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## New Mailing Address

Humanist Community  
PO Box 70881  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Editor: Alex Havasy  
Calendar: Sena Havasy

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Our illustrated newsletter Calendar  
is on page 2 of this newsletter.

## Has the Supreme Court Lost Its Way?



The Supreme Court ruling in *Trump v. United States* is seen as a blow to humanist and secular values, the rule of law, and hundreds of years of established democracy.

The court ruled that a former President have some immunity from criminal prosecution for official acts during his tenure in office. With respect to the President’s core constitutional powers, this immunity must be absolute.”

It is not clear what makes something a “core constitutional power.” The court ruled that the president could not be prosecuted for efforts to have the Department of Justice produce alternate slates of electors, while the allegations of pressuring the Vice President, state officials, and private individuals were sent to lower courts to determine “official acts”. It also ruled that official acts by the president could not be brought up as evidence of a crime.

The decision was criticized by legal experts, historians and the dissenting justices. Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson wrote in her dissent, “Presidents alone are now free to commit crimes when they are on the job, while all other Americans must follow the law in all aspects of their lives.”

This is the latest, but perhaps the most serious, challenge from the Supreme Court to the values that have guided the nation during my lifetime.

It overthrew a 40-year understanding that regulatory agencies, such as the EPA, could interpret their authority as was necessary to accomplish their function. That interpretation now rests with the courts. It overthrew a 50-year right of women to end a pregnancy, it weakened separation of church and state, it made bribery harder to prove.

It feels like the conservative majority on the Supreme Court follows a legal ideology that endangers our freedoms, our democracy, and the climate. There’s a lack of humility.

- Alex Havasy

## Humanist Forums

Forums are held 1st and 3rd Sundays at 11:00AM at the Mountain View Senior Center at 266 Escuela Avenue, other forum locations either online or TBD. All forums are still simultaneously available on Zoom.

You can get the Zoom location from [meetup.com/humanistcommunity](https://meetup.com/humanistcommunity).



# EVENTS

## July 2024

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

**'You have a Republic  
If you can keep it'**  
Benjamin Franklin

1

2<sup>ND</sup>  
WORLD  
UFO  
DAY

3 7:15 PM  
Freethought  
Discussion

JULY  
FOURTH  
INDEPENDENCE  
DAY

FIRST BIKINI OF THE WORLD  
1946

6

7 11:00 AM Sunday Forum  
How to Get Along in  
Election Year  
Michael Abramson

Declaration  
Independence

Catherine the Great  
crowned 1802  
of Russia

10 7:15 PM  
Freethought  
Book Group

11 7:10 PM  
Academic  
Video  
TBA

12

WOODSTOCK  
AUGUST 1969

14 11:00 AM Sunday Forum  
How to Win a  
Presidential Election  
Michael Abramson

15 7:PM  
Board  
Meeting  
Members Welcome

16

17 7:15 PM  
Freethought  
Book Group

18 7:10 PM  
Academic  
Video  
TBA

19  
Seneca Falls  
1848

20

21 11:00 AM Sunday Forum  
Japanese Internment  
in WW2  
Yoshiko Kanazawa

22

ILLEGAL  
WHALING  
Commercial Whaling  
Banned 1982

24 7:15 PM  
Freethought  
Book Group

25 7:10 PM  
Academic  
Video  
TBA

26

JUNE 17-18-1909

28 11:00 AM Sunday Forum  
TBA

D.  
July  
1  
8  
9  
0

30

31 7:15 PM  
Freethought  
Book Group

We Be People

The Best Minds of Their Generation

Go to [meetup.com/humanistcommunity](https://www.meetup.com/humanistcommunity) for details of Sunday Forums. See our newsletter calendar for additional events