

# JUST SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW DONALD TRUMP OFFENDS VIRTUALLY EVERY ONE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION'S BILL OF RIGHTS

PART 1

1A

By attempting to enact Executive Order 13780, the so-called Muslim Travel Ban. Federal judges at the district *and* appellate level found this to violate the free exercise of religion.

By forcing Executive Branch personnel to sign non-disclosure agreements to gag negative comments about the president or his family.

By leveraging executive branch power over the rates the U.S. Post Office charges Amazon.com to threaten the *Washington Post* (also owned by Jeff Bezos) for unflattering reporting.

By threatening to rescind the broadcast licenses of major news networks and pursuing a policy to alter libel laws in his own personal favor.

By using the National Park Service to close sidewalks in front of White House, charge fees for sanitation and trash removal after protests on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

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When discussing gun control at a roundtable meeting of members of Congress on March 1, 2018, Trump advocated "Take the guns first, go through due process second." *This also violates 4th, 5th, and 14th Amendments.*

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There has not yet been a technical violation of the 3rd Amendment under Trump. Yet this provision in the Bill of Rights generally affirms the doctrine of civilian control of the military, and opposes government intrusion in private affairs. Trump's spokesperson calling it "highly inappropriate" for a journalist to debate a high-ranking military officer (John F. Kelley) flies in the face of the spirit of the 3rd Amendment.

Calling for a military parade during peacetime also betrays similar, authoritarian-style idolization of the "standing" military power – something to which the Bill of Rights objects.

4A

By directing ICE and Border Patrol agents to stop and arrest suspected illegal aliens without warrants or reasonable suspicion. Also, with ICE's requests that county jails detain illegal aliens longer than state law prescribes while ICE seeks a warrant to begin deportation proceedings.

5A

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By supporting aggressive use of eminent domain: government actions to condemn private property not for traditional public use like roads, bridges, or schools, but to build industrial projects or develop real estate. "I think eminent domain is wonderful," he told Fox News in 2015.

By disparaging the right not to serve as a criminal witness against oneself. "The mob takes the 5th," Trump said of Hilary Clinton staffers who pleaded the 5th about her email server. Trump himself "took the 5th" by refusing to respond to 97 questions in a single 1990 divorce deposition regarding Ivana Trump.

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By repeatedly, throughout his life, in and out of public office, demeaning the criminal justice system – and the many protections, such as trial by jury, that come with it.

6A

In July 2018 Trump tweeted, re. illegal aliens, "...Country being forced to endure a long and costly trial. Tell the people "OUT," and they must leave, just as they would if they were standing on your front lawn. Hiring thousands of "judges" does not work and is not acceptable - only Country in the World that does this!"

In his infamous full-page newspaper ad after the 1989 Central Park attack of jogger Trisha Meili, he stated: "Criminals must be told that their CIVIL LIBERTIES END WHEN AN ATTACK ON OUR SAFETY BEGINS!"

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PART 2

7A

By pushing for wide-ranging tort reform and seeking to impose forced arbitration agreements in all kinds of contracts, most notably and recently in a February 28, 2017, speech to a joint session of Congress.

The policies the president is pursuing would undermine the right to a trial by jury in civil suits and equity suits.

8A

By advocating, as he did in March 2018, for drug dealers to receive the death penalty.

This would amount to "cruel and unusual punishment" under the Constitution because drug-related offenses have never in U.S. history been capital crimes.

Criminal code reform was one of the great legacies of Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson loathed the medieval trappings of the Anglo-Saxon law the American colonies had brought over from Britain. Of particular offense to Jefferson was the ancient axiom of *lex talionis* ("an eye for an eye") – which is precisely what Trump endorses here.

"All were agreed," Jefferson wrote of his collaboration with other legal reformers who successfully revamped the Virginia Constitution, "that the punishment of death should be abolished, except for treason and murder."

9A

The Constitution explicitly enumerates several essential civil rights – such as the 5th Amendment's protection of due process and private property and the 15th Amendment's protection against using race to deny or abridge voting rights.

Trump's Department of Health and Human Services has re-categorized Native Americans simply as members of a "race," with no other special status. By doing so, the Trump Administration is citing those specific Constitutional civil rights to deny and disparage rights held by Native Americans.

Treaties dating back to the times of the Founding Fathers, as well as the Constitution's Art., I Sec. 8, Cl. 3, establish Indian tribes as sovereign governments. Federal statutes and court decisions recognize Native American prerogatives to health care, educational assistance, and adoption laws. During Trump's time in office these laws and programs are being overturned and dismantled.

10A

With the president's attempts to force local police jurisdictions to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement officers. This violates the 10th amendment because police power has always been reserved to the states. The federal government cannot compel states to enforce immigration law. Similar legal findings, such as in *Printz v. U.S.*, have been celebrated as major conservative victories.

By empowering a Justice Department that seeks to enforce federal anti-marijuana laws within states that, like California, have legalized or decriminalized marijuana use.

By empowering a Department of the Interior to expand offshore oil drilling even in states that, like California, Washington, and Oregon, have passed regulations to limit it.