

The Post-Election Quandary of Mr. Trump

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Yesterday I heard an interesting exchange on a news-talk program. You know the kind. There's an interviewer who knows everything and a guest who also knows everything. They either argue incessantly or pat each other on the back while exclaiming how brilliant they are. The two whom I was listening to were in the latter category.

And then one of them says, "President Trump is going to eliminate Obamacare with the stroke of a pen."

I almost spit out my coffee, laughing.

Then I realized that these two were serious. They actually thought that President Trump would eviscerate Obamacare with an executive order. Then I almost cried.

If they believed this, I could never again put any stock in their opinion at all. If Trump believes this, then we have a real problem: a President who claims to support the Constitution but who doesn't understand it.

No matter what side of the Obamacare issue you may fall on, I hope that we can all agree that doing things constitutionally is important. I can hear some of my friends now, arguing, "It wasn't constitutional to adopt it without reading it," or "Federal Health care is unconstitutional at its core," or "Obama did all kinds of things without regard to the Constitution."

I don't care. The only way to restore the Constitution to its rightful place in our legal and legislative system is to honor it, follow it, and not over-interpret it to meet our own ends.

So here's the problem. Article II, Section 3 tells us that "he (president) shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed."

We all know that the President isn't supposed to make law and by the same token, he isn't supposed to unmake, or repeal, law by failing to execute it. The only constitutional way to remove Obamacare from the federal code is for Congress to repeal it. If a president simply ignored it, he should be impeached for violation of Article II, Section 3.

I know, I know. I can hear it now, "But Obama ignored" You can fill in the blank.

Other than the above stated need to respect the Constitution, I can only add a quote from my grandmother: "Two wrongs don't make a right."