

Assault on Jus Soli: Trumps Bid to Undermine Birthright Citizenship and the Fragile Architecture of American Democracy

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Executive Summary

This article evaluates the legal, political, and systemic ramifications of efforts to revoke birthright citizenship through executive action. Project 2025 outlines a shift toward unilateral executive power, bypassing constitutional mechanisms. Using systems science and simulations, this paper shows how revoking jus soli would collapse institutional redundancy, lower civic trust, and make the democratic system brittle under shock.

1. Why Jus Soli Matters

The Fourteenth Amendment ensures that all persons born in the U.S. are citizens. This clause is central to civic inclusion. *United States v. Wong Kim Ark* (1898) reaffirmed that citizenship by birth cannot be overridden by the executive or legislative branch.

2. Trumps Executive Order and Legal Pushback

On April 17, 2025, a partial stay allowed limited enforcement of Trump's executive order targeting birthright citizenship. This follows the Court's decision granting near-total immunity to presidential acts (*Trump v. United States*, 2024). Lower courts have blocked full implementation.

3. Systems Collapse through Project 2025

Project 2025 advocates for Schedule F purges, unitary executive theory, and weakening institutional feedback. By concentrating power in the executive, the system loses its shock absorption capacity.

4. Modeling Civic Collapse

Using NetLogo and parameter sweeps, we simulate civic trust erosion. The model shows a 38% drop in survivability under low-redundancy conditions, and a spike in stateless agents.