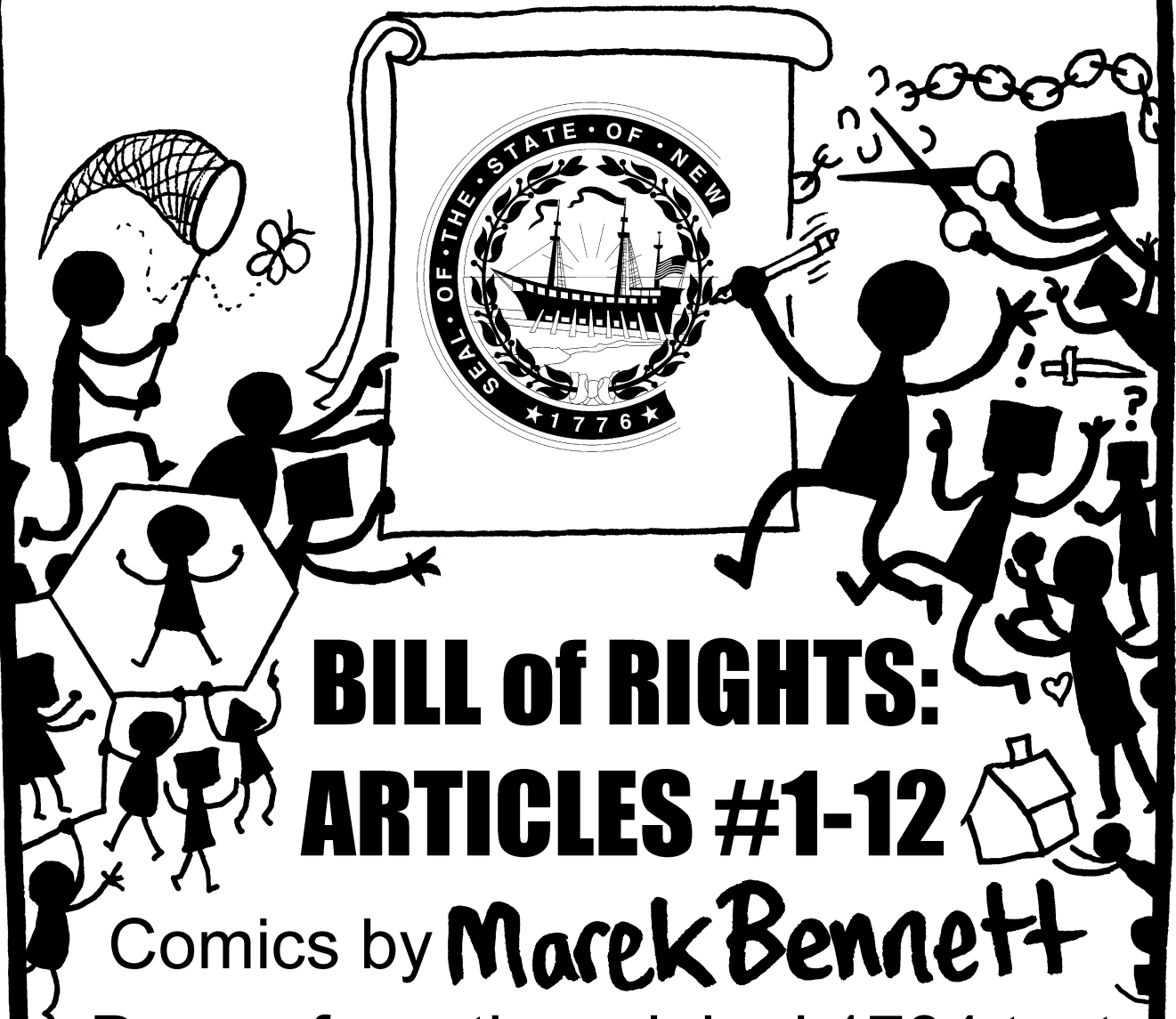


COMICS WORKSHOP presents:

New Hampshire State Comics ~~CONSTITUTION~~ CONSTITUTION!



**BILL of RIGHTS:
ARTICLES #1-12**

Comics by **Marek Bennett**

Drawn from the original 1784 text

+ BONUS:

ARTICLE #83! and

**"CIVIC
IGNORANCE"**

www.MarekBennett.com

This comics adaptation of the **NH State Constitution** is made possible by the wonderful patrons & host schools of **Marek Bennett's COMICS WORKSHOP!**

For more artwork & resources, see Marek's website:
www.MarekBennett.com

Join Marek's COMICS WORKSHOP @:
www.patreon.com/marekbennett

The **NH State COMICStitution** originally appeared in Marek's webcomic, LiveFreeAndDraw.com ... The “**Civic Ignorance**” comic adapts a public conversation between former Supreme Court Justice David Souter & Margaret Warner (Concord, NH, 2012).

This print edition was produced for **NH Civics**, a nonpartisan nonprofit dedicated to increasing and improving civic learning in the Granite State. Learn more at: nhcivics.org // For more about NH's Kid Governor program, see: nh.kidgovernor.org

HOMEWORK: What's YOUR favorite article in your state's constitution? With a blank sheet of paper & a pencil, draw it out in comics form... What are the “big ideas”? How do they fit together when you draw them?
(EXTRA CREDIT: What surprises you the most?)

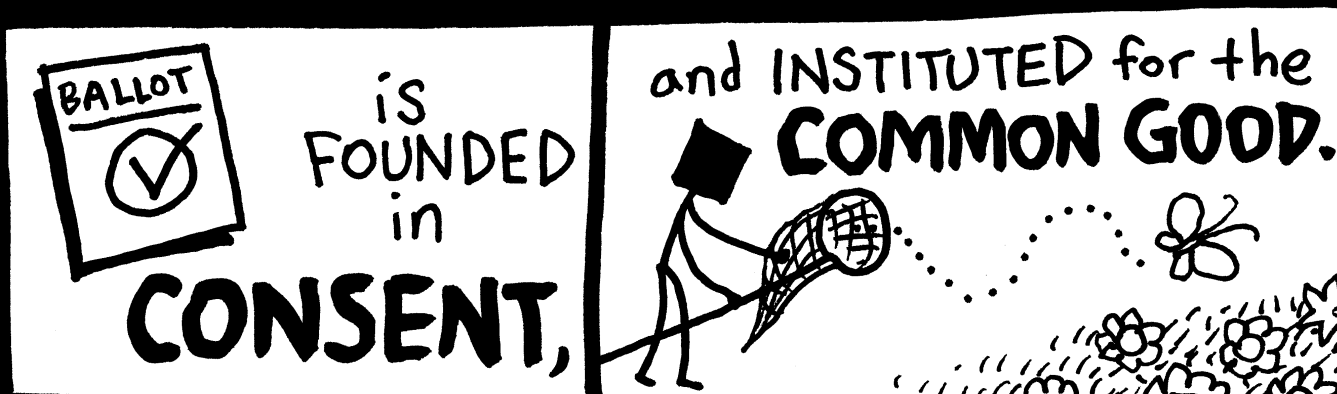
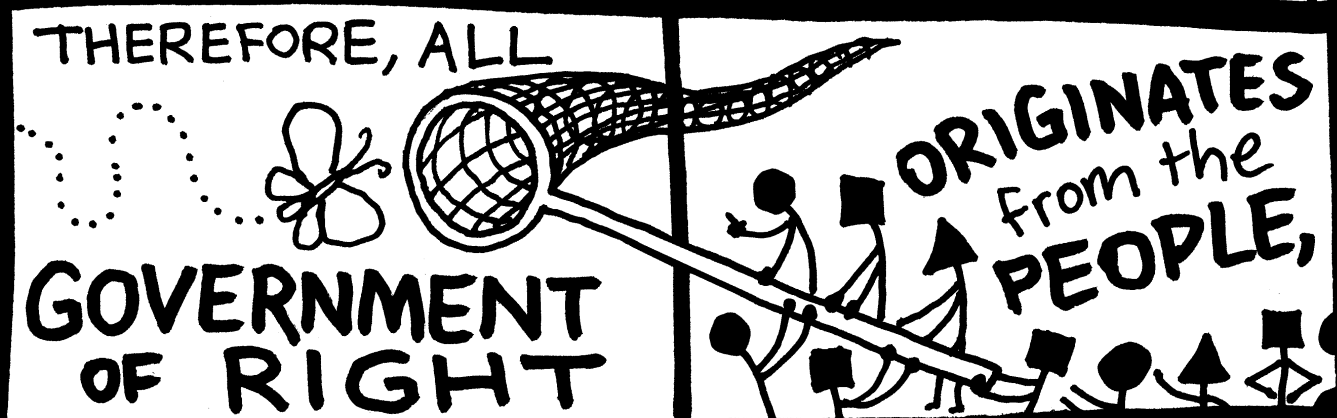
NH State Constitution source text: www.NH.gov (accessed in 2016-2021)
NOTE: The original 18th century source text uses the word “men” to indicate what 21st century writers would call “people.” The artwork modernizes all such original default language. (“Men” → “People” ... “He” → “She or he” ... “His” → “His or her” ... &c.)

Published 6 January 2022
by COMICS WORKSHOP
All artwork ©2022 Marek Bennett
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NH State Constitution **ARTICLE 1** **EQUALITY OF PEOPLE**; ORIGIN + OBJECT OF GOVERNMENT.



are born
=
EQUALLY



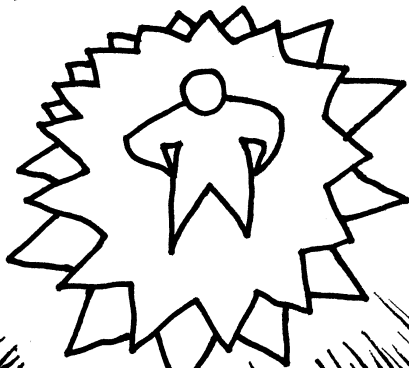
NH STATE
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE

2

NATURAL RIGHTS.

ALL ~~PEOPLE~~
HAVE CERTAIN
NATURAL
ESSENTIAL
AND INHERENT ☒
RIGHTS AMONG
WHICH ARE:

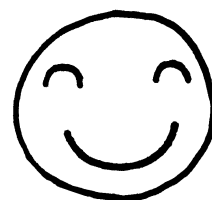


ENJOYING
+ DEFENDING
LIFE AND
LIBERTY



ACQUIRING,
POSSESSING,
+ PROTECTING
PROPERTY

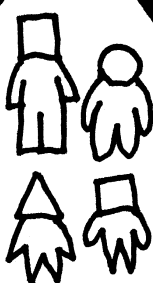
AND, IN A WORD,
SEEKING AND
OBTAINING
HAPPINESS.



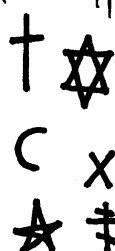
JUNE 2,
1784

EQUALITY OF RIGHTS \equiv UNDER THE LAW

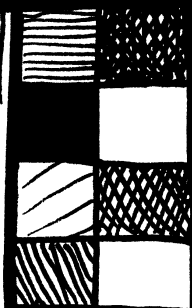
SHALL NOT
BE DENIED ☒
OR ABRIDGED
BY THIS STATE
ON ACCOUNT OF:



RACE



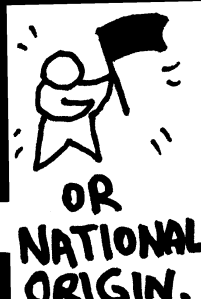
CREED



COLOR



SEX




OR
NATIONAL
ORIGIN.

AMENDED
1974

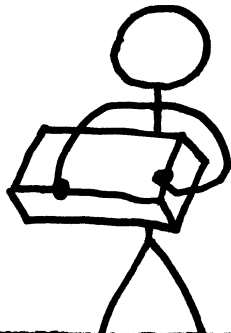
NH STATE
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE
20a

THE BEARING OF ARMS

ALL PERSONS  HAVE THE RIGHT

TO
KEEP



AND
BEAR
ARMS

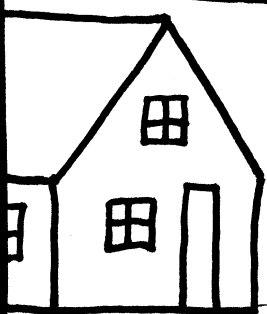


IN DEFENSE OF:

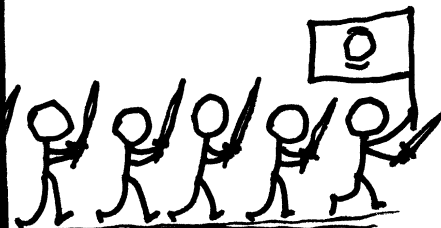
THEMSELVES,



THEIR FAMILY,



THEIR PROPERTY,



AND THE STATE.

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December 1, 1982

NH STATE
CONSTITUTION

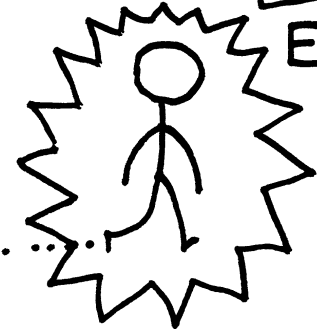
Article

3.

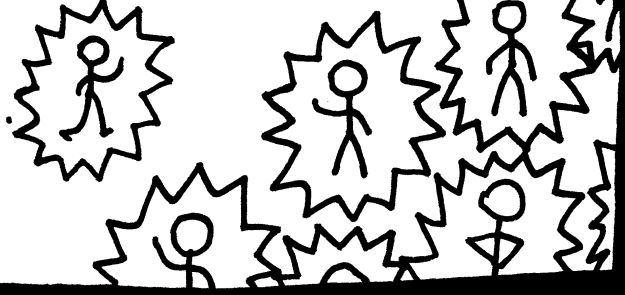
SOCIETY,

ITS ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSES.

WHEN **PEOPLE**
ENTER INTO



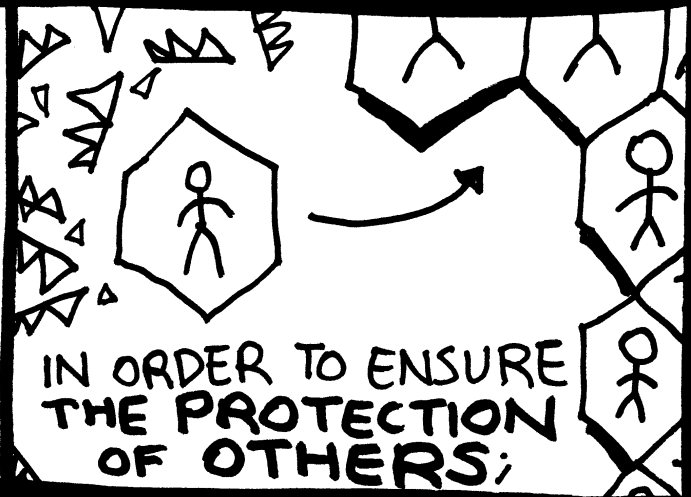
A STATE OF
SOCIETY,



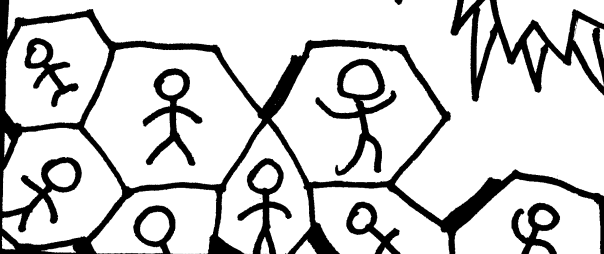
THEY **SURRENDER UP**
SOME OF THEIR
NATURAL
RIGHTS
TO THAT
SOCIETY



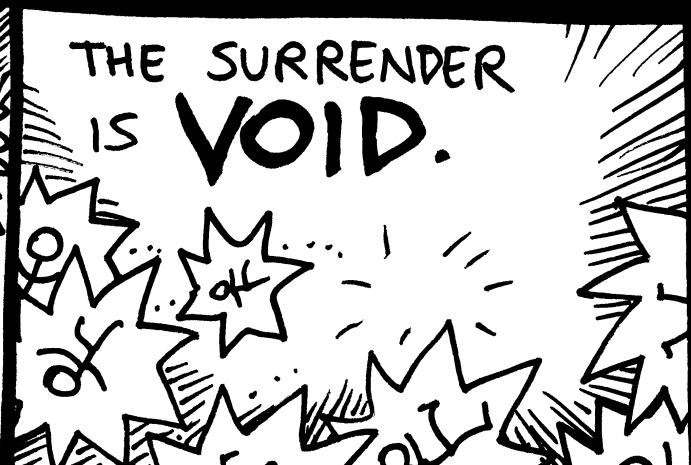
IN ORDER TO ENSURE
THE **PROTECTION**
OF OTHERS;



AND, WITHOUT
SUCH AN
EQUIVALENT,



THE SURRENDER
IS **VOID.**

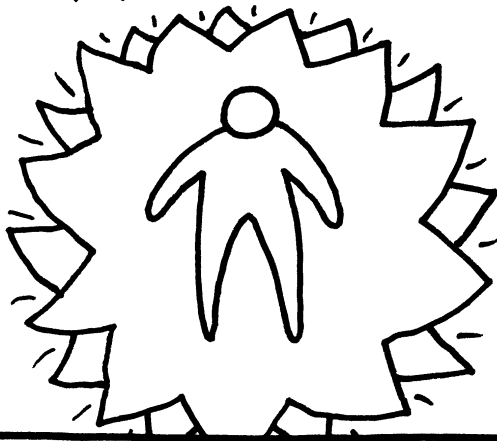


NH STATE
CONSTITUTION

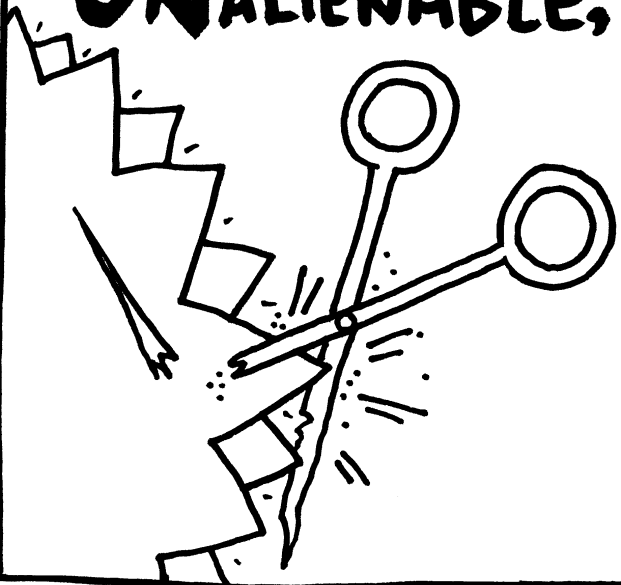
ARTICLE
4

**RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE
UNALIENABLE**

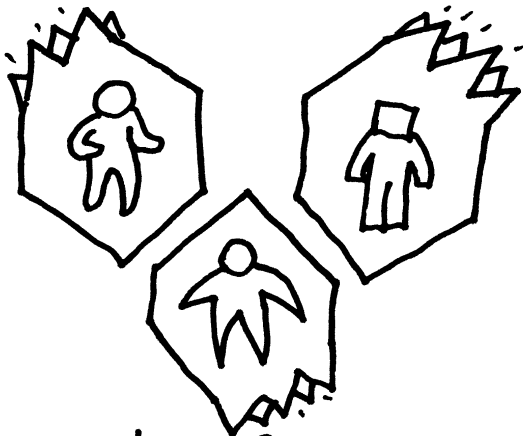
Among the
**NATURAL
RIGHTS,**



Some are,
by their very NATURE
UNALIENABLE,

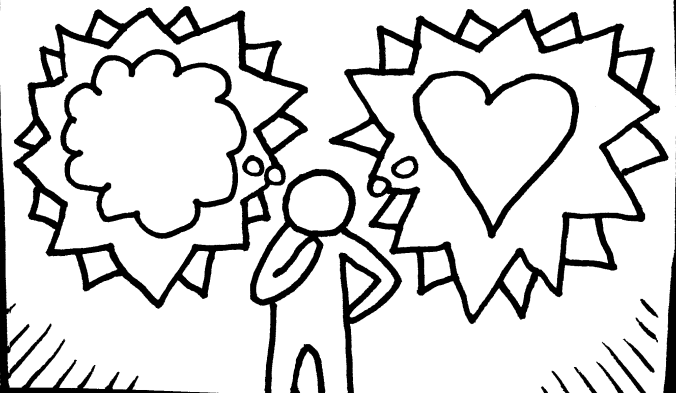


because
NO EQUIVALENT



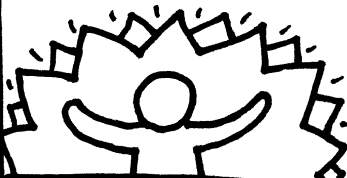
can be GIVEN
or RECEIVED
for them.

Of this kind
are the
**RIGHTS OF
CONSCIENCE.**



NH STATE ^{ARTICLE} 5 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
CONSTITUTION ^{D.} ^{A.} RECOGNIZED. ^{B.}

EVERY
individual
has a
NATURAL
& UNALIENABLE

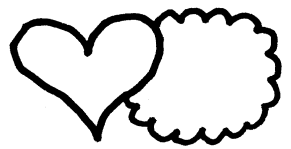


RIGHT to
WORSHIP
GOD



ACCORDING
to the DICTATES
of ^{HIS or HER} OWN
CONSCIENCE

& REASON,



- and -
NO
SUBJECT
SHALL BE



in ^{HIS or HER}
PERSON,



LIBERTY,



for WORSHIPPING GOD
in the **MANNER**
and **SEASON**
MOST AGREEABLE



to the dictates of ^{HIS or HER} own CONSCIENCE;

OR for ^{HIS or HER} religious
PROFESSION,
SENTIMENTS,
or
PERSUASION;



PROVIDED ^{SHE or HE}
DOETH NOT
DISTURB the
PUBLIC PEACE



OR **DISTURB OTHERS**
in their
WORSHIP.



6. MORALITY + PIETY.

AS
MORALITY



and
PIETY



rightly GROUND
on **HIGH**
PRINCIPLES



give the **BEST** and
GREATEST SECURITY
to **GOVERNMENT**

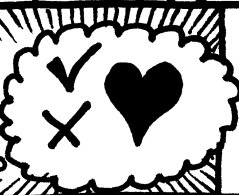


and will
LAY,
in the
HEARTS OF
PEOPLE

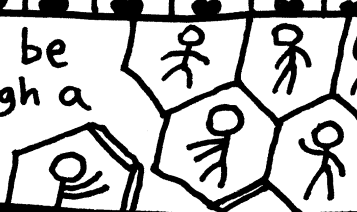
the **STRONGEST**
OBLIGATIONS to
DUE SUBJECTION



and as the
KNOWLEDGE
of **THESE**



is most **LIKELY** to be
PROPAGATED through a
SOCIETY,



THEREFORE,

the several
PARISHES,
BODIES CORPORATE,
or **RELIGIOUS**
SOCIETIES



.... shall at **ALL TIMES**
have the **RIGHT** of
ELECTING THEIR
OWN TEACHERS

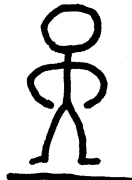
and of **CONTRACTING**
with them for their
SUPPORT or
MAINTENANCE,
or both.



BUT NO PERSON shall ever be
COMPELLED to **PAY**
towards the **SUPPORT**
OF THE **SCHOOLS**
of **ANY RELIGIOUS**
SECT OR
DENOMINATION.



And **EVERY** **PERSON**,
DENOMINATION, or
SECT shall be **EQUALLY**
UNDER the
PROTECTION
of the **LAW**;

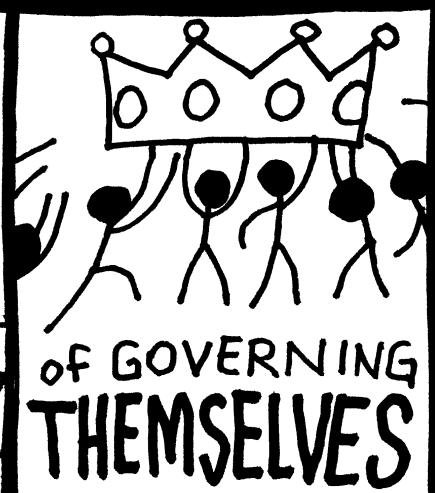
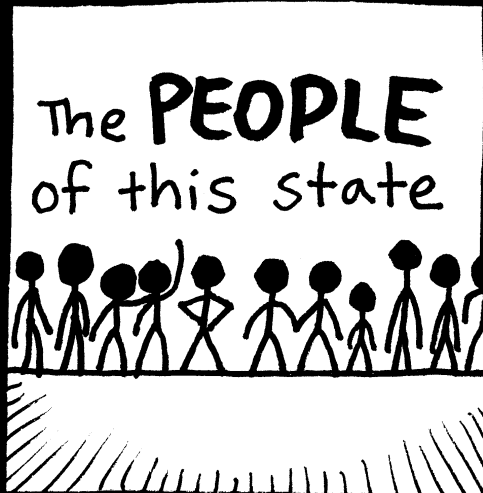


and **NO SUBORDINATION**
of any one **SECT**, **DENOMINATION**,
or **PERSUASION**

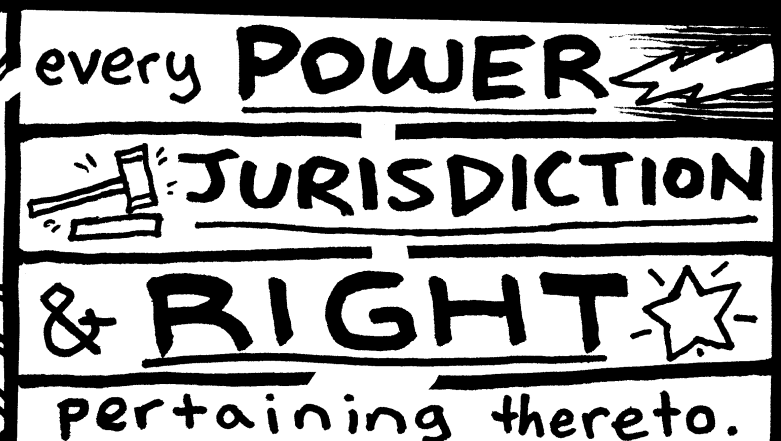


to **ANOTHER**
shall ever
be **ESTABLISHED**.

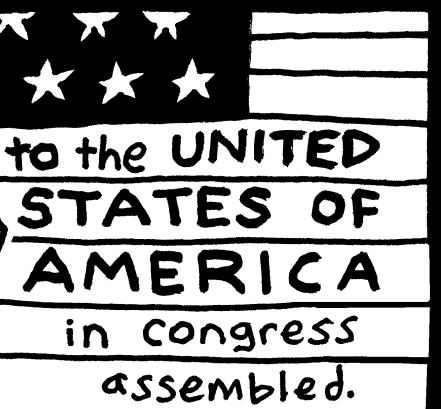
7. STATE SOVEREIGNTY.



as a **FREE**,  & **INDEPENDENT**
SOVEREIGN, **STATE**



WHICH
IS **NOT**
or may not
hereafter be



NH STATE
CONSTITUTION

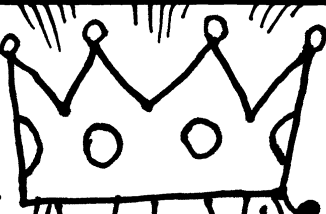
8.

(ACCOUNTABILITY
of MAGISTRATES & OFFICERS)

(PUBLIC'S RIGHT
TO KNOW)

ALL POWER

residing originally IN...



...and being derived FROM
THE PEOPLE,



ALL the MAGISTRATES
and OFFICERS of
GOVERNMENT



ARE their
SUBSTITUTES
and AGENTS

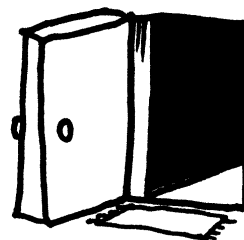


and at all times
ACCOUNTABLE
to them.



GOVERNMENT,
~ therefore ~
SHOULD BE

OPEN



ACCESSIBLE



ACCOUNTABLE



and **RESPONSIVE.**



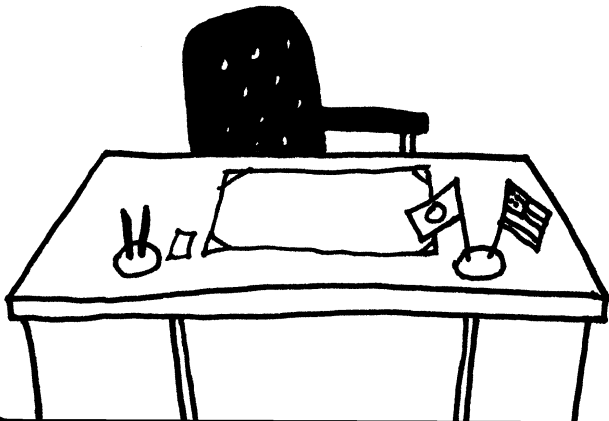
To that end, the PUBLIC'S RIGHT OF ACCESS *
to GOVERNMENTAL PROCEEDINGS and RECORDS
shall NOT be UNREASONABLY RESTRICTED.



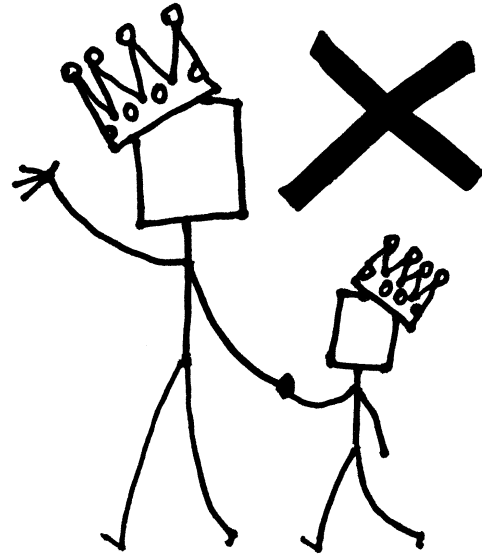
© COMICS WORKSHOP www.MarekBennett.com

© JUNE 2, 1784 * AMENDED: 1976

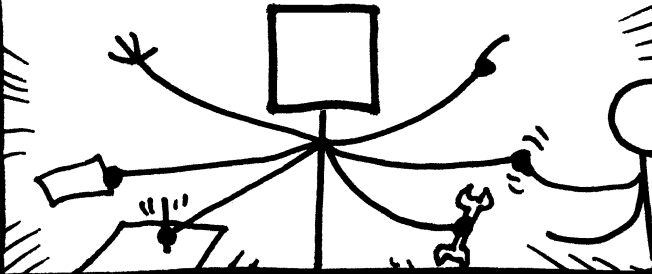
NO OFFICE
OR PLACE
WHATSOEVER
in government



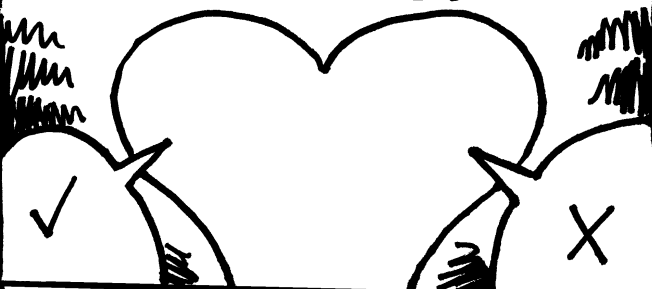
shall be
HEREDITARY—



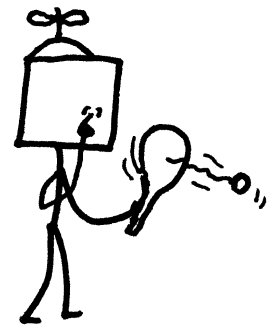
the **ABILITIES**



and **INTEGRITY**



REQUISITE in **ALL**



NOT being
TRANSMISSIBLE
to **POSTERITY.**

10. RIGHT OF REVOLUTION

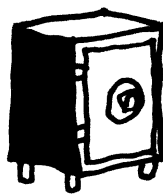
GOVERNMENT
being INSTITUTED

for the COMMON...



BENEFIT,

PROTECTION,



* SECURITY

of the
WHOLE



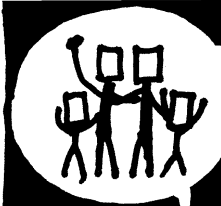
COMMUNITY,

and **NOT**
for the
PRIVATE
INTEREST



or EMOLUMENT

of any
ONE PERSON,



FAMILY,

or CLASS
of PEOPLE;



THEREFORE, WHENEVER

the ENDS of
GOVERNMENT
are
PERVERTED

and PUBLIC
LIBERTY
manifestly
ENDANGERED

and ALL other
means of REDRESS
are
INEFFECTUAL,

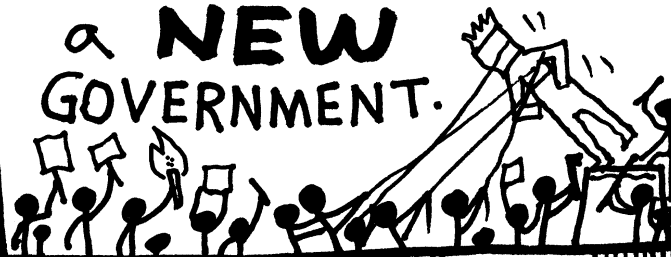
the PEOPLE **MAY** and of RIGHT **OUGHT TO**

REFORM

the OLD



or **ESTABLISH**
a **NEW**
GOVERNMENT.



The doctrine of
NONRESISTANCE

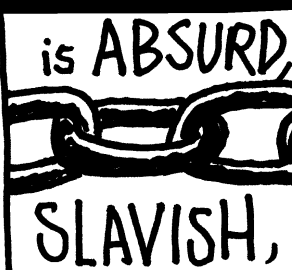


against arbitrary
POWER
and
OPPRESSION,



is **ABSURD,**

SLAVISH,



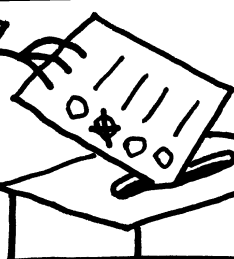
and **DESTRUCTIVE**

of the **GOOD**
and **HAPPINESS**
of **HUMAN** KIND.

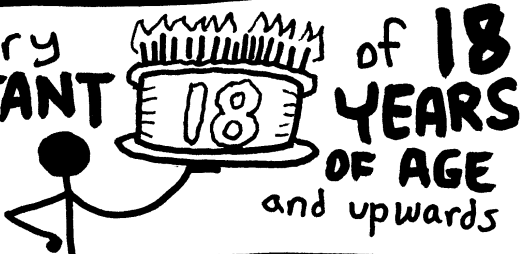
11 ELECTIONS & ELECTIVE FRANCHISES

ALL ELECTIONS

are to be **FREE.**

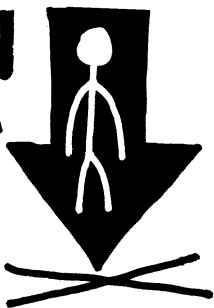


and every **INHABITANT** of the State



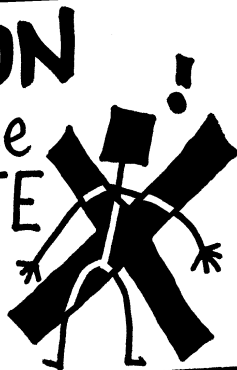
shall have an **EQUAL RIGHT TO VOTE** in ANY ELECTION.

EVERY PERSON shall be considered an **INHABITANT** for the purpose of **VOTING**



in the TOWN, WARD, or UNINCORPORATED PLACE where he has his **DOMICILE.**

NO PERSON shall have the **RIGHT TO VOTE** under the **CONSTITUTION** of this state



who has been **CONVICTED** of

TREASON

BRIBERY

or ANY **WILLFUL VIOLATION** of the **ELECTION LAWS** of this state or of the **UNITED STATES**



but the **SUPREME COURT** — **MAY** — on **NOTICE** to the **ATTORNEY GENERAL**



RESTORE the **PRIVILEGE TO VOTE**



to ANY **PERSON** who may have **FORFEITED** it by **CONVICTION** of such **OFFENSES.**

The GENERAL COURT shall PROVIDE by law

for VOTING by QUALIFIED VOTERS WHO	AT THE TIME of the BIENNIAL or STATE ELECTIONS (absentee ballot)	or of the PRIMARY ELECTIONS therefor, or of CITY ELECTIONS or of TOWN ELECTIONS by official ballot
-------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ARE ABSENT from the CITY or TOWN of which they are INHABITANTS	or who, by reason of PHYSICAL DISABILITY	are UNABLE to VOTE IN PERSON
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------

in the choice of any OFFICER or OFFICERS to be elected
or upon any QUESTION SUBMITTED at such election.

VOTING REGISTRATION	and POLLING PLACES	shall be EASILY ACCESSIBLE	TO ALL PERSONS
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------

INCLUDING the DISABLED	and ELDERLY	who are otherwise QUALIFIED TO VOTE
----------------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------------------------------------------

in the choice of any OFFICER or OFFICERS to be
elected or upon any QUESTION SUBMITTED at such election.

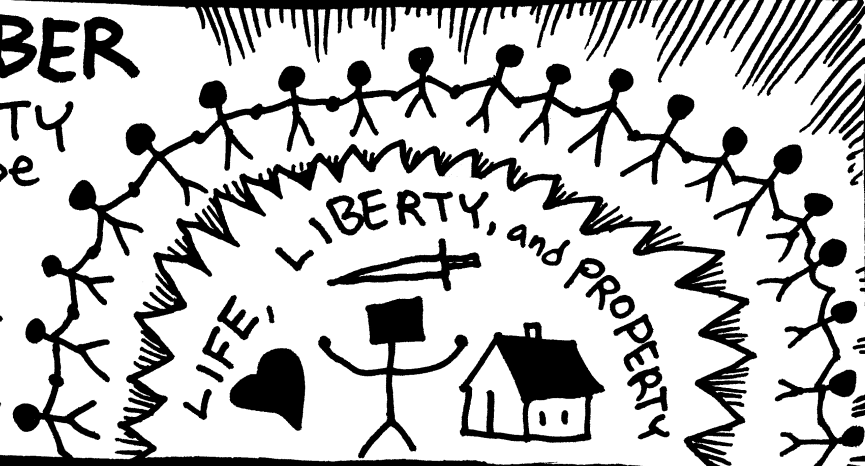
The RIGHT TO VOTE	SHALL NOT BE DENIED to any person	because of the NON-PAYMENT of ANY TAX
------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------

EVERY INHABITANT of the state	having the PROPER QUALIFICATIONS	has EQUAL RIGHT to be ELECTED into OFFICE .
-----------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------

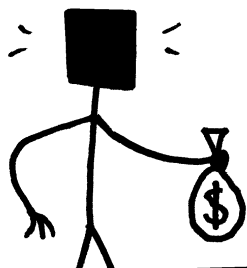
EVERY MEMBER

of the COMMUNITY
has a RIGHT to be
PROTECTED

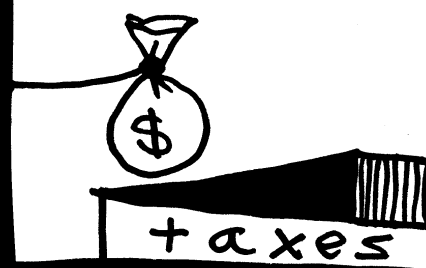
— by it —
in the ENJOYMENT
OF:



SHE or HE is therefore
BOUND to
CONTRIBUTE



HIS or HER **SHARE**
in the EXPENSE
of SUCH protection



and to YIELD **HIS or HER**
PERSONAL SERVICE
when necessary



BUT **NO PART**
of a **PERSON'S**
PROPERTY



shall be
TAKEN
from **HIM or HER**
or applied
to PUBLIC
USES

without
HIS or HER own
CONSENT



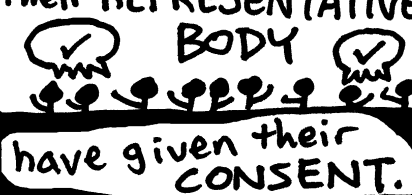
or that of the
REPRESENTATIVE
BODY OF
THE PEOPLE.



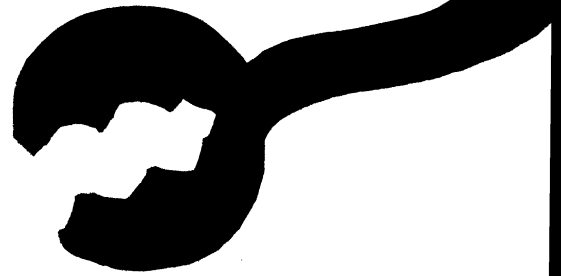
NOR are the INHABITANTS
of this state **CONTROLLABLE**
by ANY
OTHER
LAWS.



than those to which
THEY, or their REPRESENTATIVE
BODY
have given their
CONSENT.



NO PART
of a person's
PROPERTY



shall be
TAKEN

by EMINENT
DOMAIN

and TRANSFERRED,
directly
OR indirectly,
to ANOTHER
PERSON



IF the TAKING
is for the purpose of
**PRIVATE
DEVELOPMENT**



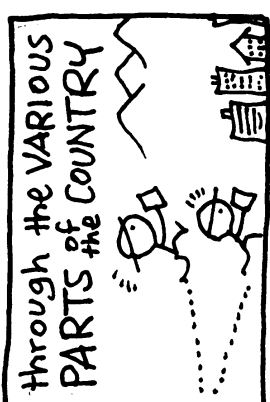
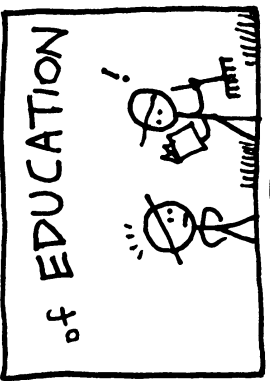
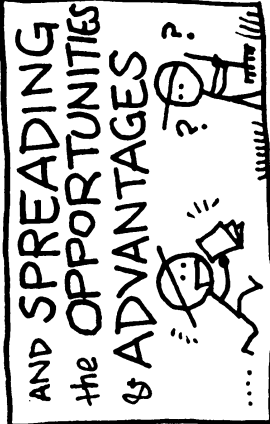
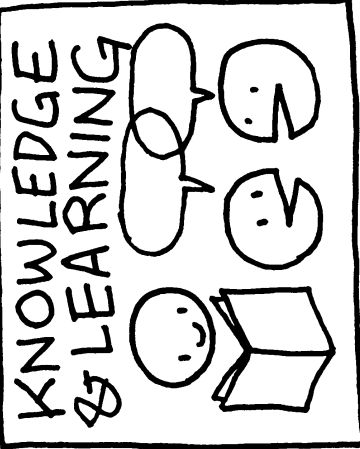
or other
PRIVATE USE
of the property.

© REPORTED!
EXCEPTED!
FROM THE:

N.H. CONSTITUTION

Est. Oct. 31, 1783
Effective June 2, 1784
as subsequently amended
& IN FORCE Jan. 2, 2007

ARTICLE 83, ENCOURAGEMENT of LITERATURE, &c. CONTROL of CORPORATIONS, & MONOPOLIES, &c.



IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE LEGISLATORS & MAGISTRATES

