

Judaism

This is the entire Law; all the rest is commentary:

*What is hateful to you,
do not do to your fellow man.*

Islam

No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself.

Christianity

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

1215: the MAGNA CARTA is ratified, which includes Habeas Corpus, the right for a captive to know why he is being held.

Hinduism

This is the sum of duty: do naught onto others what you would not have them do unto you.

Buddhism

Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful.

Confucianism

"What you do not wish for yourself, do not do to others."

Atheism

The Golden Rule is meant to be used as a means to find the humanity in others even when we don't like them or disagree with them.

Baha'i

Lay not on any soul a load that you would not wish to be laid upon you, and desire not for anyone that things that you would not desire for yourself.

Zoroastrianism

That nature alone is good which refrains from doing to another whatsoever is not good for itself.

Taoism

Regard your neighbor's gain as your gain, and your neighbor's loss as your own loss.

Jainism

One should treat all creatures in the world as one would like to be treated.

General George Washington:

"Treat them with humanity, and let them have no reason to Complain of our Copying the brutal example of the British Army in their treatment of our unfortunate brethren... Provide everything necessary for them on the road."

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.commondreams.org%2Fcgi-bin%2Fprint.cgi%3Ffile%3D%2Fviews05%2F1217-30.htm&lang=en>

President Abraham Lincoln signed the *Lieber Code* on April 24, 1863

Article 16: "Military necessity does not admit of cruelty—that is, the infliction of suffering for the sake of suffering or for revenge, nor of maiming or wounding except in fight, nor of torture to extort confessions. All forms of cruelty against prisoners are prohibited."

Even the code's broad acceptance of military necessity does not provide a justification for torture.

The Lieber Code, as it is now known, was the first recognized codification of the laws of war in modern times. As Lieber noted at the time, *"nothing of the kind exists in any language. I had no guide, no ground-work, no text-book."* Its 157 rules made a lasting place for Lieber—and the United States—in the development of the laws of war.

Ultimately **this American vision of warfare and the treatment of prisoners became the basis for the major international treaties**, namely the **Hague Regulations** at the turn of the 20th century and the **Geneva Conventions** at mid-century. Geneva's strict prohibitions on torture and other cruel treatment can be traced through Lieber's own uncompromising language."

http://www.americamagazine.org/content/article.cfm?article_id=4309

Laws and treaties of the United States pertaining to torture

jus cogens is the internationally accepted idea that "higher law" must be followed by all countries. Genocide, slavery and torture are all unacceptable under *jus cogens*. The 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties affirmed *jus cogens* as an accepted doctrine in international law.

US Constitution

5th Amendment

protects against abuse of government authority in legal procedures, 1791

8th Amendment

prohibits cruel and unusual punishment, 1791

14th Amendment

ensures due process and equal process in legal procedures, 1868

The Hague Conventions, 1899, 1907

The Nuremberg Code, 1947

Geneva Conventions, 1948

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

The Nuremberg Principles, 1950

Int'l Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966

Convention Against Torture, 1994

Federal Torture Statute 18 U.S.C. Sections 2340,
2340A, 1994

War Crimes Act 18 U.S.C. Section 2441, 1996

SEPTEMBER 17, 2001

SEPTEMBER 16, 2001

Vice-President Cheney:

**“We also have to
work...the dark side”**

<http://www.emperors-clothes.com/9-11backups/nbcmp.htm>

**Secret prisons, “extraordinary
rendition” ordered**

Memo by George W Bush

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/politics/2012/04/george_w_bush_and_torture_america_s_highest_officials_are_responsible_for_the_enhanced_interrogation_of_prisoners_.html

FEBRUARY 7, 2002

**White House claims the Geneva Conventions
don't apply to “non-State actors”**

Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) memo authored by John Yoo and Robert Delahunty

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:20020109_Yoo_Delahunty_Geneva_Convention_memo.pdf

JULY 17, 2002

**National Security Advisor tells CIA
Director to proceed with torture**

Condoleeza Rice, National Security Advisor to President Bush tells George Tenet, Director of the CIA to proceed with “enhanced interrogation techniques,” many of which are deemed torture by US and international law.

<http://www.historycommons.org/context.jsp?item=a071702ricezubaida>

AUGUST 1, 2002

Torture techniques approved by the White House

Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) memo authored by Jay Bybee and John Yoo

<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB127/02.08.01.pdf8>

SEPTEMBER 2001 - DECEMBER 2004

**More than 70 OLC memoranda written
relating to interrogation, detention and
rendition of prisoners.**

http://www.aclu.org/files/assets/olcmemos_chart.pdf

FEBRUARY 5, 2003

At the UN, Colin Powell cites false intel coerced through torture to justify the Iraq War debacle

http://www.historycommons.org/context.jsp?item=complete_timeline_of_the_2003_invasion_of_iraq_442

OCTOBER 10, 2003

Int'l Red Cross report decries deterioration of mental health of Guantanamo prisoners

<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/10/10/us/red-cross-criticizes-indefinite-detention-in-guantanamo-bay.html>

MARCH 9, 2004

Major General Taguba submits damning report detailing torture at Abu Ghraib

General Taguba in 2008: "The Commander-in-Chief...authorized a systematic regime of torture."

https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.newyorker.com%2Freporting%2F2007%2F06%2F25%2F070625fa_fact_hersh&lang=en

<http://archive.truthout.org/article/us-general-accuses-bush-administration-war-crimes>

APRIL 28, 2004

CBS's "60 Minutes" broadcasts torture and abuse pictures from Abu Ghraib

JUNE 2004

US Supreme Court: all prisoners' *habeas corpus* petitions should be heard by US courts.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rasul_v._Bush

JUNE 15, 2004

White House withdraws August 1, 2002 memo claiming "legal" torture

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.humanrightsfirst.org%2F2007%2F09%2F04%2Fwithdrawing-the-torture-memos%2F&lang=en>

JUNE 28, 2004

US Supreme Court: the Executive Branch may not hold citizens indefinitely without due process.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamdi_v._Rumsfeld

MARCH 6, 2005

US is shipping prisoners abroad for abusive and torturous interrogation

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=www.nytimes.com%2F2005%2F03%2F06%2Fpolitics%2F06intel.html&lang=en>

NOVEMBER 9 2005

Illegal destruction of 92 CIA interrogation tapes.

Http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2005_CIA_interrogation_tapes_destruction

OCTOBER 28, 2005

President Bush:
*“This country doesn't
torture; we're not
going to torture.”*

www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15453452#.T8JIGvJ8Yww

NOVEMBER 18, 2005

ABC reports on CIA interrogations, including torture and “extraordinary rendition”

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fminstrelboy.blogspot.com%2F2005%2F11%2Fabc-news-cias-harsh-interrogation.html&lang=en>

May 2006

German nationals sue Donald Rumsfeld and others for abuse at Guantanamo

*Accused include Donald Rumsfeld, Alberto Gonzales, George
Tenet, Stephen Cambone; Jay Bybee, John Yoo, William Haynes
and David Addington*

<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1557842,00.html>

JANUARY 26, 2006

President Bush:
*“No American will be
allowed to torture
another human being
anywhere in the world.”*

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=www.breakingnews.ie%2Fireland%2Fcweykfqlgbmh%2F&lang=en>

JUNE 29, 2006

US Supreme Court: US must comply with the Geneva Conventions regarding all foreign fighters

<http://civilliberty.about.com/od/waronterror/p/hamdan.htm>

SEPTEMBER 26, 2006

Senate casts aside *habeas corpus*; President is now judge and jury.

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=www.aclu.org%2Fnational-security%2Fmilitary-commissions-act-2006&lang=en>

FEBRUARY 14, 2007

Int'l Cmte of the Red Cross (ICRC) details
torture at Guantanamo in report to the

White House

<http://assets.nybooks.com/media/doc/2010/04/22/icrc-report.pdf>

OCTOBER 6, 2007

President Bush claims CIA methods are
necessary, legal and not torture.

<Http://articles.latimes.com/2007/Oct/06/nation/na-torture6>

MAY 11, 2008

Guantanamo judge won't prosecute prisoner
because, "His treatment met
the legal definition of torture."

https://service.mail.com/dereferrer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.washingtonpost.com%2Fwp-dyn%2Fcontent%2Farticle%2F2009%2F01%2F13%2FAR2009011303372_pf.html&lang=en

JUNE 12, 2008

US Supreme Court: Guantanamo prisoners have
a right to *habeas corpus* in US federal courts.

<http://ccrjustice.org/learn-more/faqs/factsheet-boumediene>

NOVEMBER 2008

Senate Report: US tortures at Guantanamo
before the discredited August 2002 memos
attempting to authorize torture.

https://service.mail.com/dereferrer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Farmed-services.senate.gov%2Fpublications%2Fdetainee%2520Report%2520Final_April%252022%25202009.pdf&lang=en

JANUARY 9, 2009

US Federal Court prosecutes African gov't official for torture...why not our own?

Liberian official (and US citizen) Chuckie Taylor convicted of torture under US statute 18USC S.2340A

https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=www.hrw.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Frelated_material%2FHRB_Chuckie_Taylor.pdf&lang=en

JANUARY 22, 2009

President-elect Obama orders that treatment and interrogation of prisoners follow the Geneva Conventions

https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=www.whitehouse.gov%2Fthe_press_office%2FEnsuringLawfulInterrogations&lang=en

NOVEMBER 2009

Italian Court convicts 23 CIA agents of kidnapping in "extraordinary rendition" case

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/11/04/AR2009110400776.html>

JANUARY 5, 2010

After 5-year investigation,

NOVEMBER 2010
"When [former President Bush] was told that [waterboarding] and other harsh interrogation techniques were legal, he ordered: 'Use 'em.'"

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.washingtonpost.com%2Fwp-dyn%2Fcontent%2Farticle%2F2010%2F11%2F08%2FAR2010110807347.html&lang=en>

Dept of Justice official
clears Bush lawyers

*Original July 29 2009 report is greatly watered-down,
"misconduct" reduced to "poor judgment" in final version.*

www.mainjustice.com/2010/02/19/a-timeline-of-the-opr-report/

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/blogs/declassified/2010/01/29/justice-official-clears-bush-lawyers-in-torture-memo-probe.html>

JUNE 7 2010

Investigation finds US military doctors experimented with torture under GW Bush

<https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.soros.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fphr-torture-report-20100607.pdf&lang=en>

FEBRUARY and OCTOBER 2011

Swiss and Canadian citizens prepare indictments of George W Bush for torture. (Bush cancels Swiss trip.)

http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=geneva%20indictment%20george%20w%20bush%20february%202011&source=web&cd=2&ved=0CFMQFjAB&url=http%3A%2F%2Fccrjustice.org%2Ffiles%2FFINAL%25207%2520Feb%2520BUSH%2520INDICTMENT.pdf&ei=ImLPT4HcDaTi2gWgxbnCDA&usq=AFQjCNEKkALSCII_vM9ExR69-nWrdKjGhw&cad=rja
<http://ccrjustice.org/ourcases/current-cases/bush-torture-indictment>

SEPTEMBER 2011

DECEMBER 31, 2011 (when few are paying attention)

**Former Vice-
President Cheney:**

**“Waterboarding is
not torture.”**

https://service.mail.com/dereferer/?target=http%3A%2F%2Fthecable.foreignpolicy.com%2Fposts%2F2011%2F09%2F09%2Fcheney_w_e_waterboarded_us_soldiers_so_it_s_not_torture&lang=en

President can indefinitely imprison anyone--*including US citizens*--without due process

**NDAAs signed by President Obama include provisions that allow
presidents unprecedented imperial powers.**

<http://www.aclu.org/blog/national-security/president-obama-signs-indefinite-detention-law>

JANUARY 2012

French judge asks for probe of torture claims by Guantanamo prisoners

<http://www.france24.com/en/20120118-france-judge-guantanamo-bay-prison-investigation-torture-rape-clement-usa-afghanistan>

May 12, 2012

War Crimes Tribunal convicts US government officials for war crimes

George W Bush, Richard Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Alberto Gonzales, John Yoo, Jay Bybee, David Addington, and William Haynes found guilty of war crimes by the Malaysian Tribunal for violating international law and the principles of the Nuremberg Charter. Findings and records are sent to the Int'l Criminal Court (ICC) and the United Nations <http://firedoglake.com/2012/05/13/war-crimes-conviction>

How do we return from **THE DARK SIDE** ?

144 deaths of prisoners in our care: 84 homicides, 3 suicides, 5 probable homicides, and the rest are no "proof." At least 110 prisoners tortured.

We should have protected them all according to the laws of war.

Investigate, prosecute.

**Make the Rule of Law apply to all,
from the President on down.**

**Do not acquiesce. Political power
is our birthright. *Take it.***

**Justice first, "security" after.
Security without justice is
repression.**