



Written by [Gary Benoit](#) on September 17, 2021

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## **From the Editor**

### **Resisting COVID Tyranny**

“I believe there are more instances of the abridgment of the freedom of the people, by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power, than by violent and sudden usurpations,” warned James Madison in June of 1788. Later in the same month, the U.S. Constitution was ratified. Madison was so instrumental in the creation and adoption of that great document that he became known to history as the “Father of the Constitution.”

Through a carefully crafted system of checks and balances and other means, the Constitution was designed to prevent the “encroachments of those in power.” The powers delegated to the federal government by the Constitution were few and defined; those limited powers were divided among three branches of government; and all other powers were reserved to the states and the people. Because government was limited, the people were free, and America prospered, becoming the envy of the collectivist old world.

Under the Constitution, the American experience, which is still ongoing, has been far and away the greatest experiment in liberty in human history. Today, 233 years after its ratification, our Constitution is still the law of the land. Yet those entrusted with political power have increasingly overstepped their constitutional boundaries, despite their oaths of office to uphold the Constitution. Their encroachments have been “gradual and silent” — well, relatively speaking at least. There has been no “violent and sudden” overthrow of our government along the lines of what happened when the communists seized control of Russia during their revolution of 1917.

### **Latest Encroachment**

Yet more and more of what is happening to our country is more communistic than freedom-oriented. How else can one characterize the COVID lockdowns, face-mask mandates, and other restrictions on liberty that have occurred since March of 2020?

And now there is the push for COVID vaccine mandates coupled with the demonization of the unvaccinated. On September 9, while this issue of *The New American* was under production, President Joe Biden sounded very much like a demagogue engaged in class warfare when he falsely blamed the unvaccinated for “keeping us from turning the corner” in the fight against COVID-19 and “stand[ing] in the way of protecting the large majority of Americans who have done their part and want to get back to life as normal.” He added: “Over 200 million Americans have gotten at least one shot. We’ve been patient, but our patience is wearing thin.”

In the same speech, the president also exposed himself as a usurper by announcing his plan — without so much as a fig leaf of constitutional authorization — to force more Americans to get the jab. For instance, as part of this naked power grab, he announced that “the Department of Labor is developing an emergency rule to require all employers with 100 or more employees ... to ensure their workforces are fully vaccinated or show a negative test at least once a week.”

He even boasted that “we’re going to protect vaccinated workers from unvaccinated co-workers,” without explaining why vaccinated workers would need to be protected from unvaccinated workers if the vaccines were truly effective.



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## The Right to Refuse

What can Americans do who do not want to have an experimental vaccine injected into their bodies? They can refuse.

The cover story in this issue is comprised of three articles by Robert M. Owens, J.D. The first article focuses on how an employee can submit a religious exemption; the second describes the ordeal of military personnel who have refused the jab; and the [third](#) explains how to nullify vaccine mandates.

Of course, another option is to get the vaccine. If that is what you want to do, that is your right. Regardless, all of us should support the freedom to choose. And all of us should ask ourselves: If we allow the government to decide what must be injected into our own bodies, what other “encroachments of those in power” would we be willing to accept on a road leading ultimately to tyranny?



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