare was fixed, operated to impair the obligation of contract.

Concurring: Justices Pitney, Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Clarke, Brandeis.

270. *Rowland v. Boyle*, 244 U.S. 106 (1917).

The two-cent passenger rate fixed by act of the Arkansas legislature was confiscatory and accordingly deprived the railroad of its property without due process.

271. *New York Central R.R. v. Winfield*, 244 U.S. 147 (1917).

Congress, by enactment of the Federal Employees' Liability Act, having preempted the field as to determination of the liability of interstate railroad carriers to compensate employees for injuries sustained while engaged in interstate commerce, award under New York Workmen's Compensation Act for injuries sustained in interstate commerce by railway employee could not be upheld.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Holmes, Pitney, McReynolds, Day, McKenna, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Clarke.

272. *Accord: Erie R.R. v. Winfield*, 244 U.S. 170 (1917).

For the same reason, a New Jersey Workmen's Compensation Act was held inapplicable to a railway worker injured while engaged in interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Holmes, Day, Pitney, McKenna, McReynolds, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Clarke.

273. *Southern Pacific Co. v. Jensen*, 244 U.S. 205 (1917).

New York Workmen's Compensation Act was unconstitutional as applied to employees engaged in maritime work, for it afforded a remedy unknown to common law, and hence was not among the common law remedies saved to suitors from exclusive federal admiralty jurisdiction by the Judiciary Act of 1789.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes (separately), Pitney (separately), Brandeis, Clarke.

Accord: Clyde S.S. Co. v. Walker, 244 U.S. 255 (1917).

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Pitney, Brandeis, Clarke.

274. *Accord: Steamship Bowdoin Co. v. Industrial Accident Comm'n of California*, 246 U.S. 648 (1918), as to the inoperative effect of a California Workmen's Compensation Act.

275. *Seaboard Air Line Ry. v. Blackwell*, 244 U.S. 310 (1917).

Georgia "Blow-Post" law imposed an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce insofar as compliance with it would have required an interstate train to come practically to a stop at each of 124 ordinary grade crossings within a distance of 123 miles in Georgia and would have added more than six hours to the running time of the train.

Concurring: Justices McKenna, Holmes, McReynolds, Day, Clarke, Van Devanter.

Dissenting: Chief Justice White, Justices Pitney, Brandeis.

276. *Western Oil Ref. Co. v. Lipscomb*, 244 U.S. 346 (1917).

Tennessee privilege tax could not validly be imposed on interstate sales consummated at either destination in Tennessee by an Indiana corporation which, for the purpose of filling orders taken by its salesmen in Tennessee, shipped thereto a tank car of oil and a carload of barrels and filled the orders through an agent who drew the oil from the tank car into the barrels, or into barrels furnished by customers, and then made delivery and collected the agreed price, and thereafter moved the two cars to another point in Tennessee for effecting like deliveries.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Holmes, Brandeis, Pitney, McReynolds, Day, Clarke, McKenna.

Dissenting: Chief Justice White.

277. *Adams v. Tanner*, 244 U.S. 590 (1917).

Washington law which proscribed private employment agencies by prohibiting them from collecting fees for their services deprived individuals of the liberty to pursue a lawful calling contrary to due process of law.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Pitney, Van Devanter, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices McKenna, Brandeis, Holmes, Clarke.

278. *American Express Company v. Caldwell*, 244 U.S. 617 (1917).

Consistent with natural supremacy, South Dakota law regulating advance of interstate rates could not be applied to changes in intra-

state rates which a carrier put into effect pursuant to an order of the Interstate Commerce Commission to abate discrimination against interstate traffic.

Concurring: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, Pitney, McReynolds, Day, Clarke, Van Devanter, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice McKenna.

279. *Hendrickson v. Apperson*, 245 U.S. 105 (1917).

Kentucky act of 1906, amending act of 1894 and construed in such manner as to enable a county to avoid collection of taxes to repay judgment on unpaid bonds impaired the obligation of contract.

Accord: Hendrickson v. Creager, 245 U.S. 115 (1917).

280. *Looney v. Crane Co.*, 245 U.S. 178 (1917).

Texas law, which, under the guise of taxing the privilege of doing an intrastate business, imposed on an Illinois corporation a license tax based on its authorized capital stock, was void not only as imposing a burden on interstate commerce, but also as contravening the due process clause by affecting property outside the jurisdiction of Texas.

281. *Crew Levick v. Pennsylvania*, 245 U.S. 292 (1917).

Pennsylvania gross receipts tax on wholesalers, as applied to a merchant who sold part of his merchandise to customers in foreign countries either as the result of the receipt directly of orders from them or as the result of orders solicited by agents abroad was void as a regulation of foreign commerce and as a duty on exports.

282. *Paper Co. v. Massachusetts*, 246 U.S. 135 (1918).

License fee or excise of a given per cent of the par value of the entire authorized capital stock of a foreign corporation doing both a local and interstate business and owning property in several States was a tax on the entire business and property of the corporation and was void both as an illegal burden on interstate commerce and as a violation of due process by reason of affecting property beyond the borders of the taxing State.

Accord: Locomobile Co. v. Massachusetts, 246 U.S. 146 (1918).

283. *Cheney Bros. v. Massachusetts*, 246 U.S. 147 (1918).

When a Connecticut corporation maintains and employs a Massachusetts office with a stock of samples and an office force and traveling salesmen merely to obtain local orders subject to confirmation at the Connecticut office and with deliveries to be made directly from the latter, its business was interstate commerce and a Massachusetts annual excise could not be validly applied thereto.

284. *New York Life Ins. Co. v. Dodge*, 246 U.S. 357 (1918).

Liberty of contract, as protected by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, precluded enforcement of the Missouri nonforfeiture statute, prescribing how net value of a life insurance policy is to be applied to avert a forfeiture in the event the annual premium is not paid, so as to prevent a Missouri resident from executing in the New York office of the insurer a different agreement sanctioned by New York law whereby the policy was pledged as security for a loan and later canceled in satisfaction of the indebtedness.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, McKenna, Holmes, Van Devanter, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Day, Pitney, Clarke.

285. *Georgia v. Cincinnati So. Ry.*, 248 U.S. 26 (1918).

Georgia act of 1916 revoking a grant in 1879 of a perpetual right of way to a railroad impaired the obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10).

286. *Union Pac. R.R. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 248 U.S. 67 (1918).

Missouri act, insofar as it authorized the Missouri Public Service Commission to exact a fee of \$10,000 for a certificate of authority for issuance by an interstate railroad, doing no intrastate business in Missouri, of a \$30,000,000 mortgage bond issue to meet expenditures incurred but in small part in that State, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

287. *Flexner v. Farson*, 248 U.S. 289 (1919).

Kentucky law, insofar as it authorized a judgment against non-resident individuals based on service against their Kentucky agent after his appointment had expired, was violative of due process.

288. *Central of Georgia Ry. v. Wright*, 248 U.S. 525 (1919).

Tax exemptions in charters granted to certain railroads inured to their lessee, and, accordingly, a Georgia tax authorized by a constitutional provision postdating such charters and imposed on the leasehold interest of the lessee impaired the obligation of contract.

289. *Union Tank Line Co. v. Wright*, 249 U.S. 275 (1919).

Georgia law under which a New Jersey company's tank cars operating in and out of that State were assessed upon a track-mileage basis, i.e., in an amount bearing the same ratio to the value of all its cars and other personal property as the ratio of the miles of railroad over which the cars were run in Georgia to the total miles over which they were run in all States, was invalid for the reason that the rule bore no necessary relation to the real value in Georgia and hence conflicted with due process.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, McKenna, Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Pitney, Brandeis, Clarke.

290. *Standard Oil Co. v. Graves*, 249 U.S. 389 (1919).

Washington law under which, in a ten-year period, inspection fees collected on oil products brought into the State for use or consumption amounted to \$335,000, of which only \$80,000 was disbursed for expenses, was deemed to impose an excessive charge and accordingly an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

291. *Chalker v. Birmingham & N.W. Ry.*, 249 U.S. 522 (1919).

Tennessee act which made the annual tax for the privilege of doing railway construction work dependent on whether the person taxed had his chief office in Tennessee, i.e. \$25 if he had and \$100 if he did not, was violative of the privilege and immunities clause of Art. IV, §2.

292. *New Orleans & N.E.R.R. v. Scarlet*, 249 U.S. 528 (1919).

Mississippi "Prima Facie" act, relieving plaintiff of burden of proof to establish negligence, could not constitutionally be applied by a state court in suits under the Federal Employees' Liability Act.

Accord: *Yazoo & M.V.R.R. v. Mullins*, 249 U.S. 531 (1919).

293. *Pennsylvania R.R. v. Public Service Comm'n*, 250 U.S. 566 (1919).

Pennsylvania law, as applied to an interstate train terminated by a mail car, forbidding operation of any train consisting of United States mail, or express, cars without rear end of car being equipped with a platform with guard rails and steps was inoperative by reason of conflict with federal legislation and regulations which preempted the field.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, Pitney, McReynolds, Brandeis, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Clarke.

294. *Postal Telegraph-Cable Co. v. Warren-Godwin Co.*, 251 U.S. 27 (1919).

By virtue of federal legislation preempting the field, Mississippi law could not be applied to determine validity of a contract by telegraph company limiting its responsibility when its lower rate is paid for unrepeat interstate messages.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Brandeis, Clarke, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Pitney.

295. *Western Union Tel. Co. v. Boegli*, 251 U.S. 315 (1920).

Federal legislation having preempted the field, Indiana law no longer was operative to subject a telegraph company to a penalty for failure to deliver promptly in Indiana a message sent from a point in Illinois.

296. *Travis v. Yale & Towne Mfg. Co.*, 252 U.S. 60 (1920).

New York income tax law which allowed exemptions to residents, with increases for married persons and dependents but which allowed no equivalent exemptions to nonresidents abridged the privileges and immunities clause of Art. IV, § 2.

297. *Oklahoma Operating Co. v. Love*, 252 U.S. 331 (1920).

Oklahoma constitution and laws, under which an order of the State Corporation Commission declaring a laundry a monopoly and limiting its rates was not judicially reviewable, and which compelled litigant, for purposes of obtaining a judicial test of rates, to disobey the order and invite serious penalty for each day of refusal pending completion of judicial appeal, were violative of due process insofar as rates were enforced by penalties.

298. *Accord: Oklahoma Gin Co. v. Oklahoma*, 252 U.S. 339 (1920).

Illinois law denying Illinois courts jurisdiction in actions for wrongful death occurring in another State which was construed as barring jurisdiction of actions on a sister State judgment founded upon a like cause was, as so applied, violative of the full faith and credit clause.

299. *Askren v. Continental Oil Co.*, 252 U.S. 444 (1920).

New Mexico law levying annual license on distributors of gasoline plus 2 per gallon on all gasoline sold was a privilege tax, and, as applied to parties who bring gasoline from without and sell it in New Mexico, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce insofar as it related to their business of selling in tank car lots and in barrels or packages as originally imported.

300. *Wallace v. Hines*, 253 U.S. 66 (1920).

North Dakota act, as administered, imposed invalid burden on interstate commerce and took property without due process by reason of taxing an interstate railroad by assessing the value of its property in the State at that proportion of the total value of its stock and bonds that the main track mileage within the State bore to the main track mileage of the entire line; this formula was indefensible inasmuch as the cost of construction per mile was within than without the taxing State, and the large and valuable terminals of the railroad were located elsewhere.

301. *Hawke v. Smith* (No. 1), 253 U.S. 221 (1920).

Action of Ohio legislature ratifying proposed Eighteenth Amendment could not be referred to the voters, and the provisions of the Ohio constitution requiring such referendum were inconsistent with Article V of the Federal Constitution.

Accord: Hawke v. Smith (No. 2), 253 U.S. 231 (1920), applicable to proposed Nineteenth Amendment.

302. *Ohio Valley Co. v. Ben Avon Borough*, 253 U.S. 287 (1920).

Since Pennsylvania Public Service Commission Law failed to provide opportunity by way of appeal to the courts or by injunctive proceedings to test issue as to whether rates fixed by Commission are confiscatory, order of Commission establishing maximum future rates violated due process of law.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Day, Van Devanter, Pitney, McKenna, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, Clarke.

303. *Royster Guano Co. v. Virginia*, 253 U.S. 412 (1920).

Virginia law which taxed all income of local corporation derived from business within and without Virginia, while exempting entirely income derived outside of Virginia by local corporations which did no local business violated the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justices Pitney, McReynolds, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, Clarke, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes.

304. *Johnson v. Maryland*, 254 U.S. 51 (1920).

Maryland law requiring operator's license of drivers of motor trucks could not constitutionally be applied to a Postal Department employee operating a federal mail truck in the performance of official duty.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, Brandeis, Clarke, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Pitney, McReynolds.

305. *Turner v. Wade*, 254 U.S. 64 (1920).

Georgia Tax Equalization Act denied due process insofar as it authorized an increase in the assessed valuation of the taxpayer's property without notice and hearing and accorded him an abortive remedy of arbitration which was nullified by the inability of the arbitrators to agree on a lower assessment before the expiration of the time when the assessment became final and binding.

306. *Bank of Minden v. Clement*, 256 U.S. 126 (1921).

Louisiana law which exempted proceeds of insurance policy, payable upon death of insured to his executor, from the claims of insured's creditors impaired the obligation of contract as enforced against a debt on a promissory note antedating such laws and also as enforced against policies which antedated the law.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, McKenna, Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, Pitney, Brandeis, Chief Justice White.

Dissenting: Justice Clarke.

307. *Bethlehem Motors Co. v. Flynt*, 256 U.S. 421 (1921).

North Carolina statute which exacted a \$500 license fee of every automobile manufacturer as a condition precedent to selling cars in the State and which imposed a like requirement on any firm selling cars of a manufacturer who had not paid the tax, but which reduced the fee to \$100 in the event that the manufacturer had invested three-fourths of his assets in North Carolina state and municipal securities or properties, was invalid as violative of the commerce clause and of the equal protection clause when enforced against nonresident manufacturers selling cars in North Carolina directly or through local dealers.

Concurring: Justices McKenna, Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Clarke.

Dissenting: Justices Pitney, Brandeis

308. *Merchant's Nat'l Bank v. Richmond*, 256 U.S. 635 (1921).

Richmond, Virginia, ordinance and Virginia statute which, as construed, levied a tax on state and national bank shares at the aggregate rate of \$1.75 per \$100 of valuation and upon intangibles at the aggregate rate of 85 per \$100 valuation, a substantial proportion of which property was in the hands of individual taxpayers, were void as in conflict with federal law prohibiting discriminatory taxation of national bank shares for the reason that the tax was imposed on the national bank stocks to the aggregate value of more than \$8,000,000 whereas the value of state bank stocks taxed was only \$6,000,000.

309. *Bowman v. Continental Oil Co.*, 256 U.S. 642 (1921).

New Mexico statute which imposed a tax of 2 cents per gallon sold on distributors of gasoline was void insofar as it embraced interstate transactions, but the annual license fee of \$5 imposed thereby on each gasoline station was totally void insofar as interstate sales threat could not be separated out from the intrastate sales.

310. *Kansas City So. Ry. v. Road Improv. Dist. No. 6*, 256 U.S. 658 (1921).

Arkansas statute which authorized local assessments for road improvements denied equal protection of the laws insofar as railroad property was burdened for local improvement on a basis totally different from that used for measuring the contribution demanded of individual owners.

311. *Eureka Pipe Line Co. v. Hallanan*, 257 U.S. 265 (1921).

West Virginia statute which forbade engaging in the business of transporting petroleum in pipe lines without the payment of a tax of 2¢ for each barrel of oil transported imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce as applied to company's volume of oil produced in, but moving out of, West Virginia to extra-state destinations.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Clarke, Pitney, Brandeis.

Accord: United Fuel Gas Co. v. Hallanan, 257 U.S. 277 (1921), voiding like application of the West Virginia tax on the interstate movement of natural gas.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Pitney, McReynolds, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Clarke.

312. *Dahnke-Walker Co. v. Bondurant, 257 U.S. 282 (1921).*

Kentucky law prescribing conditions under which foreign corporations could do business in that State and which precluded enforcement in Kentucky courts of contracts made by foreign corporations not complying with said conditions could not be enforced against Tennessee corporation which sued in a Kentucky court for breach of a contract consummated in that State for the purchase of grain to be delivered to and used in Tennessee; such transaction was in interstate commerce, notwithstanding that the Tennessee purchaser might change its mind after delivery to a carrier in Kentucky and sell the grain in Kentucky or consign it to some other place in Kentucky.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Holmes, Pitney, Day, McKenna, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Clarke.

313. *Truax v. Corrigan, 257 U.S. 312 (1921).*

Arizona statute, regulating injunctions in labor disputes which exempted ex-employees, when committing tortious injury to the business of their former employer in the form of mass picketing, libelous utterances, and inducement of customers to withhold patronage, while leaving subject to injunctive restraint all other tort-feasors engaged in like wrong-doing, deprived the employer of property without due process and denied him equal protection of the law.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Day, McKenna, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Pitney, Clarke, Brandeis.

314. *Gillespie v. Oklahoma, 257 U.S. 501 (1922).*

Oklahoma income tax law could not validly be enforced as to net income of lessee derived from the sales of his share of oil and gas received under leases of restricted Indian lands which constituted him in effect an instrumentality used by the United States in fulfilling its duties to the Indians.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Pitney, Brandeis, Clarke.

315. *Terral v. Burke Constr. Co.*, 257 U.S. 529 (1922).

Arkansas law which revoked the license of a foreign corporation to do business in that State whenever it resorted to the federal courts sitting in that State exacted an unconstitutional condition.

316. *Lemke v. Farmers Grain Co.*, 258 U.S. 50 (1922).

North Dakota statute which required purchasers of grain to obtain a license to act under a defined system of grading, inspection, and weighing, and to abide by regulations as to prices and profits imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce insofar as it was applied to a North Dakota association which bought grain in the State and loaded it promptly on cars for shipment to other States for sale, notwithstanding occasional diversion of the grain for local sales.

Concurring: Justices Day, McKenna, McReynolds, Van Devanter, Pitney, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, Clarke.

Accord: Lemke v. Homer Farmers Elevator Co., 258 U.S. 65 (1922).

Justices Concurring: Day, McKenna, McReynolds, Pitney, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Clarke.

317. *Newton v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 258 U.S. 165 (1922).

Rates fixed for the sale of gas by New York statute were confiscatory and deprived the utility of its property without due process of law.

Accord: Newton v. New York Gas Co., 258 U.S. 178 (1922); *Newton v. Kings County Lighting Co.*, 258 U.S. 180 (1922); *Newton v. Brooklyn Union Gas Co.*, 258 U.S. 604 (1922); *Newton v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 259 U.S. 101 (1922).

318. *Forbes Pioneer Boat Line v. Everglades Drainage Dist.*, 258 U.S. 338 (1922).

Florida law retroactively validating collection of fee for passage through a canal, the use of which was then free by law, was ineffective; a legislature could not retroactively approve what it could not lawfully do.

319. *Texas Co. v. Brown*, 258 U.S. 466 (1922).

Georgia law levying inspection fees and providing for inspection of oil and gasoline was unconstitutional as applied to gasoline and oil in interstate commerce; for the fees clearly exceeded the cost of inspection and amounted to a tariff levied without the consent of Congress.

320. *Chicago & N.W. Ry. v. Nye Schneider Fowler Co.*, 260 U.S. 35 (1922).

Nebraska law, as construed, which authorized imposition against carrier, in favor of claimant, of an additional attorney's fee of \$100, upon the basis of the service rendered, time and labor bestowed, and recovery secured by claimant's attorney in resisting appeal by which the carrier obtained a large reduction of an excessive judgment was unreasonable in that it deterred carrier from vindicating its rights by appeal and therefore was violative of due process.

321. *St. Louis Compress Co. v. Arkansas*, 260 U.S. 346 (1922).

Arkansas law exacting of persons insuring property in Arkansas a five percent tax on amounts paid on premiums to insurers not authorized to do business in Arkansas was violative of due process insofar as it was applied to insurance contracted and paid for outside Arkansas by a foreign corporation doing a local business.

322. *Champlain Co. v. Brattleboro*, 260 U.S. 366 (1922).

Logs under control of the owner which, in the course of their interstate journey, were being temporarily detained by a boom to await subsidence of high waters and for the sole purpose of saving them from loss were in interstate commerce and, accordingly, a Vermont levy of a property tax thereon was void.

323. *Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon*, 260 U.S. 393 (1922).

Pennsylvania law which forbade mining in such a way as to cause subsidence of any human habitation or public street or building and which thereby made commercially impracticable the removal of valuable coal deposits was deemed arbitrary and amounted to a deprivation of property without due process. As applied to an owner of land who, prior to this enactment, had validly deeded the surface with express reservation of right to remove coal underneath and subject to waiver by grantee of damage claims resulting from such mining, said law also impaired the obligation of contract.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, Pitney, McReynolds, Sutherland, Chief Justice Taft.
Dissenting: Justice Brandeis.

324. *Columbia Ry., Gas & Electric Co. v. South Carolina*, 261 U.S. 236 (1923).

South Carolina statute, as construed, which sought to convert a covenant in a prior legislative contract into a condition subsequent, and to impose as a penalty for its violation the forfeiture of valuable property, impaired the obligation of contract.

325. *Federal Land Bank v. Crosland*, 261 U.S. 374 (1923).

A first mortgage executed to a Federal Land Bank is a federal instrumentality and cannot be subjected to an Alabama recording tax.

326. *Phipps v. Cleveland Refg. Co.*, 261 U.S. 449 (1923).

Ohio law, which was applicable to interstate and intrastate commerce and which exacted fees for inspection of petroleum products in excess of the legitimate cost of inspection, imposed an invalid import tax to the extent that the excess could not be separated and assigned solely to intrastate commerce.

327. *Thomas v. Kansas City So. Ry.*, 261 U.S. 481 (1923).

Insofar as drainage district tax authorized under Arkansas law imposed upon a railroad a levy disproportionate to the value of the benefits derived from said improvement, the tax was violative of the equal protection clause.

328. *Davis v. Farmers Co-operative Co.*, 262 U.S. 313 (1923).

Minnesota law which provided that interstate railroads which had an agent in Minnesota to solicit traffic over lines outside Minnesota may be served with summons by delivery of copy thereof to the agent imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce as applied to a carrier which owned and operated no facilities in Minnesota and which was sued by a plaintiff who did not reside therein on a cause of action arising outside the State.

329. *First Nat'l Bank v. California*, 262 U.S. 366 (1923).

California law which escheated to state bank deposits unclaimed for 20 years, notwithstanding that no notice of residence has been filed with the bank by the depositor or any claimant, was invalid, as to deposits in national banks by reason of conflict with applicable federal law.

330. *Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390 (1923).

Nebraska law which forbade the teaching of any language other than English in any school, private, denominational, or public, maintaining classes for the first eight grades affected a denial of liberty without due process of law.

- 331–332. *Accord: Bartels v. Iowa*, 262 U.S. 404 (1923), and *Bohning v. Ohio*, 262 U.S. 404 (1923), voiding similar Iowa and Ohio laws.

Concurring (in each of the above cases): Justices McReynolds, Brandeis, Butler, Sanford, Van Devanter, McKenna, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting (in each of the above cases): Justices Holmes, Sutherland.

333. *Georgia Ry. & Power Co. v. Decatur*, 262 U.S. 432 (1923).

Georgia law which extended corporate limits of a town and which, as judicially construed, had the effect of rendering applicable to the added territory street railway rates fixed by an earlier contract between the town and the railway impaired the obligation of that contract by adding to its burden.

Accord: Georgia Ry. v. College Park, 262 U.S. 441 (1923).

334. *Wolff Packing Co. v. Industrial Court*, 262 U.S. 522 (1923).

Kansas law which compelled business engaged in manufacturing and in the processing of food to continue operation in the event of a labor dispute, to submit the controversy to an arbitration board, and to abide by the latter's recommendations pertaining to the payment of minimum wages subjected both employers and employees to a denial of liberty without due process of law.

Accord: Dorchy v. Kansas, 264 U.S. 286 (1924), same Kansas law voided when applied to labor disputes affecting coal mines; *Wolff Packing Co. v. Industrial Court*, 267 U.S. 552 (1925), voiding other provisions of this Kansas law which authorized arbitration tribunal in the course of compulsory arbitration, to fix the hours of labor to be observed by an employer involved in a labor dispute.

335. *Kentucky Co. v. Paramount Exch.*, 262 U.S. 544 (1923).

Wisconsin law which required a foreign corporation not doing business in Wisconsin, or having property there, other than that sought to be recovered in a suit, to send, as a condition precedent to maintaining such action, its officer with corporate records pertinent to the matter in controversy, and to submit to an adversary examination before answer, but which did not subject nonresident individuals to such examination, except when served with notice and subpoena within Wisconsin, and then only in the court where the service was had, and which limited such examinations, in the case of residents of Wisconsin, individual or corporate, to the county of their residence violated the equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Sanford, Butler, McKenna, McReynolds, Sutherland, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes.

336. *Pennsylvania v. West Virginia*, 262 U.S. 553 (1923).

West Virginia law which required pipe line companies to fill all local needs before endeavoring to export any natural gas extracted in West Virginia was void as a prohibited interference with interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler, McKenna, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, McReynolds, Brandeis, Sanford.

337. *Bunch v. Cole*, 263 U.S. 250 (1923).

When lease of an Indian allotment, made by the allottee in excess of the powers of alienation granted by federal law, is declared null and void by federal law, Oklahoma statute, as judicially applied, which gave the lease the effect of a tenancy at will and as controlling the amount of compensation which the allottee may recover for use

and occupation by the lessees also was void, consistently with the principle of national supremacy.

338. *Clallam County v. United States*, 263 U.S. 341 (1923).

Washington state and county property taxes cannot be levied on the property of a corporation which, though formed under Washington law, was a federal instrumentality created and operated by the United States as an instrument of war.

339. *Tampa Interocean Steamship Co. v. Louisiana*, 266 U.S. 594 (1925).

Louisiana license tax law could not validly be enforced as to the business of companies employed as agents by owners of vessels engaged exclusively in interstate and foreign commerce when the services performed by the agents consisted of the soliciting and engaging of cargo, and the nomination of vessels to carry it, etc. (See *Texas Transp. Co. v. New Orleans*, 264 U.S. 150 (1924), voiding like application of a similar New Orleans ordinance.)

340. *Sperry Oil Co. v. Chisholm*, 264 U.S. 488 (1924).

Oklahoma law which required that the execution of a lease on the family homestead also must be executed by the wife was inoperative, consistently with the principle of national supremacy, to the extent that under federal law Congress had empowered a Cherokee Indian to make an oil or gas lease on his restricted "homestead" allotment subject only to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

341. *Burns Baking Co. v. Bryan*, 264 U.S. 504 (1924).

Nebraska law which prescribed the minimum weights of loaves of bread to be made and sold and which, in order to prevent the palming off of smaller for larger sizes, fixed a maximum for each class and allowed a "tolerance" of only two ounces per pound in excess of the minimum was found to be unreasonable, to be unnecessary to protect purchasers against the imposition of fraud by short weights, and therefore to deprive bakers and sellers of bread of their liberty without due process of law.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Sanford, McReynolds, Sutherland, McKenna, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes.

342. *Missouri ex rel. Burnes Nat'l Bank v. Duncan*, 265 U.S. 17 (1924).

Inasmuch as under the Federal Reserve Act national banks were authorized to act as executors, a Missouri law was ineffective, under the principle of national supremacy, to withhold such powers from such banks.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Sanford, Brandeis, McKenna, Van Devanter, Butler, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Sutherland, McReynolds.

343. *Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry. v. Wells*, 265 U.S. 101 (1924).

Texas law which permitted a nonresident to prosecute a case which arose outside of Texas against a railroad corporation of another State which was engaged in interstate commerce and neither owned nor operated facilities in Texas was inoperative by reason of imposing a burden on interstate commerce.

344. *Air-Way Corp. v. Day*, 266 U.S. 71 (1924).

Ohio law which levied an annual fee on foreign corporations for the privilege of exercising their franchise in the State, which was computed at the rate of 5¢ per share upon the proportion of the number of shares of authorized common stock represented by property owned and used and business transacted in Ohio was void as imposing a burden on interstate commerce when applied to a foreign corporation all of whose business, intrastate and interstate, and all of whose property were represented by the shares outstanding; application of the rate to all shares authorized, or even to a greater number than the total outstanding, amounted to a burden on all property and business including interstate commerce. As imposed, the tax also violated the equal protection clause.

345. *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Dunken*, 266 U.S. 389 (1924).

Policy of insurance originally issued to insurer in Tennessee and converted by him in Texas from term insurance to 20 year payment life was deemed to be a mere continuation of the original policy, and upon suit on the policy in Texas, a Texas law imposing a penalty and allowing an attorney's fee could not constitutionally be applied against the insurer for the reason that Texas could not regulate contracts consummated outside its limits in conformity with the laws of the place where the contract was made without violating full faith and credit clause.

346. *Ozark Pipe Line Corp. v. Monier*, 266 U.S. 555 (1925).

Missouri law which required foreign corporations doing business therein to pay an annual franchise tax of 1/10 of 1% of the par value of capital stock and surplus employed in business in the State could not constitutionally be exacted of a pipe line company for the privilege of doing in Missouri what was exclusively an interstate business.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Holmes, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Butler, Sanford, McKenna, Chief Justice Taft.

Justice Dissenting: Brandeis.

347. *Michigan Commission v. Duke*, 266 U.S. 570 (1925).

Michigan law which converted an interstate contract motor carrier into a public utility by legislative fiat in effect took property for public use without compensation in violation of the due process

clause, and also imposed unreasonable conditions on the right to carry on interstate commerce.

348. *Flanagan v. Federal Coal Co.*, 267 U.S. 222 (1925).

In a suit for breach of contract, plaintiff's right to maintain suit could not be barred by his failure to pay a Tennessee license tax for the reason that the state law levying the same could not be applied to a contract for the purchase of coal to be delivered to customers in other States, that is, in interstate commerce.

349. *Buck v. Kuykendall*, 267 U.S. 307 (1925).

Washington law which prohibited motor vehicle common carriers for hire from using its highways without obtaining a certificate of convenience could not validly be exacted of an interstate motor carrier; the law was not a regulation designed to promote public safety but a prohibition of competition and, accordingly, burdened interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Brandeis, Sanford, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Butler, Holmes, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justice McReynolds.

350. *Accord: Bush Co. v. Maloy*, 267 U.S. 317 (1925), voiding like application of a similar Maryland law.

Concurring: Justices Brandeis, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Holmes, Sanford, Butler, Chief Justice Taft.

Justice Dissenting: McReynolds.

351. *Accord: Allen v. Galveston Truck Line Corp.*, 289 U.S. 708 (1933), voiding like application of a Texas law.

352. *Missouri Pacific R.R. v. Stroud*, 267 U.S. 404 (1925).

When carrier had two routes by which freight might move between two points in a State, the second of which was partly interstate, a suit against the carrier for discrimination in the furnishing of cars which arose out of use of the interstate route in conformity with the carrier's practice was governed by the Interstate Commerce Act, and the Missouri law governing such discrimination was superseded and inapplicable (Art. VI).

353. *Lancaster v. McCarty*, 267 U.S. 427 (1925).

Federal law (39 Stat. 441 (1916)) which authorized carriers to limit liability upon property received for transportation to value declared by shipper, where the rates were based on such value pursuant to authority of Interstate Commerce Commission, superseded Texas law in respect to a claim for damage to goods shipped intrastate between Texas points for the reason that the tariff and classification had been adopted by the carrier pursuant to an order of the Commis-

sion requiring it to remove discrimination against interstate commerce which had resulted from lower Texas intrastate rates.

354. *Shafer v. Farmers Grain Co.*, 268 U.S. 189 (1925).

North Dakota Grain Grading Act which required locally grown wheat, 90% of which was for interstate shipment, to be graded by licensed inspectors and imposed various requirements, such as the keeping of records of quantity purchased and price paid and the exaction of bonds from purchasers maintaining grain elevators was not supportable as an inspection law and was void by reason of imposing undue burdens on interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Holmes, Butler, McReynolds, Sutherland, Sanford, Stone, Chief Justice Taft.

Justice Dissenting: Brandeis.

355. *Alpha Cement Co. v. Massachusetts*, 268 U.S. 203 (1925).

Massachusetts law which imposed excise tax on foreign corporations doing business therein, measured by a combination of the total value of capital shares attributable to transactions therein and the proportion of net income attributable to such transactions, could not validly be applied to a foreign corporation which transacted only as interstate business therein. The tax as here imposed also violated the due process clause by affecting property beyond Massachusetts borders.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Holmes, Van Devanter, Butler, Sutherland, Stone, Sanford, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justice Brandeis.

356. *Frick v. Pennsylvania*, 268 U.S. 473 (1925).

Pennsylvania estate tax law, insofar as it measured the tax on the transfer of that part of the decedent's estate located within Pennsylvania by taking the whole of the decedent's estate which included tangible personal property located outside Pennsylvania, was violative of due process.

357. *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510 (1925).

Oregon Compulsory Education Law which required every parent to send his child to a public school was an unconstitutional interference with the liberty of parents and guardians to direct the upbringing of children and was violative of due process.

358. *Davis v. Cohen*, 268 U.S. 638 (1925).

When the Federal Transportation Act of 1920 provided that suits on claims arising out of federal wartime control of the railroads might be brought against a federal agent, if instituted within two years after federal control had ended, Massachusetts law allowing amendments of proceedings prior to judgment, could not be invoked to sub-

stitute the Agent as defendant more than two years after federal control had ended; the suit in which the substitution was attempted had erroneously been filed against the railroad rather than against the Federal Director General during the period of federal control, and since the substitution amounted to filing a new action, invocation of the Massachusetts law was repugnant to the Federal Transportation Act's provisions as to limitations.

359. *Lee v. Osceola Imp. Dist.*, 268 U.S. 643 (1925).

Arkansas statute which imposed special assessment on lands acquired by private owners from the United States on account of benefits resulting from road improvements completed before the United States parted with title effected a taking of property without due process of law.

360. *First Nat'l Bank v. Anderson*, 269 U.S. 341 (1926).

As applied to national banks, Iowa tax law providing for a levy on shares of such banks at rates less favorable than the rates applied to moneyed capital invested in competition with such banks was repugnant to federal law prohibiting such discrimination (Art. VI).

361. *Connally v. General Const. Co.*, 269 U.S. 385 (1926).

Iowa law which imposed severe, cumulative punishments upon contractors with the State who paid their workers less than "the current rate of per diem wages in the locality where the work is performed" was void for vagueness and violative of due process.

Concurring: Justices Brandeis, Holmes.

362. *Browning v. Hooper*, 269 U.S. 396 (1926).

Texas statute which permitted property taxpaying voters to originate an election approving creation of a road improvement district with power to float bond issue and to levy taxes to amortize the same, with provision for establishment of the district if approved by two-thirds of those voting in the election, was procedurally defective in that each taxpayer to be assessed for the improvement was not accorded a notice and opportunity to be heard on the question of the benefits and hence denied due process.

363. *Rhode Island Trust Co. v. Doughton*, 270 U.S. 69 (1926).

North Carolina law purporting to tax inheritance of shares owned by nonresident in a foreign corporation having 50% or more of its property in North Carolina was violative of due process inasmuch as the property of a corporation is not owned by a shareholder and presence of corporate property in the State did not give it jurisdiction over his shares for tax purposes.

364. *Oregon-Washington Co. v. Washington*, 270 U.S. 87 (1926).

Federal legislation having preempted the field, a Washington law which established a quarantine against importation of hay and alfalfa meal, except in sealed containers, coming from areas in other States harboring the alfalfa weevil was inoperative.

Concurring: Chief Justice Taft, Justices Holmes, Van Devanter, Brandeis, Butler, Sanford, Stone.

Justices Dissenting: McReynolds, Sutherland.

365. *Schlesinger v. Wisconsin*, 270 U.S. 230 (1926).

Wisconsin law which established a conclusive presumption that all gifts of a material part of a decedent's estate made by him within six years of his death were made in contemplation of death and therefore subject to the graduated inheritance tax created an arbitrary classification violative of the due process and equal protection clauses.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Butler, Sutherland, Sanford, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone.

Accord: Uihlein v. Wisconsin, 273 U.S. 642 (1926).

366. *Weaver v. Palmer Bros.*, 270 U.S. 402 (1926).

Pennsylvania law which prohibited the use of shoddy, even when sterilized, in the manufacture of bedding materials, was so arbitrary and unreasonable as to be violative of due process.

Concurring: Butler, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Sanford, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone.

367. *Fidelity & Deposit Co. v. Tafoya*, 270 U.S. 426 (1926).

New Mexico law which forbade insurance companies authorized to do business in that State to pay any nonresident any fee for the obtaining or placing of any policies covering risks in New Mexico was violative of due process by reason of attempting to control conduct beyond the jurisdiction of New Mexico.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Stone, Butler, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices McReynolds, Brandeis, Sanford.

368. *Childers v. Beaver*, 270 U.S. 555 (1926).

Oklahoma inheritance tax law, applied to inheritance by Indians of Indian lands as determined by federal law, was void as a tax on a federal instrumentality.

369. *Appleby v. City of New York*, 271 U.S. 365 (1926).

Acts of New York of 1857 and 1871 authorizing New York City to erect piers over submerged lots impaired the obligation of contract as embraced in deeds to such submerged lots conveyed to private

owners for valuable consideration through deeds executed by New York City in 1852.

370. *Appleby v. Delaney*, 271 U.S. 403 (1926).

Act of New York of 1871 whereby New York City was authorized to construct certain harbor improvements impaired the obligation of contract embraced in prior deeds to grantees whereunder the latter were accorded the privilege of filling in their underwater lots and constructing piers thereover.

371. *Frost Trucking Co. v. Railroad Comm'n*, 271 U.S. 583 (1926).

California law whereunder private carriers by automobile for hire could not operate over California highways between fixed points in the State without obtaining a certificate of convenience and submitting to regulation as common carriers exacted an unconstitutional condition and effected a denial of due process.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, McReynolds (separately), Chief Justice Taft, Sanford, Stone, Butler, Van Devanter.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis.

372. *Jaybird Mining Co. v. Wier*, 271 U.S. 609 (1926).

Oklahoma law which levied an *ad valorem* tax on ores mined and in bins on the land was void as a tax on federal instrumentality when applied to a lessee of Indian land leased with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Justices Concurring: Butler, Stone, Holmes, Sanford, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices McReynolds, Brandeis.

373. *Hughes Bros. v. Minnesota*, 272 U.S. 469 (1926).

Minnesota law levying personal property tax could not be collected on logs cut in Minnesota pursuant to a contract of sale for delivery in Michigan while they were in transit in interstate commerce by a route from Minnesota to Michigan.

374. *Hanover Ins. Co. v. Harding*, 272 U.S. 494 (1926).

When an Illinois tax law originally is construed as a personal property tax whereby the local net receipts of foreign insurance companies were subjected to assessment at only 30% of full value, but at a later date is construed as a privilege tax with the result that all the local net income of such foreign companies was taxed at the rate applicable to personal property while domestic companies continued to pay the tax on their personal property assessed at the reduced valuation, the resulting discrimination denied the foreign companies the equal protection of the laws.

375. *Wachovia Trust Co. v. Doughton*, 272 U.S. 567 (1926).

North Carolina inheritance tax law could not validly be applied to property constituting a trust fund in Massachusetts established under the will of a Massachusetts resident and bestowing a power of appointment upon a North Carolina resident who exercised that power through a will made in North Carolina; the levy by a State of the tax on property beyond its jurisdiction was violative of due process.

Concurring: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone.

376. *Ottinger v. Consolidated Gas Co.*, 272 U.S. 576 (1926).

Act of New York prescribing a gas rate of \$1 per thousand feet was confiscatory and deprived the utility of its property without due process of law.

Accord: *Ottinger v. Brooklyn Union Co.*, 272 U.S. 579 (1926).

377. *Napier v. Atlantic Coast Line Ry.*, 272 U.S. 605 (1926).

The Federal Boiler Inspection Act having occupied the field of regulation pertaining to locomotive equipment on interstate highways, a Georgia law requiring cab curtains and automatic fire box doors was deemed to have been superseded and therefore inoperative.

378. *Miller v. Milwaukee*, 272 U.S. 713 (1927).

Wisconsin law which exempted income of corporation derived from interest received from tax exempt federal bonds owned by said corporation, but which attempted to tax such income indirectly by taxing only so much of the stockholder's dividends as corresponded to the corporate income not assessed, was invalid.

Concurring: Justices Brandeis, Stone.

379. *Di Santo v. Pennsylvania*, 273 U.S. 34 (1927).

Pennsylvania law exacting a license from persons engaged in the State in the sale of steamship tickets and orders for transportation to or from foreign countries was void as imposing an undue burden on foreign commerce.

Concurring: Justices Butler, McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Sanford, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, Stone.

380. *Missouri Pacific R.R. v. Porter*, 273 U.S. 341 (1927).

Congress having occupied the field by its own legislation, an Arkansas law which prohibited carriers from incorporating into their bills of lading stipulations exempting the carriers from liability for loss of shipments by fire not due to the carriers' negligence was deemed to have been superseded and therefore inoperative.

381. *Tyson & Bro. v. Banton*, 273 U.S. 418 (1927).

New York law which prohibited ticket agencies for selling theatre tickets at prices in excess of 50¢ over the price printed on the ticket was void by reason of regulating a business not affected with the public interest and depriving such business of due process.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Van Devanter, Butler, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone, Sanford.

382. *Tumey v. Ohio*, 273 U.S. 510 (1927).

Ohio law which compensated mayors serving as judges in minor prohibition offenses solely out of the fees and costs collected from defendants who were convicted was violative of due process.

383. *Nixon v. Herndon*, 273 U.S. 536 (1927).

Texas White Primary Law which barred Negroes from participation in Democratic party primary elections denied them the equal protection of the laws.

384. *First Nat'l Bank v. Hartford*, 273 U.S. 548 (1927).

Wisconsin tax law, as imposed on shares of a national bank, was in conflict with federal law prohibiting state taxation of such shares at rates in excess of those levied on moneyed capital employed in competition with the business of such banks and was therefore inoperative as to the shares of said banks.

385. *Accord: Minnesota v. First Nat'l Bank*, 273 U.S. 561 (1927), holding inoperative for the same reason a Minnesota law taxing national bank shares.

386. *Accord: Commercial Nat'l Bank v. Custer County*, 275 U.S. 502 (1927), holding inoperative a similar Montana tax law.

387. *Accord: Keating v. Public Nat'l Bank*, 284 U.S. 587 (1932), holding inoperative for the same reason a New York tax law.

388. *Fairmont Co. v. Minnesota*, 274 U.S. 1 (1927).

Minnesota law which punished anyone who discriminated between different localities of that State by buying dairy products in one locality at a higher price than was paid for the same commodities in another locality infringed liberty of contract as protected by the due process clause.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Butler, Van Devanter, Sanford, Sutherland, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone.

389. *Ohio Pub. Serv. Co. v. Ohio ex rel. Fritz*, 274 U.S. 12 (1927).

Ohio law which destroyed assignability of a franchise previously granted to an electric company by a municipal ordinance impaired the obligation of contract.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Sutherland, Stone, Sanford, Butler, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis.

390. *Southern Ry. v. Kentucky*, 274 U.S. 76 (1927).

Kentucky law which imposed a franchise tax on railroad corporations was constitutionally defective and violative of due process insofar as it was computed by including mileage outside the State which did not in any plain and intelligible way add to the value of the road and the rights exercised in Kentucky.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Holmes, Sutherland, Stone, McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sanford, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justice Brandeis.

391. *Road Improv. Dist. v. Missouri Pacific R.R.*, 274 U.S. 188 (1927).

Special assessments levied against a railroad by a road district pursuant to an Arkansas statute and based on real property and rolling stock and other personalty were unreasonably discriminatory and excessive and deprived the railroad of property without due process by reason of the fact that other assessments for the same improvement were based solely on real property.

392. *Fiske v. Kansas*, 274 U.S. 380 (1927).

As construed and applied to an organization not shown to have advocated any crime, violence, or other unlawful acts, the Kansas criminal syndicalism law was violative of due process.

393. *Cline v. Frink Dairy Co.*, 274 U.S. 445 (1927).

By reason of the exception contained therein, whereby its prohibitions were not to apply to conduct engaged in by participants whenever necessary to obtain a reasonable profit from products traded in, the Colorado Antitrust Law was void for want of a fixed standard for determining guilt and violative of due process.

394. *Power Mfg. Co. v. Saunders*, 274 U.S. 490 (1927).

As applied to a foreign corporation having a fixed place of business and an agent in one county, but no property, debts or anything also in the county in which it was sued, Arkansas law which authorized actions to be brought against a foreign corporation in any county in the State, while restricting actions against domestic corporations to the county where it had a place of business or where its chief officer resided, deprived the foreign corporation of equal protection of the laws.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, Stone, Sanford, Butler, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis.

395. *Northwestern Ins. Co. v. Wisconsin*, 275 U.S. 136 (1927).

Wisconsin law levying a tax on the gross income of domestic insurance companies was void where the income was derived in part as interest on United States bonds.

396. *Wuchter v. Pizzutti*, 276 U.S. 13 (1928).

New Jersey statute which provided that in suits by residents against nonresidents for injuries resulting from operation of motor vehicles by the latter, service might be made on the Secretary of State as their agent, but which failed to provide any assurance that notice of such service would be communicated to the nonresidents, was violative of due process.

Concurring: Chief Justice Taft, Justices Van Devanter, Butler, Sutherland, Sanford, McReynolds.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, Stone.

397. *Accord: Consolidated Flour Mills Co. v. Muegge*, 278 U.S. 559 (1928), voiding similar service as authorized by an Oklahoma law.

398. *Missouri ex rel. Robertson v. Miller*, 276 U.S. 174 (1928).

Mississippi statute which terminated right of retired revenue agent to prosecute suits for unpaid taxes in the name of his successor by requiring that the successor approve and join in such suits, and which further stipulated that the successor share equally in the commissions hitherto accruing solely to the retired agent, was held to impair the latter's rights under the contract clause insofar as it was enforced retroactively to accord a share to the successor in suits instituted by the retired agent before this legislative alteration.

399. *Montana Nat'l Bank v. Yellowstone County*, 276 U.S. 479 (1928).

Montana law which levied tax on national bank shares was violative of federal law prohibiting levy on such shares as rates higher than those assessed on moneyed capital in hands of individual citizens.

400. *New Brunswick v. United States*, 276 U.S. 547 (1928).

Property taxes assessed under New Jersey law on land acquired from the United States Housing Corporation by private purchasers subject to retention of mortgage by the federal agency could not be collected by sale of the land unless the federal liens were excluded and preserved as prior liens.

Concurring: Justices Sanford, Stone, Sutherland, Butler, Brandeis, Holmes, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justice McReynolds.

401. *Brooke v. Norfolk*, 277 U.S. 27 (1928).

State and city taxes authorized under laws of Virginia may not be levied on the corpus of a trust located in Maryland, the income from which accrued to a beneficiary resident in Virginia; the corpus was beyond the jurisdiction of Virginia and accordingly the assessments were violative of due process.

402. *Louisville Gas Co. v. Coleman*, 277 U.S. 32 (1928).

Kentucky law which conditioned the recording of mortgages not maturing within five years upon the payment of a tax of 20¢ for each \$100 of value secured, but which exempted mortgages maturing within that period was void as denying equal protection of the laws.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Sanford, Stone.

403. *Long v. Rockwood*, 277 U.S. 142 (1928).

Massachusetts income tax law could not validly be imposed on income received by a citizen as royalties for the use of patents issued by the United States.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Butler, Van Devanter, Sanford, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Sutherland, Stone.

404. *Standard Pipe Line v. Highway Dist.*, 277 U.S. 160 (1928).

Arkansas law which purported to validate assessments by the district was ineffective to sustain an arbitrary assessment against the pipe line at the rate of \$5,000 per mile in view of the fact that the pipe line originally was constructed in 1909–1915 at a cost under \$9,000 per mile, and the benefit, if any, which accrued to the pipe line was small.

405. *Panhandle Oil Co. v. Mississippi ex rel. Knox*, 277 U.S. 218 (1928).

Mississippi law imposing tax on the sale of gasoline was void as applied to sales to federal instrumentalities such as the Coast Guard or a Veterans' Hospital.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Sanford, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone, McReynolds.

406. *Accord: Graysburg Oil Co. v. Texas*, 278 U.S. 582 (1929), voiding application of Texas gasoline tax statute to gasoline sold to the United States.407. *Ribnik v. McBride*, 277 U.S. 350 (1928).

New Jersey law empowering Secretary of Labor to fix the fees charged by employment agencies was violative of due process inas-

much as the regulation was not imposed on a business affected with a public interest.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Chief Justice Taft, Sanford, Butler, McReynolds, Van Devanter.

Dissenting: Justices Stone, Holmes, Brandeis.

408. *Quaker City Cab Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 277 U.S. 389 (1928).

Pennsylvania law which taxed gross receipts of foreign and domestic corporations derived from intrastate operation of taxicabs, but exempted like receipts derived by individuals and partnerships, denied equal protection of the laws.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Sutherland, Sanford, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone.

409. *Foster-Fountain Packing Co. v. Haydel*, 278 U.S. 1 (1928).

Louisiana Shrimp Act which permitted shipment of shrimp taken in Louisiana tidal waters only if the heads and hulls had previously been removed, and which was designed to favor the canning in Louisiana of shrimp destined for the interstate market, was unconstitutional; those taking the shrimp immediately became entitled to ship them in interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Sutherland, Sanford, Stone, Van Devanter, Holmes, Brandeis, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justice McReynolds.

410. *Accord: Johnson v. Haydel*, 278 U.S. 16 (1928), voiding the Louisiana Oyster Act for like reasons.

411. *Hunt v. United States*, 278 U.S. 96 (1928).

Arizona game laws were not enforceable in a national game preserve and could not be invoked to prevent the killing of wild deer therein as ordered by federal officers.

412. *Louis K. Liggett Co. v. Baldridge*, 278 U.S. 105 (1928).

Pennsylvania law which prohibited corporate ownership of a drug store unless all of the stockholders were licensed pharmacists had no reasonable relationship to public health and therefore was violative of due process.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, Stone, Sanford, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis.

413. *Williams v. Standard Oil Co.*, 278 U.S. 235 (1929).

Tennessee law which fixed the prices at which gasoline may be sold violated the due process clause inasmuch as the business sought to be regulated was not affected with a public interest.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Stone (separately), Sanford, McReynolds, Butler, Brandeis (separately), Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.
Dissenting: Justice Holmes.

414. *International Shoe Co. v. Pinkus*, 278 U.S. 261 (1929).

Arkansas insolvency law was superseded by the Federal Bankruptcy Act to the extent that a creditor of one who invoked the state laws was entitled to have his claim paid by the state receiver in conformity with the order of distribution sanctioned by the federal law.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Holmes, Stone, Sanford, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices McReynolds, Brandeis, Sutherland.

415. *Cudahy Co. v. Hinkle*, 278 U.S. 460 (1929).

Where the local property of a foreign corporation and the part of its business transacted in the State, less than half of which was intrastate, were but small fractions of its entire property and its nationwide business, Washington law which imposed a tax on such company in the form of a filing fee and a license tax, both reckoned upon its authorized capital stock, was inoperative by reason of burdening interstate commerce and reaching property beyond the State contrary to due process.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Sutherland, Stone, Sanford, Butler, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes.

416. *Frost v. Corporation Comm'n*, 278 U.S. 515 (1929).

Oklahoma law which permitted an individual to engage in the business of ginning cotton only upon a showing of public necessity, but allowed a corporation to engage in said business in the same locality without such showing denied the individual equal protection of the law.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sanford, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Holmes, Stone.

417. *Manley v. Georgia*, 279 U.S. 1 (1929).

Georgia banking law which declared every insolvency of a bank shall be deemed to have been fraudulent, with provision for rebutting said presumption, was arbitrary and unreasonable and violative of due process.

418. *Nielsen v. Johnson*, 279 U.S. 47 (1929).

Iowa inheritance tax law discriminating against nonresident alien heirs was violative of a treaty with Denmark.

419. *Carson Petroleum Co. v. Vial*, 279 U.S. 95 (1929).

Louisiana tax law could not be enforced against oil purchased at interior points for export in foreign commerce for the oil did not lose

its character as goods in foreign commerce merely because, after shipment to the exporter at a Louisiana port, the oil was temporarily stored there preparatory to loading on vessels of foreign consignees.

Concurring: Chief Justice Taft, Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone, Sanford, Van Devanter, Butler.

Dissenting: Justices McReynolds, Sutherland.

420. *London Guarantee & Accident Co. v. Industrial Comm'n*, 279 U.S. 109 (1929).

California workmen's compensation act could not be applied in settlement of a claim for the death of a seaman in a case that was subject to the exclusive maritime jurisdiction of federal courts.

Concurring: Chief Justice Taft, Justices Holmes, Stone, Sanford, Sutherland, McReynolds, Butler, Van Devanter.

Dissenting: Justice Brandeis.

421. *Helson v. Kentucky*, 279 U.S. 245 (1929).

Kentucky law imposing a tax on the sale of gasoline could not be applied to gasoline purchased outside Kentucky for use in a ferry engaged as an instrumentality of interstate commerce, that is, in operation on the Ohio River between Kentucky and Illinois.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, Sanford, Stone (separately), Brandeis (separately), Holmes (separately), Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justice McReynolds.

422. *Macallen Co. v. Massachusetts*, 279 U.S. 620 (1929).

Massachusetts law imposing an excise on domestic business corporations was in reality a statute imposing a tax on income rather than a tax on the corporate privilege and, as an income tax law, could not be imposed on income derived from United States bonds nor, by reason of impairment of the obligation of contract on income from local county and municipal bonds exempt by statutory contract.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Sanford, Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Chief Justice Taft.

Dissenting: Justices Stone, Holmes, Brandeis.

423. *Western & Atlantic R.R. v. Henderson*, 279 U.S. 639 (1929).

Georgia law which viewed a fatal collision between railroad and motor car at grade crossing as raising a presumption of negligence on the part of the railroad and as the proximate cause of death and which permitted the jury to weigh the presumption as evidence against the testimony of the railroad's witnesses tending to prove due care was unreasonable and violative of due process.

424. *Safe Deposit & Trust Co. v. Virginia*, 280 U.S. 83 (1929).

Virginia law which levied a property tax on corpus of a trust consisting of securities managed by a Maryland trustee which paid over

to children of settlor, all of whom resided in Virginia, the income therefrom, was violative of due process in that it taxed intangibles with a taxable situs in Maryland, where the trustee and owner of the legal title was located.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Butler, Sutherland, Sanford, Stone (separately), Brandeis (separately), Holmes (separately), Chief Justice Taft.

425. *Farmers Loan Co. v. Minnesota*, 280 U.S. 204 (1930).

Minnesota inheritance tax law, insofar as it was applied to Minnesota securities kept in New York by the decedent who died domiciled in New York was violative of due process.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Butler, Sutherland, Sanford, Stone (separately), Chief Justice Taft.

426. *New Jersey Tel. Co. v. Tax Board*, 280 U.S. 338 (1930).

New Jersey franchise tax law, levied at the rate of 5% of gross receipts of a telephone company engaged in interstate and foreign commerce, was a direct tax on foreign and interstate commerce and void.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Sutherland, Sanford, Van Devanter, McReynolds.
Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis.

427. *Carpenter v. Shaw*, 280 U.S. 363 (1930).

Oklahoma law which imposed a 3% tax on the gross value of royalties from oil and gas was void as a tax on the right reserved to Indians as owners and lessors of the fee when applied to Indians who had received allotments exempted under the Atoka agreement and leased by them for production of oil and gas (Art. VI).

428. *Moore v. Mitchell*, 281 U.S. 18 (1930).

Indiana was powerless to give any force or effect beyond her borders to its law of 1927 purporting to authorize a county treasurer to institute suits for unpaid taxes owed by a nonresident; such officer derived no authority in New York from this Indiana law and hence had no legal capacity to institute the suit in a federal court in the latter State.

429. *Lindgren v. United States*, 281 U.S. 38 (1930).

The right of action given under the Federal Merchant Marine Act to the personal representative to recover damages on behalf of beneficiaries for the death of a seaman resulting from negligence was exclusive and precluded a right of recovery by reason of unseaworthiness predicated upon the death statute of Virginia where the injury was sustained.

430. *Baizley Iron Works v. Span*, 281 U.S. 222 (1930).

Pennsylvania Workmen's Compensation Act could not be invoked to obtain recovery for injuries sustained by a workman while painting angle irons in the engine room of a ship tied to a pier in navigable waters; recovery was controlled exclusively by federal maritime law.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter.

Dissenting: Justices Stone, Holmes, Brandeis.

431. *Accord: Employers' Liability Assurance Co. v. Cook*, 281 U.S. 233 (1930).

Texas workman's compensation law inapplicable for the same reason.

Justices Concurring: McReynolds, Butler, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Stone (separately), Holmes (separately), Brandeis (separately).

432. *Missouri ex rel. Missouri Ins. Co. v. Gehner*, 281 U.S. 313 (1930).

Missouri law which provided that, in taxing assets of insurance companies, the amounts of their legal reserves and unpaid policy claims should first be deducted was invalid as applied to a company owning nontaxable United States bonds insofar as the law was construed to require that the deduction should be reduced by the proportion that the value which such bonds bore to total assets; the company thus was saddled with a heavier tax burden than would have been imposed had it not owned such bonds.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, Chief Justice Hughes (separately).

Dissenting: Justices Stone, Holmes, Brandeis.

433. *Home Ins. Co. v. Dick*, 281 U.S. 397 (1930).

Texas law, which forbade insurance stipulations limiting the time for suit on a claim for a period less than two years, could not constitutionally be applied, consistently with due process, to permit recovery contrary to the terms of a fire insurance policy executed in Mexico by a Mexican insurer and covered in part by reinsurance effected in Mexico and New York by New York insurers licensed to do business in Texas who defended against a Texas claimant to whom the policy was assigned while he was a resident of Mexico and where he resided when the loss was sustained.

434. *Baldwin v. Missouri*, 281 U.S. 586 (1930).

Missouri not having jurisdiction for tax purposes of various intangibles, such as bank accounts and federal securities held in banks therein and owned by a decedent domiciled in Illinois, its transfer tax law could not be applied, consistently with due process, to the transfer thereof, under a will probated in Illinois, to the decedent's son who also was domiciled in Illinois.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler.
Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone (separately).

435. *Surplus Trading Co. v. Cook*, 281 U.S. 647 (1930).

Arkansas personal property tax laws could not be enforced against the purchaser of army blankets situate within an army cantonment in that State, as to which exclusive federal jurisdiction attached under Art. I, §8, cl. 17.

436. *Beidler v. South Carolina Tax Comm'n*, 282 U.S. 1 (1930).

South Carolina inheritance tax law could not be applied, consistently with due process, to affect the transfer by will of shares in a South Carolina corporation and debts owed by the latter belonging to a decedent who died domiciled in Illinois; such intangibles were not shown to have acquired any taxable business situs in South Carolina.

Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Justices Holmes (separately), Brandeis (separately), Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, Butler, Stone, Roberts.

437. *Chicago, St. P., M.&P. Ry. v. Holmberg*, 282 U.S. 162 (1930).

Nebraska law, as construed, which required a railroad to provide an underground cattle-pass across its right of way partly at its own expense for the purpose, not of advancing safety, but merely for the convenience of a farmer owning land on both sides of the railroad, deprived the latter of property without due process.

438. *Furst v. Brewster*, 282 U.S. 493 (1931).

Arkansas law which withheld from a foreign corporation the right to sue in state courts unless it had filed a copy of its charter and a financial statement and had designated a local office and an agent to accept service of process could not constitutionally be enforced to prevent suit by a non-complying foreign corporation to collect a debt which arose out of an interstate transaction for the sale of goods.

439. *Coolidge v. Long*, 282 U.S. 582 (1931).

Massachusetts law which imposed succession taxes on all property within Massachusetts transferred by deed or gift intended to take effect in possession or enjoyment after the death of the grantor, or transferred to any person absolutely or in trust, could not, consistently with due process and the contract clause, be enforced with reference to rights of succession or rights effected by gift which vested under trust agreements created prior to passage of said act, notwithstanding that the settlor died after its passage.

Concurring: Justices Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Roberts, Holmes, Brandeis, Stone.

440. *Hans Rees' Sons v. North Carolina ex rel. Maxwell*, 283 U.S. 123 (1931).

North Carolina income tax law, as applied to income of New York corporation which manufactured leather goods in North Carolina for sale in New York, was violative of due process by reason of the fact that the formula for allocating income to that State, namely, that part of the corporation's net income which bears the same ratio to entire net income as the value of its tangible property in North Carolina bears to the value of all its tangible property, attributed to North Carolina a portion of total income which was out of all appropriate proportion to the business of the corporation conducted in North Carolina.

441. *Interstate Transit, Inc. v. Lindsey*, 283 U.S. 183 (1931).

Tennessee law which imposed a privilege tax graduated to carrying capacity on motor buses, the proceeds from which were not segregated for application to highway maintenance, was void insofar as the privilege tax was imposed on a bus carrier engaged exclusively in interstate commerce.

Concurring: Justices Brandeis, Van Devanter, Butler, Sutherland, Roberts, Stone, Holmes, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justice McReynolds.

442. *Stromberg v. California*, 283 U.S. 359 (1931).

California law which prohibited the display of a red flag in a public or meeting place as a symbol of opposition to organized government or as a stimulus to anarchistic action or as an aid to seditious propaganda was so vague and indefinite as to permit punishment of the fair use of opportunity for free political discussion and therefore, as enforced, effected a denial of liberty without due process.

Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Justices Holmes, Stone, Brandeis, Roberts, Van Devanter, Sutherland.

Dissenting: Justices Butler, McReynolds.

443. *Smith v. Cahoon*, 283 U.S. 553 (1931).

Florida law which required motor carriers to furnish bond or an insurance policy for the protection of the public against injuries but which exempted vehicles used exclusively in delivering dairy products and carriers engaged exclusively in transporting fish, agricultural, and dairy products between production to shipping points en route to primary market denied the equal protection of the laws; and insofar as it subjected carriers for hire to the same requirements as to procurement of a certificate of convenience and necessity and rate regulation as were exacted of common carriers the law was violative of due process.

444. *Near v. Minnesota ex rel. Olson*, 283 U.S. 697 (1931).

Minnesota law which authorized the enjoinder of one engaged regularly in the business of publishing a malicious, scandalous, and defamatory newspaper or magazine, as applied to publications charging neglect of duty and corruption on the part of state law enforcement officers, effected an unconstitutional infringement of freedom of the press as safeguarded by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Justices Brandeis, Holmes, Stone, Roberts.
Dissenting: Justices Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland.

445. *Santovincenzo v. Egan*, 284 U.S. 30 (1931).

New York law pertaining to the descent of property of an alien decedent was inoperative as to the property of an alien by reason of the conflicting provisions of a treaty negotiated with the nation to which the decedent owed allegiance.

446. *State Tax Comm'n v. Interstate Natural Gas Co.*, 284 U.S. 41 (1931).

Mississippi privilege tax could not be enforced as to an interstate pipe line company which sold gas wholesale to local, independent distributors from a supply which passed into and through the State in interstate commerce; fact that pipe line company, in order to make delivery, used a thermometer and reduced pressure, did not convert the sale into an intrastate transaction.

447. *Hoeper v. Tax Commission*, 284 U.S. 206 (1931).

Wisconsin income tax law which authorized an assessment against a husband of a tax computed on the combined total of his and his wife's incomes, augmented by surtaxes resulting from the combination, notwithstanding that under the laws of Wisconsin the husband had no interest in, or control over, the property or income of his wife, was violative of the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justices Roberts, Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, Chief Justice Hughes.
Dissenting: Justices Holmes, Brandeis, Stone.

448. *Van Huffel v. Harkelrode*, 284 U.S. 225 (1931).

Federal bankruptcy courts are empowered to sell the real estate of bankrupts free from liens for state taxes; lien laws of Ohio stipulating that the liens were to attach to the property were ineffective to prevent the federal court from transferring the liens from the property to the proceeds of the sale.

449. *First Nat'l Bank v. Maine*, 284 U.S. 312 (1932).

Maine transfer tax law could not be applied, consistently with due process, to the inheritance of shares in a Maine corporation pass-

ing under the will of a Massachusetts testator who died a resident of Massachusetts and owning the shares.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, Roberts, McReynolds, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Stone, Holmes, Brandeis.

450. *Henkel v. Chicago, St. P., M. & O. Ry.*, 284 U.S. 444 (1932).

Minnesota statute fixing amounts to be paid as compensation or in fees to expert witnesses could not be applied to determine costs in a federal court proceeding inasmuch as the statute was superseded by a federal enactment determining the fees to be paid witnesses.

451. *New State Ice Co. v. Liebmann*, 285 U.S. 262 (1932).

Oklahoma law which prohibited anyone from engaging in the manufacture, sale, or distribution of ice without a state license, to be issued only on proof of public necessity and capacity to meet public demand, effected an invalid regulation of a business not affected with a public interest and a denial of liberty to pursue a lawful calling contrary to the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Butler, Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Stone.

452. *Coombes v. Getz*, 285 U.S. 434 (1932).

Repeal of California constitutional provision making directors of corporations liable to creditors for all moneys misappropriated or embezzled impaired the obligation of contract as to creditors who dealt with corporations during the period when such constitutional provision was in force, and inclusion in the state constitution of another provision whereunder the State reserved the power to alter or repeal all existing or future laws concerning corporations could not be invoked to destroy vested rights contrary to due process.

Justices Concurring: Sutherland, Roberts, Butler, McReynolds, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, Stone.

453. *Nixon v. Condon*, 286 U.S. 73 (1932).

Texas White Primary Law which empowered the state executive committee of a political party to prescribe the qualifications of members of the party and thereby to exclude Negroes from voting in primaries conducted by the party amounted to state action violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, Stone, Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Butler, Sutherland.

454. *Champlin Rfg. Co. v. Corporation Comm'n*, 286 U.S. 210 (1932).

Section of Oklahoma law which provided that any person violating the statute shall be subject to have his oil producing property

placed in the hands of a receiver by a court at the instance of a suit filed by the state Attorney General but which restricted such receivership to the operation of producing wells and the marketing of the production thereof in conformity with this law was a penal provision and as such was void under the due process clause for the reason that it punished violations of regulatory provisions of the statute that were too vague to afford a standard of conduct.

455. *Anglo-Chilean Corp. v. Alabama*, 288 U.S. 218 (1933).

Alabama law which subjected foreign corporations to an annual franchise tax for the doing of business, levied at the rate of \$2 for each \$1,000 of capital employed in the State, violated both Art. I, § 10, cl. 2, prohibiting state import duties and the commerce clause when enforced against a foreign corporation, whose sole business in Alabama consisted of the landing, storing, and the selling in original packages of goods imported from abroad.

Concurring: Justices Butler, McReynolds, Van Devanter, Roberts, Sutherland, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, Stone.

456. *Louis K. Liggett Co. v. Lee*, 288 U.S. 517 (1933).

Florida Chain Store Tax Law which levied a heavier privilege tax per store on the owner whose stores were in different counties than on the owner whose stores were all in the same county effected an arbitrary discrimination amounting to a denial of equal protection of the laws.

Concurring: Justices Roberts, McReynolds, Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Cardozo, Stone.

457. *Consolidated Textile Co. v. Gregory*, 289 U.S. 85 (1933).

Wisconsin law, insofar as it authorized service of process on a foreign corporation which sold goods in Wisconsin through a controlled subsidiary and hence was not carrying on any business in the State at the time of the attempted service was violative of due process, notwithstanding that the summons was served on an officer of the corporation temporarily in Wisconsin for the purpose of negotiating a controversy with a local attorney.

458. *Johnson Oil Co. v. Oklahoma ex rel. Mitchell*, 290 U.S. 158 (1933).

Oklahoma property tax law, consistently with due process, could not validly be enforced against the entire fleet of tank cars of an Illinois corporation which were used in transporting oil from its refinery in Oklahoma to other States; instead, the State may base its tax on the number of cars which on the average were physically present within its boundaries.

459. *Southern Ry. v. Virginia*, 290 U.S. 190 (1933).

Virginia law which authorized an administrative officer to require railroads to eliminate grade crossing whenever, in his opinion, such alterations were necessary to promote public safety and convenience and afforded the railroads no notice or hearing on the existence of such necessity and no means of reviewing the officer's decision was violative of due process.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Roberts, Butler, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Brandeis.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Hughes, Justices Stone, Cardozo.

460. *Morrison v. California*, 291 U.S. 82 (1934).

Section of California Alien Land Law which stipulated that when the State, in a prosecution for violation thereof, proved use or occupancy by an alien lessee, alleged in the indictment to be an alien ineligible for naturalization, the onus of proving citizenship shall devolve upon the defense, was arbitrary and violative of due process as applied to the lessee for the reason that a lease of land conveys no hint of criminality and there is no practical necessity for relieving the prosecution of the obligation of proving Japanese race.

461. *Standard Oil Co. v. California*, 291 U.S. 242 (1934).

California law which levied a license upon every distributor for each gallon of motor vehicle fuel sold and delivered by him in the State could not constitutionally be applied to the sale and delivery of gasoline to a military reservation as to which the United States had acquired exclusive jurisdiction.

462. *Murray v. Gerrick & Co.*, 291 U.S. 315 (1934).

Washington Workman's Compensation Act, adopted after the United States had acquired exclusive jurisdiction over a tract which became Puget Sound Navy Yard, could not be invoked by the widow and child of a worker fatally injured while working for a contractor in said Yard for the reason that Congress by law had consented only to the institution of suits by a personal representative under the Washington Wrongful Death Statute.

463. *Hartford Accident & Ins. Co. v. Delta Pine Land Co.*, 292 U.S. 143 (1934).

As judicially applied, Mississippi statutes which deemed all contracts of insurance and surety covering its citizens to have been made therein and which were enforced to facilitate recovery under an indemnity contract, consummated in Tennessee in conformity with the law of the latter where the insured, a Mississippi corporation, also conducted its business, and to nullify as contrary to Mississippi law nonobservance of a contractual stipulation as to the time for filing

claims, were violative of due process in that the Mississippi laws were accorded effect beyond the territorial limits of Mississippi.

464. *McKnett v. St. Louis & S. F. Ry.*, 292 U.S. 230 (1934).

Alabama law, as judicially construed, which precluded Alabama courts from entertaining actions against foreign corporations arising in other States under federal law, while permitting entertainment of like actions arising in other States under state law, was violative of the Constitution.

465. *W. B. Worthen Co. v. Thomas*, 292 U.S. 426 (1934).

Arkansas law which exempted life insurance proceeds from judicial process, when applied to prevent recovery by a creditor of the insured who had garnished the insurer prior to passage of the law, impaired the obligation of contract.

Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, Roberts, Stone, Sutherland (separately), Van Devanter (separately), McReynolds (separately), Butler (separately).

466. *Concordia Ins. Co. v. Illinois*, 292 U.S. 535 (1934).

Illinois tax laws were discriminatory and violative of the equal protection clause for the reason that they (1) subjected foreign insurance companies selling fire, marine, inland marine, and casualty insurance to two property taxes, one on tangible property and a second, on net receipts, including net receipts from their casualty business, while subjecting competing foreign insurance companies selling only casualty insurance to the single tax on tangible property; and (2) insofar as the net receipts were assessed at full value while other personal property in general was assessed at only 60% of value.

Concurring: Justices Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler, McReynolds, Roberts.
Dissenting: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, Stone.

467. *Jennings v. United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co.*, 294 U.S. 216 (1935).

Section of Indiana Bank Collection Code which purported to make the owners of paper which a bank had collected, but which it had not satisfied, preferred claimants in the event of the bank's failure, irrespective of whether the funds representing such paper could be traced or identified as part of the bank's assets or intermingled with or converted into other assets of the bank was inoperative as to a national bank by reason of conflict with applicable federal law.

468. *Accord: Old Company's Lehigh v. Meeker*, 294 U.S. 227 (1935), embracing a comparable New York statutory provision.

469. *Cooney v. Mountain States Tel. Co.*, 294 U.S. 384 (1935).

Montana laws which imposed an occupation tax on every telephone company providing service in the State imposed an invalid bur-

den on interstate commerce when applied to a company which used the same facilities to furnish both interstate as well as intrastate services.

470. *Baldwin v. G.A.F. Seelig*, 294 U.S. 511 (1935).

New York Milk Control Act, insofar as it prohibited the sale of milk imported from another State unless the price paid to the producer in the other State equalled the minimum prescribed for purchases from local producers, imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce irrespective of resale of such milk in the original or other containers.

471. *Stewart Dry Goods Co. v. Lewis*, 294 U.S. 550 (1935).

Kentucky law which taxed the sales of retailers at the rate of 1/20 of 1% on the first \$400,000 of gross sales, and which imposed increasing rates on each additional \$100,000 of gross sales up to \$1,000,000, with a maximum rate of 1% on sales over \$1,000,000, was arbitrary and violative of the equal protection clause for the reason that there existed no reasonable relation between the amount of the tax and the value of the privilege of merchandising or between gross sales, the measure of the tax, and net profits.

Concurring: Justices Roberts, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Butler, McReynolds, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, Stone.

472. Accord: *Valentine v. A. & P. Tea Co.*, 299 U.S. 32 (1936), voiding a similar Iowa Chain Store Tax Act.

Concurring: Justices Roberts, Sutherland, Butler, McReynolds, Van Devanter, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Brandeis, Cardozo.

473. *Panhandle Co. v. Highway Comm'n*, 294 U.S. 613 (1935).

Kansas law which, as judicially construed, empowered the state highway commission to order a pipe line company, at its own expense, to relocate its pipe and telephone lines, then located on a private right of way, in order to conform to plans adopted for new highways across the right of way, deprived the company of property without due process of law.

Concurring: Justices McReynolds, Butler, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Brandeis, Roberts, Stone (separately), Cardozo (separately), Chief Justice Hughes.

474. *Broderick v. Rosner*, 294 U.S. 629 (1935).

New Jersey law, which prohibited institution of suits in New Jersey courts to enforce a stockholder's statutory personal liability arising under the laws of another State and which was invoked to bar a suit by the New York Superintendent of Banks to recover assess-

ments levied on New Jersey residents holding stock in a New York bank, was ineffective to prevent New Jersey courts from entertaining said action consistently with the full faith and credit clause.

Concurring: Justices Brandeis, Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, Stone, Roberts, McReynolds, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justice Cardozo.

475. *Worthen Co. v. Kavanaugh*, 295 U.S. 56 (1935).

Arkansas law which reduced the remedies available to mortgagees in the event of a default on mortgage bonds issued by an improvement district, with the result that they were deprived of effective means of recovery for 6 1/2 years, impaired the obligation of contract.

476. *Georgia Ry. & Elec. Co. v. Decatur*, 295 U.S. 165 (1935).

Insofar as a Georgia law, which authorized a municipality to effect certain street improvements and to assess railways having tracks on such streets with the cost of such improvement, supported a presumption that a benefit accrued to the railway from said improvements which could not be rebutted by contrary proof offered in a court of law, the effect of the statute was to deny the railway a hearing essential to due process of law.

Concurring: Justices Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes.

Dissenting: Justices Stone, Brandeis, Cardozo.

477. *Senior v. Braden*, 295 U.S. 422 (1935).

Insofar as trust certificates held by a resident represented interests in various parcels of land located in, and outside of, Ohio, which afforded the holder no voice in the management of such property but only a right to share in the net income therefrom and in the proceeds from the sale thereof, such interests could be taxed only by a uniform rule according to value, and Ohio law which levied an intangible property tax thereon measured by income was violative of the equal protection and due process clauses.

Justices Concurring: McReynolds, Butler, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes

Justices Dissenting: Stone, Brandeis, Cardozo.

478. *Schuylkill Trust Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 296 U.S. 113 (1935).

Pennsylvania law which levied a tax on trust companies was in conflict with provisions of federal law proscribing discriminatory taxation of national bank shares by virtue of deductions allowed trust company for amounts represented by shares owned in Pennsylvania corporations already taxed or exempted, without any corresponding deduction on account of nontaxable federal securities owned or on account of national bank shares already taxed.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes, Van Devanter, Butler, McReynolds, Sutherland.

Justices Dissenting: Cardozo, Brandeis, Stone.

479. *Colgate v. Harvey*, 296 U.S. 404 (1935).

Vermont law which levied a 4% tax on income derived from loans made outside the State but which exempted entirely like income derived from money loaned within Vermont at interest not exceeding 5% per year embodied an arbitrary discrimination and abridged the privileges and immunities of United States citizens contrary to the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Sutherland, Van Devanter, Butler, McReynolds, Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes

Justices Dissenting: Stone, Brandeis, Cardozo.

480. *Oklahoma v. Barnsdall Corp.*, 296 U.S. 521 (1936).

Oklahoma law which levied a tax on the gross production of oil, as applied to oil produced by lessees of lands of Indian tribes, was in conflict with federal law consenting to levy of a different tax and hence inoperative as a tax on a federal instrumentality.

481. *Treigle v. Acme Homestead Ass'n*, 297 U.S. 189 (1936).

Louisiana law which abolished prior requirement that building and loan associations, when income was insufficient to pay all demands of withdrawing stockholders within 60 days, to set apart 50% of receipts to pay such withdrawals and provided, instead, that the directors be vested with sole discretion as to the amount to be allocated for such withdrawals, impaired the obligation of contract as to a stockholder who, prior to such amending statute, gave notice of withdrawal and whose demand had not been paid.

482. *Grosjean v. American Press Co.*, 297 U.S. 233 (1936).

Louisiana law which imposed a tax on the gross receipts derived from the sale of advertisements by newspapers enjoying a circulation of more than 20,000 copies per week unconstitutionally restricted freedom of the press contrary to the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

483. *Accord: Arizona Publishing Co. v. O'Neil*, 304 U.S. 543 (1938).

484. *Mayflower Farms v. Ten Eyck*, 297 U.S. 266 (1936).

New York Milk Control Act which permitted milk dealers without well advertised trade names, who were in business before April 10, 1933, to sell milk in New York City at a price one cent below the minimum binding on competitors with well advertised trade names subjected dealers without well advertised names who established their business after that date to a denial of equal protection of the law.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes, Van Devanter, Sutherland, Butler, McReynolds.

Justices Dissenting: Cardozo, Brandeis, Stone.

485. *Bingaman v. Golden Eagle Lines*, 297 U.S. 626 (1936).

New Mexico law which imposed an excise tax on the sale and use of gasoline and motor fuel and collected a license tax of \$25 from users who import for use in New Mexico gasoline purchased in another State could not validly be imposed on a motor vehicle carrier engaged exclusively in interstate commerce which imported out-of-state gasoline for use in New Mexico; for the tax was levied, not as compensation for the use of that State's highways, but on the use of an instrumentality of interstate commerce.

486. *Fisher's Blend Station v. State Tax Comm'n*, 297 U.S. 650 (1936).

Washington law which levied an occupation tax measured by gross receipts of radio broadcasting stations within that State whose programs were received by listeners in other States imposed an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce.

487. *International Steel & I. Co. v. National Surety Co.*, 297 U.S. 657 (1936).

Tennessee law relative to settlement of public construction contracts which retroactively released the surety on a bond given by a contractor as required by prior law for the security of claims of materialmen and substituted therefor, without the latter's consent, the obligation of another bond impaired the obligation of contract.

488. *Graves v. Texas Company*, 298 U.S. 393 (1936).

Alabama law which imposed an excise tax on the sale of gasoline could not be enforced as to sales of gasoline to the United States.

Justices Concurring: Butler, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes, McReynolds.

Justices Dissenting: Cardozo, Brandeis.

489. *Morehead v. New York ex rel. Tipaldo*, 298 U.S. 587 (1936).

New York law which required employers to pay women minimum wages that would be not only equal to the fair and reasonable value of the services rendered but also sufficient to meet the minimum cost of living necessary for health deprived employers and employees of their freedom of contract without due process of law.

Justices Concurring: Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, Roberts.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Hughes, Brandeis, Stone, Cardozo.

490. *Binney v. Long*, 299 U.S. 280 (1936).

Massachusetts succession tax law whereunder succession to property through failure of an intestate to exercise a power of appointment under a non-testamentary conveyance of the property by deed or trust made after September 1, 1907, was not taxed, whereas if the

conveyance was made before that date, the succession was not only taxable but the rate might be substantially increased by aggregating the value of that succession with other interests derived by the transferee by inheritance from the donee of the power, was discriminatory and violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes, Van Devanter, Butler, Sutherland, McReynolds.

Justices Dissenting: Cardozo, Brandeis.

491. *De Jonge v. Oregon*, 299 U.S. 353 (1937).

Oregon Criminal Syndicalism Law, invoked to punish participation in the conduct of a public meeting devoted to a lawful purpose merely because the meeting had been held under the auspices of an organization which taught or advocated the forcible overthrow of government but which did not engage in such advocacy during the meeting, was violative of freedom of assembly and freedom of speech guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

492. *New York ex rel. Rogers v. Graves*, 299 U.S. 401 (1937).

New York income tax law could not be extended to salaries of employees of the Panama Railroad Company by reason of the fact that the latter together with its employees was a federal instrumentality (Art. VI).

493. *Lawrence v. Shaw*, 300 U.S. 345 (1937).

North Carolina property tax law could not be enforced so as to levy a tax on bank deposits made by petitioner as guardian of an incompetent veteran of World War I; by the terms of applicable federal law bank deposits which resulted from the receipt of federal veterans benefits payments were exempted from local taxation.

494. *Ingels v. Morf*, 300 U.S. 290 (1937).

California Caravan Act which imposed a \$15 fee on each motor vehicle transported from another State into California for the purposes of sale therein imposed an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce inasmuch as the proceeds from such fees were used, not to meet the cost of highway construction or maintenance, but to reimburse the State for the added expense of policing caravaning traffic and for such purposes the fee was excessive.

495. *Herndon v. Lowry*, 301 U.S. 242 (1937).

Georgia insurrection statute which punished as a crime the acts of soliciting members for a political party and conducting meetings of a local unit of that party, where one of the doctrines of the party, established by reference to a document not shown to have been exhibited by any one, may be said to embrace ultimate resort in the indefi-

nite future to violence against government invaded freedom of speech as guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Brandeis, Stone, Chief Justice Hughes, Cardozo.
Justices Dissenting: Van Devanter, McReynolds, Butler, Sutherland.

496. *Lindsey v. Washington*, 301 U.S. 397 (1937).

Washington statute which increased the severity of a penalty for a specific offense by mandating a sentence of 15 years and thereby removing the discretion of the judge to sentence for less than the maximum of 15 years, when applied retroactively to a crime committed before its enactment, was invalid as an *ex post facto* law.

497. *Hartford Ins. Co. v. Harrison*, 301 U.S. 459 (1937).

Georgia law which prohibited stock insurance companies writing fire and casualty insurance from acting through agents who were their salaried employees, but which permitted mutual companies writing such insurance to do so, violated the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: McReynolds, Sutherland, Van Devanter, Butler, Chief Justice Hughes
Justices Dissenting: Roberts, Brandeis, Stone, Cardozo.

498. *Puget Sound Co. v. Tax Commission*, 302 U.S. 90 (1937).

Washington gross receipts tax law could not validly be enforced as to receipts accruing to a stevedoring corporation acting as an independent contractor in loading and unloading cargoes of vessels engaged in interstate or foreign commerce by longshoremen subject to its own direction and control; such business was a form of interstate and foreign commerce.

499. *James v. Dravo Contracting Co.*, 302 U.S. 134 (1937).

West Virginia gross receipts tax law could not validly be enforced to sustain levy on that part of gross receipts of a federal contractor working on a federal installation in West Virginia which was derived from the fabrication of equipment at its Pennsylvania plant for which the contractor received payment prior to installation of such equipment on the West Virginia site owned by the Federal Government; for such compensable activities were completed beyond the jurisdiction of West Virginia.

500. *Connecticut General Life Ins. Co. v. Johnson*, 303 U.S. 77 (1938).

California law which levied a privilege tax on admitted foreign insurers, measured by gross premiums received, was violative of due process insofar as it affected premiums received in Connecticut on contracts of reinsurance consummated in the latter State and covering policies of life insurance issued by other insurers to residents of

California; California was without power to tax activities conducted beyond its borders.

Justices Concurring: Stone, Chief Justice Hughes, McReynolds, Brandeis, Butler, Roberts.

Justice Dissenting: Black.

501. *Indiana ex rel. Anderson v. Brand*, 303 U.S. 95 (1938).

Indiana law of 1933 which repealed tenure rights of certain teachers accorded under a Tenure Act of 1927 impaired the obligation of contract.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes, McReynolds, Brandeis, Butler, Stone.

Justice Dissenting: Black.

Accord: Indiana ex rel. Valentine v. Marker, 303 U.S. 628 (1938).

502. *Adams Mfg. Co. v. Storen*, 304 U.S. 307 (1938).

Indiana gross receipts tax law could not constitutionally be applied to gross receipts derived by an Indiana corporation from sales in other States of goods manufactured in Indiana; as thus applied the law burdened interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Chief Justice Hughes, Brandeis, Butler, Stone, Reed.

Justices Dissenting: Black (in part), McReynolds (in part).

Freeman v. Hewit, 329 U.S. 239 (1946).

The tax imposes an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce when applied to the receipt by one domiciled in the State of the proceeds of a sale of securities sent out of the State to be sold.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Rutledge, Burton.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Murphy.

Indiana Dep't of Revenue v. Nebeker, 348 U.S. 933 (1955).

This gross receipts tax law also could not be levied on receipts from the purchase and sale on margin of securities by resident owners through a nonresident broker engaged in interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas.

503. *Collins v. Yosemite Park Co.*, 304 U.S. 518 (1938).

California Alcoholic Beverages Control Act, as to its regulatory provisions which embraced a fee for a license to import alcoholic beverages and control over importation of such beverages, could not be enforced, consistently with the Twenty-first Amendment, against a retail dealer doing business in a National Park as to which California retained no jurisdiction.

504. *Missouri ex rel. Gaines v. Canada*, 305 U.S. 337 (1938).

A Missouri statute which accorded Negro residents financial aid to enable them to obtain instruction at out-of-state universities equivalent to that afforded exclusively to white students at the University of Missouri denies such Negroes the equal protection of the laws. The obligation of a State to give equal protection of the laws can be performed only where its laws operate, that is, within its own jurisdiction.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Brandeis, Stone, Roberts, Black, Reed.

Justices Dissenting: McReynolds, Butler.

505. *Gwin, White & Prince, Inc. v. Henneford*, 305 U.S. 434 (1939).

A Washington gross receipts tax levied on the privilege of engaging in business in the State cannot constitutionally be imposed on the gross receipts of a marketing agent for a federation of fruit growers whose business consists of the marketing of fruit shipped from Washington to places of sale in other States and foreign countries. Such a tax burdens interstate and foreign commerce contrary to Art. I, § 8, cl. 3.

Justices Concurring: Butler, McReynolds, Chief Justice Hughes, Brandeis, Stone, Roberts, Reed.

Justice Dissenting: Black.

506. *Hale v. Bimco Trading Co.*, 306 U.S. 375 (1939).

Florida statute imposing an inspection fee of 15 cents per cwt. (60 times the cost of the inspection) on cement imported from abroad is invalid under the commerce clause (Art. I, § 8, cl. 3).

507. *Lanzetta v. New Jersey*, 306 U.S. 451 (1939).

A New Jersey statute which stipulated that "any person not engaged in a lawful occupation, known to be a member of a gang of two or more persons, who had been convicted at least three times of being a disorderly person, or who has been convicted of any crime in New Jersey or any other State, is declared to be a gangster" and punishable upon conviction, is repugnant to the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment because of vagueness and uncertainty.

508. *Lane v. Wilson*, 307 U.S. 268 (1939).

An Oklahoma statute which provided that all persons, other than those who voted in 1914, qualified to vote in 1916 but who failed to register between April 30 and May 11, 1916, should be perpetually disenfranchised was found to be repugnant to the Fifteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Roberts, Black, Reed, Frankfurter.

Justices Dissenting: McReynolds, Butler.

509. *Thornhill v. Alabama*, 310 U.S. 88 (1940).

A statute which forbids the publicizing of facts concerning a labor dispute, whether by printed sign, pamphlet, by word of mouth, or otherwise in the vicinity of the business involved, and without regard to the number of persons engaged in such activity, the peaceful character of their conduct, the nature of the dispute, or the accuracy or restraint of the language used in imparting information, is violative of freedom of speech and press guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Stone, Roberts, Black, Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy.

Justice Dissenting: McReynolds.

510. *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296 (1940).

A statute which forbids any person to solicit money or valuables for any alleged religious cause, unless a license has first been procured from an official who is required to determine whether such cause is a religious one and who may deny issuance if he determines that the cause is not, imposes a previous restraint of the free exercise of religion and effects a deprivation of liberty without due process of law in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

511. *McCarroll v. Dixie Lines*, 309 U.S. 176 (1940).

Gasoline carried by interstate motor busses through Arkansas for use as fuel in interstate transportation beyond the Arkansas line cannot be subject to an Arkansas tax imposed from maintenance of state highways and collected on every gallon of gasoline above 20 brought into the State in any motor vehicle for use in operating the same. The statute levying this tax imposes an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: McReynolds, Stone, Chief Justice Hughes, Roberts, Reed (separately).

Justices Dissenting: Black, Frankfurter, Douglas.

512. *Best v. Maxwell*, 311 U.S. 454 (1940).

A North Carolina statute which levies an annual privilege tax of \$250 on every person or corporation, not a regular retail merchant in the State, who displays samples in any hotel room or house rented for the purpose of securing retail orders, cannot be applied to a non-resident merchant who took orders in the State and shipped interstate directly to customers. In view of the imposition of a one dollar per year license tax collected from regular retail merchants, the enforcement of the statute as to nonresidents effects an unconstitutional discrimination in favor of intrastate commerce contrary to Art. I, § 8, cl. 3.

513. *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52 (1941).

A Pennsylvania alien registration statute, imposing requirements at variance with those set forth in the Federal Alien Registration Act of 1940 containing a comprehensive scheme for the regulation of aliens, is rendered unenforceable by reason of conflict with federal legislative and treaty-making powers.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Black, Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy.
Justices Dissenting: Stone, Chief Justice Hughes, McReynolds.

514. *Wood v. Lovett*, 313 U.S. 362 (1941).

When a State, with the help of a statute curing irregularities in a tax proceeding, sells land under a tax title which is valid, subsequent repeal of such curative statute is unconstitutional by reason of effecting an impairment of the obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10, cl. 1).

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Hughes, Stone, Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter.
Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Murphy.

515. *Federal Land Bank v. Bismarck Lumber Co.*, 314 U.S. 95 (1941).

Inasmuch as the Federal Farm Loan Act exempts federal land banks from state taxes, other than those on property acquired in the course of dealings, the North Dakota sales tax cannot validly be collected on the sale of materials to a federal land bank to be used in improving real estate (Art. VI, cl. 2).

516. *Edwards v. California*, 314 U.S. 160 (1941).

A California statute making it a misdemeanor for any one knowingly to bring, or assist in bringing, into the State a nonresident, indigent person is invalid by reason of imposing an unconstitutional burden on interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter, Byrnes. Justices Douglas, Black, Murphy and Jackson would have rested the invalidity on § 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment.

517. *Taylor v. Georgia*, 315 U.S. 25 (1942).

A state statute making it a crime for any person to contract with another to perform services of any kind, and thereupon obtain in advance money or other thing of value, with intent not to perform such service, and providing further that failure to perform the service or to return the money, without good and sufficient cause, shall amount to presumptive evidence of intent, at the time of making the contract, not to perform such service, is violative of the Thirteenth Amendment.

518. *Cloverleaf Butter Co. v. Patterson*, 315 U.S. 148 (1942).

Consistently with the national supremacy clause, federal laws and regulations relating to the entire process of manufacture of ren-

ovated butter supersede state laws whereunder Alabama officials inspected and seized packing stock butter acquired by a manufacturer of renovated butter for interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Black, Reed, Douglas, Jackson.

Justices Dissenting: Stone, C.J., Frankfurter, Murphy, Byrnes.

519. *Tulee v. Washington*, 315 U.S. 681 (1942).

Being repugnant to the terms of a treaty concluded with the Yakima Indians reserving to the members of the latter tribe the right to take fish at all usual places in common with the citizens of Washington Territory, a state law requiring such Indians to pay license fees for the exercise of such privilege cannot be enforced.

520. *Skinner v. Oklahoma ex rel. Williamson*, 316 U.S. 535 (1942).

As applied to one convicted once of stealing chickens, and twice of robbery, an Oklahoma statute providing for the sterilization of habitual criminals, other than those convicted of embezzlement, or violation of prohibition and revenue laws, violates the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices concurring specially: Stone, C.J., Jackson.

521. *Pacific Coast Dairy v. Department of Agriculture*, 318 U.S. 285 (1943).

Calif. Agric. Code provided that the selling and delivery of milk "at less than the minimum wholesale, retail prices effective in a marketing area" was an unfair practice warranting revocation of license or prosecution. Sales and deliveries of milk to the War Department on a federal enclave within a State over which the United States has acquired exclusive jurisdiction are not subject to regulation under a state milk stabilization law.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Roberts, Black, Reed, Douglas, Jackson.

Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Murphy.

522. *Mayo v. United States*, 319 U.S. 441 (1943).

Florida Commercial Fertilizer Law constituted a comprehensive regulation of sale or distribution of commercial fertilizer and required a label or stamp on each bag evidencing the payment of an inspection fee. Held: a State is without constitutional power to exact an inspection fee, although the design of the inspection service was to protect consumer from fraud, as to fertilizer which the United States owns and is distributing within the State pursuant to provision of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act.

523. *Taylor v. Mississippi*, 319 U.S. 583 (1943).

General Laws of Mississippi, 1943, ch. 178, provided, in part, that the teaching and dissemination of printed matter designed to encourage disloyalty to the national and state governments, and the distribution of printed matter reasonably tending "to create an attitude

of stubborn refusal to salute, honor, or respect the flag or Government of the United States, or of the State of Mississippi" was a felony.

The Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution prohibits the imposition of punishment for: (1) urging and advising on religious grounds that citizens refrain from saluting the flag; and (2) the communication of beliefs and opinion concerning domestic measures and trends in national and world affairs, when this is without sinister purpose and not in advocacy of, or incitement to, subversive action against the Nation or State and does not involve any clear and present danger to our institutions or our Government. Conviction under the statute for disseminating literature reasonably tending to create an attitude of stubborn refusal to salute, honor or respect the national and state flags and governments denies the liberty guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

524. *Pollock v. Williams*, 322 U.S. 4 (1944).

Florida Statute of 1941, sec. 817.09 and sec. 817.10, made it a misdemeanor to induce advances with intent to defraud by a promise to perform labor, and further made failure to perform labor for which money had been obtained prima facie evidence of intent to defraud. The statute is violative of the Thirteenth Amendment and the Federal Antipeonage Act for it cannot be said that a plea of guilty is uninfluenced by the statute's threat to convict by its prima facie evidence section.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Stone, C.J., Reed.

525. *United States v. Allegheny County*, 322 U.S. 174 (1944).

Pennsylvania law provided in part that "The following subjects and property shall be valued and assessed, and subject to taxation, "and that taxes are declared "to be a first lien on said property." The effect of an *ad valorem* property tax is to increase the valuation of the land and buildings of a manufacturer by the value of machinery leased to him by the United States and is therefore a tax on property owned by the United States and is violative of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Roberts, Frankfurter.

526. *McLeod v. Dilworth Co.*, 322 U.S. 327 (1944).

The commerce clause prohibits the imposition of an Arkansas sales tax on sales to residents of the State which are consummated by acceptance of orders in, and the shipments of goods from, another State, in which title passes upon delivery to the carrier.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

527. *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516 (1945).

A Texas statute required union organizers, before soliciting members, to obtain an organizer's card from the Secretary of State. As applied in this case, the statute is violative of the First and Fourteenth Amendments in that it imposes a previous restraint upon the rights of free speech and free assembly. The First Amendment's safeguards are not inapplicable to business or economic activity and restrictions of these activities can be justified only by clear and present danger to the public welfare.

Justices Concurring: Black, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Stone, C.J., Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter.

528. *Hooven & Allison Co. v. Evatt*, 324 U.S. 652 (1945).

An Ohio *ad valorem* tax on Philippine importations was violative of the constitutional prohibition of state taxation of imports for the reason that the place from which the imported articles are brought is not a part of the United States in the constitutional sense.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Roberts, Reed (dissenting in part), Frankfurter, Douglas (concurring in part), Murphy (concurring in part), Jackson, Rutledge (concurring in part).

Justice Dissenting: Black.

529. *Hill v. Florida ex rel. Watson*, 325 U.S. 538 (1945).

Florida law provided that no one shall be licensed as a "business agent" of a labor union without meeting certain specified standards and that all labor unions in the State must file annual reports disclosing certain information and pay an annual fee therefor. The statute circumscribes the "full freedom" to choose collective bargaining agents secured to employees by the National Labor Relations Act. The reporting requirement and fee levied on labor unions does not conflict with the Act but is the sanction imposed by injunction against the labor union from functioning as such that is inconsistent with the federally protected processes of collective bargaining.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Roberts, Frankfurter.

530. *Southern Pacific Co. v. Arizona*, 325 U.S. 761 (1945).

The Arizona Train Limit Law makes it unlawful to operate a train of more than fourteen passenger or seventy freight cars. As applied to interstate trains, this law contravenes the commerce clause of the Constitution. The state regulation passes beyond what is plainly essential for safety, since it does not appear that it will lessen, rather than increase, the danger of accident.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter, Murphy, Jackson, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas.

531. *Marsh v. Alabama*, 326 U.S. 501 (1946).

Alabama law makes it a crime to enter or remain on the premises of another after having been warned not to do so. A State, consistently with the freedom of religion and the press guaranteed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments, cannot impose criminal punishment on a person for distributing religious literature on the sidewalk of a company-owned town contrary to regulations of the town's management, where the town and its shopping district are freely accessible to and freely used by the public in general.

Justices Concurring: Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Stone, C.J., Reed, Burton.

532. *Tucker v. Texas*, 326 U.S. 517 (1946).

Texas Penal Code makes it an offense for any "peddler or hawker of goods or merchandise" willfully to refuse to leave premises after having been notified to do so by the owner or possessor thereof. A State, consistently with the freedom of religion and the press guaranteed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments, cannot impose criminal punishment upon a person engaged in religious activities and distributing religious literature in a village owned by the United States under a congressional program designed to provide housing for workers engaged in national defense activities, where the village is freely accessible and open to the public.

Justices Concurring: Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Stone, C.J., Reed, Burton.

533. *Republic Pictures Corp. v. Kappler*, 327 U.S. 757 (1946).

Iowa statute, insofar as it required actions on claims arising under a federal statute not continuing any period of limitations, to be commenced within six months, effected a denial of equal protection of law when enforced as to one seeking to recover under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act; a State may not discriminate against rights accruing under federal laws by imposing as to the former a special period of limitations not applicable to other claims.

534. *First Iowa Hydro-Electric Coop. v. FPC*, 328 U.S. 152 (1946).

Iowa Code provided that no dam shall be constructed, operated or maintained in any navigable or meandered stream unless a permit has been granted by the executive council. Where sec. 9(b) of the Federal Power Act requires an applicant to submit satisfactory evidence of compliance with state laws with respect to the use of water for power purposes but petitioner made no attempt to comply with law requiring permit, the Court held that compliance with the Iowa law

requiring a state permit is not a condition precedent to securing a federal license since it is the Federal Power Commission rather than the Iowa Executive Council that must pass upon issues affecting the use of navigable waters on the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Burton, Stone, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justice Dissenting: Frankfurter.

535. *Morgan v. Virginia*, 328 U.S. 373 (1946).

Virginia Code required motor carriers, both interstate and intrastate, to separate without discrimination white and colored passengers in their motor buses so that contiguous seats would not be occupied by persons of different races at the same time. Even though Congress has enacted no legislation on the subject, the state provisions are invalid as applied to passengers in vehicles moving interstate because they burden interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Black (separately), Reed, Frankfurter (separately), Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justice Dissenting: Burton.

536. *Richfield Oil Corp. v. State Board*, 329 U.S. 69 (1946).

The California Retail Sales Tax, measured by gross receipts, cannot constitutionally be collected on exports in the form of oil delivered from appellant's dockside tanks to a New Zealand vessel in a California port for transportation to Auckland pursuant to a contract of sale with the New Zealand Government.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Jackson, Rutledge, Burton.

Justice Dissenting: Black.

537. *Bethlehem Steel Co. v. New York Employment Relations Bd.*, 330 U.S. 767 (1947).

Where the National Labor Relations Board has asserted general jurisdiction over unions of foreman employed by industries subject to the National Labor Relations Act but had refused to certify such unions as collective bargaining representatives on the ground that to do so at the time would obstruct rather than further effectuation of the purposes of the Act, certification of such unions by the New York Employment Relations Board under a state act is invalid as in conflict with the National Labor Relations Act and the commerce clause of the Constitution.

538. *Accord: Plankington Packing Co. v. WERB*, 338 U.S. 953 (1950).

539. *Rice v. Sante Fe Elevator Corp.*, 331 U.S. 218 (1947).

By reason of amendments of the United States Warehouse Act, Congress terminated the dual system of regulation and substituted an

exclusive system of federal regulations of warehouses licensed under the federal act. Such warehouses therefore no longer need to obtain Illinois licenses or comply with Illinois laws regulating those phases of the warehouse business which have been regulated under the federal act. Compliance with Illinois law is limited to those phases of the business which the federal act expressly subjects to state law.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson, Burton.

Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Rutledge.

540. *Order of Travelers v. Wolfe*, 331 U.S. 586 (1947).

South Dakota Law provided that the time for commencing action on contracts was within six years and declared void every stipulation in a contract which reduces the time within which a party thereto may enforce his rights by legal proceedings. A claimant bringing an action in South Dakota for benefits arising under the constitution of a fraternal benefit society incorporated in Ohio and licensed to do business in South Dakota is bound by the limitation prescribed in the society's constitution barring actions on claims six months after disallowance by the society. South Dakota is required under the Federal Constitution to give full faith and credit to the public acts of Ohio.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Frankfurter, Reed, Jackson, Burton.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

541. *United States v. California*, 332 U.S. 19 (1947).

California claimed that it owned the resources of the soil under the three-mile marginal belt as an incident to those elements of sovereignty which it exercised in that area, and therefore might grant permits to California residents to prospect far out and on the ocean floor within said limits. Held: California is not the owner of the three-mile marginal belt along its coast; the Federal Government rather than the State has paramount rights in and power over that belt, and full dominion over the resources of the soil under that water area. The United States is therefore, entitled to a decree enjoining California and all persons claiming under it from continuing to trespass upon the area in violation of the rights of the United States.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge, Burton.

Justices Dissenting: Reed, Frankfurter.

542. *Sipuel v. Board of Regents*, 332 U.S. 631 (1948).

Oklahoma constitutional and statutory provisions barring Negroes from the University of Oklahoma Law School are violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment by reason of the fact that the University Law School is the only institution for legal education maintained by the State.

543. *Oyama v. California*, 332 U.S. 633 (1948).

California Alien Land Law forbade aliens ineligible for American citizenship to acquire, own, occupy, lease or transfer agricultural land and provided that any property acquired in violation of the statutes shall escheat as of the date of acquisition and that the same result shall follow any transfer made with "intent to prevent, evade, or avoid" escheat. Such intent is presumed prima facie, wherever an ineligible alien pays the consideration for a transfer to a citizen or eligible alien.

Applied to effect an escheat of agricultural lands acquired in the name of a minor American citizen with funds contributed by a father, a Japanese alien ineligible for naturalization, the statute deprived the son of the equal protection of the laws and of his privileges as an American citizen contrary to the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Reed, Jackson, Burton.

544. *Seaboard Air Line R.R. v. Daniel*, 333 U.S. 118 (1948).

South Carolina provided that a railroad line within the State can be owned and operated only by state-created corporations. A railroad corporation chartered under the laws of another State is forbidden under heavy penalties to exercise such powers within South Carolina. However, under South Carolina law, a foreign railroad corporation may organize a South Carolina subsidiary and may consolidate that corporation with itself. In that event, the consolidated corporation would be a corporation both of South Carolina and of another State.

A Virginia corporation authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission under § 5 of the Interstate Commerce Act to own and operate an entire railway system with mileage in South Carolina is exempt from compliance with South Carolina's laws forbidding foreign corporations to own or operate railroads in the State.

545. *Winters v. New York*, 333 U.S. 507 (1948).

New York Penal Law provided that a person was guilty of a misdemeanor who "prints, utters, publishes, sells, lends, gives away, distributes, shows, or has in his possession with intent to sell, lend, give away, distribute or show or otherwise offer for sale, loan, gift or distribution, any book, pamphlet, magazine, newspaper or other printed matter devoted to the publication, and principally made up of criminal laws, police reports, or accounts of criminal deeds, or pictures, or stories of deeds of bloodshed, lust or crime. . . ."

Subsection 2 was construed by the state Court of Appeals to prohibit distribution of a magazine principally made up of news or stories of criminal deeds of bloodshed or lust so massed as to become a vehicle for inciting violent and depraved crimes against the person.

As thus construed this provision is so vague and indefinite as to violate the Fourteenth Amendment by prohibiting acts within the protection of the guaranty of free speech and press.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.
Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton.

546. *Toomer v. Witsell*, 334 U.S. 385 (1948).

South Carolina law required a license of shrimp boat owners, the fee for which was \$25 per boat for residents and \$2,500 per boat for nonresidents. The law also required all boats licensed to trawl for shrimp in South Carolina waters to dock in the State and to unload their catch, pack, and properly stamp the catch before shipping or transporting it to another State. The differential license fees plainly discriminated against nonresidents and violated the privileges and immunities clause of Art. IV, §2. The latter requirement burdened interstate commerce in violation of the commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge, Burton,
Black (dissenting in part), Frankfurter (dissenting in part), Jackson (dissenting in part).

547. *Takahashi v. Fish & Game Comm'n*, 334 U.S. 410 (1948).

California required a commercial fishing license of every person bringing fish ashore in the State to sell but denied such a license to any person ineligible for citizenship. The statute precluded a resident Japanese alien from earning his living as a commercial fisherman in the ocean waters off the State and was held invalid under the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and under federal statutory law (42 U.S.C. § 1981).

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge, Burton.
Justices Dissenting: Reed, Jackson.

548. *Greyhound Lines v. Mealey*, 334 U.S. 653 (1948).

New York constitutionally may tax gross receipts of a common carrier from the transportation apportioned as to mileage within the State, but collection of the tax on gross receipts from that portion of the mileage outside the State unduly burdens interstate commerce in violation of the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Rutledge, Burton.
Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Murphy.

549. *La Crosse Tel. Corp. v. WERB*, 336 U.S. 18 (1949).

Certification by a state employment relations board under a state labor relations act of a union as the collective bargaining representative of employees engaged in interstate commerce is invalid as in con-

flict with the National Labor Relations Act; the employer is one over which the NLRB consistently has exercised jurisdiction.

550. *H. P. Hood & Sons v. Du Mond*, 336 U.S. 525 (1949).

Agricultural and Market Law of New York provided in part that the Commissioner in issuing licenses to milk dealers must be satisfied "that the issuance of the license will not tend to destructive competition in a market already adequately served, and that the issuance of the license is in the public interest."

Denial of a license under this provision violates the commerce clause of the Constitution and the Federal Agricultural Marketing Act where petitioner, a distributor of milk in Massachusetts and operating three receiving plants licensed under the New York Agricultural and Market Law, was denied a license to operate an additional plant on grounds that the expanded facilities would reduce the supply of milk for local markets and result in destructive competition in a market already adequately served.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Douglas, Jackson, Burton.
Justices Dissenting: Black, Frankfurter, Murphy, Rutledge.

551. *Schnell v. Davis*, 336 U.S. 933 (1949).

The Boswell Amendment to the Alabama constitution which vested unlimited authority in electoral officials to determine whether prospective voters satisfied the literacy requirement was violative of the Fifteenth Amendment and the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

552. *Union Nat'l Bank v. Lamb*, 337 U.S. 38 (1949).

Missouri law, whereunder a judgment could not be revived after ten years from its rendition, could not be invoked, consistently with the full faith and credit clause, to prevent enforcement in a Missouri court of a Colorado judgment obtained in 1927 and revived in Colorado in 1946.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson, Burton.
Justices Dissenting: Black, Frankfurter, Rutledge.

553. *Wheeling Steel Corp. v. Glander*, 337 U.S. 562 (1949).

The Ohio *ad valorem* tax levied on accounts receivable of foreign corporations derived from sales of goods manufactured within the State, but exempting receivables owned by residents and domestic corporations, denied foreign corporations equal protection of the laws in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment. The tax was not saved from invalidity by the "reciprocity" provision of the statute imposing it, since this plan is not one which, by credit or otherwise, protects the nonresident or foreign corporation against discrimination.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Murphy, Jackson, Rutledge, Burton.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas.

554. *Treichler v. Wisconsin*, 338 U.S. 251 (1949).

Insofar as the Wisconsin emergency tax on inheritances is measured by tangible property located outside the State, the tax violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justice Dissenting: Black.

555. *Wissner v. Wissner*, 338 U.S. 655 (1950).

Consistently with the principle of national supremacy, the California community property law could not be invoked to sustain an award to a deceased soldier's widow of one-half of the proceeds of an insurance policy issued under the National Life Insurance Act; by the terms of the latter insured soldier is accorded the right to designate his beneficiary, in this instance, his mother, and his widow, not having been designated, is expressly precluded from acquiring a vested right to these proceeds.

556. *New Jersey Ins. Co. v. Division of Tax Appeals*, 338 U.S. 665 (1950).

Collection by a New Jersey taxing district of a tax on intangible property of a stock insurance company, computed without deducting the principal amount of certain United States bonds and accrued interest thereon was invalid by reason of conflict with federal law exempting federal obligations from state and local taxation.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justice Dissenting: Black.

557. *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306 (1950).

Notice by publication, as authorized by the New York Banking Law for purposes of enabling banks managing common trust funds to obtain a judicial settlement of accounts binding on all having an interest in such funds, is not sufficient under the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment for determining property rights of persons whose whereabouts are known.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Reed, Jackson, Clark, Minton, Frankfurter.

Justice Dissenting: Burton.

558. *United Automobile Workers v. O'Brien*, 339 U.S. 454 (1950).

The strike vote provision of the Michigan Mediation Law, which prohibits the calling of a strike unless a state-prescribed procedure for mediation is followed and unless a majority of the employees in a state-defined bargaining unit authorizes the strike, conflicts with the National Labor Relations Act and is invalid under the commerce clause of the Constitution.

559. *Sweatt v. Painter*, 339 U.S. 629 (1950).

Texas constitutional and statutory provisions restricting admission to the University of Texas Law School to white students are violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment by reason of the fact that Negro students, denied admission thereto, are afforded educational facilities inferior to those available at the University.

560. *United States v. Louisiana*, 339 U.S. 699 (1950).

The Louisiana constitution provides that the Louisiana boundary includes all islands within three leagues of the coast; and Louisiana statutes provide that the State's southern boundary is 27 marine miles from the shore line.

Since the three-mile belt off the shore is in the domain of the Nation rather than that of the States, it follows that the area claimed by Louisiana extending 24 miles seaward beyond the three-mile belt is also in the domain of the Nation rather than Louisiana. The marginal sea is a national, not a state, concern and national rights are paramount in that area. The United States, therefore, is entitled to a decree upholding such paramount rights and enjoining Louisiana and all persons claiming under it from trespassing upon the area in violation of the rights of the United States, and requiring Louisiana to account for the money derived by it from the area after June 23, 1947.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Burton.
Justices Dissenting: Reed, Minton.

561. *United States v. Texas*, 339 U.S. 707 (1950).

Notwithstanding provisions in Texas laws whereby that State extended its boundary to a line in the Gulf of Mexico 24 marine miles beyond the three-mile limit and asserted ownership of the bed within that area and to the outer edge of the continental shelf, the United States is entitled to a decree sustaining its paramount rights to dominion of natural resources in said area, beyond the low-water mark on the coast of Texas and outside inland waters. Any claim which Texas may have asserted over the marginal belt when she existed as an independent Republic was relinquished upon her admission into the Union on an equal footing with the existing States.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Burton.
Justices Dissenting: Reed, Minton.

562. *McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents*, 339 U.S. 637 (1950).

Oklahoma law required segregation in educational facilities at institutions of higher learnings. As applied to assign an African American student to a special row in the classroom, to a special table in the library, and to a special table in the cafeteria, the law impaired

and inhibited the student's ability to study, engage in discussion, exchange views with other students, and in general to learn his profession. The conditions under which the student was required to receive his education deprived him of his personal and present right to the equal protection of the laws and were contrary to the command of the Fourteenth Amendment.

563. *Bus Employees v. WERB*, 340 U.S. 383 (1951).

Wisconsin Public Utility Anti-Strike Law substituted arbitration upon order of the Wisconsin Employment Relations Board for collective bargaining whenever an impasse is reached in the bargaining process. To insure conformity with this statutory scheme, Wisconsin denied to utility employees the right to strike.

As applied, this law conflicts with the National Labor Relations Act and is invalid under the supremacy clause.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Jackson, Clark.

Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Burton, Minton.

564. *Norton Co. v. Department of Revenue*, 340 U.S. 534 (1951).

The Illinois occupation tax, levied on gross receipts from sales of tangible personal property, cannot be collected on orders sent directly by the customer to the head officer of a corporation in Massachusetts and shipped directly to the customers from that office. These sales are interstate in nature and are immune from state taxation by virtue of the commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black (dissenting in part), Reed (dissenting in part), Frankfurter, Douglas (dissenting in part), Jackson, Burton, Clark (dissenting in part), Minton.

565. *Spector Motor Serv. v. O'Connor*, 340 U.S. 602 (1951).

A state franchise tax for the privilege of doing business in a State, computed at a nondiscriminatory rate on that part of a foreign corporation's net income which is reasonably attributed to its business activities within the States and not levied as compensation for the use of highways, or collected in lieu of an *ad valorem* property tax, or imposed as a fee for inspection, or as a tax on sales or use, cannot constitutionally be applied to a foreign motor carrier engaged exclusively in interstate trucking. A State cannot exact a franchise tax for the privilege of engaging in interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton, Minton.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Clark.

566. *Hughes v. Fetter*, 341 U.S. 609 (1951).

The Wisconsin Wrongful Death Act provided that ". . . actions thereunder shall be brought only for a death caused in this State."

Wisconsin's policy against entertaining suits under the wrongful death acts of other States must give way to the strong unifying principle embodied in the full faith and credit clause looking toward maximum enforcement in each State of the obligations or rights created or recognized by the statutes of sister states.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Douglas, Burton, Clark.
Justices Dissenting: Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Minton.

567. *Carson v. Roane-Anderson Co.*, 342 U.S. 232 (1952).

Tennessee Retailers' Sales Tax Act could not be enforced as to sales of commodities to a contractor employed by the Atomic Energy Commission; the contractor's activities were those of the Commission and exempt under federal law.

568. *Accord: General Electric Co. v. Washington*, 347 U.S. 909 (1954), embracing exemption of a similar contractor from Washington business and occupation tax law.

569. *Standard Oil Co. v. Peck*, 342 U.S. 382 (1952).

When boats and barges of an Ohio corporation used in transporting oil along the Mississippi River do not pick up or discharge oil in Ohio, and, apart from stopping therein occasionally for fuel and repairs, are almost continuously outside Ohio and are subject, on an apportionment basis, to taxation by other States, an Ohio tax on their full value violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Clark, Frankfurter, Douglas, Jackson, Burton.
Justices Dissenting: Black, Minton.

570. *Memphis Steam Laundry v. Stone*, 342 U.S. 389 (1952).

A Mississippi privilege tax, levied on the privilege of soliciting business for a laundry not licensed in the State and collected at the rate of \$50 on each vehicle used in the business cannot validly be imposed on a foreign corporation operating an establishment in Tennessee and doing no business in Mississippi other than sending trucks thereto to solicit business, and pick up, deliver, and collect for laundry. A tax so administered burdens interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Jackson, Burton, Clark, Minton.
Justice Dissenting: Black.

571. *First Nat'l Bank v. United Air Lines*, 342 U.S. 396 (1952).

Illinois law provided that "no action shall be brought or prosecuted in this state to recover damages for a death occurring outside of this state where a right of action for such death exists under the

laws of the place where such death occurred and services of process in such suit may be had upon the defendant in such place.”

In a suit brought in a federal district court in Illinois on grounds of diversity of citizenship to recover under the Utah death statute for a death occurring in Utah, the Illinois statute was held to be violative of the full faith and credit clause.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Douglas, Jackson, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justices Dissenting: Reed, Frankfurter.

572. *Joseph Burstyn, Inc. v. Wilson*, 343 U.S. 495 (1952).

Insofar as the New York Education Law forbids the commercial showing of any motion picture without a license and authorizes denial of a license on a censor's conclusion that a film is “sacrilegious,” it is void as a prior restraint on freedom of speech and of the press under the First Amendment made applicable to the States by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The statute authorized designated officers to refuse to license the showing of any film which is obscene, indecent, immoral, inhuman, sacrilegious, or the exhibition of which would tend to corrupt morals or incite to crime.

573. *Kedroff v. St. Nicholas Cathedral*, 344 U.S. 94 (1952).

As construed and applied, Art. 5-C of the New York Religious Corporations Laws, which authorized transfer of administrative control of the Russian Orthodox churches of North America from the Supreme Church Authority in Moscow to the authorities selected by a convention of the North American churches is invalid. Legislation which determines, in a hierarchical church, ecclesiastical administration or the appointment of the clergy, or transfers control of churches from one group to another, interferes with the free exercise of religion contrary to the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Black, Douglas, Frankfurter, Vinson, C.J., Reed, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justice Dissenting: Jackson.

574. *Wieman v. Updegraff*, 344 U.S. 183 (1952).

Oklahoma law requires each state officer and employee, as a condition of his employment, to take a “loyalty oath,” that he is not, and has not been for the preceding five years, a member of any organization listed by the Attorney General of the United States as “communist front” or “subversive.”

As construed, this statute excludes persons from state employment on the basis of membership in an organization, regardless of their knowledge concerning the activities and purposes of the organization and therefore violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

575. *Dameron v. Brodhead*, 345 U.S. 322 (1953).

Where a serviceman domiciled in one State is assigned to military duty in another State, the latter is barred by §514 of the Soldiers and Sailor's Civil Relief Act of 1940 from imposing a tax on his tangible personal property temporarily located within its borders, even when the State of his domicile has not taxed such property.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas.

576. *Kern-Limerick, Inc. v. Scurlock*, 347 U.S. 110 (1954).

The Arkansas Gross Receipts Tax, levied on the gross receipts of sales within the State, cannot be applied to transactions whereby private contractors procured in Arkansas two tractors for use in constructing a naval ammunition depot for the United States under a cost-plus-fixed-fee contract. Applicable federal laws provide that in procuring articles required for accomplishment of the agreement, the contractor shall act as purchasing agent for the Government and that the Government not only acquires title but shall be directly liable to the vendor for the purchase price. The tax is void as a levy on the Federal Government.

Justices Concurring: Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justices Dissenting: Warren, C.J., Black, Douglas.

577. *Michigan-Wisconsin Pipe Line Co. v. Calvert*, 347 U.S. 157 (1954).

A Texas tax on the occupation of "gathering gas" measured by the entire volume of gas "taken," as applied to an interstate natural gas pipeline company, where the taxable incidence is the taking of gas from the outlet of an independent gasoline plant within the State for the purpose of immediate interstate transmission, is violative of the commerce clause. As here applied, the State delayed the incidence of the tax beyond the step where production and processing have ceased and transmission in interstate commerce has begun; to that the tax is not levied on the capture or production of the gas, but on its taking into interstate commerce after production, gathering and processing.

578. *Miller Bros. v. Maryland*, 347 U.S. 340 (1954).

Where residents of nearby Maryland make purchase from appellant in Delaware, some deliveries being made in Maryland by common carrier and some by appellant's truck, seizure of the appellant's truck in Maryland and holding it liable for the Maryland use tax on all goods sold in Delaware to Maryland customers is a denial of due process; the Delaware corporation has not subjected itself to the taxing power of Maryland and has not afforded Maryland a jurisdiction or power to impose upon it a liability for collections of the Maryland use tax.

Justices Concurring: Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton, Minton.

Justices Dissenting: Warren, C.J., Black, Douglas, Clark.

579. *Railway Express Agency v. Virginia*, 347 U.S. 359 (1954).

In addition to “taxes on property of express companies,” Virginia provided that “for the privilege of doing business in the State,” express companies shall pay an “annual license tax” upon gross receipts earned in the State “on business passing through, into, or out of, this State.”

The gross-receipts tax is in fact and effect a privilege tax, and its application to a foreign corporation doing an exclusively interstate business violated the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton, Minton.

Justices Dissenting: Warren, C.J., Black, Douglas, Clark.

580. *Franklin Nat'l Bank v. New York*, 347 U.S. 373 (1954).

Insofar as the New York Banking Law forbids national banks to use the word “saving” or “savings in their business or advertising,” it conflicts with federal laws expressly authorizing national banks to receive deposits and to exercise incidental powers and is void.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Jackson, Burton, Clark, Minton.

Justice Dissenting: Reed.

581. *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

State constitutional and statutory provisions requiring segregation of white and Negro children in public schools on the basis of race denies to such Negro children the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment and are void.

582. *Castle v. Hayes Freight Lines*, 348 U.S. 61 (1954).

Illinois law provides for a 90-day suspension upon a finding of 10 or more violations of regulations calling for a balanced distribution of freight loads in relation to the truck's axles. If thereafter the same carrier is found to have been guilty of 10 or more later violations, the suspension is for one year.

Where an interstate motor carrier holds a certificate of convenience and necessity issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission under the Federal Motor Carrier Act, a State may not suspend the carrier's rights to use the State's highways in its interstate operations. The Illinois law, as applied to such carrier, is violative of the commerce clause.

583. *Society for Savings v. Bowers*, 349 U.S. 143 (1955).

When a state property tax is levied against a mutual saving bank and a federal savings and loan association in their own names and is measured by the amount of each bank's capital, surplus, or reserve

and undivided profits, without deduction of the value of federal securities owned by each or provision for reimbursement of each bank by its depositors for the tax, the latter is void as a tax upon obligations of the Federal Government (Art. VI, cl. 2).

584. *Pennsylvania v. Nelson*, 350 U.S. 497 (1956).

The Smith Act, as amended, 18 U.S.C. § 2385, which prohibits the knowing advocacy of the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force and violence, supersedes the enforceability of the Pennsylvania Sedition Act, which proscribes the same conduct. The scheme of federal regulation is so pervasive as to make reasonable the inference that the Congress left no room for the States to supplement it—enforcement of state sedition acts presents a serious danger of conflict with the administration of the federal program. The decision of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania holding that the Smith Act superseded the Pennsylvania statute is affirmed.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Clark, Harlan.

Justices Dissenting: Reed, Burton, Minton.

585. *Griffin v. Illinois*, 351 U.S. 12 (1956).

Illinois statutes provide that a writ of error may be prosecuted on a “mandatory record” kept by the court clerk and consisting of the indictment, arraignment, plea, verdict, and sentence. The “mandatory record” can be obtained free of charge by an indigent defendant. In such instances review is limited to errors on the face of the mandatory record, and there is no review of trial errors such as an erroneous ruling on admission of evidence. No provision was made whereby a convicted person in a non-capital case can obtain a bill of exceptions or report of the trial proceedings, which by statute is furnished free only to indigent defendants sentenced to death. Griffin, an indigent defendant convicted of robbery, accordingly was refused a free certified copy of the entire record, including a stenographic transcript of the proceedings, and therefore was unable to perfect his appeal founded upon nonconstitutional errors of the trial court. Petitioner was held to have been denied due process of law and the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Clark.

Justices Dissenting: Reed, Burton, Minton, Harlan.

586. *Covey v. Town of Somers*, 351 U.S. 141 (1956).

New York statutory procedure which sanctioned notice by mail together with the posting of a copy of said notice at a local post office and the publication thereof in two local newspapers of proceedings to foreclose a lien for delinquent real estate taxes, was constitutionally inadequate and effected a taking of property without due process

when employed in the foreclosure of the property of a mentally incompetent woman resident in the taxing jurisdiction and known by the officials thereof to be financially responsible but incapable of handling her affairs.

Justice Concurring: Frankfurter (separately).

587. *Railway Employees' Dep't v. Hanson*, 351 U.S. 225 (1956).

A "right to work" provision of the Nebraska constitution, by virtue of the supremacy clause of Art. VI of the Constitution, cannot be invoked to invalidate a "union shop" agreement between an interstate railroad and unions of its employees for the reason that such "union shop" agreement is expressly authorized by §2(11) of the Railway Labor Act. By reason of such authorization, such "union shop" agreements cannot be invalidated by any state law.

Justice Concurring: Frankfurter (separately).

588. *Walker v. Hutchinson City*, 352 U.S. 112 (1956).

Kansas statutes permitted condemnation proceedings for the taking of private property for public use to be instituted by notice either in writing or by publication in an official city paper.

Where the commissioners, appointed to determine compensation in condemnation of appellant's land for public use, gave no notice of a hearing except by publication in the official city newspaper, though appellant was a resident of Kansas and his name was known to the city and on its official records, and there was no reason why direct notice could not be given, the newspaper publication alone did not measure up to the quality of notice the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment requires as a prerequisite to this type of proceeding.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Clark, Harlan.

Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Burton.

589. *Leslie Miller, Inc. v. Arkansas*, 352 U.S. 187 (1956).

Arkansas statute licensing contractors cannot be applied to a federal contractor operating pursuant to an award issued pursuant to the Armed Services Procurement Act of 1947. The state statute, being in conflict with the federal law, cannot validly be enforced.

590. *Butler v. Michigan*, 352 U.S. 380 (1957).

The Michigan Penal Code proscribed the sale to the general reading public of any book containing obscene language "tending to the corruption of the morals of youth." When invoked to convict a proprietor who sold a book having such a potential effect on youth to an adult police officer, the statute violated the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Thus enforced, the statute would permit the adult population of Michigan to read only what is fit for children.

591. *Gayle v. Browder*, 352 U.S. 903 (1956).

Alabama statutes and Montgomery City ordinances which required segregation of "white" and "colored" races on motor buses in the City were violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

592. *Guss v. Utah Labor Bd.*, 353 U.S. 1 (1957).

By vesting in the NLRB jurisdiction over labor relations affecting interstate commerce, Congress has completely displaced state legislative power to deal with such matters. When the Board declines to exercise its jurisdiction and has not ceded jurisdiction to a state labor relations agency pursuant to §10(a) of the National Labor Relations Act, a state labor relations board, acting pursuant to state enactment, is precluded by the national supremacy clause from exercising jurisdiction over a labor dispute involving an employer engaged in interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Harlan, Brennan.

Justices Dissenting: Burton, Clark.

593. *Morey v. Doud*, 354 U.S. 457 (1957).

Illinois Community Currency Exchange Act exempted money orders of the American Express Company from the requirements that any firm selling or issuing money orders in the State must secure a license and submit to State regulation.

Application of the Act to appellees denies them the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment. Although the equal protection clause does not require that every state regulation apply to all in the same business, a statutory discrimination must be based on differences that are reasonably related to the purposes of the statute. The effect of the discrimination was to create a closed class by singling out American Express money orders for exemption and thereby to afford that company important economic and competitive advantages over the appellees.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Douglas, Burton, Clark, Brennan, Whittaker.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Frankfurter, Harlan.

594. *Public Util. Comm'n v. United States*, 355 U.S. 534 (1958).

A California statute making contingent upon prior approval by its Public Utilities Commission of the Federal Government's practice, sanctioned by federal law, of negotiating special rates with carriers for the transportation of federal property in California is unconstitutional by reason of conflict with the national supremacy clause.

Justices Concurring: Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Clark, Brennan, Whittaker.
Justices Dissenting: Warren, C.J., Burton, Harlan.

595. *Eskridge v. Washington Prison Bd.*, 357 U.S. 214 (1958).

A Washington state law authorizes furnishing a stenographic transcript of trial proceedings to an indigent defendant in conjunction with his appeal of a conviction whenever, in the trial judge's opinion, "justice thereby will be promoted." Denial of a free transcript to the defendant, sustained by the state appellate court, as well as refusal of a petition for *habeas corpus* based on such denial, deprived the defendant of rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Douglas, Clark, Black, Burton, Brennan.
Justices Dissenting: Harlan, Whittaker.

596. *Speiser v. Randall*, 357 U.S. 513 (1958).

The California statutory provisions exacting as a prerequisite for property tax exemption that applicants therefor swear that they do not advocate the forcible overthrow of federal or state governments or the support of a foreign government against the United States during hostilities are unconstitutional insofar as they are enforced by procedures placing upon the taxpayer the burden of proving that he is not guilty of advocating that which is forbidden. Such procedures deprive the taxpayer of freedom of speech without the procedural safeguards required by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Burton, Harlan, Brennan, Whittaker.
Justice Dissenting: Clark.

First Unitarian Church v. Los Angeles, 357 U.S. 545 (1958).

Solely because of their refusal to subscribe oaths that they do not advocate the forcible overthrow of government, or support of a foreign government against the United States during hostilities, petitioners were denied tax exemptions authorized by the California constitution and statutes. Enforcement of the oath requirement through statutory procedures which place upon taxpayers the burden of proving nonadvocacy violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Burton, Harlan, Brennan, Whittaker.
Justice Dissenting: Clark.

597. *Teamsters Union v. Oliver*, 358 U.S. 283 (1959).

An Ohio antitrust law cannot be invoked to prohibit enforcement of a collective bargaining agreement between a group of interstate motor carriers and local labor unions, which agreement stipulates that truck drivers owning and driving their own vehicles shall be paid the prescribed wages plus at least a prescribed minimum rental for the use of their vehicles. The state antitrust law, insofar as it is applied to prevent contracting parties from enforcing agreement upon a

subject matter as to which the National Labor Relations Act directs them to bargain, is invalid.

Justices Concurring: Black, Douglas, Clark, Harlan, Brennan.

Justice Dissenting: Whittaker.

598. *Bibb v. Navajo Freight Lines*, 359 U.S. 520 (1959).

Illinois statute which requires trucks and trailers operating on state highways to be equipped with specified type of rear fender mud-guard, which is different from those permitted in at least 45 other States, and which would seriously interfere with "interline operations" of motor carriers cannot validly be applied to interstate motor carriers certified by the Interstate Commerce Commission for the reason that interstate commerce is unreasonably burdened thereby.

Justices Concurring: Harlan (separately), Stewart (separately).

599. *San Diego Building Trades Council v. Garmon*, 359 U.S. 236 (1959).

The failure of the NLRB to assume jurisdiction does not leave California free to apply its laws defining torts and regulating labor relations for purposes of awarding damages to an employer for economic injuries resulting from the picketing of his plant by labor unions not selected by his employees as their bargaining agent. Since the employer is engaged in interstate commerce, California laws cannot be applied to matters falling within compass of the National Labor Relations Act.

Justices Concurring: Harlan, Clark, Whittaker, Stewart (separately).

600. *Accord: DeVries v. Baumgartner's Electric Co.*, 359 U.S. 498 (1959), as to a South Dakota law.

Justices Concurring: Frankfurter, Brennan, Warren, C.J., Black, Douglas.

Justices Dissenting: Clark, Harlan, Whittaker, Stewart.

601. *Accord: Superior Court v. Washington ex rel. Yellow Cab*, 361 U.S. 373 (1960), as to a Washington law.
602. *Accord: Bogle v. Jakes Foundry Co.*, 362 U.S. 401 (1960), as to a Tennessee law.
603. *Accord: McMahon v. Milam Mfg. Co.*, 368 U.S. 7 (1961), as to a Mississippi law.
604. *Accord: Marine Engineers v. Interlake Co.*, 370 U.S. 173 (1962), as to a Minnesota law.
605. *Accord: Waxman v. Virginia*, 371 U.S. 4 (1962), as to a Virginia law prohibiting picketing by non-employees.
606. *Accord: Construction Laborers v. Curry*, 371 U.S. 542 (1963), involving enjoinder of picketing as violative of Georgia right-to-work law.
Justice Concurring: Harlan (separately).
607. *Accord: Journeymen & Plumbers' Union v. Borden*, 373 U.S. 690 (1962), as to a Texas law.
Justices Concurring: Harlan, Warren, C.J., Brennan, Black, Stewart, White.
Justices Dissenting: Douglas, Clark.
608. *Accord: Iron Workers v. Perko*, 373 U.S. 701 (1963), as to an Ohio law.
Justices Concurring: Harlan, Warren, C.J., White, Brennan, Stewart, Black.
Justices Dissenting: Douglas, Clark.
609. *State Athletic Comm'n v. Dorsey*, 359 U.S. 533 (1959).
Louisiana statute prohibiting athletic contests between Negroes and white persons was violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
610. *Kingsley Pictures Corp. v. Regents*, 360 U.S. 684 (1959).
As construed and applied, the New York Education Law which requires denial of a license to show a motion picture "presenting adultery as being right and desirable for certain people under certain circumstances" is unconstitutional. Refusal thereunder of a license to show a motion picture found to portray adultery alluringly as proper behavior violates the freedom to advocate ideas guaranteed by the First Amendment and protected by the Fourteenth Amendment from infringement by the States.
Justices Concurring: Black (separately), Frankfurter (separately), Douglas (separately), Clark (separately), Harlan (separately).
611. *Faubus v. Aaron*, 361 U.S. 197 (1959).
Arkansas statutes which empowered the Governor to close the public schools and to hold an election as to whether or not the schools were to be integrated as well as to withhold public moneys, hitherto

allocated to such schools, on the occasion of their closing and to make such funds available to other public schools or nonprofit private schools to which pupils from a closed school might transfer were violative of the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.

612. *Phillips Co. v. Dumas School Dist.*, 361 U.S. 376 (1960).

As applied to the United States and its lessee, a Texas statute which levied a tax on any portion of federally owned land and improvements used and occupied by a firm in its private capacity or in the conduct of a business enterprise discriminated against the Federal Government unconstitutionally contrary to Art. VI, cl. 2. This discrimination resulted from the fact that art. 7173 of the Texas Revised Civil Statutes imposed a distinctly lesser burden on similarly situated lessees of exempt property owned by Texas and its subdivisions. Under art. 7173 the measure of the tax was not the full value of the leased premises, as under art. 5248, but only the price the taxable leasehold would bring at a sale. Also, art. 7153 imposed no tax on a lessee whose lease is for a term of less than three years. In addition, under art. 7173, a lease for three years or longer, but subject, as was the appellant's lease with the United States, to terminate at the lessor's option, was not a lease for a term of three years or more.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Clark, Black, Douglas, Stewart, Warren, C.J., Whittaker, Harlan, Frankfurter (separately).

613. *Rohr Aircraft Corp. v. San Diego County*, 362 U.S. 628 (1960).

Property taxes assessed under California law could not be levied on real estate owned by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation after the latter had declared the property to be surplus and surrendered it to the War Assets Administration for disposal; this exemption arose even before execution of a quitclaim deed transferring title from the RFC to the United States and even though a property had been leased to a private lessee in the name of both the RFC and the United States.

Justices Concurring: Clark, Warren, C.J., Harlan, Stewart, Frankfurter, Brennan, Whittaker.

Justices Dissenting: Douglas, Black.

614. *Gomillion v. Lightfoot*, 364 U.S. 339 (1960).

Alabama statute which altered the boundaries of the City of Tuskegee in such manner as to eliminate all but four or five of its 400 African American voters without eliminating any white voter was violative of the Fifteenth Amendment.

Justice Concurring: Whittaker (separately).

615. *Boynton v. Virginia*, 364 U.S. 454 (1960).

Virginia statute making it a misdemeanor for any person to remain on premises of another after having been forbidden to do so could not be enforced against a Negro for refusing to leave the section reserved for white people in a restaurant in a bus terminal by reason of conflict with provision of Interstate Commerce Act forbidding interstate motor vehicle bus carriers from subjecting persons to unjust discrimination.

Justices Concurring: Black, Douglas, Warren, C.J., Brennan, Stewart, Frankfurter, Harlan.

Justices Dissenting: Whittaker, Clark.

616. *Shelton v. Tucker*, 364 U.S. 479 (1960).

Arkansas statute which required every school teacher, as a condition of employment in state-supported schools and colleges, to file an affidavit listing every organization to which he had belonged or contributed within the preceding five years deprived teachers of associational freedom guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Warren, C.J., Brennan, Douglas, Black.

Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Clark, Harlan, Whittaker.

617. *Bush v. Orleans Parish School Bd.*, 364 U.S. 500 (1961).

Louisiana interposition statute which averred that the decision in the school segregation case (*Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954)) constituted usurpation of state power and which interposed the sovereignty of the State against enforcement of that decision did not assert "a constitutional doctrine," and if taken seriously, it is legal defiance of constitutional authority.

618. *Orleans Parish School Bd. v. Bush*, 365 U.S. 569 (1961).

Louisiana statutes which (1) provided for segregation of races in public schools and the withholding of funds from integrated schools; (2) conferred on the Governor the right to close all schools upon the integration of any one of them; and (3) directed the Governor to supersede a school board under a court order to desegregate and take over management of public schools were unconstitutional and denial of equal protection of the laws.

619. *Ferguson v. Georgia*, 365 U.S. 570 (1961).

When, by reason of a Georgia law which granted defendant in a criminal trial the right to make an unsworn statement to the jury without subjecting himself to cross-examination, defendant's counsel was denied the right to ask him any question when he took the stand to make his unsworn statement, such application of the Georgia law deprived the defendant of the effective assistance of counsel without due process of law.

Justices Concurring: Frankfurter (separately), Clark (separately).

620. *Louisiana v. NAACP ex rel. Gremillion*, 366 U.S. 293 (1961).

Louisiana statute which prohibited any “non-trading” association from doing business in Louisiana if it is affiliated with any “foreign or out of state non-trading” association, any of the officers or directors of which are members of subversive organizations as cited by a House committee or by the United States Attorney General, and which required every non-trading association with an out of state affiliate to file annually an affidavit that none of the officers of the affiliate is a member of such organizations was void for vagueness and violative of due process.

Justices Concurring: Harlan (separately), Stewart (separately), Frankfurter (separately), Clark (separately).

621. *United States v. Oregon*, 366 U.S. 643 (1961).

Oregon escheat law could not be applied to support claim of State to property of a resident who died without a will or heirs in a Veterans’ Hospital in Oregon; the United States has asserted title thereto under a superseding federal law.

Justices Concurring: Black, Warren, C.J., Brennan, Stewart, Frankfurter, Harlan, Clark.

Justices Dissenting: Douglas, Whittaker.

622. *United States v. Shimer*, 367 U.S. 374 (1961).

Pennsylvania Deficiency Judgment Act had been displaced by applicable provisions of the Federal Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944, and regulations issued thereunder, and could not be invoked to bar suit by the Veterans’ Administration against a veteran to recover the indemnity for a defaulted home loan which it had guaranteed and which had been foreclosed by the lender.

Justices Concurring: Harlan, Brennan, Stewart, Warren, C.J., Clark, Whitaker, Frankfurter.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas.

623. *Torcaso v. Watkins*, 367 U.S. 488 (1961).

Maryland constitutional provision under which an appointed notary public who would not declare his belief in God was denied his commission imposed an invalid test for public office violative of freedom of belief and religion as guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Frankfurter (separately), Harlan (separately).

624. *Marcus v. Search Warrant*, 367 U.S. 717 (1961).

Missouri statutory procedure which enabled a city police officer, in an ex parte proceeding, to obtain from a trial judge search warrants authorizing seizure of all “obscene” material possessed by

wholesale and retail distributors without granting the latter a hearing or even seeing any of such materials in question and without specifying any particular publications, sanctioned search and seizure tactics violative of due process.

Justices Concurring: Black (separately), Douglas (separately).

625. *Tugwell v. Bush*, 367 U.S. 907 (1961).

Louisiana statute which punished the giving to or acceptance by any parent of anything of value as an inducement to sending his child to a school operated in violation of Louisiana law was void for vagueness and was designed to scuttle a desegregation program.

626. *Legislature of Louisiana v. United States*, 367 U.S. 908 (1961).

Louisiana statutes which purported to remove New Orleans school board and replace it with a new group appointed by the legislature, which deprived the board of its attorney and substituted the Louisiana Attorney General, and a resolution addressing out of office the school superintendent chosen by the board, were unconstitutional and violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

627. *Federal Land Bank v. Kiowa County*, 368 U.S. 146 (1961).

Kansas statute which declared that oil and gas leases and the royalties derived therefrom were taxable as personal property could not be applied so as to subject to local taxation an oil and gas lease and income therefrom derived by a Federal Land Bank from property acquired in satisfaction of a debt; under supervening federal law such Land Banks were exempted from all "except taxes on real estate."

Justice Concurring: Black (separately).

628. *Cramp v. Board of Pub. Instruction*, 368 U.S. 278 (1961).

Florida statute which required state and local public employees to swear that they had never lent their "aid, support, advice, counsel, or influence to the Communist Party," and which subjected them to discharge for refusal was void for vagueness and violative of due process.

Justices Concurring: Black (separately), Douglas (separately).

629. *United States v. Union Central Life Ins. Co.*, 368 U.S. 291 (1961).

Michigan law regulating the manner in which a federal tax lien must be recorded was in conflict with applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and therefore was ineffective for purposes of withholding priority to the Government's lien.

Justices Concurring: Black, Frankfurter, Brennan, Warren, C.J., Clark, Stewart, Whittaker, Harlan.

Justice Dissenting: Douglas.

630. *Campbell v. Hussey*, 368 U.S. 297 (1961).

Congress having preempted the field by enactment of the Federal Tobacco Inspection Act pertaining to the establishment of uniform standards for classification of tobacco, a Georgia law which required Type 14 tobacco grown in Georgia to be identified with a white tag could not be enforced.

Justices Concurring: Douglas, Whittaker (separately), Warren, C.J., Brennan, Stewart, Clark.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Frankfurter, Harlan.

631. *St. Helena Parish School Bd. v. Hall*, 368 U.S. 515 (1962).

Louisiana statute which authorized the school board of a municipally operated school system to close the schools upon a vote of the electors and which provided that the board might then lease or sell any school building, but which subjected to extensive state control and financial aid the private schools which might acquire such buildings was violative of the equal protection of the laws in that it was intended to continue segregation in schools.

632. *Bailey v. Patterson*, 369 U.S. 31 (1962).

Mississippi statutes which required racial segregation at interstate and intrastate transportation facilities denied equal protection of the law.

633. *Turner v. City of Memphis*, 369 U.S. 350 (1962).

Tennessee statute, and administrative regulation issued under the authority thereof, insofar as they sanctioned racial segregation in a private restaurant operated on premises leased from a city at its municipal airport denied equal protection of the law.

634. *Free v. Bland*, 369 U.S. 663 (1962).

By virtue of the supremacy clause of the Constitution, Treasury regulations creating a right of survivorship in United States Savings Bonds preempted application of any conflicting provisions of Texas Community Property Law which prohibited a married couple from taking advantage of such survivorship regulations whenever the purchase price of said bonds was paid out of community property.

635. *State Bd. of Ins. v. Todd Shipyards*, 370 U.S. 451 (1962).

Texas law imposing a premium tax on insured parties who purchased insurance from insurers not licensed to sell insurance in Texas could not be collected, consistently with the Federal McCarran-Ferguson Act, on insurance contracts purchased in New York from a London insurer by the terms of which premiums thereon and claims thereunder were payable in New York.

Justices Concurring: Douglas, Brennan, Warren, C.J., Stewart, Harlan, Clark.
Justice Dissenting: Black.

636. *Central R.R. v. Pennsylvania*, 370 U.S. 607 (1962).

Pennsylvania law which levied a capital stock tax, in the nature of a property tax, could not be collected on that portion of a railroad's cars (158 out of 3074) which represented the daily average of its cars located on a New Jersey railroad's lines during a taxable year; as to the latter portion of its cars the tax was violative of the commerce clause and the due process clause.

Justice Concurring: Black (separately).

637. *Robinson v. California*, 370 U.S. 660 (1962).

California statute which, as construed, made the "status" of narcotics addiction a criminal offense, even though the accused had never used narcotics in California and had not been guilty of antisocial behavior in California, was void as inflicting cruel and unjust punishment proscribed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Warren, C.J., Brennan, Douglas (separately), Harlan (separately), Black.

Justices Dissenting: Clark, White.

638. *Lassiter v. United States*, 371 U.S. 10 (1962).

Louisiana laws which segregated passengers in terminal facilities of common carriers were unconstitutional by reason of conflict with federal law and the equal protection clause.

639. *United States v. Buffalo Savings Bank*, 371 U.S. 228 (1963).

New York law which provided that payments out of proceeds of a foreclosure of property to discharge state tax liens should be deemed "expenses" of the mortgage foreclosure sale was ineffective to defeat priority accorded by federal law to federal tax liens antedating liens for state and local real property taxes and assessments.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Brennan, Stewart, Goldberg, Harlan, Clark, White.

Justice Dissenting: Douglas.

640. *Paul v. United States*, 371 U.S. 245 (1963).

California statute which authorized the fixing of minimum wholesale and retail prices for milk could not be enforced as to purchases of milk for strictly military consumption (mess-hall) or for resale at commissaries at federal military installations in California; conflicting federal statutes and regulations governing procurement with appropriated funds of goods for the Armed Forces required competitive bidding or negotiation reflecting active competition which would be nullified by minimum prices determined by factors not specified in federal law.

Justices Concurring: Douglas, Black, Warren, C.J., White, Brennan, Clark.

Justices Dissenting: Stewart, Harlan, Goldberg.

641. *NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415 (1963).

Virginia law which expanded malpractice by attorneys to include acceptance of employment or compensation from any person or organization not a party to a judicial proceeding and having no pecuniary right or liability in it and which made it an offense for such person or organization to solicit business for an attorney was violative of freedom of expression and association, as guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment when enforced against a corporation, including its attorneys and litigants, whose major purpose is the elimination of racial segregation through litigation which it solicits, institutes, and finances.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Warren, C.J., Goldberg, Douglas (separately), Black.

Justices Dissenting: White (in part), Harlan, Clark, Stewart.

642. *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335 (1963).

Florida statutory provision which did not accord indigent defendants the protection of court appointed counsel in noncapital felony offenses deprived such defendants of due process of law.

Justices Concurring: Douglas (separately), Clark (separately), Harlan (separately).

643. *Gray v. Sanders*, 372 U.S. 368 (1963).

Georgia county unit system for nominating candidates in primaries for state-wide offices, including United States Senators, as set forth in statutory provisions, violated the principle of "one-person, one vote" as required by the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Douglas, Stewart (separately), Clark (separately), Warren, C.J., Brennan, White, Goldberg, Black.

Justice Dissenting: Harlan.

644. *Lane v. Brown*, 372 U.S. 477 (1963).

Indiana Public Defender Act, insofar as it empowered the Public Defender to refuse to perfect an appeal for an indigent defendant whenever the former believed such an appeal would be unsuccessful and which, independently of such intervention by the Defender, afforded such defendant no alternative means of obtaining a transcript of a coram nobis hearing requisite to perfect an appeal from a trial court's denial of a writ of error *coram nobis*, effected a discriminatory denial of a privilege available as of right to a defendant with the requisite funds and was violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Harlan (separately), Clark (separately).

645. *Michigan Nat'l Bank v. Robertson*, 372 U.S. 591 (1963).

Suability of an out-of-state national bank in courts of Nebraska is determined by applicable provisions of the federal banking laws and not by recourse to Nebraska statute defining the venue of local actions involving liability under the Nebraska Installment Loan Act.

Justices Concurring: Black (separately), Douglas (separately).

646. Accord: *Mercantile Nat'l Bank v. Langdeau*, 371 U.S. 555 (1963), as to venue in Texas.

Justices Concurring: White, Stewart, Brennan, Warren, C.J., Goldberg.
Justices Dissenting: Harlan, Douglas, Black.

647. *Halliburton Oil Well Co. v. Reily*, 373 U.S. 64 (1963).

Louisiana use tax, as herein enforced, effected an invalid discrimination against interstate commerce in that the isolated purchase of an item of used equipment in Louisiana was not subject to its sales tax whereas an Oklahoma contractor was subjected to the Louisiana use tax on an item of used equipment employed in servicing wells in Louisiana which had been acquired in Oklahoma; and further that the Louisiana sales or use tax was computed on the cost of components purchased in Louisiana or purchased out of state for assembly and use in Louisiana whereas here the contractor paid a use tax on equipment assembled in Oklahoma which reflected not only the purchase price of the components but also the cost of labor and shop overhead incurred in assembling the components into a usable item of equipment.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Douglas, Goldberg, Stewart, White, Harlan, Brennan (separately).
Justices Dissenting: Clark, Black.

648. *Willner v. Committee on Character*, 373 U.S. 96 (1963).

New York statutory procedure governing admission to practice law, insofar as it failed to make provision, in cases of denial of admission, for a hearing on the grounds for rejection to be accorded the applicant, either before the Committee on Character on Fitness established by the Appellate Division of its Supreme Court, or before the Appellate Division itself was defective and amounted to a denial of due process.

Justices Concurring: Douglas, Black, White, Warren, C.J., Goldberg, Brennan, Stewart (separately).
Justices Dissenting: Harlan, Clark.

649. *Peterson v. City of Greenville*, 373 U.S. 244 (1963).

When a city ordinance required separation of the races in restaurants, South Carolina trespass statute, when enforced against African Americans who refused to leave a lunch counter in a retail store, amounted to a denial of equal protection of the laws.

Justice Concurring: Harlan (separately).

650. *Accord: Gober v. City of Birmingham*, 373 U.S. 374 (1963), as to an Alabama law on trespass.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Douglas, Goldberg, White, Clark, Brennan, Stewart.

Justice Dissenting: Harlan.

651. *Lombard v. Louisiana*, 373 U.S. 267 (1963).

When local community policy, as administered by municipal law enforcement officers, proscribed "sit-in demonstrations" protesting refusal of store proprietors to serve African Americans at lunch counters reserved for white patrons, the Louisiana Criminal Mischief Statute could not be invoked, without violation of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, to punish African Americans who engaged in such demonstrations.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Douglas (separately), Black, Brennan, White, Stewart, Goldberg, Clark.

Justice Dissenting: Harlan.

652. *Wright v. Georgia*, 373 U.S. 284 (1963).

Georgia unlawful assemblies act which rendered persons open to conviction for a breach of the peace upon their refusal to disperse upon command of police officers was void for vagueness and violative of due process in that it did not give adequate warning to African Americans that peaceable playing of basketball in a municipal park would expose them to prosecution for violation of said statute.

Justice Concurring: Harlan (separately).

653. *Sperry v. Florida ex rel. Florida Bar*, 373 U.S. 379 (1963).

Florida law regulating admission to the Bar could not be enforced, consistently with the principle of national supremacy, to prevent one, admitted to practice before the United States Patent Office as a Patent Attorney, from serving clients in the latter capacity in Florida.

654. *Bus Employees v. Missouri*, 374 U.S. 74 (1963).

Missouri King-Thompson Act, which authorized the governor to seize and operate a public utility when the public welfare was jeopardized by a strike threat, was violative of 29 U.S.C. § 157 of the National Labor Relations Act defining the rights of employees as to collective bargaining and, consistently with national supremacy, could not be enforced.

655. *Abington School Dist. v. Schempp*, 374 U.S. 203 (1963).

Pennsylvania law which required the reading, without comment, of verses from the Holy Bible at the opening of each public school day was violative of the prohibition against the enactment of any law re-

specting an establishment of religion as embraced within the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Clark, Douglas (separately), Brennan (separately), Goldberg (separately), Harlan (concurs with latter), Warren, C.J., White, Black.
Justice Dissenting: Stewart.

656. *Sherbert v. Verner*, 374 U.S. 398 (1963).

South Carolina Unemployment Compensation Act, which withheld benefits and deemed ineligible for the receipt thereof a person who has failed without good cause to accept available work when offered to him, if construed as barring a Seventh-Day Adventist from relief because of religious scruples against working on Saturday, abridged the latter's right to the free exercise of religion contrary to the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Clark, Warren, C.J., Goldberg, Black, Douglas, Stewart (separately).
Justices Dissenting: Harlan, White.

657. *Polar Ice Cream & Creamery Co. v. Andrews*, 375 U.S. 361 (1964).

Florida statute and regulations implementing it which required milk distributor to purchase its total supply of fluid milk from area producers at a fixed price and to take all milk which these producers offered was invalid under the commerce clause since they interfered with distributor's purchases of milk from out-of-state producers.

658. *Anderson v. Martin*, 375 U.S. 399 (1964).

Louisiana statute requiring that in all primary, general, or special elections, the nomination papers and ballots shall designate the race of the candidates violated the equal protection clause.

659. *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1 (1964).

Georgia statute establishing congressional districts of grossly unequal populations violates Article I, § 2, of the Constitution.

Concurring: Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, White, Goldberg, and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring in part and dissenting in part: Justice Clark.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Stewart.

660. *Accord: Martin v. Bush*, 376 U.S. 222 (1964).

Texas statute establishing congressional districts of grossly unequal populations unconstitutional on authority of *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1 (1964).

Same division of Justices as in *Wesberry*.

661. *City of New Orleans v. Barthe*, 376 U.S. 189 (1964).

District court decision holding unconstitutional Louisiana statute requiring segregation of races in public facilities is affirmed.

662. *Sears, Roebuck & Co. v. Stiffel Co.*, 376 U.S. 225 (1964).

Illinois unfair competition law cannot be applied to bar or penalize the copying of a product which does not qualify for a federal patent inasmuch as this use of the state law conflicts with the exclusive power of the Federal Government to grant patents only to true inventions and then only for a limited time.

663. *Baggett v. Bullitt*, 377 U.S. 360 (1964).

Washington statutes requiring state employees to swear that they are not subversive persons and requiring teachers to swear to promote by precept and example respect for flag and institutions of United States and Washington, reverence for law and order, and undivided allegiance to Federal Government are void for vagueness.

Concurring: Justices White, Black, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Goldberg, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Clark and Harlan.

664. *Hostetter v. Idlewild Bon Voyage Liquor Corp.*, 377 U.S. 324 (1964).

New York law regulating sale of alcoholic beverages could not constitutionally be applied to dealer who sold bottled wines and liquors to departing international airline travelers at JFK airport in New York.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Douglas, Clark, White, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Black and Goldberg.

665. *Accord: Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control v. Ammex Warehouse Co.*, 378 U.S. 124 (1964).

State court voiding of state law affirmed on authority of *Hostetter*.

Same division of Justices.

666. *Department of Revenue v. James B. Beam Distilling Co.*, 377 U.S. 341 (1964).

Kentucky statute providing for a tax of ten cents per gallon on the importation of whiskey into the State, which was collected while the whiskey was in unbroken packages in importer's possession was unconstitutionally applied to the importer of Scotch whiskey from abroad under Art. I, § 10, cl. 2.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Douglas, Clark, White, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Black and Goldberg.

667. *Chamberlin v. Dade County Bd. of Public Instruction*, 377 U.S. 402 (1964).

Florida statute providing for prayer and devotional reading in public schools is unconstitutional.

668. *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533 (1964).

Alabama constitutional and statutory provisions which do not apportion seats in both houses of legislature on a population basis violated the equal protection clause.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Goldberg, and White.

Concurring specially: Justices Clark and Stewart.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

669. *Accord: WMCA, Inc. v. Lomenzo*, 377 U.S. 633 (1964).

New York constitutional and statutory provisions which do not apportion seats in both houses of legislature on population basis is unconstitutional.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Goldberg, and White.

Concurring specially: Justice Clark.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Stewart.

670. *Accord: Maryland Comm. for Fair Representation v. Tawes*, 377 U.S. 656 (1964).

Division of Justices as in 669.

671. *Accord: Davis v. Mann*, 377 U.S. 678 (1964). Virginia.

Division of Justices as in 669.

672. *Accord: Roman v. Sincock*, 377 U.S. 695 (1964). Delaware.

Division of Justices as in 669, except Justice Stewart concurring specially.

673. *Accord: Lucas v. Forty-Fourth General Assembly of Colorado*, 377 U.S. 713 (1964).

Apportionment formula written into state constitution invalid under equal protection clause even though approved by electorate in referendum.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Goldberg, and White.

Dissenting: Justices Clark, Harlan, and Stewart.

674. *Accord: Meyers v. Thigpen*, 378 U.S. 554 (1964). Washington Legislature.

Division of Justices as in 669, except Justice Stewart favored limited remand.

675. *Accord: Williams v. Moss*, 378 U.S. 558 (1964). Oklahoma Legislature.

Division of Justices as in 668.

676. *Accord: Pinney v. Butterworth*, 378 U.S. 564 (1964). Connecticut Legislature.

Division of Justices as in 668.

677. *Accord: Hill v. Davis*, 378 U.S. 565 (1964). Iowa Legislature.

Division of Justices as in 668.

678. *A Quantity of Copies of Books v. Kansas*, 378 U.S. 205 (1964).

Statute authorizing issuance of *ex parte* warrant for seizure of allegedly obscene materials prior to a hearing on the issue of obscenity is invalid under First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Concurring: Justices Brennan, White, and Goldberg, and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justices Black and Douglas; Stewart.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Clark.

679. *Tancil v. Woolls* and *Virginia Bd. of Elections v. Hamm*, 379 U.S. 19 (1964).

District court decisions holding unconstitutional Virginia statutes requiring notation of race in divorce decrees and separation by race of names on registration, poll tax, and residence certificate lists, and on assessment rolls are affirmed.

680. *Garrison v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 64 (1964).

Criminal Defamation Statute is unconstitutional as applied to criticism of official conduct of public officials because it incorporates standards of malice and truthfulness at variance with *New York Times v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254 (1964).

681. *McLaughlin v. Florida*, 379 U.S. 184 (1964)

Criminal statute prohibiting an unmarried interracial couple from habitually living in and occupying the same room in the nighttime violates equal protection clause.

682. *Stanford v. Texas*, 379 U.S. 476 (1965).

Section of law providing for suppression of Communist Party which authorizes issuance of search warrants for subversive books and other materials is constitutionally defective because it does not require a description with particularity of the things to be seized.

683. *Cox v. Louisiana*, 379 U.S. 536 (1965).

Breach of the peace statute is unconstitutionally vague.

684. *Freedman v. Maryland*, 380 U.S. 51 (1965).

Censorship statute requiring prior submission of films for review is invalid in absence of procedural safeguards eliminating dangers of censorship.

685. *Carrington v. Rash*, 380 U.S. 89 (1965).

Texas constitutional provision prohibiting any member of Armed Forces who moves into the State from ever voting in Texas while a member of the Armed Forces violates the equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Black, Douglas, Clark, Brennan, White, and Goldberg.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

686. *Louisiana v. United States*, 380 U.S. 145 (1965).

Constitutional and statutory provisions requiring prospective voters to satisfy registrars of their ability to understand and give reasonable interpretation of any section of United States or Louisiana Constitutions violate Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments.

687. *Reserve Life Ins. Co. v. Bowers*, 380 U.S. 258 (1965).

Ohio statute imposing personal property tax upon furniture and fixtures used by foreign insurance company in doing business in Ohio but not imposing similar tax upon furniture and fixtures used by domestic insurance companies violates equal protection clause.

688. *American Oil Co. v. Neill*, 380 U.S. 451 (1965).

Idaho tax statute applied to levy an excise tax on licensed Idaho motor fuel dealer's sale and transfer of gasoline in Utah for importation into Idaho by purchaser violated due process clause of Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices, Douglas, Clark, Harlan, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Goldberg.

Dissenting: Justice Black.

689. *Dombrowski v. Pfister*, 380 U.S. 479 (1965).

Louisiana Subversive Activities and Communist Control Law is unconstitutional because of overbreadth of its coverage, violating First Amendment, and because of its lack of procedural due process.

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, White, and Goldberg, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Clark.

690. *Harman v. Forssenius*, 380 U.S. 528 (1965).

Virginia statute requiring voters in federal election who do not qualify by paying poll tax to file a certificate of residence six months in advance of election is contrary to Twenty-fourth Amendment which absolutely abolished payment of poll tax as a qualification for voting in federal elections.

691. *Corbett v. Stergios*, 381 U.S. 124 (1965).

Iowa reciprocal inheritance law conditioning right of nonresident aliens to take Iowa real property by intestate succession upon existence of reciprocal right to United States citizens to take real property upon same terms and conditions in alien's country could not under United States-Greece treaty and supremacy clause bar Greek national from taking.

692. *Jordan v. Silver*, 381 U.S. 415 (1965).

District court decision holding unconstitutional California constitutional provisions on apportionment of state senate is affirmed.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, White, and Goldberg.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Clark, and Stewart.

693. *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 381 U.S. 479 (1965).

Statute making it a crime for any person to use any drug or article to prevent conception is unconstitutional invasion of privacy of married couples.

Concurring: Justices Douglas and Clark.

Concurring specially: Justices Goldberg, Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren; Justice Harlan, Justice White.

Dissenting: Justices Black and Stewart.

694. *Giaccio v. Pennsylvania*, 382 U.S. 399 (1966).

Statute permitting jurors to determine whether an acquitted defendant should pay the costs of the trial was void under the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment because of vagueness and the absence of any standard that would prevent arbitrary imposition of costs.

695. *Baxstrom v. Herold*, 383 U.S. 107 (1966).

New York statutory procedure for civil commitment of persons at the expiration of a prison sentence without the jury review available to all others civilly committed in New York and for commitment to an institution maintained by the Department of Correction beyond the expiration of their terms without a judicial determination of dangerous mental illness such as that afforded to all others violates the equal protection clause.

696. *Harper v. Virginia Bd. of Elections*, 383 U.S. 663 (1966).

Constitutional provisions making payment of poll taxes a qualification of eligibility to vote violate equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Clark, Brennan, White, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Black, Harlan, and Stewart.

697. *Accord: Texas v. United States*, 384 U.S. 155 (1966).

698. *Elfbrandt v. Russell*, 384 U.S. 11 (1966).

Arizona loyalty oath is unconstitutionally overbroad and inclusive.

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Black, Brennan, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices White, Clark, Harlan, and Stewart.

699. *Mills v. Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214 (1966).

Statute making it a criminal offense to electioneer or solicit votes on election day as applied to newspaper editor who published editorial on election day urging people to vote a certain way on a referendum issue violated First and Fourteenth Amendments.

700. *Rinaldi v. Yeager*, 384 U.S. 305 (1966).

Statute requiring an unsuccessful appellant to repay the cost of a transcript used in preparing his appeal out of his institutional earning when he is jailed but which does not apply to unsuccessful appellants given suspended sentences, placed on probation, or fined violates equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Black, Douglas, Brennan, Clark, White, Fortas and Chief Justice Warren.
Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

701. *Alton v. Tawes*, 384 U.S. 315 (1966).

District court decision holding unconstitutional congressional districting is affirmed.

702. *Carr v. City of Altus*, 385 U.S. 35 (1966).

District court decision holding unconstitutional Texas statute forbidding anyone to withdraw water from any underground sources in State without authorization of legislature on a commerce clause basis is affirmed.

703. *Swann v. Adams*, 385 U.S. 440 (1967).

Florida statute apportioning legislative seats falls short of required population equality.

Concurring: Justices White, Black, Douglas, Clark, Brennan, Fortas and Chief Justice Warren.
Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Stewart.

704. *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*, 385 U.S. 450 (1967).

Missouri congressional districts fail to achieve required population equality.

705. *Short v. Ness Produce Co.*, 385 U.S. 537 (1967).

District court decision holding unconstitutional as violating commerce clause Oregon statute requiring sellers of imported meat to label it with country of origin, post notices in their establishment that it is being sold, and keep record of transactions involving it is affirmed.

706. *Keyishian v. Board of Regents*, 385 U.S. 589 (1967).

New York statute requiring removal of teachers for "treasonable or seditious" utterances or acts is unconstitutionally vague since it apparently bans mere advocacy of abstract doctrine, and statute which

makes Communist Party membership prima facie evidence of disqualification for teaching in public schools is unconstitutionally broad.

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Black, Douglas, Fortas and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Clark, Harlan, Stewart, and White.

707. *National Bellas Hess, Inc. v. Department of Revenue*, 386 U.S. 753 (1967).

Commerce clause forbids application of use tax statute to a seller whose only connection with customers in the State is by common carrier or by mail.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Brennan, Harlan, Clark, White, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Fortas, Black, and Douglas.

708. *Holding v. Blankenship*, 387 U.S. 94 (1967).

Oklahoma obscenity statute empowering commission to investigate and to recommend prosecutions of offending parties is unconstitutional on authority of *Bantam Books v. Sullivan*, 372 U.S. 58 (1963).

709. *Reitman v. Mulkey*, 387 U.S. 369 (1967).

California constitutional provision adopted on referendum repealing "open housing" law and prohibiting state abridgement of realty owner's right to sell and lease, or to refuse to sell and lease, as he pleases violates the equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices White, Douglas, Brennan, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Black, Clark, and Stewart.

710. *Berger v. New York*, 388 U.S. 41 (1967).

Eavesdrop statute that does not require particularity with respect to crime suspected and conversations sought, sufficiently limit period of order's effectiveness, terminate order once desired conversation is overheard, or require notice or showing of exigent circumstances to justify dispensing with notice, violates Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments.

Concurring: Justices Clark, Douglas, Brennan, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Black, Harlan, and White.

711. *Loving v. Virginia*, 388 U.S. 1 (1967).

Statute prohibiting interracial marriage violates equal protection clause.

712. *Washington v. Texas*, 388 U.S. 14 (1967).

Statute prohibiting persons charged as co-participants in the same crime from testifying for one another violated Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments.

713. *Whitehill v. Elkins*, 389 U.S. 54 (1967).

Maryland loyalty oath is unconstitutionally vague when read with surrounding authorization and supplementary statutes which infringe on rights of association.

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Black, Brennan, Fortas, Marshall, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Stewart, and White.

714. *Lucas v. Rhodes*, 389 U.S. 212 (1967).

Ohio congressional districting statute does not comport with *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1 (1964).

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, White, and Fortas.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Stewart.

715. *Nash v. Florida Industrial Comm'n*, 389 U.S. 235 (1967).

Unemployment compensation law disqualifying for benefits any person unemployed as a result of a labor dispute when applied to disqualify a person who has filed an unfair labor practice charge against her employer because of her discharge conflicts with federal labor law and is void under supremacy clause.

716. *Rockefeller v. Wells*, 389 U.S. 421 (1967).

District court decision holding unconstitutional New York's congressional districting statute is affirmed.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, Fortas, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

717. *Zschernig v. Miller*, 389 U.S. 429 (1968).

Oregon statute which barred alien from taking personal property intestate unless American citizens had reciprocal rights with alien's country, unless American citizens had right to receive payment within United States from estates of decedents dying in that foreign country, and unless Oregon courts were presented proof that alien heir would receive benefit, use, and control of inheritance without confiscation, was void as an intrusion by State into field of foreign affairs reserved to Federal Government.

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Black, Brennan, Stewart, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justice Harlan.

Dissenting: Justice White.

718. *Dinis v. Volpe*, 389 U.S. 570 (1968).
District court decision holding Massachusetts congressional districting statute unconstitutional is affirmed.
719. *Louisiana Financial Assistance Comm'n v. Poindexter*, 389 U.S. 571 (1968).
District court decision holding unconstitutional tuition grant statute authorizing payments to children attending private schools as part of an anti-desegregation program is affirmed.
720. *Kirk v. Gong*, 389 U.S. 574 (1968).
District court decision holding unconstitutional Florida congressional districting statute is affirmed.
721. *James v. Gilmore*, 389 U.S. 572 (1968).
District court decision holding unconstitutional Texas loyalty oath statute is affirmed.
722. *Lee v. Washington*, 390 U.S. 333 (1968).
Alabama statutes requiring racial segregation in prisons and jails violate equal protection clause.
723. *Scafati v. Greenfield*, 390 U.S. 713 (1968).
District court decision holding unconstitutional as applied to a prisoner who had been sentenced prior to enactment of statute but paroled after its enactment a statute which forbade a prisoner from earning good conduct deductions for the first six months after his reincarceration following violation of parole is affirmed.
724. *Levy v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 68 (1968).
Wrongful death statute creating right of action in surviving child or children as interpreted to mean only legitimate child or children denies illegitimate children equal protection of the laws.
Concurring: Justices Douglas, Brennan, White, Fortas, Marshall, and Chief Justice Warren.
Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Black, and Stewart.
725. *Accord: Glona v. American Guar. & Liab. Ins. Co.*, 391 U.S. 73 (1968).
726. *Rabeck v. New York*, 391 U.S. 462 (1968).
Provision of obscenity law is unconstitutionally vague.
Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, Fortas, and Marshall.
Dissenting: Justice Harlan.
727. *Witherspoon v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 510 (1968).
Statute, itself no longer in code but held to be incorporated in general juror challenge statute, which authorizes automatic challenge for cause of any potential juror scrupled against capital punishment in capital cases is invalid.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Brennan, Fortas, Marshall and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justice Douglas.

Dissenting: Justices Black, Harlan, and White.

728. *Williams v. Rhodes*, 393 U.S. 23 (1968).

Series of Ohio election statutes which imposed insurmountable obstacles to success of independent parties and candidates obtaining a place on the ballot violate the equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, Fortas, and Marshall.

Concurring specially: Justice Harlan.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Stewart and White.

729. *Louisiana Educ. Comm'n for Needy Children v. Poindexter*, 393 U.S. 17 (1968).

District court decision holding unconstitutional tuition grant statute as part of antidesegregation program is affirmed.

730. *Epperson v. Arkansas*, 393 U.S. 97 (1968).

Statute prohibiting the teaching of evolution in public schools of State violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

731. *WHYY, Inc. v. Borough of Glassboro*, 393 U.S. 117 (1968).

New Jersey statute providing for exemption from property taxes only of those nonprofit corporations chartered in New Jersey denies equal protection to Pennsylvania corporation qualified to do business in New Jersey.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Douglas, Harlan, Brennan, Stewart, White, Fortas, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justice Black.

732. *South Carolina State Bd. of Educ. v. Brown*, 393 U.S. 222 (1968).

District court decision holding unconstitutional statute providing for scholarship grants for children attending private schools as part of antidesegregation program is affirmed.

733. *Kirkpatrick v. Preisler*, 394 U.S. 526 (1968).

Missouri congressional districting statute is unconstitutional because the population deviations from precise mathematical equality among districts were not unavoidable.

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Black, Douglas, Marshall, and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justice Fortas.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Stewart, and White.

734. *Accord: Wells v. Rockefeller*, 394 U.S. 542 (1969).

735. *Stanley v. Georgia*, 394 U.S. 557 (1969).

Statute construed to prohibit possession in the home of obscene materials for one's own private and personal use violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

736. *Street v. New York*, 394 U.S. 576 (1969).

Statute insofar as it punishes verbal abuse of the flag violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Five-to-four division of Court not on this issue.

737. *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618 (1969).

Connecticut and Pennsylvania statutory provision of one-year durational residency requirement on eligibility for welfare assistance infringes right to travel and violates equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, Fortas, Stewart, White, and Marshall.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Black and Harlan.

738. *Moore v. Ogilvie*, 394 U.S. 814 (1969).

Illinois statute requiring independent candidates to present 25,000 signatures, including 200 signatures from each of at least 50 of the State's 200 counties, violates the equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Black, Brennan, White, Fortas, Marshall, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Stewart and Harlan.

739. *Sniadach v. Family Finance Corp.*, 395 U.S. 337 (1969).

Wisconsin prejudgment garnishment statute which authorizes freezing of defendant's wages in interim between garnishment and culmination of suit without affording defendant a hearing violates due process clause.

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Marshall and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justice Harlan.

Dissenting: Justice Black.

740. *Brandenburg v. Ohio*, 395 U.S. 444 (1969).

Criminal Syndicalism Statute which proscribes advocacy of use of force in absence of requirement that such advocacy be directed to inciting or producing imminent lawless action and be likely to incite or produce such action violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

741. *Kramer v. Union Free School Dist.*, 395 U.S. 621 (1969).

New York statute limiting eligibility to vote in school district elections to persons who own taxable real property in district or who are parents of children enrolled in the local public schools violates equal protection clause.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Douglas, Brennan, White, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justices Stewart, Black, and Harlan.

742. *Cipriano v. City of Houma*, 395 U.S. 701 (1969).

Louisiana statute limiting eligibility to vote on issuance of municipal utility revenue bonds to property owners violates equal protection clause.

Concurring: Chief Justice Warren and Justices Douglas, Brennan, White, and Marshall.

Concurring specially: Justices Black, Stewart, and Harlan.

743. *Turner v. Fouche*, 396 U.S. 346 (1969).

Georgia statute limiting eligibility to school board membership to property holders violates the equal protection clause.

744. *Wyman v. Bowens*, 397 U.S. 49 (1970).

District court decision holding unconstitutional statute denying welfare assistance to persons coming into State with intent to obtain such assistance is affirmed.

745. *Hadley v. Junior College Dist.*, 397 U.S. 50 (1970).

Statutory scheme for election of trustees of junior college district which allocated trustees to lesser populated districts rather than those of greater populations violated equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, White, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Harlan and Stewart.

746. *In re Winship*, 397 U.S. 358 (1970).

New York statute providing that proof of acts establishing delinquency of a minor must be by a preponderance of the evidence violates due process clause which requires proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, Harlan, White, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Black and Stewart.

747. *Rosado v. Wyman*, 397 U.S. 397 (1970).

New York statute changing levels of benefits and deleting items to be included in levels of benefit which reduced moneys to recipients conflicted with federal law which required States to adjust upward in terms of increases costs of living amounts deemed necessary for subsistence and the state law must yield.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justice Black and Chief Justice Burger.

748. *Lewis v. Martin*, 397 U.S. 552 (1970).

California statute reducing amount of dependent children funds going to any household by amount of funds imputed to presence of a

“man-in-the-house” who was not legally obligated to support the child or children conflicts with federal law as interpreted by valid HEW regulations and must yield.

Concurring: Justices Douglas, Harlan, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Justice Black.

749. *Baldwin v. New York*, 399 U.S. 66 (1970).

Statute providing for trial without jury in New York City of misdemeanors punishable upon conviction with sentences of up to one year violates Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments, which require jury trials when possible sentence is six months or more.

Concurring: Justices White, Brennan, and Marshall.

Concurring specially: Justices Black and Douglas.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Harlan and Stewart.

750. *City of Phoenix v. Kolodziejski*, 399 U.S. 204 (1970).

Arizona constitutional and statutory provisions which limit eligibility to vote in referendum on issuance of general obligation bonds to property owners violate equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices White, Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justices Stewart and Harlan and Chief Justice Burger.

751. *Williams v. Illinois*, 399 U.S. 235 (1970).

Statute providing for extension of jail sentence to work off unpaid fine at \$5 a day violates equal protection clause as applied to an indigent convict thus unable to pay his fine.

752. *Rockefeller v. Socialist Workers Party*, 400 U.S. 806 (1970).

District court decision holding unconstitutional New York statutory provisions for geographic dispersion of signatures on candidates' petitions and discriminating against independent candidates' ability to obtain signatures in ways absent from major party candidates is affirmed.

753. *Parish School Bd. v. Stewart*, 400 U.S. 884 (1970).

District court decision holding unconstitutional Louisiana constitutional and statutory provisions limiting eligibility to vote in general obligation bond authorization elections is affirmed.

754. *Bower v. Vaughan*, 400 U.S. 884 (1970).

District court decision holding unconstitutional Arizona's one-year residency requirement for treatment in state hospital is affirmed.

755. *Rafferty v. McKay*, 400 U.S. 954 (1970).

District court decision holding unconstitutional California loyalty oath similar to that condemned in *Baggett v. Bullitt*, 377 U.S. 360 (1964) is affirmed.

756. *Wisconsin v. Constantineau*, 400 U.S. 433 (1971).

Statute providing for "posting" of "excessive" drinkers to bar them from taverns and similar places denies procedural due process by not requiring notice and opportunity to be heard.

757. *Groppi v. Wisconsin*, 400 U.S. 505 (1971).

Statute which categorically precludes a change of venue for trial of misdemeanor cases violates Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Douglas, Harlan, Brennan, White, and Marshall.

Concurring specially: Justice Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger.

Dissenting: Justice Black.

758. *Boddie v. Connecticut*, 401 U.S. 371 (1971).

Statutory imposition of fees as prerequisite to obtain judicial dissolution of marriage violates due process as applied to persons unable to pay the fees.

Concurring: Justices Harlan, Stewart, White, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Concurring specially: Justices Douglas and Brennan.

Dissenting: Justice Black.

759. *Tate v. Short*, 401 U.S. 395 (1971).

Texas statute (and ordinance of City of Houston) which provide for imprisonment of person unable to pay a fine for period calculated at \$5 a day violate equal protection clause.

760. *North Carolina State Bd. of Educ. v. Swann*, 402 U.S. 43 (1971).

Anti-Busing Law which flatly forbids assignment of any student on account of race and prohibits busing for such purpose is unconstitutional.

761. *California Dep't of Human Resources Dev. v. Java*, 402 U.S. 121 (1971).

Statute providing for suspension of unemployment compensation if former employer appeals eligibility decision of departmental examiner, the suspension to last until decision of the appeal, conflicts with federal act's requirement that compensation must be paid when due, and the state law must yield under the supremacy clause.

762. *Bell v. Burson*, 402 U.S. 535 (1971).

Georgia statute providing for automatic suspension of driver's license upon involvement in auto accident unless security for amount of damages is posted violates due process in not first affording driver a hearing to establish a reasonable possibility that judgment may be rendered against him as result of accident.

763. *Perez v. Campbell*, 402 U.S. 637 (1971).

Arizona statute providing that a discharge in bankruptcy shall not operate to relieve a judgment creditor under the Motor Vehicle

Safety Responsibility Act of any obligation under the Act conflicts with the provision of the federal bankruptcy law which discharges a debtor of all but specified judgments and is invalid under the supremacy clause.

764. *Nyquist v. Lee*, 402 U.S. 935 (1971).

District court decision holding unconstitutional New York anti-busing law is affirmed.

765. *Whitcomb v. Chavis*, 403 U.S. 124 (1971).

Legislative apportionment and districting statute of Indiana, though its multimember features are not unconstitutional, provides for too much population inequality and is void.

Concurring: Justices White, Black, Douglas, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan and Stewart.

766. *Connell v. Higginbotham*, 403 U.S. 207 (1971).

Florida loyalty oath provision which requires public employee to swear he does not believe in violent overthrow of government or be dismissed violates due process by not providing for an inquiry into his reasons for refusing to take the oath.

Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Black, Harlan, White, and Blackmun.

Concurring specially: Justices Marshall, Douglas, and Brennan.

Dissenting: Justice Stewart.

767. *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365 (1971).

Arizona statute limiting eligibility for welfare assistance to aliens who have resided in State at least 15 years and Pennsylvania statute barring such assistance to persons who are not citizens violate equal protection clause and intrude into Federal Government's exclusive powers over admission of aliens.

768. *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 403 U.S. 602 (1971).

Pennsylvania statute providing for reimbursement of sectarian schools for expenses of providing certain secular educational services and Rhode Island statute providing for salary supplements to be paid teachers in sectarian schools violate the establishment clause of the First Amendment as applied to the States through the Fourteenth.

Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Harlan, Stewart, and Blackmun.

Concurring specially: Justices Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justice White.

769. *Accord: Sanders v. Johnson*, 403 U.S. 955 (1971).

District court decision holding unconstitutional state aid to sectarian schools is affirmed.

770. *Pease v. Hansen*, 404 U.S. 70 (1971).

State durational residency requirement as condition on eligibility to state-financed public assistance is unconstitutional under *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618 (1969).

771. *Reed v. Reed*, 404 U.S. 71 (1971).

Idaho statutory provision giving preference to males over females for appointment as administrator of decedent's estate violates equal protection clause.

772. *Townsend v. Swank*, 404 U.S. 282 (1971).

Illinois statute and implementing regulations which made needy dependent children 18 through 20 years old eligible for welfare benefits if they were attending high school or vocational training school but not if they were attending college or university conflicts with federal social security law and must yield under supremacy clause.

773. *Dunn v. Rivera*, 404 U.S. 1054 (1972).

District court decision holding unconstitutional Connecticut one-year durational residency requirement for eligibility to welfare assistance is affirmed.

774. *Wyman v. Lopez*, 404 U.S. 1055 (1972).

District court decision holding unconstitutional New York one-year durational residency requirement for eligibility to welfare assistance is affirmed.

775. *Lindsey v. Normet*, 405 U.S. 56 (1972).

Oregon statutory provision requiring tenants who wish to appeal housing eviction order to file bond in twice the amount of rent expected to accrue during pendency of appeal violates equal protection clause.

776. *Bullock v. Carter*, 405 U.S. 134 (1972).

Texas' filing fee system which imposes on candidates the costs of the primary election operation and affords no alternative opportunity for candidates unable to pay the fees to obtain access to the ballot violates the equal protection clause.

777. *Dunn v. Blumstein*, 405 U.S. 330 (1972).

Tennessee durational residency requirement of one year as a condition of registration to vote burdens right to travel and violates equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices Marshall, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, and White.

Concurring specially: Justice Blackmun.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger.

778. *Accord: Caniffe v. Burg*, 405 U.S. 1034 (1972).
District court decision holding six and three months durational residency requirements unconstitutional is affirmed.
779. *Accord: Davis v. Kohn*, 405 U.S. 1034 (1972).
780. *Accord: Cody v. Andrews*, 405 U.S. 1034 (1972).
781. *Accord: Donovan v. Keppel*, 405 U.S. 1034 (1972).
782. *Accord: Whitcomb v. Affeldt*, 405 U.S. 1034 (1972).
783. *Accord: Amos v. Hadnott*, 405 U.S. 1035 (1972).
784. *Accord: Virginia State Bd. of Elections v. Bufford*, 405 U.S. 1035 (1972).
785. *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438 (1972).
Massachusetts statute making it a crime to dispense any contraceptive article to an unmarried person, except to prevent disease, is unconstitutional.
Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, Stewart, and Marshall.
Concurring specially: Justices White and Blackmun.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger.
786. *Gooding v. Wilson*, 405 U.S. 518 (1972).
Georgia statute making it criminal offense to use language of or to another tending to cause a breach of the peace, which is not limited to "fighting words," is unconstitutionally vague and overbroad.
Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, Stewart, White, and Marshall.
Dissenting: Justice Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger.
787. *Stanley v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 645 (1972).
Statute which presumes without a hearing on issue unfitness of father of illegitimate children to have custody upon death or disqualification of mother denies him due process and equal protection.
Concurring: Justices White, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall.
Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Justice Blackmun.
788. *Weber v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co.*, 406 U.S. 164 (1972).
Louisiana workmen's compensation statute which relegates unacknowledged illegitimate children to a status inferior to legitimate and acknowledged illegitimate children violates equal protection clause.
Concurring: Justice Powell, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Marshall, and Chief Justice Burger.
Concurring specially: Justice Blackmun.
Dissenting: Justice Rehnquist.
789. *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205 (1972).
Compulsory school attendance law, insofar as it does not exempt Amish children from coverage following completion of eighth grade,

violates the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment, applicable via the Fourteenth Amendment.

Concurring: Chief Justice Burger, and Justices Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Blackmun, and (in part) Douglas.

Dissenting (in part): Justice Douglas.

790. *Brooks v. Tennessee*, 406 U.S. 605 (1972).

Statute which requires defendant if he is going to testify to do so before any other witness for him violates Fifth, Sixth, and Fourteenth Amendments.

Concurring: Justices Brennan, Douglas, White, Marshall, and Powell.

Concurring specially: Justice Stewart.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Blackmun and Rehnquist.

791. *Jackson v. Indiana*, 406 U.S. 715 (1972).

Pretrial commitment procedure for allegedly incompetent defendants which provides more lenient standards for commitment than procedure for those persons not charged with any offense, and more stringent standards of release, violates both due process and equal protection.

792. *James v. Strange*, 407 U.S. 128 (1972).

Kansas statute enabling State to recover in subsequent civil proceedings legal defense fees for indigent defendants violates equal protection clause because it dispenses with the protective exemptions state law has erected for other civil judgment debtors.

793. *Fuentes v. Shevin*, 407 U.S. 67 (1972).

Replevin statutes of Florida and Pennsylvania which permit installment sellers or other persons alleging entitlement to property to cause the seizure of the property without any notice or opportunity to be heard on the issues violate due process clause.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Justices White and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger.

794. *State Dep't of Health and Rehabilitative Servs. v. Zarate*, 407 U.S. 918 (1972).

District court decision holding unconstitutional under equal protection clause Florida's denial of welfare assistance to noncitizens is affirmed.

795. *United States v. Scotland Neck City Bd. of Educ.*, 407 U.S. 484 (1972).

North Carolina statute which authorized creation of a new school district in a city that was part of a larger county school system is void inasmuch as its effect would be to impede the dismantling of the dual school system by affording a refuge to white students fleeing desegregation.

796. *Furman v. Georgia*, 408 U.S. 238 (1972).

Statutory imposition of capital punishment upon criminal conviction either at discretion of jury or of the trial judge may not be carried out. Such statutes in the view of two Justices are unconstitutional because the death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment per se in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments, while in the view of three Justices the statutes are unconstitutional as applied because of the discriminatory or arbitrary manner in which death is imposed upon convicted defendants in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments.

Concurring specially: Justices Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Marshall.

Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Justices Blackmun, Powell, and Rehnquist.

797. *Texas Bd. of Barber Examiners v. Bolton*, 409 U.S. 807 (1972).

District court decision holding invalid under equal protection clause Texas statutes prohibiting licensed cosmetologists from working with male customers and prohibiting licensed barbers from working with female customers is summarily affirmed.

798. *Essex v. Wolman*, 409 U.S. 808 (1972).

District court decision holding void under the establishment clause of the First Amendment an Ohio statute providing a reimbursement grant to parents of children attending nonpublic schools is summarily affirmed.

799. *Sterrett v. Mothers' & Children's Rights Org.*, 409 U.S. 809 (1972).

District court decision holding invalid as in conflict with federal Social Security Act an Indiana statute denying benefits to persons aged 16 to 18 who are eligible but for the fact that they are not regularly attending school is summarily affirmed.

800. *Robinson v. Hanrahan*, 409 U.S. 38 (1972).

Illinois statute providing for mailing of vehicle forfeiture proceeding notification to home address of vehicle owner is unconstitutional as applied to person known to the State to be incarcerated and not at home.

801. *Amos v. Sims*, 409 U.S. 942 (1972).

District court decision holding unconstitutional Alabama legislative apportionment law is summarily affirmed.

802. *Fugate v. Potomac Electric Power Co.*, 409 U.S. 942 (1972).

District court decision holding invalid under equal protection clause Virginia statute allowing reimbursement to utilities required by interstate highway construction to relocate their lines in cities and towns but denying reimbursement to utilities required by interstate

highway construction to relocate lines in counties is summarily affirmed.

803. *Ward v. Village of Monroeville*, 409 U.S. 57 (1972).

Ohio statute authorizing trial for certain ordinance violations and traffic offenses before mayor responsible for village finances when the fines, forfeitures, costs, and fees imposed in the mayor's courts provided a substantial portion of village funds denied defendants opportunity for trial before an impartial and disinterested tribunal.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Douglas, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun and Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: White and Rehnquist.

804. *Evco v. Jones*, 409 U.S. 91 (1972).

New Mexico's gross receipts tax is unconstitutionally applied to proceeds from transactions whereby material is produced in State under contract for delivery to out-of-state clients because it impermissibly burdens interstate commerce.

805. *Philpott v. Welfare Board*, 409 U.S. 413 (1973).

New Jersey statute providing for recovery by State of reimbursement for financial assistance when recipient subsequently obtains funds cannot be applied to obtain reimbursement out of federal disability insurance benefits inasmuch as federal law bars subjecting such funds to any legal process.

806. *Georges v. McClellan*, 409 U.S. 1120 (1973).

District court decision holding unconstitutional under due process clause Rhode Island prejudgment attachment statute is summarily affirmed.

807. *Gomez v. Perez*, 409 U.S. 535 (1973).

Texas law denying right of enforced paternal support to illegitimate children while granting it to legitimate children violates equal protection clause.

808. *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973).

Texas statute making it a crime to procure or to attempt to procure an abortion except on medical advice to save the life of the mother infringes upon a woman's right of privacy protected by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: White and Rehnquist.

809. *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179 (1973).

Georgia statute permitting abortions under prescribed circumstances nevertheless invalidly imposed a number of procedural

limitations: that the abortion be performed in an accredited hospital, be approved by a staff committee and two licensed physicians other than woman's own doctor, and be available only to residents.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: White and Rehnquist.

810. *Mahan v. Howell*, 410 U.S. 315 (1973).

Portion of Virginia apportionment statute assigning large numbers of naval personnel to actual location of station when evidence showed substantial numbers resided in surrounding areas distorted population balance of districts within the one county and was void.

811. *Whitcomb v. Communist Party of Indiana*, 410 U.S. 976 (1973).

District court decision holding invalid under First and Fourteenth Amendments Indiana statute requiring political party to submit oath that party has no relationship to a foreign government as a condition of ballot access is summarily affirmed.

812. *Mescalero Apache Tribe v. Jones*, 411 U.S. 145 (1973).

New Mexico use tax may not constitutionally be applied on personal property that Indian tribe purchased out-of-state and installed as permanent improvement on off-reservation ski resort owned and operated by tribe.

813. *McClanahan v. Arizona Tax Comm'n*, 411 U.S. 164 (1973).

Arizona income tax is invalidly applied to Navajo Indian residing on reservation and whose income is wholly derived from reservation sources.

814. *New Jersey Welfare Rights Org. v. Cahill*, 411 U.S. 619 (1973).

New Jersey statute denying assistance to families in which parents are not ceremonially married denies equal protection to children in such families.

Justices Concurring: Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

815. *Gagnon v. Scarpelli*, 411 U.S. 778 (1973).

Wisconsin statute as interpreted to permit revocation of parole without a hearing denies due process of law.

816. *Parker v. Levy*, 411 U.S. 978 (1973).

District court decision voiding as arbitrary denial of equal protection Louisiana's constitutional provision and statute distributing among political subdivisions property relief fund is summarily affirmed.

817. *Miller v. Gomez*, 412 U.S. 914 (1973).

District court decision holding a denial of equal protection New York statute denying jury trial on issue of dangerousness to persons being committed to hospitals for criminally insane after felony indictment but before trial is summarily affirmed.

818. *Vlandis v. Kline*, 412 U.S. 441 (1973).

Connecticut statute creating irrebuttable presumption that student from out-of-state at time of application to state college remained nonresident for tuition purposes for entire student career violated due process clause.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.
Justice Concurring Specially: White.
Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Rehnquist and Douglas.

819. *Wardius v. Oregon*, 412 U.S. 470 (1973).

Oregon statute requiring defendant to give pretrial notice of alibi defense and names of supporting witnesses but denying defendant any reciprocal right of discovery of rebuttal evidence denies him due process of law.

820. *White v. Regester*, 412 U.S. 755 (1973).

Establishment of multimember legislative districts in certain Texas urban areas in context of pervasive electoral discrimination against blacks and Mexican-Americans denied equal protection of laws.

821. *White v. Weiser*, 412 U.S. 783 (1973).

Texas congressional districting law creates districts with too great a population disparity and is void under equal protection clause.

822. *Levitt v. Committee for Pub. Educ. and Religious Liberty*, 413 U.S. 472 (1973).

New York statute to reimburse nonpublic schools for administrative expenses incurred in carrying out state mandated examination and record keeping requirements but requiring no accounting and separating of religious and nonreligious uses violates establishment clause.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Stewart, Blackmun, Powell, and Rehnquist.
Justices Concurring Specially: Douglas, Brennan, and Marshall.
Justice Dissenting: White.

823. *Sugarman v. Dougall*, 413 U.S. 634 (1973).

New York statute providing that only United States citizens may hold permanent positions in competitive civil service violates equal protection clause.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.
Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

824. *Committee for Pub. Educ. and Religious Liberty v. Nyquist*, 413 U.S. 756 (1973).

New York education and tax laws providing grants to nonpublic schools for maintenance and repairs of facilities and providing tuition reimbursements and income tax benefits to parents of children attending nonpublic schools violate the establishment clause.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Justices Concurring and Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Rehnquist.
Justice Dissenting: White.

825. *Sloan v. Lemon*, 413 U.S. 825 (1973).

Pennsylvania statute providing for reimbursement of parents for portion of tuition expenses in sending children to nonpublic schools violates establishment clause.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

826. *Accord: Grit v. Wolman*, 413 U.S. 901 (1973).

827. *Stevenson v. West*, 413 U.S. 902 (1973).

South Carolina legislative apportionment statute is invalid.

828. *Nelson v. Miranda*, 413 U.S. 902 (1973).

Arizona constitutional and statutory provisions denying public employment to aliens violates equal protection clause.

829. *Texas v. Pruett*, 414 U.S. 802 (1973).

Federal court decision that Texas statutory system that denies good time credit to convicted felons in jail pending appeal while allowing good time credit to incarcerated nonappealing felons unconstitutionally burdens right of appeal is summarily affirmed.

830. *Department of Game v. Puyallup Tribe*, 414 U.S. 44 (1973).

Washington State statute construed to prohibit net fishing by Indians is invalid.

831. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51 (1973).

Illinois statute prohibiting one who has voted in one party's primary election from voting in another party's primary election for at least 23 months violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Douglas, White, Marshall, and Powell.

Justice Concurring Specially: Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Blackmun and Rehnquist.

832. *Lefkowitz v. Turley*, 414 U.S. 70 (1973).

New York statute providing for cancellation of public contracts and disqualification of contractors from doing business with the State for refusal to waive immunity from prosecution and to testify concerning state contracts violates the Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination.

833. *Danforth v. Rodgers*, 414 U.S. 1035 (1973).

District court decision invalidating Missouri abortion statute is summarily affirmed.

834. *Communist Party of Indiana v. Whitcomb*, 414 U.S. 441 (1974).

Indiana statute prescribing loyalty oath as qualification for access to ballot violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

835. *O'Brien v. Skinner*, 414 U.S. 524 (1974).

New York election law provisions that permit persons incarcerated outside county of residence while awaiting trial to register and vote absentee while denying absentee privilege to persons incarcerated in county of residence denies equal protection.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, and Powell.

Justices Dissenting: Blackmun and Rehnquist.

836. *Wallace v. Sims*, 415 U.S. 902 (1974).

District court decision holding invalid Alabama apportionment statute is summarily affirmed.

837. *Memorial Hospital v. Maricopa County*, 415 U.S. 250 (1974).

Arizona statute imposing one-year county residency requirement for indigents' eligibility for nonemergency medical care at state expense infringes upon right to travel and violates equal protection clause.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Powell.

Justices Concurring Specially: Douglas, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

838. *Davis v. Alaska*, 415 U.S. 308 (1974).

Alaska statute protecting anonymity of juvenile offenders was unconstitutionally applied to prohibit cross-examination of prosecution witness for possible bias in violation of confrontation clause.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justices Dissenting: White and Rehnquist.

839. *Smith v. Goguen*, 415 U.S. 566 (1974).

Massachusetts statute punishing anyone who treats the flag "contemptuously" without anchoring proscription to specified conduct and modes is unconstitutionally vague.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall.
Justice Concurring Specially: White.
Justices Dissenting: Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

840. *Lubin v. Panish*, 415 U.S. 709 (1974).

California statute imposing a filing fee as the only means of getting on the ballot denied indigents equal protection.

841. *Schwegmann Bros. Giant Super Markets v. Louisiana Milk Comm'n*, 416 U.S. 922 (1974).

District court decision holding invalid as burden on interstate commerce Louisiana statute construed to permit commission to regulate prices at which dairy products are sold outside the State to Louisiana retailers is affirmed.

842. *Beasley v. Food Fair*, 416 U.S. 653 (1974).

North Carolina right-to-work law giving employees discharged by reason of union membership cause of action against employer cannot be applied to supervisors in view of 29 U.S.C. § 164(a), which provides that no law should compel an employer to treat a supervisor as an employee.

843. *Indiana Real Estate Comm'n v. Satoskar*, 417 U.S. 938 (1974).

District court decision invalidating Indiana statute limiting real estate dealer licenses to citizens is summarily affirmed.

844. *Marburger v. Public Funds for Public Schools*, 417 U.S. (1974).

District court decisions invalidating under establishment clause New Jersey laws providing reimbursement for parents of nonpublic school children for textbooks and other materials are summarily affirmed.

845. *Miami Herald Publishing Co. v. Tornillo*, 418 U.S. 241 (1974).

Florida statute compelling newspapers to publish free replies by political candidates criticized by newspapers violates First Amendment.

846. *Letter Carriers v. Austin*, 418 U.S. 264 (1974).

Virginia statute creating cause of action for "insulting words" as construed to permit recovery for use in labor dispute of words "scab" and similar words is preempted by federal labor law.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Blackmun.
Justice Concurring Specially: Douglas.
Justices Dissenting: Powell, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

847. *Spence v. Washington*, 418 U.S. 405 (1974).

Washington State statute prohibiting "improper use" of flag or display of the flag with any emblem superimposed on it was invalidly applied to a person who taped a peace symbol on the flag in a way

as not to damage it and who then displayed it upside down from his own property.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Powell.
Justices Concurring Specially: Douglas and Blackmun.
Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, White, and Chief Justice Burger.

848. *Accord: Cahn v. Long Island Vietnam Moratorium Comm.*, 418 U.S. 906 (1974).

849. *Franchise Tax Board v. United Americans*, 419 U.S. 890 (1974).

District court decision striking down under First Amendment a California statute providing state income-tax reductions for taxpayers sending their children to nonpublic schools is summarily affirmed.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Douglas, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.
Justices Dissenting: White and Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger.

850. *Taylor v. Louisiana*, 419 U.S. 522 (1975).

Constitutional and statutory provisions that a woman should not be selected for jury service unless she had previously filed a written declaration of her desire to be subject to jury service violates Sixth Amendment right of defendants to be tried before juries composed of a representative cross section of the community.

Justices Concurring: White, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.
Justice Concurring Specially: Chief Justice Burger.
Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

851. *North Georgia Finishing v. Di-Chem*, 419 U.S. 601 (1975).

Georgia statutes permitting writ of garnishment to be issued in pending suits on conclusory affidavit of plaintiff, prescribing filing of bond as the only method of dissolving the writ, which deprives defendant of the use of the property pending the litigation, and making no provision for an early hearing violates Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause.

Justices Concurring: White, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall.
Justice Concurring Specially: Powell.
Justices Dissenting: Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

852. *Goss v. Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).

Ohio statute authorizing suspension of public school students for up to 10 days for misconduct without a hearing denies students procedural due process in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: White, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, and Marshall.
Justices Dissenting: Powell, Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

853. *Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469 (1975).

Georgia statute making it a misdemeanor to publish or broadcast the name of a rape victim may not be applied to such publishing or

broadcasting when the name is part of a public record; consistent with the First Amendment, publication of such public record information is absolutely privileged.

854. *Austin v. New Hampshire*, 420 U.S. 656 (1975).

State commuters income tax imposed on nonresidents violates the privileges and immunities clause, Art. V. §2, cl. 1, inasmuch as the State imposed no income tax on its residents' domestic income and exempted from tax income earned by its residents outside the State, since the tax falls exclusively on nonresidents and is not offset even approximately by other taxes imposed upon residents alone.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, Stewart, White, Powell, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice Dissenting: Blackmun.

855. *Stanton v. Stanton*, 421 U.S. 7 (1975).

Utah age of majority statute applied in the context of child support requirements obligating parental support of son to age 21 but daughter only to age 18 is an invalid gender classification under the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

856. *Hill v. Stone*, 421 U.S. 289 (1975).

Texas constitution and statutes and city charter limiting the right to vote in city bond issue elections to persons who have listed property for taxation in the election district in the year of the election is void under the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Stewart, and Chief Justice Burger.

857. *Meek v. Pittenger*, 421 U.S. 349 (1975).

Pennsylvania laws authorizing direct provision to nonpublic school children of "auxiliary services", i.e., counseling, testing, speech and hearing therapy, etc., and loans to the nonpublic schools for instructional material and equipment constitute unlawful assistance to religion and are invalid under First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Douglas, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Rehnquist.

858. *Bigelow v. Virginia*, 421 U.S. 809 (1975).

State statute making it a misdemeanor, by sale or circulation of any publication, to encourage or prompt the procuring of an abortion, as applied to the editor of a weekly newspaper who published an advertisement of an out-of-state abortion, is in violation of the First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist and White.

859. *Herring v. New York*, 422 U.S. 853 (1975).

Statute granting trial judge in a nonjury criminal case the power to deny counsel the opportunity to make a summation of the evidence before the rendition of judgment violates the Sixth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Douglas, Brennan, White, Marshall, and Powell.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.

860. *Turner v. Department of Employment Security*, 423 U.S. 44 (1975).

Utah statute making pregnant women ineligible for unemployment compensation for a period extending from 12 weeks before expected childbirth until six weeks following violates Fourteenth Amendment due process clause.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, and Powell.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger (from summary action only).

861. *Schwartz v. Vanasco*, 423 U.S. 1041 (1976).

District court decision invalidating as overbroad under the First Amendment New York law prohibiting attacks on candidate based on race, sex, religion, or ethnic background and prohibiting misrepresentations of candidate's qualifications, positions, or political affiliation is summarily affirmed.

862. *Tucker v. Salera*, 424 U.S. 959 (1976).

District court decision voiding Pennsylvania election law provision requiring that candidates of "political bodies" collect nominating petition signatures between 10th and 7th Wednesdays prior to primary election and file them no later than 7th Wednesday prior to primary insofar as it disqualifies papers signed after 7th Wednesday, is affirmed summarily.

863. *Moe v. Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes*, 425 U.S. 463 (1976).

Montana laws imposing personal property taxes, vendor license fees, and a cigarette sales tax may not constitutionally be applied to reservation Indians under supremacy clause because federal statutory law precludes such application.

864. *Virginia Bd. of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748 (1976).

State statute declaring it unprofessional conduct for a licensed pharmacist to advertise the price of prescription drugs violates the First Amendment right of citizens to receive the information thus suppressed.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, and Powell.

Justice Concurring Specially: Chief Justice Burger.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

865. *Accord: California State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Terry*, 426 U.S. 913 (1976).

866. *Bryan v. Itasca County*, 426 U.S. 373 (1976).

Minnesota laws imposing personal property taxes cannot under the supremacy clause be constitutionally applied to an Indian's mobile home located on the reservation.

867. *Kleppe v. New Mexico*, 426 U.S. 529 (1976).

State law providing for the rounding up and sale by a state agency of "estrays" cannot under the supremacy clause be constitutionally applied to unbranded and unclaimed horses and burros on public lands of the United States that are protected by federal law.

868. *Machinists & Aerospace Workers v. WERC*, 427 U.S. 132 (1976).

Wisconsin statute proscribing concerted efforts by employees to interfere with production, except through actual strikes, cannot under the supremacy clause be constitutionally applied to union members' concerted refusal to work overtime during negotiations for renewal of an expired contract since such conduct was intended by Congress to be regulable by neither the States nor the NLRB.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Power, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Stevens, Stewart, Rehnquist.

869. *Planned Parenthood v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52 (1976).

Missouri abortion law that required, inter alia, spousal and parental consent before abortion could be performed in appropriate circumstances, and that proscribed the saline amniocentesis abortion procedure after the first 12 weeks of pregnancy was an unconstitutional infringement upon the liberty of pregnant women who wished to terminate their pregnancies.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Powell.

Justice Dissenting: Stevens (on parental consent).

Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

870. *Accord: Gerstein v. Coe*, 428 U.S. 901 (1976).

871. *Woodson v. North Carolina*, 428 U.S. 280 (1976).

State statute making death penalty mandatory upon conviction of first-degree murder violates Eighth Amendment, since determination to impose death must be individualized.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Concurring Specially: Brennan, and Marshall.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Blackmun, White, and Chief Justice Burger.

872. *Accord: Roberts v. Louisiana*, 428 U.S. 325 (1976).

873. *Accord: Williams v. Oklahoma*, 428 U.S. 907 (1976).

874. *Sendak v. Arnold*, 429 U.S. 968 (1976).

Statute requiring all abortions, including those during first trimester of pregnancy, to be performed in hospital or licensed health facility was held unconstitutional by district court and decision is summarily affirmed.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

875. *Exon v. McCarthy*, 429 U.S. 972 (1976).

District court holding that statutory scheme that fails to provide method by which independent candidate for President may appear on ballot other than through certification by political party violates First and Fourteenth Amendments is summarily affirmed.

876. *Craig v. Boren*, 429 U.S. 190 (1976).

Statutory prohibition of sale of “nonintoxicating” 3.2% beer to males under 21 and to females under 18 constituted an impermissible gender-based classification that denied to males 18–20 equal protection.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.

Justice Concurring Specially: Stewart.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Rehnquist.

877. *Lefkowitz v. C.D.R. Enterprises*, 429 U.S. 1031 (1977).

District court decision holding invalid as a discrimination against aliens a law granting public works employment preference to citizens who have resided in State for at least 12 months is summarily affirmed.

878. *Boston Stock Exchange v. State Tax Comm'n*, 429 U.S. 318 (1977).

Transfer tax on securities transactions structured so that transactions involving an out-of-state sale are taxed more heavily than most transactions involving a sale within the State discriminates against interstate commerce in violation of the commerce clause.

879. *Guste v. Weeks*, 429 U.S. 1056 (1977).

District court decision voiding statute that effectively forbade abortions, that prohibited publicizing availability of abortion services, that required spousal or parental consent, and that forbade state employees to recommend abortions is summarily affirmed.

880. *Bowen v. Women's Services*, 429 U.S. 1067 (1977).

District court decision invalidating parental consent requirement for abortion upon minor during first 12 weeks of pregnancy is summarily affirmed.

881. *Jones v. Rath Packing Co.*, 430 U.S. 519 (1977).

Statutory imposition of weight requirements in packaging for sale of bacon and flour which did not allow for loss of weight resulting from moisture loss during distribution while the applicable federal law does is invalid (1) as to bacon because of express federal law and (2) as to flour because adherence to state law would defeat a purpose of the federal law and hence supremacy clause requires that both state laws yield to federal.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist and Stewart as to flour.

882. *Wooley v. Maynard*, 430 U.S. 705 (1977).

Requirement that state license plates bear motto "Live Free or Die" and making it a misdemeanor to obscure the motto coerces dissemination of ideological message by person on his own property and violates First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist and Blackmun.

883. *Trimble v. Gordon*, 430 U.S. 762 (1977).

Law allowing illegitimate children to inherit by intestate succession only from their mothers while legitimate children may take from both parents denies illegitimates the equal protection of the laws.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Stewart, Blackmun, and Rehnquist.

884. *United States Trust Co. v. New Jersey*, 431 U.S. 1 (1977).

Retroactive repeal of a statutory covenant under which bonds had been sold by Port Authority, covenant limiting the authority's ability to subsidize rail passenger transportation from revenues and reserves pledged as security for the bonds, impaired the obligations of the contract and violated Article I, § 10, cl. 1

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Rehnquist, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Brennan, White, and Marshall.

885. *Chappelle v. Greater Baton Rouge Airport Dist.*, 431 U.S. 159 (1977).

Statutory qualification of ownership of assessed property in jurisdiction in which airport is located as condition of appointment to airport commission is invalid.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

886. *Douglas v. Seacoast Products*, 431 U.S. 265 (1977).

Statute prohibiting nonresidents from carrying on fishing within certain state waters is preempted by federal enrollment and licensing laws that grant affirmative right to fish in coastal waters and is invalid under supremacy clause.

887. *Roberts v. Louisiana*, 431 U.S. 633 (1977).

Statute imposing mandatory death sentence upon one convicted of first-degree murder of police officer engaged in performance of his duties violates Eighth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Powell and Stevens.

Justices Concurring Specially: Brennan and Marshall.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Blackmun, White, and Rehnquist.

888. *Carey v. Population Services Int'l*, 431 U.S. 678 (1977).

Law making it a crime (1) for any person to sell or distribute contraceptives to minors under 16, (2) for anyone other than a licensed pharmacist to distribute contraceptives to persons 16 or over, and (3) for anyone to advertise or display contraceptives violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Justices Concurring Specially: White, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Rehnquist.

889. *Lefkowitz v. Cunningham*, 431 U.S. 801 (1977).

Statute automatically removing from office and disqualifying from any office for next five years any political party officer who refuses to testify or to waive immunity against subsequent criminal prosecution when subpoenaed before an authorized tribunal violates Fifth Amendment self-incrimination clause.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger, Stewart, White, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justices Concurring Specially: Brennan and Marshall.

Justice Dissenting: Stevens.

890. *Nyquist v. Mauclet*, 432 U.S. 1 (1977).

Statutory provision barring from access to state financial assistance for higher education aliens who have not either applied for citizenship or affirmed the intent to apply when they qualify violates equal protection clause.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger, Powell, Stewart, Rehnquist.

891. *Hunt v. Washington State Apple Advertising Comm'n*, 432 U.S. 333 (1977).

Statute requiring that all apples sold or shipped into State in closed containers be identified by no grade on containers other than applicable federal grade or a designation that apples are ungraded violates commerce clause by burdening and discriminating against interstate sale of Washington apples.

892. *Wolman v. Walter*, 433 U.S. 229 (1977).

Provision of loan of instructional material and equipment to nonpublic religious schools and transportation and services for field trips for nonpublic school pupils violates First Amendment religion clauses.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger, White, Rehnquist; Powell (as to field trips only).

893. *Shaffer v. Heitner*, 433 U.S. 186 (1977).

Statute authorizing a court of the State to take jurisdiction of a lawsuit by sequestering property of defendant that happens to be located in State violates due process clause because it permits state courts to exercise jurisdiction in the absence of sufficient contacts among defendant, litigation, and State.

894. *Dothard v. Rawlinson*, 433 U.S. 321 (1977).

Statutory height and weight requirements for prison guards have impermissible discriminatory effect upon women and under supremacy clause must yield to federal fair employment law.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Rehnquist, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice Dissenting: White.

895. *Jernigan v. Lendall*, 433 U.S. 901 (1977).

District court decision invalidating law that requires independent candidate for office to file for office no later than first Tuesday in April is summarily affirmed.

896. *Coker v. Georgia*, 433 U.S. 584 (1977).

Statute authorizing death penalty as punishment for rape violates Eighth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: White, Stewart, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Justices Concurring Specially: Brennan, Marshall, and Powell.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Rehnquist.

897. *Maher v. Buckner*, 434 U.S. 898 (1977).

Statutory rule rendering ineligible for welfare benefits individuals who have transferred assets within seven years of applying for benefits unless they can prove the transfer was made for "reasonable con-

sideration” is inconsistent with Social Security Act and therefore falls under supremacy clause.

898. *New York v. Cathedral Academy*, 434 U.S. 125 (1977).

Authorization for reimbursement to nonpublic schools for performance of certain state-mandated services for remainder of school year to replace reimbursement program declared unconstitutional also violates First Amendment religion clause.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

899. *Zablocki v. Redhail*, 434 U.S. 374 (1978).

Statute that requires court permission to marry of any resident having minor children and in his custody and who is under a court order to support and that conditions permission on showing that support obligation has been met and that the children are not and are not likely to become public charges violates equal protection clause.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Concurring Specially: Stewart, Powell, and Stevens.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

900. *Ray v. Atlantic Richfield Co.*, 435 U.S. 151 (1978).

Certain provisions of statute imposing design or safety standards on oil tankers using state waters and banning operation in those waters of tankers exceeding certain weights, as well as certain pilotage requirements, are invalid under the supremacy clause as conflicting with federal law.

Justices Concurring: White, Stewart, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting (in part): Marshall, Brennan, and Rehnquist.

901. *Ballew v. Georgia*, 435 U.S. 223 (1978).

Provisions of state law directing certain trials in criminal cases to be before five-person juries unconstitutionally impair the right to trial by jury.

902. *McDaniel v. Paty*, 435 U.S. 618 (1978).

Statutory qualification of convention delegates by incorporating state constitutional ban on ministers or priests violates the Constitution.

903. *First Nat'l Bank v. Bellotti*, 435 U.S. 765 (1978).

Criminal statute that banned banks and business corporations from making expenditures to influence referendum votes on any questions not affecting the property, business, or assets of the corporation violated the First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Stewart, Blackmun, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: White, Brennan, Marshall, and Rehnquist.

904. *Landmark Communications v. Virginia*, 435 U.S. 829 (1978).

Statute making it a misdemeanor to divulge information regarding proceedings before a state judicial review commission cannot constitutionally be applied to persons who are not parties before the commission.

905. *Hicklin v. Orbeck*, 437 U.S. 518 (1978).

Law mandating that state residents be preferred to nonresidents in employment on oil and gas pipeline work violates Article IV, §2, the privileges and immunities clause.

906. *City of Philadelphia v. New Jersey*, 437 U.S. 617 (1978).

Law prohibiting importation into State for disposal at landfills of solid or liquid waste violates commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger.

907. *Allied Structural Steel Co. v. Spannaus*, 438 U.S. 234 (1978).

Statutory imposition on existing negotiated collective bargaining agreements of different terms respecting pensions impaired the employer's rights under the obligation of contracts clause.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Powell, Rehnquist, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Brennan, White, and Marshall.

908. *Lockett v. Ohio*, 438 U.S. 586 (1978).

Statute authorizing imposition of death penalty upon conviction of first-degree murder unconstitutionally restricted consideration of mitigating factors by the sentencing party.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Stewart, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Concurring Specially: White, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist.

909. *Duren v. Missouri*, 439 U.S. 357 (1979).

Statute, implementing a constitutional provision, which provides for the excusal of any women requesting exemption from jury service, operates to violate the fair cross section requirement of Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments because of the underrepresentation of women jurors that results.

Justices Concurring: White, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

910. *Hisquierdo v. Hisquierdo*, 439 U.S. 572 (1979).

California community property statute under which property acquired during the marriage by either spouse belongs to both may not be applied to award a divorced spouse an interest in the other spouse's pension benefits under Railroad Retirement Act, because Act precludes subjecting benefits to any legal process to deprive recipient of it.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, White, Marshall, Powell, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Stewart and Rehnquist.

911. *Colautti v. Franklin*, 439 U.S. 379 (1979).

Provisions of abortion law that require the physician to make a determination that the fetus is not viable and if it is viable to exercise the same care to preserve the fetus' life and health as would be required in the case of a fetus intended to be born alive are void for vagueness under the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

912. *Miller v. Youakim*, 440 U.S. 125 (1979).

Provision of state law differentiating between children who reside in foster homes with relatives and those who do not reside with relatives and giving the latter greater benefits than the former conflicts with federal law which requires the same benefits be provided regardless of whether the foster home is operated by a relative, and thus must yield under the supremacy clause of Article VI.

913. *Illinois State Bd. of Elections v. Socialist Workers Party*, 440 U.S. 173 (1979).

Law requiring new political parties and independent candidates to obtain signatures of 5% of the number of persons who voted at the previous election for such office in order to get on the ballot in political subdivisions of the State, insofar as it applies to mandate the obtaining of a greater number and proportion of signatures than is required to get on the ballot for statewide office, lacks a rational basis and violates the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, Stewart, White, and Powell.

Justices Concurring Specially: Blackmun, Stevens, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

914. *Orr v. Orr*, 440 U.S. 268 (1979).

Alabama statute which imposes alimony obligations on husbands but not wives violates the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting (on other grounds): Powell, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

915. *Ashcroft v. Freiman*, 440 U.S. 941 (1979).

Federal court decision invalidating under the Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause a Missouri statute requiring a doctor to verbally inform any woman seeking abortion that, if live born infant results, woman will lose her parental rights, is summarily affirmed.

916. *Quern v. Hernandez*, 440 U.S. 951 (1979).

District court decision voiding as denial of due process under Fourteenth Amendment Illinois attachment law because it permits attachment prior to filing of complaint and prior to notice to debtor is summarily affirmed.

917. *Burch v. Louisiana*, 441 U.S. 130 (1979).

State statutory implementation of constitutional provision permitting conviction for a nonpetty offense by five out of six jurors violates the right to trial by jury guaranteed by the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments.

918. *Arizona Pub. Serv. Co. v. Sneed*, 441 U.S. 141 (1979).

Imposition of tax upon electricity produced in State and sold outside State which is not offset against other taxes as is the case with electricity sold within State violates federal statute prohibiting any State from taxing the generation or transmission of electricity in a manner that discriminates against out-of-state consumers and thus is unenforceable under the supremacy clause.

919. *Hughes v. Oklahoma*, 441 U.S. 322 (1979).

Statute prohibiting transportation or shipment for sale outside the State of natural minnows seined or procured from waters within the State violates the commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist and Chief Justice Burger.

920. *Caban v. Mohammed*, 441 U.S. 380 (1979).

New York law permitting an unwed mother but not an unwed father to block the adoption of their child by withholding consent is an impermissible gender distinction violative of the equal protection clause of the fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun.
Justices Dissenting: Stewart, Stevens, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

921. *Japan Line v. County of Los Angeles*, 441 U.S. 434 (1979).

Imposition of California *ad valorem* property tax upon cargo containers which are based, registered, and subjected to property tax in Japan results in multiple taxation of instrumentalities of foreign commerce and violates the commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Powell, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.
Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

922. *Beggans v. Public Funds for Public Schools*, 442 U.S. 907 (1979).

Federal court decision invalidating New Jersey statute that allowed taxpayers personal deduction from gross income for each of their dependent children attending nonpublic elementary or secondary schools as a violation of the First Amendment's religion clause is summarily affirmed.

923. *Torres v. Puerto Rico*, 442 U.S. 465 (1979).

Statute authorizing police to search the luggage of any person arriving in Puerto Rico from the United States without a warrant or probable cause violates the Fourth Amendment.

924. *Smith v. Daily Mail Publishing Co.*, 443 U.S. 97 (1979).

West Virginia statute that makes it a crime for a newspaper to publish, without the written approval of the juvenile court, the name of any youth charged as a juvenile offender violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

925. *Bellotti v. Baird*, 443 U.S. 622 (1979).

Massachusetts law requiring parental consent for an abortion for a woman under age 18 and providing for a court order permitting abortion for good cause if parental consent is refused violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Stewart, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.
Justices Concurring Specially: Stevens, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun.
Justice Dissenting: White.

926. *California Retail Liquor Dealers Ass'n v. Midcal Aluminum*, 445 U.S. 97 (1980).

California statute requiring all wine producers and wholesalers to file fair trade contracts or price schedules with the State and to follow the price lists is a resale price maintenance scheme in violation of the Sherman Act and cannot stand under the supremacy clause.

927. *Vance v. Universal Amusement Co.*, 445 U.S. 308 (1980).

Texas public nuisance statute authorizing state judges, on the basis of a showing that a theater exhibited obscene films in the past,

to enjoin its future exhibition of films not yet found to be obscene is an invalid prior restraint violative of the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens.
Justices Dissenting (on other grounds): Powell and Chief Justice Burger.
Justices Dissenting: White and Rehnquist.

928. *Vitek v. Jones*, 445 U.S. 480 (1980).

Nebraska statute which authorizes the authorities to summarily transfer a prison inmate from jail to another institution if a physician find he suffers from a mental disease or defect and cannot be given proper treatment in jail violates the liberty guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment unless the transfer is accompanied by adequate procedural protections.

Justices Concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Powell, Stevens.
Justices Dissenting (on other grounds): Stewart, Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

929. *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573 (1980).

Statute authorizing police officers to enter a private residence without a warrant and without necessarily exigent circumstances to effectuate a felony arrest violates the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments.

Justices Concurring: Stevens, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.
Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist, Chief Justice Burger.

930. *Wengler v. Druggists Mutual Ins. Co.*, 446 U.S. 142 (1980).

Missouri workers' compensation law denying a widower benefits on his wife's work-related death unless he either is mentally or physically incapacitated or proves dependence on her earnings, but granting a widow death benefits regardless of her dependency, is a gender discrimination violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: White, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.
Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

931. *Lewis v. BT Investment Managers*, 447 U.S. 27 (1980).

Florida statute prohibiting out-of-state banks, bank holding companies, and trust companies from owning or controlling a business within the State that sells investment advisory services violates the commerce clause.

932. *Washington v. Confederated Tribes*, 447 U.S. 134 (1980).

Imposition of state motor vehicle excise tax and mobile home, camper, and trailer taxes to vehicles owned by the Tribe or its members and used both on and off the reservation violates federal law and cannot stand under the supremacy clause.

Justices Concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Stewart and Rehnquist.

933. *Carey v. Brown*, 447 U.S. 455 (1980).

Illinois statute that prohibits picketing of residences or dwellings, but exempts peaceful picketing of such buildings that are places of employment in which there is a labor dispute, violates the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Powell, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Blackmun, Chief Justice Burger.

934. *Beck v. Alabama*, 447 U.S. 625 (1980).

Capital punishment statute which forbids giving the jury the option of convicting a defendant of a lesser included offense but requires it to convict on the capital offense or acquit violates the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments.

935. *White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker*, 448 U.S. 136 (1980).

Imposition of Arizona motor carrier license tax and use fuel tax to non-Indian enterprise authorized to do business in Arizona but operating entirely on reservation conflicts with federal law and cannot stand under the supremacy clause.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Stevens, Stewart, Rehnquist.

936. *Central Machinery Co. v. Arizona State Tax Comm'n*, 448 U.S. 160 (1980).

Imposition of tax upon on-reservation sale of farm machinery to Indian tribe by non-Indian, off-reservation enterprise conflicts with federal law and is invalid under the supremacy clause.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Stewart, Powell, Rehnquist, Stevens.

937. *Minnesota v. Planned Parenthood*, 448 U.S. 901 (1980).

Federal court decision holding that statute authorizing grants for pre-pregnancy family planning to hospitals and health maintenance organizations but prohibiting such grants to other nonprofit organizations if they perform abortions violates equal protection clause is summarily affirmed.

938. *Stone v. Graham*, 449 U.S. 39 (1980).

Statute requiring copy of Ten Commandments, purchased with private contributions, to be posted on the wall of each public classroom in the State violates the establishment clause of the First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Powell, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger and Blackmun, Stewart, Rehnquist.

939. *Webb's Fabulous Pharmacies v. Beckwith*, 449 U.S. 155 (1980).

Statutory authorization for county to retain as its own interest accruing on interpleader fund deposited in registry of county court was a taking violating the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments.

940. *Weaver v. Graham*, 450 U.S. 24 (1981).

Statute repealing an earlier law and reducing the amount of "gain time" for good conduct and obedience to prison rules deducted from a convicted prisoner's sentence is an invalid *ex post facto* law as applied to one whose crime was committed prior to the statute's enactment.

941. *Jefferson County v. United States*, 450 U.S. 901 (1981).

Court of Appeals decision holding invalid a state statute that imposed use tax on government-owned, contractor operated facility as constituting *ad valorem* general property tax on federal government property and thus contravening the supremacy clause is summarily affirmed.

942. *Democratic Party v. Wisconsin ex rel. La Follette*, 450 U.S. 107 (1981).

State law mandating national convention delegates chosen at party's state convention to vote at the national convention for the candidate prevailing in the State's preference primary, in which voters may participate without regard to party affiliation, violates the First Amendment right of association of the national party, whose rules preclude seating of delegates who were not selected in accordance with national party rules, including the limiting of the selection process to those voters affiliated with the party.

Justices Concurring: Stewart, Brennan, White, Marshall, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Powell, Blackmun, Rehnquist.

943. *Chicago & North Western Transp. Co. v. Kalo Brick & Tile Co.*, 450 U.S. 311 (1981).

State statute subjecting to damages a common carrier who abandons service and thereby injures shippers is preempted by the Interstate Commerce Act, which empowers ICC to approve cessation of service on branch lines upon carrier petitions, and is void under the supremacy clause.

944. *Kirchberg v. Feenstra*, 450 U.S. 455 (1981).

Statute giving husband unilateral right to dispose of jointly-owned community property without wife's consent is an impermissible sex classification and violates equal protection clause.

945. *Kassel v. Consolidated Freightways Corp.*, 450 U.S. 662 (1981).

Statute barring 65-foot double-trailer trucks on State's highways, while all neighboring States permit them, violates the commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: Powell, White, Blackmun, Stevens.

Justices Concurring Specially: Brennan and Marshall.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Stewart, Chief Justice Burger.

946. *Alessi v. Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.*, 451 U.S. 504 (1981).

Workmen's compensation provision denying employers right to reduce retiree's pension benefits by amount of compensation award under act is preempted by federal pension regulation law and is invalid under the supremacy clause.

947. *Maryland v. Louisiana*, 451 U.S. 725 (1981).

State first-use tax statute which, because of exceptions and credits, imposes a tax only on natural gas moving out-of-state impermissibly discriminates against interstate commerce, and another provision that required pipeline companies to allocate cost of tax to ultimate consumer is preempted by federal law.

948. *Little v. Streater*, 452 U.S. 1 (1981).

Provision requiring person in paternity action who requests blood grouping tests to bear cost of tests denies due process in violation of Fourteenth Amendment to an indigent against whom State has required institution of paternity action.

949. *McCarty v. McCarty*, 453 U.S. 210 (1981).

Community property statute to the extent it treated retired pay of Army officer as property divisible between spouses on divorce is preempted by federal law and cannot be applied under supremacy clause.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, White, Marshall, Powell, Stevens, Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Brennan, Stewart.

950. *Campbell v. John Donnelly & Sons*, 453 U.S. 916 (1981).

Court of Appeals decision holding violative of First Amendment a statute prohibiting roadside billboards, except for signs announcing place and time of religious or civic events, election campaign signs, and signs erected by historic and cultural institutions, is summarily affirmed.

951. *Agsalud v. Standard Oil Co.*, 454 U.S. 801 (1981).

Court of Appeals decision holding preempted by federal pension law state law requiring employers to provide their employees with comprehensive prepaid health care plan is summarily affirmed.

952. *Louisiana Dairy Stabilization Bd. v. Dairy Fresh Corp.*, 454 U.S. 884 (1981).

Court of Appeals decision holding violative of the commerce clause a milk industry regulatory statute, which required all dairy product processors, including out-of-state processors, who sell dairy products to retailer or distributor for resale in State to pay assessment per unit of milk for use in administration and enforcement of statute, is summarily affirmed.

953. *Brockett v. Spokane Arcades*, 454 U.S. 1022 (1981).

Court of Appeals decision holding violative of First Amendment a statute which authorized courts to issue temporary and permanent injunctions, without providing prompt trial on merits, against any business that regularly sells or exhibits "lewd matter" is summarily affirmed.

954. *Firestone v. Let's Help Florida*, 454 U.S. 1130 (1982).

Court of Appeals decision holding violative of the First Amendment a statute that restricts size of contributions to political committees organized to support or oppose referenda is summarily affirmed.

955. *Treen v. Karen B.*, 455 U.S. 912 (1982).

Court of Appeals decision holding violative of First Amendment establishment clause statute authorizing school boards to permit students to participate in one-minute prayer period at start of school day, upon parental consent, is summarily affirmed.

956. *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745 (1982).

Provision of state law authorizing termination of parental rights upon proof by only a fair preponderance of the evidence violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, Powell, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, White, O'Connor, Chief Justice Burger.

957. *California State Bd. of Equalization v. United States*, 456 U.S. 901 (1982).

Court of Appeals decision invalidating as an impermissible infringement of the immunity of the United States from state taxation a sales tax based on gross rentals paid by United States to lessors of data processing and other equipment, which permitted lessor to maximize profit only by separately stating and collecting tax from lessee, is summarily affirmed.

958. *Brown v. Hartlage*, 456 U.S. 45 (1982).

Statute prohibiting candidate from offering material benefits to voters in consideration for their votes violates First Amendment speech clause as applied to a candidate's promise to lower salary of his office if elected.

959. *Mills v. Habluetzel*, 456 U.S. 91 (1982).

Statute imposing one-year period from date of birth to bring action to establish paternity of illegitimate child, paternity being necessary for child to obtain support from father at any time during his minority, denies equal protection of the laws.

960. *Larson v. Valente*, 456 U.S. 228 (1982).

Provision of charitable solicitations law exempting from registration and reporting only those religious organizations that receive more than half of their total contributions from members or affiliated organizations is an impermissible denominational preference and violates First Amendment establishment clause.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist (on merits); O'Connor and Chief Justice Burger (on standing).

961. *Greene v. Lindsey*, 456 U.S. 444 (1982).

Statute authorizing service of process in forcible entry and detainer action by posting summons in a conspicuous place if no one could be found on premises denies due process on showing that notices are often removed before defendants find them.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: O'Connor, Rehnquist, Chief Justice Burger.

962. *Zobel v. Williams*, 457 U.S. 55 (1982).

State law providing a dividend distribution to all State's adult residents from earnings on oil and mineral development in State denies equal protection of the laws by determining amount of dividend for each person by the length of residency in State.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens.

Justice Concurring Specially: O'Connor.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

963. *Blum v. Bacon*, 457 U.S. 132 (1982).

Provision of emergency assistance program precluding assistance to persons receiving AFDC to replace a lost or stolen AFDC grant is contrary to valid federal regulations proscribing inequitable treatment under the emergency assistance program.

964. *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982).

Statute withholding state funds from local school districts for the education of any children not legally admitted into United States and authorizing boards to deny enrollment to such children denies the equal protection of the laws.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger, White, Rehnquist, O'Connor.

965. *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Superior Court*, 457 U.S. 596 (1982).

Statute requiring, under all circumstances, exclusion of press and public during testimony of minor victim of a sex offense violates the First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell.

Justice Concurring Specially: O'Connor.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger, Rehnquist, Stevens.

966. *Edgar v. MITE Corp.*, 457 U.S. 624 (1982).

Take-over statute which extensively regulates tender offerors and imposes registration and reporting requirements, because it directly regulates and prevents interstate tender offers and because the burdens on interstate commerce are excessive compared with local interests served, violates the commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: White, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens, O'Connor, Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Marshall, Brennan, Rehnquist (all on mootness grounds).

967. *Fidelity Fed. S. & L. v. De la Cuesta*, 458 U.S. 141 (1982).

Statutory provision barring unreasonable restraints on alienation, construed to prohibit "due-on-sale" clauses in mortgage contracts, is preempted by Federal Home Loan Bank Board regulations permitting federal savings and loan associations to include such clauses in their contracts.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, White, Marshall, O'Connor, Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Stevens.

968. *Loretto v. Teleprompter Manhattan CATV Corp.*, 458 U.S. 419 (1982).

Statute requiring landlords to permit installation of cable television wiring on their property and limiting fee charged to that determined to be reasonable by a commission (which set a one-time \$1 fee) constituted a taking of property in violation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments.

969. *Washington v. Seattle School Dist.*, 458 U.S. 457 (1982).

Statutory provision, enacted by initiative vote of the electorate, barring school boards from busing students for racially integrative purposes denies the equal protection of the laws.

Justices Concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, White, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Powell, Rehnquist, O'Connor, Chief Justice Burger.

970. *Enmund v. Florida*, 458 U.S. 782 (1982).

Statute authorizing death penalty solely for participation in a robbery in which another robber kills someone violates the Eighth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: O'Connor, Powell, Rehnquist, Chief Justice Burger.

971. *Ramah Navajo School Bd. v. Bureau of Revenue*, 458 U.S. 832 (1982).

State tax imposed on the gross receipts that non-Indian construction company received from tribal school board for construction of school for Indian children on reservation is preempted by federal law.

Justices Concurring: Marshall, Brennan, Blackmun, Powell, O'Connor, Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, White, Stevens.

972. *Sporhase v. Nebraska ex rel. Douglas*, 458 U.S. 941 (1982).

State statute requiring a permit before anyone withdraws ground water from any well located in the State and transports it across state line and providing for denial of permit unless the State to which the water will be transported grants reciprocal rights to withdraw and transport water into this State violates the commerce clause.

Justices Concurring: Stevens, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, O'Connor.

974. *Brown v. Socialist Workers '74 Campaign Comm.*, 459 U.S. 87 (1982).

Ohio statute requiring candidates to disclose the names and addresses of campaign contributors and the recipients of campaign expenditures is invalid, under the First Amendment, as applied to a minor political party whose members and supporters may be subjected to harassment or reprisals.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice concurring specially: Blackmun.

Justices concurring in part and dissenting in part: O'Connor, Rehnquist, and Stevens.

975. *Larkin v. Grendel's Den*, 459 U.S. 116 (1982).

Massachusetts statute permitting any church to block issuance of a liquor license to any establishment to be located within 500 feet of the church violates the Establishment Clause by delegating governmental decisionmaking to a church.

Justices concurring: Chief Justice Burger, and Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.

Justice dissenting: Rehnquist.

976. *King v. Sanchez*, 459 U.S. 801 (1982).

Federal district court's decision invalidating New Mexico legislative reapportionment as violating the one person, one vote requirement of the Equal Protection Clause because the "votes cast" formula resulted in substantial population variances among districts, is summarily affirmed.

977. *Memphis Bank & Trust Co. v. Garner*, 459 U.S. 392 (1983).
Tennessee tax on the net earnings of banks, applied to interest earned on obligations of the United States, is void under the Supremacy Clause as conflicting with 31 U.S.C. §3124.
978. *Busbee v. Georgia*, 459 U.S. 1166 (1983).
Federal district court decision that Georgia congressional redistricting plan is invalid as having a racially discriminatory purpose in conflict with the Voting Rights Act is summarily affirmed.
979. *Minneapolis Star & Tribune Co. v. Minnesota Comm'r of Revenue*, 460 U.S. 575 (1983).
Minnesota ink and paper use tax violates the First Amendment by providing "differential treatment" for the press.
Justices concurring: O'Connor, Brennan, Marshall, Powell, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.
Justices concurring specially: White and Blackmun.
Justice dissenting: Rehnquist.
980. *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780 (1983).
Ohio statute requiring independent candidates for President and Vice-President to file nominating petitions by March 20 in order to qualify for the November ballot is unconstitutional as substantially burdening the associational rights of the candidates and their supporters.
Justices concurring: Stevens, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Chief Justice Burger.
Justices dissenting: Rehnquist, White, Powell, and O'Connor.
981. *Kolender v. Lawson*, 461 U.S. 352 (1983).
California statute requiring that a person detained in a valid *Terry* stop provide "credible and reliable" identification is unconstitutionally vague in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment Due Process Clause.
Justices concurring: O'Connor, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Stevens.
Justices dissenting: White and Rehnquist.
982. *Pennsylvania Public Utility Comm'n v. CONRAIL*, 461 U.S. 912 (1983).
Federal district court decision holding that federal statutes (the Federal Railroad Safety Act and the locomotive boiler inspection laws) preempt a Pennsylvania law requiring locomotives to maintain speed records and indicators, summarily affirmed by an appeals court, is summarily affirmed.
983. *Pickett v. Brown*, 462 U.S. 1 (1983).
Tennessee's two-year statute of limitations for paternity and child support actions violates the equal protection rights of illegitimates.

984. *Exxon Corp. v. Eagerton*, 462 U.S. 176 (1983).

Prohibition on pass-through to consumers of increase in Alabama oil and gas severance tax is invalid as conflicting with the Natural Gas Act to the extent that it applies to sales of gas in interstate commerce.

985. *Philco Aviation v. Shacket*, 462 U.S. 406 (1983).

Illinois statute recognizing the validity of an unrecorded, oral sale of an aircraft is preempted by the Federal Aviation Act's provision that unrecorded "instruments" of transfer are invalid.

986. *Planned Parenthood Ass'n v. Ashcroft*, 462 U.S. 476 (1983).

Missouri statute requiring that all abortions performed after the first trimester of pregnancy be performed in a hospital unreasonably infringes upon the right of a woman to have an abortion.

Justices concurring (on this issue only): Powell, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor, White, and Rehnquist.

987. *Karcher v. Daggett*, 462 U.S. 725 (1983).

New Jersey congressional districting statute creating districts in which the deviation between largest and smallest districts was 0.7%, or 3,674 persons, violates Art. I, § 2's "equal representation" requirement as not resulting from a good-faith effort to achieve population equality.

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: White, Powell, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

988. *Mennonite Bd. of Missions v. Adams*, 462 U.S. 791 (1983).

Indiana statute providing for constructive notice to mortgagee of tax sale of real property violates the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; instead, personal service or notice by mail is required.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor, Powell, and Rehnquist.

989. *Shaw v. Delta Air Lines*, 463 U.S. 85 (1983).

The New York Human Rights Law is preempted by ERISA to the extent that it prohibits practices that are lawful under the federal law.

990. *American Bank & Trust Co. v. Dallas County*, 463 U.S. 855 (1983).

Texas property tax on bank shares, computed on the basis of a bank's net assets without any deduction for the value of United States obligations held by the bank, is invalid as conflicting with Rev. Stat. § 3701 (31 U.S.C. § 3124).

Justices concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, White, Marshall, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: Rehnquist and Stevens.

991. *Arcudi v. Stone & Webster Engineering*, 463 U.S. 1220 (1983).

Appeals court holding that Connecticut statute requiring employers to provide health and life insurance to former employees is preempted by ERISA as related to an employee benefit plan, is summarily affirmed.

992. *Aloha Airlines v. Director of Taxation*, 464 U.S. 7 (1983).

Hawaii "property tax" on the gross income of airlines operating within the State is preempted by a federal prohibition on state taxes on carriage of air passengers "or on the gross receipts derived therefrom."

993. *Healy v. United States Brewers Ass'n*, 464 U.S. 909 (1983).

Appeals court decision invalidating as an undue burden on interstate commerce the beer price "affirmation" provisions of Connecticut's liquor control laws, which restrict out-of-state sales to prices set for in-state sales, is summarily affirmed.

994. *Southland Corp. v. Keating*, 465 U.S. 1 (1984).

California franchise law, requiring judicial resolution of certain claims, is preempted by the United States Arbitration Act, which precludes judicial resolution in state or federal courts of claims that contracting parties agree to submit to arbitration.

Justices concurring: Chief Justice Burger, and Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justice concurring in part and dissenting in part: Stevens.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor and Rehnquist.

995. *Texas v. KVUE-TV*, 465 U.S. 1092 (1984).

Appeals court holding that Texas statute regulating broadcast of political advertisements is preempted by the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to the extent that it imposes sponsorship identification requirements on advertising for candidates for federal office, and to the extent that it conflicts with federal regulation of political advertising rates, is summarily affirmed.

996. *Westinghouse Elec. Corp. v. Tully*, 466 U.S. 388 (1984).

New York corporate franchise tax unconstitutionally discriminates against interstate commerce by allowing an offsetting credit for receipts from products shipped from an in-state place of business.

997. *Wallace v. Jaffree*, 466 U.S. 924 (1984).

Appeals court decision holding invalid under the Establishment Clause an Alabama statute authorizing the recitation in public schools of a government-composed prayer is summarily affirmed.

998. *Bernal v. Fainter*, 467 U.S. 216 (1984).

Texas requirement that a notary public be a United States citizen furthers no compelling state interest and denies equal protection of the laws to resident aliens.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice dissenting: Rehnquist.

999. *Michigan Canners & Freezers Ass'n v. Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Bd.*, 467 U.S. 461 (1984).

Michigan statute making agricultural producers' associations the exclusive bargaining agents and requiring payment of service fees by non-member producers is preempted as conflicting with federal policy of the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967, protecting the right of farmers to join or not join such associations.

1000. *Armco, Inc. v. Hardesty*, 467 U.S. 638 (1984).

West Virginia gross receipts tax on businesses selling tangible property at wholesale unconstitutionally discriminates against interstate commerce due to exemption granted local manufacturers.

Justices concurring: Powell, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice dissenting: Rehnquist.

1001. *Capital Cities Cable v. Crisp*, 467 U.S. 691 (1984).

Oklahoma Constitution's general ban on advertising of alcoholic beverages, as applied to out-of-state cable television signals carried by in-state operators, is preempted by federal regulations implementing the Communications Act.

1002. *Secretary of State of Maryland v. Joseph H. Munson Co.*, 467 U.S. 947 (1984).

Maryland prohibition on charitable organizations paying more than 25% of solicited funds for expenses of fundraising violates the Fourteenth Amendment by creating an unnecessary risk of chilling protected First Amendment activity.

Justices concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, White, Marshall, and Stevens.

Justices dissenting: Rehnquist, Powell, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

1003. *Brown v. Brandon*, 467 U.S. 1223 (1984).

Federal district court decision that Ohio congressional districting plan is invalid because population variances were shown to be not unavoidable and were not justified by legitimate state interest is summarily affirmed.

1004. *Bacchus Imports v. Dias*, 468 U.S. 263 (1984).

Hawaii excise tax on wholesale liquor sales, exempting sales of specified local products, violates Commerce Clause by discriminating in favor of local commerce.

Justices concurring: White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, Rehnquist, and O'Connor.

1005. *Lawrence County v. Lead-Deadwood School Dist.*, 469 U.S. 256 (1985).

South Dakota statute requiring local governments to distribute federal payments in lieu of taxes in the same manner that they distribute general tax revenues conflicts with the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Act, which provides that the recipient local government may use the payment for any governmental purpose.

Justices concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: Rehnquist and Stevens.

1006. *Deukmejian v. National Meat Ass'n*, 469 U.S. 1100 (1985).

Appeals court holding that California tax on sales by out-of-state beef processors discriminates against interstate commerce in violation of the Commerce Clause, there being no corresponding and comparable tax on in-state processors, is summarily affirmed.

1007. *Westhafer v. Worrell Newspapers*, 469 U.S. 1200 (1985).

Appeals court decision holding invalid under the First Amendment an Indiana statute punishing as contempt the publication of the name of an individual against whom a sealed indictment or information has been filed is summarily affirmed.

1008. *Metropolitan Life Ins. Co. v. Ward*, 470 U.S. 869 (1985).

Alabama's domestic preference tax, imposing a substantially lower gross premiums tax rate on domestic insurance companies than on out-of-state insurance companies, violates the Equal Protection Clause.

Justices concurring: Powell, White, Blackmun, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor, Brennan, Marshall, and Rehnquist.

1009. *Board of Educ. v. National Gay Task Force*, 470 U.S. 903 (1985).

Court of appeals decision holding unconstitutionally overbroad in violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments an Oklahoma statute prohibiting advocating, encouraging, or promoting homosexual conduct is affirmed by equally divided vote.

1010. *Hunter v. Underwood*, 471 U.S. 222 (1985).

Provision of Alabama Constitution requiring disenfranchisement for crimes involving moral turpitude, adopted in 1901 for the purpose of racial discrimination, violates the Equal Protection Clause.

1011. *Williams v. Vermont*, 472 U.S. 14 (1985).

Vermont use tax discriminating between residents and non-residents in application of a credit for automobile sales taxes paid to another state violates the Equal Protection Clause.

Justices concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: Blackmun, Rehnquist, and O'Connor.

1012. *Wallace v. Jaffree*, 472 U.S. 38 (1985).

Alabama statute authorizing a one-minute period of silence in public schools "for meditation or voluntary prayer" violates the Establishment Clause, the record indicating that the sole legislative purpose in amending the statute to add "or voluntary prayer" was to return voluntary prayer to the public schools.

Justices concurring: Stevens, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justice concurring specially: O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

1013. *Jensen v. Quaring*, 472 U.S. 478 (1985).

Appeals court decision holding invalid Nebraska's driver's licensing requirement that applicant be photographed, and that photo be affixed to license, as burdening the free exercise of sincerely held religious beliefs against submitting to being photographed, is affirmed by equally divided vote.

1014. *Brockett v. Spokane Arcades*, 472 U.S. 491 (1985).

Washington "moral nuisance" statute is invalid under the First Amendment to the extent that it proscribes exhibition of films or sale of publications inciting "lust," defined as referring to normal sexual desires.

Justices concurring: White, Blackmun, Rehnquist, Stevens, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting on other grounds: Brennan and Marshall.

1015. *Hooper v. Bernalillo County Assessor*, 472 U.S. 612 (1985).

New Mexico property tax exemption for Vietnam War veterans who became residents before May 8, 1976, violates the Equal Protection Clause as not meeting the rational basis test.

Justices concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Brennan, White, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, Rehnquist, and O'Connor.

1016. *Estate of Thornton v. Caldor, Inc.*, 472 U.S. 703 (1985).

Connecticut statute requiring employers to honor the Sabbath day of the employee's choice violates the Establishment Clause.

Justices concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens, and O'Connor.

Justice dissenting: Rehnquist.

1017. *Gerace v. Grocery Mfrs. of America*, 474 U.S. 801 (1985).

Appeals court decision holding that federal laws (the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; the Meat Inspection Act; and the Poultry Products Act) preempt a New York requirement that cheese alternatives be labeled "imitation" is summarily affirmed.

1018. *Wisconsin Dep't of Industry v. Gould, Inc.*, 475 U.S. 282 (1986).

Wisconsin statute debarring from doing business with the state persons or firms guilty of repeat violations of the National Labor Relations Act is preempted by that Act.

1019. *Exxon Corp. v. Hunt*, 475 U.S. 355 (1986).

New Jersey statute creating an oil spill compensation fund is preempted in part by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act to the extent that the state fund is used to finance cleanup activities at sites listed in the National Contingency Plan.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, Rehnquist, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice dissenting: Stevens.

1020. *Philadelphia Newspapers v. Hepps*, 475 U.S. 767 (1986).

Pennsylvania statute incorporating the common law rule that defamatory statements are presumptively false violates the First Amendment as applied to a libel action brought by a private figure against a media defendant; instead, the plaintiff must bear the burden of establishing falsity.

Justices concurring: O'Connor, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, White, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

1021. *Brown-Forman Distillers v. New York State Liquor Auth.*, 476 U.S. 573 (1986).

New York affirmation law, having the practical effect of controlling liquor prices in other states, violates the Commerce Clause.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Powell, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice concurring specially: Blackmun.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, White, and Rehnquist.

1022. *Thornburgh v. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*, 476 U.S. 747 (1986).

Pennsylvania statute prescribing a variety of requirements for performance of an abortion, including informed consent, reporting of various information concerning the mother's history and condition, and standard-of-care and second-physician requirements after viability, infringes a woman's *Roe v. Wade* right to have an abortion.

Justices concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, Powell, and Stevens.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Burger, and White, Rehnquist, and O'Connor.

1023. *Three Affiliated Tribes v. Wold Engineering*, 476 U.S. 877 (1986).

North Dakota statute disclaiming jurisdiction over actions brought by tribal Indians suing non-Indians in state courts over claims arising in Indian country is preempted by federal Indian law (Pub. L. 280).

Justices concurring: O'Connor, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: Rehnquist, Brennan, and Stevens.

1024. *Attorney General of New York v. Soto-Lopez*, 476 U.S. 898 (1986).

New York Civil Service Law employment preference for New York residents who are honorably discharged veterans and were New York residents when they entered military service violates the Equal Protection Clause.

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justices concurring specially: White and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, O'Connor, and Rehnquist.

1025. *Offshore Logistics v. Tallentire*, 477 U.S. 207 (1986).

Louisiana's wrongful death statute is preempted by the Death on the High Seas Act as applied to helicopter crash 35 miles off shore.

Justices concurring: O'Connor, White, Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: Powell, Brennan, Marshall, and Stevens.

1026. *Roberts v. Burlington Industries*, 477 U.S. 901 (1986).

Appeals court holding that New York severance pay requirements were preempted by ERISA is summarily affirmed.

1027. *Brooks v. Burlington Industries*, 477 U.S. 901 (1986).

Appeals court holding that North Carolina severance pay requirements were preempted by ERISA is summarily affirmed.

1028. *Thornburg v. Gingles*, 478 U.S. 30 (1986).

North Carolina legislative redistricting plan, creating multimember districts having the effect of impairing the opportunity

of black voters to participate in the political process, is invalid under §2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Justices concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Justices concurring specially: O'Connor, Powell, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices concurring in part and dissenting in part: Stevens, Marshall, and Blackmun.

1029. *Rose v. Arkansas State Police*, 479 U.S. 1 (1986).

A provision of Arkansas' workers' compensation act requiring that death benefits be reduced by the amount of any federal benefits paid is preempted by federal requirement that federal benefits be "in addition to any other benefit due"; a contrary ruling by an Arizona appeals court is summarily reversed.

1030. *Tashjian v. Republican Party of Connecticut*, 479 U.S. 208 (1986).

Connecticut statute imposing a "closed primary" under which persons not registered with a political party may not vote in its primaries violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments by preventing political parties from entering into political association with individuals of their own choosing.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, and Powell.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, Scalia, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1031. *324 Liquor Corp. v. Duffy*, 479 U.S. 335 (1987).

Section of New York's alcoholic beverage control law establishing retail price maintenance violates section 1 of the Sherman Act, and is not saved by the Twenty First Amendment.

Justices concurring: Powell, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and Scalia.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1032. *Babbitt v. Planned Parenthood*, 479 U.S. 925 (1986).

Appeals court decision invalidating Arizona statute prohibiting grant of public funds to any organization performing abortion-related services is summarily affirmed.

1033. *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

California statute governing the operation of bingo games is preempted as applied to Indian tribes conducting on-reservation games.

Justices concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, O'Connor, and Scalia.

1034. *Wilkinson v. Jones*, 480 U.S. 926 (1987).

Appeals court decision holding unconstitutionally vague and overbroad Utah statute barring cable television systems from showing "indecent material" is summarily affirmed.

1035. *Arkansas Writers' Project, Inc. v. Ragland*, 481 U.S. 221 (1987).

Arkansas sales tax exemption for newspapers and for "religious, professional, trade, and sports journals" published within the state violates the First and Fourteenth Amendments as a content-based regulation of the press.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, Powell, and O'Connor.

Justice concurring specially: Stevens.

Justices dissenting: Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1036. *Miller v. Florida*, 482 U.S. 423 (1987).

Florida's revised sentencing guidelines law, under which the presumptive sentence for certain offenses was raised, contravenes the ex post facto clause of Article I as applied to someone who committed those offenses before the revision.

1037. *Perry v. Thomas*, 482 U.S. 483 (1987).

Federal Arbitration Act preempts section of California Labor Code providing that actions for collection of wages may be maintained "without regard to the existence of any private agreement to arbitrate."

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, Powell, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices dissenting: Stevens and O'Connor.

1038. *Booth v. Maryland*, 482 U.S. 496 (1987).

Maryland statute requiring preparation of a "victim impact statement" describing the effect of a crime on a victim and his family violates the Eighth Amendment to the extent that it requires introduction of the statement at the sentencing phase of a capital murder trial.

Justices concurring: Powell, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Justices dissenting: White, O'Connor, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1039. *Edwards v. Aguillard*, 482 U.S. 578 (1987).

Louisiana statute mandating balanced treatment of "creation-science" and "evolution-science" in the public schools is an invalid establishment of religion in violation of the First Amendment.

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Powell, Stevens, and O'Connor.

Justice concurring specially: White.

Justices dissenting: Scalia and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1040. *Sumner v. Shuman*, 483 U.S. 66 (1987).

Nevada statute under which a prison inmate convicted of murder while serving a life sentence without possibility of parole is automatically sentenced to death is invalid under the Eighth Amendment as preventing the sentencing authority from considering as mitigating factors aspects of a defendant's character or record.

Justices concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, Marshall, Powell, Stevens, and O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: White, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1041. *Tyler Pipe Indus. v. Washington State Dep't of Revenue*, 483 U.S. 232 (1987).

Washington manufacturing tax, applicable to products manufactured in-state and sold out-of-state, but containing an exemption for products manufactured and sold in-state, discriminates against interstate commerce in violation of the Commerce Clause.

Justices concurring: Stevens, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: Scalia, Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1042. *American Trucking Ass'ns v. Scheiner*, 483 U.S. 266 (1987).

Pennsylvania statutes imposing lump-sum annual taxes on operation of trucks on state's roads violate the Commerce Clause as discriminating against interstate commerce.

Justices concurring: Stevens, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor, Powell, Chief Justice Rehnquist, and Scalia.

1043. *Hartigan v. Zbaraz*, 484 U.S. 171 (1987).

Federal appeals court ruling holding unconstitutional a provision of the Illinois Parental Notice Abortion Act requiring that minors wait 24 hours after informing parents before having an abortion is affirmed by equally divided vote.

1044. *Montana v. Crow Tribe of Indians*, 484 U.S. 997 (1988).

Federal appeals court decision that Montana coal severance and gross proceeds taxes, as applied to Indian-owned coal produced by non-Indians, are preempted by federal Indian policies underlying the Mineral Leasing Act of 1938, is summarily affirmed.

1045. *Schneidewind v. ANR Pipeline Co.*, 485 U.S. 293 (1988).

Michigan statute requiring approval of Michigan Public Service Commission before a natural gas company may issue long-term securities is preempted as applied to companies subject to FERC regulation under the Natural Gas Act.

1046. *Bennett v. Arkansas*, 485 U.S. 395 (1988).

Arkansas statute authorizing seizure of prisoners' property in order to defray costs of incarceration is invalid as applied to Social Security benefits, exempted from legal process by 42 U.S.C. §407(a).

1047. *City of Manassas v. United States*, 485 U.S. 1017 (1988).

Federal appeals court decision invalidating as discriminatory against the United States a Virginia statute that imposes a personal property tax on property leased from the United States, but not on property leased from the Virginia Port Authority or from local transportation districts, is summarily affirmed.

1048. *New Energy Co. of Indiana v. Limbach*, 486 U.S. 269 (1988).

Ohio statute granting a tax credit for ethanol fuel if the ethanol was produced in Ohio, or if produced in another state which grants a similar credit to Ohio-produced ethanol fuel, discriminates against interstate commerce in violation of the Commerce Clause.

1049. *Maynard v. Cartwright*, 486 U.S. 356 (1988).

Oklahoma statutory aggravating circumstances, permitting imposition of capital punishment upon a jury's finding that a murder was "especially heinous, atrocious, or cruel," are unconstitutionally vague in violation of the Eighth Amendment.

1050. *Meyer v. Grant*, 486 U.S. 414 (1988).

Colorado law punishing as felony the payment of persons who circulate petitions for ballot initiative abridges the right to engage in political speech, hence violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

1051. *Clark v. Jeter*, 486 U.S. 456 (1988).

Pennsylvania 6-year statute of limitations for paternity actions violates the Equal Protection Clause as insufficiently justified under heightened scrutiny review.

1052. *Shapero v. Kentucky Bar Ass'n*, 486 U.S. 466 (1988).

Kentucky Supreme Court's rule containing categorical prohibition of attorney direct mail advertising targeted at persons known to face particular legal problems violates First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Justices concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and Kennedy.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1053. *Mackey v. Lanier Collection Agency & Service, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 825 (1988).

Georgia statute barring garnishment of funds or benefits of employee benefit plans subject to ERISA is preempted by ERISA §514(a) as a state law that "relates to" covered plans.

Justices concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Stevens, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices dissenting: Kennedy, Blackmun, O'Connor, and Scalia.

1054. *Bendix Autolite Corp. v. Midwesco Enterprises, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 888 (1988).

Ohio statute tolling its 4-year limitations period for breach of contract and fraud actions brought against out-of-state corporations that do not appoint an agent for service of process within the state—and thereby subject themselves to the general jurisdiction of Ohio courts—violates the Commerce Clause.

Justices concurring: Kennedy, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and O'Connor.

Justice concurring specially: Scalia.
Justice dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1055. *Supreme Court of Virginia v. Friedman*, 487 U.S. 59 (1988).
Virginia Supreme Court rule imposing residency requirement for admission to the bar on motion, without taking the bar exam, by persons licensed to practice law in other jurisdictions, violates the Privileges and Immunities Clause of Article IV, § 2.

Justices concurring: Kennedy, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and O'Connor.
Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justice Scalia.

1056. *Felder v. Casey*, 487 U.S. 131 (1988).
Wisconsin's notice-of-claim statute, requiring that persons suing state or local governments or officials in state court must give notice and then refrain from filing suit for an additional period, is preempted as applied to civil rights actions brought in state court under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

Justices concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, Scalia, and Kennedy.
Justices dissenting: O'Connor and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1057. *Boyle v. United Technologies Corp.*, 487 U.S. 500 (1988).
Virginia tort law governing product design defects is preempted by federal common law as applied to suits against government contractors for damages resulting from design defects in military equipment if the equipment conformed to reasonably precise specifications and if the contractor warned the government of known dangers.

Justices concurring: Scalia, White, O'Connor, Kennedy, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.
Justices dissenting: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens.

1058. *Riley v. National Federation of the Blind*, 487 U.S. 781 (1988).
Three different aspects of North Carolina's Charitable Solicitations Act unconstitutionally infringe freedom of speech. These aspects are: limitations on reasonable fees that professional fundraisers may charge; a requirement that professional fundraisers disclose to potential donors the percentage of donated funds previously used for charity; and a requirement that professional fundraisers be licensed.

Justices concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Scalia, and Kennedy.
Justice concurring in part and dissenting in part: Stevens.
Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist, and O'Connor.

1059. *Thompson v. Oklahoma*, 487 U.S. 815 (1988).
Oklahoma statutory scheme, setting no minimum age for capital punishment, and separately providing that juveniles may be tried as adults, violates Eighth Amendment by permitting capital punishment to be imposed for crimes committed before age 16.

Justices concurring: Stevens, Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Justice concurring specially: O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: Scalia, White, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1060. *Coy v. Iowa*, 487 U.S. 1012 (1988).

Iowa procedure, authorized by statute, placing a one-way screen between defendant and complaining child witnesses in sex abuse cases, thereby sparing witnesses from viewing defendant, violates the Confrontation Clause right to face-to-face confrontation with one's accusers.

Justices concurring: Scalia, Brennan, White, Marshall, Stevens, and O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: Blackmun, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1061. *Allegheny Pittsburgh Coal Co. v. Webster County Comm'n*, 488 U.S. 336 (1989).

West Virginia county's tax assessments denied equal protection to property owners whose assessments, based on recent purchase price, ranged from 8 to 35 times higher than comparable neighboring property for which the assessor failed over a 10-year period to readjust appraisals.

1062. *Texas Monthly, Inc. v. Bullock*, 489 U.S. 1 (1989).

A Texas sales tax exemption for publications published or distributed by a religious faith and consisting of teachings of that faith or writings sacred to that faith violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Stevens.

Justices concurring specially: White, Blackmun, O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: Scalia, Kennedy, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1063. *Bonito Boats, Inc. v. Thunder Craft Boats, Inc.*, 489 U.S. 141 (1989).

A Florida statute prohibiting the use of the direct molding process to duplicate unpatented boat hulls, and creating a cause of action in favor of the original manufacturer, is preempted by federal patent law as conflicting with the balance Congress has struck between patent protection and free trade in industrial design.

1064. *Eu v. San Francisco County Democratic Central Comm.*, 489 U.S. 214 (1989).

Provisions of California Elections Code forbidding the official governing bodies of political parties from endorsing or opposing candidates in primary elections, and imposing other requirements on the organization and composition of the governing bodies, are invalid under the First Amendment. The ban on endorsements violates free speech and associational rights; the organizational restrictions violate associational rights.

1065. *Barnard v. Thorstenn*, 489 U.S. 546 (1989).

Virgin Islands' rule requiring one year's residency prior to admission to the bar violates the Privileges and Immunities Clause of Art. IV, §2. Justifications for the rule do not constitute "substantial" reasons for discriminating against nonresidents, nor does the discrimination bear a "substantial relation" to legitimate objectives.

Justices concurring: Kennedy, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and Scalia.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist and White and O'Connor.

1066. *Davis v. Michigan Dep't of Treasury*, 489 U.S. 803 (1989).

Michigan's income tax law, by providing exemption for retirement benefits of state employees but not for retirement benefits of Federal employees, discriminates against federal employees in violation of 4 U.S.C. §111 and in violation of the constitutional doctrine of intergovernmental tax immunity.

Justices concurring: Kennedy, Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, O'Connor, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justice dissenting: Stevens.

1067. *Quinn v. Millsap*, 491 U.S. 95 (1989).

A provision of the Missouri Constitution, interpreted by the Missouri Supreme Court as requiring property ownership as a qualification for appointment to a "board of freeholders" charged with making recommendations for reorganization of St. Louis city and county governments, violates the Equal Protection Clause.

1068. *Healy v. Beer Institute*, 491 U.S. 324 (1989).

Connecticut's beer price affirmation law, requiring out-of-state shippers to affirm that prices charged in-state wholesalers are no higher than prices charged contemporaneously in three bordering states, violates the Commerce Clause.

Justices concurring: Blackmun, Brennan, White, Marshall, and Kennedy.

Justice concurring specially: Scalia.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist, and Stevens O'Connor.

1069. *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397 (1989).

Texas' flag desecration statute, prohibiting any physical mistreatment of the American flag that the actor knows would seriously offend other persons, is inconsistent with the First Amendment as applied to an individual who burned an American flag as part of a political protest.

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Scalia, and Kennedy.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist and White, O'Connor, and Stevens.

1070. *The Florida Star v. B.J.F.*, 491 U.S. 524 (1989).

A Florida statute making it unlawful to print the name of a sexual assault victim is invalid under the First Amendment as applied to uphold an award of damages against a newspaper for publishing a sexual assault victim's name when the information was truthful, was lawfully obtained, and was otherwise publicly available as a result of a botched press release from the sheriff's department.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, Blackmun, Stevens, and Kennedy.

Justice concurring specially: Scalia.

Justices dissenting: White, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1071. *McKoy v. North Carolina*, 494 U.S. 433 (1990).

North Carolina's capital sentencing statute, interpreted to prevent a jury from considering any mitigating factor that the jury does not unanimously find, violates the Eighth Amendment. Instead, each juror must be allowed to consider and give effect to what he or she believes to be established mitigating evidence.

Justices concurring: Marshall, Brennan, White, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Justice concurring specially: Kennedy.

Justices dissenting: Scalia, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1072. *Butterworth v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 624 (1990).

A Florida statute prohibiting the disclosure of grand jury testimony violates the First Amendment insofar as it prohibits a grand jury witness from disclosing, after the term of the grand jury has ended, information covered by his own testimony.

1073. *Peel v. Illinois Attorney Disciplinary Comm'n*, 496 U.S. 91 (1990).

An Illinois rule of professional responsibility violates the First Amendment by completely prohibiting an attorney from holding himself out as a civil trial specialist certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

Justices concurring: Stevens, Brennan, Blackmun, and Kennedy.

Justice concurring specially: Marshall.

Justices dissenting: White, O'Connor, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1074. *Hodgson v. Minnesota*, 497 U.S. 417 (1990).

Minnesota's requirement that a woman under 18 years of age notify both her parents before having an abortion is invalid as a denial of due process because "it does not reasonably further any legitimate state interest." However, an alternative judicial bypass system saves the statute as a whole.

Justices concurring: Stevens, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and O'Connor.

Justices dissenting: Kennedy, White, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1075. *FMC Corp. v. Holliday*, 498 U.S. 52 (1990).

A provision of Pennsylvania's motor vehicle financial responsibility law prohibiting subrogation and reimbursement from a claimant's

tort recovery for benefits received from a self-insured health care plan is preempted by ERISA as “relat[ing] to [an] employee benefit plan.”

Justices concurring: O'Connor, White, Marshall, Blackmun, Scalia, Kennedy, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justice dissenting: Stevens.

1076. *Ingersoll-Rand Co. v. McClendon*, 498 U.S. 133 (1990).

A Texas common law claim that an employee was wrongfully discharged to prevent his attainment of benefits under a plan covered by ERISA is preempted as a “State law” that “relates to” a covered benefit plan. The state cause of action also “conflicts directly” with an exclusive ERISA cause of action.

1077. *Connecticut v. Doehr*, 501 U.S. 1 (1991).

A Connecticut statute authorizing a private party to obtain pre-judgment attachment of real estate without prior notice to the owner, and without a showing of extraordinary circumstances, violates the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment as applied in conjunction with a civil action for assault and battery.

1078. *Simon & Schuster v. New York Crime Victims Bd.*, 502 U.S. 105 (1991).

New York State’s “Son of Sam” law, under which a criminal’s income from works describing his crime is placed in escrow and made available to victims of the crime, violates the First Amendment. The law establishes a financial disincentive to create or publish works with a particular content, and is not narrowly tailored to serve the state’s compelling interests in ensuring that criminals do not profit from their crimes, and that crime victims are compensated.

Justices concurring: O'Connor, White, Stevens, Scalia, Souter, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices concurring specially: Blackmun and Kennedy.

1079. *Norman v. Reed*, 112 S. Ct. 698 (1992).

Two provisions of Illinois’ election law unconstitutionally infringe on the right of ballot access guaranteed under the First and Fourteenth Amendments. The first provision, as interpreted by the Illinois Supreme Court, prevented a “new political party” in Cook County from using the name of a party already “established” in the city of Chicago. The second required that new political parties qualify for the ballot by submitting petitions signed by 25,000 voters from each voting district to be represented in a multi-district political subdivision.

Justices concurring: Souter, White, Blackmun, Stevens, O'Connor, Kennedy, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justice dissenting: Scalia.

1080. *Wyoming v. Oklahoma*, 112 S. Ct. 789 (1992).

An Oklahoma statute requiring that all coal-fired Oklahoma utilities burn a mixture containing at least 10% Oklahoma-mined coal discriminates against interstate commerce in violation of the implied “negative” component of the Commerce Clause.

Justices concurring: White, Blackmun, Stevens, O’Connor, Kennedy, Souter.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justices Scalia and Thomas.

1081. *Barker v. Kansas*, 112 S. Ct. 1619 (1992).

A Kansas tax on military retirement benefits is inconsistent with 4 U.S.C. §111, which allows states to tax federal employees’ compensation if the tax does not discriminate “because of the source” of the compensation. No similar tax is applied to state and local government retirees, and there are no significant differences between the two classes of taxpayers that justify the different tax treatment.

1082. *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 112 S. Ct. 1780 (1992).

A Louisiana statute allowing an insanity acquittee no longer suffering from mental illness to be confined indefinitely in a mental institution until he is able to demonstrate that he is not dangerous to himself or to others violates due process.

Justices concurring: White, Blackmun, Stevens, O’Connor, Souter.

Justices dissenting: Kennedy, Thomas, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

1083. *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*, 112 S. Ct. 1904 (1992).

Application of the State’s use tax to mail order sales by an out-of-state company with neither outlets nor sales representatives in the State places an undue burden on interstate commerce in violation of the “negative” or “dormant” Commerce Clause. A physical presence within the taxing state is necessary in order to meet the “substantial nexus” requirement of the Commerce Clause.

1084. *Chemical Waste Management, Inc. v. Hunt*, 112 S. Ct. 2009 (1992).

Alabama’s fee for in-state disposal of hazardous wastes generated out-of-state is invalid as a direct discrimination against interstate commerce. Alabama failed to establish that the discrimination against interstate commerce is justified by any factor other than economic protectionism, and failed to show that its valid interests (e.g., protection of health, safety, and the environment) can not be served by less discriminatory alternatives. The fee is not supportable by analogy to quarantine laws, since the state permits importation of hazardous wastes if the fee is paid.

1085. *Fort Gratiot Sanitary Landfill v. Michigan Nat. Res. Dep’t*, 112 S. Ct. 2019 (1992).

Waste import restrictions of Michigan’s Solid Waste Management Act violate the Commerce Clause. The restrictions, which prohibit

landfills from accepting out-of-county waste unless explicitly authorized by the county's solid waste management plan, directly discriminate against interstate commerce and are not justified as serving any valid health and safety purposes that can not be served adequately by nondiscriminatory alternatives.

1086. *Kraft Gen. Foods v. Iowa Dep't of Revenue*, 112 S. Ct. 2365 (1992).

An Iowa statute imposing a business tax on corporations facially discriminates against foreign commerce in violation of the Commerce Clause by allowing corporations to take a deduction for dividends received from domestic, but not foreign, subsidiaries.

1087. *Gade v. National Solid Wastes Mgmt. Ass'n*, 112 S. Ct. 2374 (1992).

Illinois "dual impact" laws designed to protect both employees and the general public by requiring training and licensing of hazardous waste equipment operators are preempted by § 18(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 29 U.S.C. § 667(b), which requires states to obtain federal approval before enforcing occupational safety and health standards relating to issues governed by federal standards.

1088. *Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc.*, 112 S. Ct. 2608 (1992).

Two claims, based on New Jersey law and brought against cigarette companies for damages for lung cancer allegedly resulting from smoking, are preempted under the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act: failure-to-warn claims requiring a showing that the tobacco companies' post-1969 advertising should have included additional warnings, and fraudulent misrepresentation claims predicated on state law restrictions on advertising.

1089. *Planned Parenthood of S.E. Pennsylvania v. Casey*, 112 S. Ct. 2791 (1992).

One aspect of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act of 1982—a requirement for spousal notification—is invalid as an undue interference with a woman's right to an abortion.

II. ORDINANCES

1. *Weston v. City Council of Charleston*, 27 U.S. (2 Pet.) 449 (1829).

City ordinance which levied a tax on stock issued by the United States impaired the federal borrowing power and was void (Art. VI).

Justices Concurring: Marshall, C.J., Washington, Duvall, Story.

Justices Dissenting: Johnson, Thompson.

2. *Cannon v. New Orleans*, 87 U.S. (20 Wall.) 577 (1874).

New Orleans ordinance of 1852, imposing a charge for use of piers measured by tonnage of vessel, levied an invalid tonnage duty.

3. *Murray v. Charleston*, 96 U.S. 432 (1878).

Charleston, South Carolina, tax ordinance which withheld from interest payments on municipal bonds a tax levied after issuance of such bonds at a fixed rate of interest impaired the obligation of contract (Art. I, § 10).

Justices Concurring: Strong, Waite, C.J., Clifford, Bradley, Swayne, Harlan, Field.

Justices Dissenting: Miller, Hunt.

4. *Moran v. New Orleans*, 112 U.S. 69 (1884).

Ordinance of New Orleans, so far as it imposed license tax upon persons owning and running towboats to and from the Gulf of Mexico, was an invalid regulation of commerce.

5. *New Orleans Gas Co. v. Louisiana Light Co.*, 115 U.S. 650 (1885).

Municipal ordinance granting to a public utility an exclusive right to supply the city with gas, and state constitutional provision abolishing outstanding monopolistic grants, impaired the obligation of contract when enforced against a previously chartered utility which, through consolidation, had inherited the monopolistic, exclusive privileges of two utility corporations chartered prior to the constitutional proviso and ordinance.

6. *New Orleans Water-Works Co. v. Rivers*, 115 U.S. 674 (1885).

When a utility is chartered with an exclusive privilege of supplying a city with water, a subsequently enacted ordinance authorizing an individual to supply water to a hotel impaired the obligation of contract.

7. *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356 (1886).

San Francisco ordinance regulating certain phases of the laundry business, as arbitrarily enforced against Chinese, held to violate the equal protection of the laws.

8. *Leloup v. Port of Mobile*, 127 U.S. 640 (1888).

A Mobile, Alabama, ordinance which levied an occupational license tax on a telegraph company doing an interstate business was void.

9. *McCall v. California*, 136 U.S. 104 (1890).

Municipal ordinance which imposed a license tax on a soliciting agent for a foreign corporation was void as levying a tax on interstate commerce.

Justices Concurring: Lamar, Miller, Field, Bradley, Harlan, Blatchford.

Justices Dissenting: Fuller, C.J., Gray, Brewer.

10. *Harman v. Chicago*, 147 U.S. 396 (1893).

Chicago ordinance imposing a license tax on tug boats licensed under federal authority and engaged in interstate commerce held invalid.

11. *Brennan v. Titusville*, 153 U.S. 289 (1894).

Ordinance of Pennsylvania city requiring license tax of soliciting agent for manufacturer in another State was held invalid as imposing a tax upon interstate commerce.

12. *Walla Walla v. Walla Walla Water Co.*, 172 U.S. 1 (1898).

Washington city ordinance which authorized construction of a municipal water works impaired the obligation of a contract previously negotiated with a private utility providing the same service.

13. *Los Angeles v. Los Angeles City Water Co.*, 177 U.S. 558 (1900).

Ordinance expanding city limits beyond those to be served by a utility leasing a municipality's water works and effecting diminution of the rates stipulated in the original agreement without any equivalent compensation impaired the obligation of contract between the utility and the city.

14. *Detroit v. Detroit Citizens' St. Ry.*, 184 U.S. 368 (1902).

City ordinances, which adjusted the rate of fare stipulated in agreements made with a street railway company, held to impair the obligation of contract.

15. *Caldwell v. North Carolina*, 187 U.S. 622 (1903).

City ordinance imposing a license on photographic business, as applied to an agent of an out-of-state corporation, was held an invalid regulation of commerce.

16. *Postal Telegraph-Cable Co. v. Taylor*, 192 U.S. 64 (1904).

Pennsylvania municipal ordinance authorizing an inspection fee on telegraph companies doing an interstate business held to be an unreasonable and invalid regulation of commerce.

Justices Concurring: Peckham, Fuller, C.J., Brown, White, McKenna, Holmes, Day.

Justices Dissenting: Harlan, Brewer.

17. *Cleveland v. Cleveland City Ry.*, 194 U.S. 517 (1904).

Ordinance reducing the rate of fares to be charged by railway companies lower than cited in previous ordinances held to impair the obligation of contract.

18. *Dobbins v. Los Angeles*, 195 U.S. 223 (1904).

No change in the neighborhood having occurred between passage of two zoning ordinances, the second of which excluded a gas company from erecting a plant within the area authorized by the first ordinance was held to effect an arbitrary deprivation of property without due process of law.

19. *Cleveland v. Cleveland Electric Ry.*, 201 U.S. 529 (1906).

Ordinance according to a consolidated municipal railway an extension of the duration date of franchises issued to its predecessors, in consideration of which substantial sums were expended on improvements, gave rise to a new contract, which was impaired by later attempt on the part of the city to reduce the rate stipulated in the franchises thus extended.

20. *Rearick v. Pennsylvania*, 203 U.S. 507 (1906).

An ordinance imposing a license fee for the solicitation of orders for the sale of merchandise not of the parties own manufacture imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce when applied to a Pennsylvania agent of an Ohio company who solicited orders for the latter's products and upon receipt of the latter, consigned to a designated purchaser, consummated the sale by delivering the merchandise to such purchaser and, upon the latter's approval of the parcel delivered, collected the purchase price for transmission to the Ohio employer.

21. *Vicksburg v. Vicksburg Waterworks Co.*, 206 U.S. 496 (1907).

Municipal contract with utility fixing the maximum rate to be charged for supplying water to inhabitants was invalidly impaired by subsequent ordinances altering said rates.

22. *Londoner v. Denver*, 210 U.S. 373 (1908).

The due process requirements of notice and hearing in connection with the assessment of taxes were violated by a municipal assessment ordinance which afforded the taxpayer the privilege merely of filing objections but no opportunity to support his objections by argument and proof in open hearing.

Justices Concurring: Moody, Harlan, Brewer, White, Peckham, McKenna, Day.
Justices Dissenting: Fuller, C.J., Holmes.

23. *Minneapolis v. Street Ry.*, 215 U.S. 417 (1910).

Minneapolis ordinance of 1907, directing the sale of six tickets for 25¢, was void as impairing the contract which arose from passage of the ordinance of 1875 granting to a railway a franchise expiring in 1923 and establishing a fare of not less than 5¢.

24. *Eubank v. Richmond*, 226 U.S. 137 (1912).

Municipal ordinance requiring authorities to establish building lines on separate blocks back of the public streets and across private property upon the request of less than all the owners of the property affected invalidly authorized the taking of property, not for public welfare but, for the convenience of other property owners; and therefore was violative of due process.

25. *Williams v. Talladega*, 226 U.S. 404 (1912).

A \$100 license fee imposed by ordinance of an Alabama city on a foreign telegraph company, part of whose business income was derived from the transmission of messages for the Federal Government was void as a tax on a federal instrumentality (Art. VI).

26. *New York Central R.R. v. Hudson County*, 227 U.S. 248 (1913).

Congress, having expressly included ferries used in connection with interstate railroads in its legislation regulating interstate commerce, two New Jersey municipal ordinances fixing passenger rates for travel on ferries between New Jersey and New York points were superseded thereby and therefore invalid.

27. *Grand Trunk Western Ry. v. South Bend*, 227 U.S. 544 (1913).

South Bend, Indiana, ordinance of 1901 repealing so much of an ordinance of 1866 authorizing a railroad to lay double tracks on one of its streets impaired the obligation of contract contrary to Art. I, § 10.

Justices Concurring: Lamar, Holmes, White, C.J., Lurton, Van Devanter, McKenna, Day (separately).

Justices Dissenting: Hughes, Pitney.

28. *Owensboro v. Cumberland Telephone Co.*, 230 U.S. 58 (1913).

An ordinance of a Kentucky municipality which required a telephone company to remove from the streets poles and wires installed under a prior ordinance granting permission to do so, without restriction as to the duration of such privilege, or, in the alternative, pay a rental not prescribed in the original ordinance impaired an obligation of contract contrary to Art. I, § 10.

Justices Concurring: Lurton, White, C.J., Holmes, Van Devanter, Lamar.

Justices Dissenting: Day, McKenna, Hughes, Pitney.

29. *Boise Water Co. v. Boise City*, 230 U.S. 84 (1913).

An ordinance of an Idaho municipality adopted in 1906 which subjected a water company to monthly rental fees for the use of its streets invalidly impaired the obligation of contract arising under an ordinance of 1889 which granted a predecessor company the privilege of laying water pipes under the city streets without payment of any charge for the exercise of such right.

30. *Old Colony Trust Co. v. Omaha*, 230 U.S. 100 (1913).

An ordinance of a Nebraska municipality adopted in 1908 requiring, without any showing of the necessity therefor, a utility to remove its poles and wires from the city streets invalidly impaired an obligation of contract arising from an ordinance of 1884 granting in perpetuity the privilege of erecting and maintaining poles and wires for the transmission of power.

31. *Adams Express Co. v. New York*, 232 U.S. 14 (1914).

New York city ordinances requiring an express company to obtain a local license, exacting license fees for express wagons and drivers, and requiring drivers to be citizens, to the extent that they extended to interstate commerce, imposed invalid burdens on such commerce.
Accord: U.S. Express Co. v. New York, 232 U.S. 35 (1914).

32. *Sault Ste. Marie v. International Transit Co.*, 234 U.S. 333 (1914).

Michigan city municipal ordinance which compelled operator of a ferry between Canadian and Michigan points to take out a license imposed an invalid burden on the privilege of engaging in foreign commerce.

33. *South Covington Ry. v. Covington*, 235 U.S. 537 (1915).

Kentucky municipal ordinance, insofar as it sought to regulate the number of street cars to be run, and the number of passengers allowed in each car, between interstate points imposed an unreasonable burden on interstate commerce. Also, the requirement that temperature in the cars never be permitted to be below 50° was unreasonable and violative of due process.

34. *Gast Realty Co. v. Schneider Granite Co.*, 240 U.S. 55 (1916).

St. Louis ordinance which levied one-fourth of the cost of paving on property fronting on the street and the remaining three-fourths upon all property in the taxing district according to area and without equality as to depth denied equal protection of the laws.

35. *Buchanan v. Warley*, 245 U.S. 60 (1917).

A Louisville, Kentucky, ordinance which forbade "colored" persons to occupy houses in blocks where the majority of the houses were occupied by whites was deemed to prevent sales of lots in such blocks

to African Americans and to deprive the latter of property without due process of law.

36. *Accord: Harmon v. Tyler*, 273 U.S. 668 (1927), voiding a similar New Orleans ordinance.

37. *Accord: City of Richmond v. Deans*, 281 U.S. 704 (1930), voiding a similar Richmond, Virginia, ordinance.

38. *Northern Ohio Traction & Light Co. v. Ohio ex rel. Pontius*, 245 U.S. 574 (1918).

Resolution of county commissioners in 1912 purporting to revoke an electric railway franchise previously granted in perpetuity by appropriate county authorities in 1892 amounted to state action impairing the obligation of contract.

Justices Concurring: McReynolds, White, C.J., McKenna, Holmes, Van Devanter, Pitney.

Justices Dissenting: Clarke, Brandeis.

39. *Denver v. Denver Union Water Co.*, 246 U.S. 178 (1918).

Rates fixed by a Denver ordinance pertaining to the charges to be collected for services by a water company deprived the latter of its property without due process of law by reason of yielding a return of 4.3% compared with prevailing rates in the city of 6% and higher obtained on secured and unsecured loans.

Justices Concurring: Pitney, White, C.J., McReynolds, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna.

Justices Dissenting: Holmes, Brandeis, Clarke.

40. *Covington v. South Covington St. Ry.*, 246 U.S. 413 (1918).

Kentucky city ordinance of 1913 purporting to grant a 25-year franchise for a street railway over certain streets to the best bidder impaired the obligation of contract of an older street railway accorded a perpetual franchise over the same street.

Justices Concurring: Holmes, Pitney, White, C.J., McReynolds, Day, Van Devanter, McKenna.

Justices Dissenting: Clark, Brandeis.

41. *Detroit United Ry. v. Detroit*, 248 U.S. 429 (1919).

Detroit ordinance which compelled street railway company to carry passengers on continuous trips over franchise lines to and over nonfranchise lines, and vice versa, for a fare no greater than its franchises entitled it to charge upon the former alone impaired the obligation of the franchise contracts; and insofar as its enforcement would result in a deficit, also deprived the company of its property without due process.

Justices Concurring: Day, Pitney, White, C.J., McReynolds, Van Devanter, McKenna.

Justices Dissenting: Clarke, Holmes, Brandeis.

42. *Los Angeles v. Los Angeles Gas Corp.*, 251 U.S. 32 (1919).

Los Angeles ordinance authorizing city to establish lighting system of its own could not effect removal of fixtures of a lighting company occupying streets pursuant to rights granted by a prior franchise without paying compensation required by due process clause.

Justices Concurring: McKenna, White, C.J., Holmes, Day, Van Devanter, McReynolds, Brandeis.

Justices Dissenting: Pitney, Clarke.

43. *Houston v. Southwestern Tel. Co.*, 259 U.S. 318 (1922).

Houston ordinance was void inasmuch as the rates fixed thereunder were confiscatory and deprived the utility of its property without due process of law.

44. *Paducah v. Paducah Ry.*, 261 U.S. 267 (1923).

Fares prescribed by ordinance of Kentucky city were confiscatory and deprived the utility of property without due process of law.

45. *Texas Transp. Co. v. New Orleans*, 264 U.S. 150 (1924).

New Orleans license tax ordinance could not be validly enforced as to the business of a corporation employed as agent by owners of vessels engaged exclusively in interstate and foreign commerce, where its business was a necessary adjunct of said commerce and consisted of the soliciting and engaging of cargo, the nomination of vessels to carry it, arranging for delivery on wharf and for stevedores, payment of ships' disbursements, issuing bills of lading, and collecting freight charges.

Justices Concurring: Sutherland, Taft, C.J., Sanford, McReynolds, Butler, McKenna, Van Devanter.

Justices Dissenting: Brandeis, Holmes.

46. *Asakura v. Seattle*, 265 U.S. 332 (1924).

Seattle ordinance which confined to citizens the pawnbroking business was void as applied to a Japanese alien lawfully admitted into the United States and protected by a treaty with Japan according to nationals of the latter country the right to carry on a "trade" (Art. VI).

47. *Real Silk Mills v. Portland*, 268 U.S. 325 (1925).

Portland, Oregon, ordinance which exacted a license fee and a bond for insuring delivery from solicitors who go from place to place taking orders for goods for future delivery and receiving deposits in advance was invalid as unduly burdening interstate commerce when enforced against solicitors taking orders for an out-of-state corporation which confirmed the orders, shipped the merchandise directly to

the customers, and permitted the solicitors to retain the deposited portion of the purchase as compensation.

48. *Mayor of Vidalia v. McNeely*, 274 U.S. 676 (1927).

Ordinance of Louisiana municipality which exacted license as a condition precedent for operation of a ferry across boundary waters separating two States imposed an invalid burden on interstate commerce.

49. *Delaware, L. & W.R.R. v. Morristown*, 276 U.S. 182 (1928).

New Jersey municipal ordinance which compelled use of railroad station grounds for a public hackstand without compensation deprived the railroad of property without due process.

Justices Concurring: Brandeis, Holmes (separately).

50. *Sprout v. South Bend*, 277 U.S. 163 (1928).

Indiana municipal ordinance which exacted from motor bus operators a license fee adjusted to the seating capacity of a bus could not be validly enforced against an interstate carrier, for the fee was not exacted to defray expenses of regulating traffic in the interest of safety, or to defray the cost of road maintenance or as an occupation tax imposed solely on account of intrastate business.

51. *Nectow v. Cambridge*, 277 U.S. 183 (1928).

Massachusetts municipal zoning ordinance which placed owner's land in a residential district with resulting inhibition of use for commercial purposes deprived the owner of property without due process because the requirement did not promote health, safety, morals, or general welfare.

52. *Washington ex rel. Seattle Trust Co. v. Roberge*, 278 U.S. 116 (1928).

Municipal (Washington) zoning ordinance which conditioned issuance of a permit to enlarge a home for the aged in a residential area upon the approval of the owners of two-thirds of the property within 400 feet of the proposed building was unconstitutional and violative of due process because the condition bore no relationship to public health, safety, and morals and entailed an improper delegation of legislative power to private citizens.

53. *Lovell v. Griffin*, 303 U.S. 444 (1938).

Griffin, Georgia, ordinance which exacted a permit for the distribution of literature by hand or otherwise was violative of freedom of press as guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment by imposing censorship in advance of publication.

54. *Hague v. C.I.O.*, 307 U.S. 496 (1939).

A Jersey City ordinance forbidding distribution of printed matter and the holding, without permits, of public meetings in streets and

other public places withheld freedom of speech and assembly contrary to the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Roberts, Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Stone, Reed, Hughes, C.J. (concurred with opinions of Roberts and Stone).
Justices Dissenting: McReynolds, Butler.

55–58. *Schneider v. City of Irvington*, 308 U.S. 147 (1939).

A municipal ordinance prohibiting solicitation and distribution of circulars by canvassing from house to house, unless licensed by the police, is void as applied to one who delivered literature and solicited contributions from house to house in the name of religion. Ordinances forbidding distribution of printed matter are not made valid by limiting their operation to streets and alleys and leaving other public places free. Any burden imposed upon cities in cleaning and maintaining streets as an indirect consequence of such distribution results from the constitutional protection of freedom of speech, press, and religion guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Ordinances of Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Worcester (Massachusetts), and Irvington (New Jersey) were held unconstitutional by reason of conflict with such provision.

Justices Concurring: Hughes, C.J., Butler, Stone, Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Black.
Justice Dissenting: McReynolds.

59. *McGoldrick v. Gulf Oil Corp.*, 309 U.S. 414 (1940).

The New York City sales tax cannot be collected on sales to vessels engaged in foreign commerce of fuel oil manufactured from imported crude petroleum in bond. Thus enforced, the city ordinance is invalid as an infringement of congressional regulations of foreign and interstate commerce (Art. I, §8, cl. 3).

60. *Carlson v. California*, 310 U.S. 106 (1940).

A Shasta County, California, ordinance making it unlawful for any person to carry or display any sign or badge in the vicinity of any place of business for the purpose of inducing others to refrain from buying or working there, or for any person to loiter or picket in the vicinity of any place of business for such purpose, is unconstitutional and is violative of freedom of speech and press guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Hughes, C.J., Stone, Roberts, Black, Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy.
Justice Dissenting: McReynolds.

61. *Jamison v. Texas*, 318 U.S. 413 (1943).

A Dallas ordinance made it unlawful to throw any handbills, circulars, cards, newspapers or any advertising material upon any street or sidewalk in the city. As applied, the ordinance prohibited the dis-

semination of information, a denial of the freedom of the press, and where the handbills contained an invitation to participate in a religious activity, a denial of freedom of religion, in violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution.

62. *Largent v. Texas*, 318 U.S. 418 (1943).

A Paris City ordinance which made it unlawful for any person to solicit orders or to sell books, wares or merchandise within the residential portion of Paris without a permit is invalid as applied. The ordinance abridges the freedom of religion, speech and press guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution in that it forbids the distribution of religious publications without a permit, the issuance of which is in the discretion of a municipal officer.

63. *Jones v. Opelika*, 319 U.S. 103 (1943).

An Opelika, Alabama, ordinance imposing licenses and taxes on various businesses cannot constitutionally be applied to the business of selling books and pamphlets on the streets or from house to house. As applied the ordinance infringes liberties of speech and press and religion guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Black, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Reed, Roberts, Frankfurter, Jackson.

64. *Murdock v. Pennsylvania*, 319 U.S. 105 (1943).

An ordinance of the City of Jeanette stated that all persons soliciting therein orders for merchandise of any kind, or persons delivering such articles under orders so obtained must procure a license and pay a prescribed fee therefor in an amount measured by the time for which the license is granted. When applied to religious colporteurs engaged in dissemination of their religious beliefs through the sale of books and pamphlets from house to house, the ordinance invades freedom of religion, speech and press contrary to the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Black, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Roberts, Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson.

65. *Martin v. City of Struthers*, 319 U.S. 141 (1943).

An ordinance of Struthers, Ohio, made it unlawful for any person distributing handbills, circulars, or other advertisements to ring the door bell, sound the door knocker, or otherwise summon occupants of any residence to the door for the purpose of receiving such handbills, etc. The ordinance, as applied to one distributing leaflets advertising a religious meeting, interfered with the rights of freedom of speech and press guaranteed by the First Amendment. The ordinance, by failing to distinguish between householders who are willing to receive

the literature and those who are not, extended further than was necessary for protection of the community.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Black, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Roberts, Reed, Jackson.

66. *Follett v. McCormick*, 321 U.S. 573 (1944).

A McCormick, South Carolina, ordinance required agents selling books to pay a license fee of \$1.00 per day or \$15.00 per year. The constitutional guaranty of religious freedom under the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution precludes exacting a book agent's license fee from a distributor of religious literature notwithstanding that his activities are confined to his hometown and his livelihood is derived from contributions requested for the literature distributed.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Black, Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.

Justices Dissenting: Roberts, Frankfurter, Jackson.

67. *Nippert v. Richmond*, 327 U.S. 416 (1946).

Richmond, Va., City Code imposed upon persons "engaged in business as solicitors an annual license tax of \$50.00 plus one-half of one per centum of their gross receipts or commissions for the preceding license year in excess of \$1,000.00." Permit of Director of Public Safety was required before issuance of the license. The ordinance violated the commerce clause in that it discriminated against out-of-state merchants in favor of local ones and operated as a barrier to the introduction of out-of-state merchandise.

Justices Concurring: Stone, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Rutledge, Burton.

Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Murphy.

68. *Joseph v. Carter & Weekes Co.*, 330 U.S. 422 (1947).

A New York City law provided that for the privilege of carrying on within the city any trade, business, or profession, every person shall pay a tax of one-tenth of one per centum upon all receipts received in and/or allocable to the city during the year. The excise tax levied on the gross receipts of a stevedoring corporation is invalid since it would burden interstate and foreign commerce in violation of the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas (dissenting in part), Murphy (dissenting in part), Jackson, Rutledge (dissenting in part), Burton.

Justice Dissenting: Black.

69. *Saia v. New York*, 334 U.S. 558 (1948).

A Lockport ordinance forbidding use of sound amplification excepted public dissemination, through loudspeakers, of news, matters

of public concern, and athletic activities, provided that the latter be done under permission obtained from the Chief of Police. The ordinance is unconstitutional on its face as a previous restraint on the right of free speech in violation of the First Amendment of the Constitution, made applicable to the States by the Fourteenth Amendment. No standards were prescribed for the exercise of discretion by the Chief of Police.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.
Justices Dissenting: Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton.

70. *Terminiello v. Chicago*, 337 U.S. 1 (1949).

A Chicago ordinance proscribed the making of improper noises or other conduct contributing to a breach of the peace. Petitioner was convicted of violating said ordinance by reason of the fact that he had addressed a large audience in an auditorium where he had vigorously criticized various political and racial groups as well as the disturbances produced by an angry and turbulent crowd protesting his appearance. At this trial, the judge instructed the jury that any behavior which stirs the public to anger, invites dispute, brings about a condition of unrest, or creates a disturbance, violates the ordinance.

As construed and applied by the trial court the ordinance violates the right of free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment and made applicable to the States by the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Black, Reed, Douglas, Murphy, Rutledge.
Justices Dissenting: Vinson, C.J., Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton.

71. *Kunz v. New York*, 340 U.S. 290 (1951).

Because of prior denunciation of other religious beliefs, appellant's license to conduct religious meetings on New York City streets was revoked. A local ordinance forbade the holding of such meetings without a license but contained no provisions for revocation of such licenses and no standard to guide administrative action in granting or denying permits. Appellant was convicted for holding religious meetings without a permit.

The ordinance was held to grant discretionary power to control in advance the right of citizens to speak on religious issues and to impose a prior restraint on the exercise of freedom of speech and religion.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Black, Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Burton, Clark, Minton.
Justices Dissenting: Jackson.

72. *Dean Milk Co. v. Madison*, 340 U.S. 349 (1951).

A Madison, Wisconsin, ordinance prohibited the sale of milk as pasteurized unless it had been processed and bottled at an approved plant within a radius of five miles from the central square of Madi-

son. An Illinois corporation, engaged in gathering and distributing milk from farms in Illinois and Wisconsin was denied a license to sell milk within the City solely because its pasteurization plants were more than five miles away. The ordinance unjustifiably discriminated against interstate commerce in violation of the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Vinson, C.J., Reed, Frankfurter, Jackson, Burton, Clark.
Justices Dissenting: Black, Douglas, Minton.

73. *Gelling v. Texas*, 343 U.S. 960 (1952).

Marshall City, Texas, motion picture censorship ordinance, as enforced, was unconstitutional as denying freedom of speech and press protected by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

74. *Fowler v. Rhode Island*, 345 U.S. 67 (1953).

A Pawtucket ordinance read as follows: "No person shall address any political or religious meeting in any public park, but this section shall not be construed to prohibit any political or religious club or society from visiting any public park in a body, provided that no public address shall be made under the auspices of such club or society in such park." Because services of a Jehovah's Witnesses sect differed from those conducted by other religious groups, in that the former were marked by lectures rather than confined to orthodox rituals, that sect was prevented from holding religious meetings in parks. Thus applied, the ordinance was held to violate the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the Federal Constitution, including the equal protection clause of the latter.

75. *Slochower v. Board of Education*, 350 U.S. 551 (1956).

Section 903 of the New York City Charter provides that whenever a city employee invokes the privilege against self-incrimination to avoid answering inquiries into his official conduct by a legislative committee, his employment shall terminate. The summary dismissal thereunder, without notice and hearing, of a teacher at City College who was entitled to tenure and could be discharged only for cause and after notice, hearing and appeal, violated the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Invocation of the privilege to justify refusal to answer questions of a congressional committee concerning membership in the Communist Party in 1948–1949 cannot be viewed as the equivalent either to a confession of guilt or a conclusive presumption of perjury.

Justices Concurring: Black (concurring specially), Douglas (concurring specially), Warren, C.J., Frankfurter, Clark.
Justices Dissenting: Reed, Burton, Minton, Harlan.

76. *Holmes v. City of Atlanta*, 350 U.S. 879 (1955).

Atlanta ordinance which reserved certain public parks and golf courses for white persons only was violative of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

77. *West Point Grocery Co. v. Opelika*, 354 U.S. 390 (1957).

Ordinance of Opelika, Alabama, provided that a wholesale grocery business which delivers groceries in the City from points without the City must pay an annual privilege tax of \$250. As applied to a Georgia corporation which solicits orders in the City and consummates purchases by deliveries originating in Georgia, the tax is invalid under the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Frankfurter, Douglas, Burton, Clark, Harlan, Brennan, Whittaker.
Justice Dissenting: Black.

78. *Lambert v. California*, 355 U.S. 225 (1957).

Los Angeles Municipal Code made it unlawful for a person who has been convicted of a crime punishable in California as a felony to remain in the city longer than five days without registering with the Chief of Police. Applied to a person who is not shown to have had actual knowledge of his duty to register, this ordinance violates the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Douglas, Clark, Brennan.
Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Burton, Harlan, Whittaker.

79. *Staub v. City of Baxley*, 355 U.S. 313 (1958).

Baxley, Georgia, made it an offense to "solicit" membership in any "organization, union or society" requiring the payment of "fees [or] dues" without first receiving a permit from the Mayor and Council. Issuance or refusal may occur after the character of the applicant, the nature of the organization in which memberships are to be solicited, and its effect upon the general welfare of the City have been considered. Appellant had been convicted for soliciting memberships in a labor union without a license.

The ordinance is void on its face because it makes enjoyment of freedom of speech contingent upon the will of the Mayor and City Council and thereby constitutes a prior restraint upon that freedom contrary to the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Douglas, Black, Burton, Harlan, Brennan, Whittaker.
Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Clark.

80. *Chicago v. Atchison, T. & S.F. Ry.*, 357 U.S. 77 (1958).

As applied to a newly organized motor carrier hired by interstate railroads operating in and out of Chicago to transfer interstate pas-

sengers and their baggage between different railway terminals in that City, the provision in the Chicago Municipal Code requiring any new transfer service to obtain a certificate of convenience and necessity plus approval of the City Council is unconstitutional. Chicago has no power to decide whether the new motor carrier can operate a service which is an integral part of interstate railway transportation subject to regulations under the Federal Interstate Commerce Act.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Black, Douglas, Clark, Brennan, Whitaker.

Justices Dissenting: Frankfurter, Burton, Harlan.

81. *Smith v. California*, 361 U.S. 147 (1959).

A Los Angeles City ordinance making it unlawful for any bookseller to possess any obscene publication denies him freedom of press, as guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, when it is judicially construed to make him absolutely liable criminally for mere possession of a book, later adjudged to be obscene, notwithstanding that he had no knowledge of the contents thereof. Such construction would tend to restrict the books he sells to those he has inspected and thereby to limit the public's access to constitutionally protected publications.

Justices Concurring: Clark, Warren, C.J., Whittaker, Brennan, Stewart, Black (separately), Frankfurter (separately), Douglas (separately), Harlan (dissenting in part; separately).

82. *Bates v. Little Rock*, 361 U.S. 516 (1960).

Little Rock and North Little Rock, Arkansas, ordinances which, as a condition of exempting charitable organizations from an annual business license tax, required the disclosure of the identity of the officers and members of said organizations, as enforced against the N.A.A.C.P., denied members of the latter freedom of association, press, and speech as guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Clark, Frankfurter, Stewart, Warren, C.J., Whittaker, Harlan, Black (separately), Douglas (separately).

83. *Talley v. California*, 362 U.S. 60 (1960).

Los Angeles ordinance which forbade distribution under any circumstance of any handbill which did not have printed thereon the name and address of the person who prepared, distributed, or sponsored it was void on its face as abridging freedom of speech and press guaranteed by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Such ordinance is not limited to identifying those responsible for fraud, false advertising, libel, disorder, or littering.

Justices Concurring: Warren, C.J., Stewart, Harlan (separately), Douglas, Black.

Justices Dissenting: Clark, Frankfurter, Whittaker.

84. *Schroeder v. City of New York*, 371 U.S. 208 (1962).

New York City Water Supply Act, insofar as it authorized notification of land owners, whose summer resort property would be adversely affected by city's diversion of water, by publication of notices in January in New York City official newspaper and in newspapers in the county where the resort property was located as well as by notices posted on trees and poles along the waterway adjacent to such property, did not afford the quality of notice, i.e., to the owners' permanent home address, required by the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

85. *Camara v. Municipal Court*, 387 U.S. 523 (1967).

Ordinance authorizing warrantless entry of residential property to inspect for housing code violations violates Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments.

86. *See v. City of Seattle*, 387 U.S. 541 (1967).

Ordinance authorizing warrantless entry of commercial property to inspect for fire code violations violates Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments.

87. *Teitel Film Corp. v. Cusack*, 390 U.S. 139 (1968).

Chicago motion picture censorship ordinance is unconstitutional in several procedural aspects.

88. *Avery v. Midland County*, 390 U.S. 474 (1968).

Enactment of county commissioners court drawing boundaries for districts of election of members does not comply with required "one-man, one-vote" standard.

Concurring: Justices White, Black, Douglas, Brennan, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justices Harlan, Fortas, and Stewart.

89. *Interstate Circuit, Inc. v. City of Dallas*, 390 U.S. 676 (1968).

Ordinance providing for classification of motion pictures as not suitable for viewing by young persons does not provide adequate standards and is void for vagueness.

Concurring: Justices Marshall, Black, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, White, Fortas, and Chief Justice Warren.

Dissenting: Justice Harlan.

90. *Hunter v. Erickson*, 393 U.S. 385 (1969).

Amendment to city charter providing that any ordinance enacted by council dealing with discrimination in housing was not to be effective until approved by referendum whereas no other enactment had to be so submitted violated equal protection clause.

Concurring: Justices White, Douglas, Brennan, Fortas, Marshall and Chief Justice Warren.

Concurring specially: Justices Harlan and Stewart.

Dissenting: Justice Black.

91. *Coates v. City of Cincinnati*, 402 U.S. 611 (1971).

Ordinance making it unlawful for three or more persons to assemble on a sidewalk and conduct themselves in a manner annoying to passers-by is unconstitutionally vague and violates rights to assembly and association.

Concurring: Justices Stewart, Douglas, Harlan, Brennan, and Marshall.

Concurring specially: Justice Black.

Dissenting: Justices White and Blackmun and Chief Justice Burger.

92. *Papachristou v. City of Jacksonville*, 405 U.S. 156 (1972).

Vagrancy ordinance is void for vagueness because it fails to give a person fair notice that his contemplated conduct is forbidden, because it encourages arbitrary and erratic enforcement of the law, because it makes criminal activities which by modern standards are normally innocent, and because it vests unfettered discretion in police.

93. *Police Dep't of Chicago v. Mosley*, 408 U.S. 92 (1972).

Ordinance prohibiting all picketing within certain distance of any school except labor picketing violates equal protection clause by impermissibly distinguishing between types of peaceful picketing.

94. *Cason v. City of Columbia*, 409 U.S. 1053 (1972).

Ordinance prohibiting use of abusive language toward another as applied by court below without limitation to fighting words cannot sustain conviction.

95. *City of Burbank v. Lockheed Air Terminal*, 411 U.S. 624 (1973).

Ordinance placing an 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. curfew on jet take-offs from local airport is invalid as in conflict with the regulatory scheme of federal statutory control.

Justices Concurring: Douglas, Brennan, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices Dissenting: Rehnquist, Stewart, White, and Marshall.

96. *Lewis v. City of New Orleans*, 415 U.S. 130 (1974).

Ordinance interpreted by state courts to punish the use of opprobrious words to police officer without limitation of offense to uttering of fighting words is invalid.

Justices Concurring: Brennan, Douglas, Stewart, White, and Marshall.

Justice Concurring Specially: Powell.

Justices Dissenting: Blackmun, Rehnquist, and Chief Justice Burger.

97. *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975).

A municipal ordinance making it a public nuisance and a punishable offense for a drive-in movie theater to exhibit films containing nudity, when the screen is visible from a public street or place, is facially invalid as an infringement of First Amendment rights.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun.
Justices Dissenting: White, Rehnquist, Chief Justice Burger.

98. *Hynes v. Mayor of Oradell*, 425 U.S. 610 (1976).

Municipal ordinance requiring that advance written notice be given to local police by any person desiring to canvass, solicit, or call from house to house for a charitable or political purpose held void for vagueness.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger and Brennan, Stewart, White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Powell.
Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

99. *Linmark Associates v. Township of Willingboro*, 431 U.S. 85 (1977).

Ordinance prohibiting posting of real estate "For Sale" and "Sold" signs for the purpose of stemming what the township perceived as flight of white homeowners violated the First Amendment.

100. *Moore v. City of East Cleveland*, 431 U.S. 494 (1977).

Zoning ordinance that limited housing occupancy to members of single family and restrictively defined family so as to prevent an extended family, i.e., two grandchildren by different children residing with grandmother, violated due process clause.

Justices Concurring: Powell, Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun.
Justice Concurring Specially: Stevens.
Justices Dissenting: Stewart, Rehnquist, and White; Burger (on other grounds).

101. *Carter v. Miller*, 434 U.S. 356 (1978).

Lower court's invalidation on equal protection grounds of ordinance that permanently denies public chauffeur's license to applicants previously convicted of certain crimes while making revocation of previously licensed persons convicted of same offenses discretionary is affirmed by an equally divided Court.

102. *Village of Schaumburg v. Citizens for a Better Environment*, 444 U.S. 620 (1980).

Ordinance prohibiting door-to-door or on-the-street solicitation of contributions by charitable organizations that do not use at least 75 percent of their receipts for "charitable purposes" violates First and Fourteenth Amendment speech protections.

Justices Concurring: White, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justice Dissenting: Rehnquist.

103. *Ventura County v. Gulf Oil Corp.*, 445 U.S. 947 (1980).

County zoning ordinances governing oil exploration and extraction activities cannot be applied to company which holds lease from United States Government because federal law preempts the field.

104. *Edwards v. Service Machine & Shipbuilding Corp.*, 449 U.S. 913 (1980).

Court of Appeals decision voiding on commerce clause grounds an ordinance requiring non-local job seekers and local workers seeking new jobs to obtain identification card and to provide fingerprints, photograph, and pay fee is summarily affirmed.

105. *Town of Southampton v. Troyer*, 449 U.S. 988 (1980).

Court of Appeals decision invalidating on First Amendment grounds an ordinance barring door-to-door solicitation without prior consent of occupant, but excepting canvassers who have lived in the municipality at least six months, is affirmed.

106. *Schad v. Borough of Mount Ephraim*, 452 U.S. 61 (1981).

Zoning ordinance construed to bar the offering of live entertainment within the township violated the First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: White, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell.

Justice Concurring Specially: Stevens.

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger, Rehnquist.

107. *Metromedia v. City of San Diego*, 453 U.S. 490 (1981).

Complex ban on billboard displays within the City, excepting certain onsite signs and 12 categories of particular signs, violates First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: White, Stewart, Marshall, Powell.

Justices Concurring Specially: Brennan, Blackmun; Stevens (in part).

Justices Dissenting: Chief Justice Burger, Rehnquist.

108. *Citizens Against Rent Control v. City of Berkeley*, 454 U.S. 290 (1981).

Ordinance limiting to \$250 any contributions to committees formed to support or oppose ballot measures submitted to popular vote violates First Amendment.

Justices Concurring: Chief Justice Burger, Brennan, Powell, Rehnquist, Stevens.

Justices Concurring Specially: Marshall, Blackmun, O'Connor.

Justice Dissenting: White.

109. *Rusk v. Espinosa*, 456 U.S. 951 (1982).

Court of Appeals decision holding violative of the First Amendment ordinance regulating solicitation by charitable organizations but exempting solicitation by religious groups for "evangelical, missionary or religious" but not secular purposes is summarily affirmed.

110. *Giacobbe v. Andrews*, 459 U.S. 801 (1982).

Federal district court decision holding that New York City's plan for apportioning 10 at-large seats for the City Council among the City's five boroughs violates the one person, one vote requirements of the Equal Protection Clause, summarily affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, is summarily affirmed.

111. *City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416 (1983).

Ordinance regulating the circumstances of abortions is unconstitutional in the following respects: by requiring all abortions performed after the first trimester to be performed in a hospital, by requiring parental consent or court order for abortions performed on minors under age 15, by requiring the attending physician to provide detailed information on which "informed consent" may be premised, by requiring a 24-hour waiting period, and by requiring disposal of fetal remains in a "humane and sanitary manner."

Justices concurring: Powell, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Stevens, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices dissenting: O'Connor, White, Rehnquist.

112. *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432 (1985).

City zoning requirement of a special use permit for operation of a home for the mentally retarded in an area where boarding homes, nursing and convalescent homes, and fraternity or sorority houses are permitted without such special use permits is a denial of equal protection as applied, the record containing no rational basis for the distinction.

Justices concurring: White, Powell, Rehnquist, Stevens, O'Connor, and Chief Justice Burger.

Justices concurring specially: Marshall, Brennan, and Blackmun.

113. *Hudnut v. American Booksellers Ass'n*, 475 U.S. 1001 (1986).

Appeals court decision holding invalid under the First Amendment an ordinance prohibiting as pornography "graphic sexually explicit subordination of women" without regard to appeal to prurient interests or offensiveness to community standards is summarily affirmed.

114. *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

County ordinance regulating the operation of bingo and various card games is preempted as applied to Indian tribes conducting on-reservation games.

Justices concurring: White, Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, Powell, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices dissenting: Stevens, O'Connor, and Scalia.

115. *City of Houston v. Hill*, 482 U.S. 451 (1987).

Ordinance making it unlawful to “oppose, molest, abuse, or interrupt” police officer in performance of duty is facially overbroad in violation of the First Amendment.

Justices concurring: Brennan, White, Marshall, Blackmun, and Stevens.

Justices concurring specially: Powell, O’Connor, and Scalia.

Justice dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist.

116. *Board of Airport Comm’rs v. Jews for Jesus*, 482 U.S. 569 (1987).

Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners resolution banning all “First Amendment activities” at airport is facially overbroad in violation of the First Amendment.

117. *City of Lakewood v. Plain Dealer Publishing Co.*, 486 U.S. 750 (1988).

City ordinance vesting in the mayor unbridled discretion to grant or deny a permit for location of newsracks on public property violates the First Amendment.

Justices concurring: Brennan, Marshall, Blackmun, and Scalia.

Justices dissenting: White, Stevens, and O’Connor.

118. *City of Richmond v. J. A. Croson Co.*, 488 U.S. 469 (1989).

City’s requirement that contractors awarded city construction contracts must subcontract at least 30% of the dollar amount to “minority business enterprises” violates the Equal Protection Clause.

Justices concurring: O’Connor, White, Stevens, Kennedy, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justice concurring specially: Scalia.

Justices dissenting: Marshall, Brennan, Blackmun.

119. *New York City Bd. of Estimate v. Morris*, 489 U.S. 688 (1989).

New York City Charter procedures for electing City’s Board of Estimate, consisting of three members elected citywide (the Mayor, the comptroller, and the president of the City Council) and the elected presidents of the city’s five boroughs, violate the one-person, one-vote requirements derived from the Equal Protection Clause.

Justices concurring: White, Marshall, O’Connor, Scalia, Kennedy, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices concurring specially: Blackmun, Brennan, and Stevens.

120. *FW/PBS, Inc. v. City of Dallas*, 493 U.S. 215 (1990).

City’s licensing scheme for “sexually oriented” businesses, as applied to businesses that engage in protected First Amendment activity, constitutes an invalid prior restraint on protected activity. The ordinance fails to place a time limit within which the licensing authority must act, and fails to provide a prompt avenue for judicial review.

Justices concurring: O’Connor, Stevens, and Kennedy.

Justices concurring specially: Brennan, Marshall, and Blackmun.

Justices dissenting: White, Scalia, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

121. *County of Yakima v. Yakima Indian Nation*, 112 S. Ct. 683 (1992).

The county's excise tax on sales of allotted Indian land does not constitute permissible "taxation of land" within the meaning of § 6 of the General Allotment Act, and is invalid.

122. *R. A. V. v. City of St. Paul*, 112 S. Ct. 2538 (1992).

St. Paul, Minnesota's Bias-Motivated Crime Ordinance, which punishes the display of a symbol which one knows will arouse anger, alarm, or resentment in others on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, or gender, is facially invalid under the First Amendment because it discriminates solely on the basis of the subjects that speech addresses.

Justices concurring: Scalia, Kennedy, Souter, Thomas, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

Justices concurring specially: White, Blackmun, O'Connor, Stevens.

123. *Lee v. Weisman*, 112 S. Ct. 2649 (1992).

Providence, Rhode Island's use of members of the clergy to offer prayers at official public secondary school graduation ceremonies violates the First Amendment's Establishment Clause. The involvement of public school officials with religious activity was "pervasive," to the point of creating a state-sponsored and state-directed religious exercise in a public school; officials not only determined that an invocation and benediction should be given, but also selected the religious participant and provided him with guidelines for the content of non-sectarian prayers.

Justices concurring: Kennedy, Blackmun, Stevens, O'Connor, and Souter.

Justices dissenting: Scalia, White, Thomas, and Chief Justice Rehnquist.

124. *Lee v. International Soc'y for Krishna Consciousness*, 112 S. Ct. 2709 (1992).

A regulation of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey banning leafletting ("the sale or distribution of . . . printed or written material" to passers-by) within the airport terminals operated by the facility is invalid under the First Amendment.

Per Curiam.

Justices dissenting: Chief Justice Rehnquist, and White, Scalia, and Thomas.

**SUPREME COURT DECISIONS
OVERRULED BY SUBSEQUENT DECISION**

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS OVERRULED BY SUBSEQUENT DECISION

While the Supreme Court sometimes expressly overrules a prior decision, in a great many instances the overruling must be deduced from the principles of related cases. Obviously, there is a chance here for a difference of opinion and this will be reflected in any listing.

The present compilation was initially based primarily upon the following sources:

- Justice Brandeis dissenting in *Burnet v. Coronado Oil and Gas Co.*, 285 U.S. 393, 406–409 nn.1–4 (1932).
 Emmet E. Wilson, “Stare Decisis, Quo Vadis?” 33 *Geo. L.J.* 251, 254 n.17, 265 (1945);
 William O. Douglas, “Stare Decisis,” 49 *Colum. L. Rev.* 735–43, 756–58 (1949);
 Albert R. Blaustein and Andrew H. Field, “Overruling Opinions in the Supreme Court,” 57 *Mich. L. Rev.* 151, 184–94 (1958).

Inasmuch as there is not complete agreement among them that all of the cases listed constitute reversals by the Supreme Court of prior decisions, the following symbols have been employed to indicate the authority for inclusion in each instance:

An asterisk (*) designates reversals stated in express terms by the Supreme Court;

The letters *B*, *D*, and *A* indicate reversals listed respectively by Justice Brandeis, Justice Douglas and Professor Blaustein;

Cases not bearing a symbol have been added by the editors of this volume.

	<i>Overruling Case</i>	<i>Overruled Case</i>
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<i>B</i>	2. <i>Gordon v. Ogden</i> , 28 U.S. (3 Pet.) 33, 34 (1830)	<i>Wilson v. Daniel</i> , 3 U.S. (3 Dall.) 401 (1798)
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<i>B*</i>	5. <i>The Genessee Chief</i> , 53 U.S. (12 How.) 443, 456 (1851)	<i>A Strawbridge v. Curtiss</i> , 7 U.S. (3 Cr.) 267 (1806); and qualifying, <i>Bank of the United States v. Deveaux</i> , 9 U.S. (5 Cr.) 61 (1809) <i>The Thomas Jefferson</i> , 23 U.S. (10 Wheat.) 428 (1825); <i>The Orleans v. Phoebus</i> , 36 U.S. (11 Pet.) 175 (1837)
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- * 8. *Mason v. Eldred*, 73 U.S. (6 Wall.) 231, 238 (1868)
- BD* 9. *The Belfast*, 74 U.S. (7 Wall.) 624, 641 (1869)
- BD* 10. *Knox v. Lee* (Legal Tender Cases), 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 457, 553 (1871)
- D* 11. *Trebilcock v. Wilson*, 79 U.S. (12 Wall.) 687 (1871)
- B** 12. *Hornbuckle v. Toombs*, 85 U.S. (18 Wall.) 648, 652–653 (1874)
- D** 13. *Union Pac. Ry. v. McShane*, 89 U.S. (22 Wall.) 444 (1874)
- D** 14. *County of Cass v. Johnston*, 95 U.S. 360 (1877)
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- * 18. *United States v. Phelps*, 107 U.S. 320, 323 (1883)
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- * 20. *Morgan v. United States*, 113 U.S. 476, 496 (1885)
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- D* 22. *Philadelphia Steamship Co. v. Pennsylvania*, 122 U.S. 326 (1887)
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- BD** 24. *Leloup v. Port of Mobile*, 127 U.S. 640, 647 (1888)
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- B* 28. Pollock v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., 158 U.S. 601 (1895)
- * 29. Garland v. Washington, 232 U.S. 642, 646 (1914)
- * 30. United States v. Nice, 241 U.S. 591, 601 (1916)
- B* 31. Pennsylvania R.R. v. Towers, 245 U.S. 6, 17 (1917)
- B** 32. Rosen v. United States, 245 U.S. 467, 470 (1918)
- * 33. Boston Store v. American Graphophone Co., 246 U.S. 8, 25 (1918); and Motion Picture Co. v. Universal Film Co., 243 U.S. 502, 518 (1917)
- * 34. Terrel v. Burke Constr. Co., 257 U.S. 529, 533 (1922)
- * 35. Lee v. Chesapeake & Ohio Ry., 260 U.S. 653, 659 (1923)
- * 36. Alpha Cement Co. v. Massachusetts, 268 U.S. 203, 218 (1925)
- A* 37. Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. v. Leitch, 276 U.S. 429 (1928) (rehearing)
- * 38. Gleason v. Seaboard Ry., 278 U.S. 349, 357 (1929)
- * 39. Farmers Loan Co. v. Minnesota, 280 U.S. 204, 209 (1930)
- * 40. East Ohio Gas Co. v. Tax Comm'n, 283 U.S. 465, 472 (1931)
- * 41. Chicago & E.I.R.R. v. Industrial Comm'n, 284 U.S. 296 (1932)
- A* 42. Fox Film Corp. v. Doyal, 286 U.S. 123 (1932)
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- A** 44. Funk v. United States, 290 U.S. 371, 373, 386 (1933);
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- A* Logan v. United States, 144 U.S. 263 (1892);
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- * 64. State Tax Comm'n v. Aldrich, 316 U.S. 174 (1942)
- * 65. Williams v. North Carolina, 317 U.S. 287 (1942)
- * 66. Brady v. Roosevelt S.S. Co., 317 U.S. 575 (1943)
- * 67. Jones v. Opelika, 319 U.S. 103 (1943) (re-argument);
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- * 69. West Virginia Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette, 319 U.S. 624 (1943)
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- * 73. Smith v. Allwright, 321 U.S. 649 (1944)
- D 74. United States v. South-Eastern Underwriters' Ass'n, 322 U.S. 533 (1944)
- * 75. Girouard v. United States, 328 U.S. 61 (1946)
- A 76. Halliburton Co. v. Walker, 329 U.S. 1 (1946) (rehearing)
- A 77. MacGregor v. Westinghouse Co., 329 U.S. 402 (1947) (rehearing)
- * 78. Angel v. Bullington, 330 U.S. 183 (1947)
- A 79. Zap v. United States, 330 U.S. 800 (1947) (rehearing)
- A 80. Thibaut v. Car and General Ins. Corp., 332 U.S. 828 (1947) (on rehearing)
- D 81. Sherrer v. Sherrer, 334 U.S. 343 (1948)
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| * | 85. Oklahoma Tax Comm'n v. Texas Co., 336 U.S. 342 (1949) | Choctaw & Gulf R.R. v. Harrison, 235 U.S. 292 (1914);
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- * 97. *James v. United States*, 366 U.S. 213, 215, 221, 223, 241 (1961)
- * 98. *Mapp v. Ohio*, 367 U.S. 643, 653–655 (1961);
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- * 99. *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186, 277, 280 (1962)
- * 100. *Wesberry v. Sanders*, 376 U.S. 1 (1964)
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- * 102. *Construction Laborers v. Curry*, 371 U.S. 542, 552, 554 (1963)
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- * 105. *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 435 (1963)
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- * 108. *Malloy v. Hogan*, 378 U.S. 1, 6 (1964)
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- * 110. *Jackson v. Denno*, 378 U.S. 368, 391 (1964)
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