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# I'VE STUDIED THE CONSTITUTION, BUT STILL HAVE MANY QUESTIONS!

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I am a retired clinical social worker with a major in philosophy at UVa and an MSW at Syracuse. Since retirement I began studying the Constitution more, and I still wonder why so many say we are a democracy when the Constitution says we are a republic, and never mentions "democracy." Or why so many want a "Living Constitution" when the Constitution foresaw the need for changes through the amendment process. Or, why Law Schools focus primarily, or even entirely, on case study to the neglect of the Constitution, itself. As well as many other such questions.

 0  · [flag](#)**Carla L. Mitchell** · 2 days ago 

I hear you Roy. When I was in primary school all through high school that's what we would say every morning " I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all, "every morning and my father had to come to the school from work because my question was why do I have to give my allegiance to a republic. All I would think was The Chez Republic and places like that not really understanding why.

One definition of the word allegiance states, a duty of fidelity said be owned by a subject or a citizen to his/her state or sovereign. Sounds like the English monarch to me. King/ Queen or ruler. I personally have many ancestors who left England in the 1600's - 1800's because they were invaded by the Britians' in early 1060's. It is written in the Domesday Book where they took our land and such.

The name Tinsley. They erased the head off our family crest once they took the land and possessions. That's when they had one of the women in the family marry a Wentworth - also now today Fitz-Williams. They enjoy it to this day!! My grandfather lived for 103 years. He use to call it the spoils of war. I was in my late teens and didn't understand it. I get it now!!

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Albert Strong · 2 days ago 🔒

Carla.

Scholars often discuss the section of the Constitution insures that each state will have a republican form of government. The General agreement is the Founders did not specify the meaning and thus no one knows exactly what they meant, thus the clause has never been invoked to my knowledge.

As an amateur geneologist I trace my roots thru several lines back to Great Britain also. The Strong's were Puritians but the rest of the lines were just poor people looking for a better life and a bit of land.

But for the Record, The Normans invaded England in 1066. They conquered what were then the mostly Anglo/Saxon population. The Britons were a dominate people of Celts who when the Romans left Britain, were left to resist the Germanic Anglos and Saxons (who actually had been invited over to help resist the Vikings). These British tribes, who became Christians when the Romans adopted that religion, were pushed back into Wales, Cornwall and across the Channel to Brittany in France. It was their Christian resistance to the Pagan Germanic Tribes that inspired the King Arthur stories.

↑ 0 ↓ · flag

Anonymous · a day ago 🔒

Actually the development of Christianity in Britain and Ireland happened with little influence of Rome. Constantine found the idea of having the Roman Empire go Christian while at what is now the basement of Yorkminster. But the Roman games at the Coliseum did not change so there was no conversion of the heart of behavior by the Roman Empire and its people before it totally fell apart in the second sacking of Rome in 455AD. For the next several centuries what happened was that Patricus (St Peter) escaped from slavery in druid run Ireland and converted to Christianity in a monastery.

Knowing the habit of Druids to do human sacrifice, Patricus went back to Ireland and told them there was no need to sacrifice a child to guarantee their next harvest because Jesus had already done it.

Basically Ireland did an almost instantaneous conversion to Christianity in somewhere less than 20 or thirty years. From that point to when they first came under attack from first the Vikings and later the British the Irish lived in a Libertarian paradise. Zero central authority. And during this time their philosophy invented common law - "every calf has a cow" protection of intellectual property.

Ireland prospered and sent monks as missionaries all over Europe. Most kings would have an Irish wise man as advisor to the crown.

The Christian faith moved to Islands like Iona and you will see a wonder hand inscribed Bible for the 8th Century that was written on Iona in the 8th century. Christianity then was spread over Scotland and Northumbria and then south by Irish monks who had no idea at all that they were subservient to Rome. When Britain conquered the Irish then installed the Roman Catholic Church back over Ireland.

But the idea of every man a priest, the Geneva Bible and (individual salvation as the key to part Christianity) is why common law grew up in England and the Napoleonic Code is what is law in Catholic countries.

Common law is vastly superior to the Napoleonic Code (if you have a law suit do you want it in the USA or Mexico or Italy or France?) Lex Rex (the Law is King) naturally was spawned in Scotland and not France or Germany. Even today we have a president who has a pen and a phone so he does not have to pay attention to the law ... this is Rex Lex -> the King is Law. This is exactly why we rebelled from British rule and over 50% of Americans voted to bring back the King is Law.

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Carla L. Mitchell · a day ago 🔒

I can respect what you are saying, many of my ancestors were from many cultures, My Tinsley ancestors were Celtic, Scottish and Britain, my Sanders ancestors were Celtic, Prussian and German, my Dawson ancestors were Irish and Britain, my Thomas' ancestors were Anglo/ Saxony Irish and British and my list goes on and on. They came to this country and married my Native American ancestors and had children. I am sick and tired of so much misinformation. I was taught by them all, as it has been this way for 1,000's of years.

I have some ancestors who were from the Sudan, those times, they migrated to Ghana and others through Egypt to finally end up here in the Americas at least 24,000 years ago. check [heritagedaily.com](http://heritagedaily.com) It is proven a lot of what you read, have read and see by those who control communications globally are lies. Also, I have had DNA analysis done and what my ancestors have told us for generations was extremely accurate.

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Albert Strong · a day ago 🔒

Anonymous:

Your version of history in the Roman Empire flies in the face of almost every history book I am familiar with, especially that of Gibbon, the most famous of Roman Historians. Constantine did not require people to become Christian, however, gave them strong incentive and the Church special place in the government of the Empire. Christianity, not under Constantine, but soon afterward became the official religion of the Roman Empire.

I point to two things among many that should give you pause:

1) The **Pontifex Maximus** (head priest), a title held in the present day by the Pope, is an ancient Roman title held by many famous Romans including Julius Ceasar. The persecution you refer to, except for a brief instance under one of Constantine's sons (Julian disappears from the Roman stage.

There is a Roman history site online I will provide a link to which is worth readding in toto, but does relate the following:

*Theodosius and his western counterpart Gratian, recognized Christianity as the official religion of the Empire in 380 AD. Gratian too, likely at the partial behest of Theodosius refused the title of Pontifex Maximus (head priest) and it was bestowed instead on the Catholic Pope in Rome.*

<http://www.unrv.com/culture/christianity.php>

2) Constantine convened the **Council of Nicaea**, the first council of Christian Bishops which established Christian Orthodoxy and is considered the first coucil of the now Catholic Church (considered that by the Catholic Church itself). The Concil dealt with many issues but foremost among them was collecting and sanctioning the books that make up our present day bilble and excluding many other books circulating at the time. I.E., he was responsible fo the Codex we know today as the Christian Bible.

This can be googled anytime and produce lengths of proofs too numerous to list.

As for how Christianity came to the British Isles, I respectfully disagree with your history and provide a site from the UK which shows a different story than yours but does incorporate you story but not as a start for christianity, but as an important episode in a longer narrative.

<http://www.ucb.co.uk/content/roots-map>

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Albert Strong · a day ago

Anon.

Aside from the History problem, you cite the Neopolean Code (Civil) as the basis of law in Catholic Countries.

Civil law countries trace their codes back to the Roman Emporor Justinian. Civil law is considered laws transmitted via the Romans. <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/535institutes.asp>

Quebec is a civil law province in Canada, a location never ruled by Neopolean, so, being controlled by the British, how did they come to get it. Under Napoleon the French updated their civil code which is very famous, but it was hardly enthusiastically adopted by "catholic countries" especially given the history of Revolutionary France.

Common Law Countries inherit their code from Britian some sources tracing it to the Complilations by William the Conqueror and others throwing it further back to the Anglo-Saxon traditions practiced in the Bristish islands. In the World today Common law countries are the UK and lands colonized by the British. The rest of the world are Civil law countries (or possibly Moslem law countries?).

A google of common law vs civil law countries retrieves a mixed bag of maps. you should google it yourself, but nowhere the the Napoleonic code mapped, simply civil law.

As the the superiority of Common law over Civil Law, I grew up in a common law country and am too prejudiced to make the judgement, however, across the River in Lousiana from where I grew up, the State practices Civil law as a basis for their courts of equity. They may have a different view than us, and both they and Quebec, as part of Common law countries have had many chances to revised their procedures and choose not to. For whatever that might be worth as a measure.

These discussions are off topic from this course, so I am disengaging from any more discussions with Anonymous people,

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Anonymous · 20 hours ago 🔒

Check out the law of Louisiana - based on the Napoleonic code. Mexico. Go to Paris and visit Napoleon's tomb. Napoleon claims it was the best thing he ever did. The key here is not what part of civil code belongs to whom.

The take away point is that common law is vastly superior to civil law and the Napoleonic Code. Before NAFTA Americans would typically purchase beach front property south of TJ and then 10 years or so later someone would show up and have a superior claim and the Americans would lose everything based Mexican law (oxymoron).

The origins of common law do not have anything to do with the influence of the Catholic Church or William the Conqueror - it started centuries earlier with St Columbo. First case of common law - "every cow has its calf." The key it that Christianity removed from the input of Rome was the causal agent and common law moved into Scotland and England as a consequence Lex Rex and then John Locke's our rights come from the Creator of life, liberty and property.

The Declaration of Independence marks the origin of our country so it is on point.

St. Columba (sometimes Columbkille, Columcille, Calum Cille, or other variations) was an Irish Gaelic missionary and one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland. Those twelve were saints who studied under St. Finian at Clonary Abbey.

Columba was known for constant study and prayer--really, really constant. He is said to have written 300 books, by hand of course, continuing to transcribe up to the night before he died.

Finian and Columba got into a disagreement over a psalter. (According to one longer version of the story, it was the Vulgate, a Latin translation of the Bible and the first copy of it to reach Ireland, which would make it a pretty appealing piece of literature.) Columba borrowed the manuscript from Finian--possibly without permission--and secretly copied it with the intention of keeping it for his own use. But Finian said no, that this was theft--illegal copying! He demanded that Columba hand over the copy he had made.

Finian took the matter to King Diarmait mac Cerbhiall, the High King of Ireland, for arbitration. Believing he had done nothing wrong in his attempt to spread the word of the church, Columba agreed. (It didn't hurt his expectations that Diarmait was a relative.)

Finian's argument was simple: My book. You can't copy it. He felt that if anyone was going to copy it that it should be done through certain procedures and certainly not in secret under his own roof.

Columba's response was not all that different from those in favor of less restriction in digital duplication--that the book had not suffered by his copying. "It is not right," he said, "that the divine words in that book should perish, or that I or any other should be hindered from writing them or reading them or spreading them among the tribes." In his closing address, he told the court that those who owned the knowledge through books were obligated to spread the knowledge by copying and sharing them. He felt that to not share knowledge was a far greater offense than to copy a book that lost nothing by being copied.

But the king ruled in Finian's favor, famously saying, "To every cow belongs its calf; to every book its copy." In other words, every copy of a book belonged to the owner of the original book.

Of course, the story didn't end there. After more arguing and Columba's next offense (harboring a fugitive from Diarmait), the result was the Battle of Cúl Dreimhne, the death of 3,000 people, and Columba's exile.

<http://opensource.com/law/11/6/story-st-columba-modern-copyright-battle-sixth-century-ireland>

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Anonymous · 20 hours ago 🔒

Albert,

During and after Constatine, the games at the Coliseum continued. That means dwarves fighting fat ladies to the death was considered humor until Rome fell into destruction in 455.

At that point there was no connection to Ireland and any ability to influence Patricus (St Patrick). Before Luther, he read the text of the Bible and was instructed by what it said (Sola scripture) rather than what a Pope in Rome might say it said. Irish priests felt themselves equals to a priest on Rome (including the Pope).

Thus freedom was borne from the Bible and proceeded to common law, then Rutherford's Lex Rex. and finally to John Locke. Ireland, until the invasion of the Vikings, lived and prospered without any central government authority and spawned common law. In other words, government was not needed because the people were to a large degree under self-control based on Christian values.

Libertarians will never produce a decent society because Ayn Rand grew up in the USSR and only saw how bad socialism can get a country. When people have internal control based on a valid set of morals they don't need external control.

Liberals want to take away all our freedom because they don't want others to have the freedom that they reserve for themselves. This is exactly why socialists penetrated mainstream protestant churches over a century ago (social gospel) - turn them socialist to nullify their impact on the culture. As a consequence people have fled the Methodist and other protestant churches in droves.

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ROY SHOULTS SR · 2 days ago 🔒

Thanks, Carla. One has to keep in mind that it was a democracy that put Socrates to death, and that as Benjamin Franklin said, "Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch." The danger of a democracy is when 51% can over-rule and rule the other 49%. The American Republic was the Founding Fathers attempt to keep the best of "democracy" while blunting its potential evils. When one considers "the Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire," The "Rise" corresponds roughly to the centuries of the Roman Republic, and the "Fall" with the advent of the Caesars.

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Carla L. Mitchell · a day ago 🔒

They all plagiarized the Ancient Egyptians and pillaged the Great Ancient Library of Alexandria and rewrote it and passed it off as their own. So if you truly want to know the truth, go to Egypt and read the Ancient Tablets and other artifacts that date hundreds of thousands of years before even their relatives for many generations.

Rome came up with Christianity during the time they killed Socrates and Aristotle because they could not understand what they were trying to teach and express what they have learned. When I say

ancient, a lot of my ancestors were Vedic, Celtic and the others I listed above. I don't care what they write and try to pass off.

I'm not buying it. Some of my ancestors were present during the meetings in creating this document and fought in the Mexican Indian War, the Revolutionary War the Civil War, World War I and II, Vietnam, Iran, Iraq and the list goes on. All about someone wanted to control something they do not know. Do you really think my ancestors were not present when they were meeting and producing these documents. Where do you think Abraham Lincoln had an office at when he was a lawyer before he became the President of the United States. Upstairs in Thomas Tinsley's store.

↑ 0 ↓ · flag



Albert Strong · a day ago

The Death of Socrates, at the hands of Athens, was hundreds of years before the advent of Christianity. And the Romans did not kill Aristotle. There is something wrong with this thread.

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[+ Comment](#)

Karl Frank Signature Track · 21 hours ago

Roy,

As I understand it, a Republic by definition places sovereignty in the people, not in an inherited aristocracy, dynastic prince or king or emperor. A democracy says the people exercise the actually day-to-day power of the government.

Our constitution is not a strict democracy, since it is at best a representative democracy (the House being the obvious gesture towards true representative democracy), and the senate in particular is an echo of the aristocratic house of lords in GB, and was included AFAIK to placate those who in the 1780s believed that democracy was dangerously prone to lead to dictators and tyrants who appealed to popular prejudice (think of the popularity of Hitler), because our senate is not proportioned to the population, but provides every state with 2 senators, is not representative.

The most famous original republic, Rome (before Caesar began the slide to bring in an Emperor), had a senate and elected administrators with a limited term (the consuls), was regarded as a generally good thing (though to be improved on) by the founders.

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ROY SHOULTS SR · 19 hours ago

Your exactly correct, Karl. The Founding Fathers improved on the Roman Republic, for one, by creating a Republic that had democratic elections of those chosen to govern. The present danger of "democracy" is not only that it has led to a Hitler, but also potentially to one who may choose to ignore



both Houses of Congress, and lead with a pen and a phone.

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Carla L. Mitchell · 18 hours ago

Well that's interesting. Roy it seems to me that you rather enjoy history as much as I do. So I will keep my thoughts of that off the forum for even though you have to go back in history to really understand the group of individuals who drafted this document, I

will give you verifiable scientific evidence to state different from one of the most three impactful Scientific Journals, Nature with documentation for years of extensive research and printed as recently as 1/27/14. Feel free to email me at [carlatmitchell@gmail.com](mailto:carlatmitchell@gmail.com) and I will give you documentation regarding my views stated in an earlier post.

Not from a website or newspaper owned by those in the David Icke - Federal Reserve System Fraud. That was an interesting read a few years back, being a retired for 31 years and ran the Foreign Exchange Investigations Desk at a bank entirely by myself during my finance career. Very interesting facts that needs to be looked at and serious consideration given to the implications stated.

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Anonymous · 19 hours ago

David Icke - Federal Reserve System Fraud



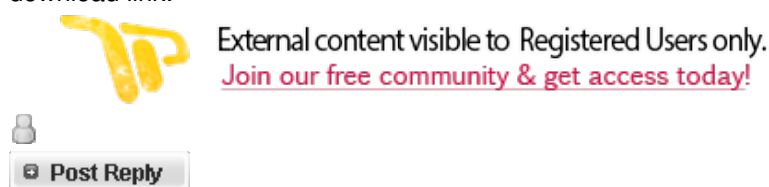
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Anonymous · 18 hours ago 

anon,

Friedman explained how the money system is supposed to work. The fact is that if we paid off our debt we would have no economy so balanced budget advocates are supporting financial suicide. We had great booms and busts on the gold standard.

William Jennings Bryan was actually a monetarist calling for a loosening of credit when the money supply was too tight from paying off of the federal debt from the Civil War and massive increase in productivity in farming and the industrial revolution.

He lost big in the second election because of the huge gold strike in Canada which released a massive amount of gold into the economy. The money supply has to grow to meet increases in productivity or money increases in value.

Farmers back then were losing farms left and right because they are heavy borrowers of cash and had to pay back a lot more value than they were borrowing. Thus they raised more crops that dropped the price even further.

That is why even until today you have basic people otherwise not liberal voting democrat (virtually up to socialism and Marxism) because of the trauma the central banking system placed on their backs.

Frank Baum's Wizard of Oz is an allegory about the gold standard. (Oz = ounce).

<http://prosperityuk.com/2001/01/a-wonderful-wizard-of-oz-a-monetary-reform-parable/> (BTW ... I know Jensen).

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