

TSA Patdowns

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# Revolutionary Perspective

- Kings George II and III issued general warrants
- Allowed indiscriminate searches of colonists
- Americans revolted
- General warrants and widespread searches were vanquished
- Widespread searches are back
- Part of a multi-decade erosion of democracy

# Our American Constitution

- Amendment IV
- **“The right of the people to be secure** in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, **shall not be violated**, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.”

# TSA Legal Basis

- No general warrant (they're obsolete)
- No specific search warrants
- Unconstitutional laws require travelers' "consent" to search without suspicion so they can fly
- Real basis is government power to arrest

# TSA Searches

- Start with detailed whole body scan
- Sometimes followed by localized patdown – unwarranted physical intrusion
- Sometimes followed by full body patdown – sexual assault
- Sexual assault is a crime

# Preventing Patdowns

- If poor, stay home or take a bus
- If moderate income, drive
- If rich, private jet
- If brave, wear a bikini

# Bikini Response

- OK in Sioux Falls – sweet!
- Major connotation in some cities
- No response from airport police to:
  - What law would I break?
  - What is the law on indecent exposure?
- Police don't know law and don't care
- Police protect power, not people
- Security is not the goal; invading space is

# Bikini Response Continued

- Expect to be surrounded by intimidating police
- Police in your face “poking the bear”
- Anti-bikini conniptions make it hard to wear one and avoid TSA patdowns



# Unanswered Question

- After uneventful full body scan, how many patdowns find weapons?
- If zero, patdowns exist to invade personal space
- No response from TSA, no surprise there
- Government prevents collecting video evidence

# Government Protects Itself

- Reports of sexual assault ignored – Sioux Falls
- No response to reports of threats by police and TSA – Pittsburgh
- FOIA releases body cam video but not of airports – Fort Lauderdale
- Law is unknown and irrelevant – Salt Lake City
- Intimidation for talking about privacy or assault
- Politicians, news, and courts pretend all is well
- Looks like a conspiracy to violate privacy

# Recommendations

- A brave political leader would investigate, prosecute, and publish
- Integrity
- Respect
- Reform
- Vote you fools!!!

# Enjoy South Dakota

