

Research Project One: US Government – Spring 2019 The Constitution and Torture

**Final Due Date: (last day to turn in at full credit – late work reduced one letter grade):
Friday, March 15, 2019.**

Question: The question of how to fight the global war on terror has revived some complex questions that involve the balancing of liberty and human rights versus the desire for safety and national security. President Trump has offered that some forms of “enhanced interrogation” work and should be utilized in this conflict. Does our Constitution provide any guide on the question of whether it is ever appropriate to use *torture* as a method or means in prosecuting this conflict?

Sample Outline (But feel free to set this essay up as you wish)

I. Introduction / Thesis Statement – a brief statement outlining your position or something that you consider relevant about this issue.

II. Body – the bulk of the paper is here, in data taken from readings and other evidence that you have found to support your position.

A. Text DPE – does your textbook say anything about the question of means and ends in this conflict?

B. Government DPE – what position have the relevant branches or agencies of the Federal government (Executive, Legislative, Judicial) taken on this issue. Are there differences among the various political parties in the US?

C. Critical DPE – are there voices outside the government (particularly within academia) that have contributed something to this debate? (Also, notes from the film *Torture: Made in USA* can be used here).

D. Outside (original) DPE – is there other information that you have found on your own that have a unique and/or important position on this question? They can come from any policy perspective.

III. Conclusion – from your reading and research of the various positions, do you feel torture can be constitutionally justified means of fighting against terrorism? Why / why not?

Extras:

1. Make sure to include the APA style of citation *every time you use a statement or an idea from the readings that I have provided, or that you found in your own independent research.*

2. Please provide 2 copies of the essay. One I will keep, the other will be returned to you.

3. An “A” paper will be: a) fully documented and cited; b) a *minimum* of 10 pages in length (including title page, abstract and reference page; c) research *beyond* authors provided; and d) turned in *on time* (March 15, 2019).