

Laurence Tribe's Jackson Lecture at Chautauqua Institution

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On July 8, 2015, Laurence H. Tribe, University Professor and Professor of Law at Harvard University, delivered at Chautauqua Institution the 11th annual Robert H. Jackson Lecture on the Supreme Court of the United States.

Professor Tribe's lecture, entitled "The Constitution Writ Large," addressed both recent events and timeless topics, including:

- the Charleston, South Carolina, murders;
- leading decisions in the Supreme Court's just-completed term, including *Zivotofsky v. Kerry* (the Jerusalem birth/U.S. passport case), *Walker v. Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc.* (the Confederate license plate case), and *Obergefell v. Hodges* (the marriage case).
- Justice Robert H. Jackson's judging during his 1941-1954 tenure on the Supreme Court; and
- Justice Anthony M. Kennedy's judging today, including especially his recent opinion for the Court in *Obergefell*.

For Professor Tribe's lecture on video (preceded by brief introductions, and followed by audience questions and Tribe answers), [click here](#).

For the text of his lecture, click [here](#) and [here](#).

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For an archive of selected Jackson List posts, many of which have document images attached, visit <http://thejacksonlist.com>.

To subscribe to the Jackson List, which does not display recipient identities or distribute their email addresses, send "subscribe" to barrettj@stjohns.edu.

And—as something of a bonus track—for video excerpts from an interview that Tribe gave at the Robert H. Jackson Center on July 9, 2015, [click here](#).

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[Laurence H. Tribe](#) is a leading scholar, teacher and writer on the Constitution of the United States, the Supreme Court, and constitutional law and history. He also is a leading courtroom advocate, including before the Supreme Court, where he has argued 35 cases. He also helped write the constitutions of South Africa, the Czech Republic, and the Marshall Islands. Professor Tribe has taught at Harvard since 1968. His current position, University Professor, is Harvard's highest academic honor, awarded to just a handful of professors at any given time and to fewer than 75 professors in Harvard's history.

Professor Tribe, born in China to Russian Jewish parents, entered Harvard in 1958 at age 16; he graduated *summa cum laude* in Mathematics in 1962 and *magna cum laude* in Law in 1966. He clerked for Justice Mathew Tobriner of the California Supreme Court and then for Justice Potter Stewart of the U.S. Supreme Court. Professor Tribe received tenure at Harvard at age 30 and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences at 38, and to the American Philosophical Society in 2010. He has received 11 honorary degrees, most recently from Columbia University. In 2010, President Obama appointed Tribe to serve in the U.S. Department of Justice as the first Senior Counselor for Access to Justice. Professor Tribe has written 115 books and articles, including his landmark treatise, AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW. His most recent, award-winning book, [UNCERTAIN JUSTICE: THE ROBERTS COURT AND THE CONSTITUTION \(with Joshua Matz\)](#), has just been published in paperback.

The Jackson Lecture at Chautauqua Institution is a leading annual consideration of the Supreme Court of the United States in the weeks

following the completion of the Supreme Court's annual Term. Chautauqua's Jackson Lecturers have been:

- 2005: Geoffrey R. Stone, University of Chicago professor;
- 2006: Linda Greenhouse, *New York Times* writer and Yale Law School professor;
- 2007: Seth P. Waxman, WilmerHale partner and former Solicitor General of the United States;
- 2008: Jeffrey Toobin, staff writer at *The New Yorker* and CNN senior legal analyst;
- 2009: Paul D. Clement, Bancroft PLLC partner and former Solicitor General of the United States;
- 2010: Jeff Shesol, historian, communications strategist and former White House speechwriter;
- 2011: Dahlia Lithwick, senior editor at *Slate*;
- 2012: Pamela Karlan, Stanford University professor;
- 2013: Charles Fried, Harvard University professor and former Solicitor General of the United States; and
- 2014: Akhil Reed Amar, Yale University professor.