England. of these established patterns of mobility in its earliest phase, the peopling of North America… in farming and villages of colonial America… in fact it is essential to understanding it. For, in the opinion of many American elites. As Samuel Huntington explains in his new book, Who Are We?, that arguments over multiculturalism, bilinguality, and group preferences, dual citizenship, history standards, transnationalism—and immigration and assimilation—are all part of the same conflict over the nature of the American liberal democratic regime. He is right to maintain that a “deconstructionist coalition” challenges the core principles of the American nation on all fronts. At the end of the day, the deconstructionists would transform an American nation based on the principles of individual citizenship, equality of opportunity, and self-government within Constitutional limits, into a new form of regime built on ethnic, racial, and gender group rights with decision-making increasingly in the hands of unelected elites.

While Huntington provides the comprehensive macro view, Jan Golab examines a micro case study of the problem in his essay on the politics of Indian casinos. What is ultimately at stake is whether the traditional American regime will be transmitted to future generations intact or wholly transformed.

Clearly, all of this means that the issue of immigration/assimilation (and these two issues should always be considered as one) must be examined within the broader context of the leftist assault on traditional American political principles. To help clarify the problem, let us explore a series of assimilation-related issues that will soon confront both elite and popular opinion. These include initiatives to revise the oath of allegiance, design a new citizenship test,

(Continued on page 4 - John Fonte)
Biographical Sketch: Martin Van Buren ~ 8th President

Martin Van Buren was America’s 8th President, a Democrat who adhered to the principles of Jeffersonian and Jacksonian government. He was born at the close of the American Revolutionary War on December 5, 1782 in Kinderhook, NY, a town located just east of the Hudson River. He was the eldest son of a Dutch tavern-keeper and farmer, Abraham Van Buren, who raised him in the shadow of America’s finest minds, for example: Madison, Adams, Clay, Clinton, Hamilton, and Jefferson. Here also, Martin would receive his early education attending Kinderhook village schools up through the age of fourteen.

In addition to what Martin learned in the classroom, he also learned other useful skills: “As the boy-of-all-work on a farm and the general helper about a country hotel, Martin was taught a variety of useful lessons—the use of his hands and muscles in work and of his mind and manners in mingling with men. He had an early contact with material nature and human nature, both of which he studied to profit.” It is said that this practical experience of his boyhood did much to shape his “character and career.”

At the tender age of fourteen Martin engaged in a six-year study of law. At age twenty, he undertook an additional year of study under the tutelage of William P. Van Ness at New York City. At the end of this time, Martin returned to Kinderhook to set up his law practice. He would be admitted to the Bar in 1803 at age 21.

This was a turning point in the life of Van Buren; for following this, he entered into a successful law practice with his half brother, James I. Van Allen, and four years later he was admitted to the supreme court.

In 1806, Van Buren married Hannah Hoes to whom he had been “attached” for a number of years before. They had four sons; sadly, Hannah died of “consumption” a short twelve years later in 1818. Van Buren never remarried.

Political Life

Van Buren’s career in politics began at the early age of eighteen when he was appointed to represent Kinderhook as a delegate to a political convention called to nominate a candidate to the legislature. His early political career would suffer a jerk start as Van Buren’s education had failed to broaden his horizons. He neither built nor left behind any “great monuments” for which he could be remembered.

Nonetheless, Martin was a sincere democrat and, as such, was able to fend off the many attempts by the Federalists to sway his thinking to support their own. Moreover, he wholeheartedly embraced his father’s political views as an avid admirer of Jefferson. Van Buren was but twenty years old when Thomas Jefferson was elected President and in his eyes Jefferson portrayed the ideal statesman. He would fashion his own politics after those of the great Jefferson to such an extent that it could be truly said that he was “a second and reduced edition of Jefferson.”

At age thirty, Martin was elected to the State Senate. James Madison was then the President and the war of 1812 just over the horizon. He supported Madison and lent the “force of his influence to the support of the administration and the war.”

At age thirty-three, he was elected Attorney-General of New York; this was followed by re-election to the State Senate for four more years. Then in 1821, Van Buren was elected to represent New York as a United States Senator; he was thirty-nine years old. But despite all of this success, he had yet to overcome his being seen as a ‘politician,’ and down the road he would even be tagged with the nickname “Little Magician.” It seems Van Buren had a knack for politics; and, his shrewd political maneuverings had collected a number of enemies along the way.

In the same year as he was elected to the U.S. Senate, he was appointed delegate to a New York State constitutional convention. Van Buren’s services to the convention is said to have won him the respect of all parties. While he did not support universal suffrage and favored the proper qualifications for voting, he did support giving Black men the right of suffrage on the same terms with White men. Here it is said Van Buren finally rose to the stature of a statesman.

During his time in the Senate, James Monroe would take over from James Madison as President. The Democrat Party survived in fact while the Federalists faded away. Then, in 1825, John Quincy Adams was elected Chief Executive; Van Buren opposed his election. Falling in along party lines, Martin chose to back Andrew Jackson.

In 1827, Van Buren was again elected to the U.S. Senate to represent New York State. However, a year later Governor DeWitt Clinton died and Martin was chosen to fill his shoes as Governor of New York. He governed a mere two months when he resigned to accept the position of Secretary of State to Andrew Jackson. He was at “one with his chief” supporting Jackson’s partisan antics wherever and whenever they worked to defeat their political adversaries and reward their party loyal friends.

On March 4, 1833 Jackson was re-elected President; he made Van Buren his Vice-President. Four years later Van Buren ran and was elected President. On March 4, 1837 he took his place in the White House as Chief Executive of the United States; he became the first President not born of British ancestry. Martin would set himself upon the same path as that of Andrew Jackson continuing in his predecessor’s image as a staunch States’ rights advocate; he was jealous of national power. In his inaugural address he told the nation: “It shall be my constant and zealous endeavor to protect the remaining rights reserved to the states by the federal constitution, to restore those of which they have been divested by construction, and to promote the interest and honor of our common country.”

Then, in 1840, President Van Buren was at last able to convince Congress to establish an independent treasury in order to safeguard federal funds against private bank failures. But by now the Whigs, fashioned out of old Federalist part, began to organize with ideas of running their own candidate in the upcoming national election. They nominated William Henry Harrison for President and John Tyler for Vice-President. Van Buren won the Democrat nomination only to be defeated receiving a scanty 20 electoral votes to Harrison’s 234 electoral votes.

His political opponents, delighted to see him go, nicknamed him, “Martin Van Ruin.” He retired to his farm in Kinderhook in which he had attached the name Lindenwald.

In 1848, he would throw his lot into the political ring one last time being nominated for president by the antislavery Free Soil party. Unsuccessful in this bid, Van Buren retired, once and for all, to his native Kinderhook where he quietly and elegantly lived out the rest of his life.

Martin Van Buren died on July 24, 1862 at the age of eighty years old. His life ended in the same place it began, in Kinderhook, N.Y.

It is said that, “few public men have been more misunderstood, than Martin Van Buren.” He was always a patriot, a gentleman, and always courteous and polished in his manners.

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Many Persons in Europe, having directly or by Let-
ters, express’d to the Writer of this, who is well
acquainted with North America, their Desire of
transporting and estab-
lishing themselves in that
Country; but who appear to
have formed, thro’ Ignor-
nance, mistaken Ideas and Expectations of what is to be obtained there; he thinks it may be
useful, and prevent inconvenient, expen-
sive, and fruitless Removals and Voyages of
improper Persons, if he gives some clearer and truer Notions of that part of the World, than
appear to have hitherto prevailed.

He finds it is imagined by Numbers, that the
Inhabitants of North America are rich, capable
of rewarding, and disposed to reward all sorts of Ingenious; that they are at the same time
ignorant of all the Sciences, and, conse-
quently, that Strangers, possessing Talents in
the Belles-Lettres, fine Arts, &c. must be
highly esteemed, and so well paid, as to be
easily rich themselves; that there are also abundance of profitable Offices to be dis-
posed of, which the Natives are not qualified
to fill; and that, having few Persons of Family
among them, Strangers of Birth must be
greatly respected, and of course easily obtain
the best of those Offices, which will make all
their Fortunes; that the Governments too, to
encourage Emigrations from Europe, not only
pay the Expence of personal Transportation,
but give Lands gratis to Strangers, with Ne-
cessaries to work for them, Utensils of Hus-
tanic Arts, without incurring Disgrace on
them, for three Pounds per Acre. The
ments had been extended far beyond them,
and all the Lands are fully occupied, and the
Expence of Freight, may often be made cheaper
then, there being no Restraints prevent-
sure to find Employ, and to be well paid for
their Work, there being no Restraints prevent-

Who then are the kind of Persons to whom
an Emigration to America may be adventu-
rous? And what are the Advantages they may reasonably expect?

Land being cheap in that Country, from the
Forest still void of Inhabitants, and not
likely to be occupied in an Age to come, inso-
much that the Propriety of an hundred Acres
of fertile Soil full of Wood may be obtained
near the Frontiers, in many Places, for Eight

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Whence arises the Certainty of Subsistence in culti-
vating the Earth, the Increase of Inhabitants by
natural Generation is very rapid in America, and
becomes still more so by the Accession of Strangers; hence there is a continual Demand for
more Artisans of all the necessary and use-
ful kinds, to supply those Cultivators of the
Earth with Houses, and with Furniture and
Utensils of the grosser sorts, which cannot so
well be brought from Europe. Tolerably good
Workmen in any of those mechanic Arts are
sure to find Employ, and to be well paid for
their Work, there being no Restraints prevent-
ing Strangers from exercising any Art they un-
derstand, nor any Permission necessary. If
they are poor, they begin first as Servants or
Journeymen; and if they are sober, industri-
ous, and frugal, they soon become Masters,
establish themselves in Business, marry, raise
Families, and become respectable Citizens.

Also, Persons of moderate Fortunes and
Capitals, who, having a Number of Children
to provide for, are desirous of bringing them
up to Industry, and to secure Estates for their
Posterity, have Opportunities of doing it in
America, which Europe does not afford. There
may be taught and practise profitable me-
chanic Arts, without incurring Disgrace on
them, but on the contrary acquiring Respect by such Abilities. There small Cap-

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Note: Due to space constraints, the following documentary is taken from a much larger document and edited for the sake of brevity.

By the Good-Will of their Neighbours, and some Credit. Multitudes of poor People from
England, Ireland, Scotland, and Germany,
have by this means in a few years become
wealthy Farmers, who, in their own Countries,
where all the Lands are fully occupied, and the
Wages of Labour low, could never have emerged from the poor Condition wherein
they were born.

From the salubrity of the Air, the healthi-
ness of the Climate, the plenty of good Provi-
sions, and the Encouragement to early Mar-
riages by the certainty of Subsistence in culti-
vating the Earth, the Increase of Inhabitants by
natural Generation is very rapid in America, and
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America, which Europe does not afford. There
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chanic Arts, without incurring Disgrace on
them, but on the contrary acquiring Respect by such Abilities. There small Cap-
itals laid out in Lands, which daily become
more valuable by the Increase of People, af-
cord a solid Prospect of ample Fortunes there-
after for those Children. The Writer of this has
known several Instances of large Tracts of
Land, bought, on what was then the Frontier of
Pennsylvania, for Ten Pounds per hundred
Acres, which after 20 years, when the Settle-
ments had been extended far beyond them,
sold readily, without any Improvement made
upon them, for three Pounds per Acre. The
Acre in America is the same with the English
Acre, or the Acre of Normandy.

Those, who desire to understand the State of
Government in America, would do well to
read the Constitutions of the several States, and the Articles of Confederation that bind the
whole together for general Purposes, under the
Direction of one Assembly, called the Congress.
These Constitutions have been printed, by order
of Congress, in America; two Editions of them
have also been printed in London; and a good
Translation of them into French has lately been published at Paris.

Several of the Princes of Europe having of
late years, from an Opinion of Advantage to
arise by producing all Commodities and Manu-
factures within their own Dominions, so as to
diminish or render useless their Importations,
have endeavoured to entice Workmen from
other Countries by high Salaries, Privileges, &c.

Many Persons, pretending to be skilled in
various great Manufactures, imagining that
America must be in Want of them, and that the
Congress would probably be disposed to imitate
the Princes above mentioned, have proposed to go on, over Condition of having their Passages
paid, Lands given, Salaries appointed, exclusive
Privileges for Terms of years, &c. Such Per-
sons, on reading the Articles of Confederation,
will find, that the Congress have no Power com-
mited to them, or Money put into their Hands,
for such purposes; and that if any such Encour-
gagement is given, it must be by the Government of
some separate State. This, however, has rarely been done in America; and, when it has been
done, it has rarely succeeded, so as to es-
tablish a Manufacture, which the Country was
not yet so ripe for as to encourage private Per-
sons to set it up; Labour being generally too
dear there, and Hands difficult to be kept to-
gether, every one desiring to be a Master, and
the Cheapsness of Lands inclining many to leave
Trades for Agriculture. Some indeed have met
with Success, and are Carried on; but they are
generally such as require only a few Hands, or
wherein great Part of the Work is performed by Machines. Things that are bulky,
and of so small Value as not well to bear the
Expence of Freight, may often be made cheaper
in the Country than they can be imported; and
the Manufacture of such Things will be profit-
able wherever there is a sufficient Demand. The
Farmers in America produce indeed a good deal
of Wool and Flax; and none is exported, it is all
work’d up; but it is in the Way of domestic
Manufacture, for the Use of the Family. The
buying up Quantities of Wool and Flax, with
the Design to employ Spinners, Weavers, &c.,
and form great Establishments, producing
Quantities of Linen and Woollen Goods for
Sale, has been several times attempted in differ-
ent Provences; but those Projects have generally
failed, goods of equal Value being imported
cheaper. And when the Governments have been
solicited to support such Schemes by Encour-
gagements, in Money, or by imposing Duties on
Importation of such Goods, it has been gener-
ally refused, on this Principle, that, if the Coun-
try is ripe for the Manufacture, it may be carried

(Continued on page 5 Franklin)
This leads naturally to the conclusion that the purpose of the test as a whole is not merely to get new citizens to know certain facts, but also to be "attached" to the principles of the Constitution—evidence of the explicit normative purpose of naturalization. The citizenship naturalization process should be a life-altering experience, a rite of passage, such as a wedding, graduation, first communion, or bar mitzvah, which fosters emotional attachment to our nation and strengthens patriotism. The revised test should also include the neglected subject of America's military history and heroes. Citizens, new and old, should be aware of the sacrifices made by America's soldiers to preserve our
on by private Persons to Advantage; and if not, it is a Folly to think of forcing Nature. Great Establishments of Manufacture require great Numbers of Poor to do the Work for small Wages; these Poor are to be found in Europe, but will not be found in America, till thelands are all taken up and cultivated, and the Excess of People, who cannot get Land, will want Employment. The Manufacture of Silk, they say, is natural in France, as that of Cloth in England, because each Country produces in plenty the first Material; but if England would have a Manufacture of Silk as well as that of Cloth, and France one of Cloth as well as that of Silk, these unnatural Operations must be supported by mutual Prohibitions, or high Duties on the Importation of each other’s Goods; by which means the Workmen are enabled to tax the home Consumer by greater Prices, while the higher Wages they receive makes them neither happier nor richer, since they only drink more and work less. Therefore the Governments in America do nothing to encourage such Projects. The People, by this Means, are not impoud’ on, either the Merchant or Mechanic. If the Merchant demands too much Profit on imported Shoes, they buy of the Shoemaker; and if he asks too high a Price, they take them of the Merchant; thus the two Professions are checks on each other. The Shoemaker, however, has, on the whole, a considerable Profit upon his Labour in America. And the Divine Being seems to have manifested his Approbation of the mutual Forbearance and Kindness with which the different Countries in Europe, without having their Piety shocked by the Meetings with either an Atheist or an Infidel. Hence the Youth are dragged up in Ignorance, which the Parents are unable to comply with. Therefore the Youth are more rare in America, which must produce the whole Country.

The INhabitants of the long-settled Countries of Europe, all Arts, Trades, Professions, Farms, &c., are so full, that it is difficult for a poor Man, who has Children, to place them where they may gain, a decent Livelihood. The Artisans, who fear creating future Rivals in Business, refuse to take Apprentices, but upon Conditions of Money, Maintenance, or the Davis of Insurance, &c., necessarily charged by the Artisans, who fear creating future Rivals in Business. The price, they take of the Merchant; thus the two Professions are checks on each other. The Shoemaker, however, has, on the whole, a considerable Profit upon his Labour in America. And the Divine Being seems to have manifested his Approbation of the mutual Forbearance and Kindness with which the different Countries in Europe, without having their Piety shocked by the Meetings with either an Atheist or an Infidel. Hence the Youth are more rare in America, which must produce the whole Country.

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Impact to the Political Process

The Framers were well aware of the dangers that immigration could bring to bear upon the political process. Benjamin Franklin raised this exact concern in 1751 some 36 years prior to the Constitutional Convention. As a resident of Philadelphia, he had taken note of the large number of German emigrants settling in Pennsylvania: “The observation concerning the importation of Germans in too great numbers into Pennsylvania is, I believe, a just one. This will in a few years become a German colony; instead of their learning our language, we must learn theirs, or live as in a foreign country.”

But others, like Founding Father Roger Sherman of Connecticut, were more concerned with the use of the word “resident” in Article I, Section 8.1, that the Framers, in seeking the word “inhabitants” to avoid any misconstruction of what was meant.

Although Alexander Hamilton thought the dangers cited by the various delegates well balanced with the advantages of admitting foreign immigrants; he was for keeping the wording simple within the text of the Constitution thereby leaving it to Congress to handle the details of naturalization through legislation.

What did these emigrants know about republicanism in general? What ideas were they apt to bring with them? Did they understand the proper role of government from the perspective of the Constitution? Jefferson was sure that most immigrants would be familiar with America’s unique republican form of government. Could they be dependent upon to know how to handle the freedom afforded American citizens? Most were apt to emigrate here from some country ruled by a Monarch; was there another form of government more opposed to our own?

[“Nothing can be more opposed than the maxims of absolute monarchies. Yet, from such, we are to expect the greater number of emigrants. They will bring with them the principles of the governments they leave, imbued in their early youth; or, if able to throw them off, it will be in exchange for unbounded licentiousness, passing, as usual, from one extreme to another. It would be a miracle they did not stop precisely at the point of turpitude liberty. These principles, with their language, they will transmit to their children. In proportion to their numbers, they will share with us the legislation. They will infuse into it their spirit, warp and bias its direction, and render it a heterogeneous, incoherent, distracted mass.”]

President Washington also weighed in on this matter: “If this country can steer clear of European politics — and be wise and temperate in its government, it bids fair to be one of the greatest and happiest nations in the world.”

Character of the Immigrant

Congressional debate on the matter of immigration and naturalization went about in much the same vein as the Philadelphia Convention. Like the delegates to the Convention, the congress would also wrestle with how far was too far; the standard must not be set artificially high so as to discourage foreigners of good character from coming here. They wished to encourage the worthy to come; yet, citizenship in America was not to come cheaply, character counted and morals mattered.

Jefferson, too, minced no words in asserting the people’s right to reject immigrants of bad character; and, it was government’s duty to see that their will be done: “Every society has a right to fix the fundamental principles of its associations, and to say to all individuals that if they contemplate pursuits beyond the limits of these principles, and involving dangers which the society chooses to avoid, they must go somewhere else for their exercise; that we want no citizens, and still less ephemeral and pseudo-citizens, on such terms. We may exclude them from our territory, as we do persons infected with disease. We have most abundant resources of happiness within ourselves, which we may enjoy in peace and safety without permitting a few citizens, infected with the mania of gambling and gambling, to bring danger on the great mass engaged in innocent and safe pursuits at home.”

Alexander Hamilton, who could rarely be heard agreeing with Jefferson, espoused much the same caution: “In the recommendation to admit indiscriminately foreign emigrants of every description to the privileges of American citizens, on their first entrance into our country, there is an attempt to break down every pale which has been erected for the preservation of the national spirit and a national character; and to let in the most powerful means of perverting and corrupting both the one and the other.”

America’s First Naturalization Law

United States Congress: “An act to establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization” (March 26, 1790).

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That any alien being a free white person, who shall have resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States for the term of two years, may be admitted to become a citizen thereof on application to any common law court of record in any one of the States wherein he shall have resided for the term of one year at least, and making proof to the satisfaction of such Court that he is a person of good character, and taking the oath or affirmation prescribed by law to support the Constitution of the United States, which Oath or Affirmation such Court shall administer, and the Clerk of such Court shall record such Application, and the proceedings thereon; and thereupon such person shall be considered as a Citizen of the United States.

And the children of such person so naturalized, dwelling within the United States, being under the age of twenty one years at the time of such naturalization, shall also be considered as citizens of the United States. And the children of citizens of the United States that may be born beyond Sea, or out of the limits of the United States, shall be considered as natural born Citizens: Provided, that the right of citizenship shall not descend to persons whose fathers have never been resident in the United States: Provided also, that no person herefore proscribed by any States, shall be admitted a citizen as aforesaid, except by an Act of the Legislature of the State in which such person was proscribed.

Naturalization Oath:

“I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States, in cases of invasion or public danger; that I will perform noncombatant service in the armed forces of the United States for the term of two years, if I shall have resided within the United States of America, in Congress as assembled, two years; that I will perform all duties incident to the maintenance of the United States for the term of two years, and those duties by virtue of the laws of the State in which such person was proscribed.”

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“Better Old History than New Lies”

Sunday, August 21, 2005 23:42

(Continued on Page 8)
EMINENT DOMAIN -- THE CONSTITUTION SUBVERTED!  
Romelle Winters

The year 1776 found the American Colonies in turmoil. Differences with England had escalated and it was obvious things would only get worse. Years of costly wars left the mother country with an empty treasury and a desperate need to find additional revenue. England turned its eyes toward the piggy bank of its daughter -- the colonies of the New World. Abundant natural resources could be the solution to the financial crisis and a series of actions by the king and Parliament were designed to increase the revenue from the colonies to England.

The English government did not realize that the generations of settlers had become self-sufficient with an allegiance to themselves -- not the mother country. It was a fatal error. Within a short time the colonists declared themselves free, fought and won a war, and gained independence. The Constitution became the basic rule of law in the new nation.

Reading this incredible document, it is quite clear that the framers were fearful of an out-of-control government. They knew, first hand, how important it is for the people to maintain authority over their own lives as much as possible. Their wisdom led to the formation of a government “of the people, by the people, and for the people.” What sorrow they would feel to see how far our country has fallen! Power, corruption, perversion, and a growing need to control everything within its grasp has become the purpose of today’s government. It has now become of the government, by the government, and for the government -- and the people suffer.

One small example of how far we have declined is evident when we investigate the government’s role in the citizen’s right to acquire and own property. The founders felt that the government has the duty to protect private property. However, it is quite obvious that people cannot do anything they want with their property: they cannot own slaves on their property, they cannot murder others on their property, they cannot explode a nuclear bomb on their property. The use of property is regulated by law and the general interest of the local and national community.

What happens if the rights of the owner and the general interest of the community clash? The government then has the potential to take the property through the authority known as eminent domain. The Founding Fathers anticipated the possibility that a parcel of property would be needed to build a road, or school, or military installation. The Constitution demands that in the case of eminent domain, the owner be justly compensated.

But, exactly how far does the government go when it defines the “general interest of the community”? Does it mean increasing the profits for a private corporation? Does it mean giving some comfort to a neighbor at the expense of the property owner? Or does it mean giving a larger monetary tax allocation to a town? If the government believes these justifications are allowable, then no one’s property is safe. It signifies that, although we work to buy our homes, pay taxes, and provide upkeep, our property really belongs to the government to use as it wishes -- primarily to bring in more money to an already-bloated bureaucratic monster.

The concept of eminent domain is an integral part of property rights as defined in the U. S. Constitution. A provision of the Fifth Amendment states that no person can be denied life, liberty or property without due process of the law. It is obvious that the Founding Fathers realized that there would be times when the government and property owners would not be in agreement with how land would be used. There would be times when the government would need private land for necessary government applications. They provided for just compensation to the owner by including the due process clause.

However, just where does fairness end and unjust confiscation begin? Our Constitution is a contract where the citizens must give up a certain amount of freedom in order to be given protection by the government. In most cases it is clear exactly where the government can interfere with the lives of its subjects -- in cases such as eminent domain the concept is shaded allowing interpretation on a case by case basis. It has worked quite well since its inception. People felt secure when buying assets because the Constitution provided safety for the basic freedoms of life, liberty and property.

It is quite obvious that we must have a just, uncorrupted government in charge of making decisions affecting the citizen’s right to own property.

More than two hundred years since its adoption, is our Constitution still protective of the people or has the government become so bloated and immoral that it can no longer fulfill its contract with the people? A look at a recent eminent domain case may answer that question.

Mrs. Vera Coking of New Jersey has received a notice to vacate her home of 36 years. The New Jersey Casino Reinvestment was using the state power of eminent domain to take her house. The land will then be condemned and transferred to Donald Trump to use as a limousine parking lot for the new Trump Plaza. (The many people who plan to fund education through gambling, please note.) Could this act of raw power ever come from a government concerned with the property rights of individual citizens? Or is this a display of a government that is no longer supportive of its limited role in the lives of citizens?

As citizens of a country which claims to be free, we must make our elected and appointed representatives aware that we will not tolerate abuses from the government to promote the welfare of major campaign contributors. The rights of the people must come first. We must impeach judges who whittle away our constitutional rights for some revisionist interpretation of the Constitution which ignores the wishes of the people. If those in charge disregard our basic freedoms and continue to allow the abuse of governmental power there is very little hope for the continued success of our country. We are no longer free and our Constitution becomes a quaint, meaningless document of the past. Without a return of power to the people we will cease to be free. How sad that so many shed their blood for the freedoms which have been eroded by an out-of-control bureaucracy. We are running out of time to take back our nation.

The Blessings of Liberty...

"It is the manners and spirit of a people which preserve a republic in vigor. A degeneracy in these is a canker which soon eats to the heart of its laws and constitution."

_Thomas Jefferson

"The virtues of men are of more consequence to society than their abilities, and for this reason, the heart should be cultivated with more assiduity than the head."

_Noah Webster

"...it does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless .minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds..."

_Samuel Adams

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In debating the final terms of the nation’s first Naturalization Law (1790), James Madison captures the essence of what the Congress deemed to be truly at stake: “When we are considering the advantages that may result from an easy mode of naturalization, we ought also to consider the cautious necessity to guard against abuses; it is no doubt very desirable, that we should hold out as many inducements as possible, for the worthy part of mankind to come and settle amongst us, and throw their fortunes into a common lot with ours. But, why is this desirable? Not merely to swell the catalogue of people. No sir, it is to increase the wealth and strength of the community; and those who acquire the rights of citizenship, without adding to the strength or wealth of the community, are not the people we are in want of... I should be exceedingly sorry, sir, that our rule of naturalization excluded a single person of good fame, that really meant to incorporate himself into our society, on the other hand, I do not wish that any man should acquire the privilege, but who, in fact, is a real addition to the wealth or strength of the United States.”

Press ‘1’ to Continue in English...

We are the Framers and the First Congress, “...wished to invite foreigners of merit [and] republican principles among us...” one thing needed to be understood, American citizenship was a privilege; it was not available to everyone, as not everyone would prove worthy of wearing the name American. One had to be willing to assimilate into the American culture to be welcome here and that responsibility was placed squarely on the emigrant. The Framers being honorable men, not career politicians, did not see it as the responsibility of the taxpayers to provide immigrants with a free education in his native language.

Speaking as the 3rd President of the United States, Jefferson lays it on the line: “Born in other countries, yet believing you could be part of the American experiment” was the name Jefferson along with the other 350 plus Voyagers seeking an opportunity to better themselves. They did not come seeking a government handout. They did not come seeking a government dependency on how well we integrate newcomers patriotically. After all, we are a nation, not just a market.

We Are a Nation, Not Just a Market

(Continued from Page 4 John Fonte)

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We Are a Nation, Not Just a Market
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