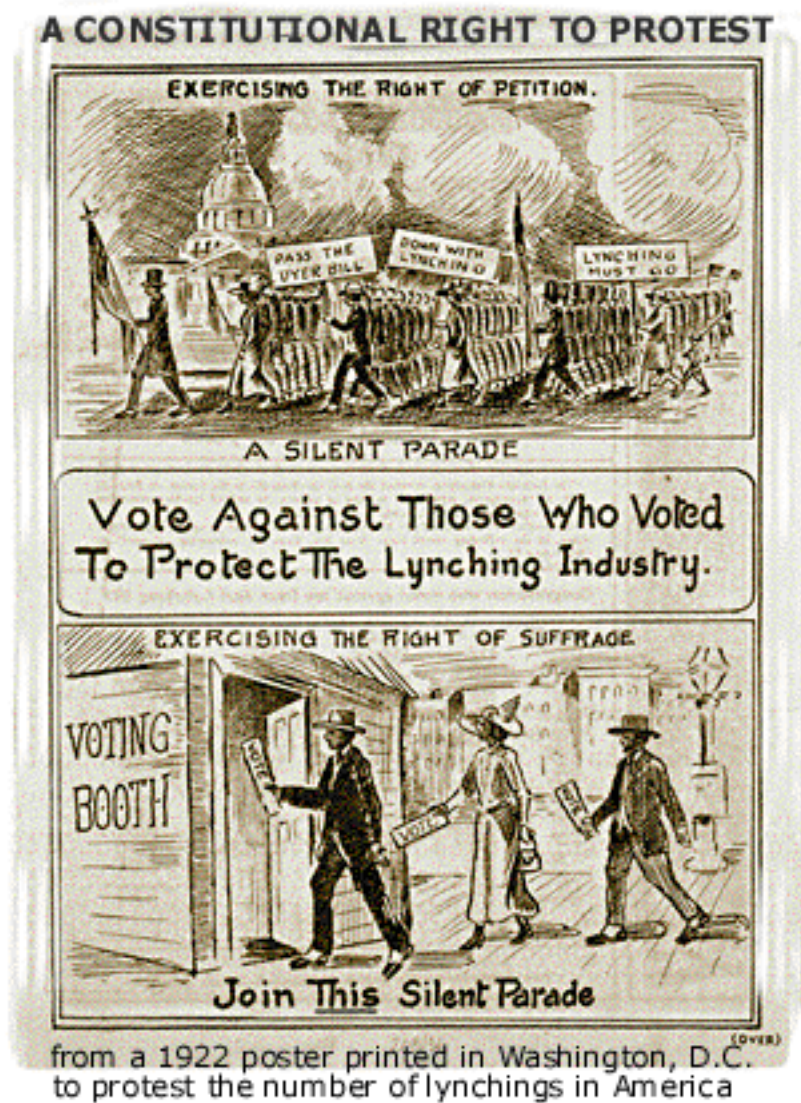


GLOSSARY AND CREDITS



VOCABULARY

abridge

to reduce or cut short

adoption

to receive and make one's own

advise	to recommend or suggest
alteration	change or amendment to the bill
ambassador	a representative of a government; a diplomat who resides in the country where the ambassador is in communication
amended	to improve; to change; to make into a better quality
Article	the divisions of the Constitution addressing certain policies and laws set forth for the country
assess	to evaluate and set the amount of a tax
Bill of Rights	the first ten amendments to the Constitution, based strongly on the personal freedoms of the citizen
capitalism	an economic system in which private citizens invest capital into the economy to make a profit
ceremonial	describes a performance mainly in pomp and style rather than in accomplishment
chamber	a legislative meeting hall
checks and balances	a series of measures that keep a system from becoming too powerful or too weak
chief executive	U.S. president; carries responsibility of ceremonial duties, foreign affairs and armed forces
chief of state	another name for the chief executive; the president of the United States
circuit courts	Any one of the twelve courts of appeal in the various federal districts throughout the United States.

compensation	earnings; wage
concurrence	to reach an agreement
conference	a meeting for discussion
conference committee	group which was formed to reach an agreement on how the final version of a bill would be presented
consent	to agree or accept
constituents	a citizen of a district that elects representatives to government
constitutionality	whether the law or act is within the guidelines of the United States Constitution
consumer	someone who purchases goods and services for private use
contenders	political competitors
currency	a medium of exchange for purchases
debating	discussing, conversing, and even arguing over the points of a matter
delegated	to authorize or assign; allow
diplomatic relations	the communication and ongoing relationship between America and other nations of the world
divided government	in American politics, situation in which one party controls the House and the other party controls the Senate
draft	a brief, "first-step" presentation of a work to be completed
electoral college	group of electors chosen to make the decision of electing the President and Vice-President of the United States
embargo	a complete halt on trade between two nations

endowed	equipped with a talent or a quality
entrepreneurship	the development, building, and management of a business, with all of its risks in order to make a profit
enumeration	list; a number of
executive branch	one of the three branches of the U.S. government; mainly enforces federal laws
executive department	fifteen divisions of responsibility that handle the duty of administering the national government
expenditures	money spent on goods, services, or programs
the Fed	the Federal Reserve; the central bank of the U.S. responsible for regulating the financial system
floor action	activity concerning a bill which may include debates and compromises
hearings	when the aspects of a bill are discussed; includes written and verbal statements of interpretation
House Bill	legislation that is under the voting process in the House of Representatives
house of congress	one of the two chambers in government, either the Senate or the House of representatives
immunities	exemption; protection
impeachment	charging an official with a misdeed
in session	the time when Congress is active and members are present, fulfilling their respective duties

independent agencies	parts of the executive branch that act apart from an interactive network
inflation	a financial situation that occurs when prices rise and the value of money falls
infringed	disobeyed or violated
innovation	the creation of a new idea, method, or product that the consumer will use
intellectual property	inventions of the mind that are intangible, such as a piece of writing or architectural design
interest rates	the amounts of money a lender charges borrowers for use of assets
interpret	to explain the meaning of; to clarify the definition of
judicial	one of the three branches of the U.S. government; interprets federal laws, upholds, or negates them
judicial review	courts make decisions whether a law passed by Congress or states agrees with Constitution
jurisdiction	the extent of authority; the range of control
jury	group of citizens appointed to hear and decide upon a case presented in a court of law
legislation	bill that becomes a law
legislative	one of the three branches of the U.S. government; establishes or retracts laws

licensing	official and legal authorization for a specific ownership or practice
mark up	when a subcommittee makes changes and add amendments before they recommend a bill to proceed
neutrality	the state of not belonging to either side in a dispute
nominate	chosen; appointed
nullify	negate; destroy
ordering a bill reported	when a subcommittee reads its recommendation to the rest of their house of Congress
overturn	reverse; change to the opposite position
patent	government-issued right to an invention that makes it illegal for anyone else to copy it
persecuted	harassed or annoyed
petition	a request
president pro tempore	presiding officer of the Senate whenever the vice president is not present
presiding	ruling; overseeing
privatization	the practice of transferring government ownership of businesses or properties to the private corporations or individuals
prohibited	prevented; forbidden
public safety	creation and maintenance of state departments, hospitals and other citizen needs

public works	the creation and maintenance of state roads, dams, buildings and other similar projects
quartered	housed; supplied with home-like arrangements
R&D	a term for businesses' and governments' research and development divisions, which specialize in researching and developing new ideas
ratified	authorized; put into legislation
redress	to set right; correct a wrong that was committed
repeal	recall; cancel
revenue	money earned
roll call vote	voting process by the members who are present; no absentee voting allowed
sanctions	specific penalties placed on a foreign nation by the U.S. government
search and seizure	gives authority to the officer to seize certain designated items for evidence of a crime
sit	bill that will not be in progress or in any action but will be inactive for a particular time period
sponsor	member of Congress who is willing to introduce and back the legislation
state bar exam	the state testing of potential attorneys in order to see if they qualify for active legal practice

statutory construction	The act of the courts interpreting the meaning of laws and administrative rules and regulations
supply and demand	an economic theory in which the supply of and demand for a product determine the product's price
technology	scientific methods and practices
tranquility	calmness; peacefulness (note: the early American spelling has two "l"s)
treaty	formal agreement between two or more governments
unalienable	cannot be lost or transferred away
venture capitalist	an individual or organization that supplies capital for a business endeavor
version	form or variation of the original
warrant	official judicial writing that authorizes a search
welfare	government financial aid to assist people in need

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