

Student Essay on Times article "Legal Group Opposes Enemy Combatant Policy"

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Contents

Student Essay on Times article "Legal Group Opposes Enemy Combatant Policy".....	1
Contents.....	2
Essay.....	3



Essay

The article is about how the US Congress should establish clear standards and procedures for the designation of enemy combatants and their treatment for US citizens. The government cannot abuse the power to detain innocent citizens who have no right to consult defense lawyers by using anti-terrorism name.

It is fine for the government to detain the terrorists for the homeland security reason. But the government would detain some innocent citizens while the Bush administrations fight terror. It is the foundational key issue for American system - "we just cannot lose our Constitution in the process. It is an issue of defending liberty and pursuing justice,"

The Miami defense lawyer said.

The Declaration of Independence told us that men have inalienable rights - life, liberty and the pursuit for happiness. If innocent citizens are detained without the right to defend themselves innocent by their lawyers, then how can they enjoy their lives in the USA? Where is the liberty they should possess? How can they pursuing their happiness and their American dreams? This government will be a terror one that people have the right to alter or to abolish and institute new government. A good example is a government scientist Wen Ho Lee was detained under suspicion that he passed US nuclear weapons secrets to the Chinese government. His lawyer defended Lee and won the case to prove Lee is innocent and release from jail. If he could not have his right to have his lawyer to defend him, how could he defend he is innocent and walk out from jail as an innocent citizen"