

Vocabulary:

- Unconstitutional: any law or action (usually by the government or a representative of the government) that runs counter to the written letter or case law (previous decisions) of the U.S. Constitution.
- Activism (or an activist judge or justice): meaning a judge who allegedly interprets the law in a pro-active way that for some, goes beyond what the framers of the Constitution intended.
- Conservatism: when a judge or justice interprets the law in a way that adheres to conservative values.
- Constitutionalist: meaning a judge who interprets the law in a way that follows the original interpretation of the Constitution.
- Obstructionism: when Congressional members of either party slow down or obstruct the confirmation process.
- Ideologue: one who supports some ideology or belief in specific ideas. Usually, ideologues are considered to have narrow points of view.
- Bipartisanship: a word used to describe something supported or agreed upon by two parties, especially two major political parties.
- Partisan politics: the passionate, sometimes militant support or promotion of a particular political party, cause, faction, person, or idea.
- Rhetoric: generally, the art or study of using language effectively and persuasively, but often times when used in political circles, a style of speaking or writing that is elaborate, insincere, or exaggerated; used to raise the emotions.
- Collegial: characterized by or having power and authority equally among people. Working together.
- Histrionics: exaggerated emotional behavior calculated for effect.
- Jurisprudence: knowledge or skill in law and the practice of law.