

Democracy

The Constitution is a teething ring, weaning us from a liquid diet of feudalism to the solid sustenance of self-control. Though we resist self-control. We expect the strong to dominate the weak, excess to outshine modesty, self-interest to power innovation, retaliation to teach consideration.

We cling to the teething ring. Draw strength from it. Wield it, dripping, like a flaming sword.

While observing “the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer.”

We thank the Constitution—our “Government of Laws, not men”—for our personal good fortune. Gladly give to the poor—as they get poorer. Give to the rich—as they get richer.

Wait patiently for Laws to be born—as if Laws solve problems, not people.

Consider, what if peace and happiness is not only the *goal* of good government, but the means to achieve it?

Leaders who are peaceful and happy surely produce more peace and happiness than leaders who aren't.



Holy Writ

The United States Constitution



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Holy Writ

The United States Constitution. Heart and soul of the greatest Democracy the world has ever known.

We learn about it in school. Pass tests. Then forget the words.

Or take it more seriously and read it from time to time.

Either way, we know what it says. It gives us *rights*.

The right to vote. The right to promote our opinions as if they're true. The right to buy weapons. . . .

So how are we doing? Forget about poverty—that's too tough. Forget about war. There will always be enemies. Traffic accidents? Can't be helped. The environment? The fault of corporations. Drugs? Obesity? Unhappiness? It's a free country.

So really, how are we doing? Is this as good as it gets?

High Priests

No more than nine of us at a time will spend the remainder of our lives as a High Priest of American Constitutional Democracy—discovering such interesting—and antithetical— notions as Separate but Equal, Corporate Personhood, and the extra-governmental Federal Reserve.

The Supreme Court. The Constitution also declares two Legislative bodies and an Executive Branch.

The Constitution is very specific on such details as the President needing to be at least 35 years old—but says nothing about the spending required to *become* President.

The Constitution has remained largely untouched since the days of powdered wigs and feathered caps. So much has changed in the world since then. How does the Constitution keep up?