Why Conservatives need to amend the Constitution

by David Horowitz | What do the John Birch Society, Eagle Forum, Common Cause, and Planned Parenthood have in common? They all oppose the states' use of Article V of our Constitution to impose and enforce constitutional limits on Washington.

In the 1980's, **Chief Justice Warren Burger**, who had joined in the infamous **Roe v. Wade decision**, wrote multiple letters o**pposing the Article V process**, which he, too, referred to as a "constitutional convention." His opposition was based, in part, on his assertion that the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia had disregarded its instructions. Of course, this assertion has been definitively proven to be incorrect.

Ironically despite the fact that Burger was complicit in the Supreme Court decision that might easily win the "most hated-by-conservatives" award, it was one of Burger's letters that appears to have turned the fringe conservative groups against the use of an Article V convention to propose amendments with the power to end federal overreach. The late **Phyllis Schlafly, Founder of Eagle Forum,** made no bones about the fact that her opposition was based upon Burger's letter advising her of the "dangers" of an Article V convention. **It's unclear whether she ever considered the possibility that Burger's "advice" was based on his recognition of the very real danger, at that time, that an Article V convention was about to reverse the Roe v. Wade decision that he supported.**

What triggered the **John Birch Society's** opposition to the Article V convention process is less clear. What is well-documented, however, is that JBS hasn't always opposed it. **In fact, in the late 50's and early 60's, JBS Founder Robert Welch and many JBS chapters lobbied for the passage of state resolutions to trigger a convention to propose the "Liberty Amendment."** Today, however, JBS seems to have forgotten about all that. It now uses the Left's label of "con-con" to refer to the process, and fiercely opposes any and all efforts to implement it.