

Americans like to think that the founders were so concerned with our personal freedoms that they created a bedrock of liberty for us to stand on. But of course, the Bill of Rights is a political document, and the founders weren't motivated so much by concern for us as by fear of a powerful national government that might use the coercive power of the state for its own ends. Notice that not one of our liberties—even the right to life—is absolute.

GOVERNMENT
WITNESSES
IMPARTIAL PROCESS
SPEEDY CRIMINAL LAW
ACCUSATION
CONFRONTED **DEFENSE**

6TH RIGHTS OF PERSONS ON TRIAL FOR CRIMES

YOU CAN expect a speedy trial, to be told what you are accused of, and to have a lawyer to help you sort it all out.

BUT YOU CAN'T...



assume a "speedy trial" won't take years, or that your overworked public defendant lawyer won't be something less than crackerjack.

RE-EXAMINED
COMMON SUITS COURT
LAW TRIAL
ASSEMBLE
STATES **JURY**

7TH JURY TRIALS IN CIVIL CASES

YOU CAN have a trial by jury.

BUT YOU CAN'T...



avoid jury duty forever. It's an obligation implied by the right to a jury trial.

PUNISHMENT
EXCESSIVE UNUSUAL FINES
CRUEL INFRINGED
SECURITY **BAIL**

8TH AVOID CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT

YOU CAN hope you never have to ponder what "cruel" and "unusual" mean. Even SCOTUS isn't entirely sure.

BUT YOU CAN'T...



avoid punishments if you've earned them. So don't push your luck.

ENUMERATION
RIGHTS
OTHERS RETAINED
DENY CERTAIN
DISPARAGE
CONSTITUTION
PEOPLE

9TH RIGHTS KEPT BY THE PEOPLE

YOU CAN have more rights than just the ones listed here (this is what Hamilton was talking about in *Federalist* 78).

BUT YOU CAN'T...



completely rely on that. Some Supreme Court justices think you have only the rights listed here and no more.

STATES
CONSTITUTION
PROHIBITED
UNITED
PEOPLE RESERVED
SECURITY **POWERS**

10TH POWERS KEPT BY THE STATES OR THE PEOPLE

YOU CAN, if you're a state, get all powers not needed by Congress to carry out its duties (see Article 1, Section 8).

BUT YOU CAN'T...



avoid being subject to 50 sets of state laws, which means that joint you packed in Colorado could get you arrested when you're back in Indiana.