Lincoln’s Constitutionalism in Time of War: Lessons for the War on Terror?

Panel 1: Suspending Rights to Sustain Public Safety: Wartime Suspensions of Habeas Corpus by Presidents Lincoln and Bush

This panel will discuss and debate when it is appropriate for a president to suspend the writ of habeas corpus and the proper measures for suspending civil liberties to protect public safety, comparing and contrasting constitutional approaches by President Lincoln in the Civil War and President Bush during the War on Terror.


The panel will consider the positive and negative effects of wartime economics, with particular attention to the institutional setting of public finance, and monetary and fiscal policy. The panel will compare and analyze various models of public finance during wartime, including President Lincoln’s Greenback, the financing of the American Revolution, and Federal Reserve support for Treasury financing during World War II. Panelists will also consider the possible applications of such models to present day public finance requirements for the War on Terror.

Panel 3: Civil Liberties for Civil Rights: Justifying Wartime Decline of Civil Liberties by a Gain of Civil Rights

The Civil War and the War on Terror present two wartime models where Americans’ civil liberties were restricted. This panel will consider whether wartime limitations on Americans’ civil liberties are necessary to avoid military defeat, and if so, how such limitations effect the subsequent creation and alteration of various civil rights.

Panelists: Robert Auerbach, Professor of Public Affairs at the University of Texas; Michael A. Bernstein, Provost and Professor of History and Economics at Tulane University; Timothy Canova, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Chapman University School of Law; Marjorie Cohn, President of the National Lawyers Guild and Professor of Law at Thomas Jefferson School of Law; Katherine Darmer, Professor of Law, Chapman University School of Law; Lynne M. Pierson Doti, David & Sandra Stone Professor of Economics at Chapman University; John C. Eastman, Dean and Donald P. Kennedy Chair in Law, Chapman University School of Law; Jonathan Hafetz, Director of Litigation, Liberty and National Security Project at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law; Jeffrey Rogers Hummel, Associate Professor of Economics at San Jose State University; Celestine Richards McConville, Associate Dean of Administration, Chapman University School of Law; Roger Pilon, Vice President for Legal Affairs at the CATO Institute; Robert Pushaw, James Wilson Endowed Professor of Law at Pepperdine University School of Law; Kyndra Rotunda, Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, Chapman University School of Law; Scott Sullivan, Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law at the University of Texas; John Yoo, Fletcher Jones Distinguished Visiting Professor, Chapman University School of Law.

Keynote Address by Harry V. Jaffa

Harry V. Jaffa, the inaugural Distinguished Visiting Emeritus Professor at Chapman University School of Law, is a Professor Emeritus at Claremont McKenna College and previously taught at Ohio State University. A world-renowned Abraham Lincoln Scholar, he is the author of numerous articles and books, including *Crisis of the House Divided: An Interpretation of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates.*

Keynote lunch included with registration (except students). To pre-register, contact jesso100@email.chapman.edu. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.