Remaking the Constitution Political Science

Abstract

The Constitution has served our country as the source of foundational concepts used to govern our society for centuries. This document served as an interpretation that a group of individuals began to use to form their own opinions on how the government should be ran. The Federalists believed that the Constitution would be effective while the Anti-Federalists opposed the idea of ratifying the Constitution. A nation as great as the United States of America needed a source of order placed in our government strong enough to withhold the test of time. Through centuries the Constitution has held its ground as the backbone of the country until recently. Through the years the constitution has not been as fair as the government has made it out to be. It has occasionally failed America at times. The Constitution has had a great deal of strength over the years, but there comes a time when even something as ancient as this document created by the founders of the United States of America, needs to be updated for modern times. As the world continues to evolve daily America needs something to be equally as evolving.

*Keywords: updated, constitution, and evolve*

Evolving the Constitution

Over generations the constitution has been the backbone to the United States of America. The constitution has clarified situations that seemed impossible to handle. The constitution was created to set America on the right track by having laws and regulations that would be beneficial to everyone. The constitution was set in place to establish rules to keep the country from becoming hectic. It has withheld through the hand of time, being the “go to” for things that no one could quite understand. Even as good as it has been, it has never truly been fair. When the Founding Fathers of the United States of America were creating the constitution, they had a specific group of people in mind that they were fitting the constitution for. Not everyone can truly agree that this is “the land of the free and the home of the brave”. Certain groups are singled out daily and have been forced to live in fear for centuries. The constitution does not always protect minorities or ethnic groups other than Caucasian individuals. The constitution became official in 1787 on September 17th. Since then the world has been evolving and changing daily. The constitution should be revised and updated to fit this generation more appropriately.

I believe that the constitution is antiquated, dated, and in need of revision. The times have changed, and America is not how it used to be. The constitution had stated in the past that African Americans were three fifths of a person, so we should not be relying on something that cannot consider each individual equal. When the founding fathers created the constitution majority of the technology we have now was not even thought of. Since the creation of the constitution people have become more heartless and less honest. The government system is corrupted and they are not ensuring the best interest of society anymore. There has been a lot of cover ups especially in the matter of the police brutality. The government is giving the people in power too much control over others. The constitution was created for simpler times, but as time goes on the world becomes more exotic. Citizens of the United States are not looking out for each other as they used too back in previous points of history. Over the years the constitution has become damaged and broken. Honestly the constitution was never made for people of color. The constitution should be made over with current rules that apply to the situations that happen now.

The Constitution should also be made in regards to every ethnicity or cultural group within the

United States. The constitution was meant to establish freedom and have the sense of unity.

Freedom has been portrayed to be like something that sounds nice, but almost impossible to find. There are only a few sightings of it, and unless you are Caucasian you will never truly experience freedom or have the opportunity to live it. Everything comes with a cost because nothing is truly free. I believe that by updating the constitution it could produce a more secure feeling for the minority community within the country. It will give society back the feeling of unity and love. Having the constitution updated can strengthen the backbone of America. It could spark patriotism and a new-found love for citizens that reside in this country. Even though the government has had its fair share of mistakes, it is never too late to start making a change for the better. If things continue to go in this direction, we can only assume chaos will follow.

There is a lot of evidence that can back my opinion with facts and information. For example, the recent police brutality and shootings that have been taking place is my number one prime example. Police officers have been shooting and killing African Americans who were reaching for licenses, sitting in their cars, and surrendering by putting their hands in the air. According to Jackson (2017), It’s rare for officers in the United States to be convicted for murder. Not only is the police to blame, but the government for allowing officers to have so much power. Another example of a flaw within the Constitution is, a Caucasian woman named Katherine Jennings killed her infant and was sentenced to five years of probation. According to the *Mto News* article “A North Carolina woman will not be spending a day in jail after admitting to killing her infant baby.” According to Haglage (2015), An African American man named Jeff Mizanskey served twenty-one years in prison for a non-marijuana crime. This is a prime example of the type of privilege groups of people have based on the constitution is in favor of them.

To become a federal judge, you must first be nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate which is found in Article III of the U.S Constitution. Becoming a federal judge may seem less complex to some because you don’t need to be a lawyer and the choice of who could become a federal judge is placed in the hands of the President by nomination. Although these are facts, there are many more steps needed in becoming a federal judge. After the candidate, has won the nomination, he/she will fill out a questionnaire that is reviewed the by the Senate Judiciary Committee. The Committee then will hold a hearing with the candidate where they discuss their past rulings, opinions on being a judge, and the state of their judicial philosophy. The Senate Judiciary Committee will discuss whether they decide to approve the candidate or them after the hearing. If the candidate is approved by the Committee, they will then be voted on by the entire Senate. The nominee then has the decision to accept or decline the offer to serve a life sentence as a federal judge.

Questioning the nominee of a federal or Supreme Court judge is a good idea so that the

Senate Judiciary Committee can have an idea of the candidates’ mental aspect of how the Constitution should be interpreted. Holding a hearing in which the nominee gives insight on certain ideas can open bias thoughts or beliefs that may be exposed in questioning. It is important to know how the federal judges view the Constitution as well as getting to know their opinion on the Constitution of the United States of America. One good reason to question candidates for the United States Supreme Court is because once the candidate is sworn in, his/her term can last for the rest of their lives unless they are impeached. Gaining a mental perspective of how an appointed federal judge views the Constitution is very important to some because a Supreme

Court Justice has the power to alter decisions in big cases that the Supreme Court decides to take.

Any candidate for the United States Supreme Court should be able to professionally disclose their opinion on specific landmark cases held by the Supreme Court. In order for a judge to become competent of upholding the expectations that have been placed on his/her shoulder, the judge must first obtain prior knowledge of the cases that the Supreme Court of the United States has handled. Speaking their mind on cases such as Brown v. Board of Education could shine light on certain subjects of the case that may or may not have been highlighted while the case was on trial. Asking the nominees questions on specific trials gives the Supreme Court Justices as well as the entire nation the opportunity to see how the nominee feels about important

trials.

The candidate’s response to these questions should affect the impact of the vote on their nomination if they cannot answer the questions efficiently or if the candidate refuses to answer certain questions. Depending on their perspective on the cases, their response should determine whether they should get picked to lead in such a prestigious role.

Due to society evolving and advanced technology the constitution should be

revised to stay updated with the rest of society. It is evident that the United States Constitution needs to be remade for the use of the modern day and age. Although the Constitution has upheld the test of time it could use modifications to better suit all ethnic groups within the United States of America.

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