

Lecture #6 – Restoring the Constitution

Video Study Questions

Part I, *Taking effective action*

The Dangers of a Constitutional Convention

Advocates of a Constitutional Convention claim:

- 1.) An amendment to the Constitution could rein in our out-of-control government.

What is the flaw in this claim? _____

- 2.) It is an “Amendments Convention”, not a Constitutional Convention.

What is the difference? _____

- 3.) A convention can be limited to one topic.

What does the Constitution say on the matter? _____

- 4.) The ratification process is an effective safety net.

What are the weaknesses of this “safety net”? _____

A proper diagnosis:

- 5.) In the early 1800’s, Alexis De Tocqueville identified the source of America’s great strength, declaring:
“... every citizen is taught ... the _____ of his country, and the leading features of its
_____. ... it is extremely rare to find a man imperfectly acquainted with all
these things, and a person wholly ignorant of them is sort of a phenomenon.”

- 6.) What is the root of the problem? _____

What solution will address the root of the problem?

- 7.) Thomas Jefferson counseled,
“_____ and _____ the whole mass of the people ... They are the only sure reliance
for the preservation of our liberty.”

- 8.) To restore liberty in any Congressional district, it simply takes a team of _____, who are:

- Well trained,
- _____ in a focused effort,
- Can effectively reach out beyond the “choir”.

Part II, *The power of Organization*

- 9.) What form of organizational structure is required to defeat the enemies of freedom? _____

- 10.) A properly structured organization will provide:

- 11.) Well-run chapters of less than a dozen active members have been estimated to be teams of how many? _____

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Group Discussion Questions

#1. *In part 2 of lecture 6, it was observed that a military run as a democracy would be severely crippled in its effectiveness.*

Question: *Why are democratically run groups less effective?*

#2. *“If the voters aren’t informed, most will not vote for constitutional candidates, no matter how much money is spent seeking votes...if the people are educated to a sufficient level, no amount of money will prevent constitutionalists from being elected.”*

– Arthur Thompson, CEO, The John Birch Society
JBS Bulletin, February 2012

Recall the examples (referenced in #11 on the opposite page) of JBS chapters having far more influence than their numbers would suggest.

Question: *Why is a JBS chapter so much more effective than independent, local groups or individuals?*

ADDITIONAL STUDY

From the class materials packet:

Read the reprint article “*States should restore, not revise, the Constitution*”

From www.TheNewAmerican.com search for the following articles:

[*Dangers of a Constitutional Convention*](#)

[*Constitutional Convention: 10-Point refutation*](#)

[*Oklahoma Offensive Surges Ahead*](#)

From www.jbs.org

Go to <http://www.jbs.org/action-campaigns> to keep up with our latest national action projects.

Books available from www.shopjbs.org

Tangents – Neutralizing movements that undermine the work of patriotic Americans to preserve freedom

The Blue Book, by Robert Welch

ANSWERS from other side: **1.** Our government is already ignoring the Constitution, why would a new amendment be any different? **2.** The only difference is that amendments have the prohibition that “no State ... shall be deprived of it’s equal Suffrage (vote) in the Senate ... without its Consent” **3.** The Constitution gives no hints of the ability to limit a convention, but refers to it as “a Convention for proposing Amendments” (plural) **4.** The ratification process can be controlled by Congress, or rewritten by the Convention, to assure ratification by the States. **5.** “history”, “Constitution” **6.** A people who are ignorant of liberty, the Constitution, and the enemies of freedom **7.** “educate”, “inform” **8.** 500, Coordinated **9.** Monolithic **10.** Leadership & Coordination, Intelligence, Arms/Tools **11.** 500 and 2,000